

## **TROOP 212, PIONEER CHALLENGE WEEKEND**

### **For April 21-22-23, Year 2110**

**SCOUTS NEED TO READ THIS LETTER CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY**

#### **Dear Scout and Scouters;**

Since this year marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Scouting in America, we have elected to take advantage of the colonization, and subsequent commercialization travel to and from Mars. While this will be our first time there, other troops have been there before us, and traveling thru Black Holes have proven to be quite reliable over the last 30 years, except for the cell phone circuits that seem to short out and smoke when they pass thru. (We suggest you leave these devices home)

Scouts should pack everything they need ( see list below) in their travel bags and be prepared to walk a distance thru the Portal to carry these bags. There will be no returning to the cars to retrieve forgotten equipment. Jackets and flashlights should be packed near the top of the bag for easy access, due to the evening chill of the Martian Terra Forming Machines.

While on this adventure, Scouts patrols will compete against each other to see whose skills reign supreme. Scouts will be expected to show their prowess in **first aid, fire building, orienteering, field repairs, knots and lashings, and cooking**. Leadership skills will be judged as well, with extra points given to those leaders that effectively group plan to properly organize, delegate balanced assignment tasks to match skill set capabilities, and communicate with the whole patrol. The winning Patrol members will receive special recognition rewards.

Despite all the terra forming to make the planet inhabitable, Mars is still a desert environment. Proper boots or sturdy shoes are a must. **Mars weather is unpredictable. BE PREPARED!**

**Departure:** Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM – Church parking lot. Please arrive promptly so we can depart the Church area on time, in order to make our Portal Departure Time of 8:45. Nicknamed “Alice’s Rabbit Hole”, ( we don’t know why it’s called that ) this relatively new and safe travel process should have us on the Mars soil very rapidly.

**Return:** Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, at approximately 1:00 PM – Same Church parking lot. Sunday lunch will be at home...we not be stopping on the way home.

**Location:** Mars (AKA; Rancho Jurupa Regional Park)

**Cost:** \$50.00 (1 dinner, 1 lunch, 2 breakfasts and ice (\$20), camp fees( \$10), and program costs (\$10) gas pool (\$10). Please bring \$50.00 CASH or a Check made out to "BSA Troop 212" to the Troop Meeting on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, with the standard permission slip which can be found on the website.

**Preparation:** Meal planning will happen at the Troop Meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup> after special instructions are issued explaining the Martian Air Quality Control Board ( MAQCB) rules about propane stoves.

**Food Shopping:** Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, Stater Bros at 7:00 PM.

**Uniform:** Full uniform during auto travel on Friday and Sunday.

**At a minimum**, the following items should be packed with owners name on them;

- ☐ Appropriate clothing and sleeping attire  
**(Day Est 70°/Night 40's)**
- ☐ Clothes suitable for hiking in warm temps during the day and warm clothes for the chilly night
- ☐ Hoodie and thermals or fleece for sleeping outdoors
- ☐ Brim Hat, Wide
- ☐ Warm Jacket, ski cap, gloves for night
- ☐ Sturdy hiking boots and extra warm socks
- ☐ Sleeping Bag, Wicking Layer, and Pad
- ☐ Ground Cloth ( 5x7 suggested)
- ☐ Daypack – with essentials
- ☐ Hydration pack or Canteen
- ☐ Compass, approved as per class in March
- ☐ First Aid Kit, personal
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Pencils, Pens, Notebook
- ☐ Pocket Knife
- ☐ Poncho
- ☐ Rope – 3 pcs of 10 Feet long
- ☐ Scout Handbook
- ☐ 1 -2 Granola Bars
- ☐ Insect Spray
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Large black plastic trash
- ☐ Mess Kit (utensils, bowl, mug, etc)
- ☐ Toothbrush & paste
- ☐ Sunscreen and Chapstick
- ☐ Soap and Comb
- ☐ Small towel
- ☐ Toilet paper
- ☐ Flint and Steel starter
- ☐ Duct Tape
- ☐ Sewing kit

Yours in Scouting,

John