**Troop 212 - Pioneering April 19-20-21, 2024**

Dear Scouts and Scouters,

**This year’s Pioneering weekend will build upon the skills learned during the program year, and at Scout Skills weekend last month.** In addition, the events will draw on subjects covered during the Troop meetings. On a Patrol Basis, Scouts will get a chance to show off their skills in competitions involving, at a minimum, First Aid, Cooking, Navigation, Shelter, Knots and Lashings. The best performing patrol will have a special Awards Plaque posted in the Meeting Hall lobby.

**This group site may be smaller than originally anticipated. Therefore, we encourage our personal camping trailer users to call the Park Ranger to explore individual trailer options at 951-845-9555** Our camping area is Creek Side Group Camp, located in the very back of the property, beyond the Equestrian Area. Even though this group site had enough room in the past for this very full Pioneer Program, the use of personal camping trailers may be limited due to the amount of new foliage and increased undergrowth present due to the large amounts of rain received this year.

**There is no fresh water on the property, so each car driver will need to pick two of our white five gallon water jugs on Monday, April 15th when paying for the trip. We will be “ Bear Aware “ on this trip, as well.**

**Food shopping is scheduled for Thursday, April 18, at Stater Bros.** Scouts are reminded to shop for food that can be prepared at a campsite where competitive Pioneering skills will need to be demonstrated for the supper meal.

**Cost: $65.00 per person** to cover the cost of 1 dinner, 1 lunch, 2 breakfasts, camp fees, auto fuel, storage fees, and other program cost Please bring $65.00 per person to the troop meeting on Monday, April 15th, with the standard permission slip.

**Meeting: Friday, April 19th at 7:00 PM** – Church parking lot. For gear loading, please be prompt.

**Departure: Friday, April 19 at 7:30 PM** – Church parking lot.

**Return Arrival: Sunday, April 21th, at approximately 3:30 PM** – Church parking lot. Please check SPOT for updates. We are going to be stopping for lunch on the way home. Each Scout should bring lunch money. .

**Location: Bogart Regional Park in Cherry Valley, 9600 International Park Rd, Cherry Valley**.

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

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| * **At a minimum**, each scout should pack the following items listed below, and should be packed in a main bag with owners name on this main camping bag. **(Day high ; 80°/Night low; 50°)**
* Hat for sun protection
* Compass
* First Aid Kit, personal
* Flashlight
* Ground Cloth
* Toilet Paper
* Hydration pack or Canteen
 | * Insect Spray
* Matches or Flint or equivalent
* Mess Kit (spoon, bowl, mug, plate)
* Pencils or Pens
* Pocket Knife
* Poncho
* 3 Ropes – Each 10 Feet long
* Scout Handbook
* Sleeping Bag
* Small towel
 | * Soap
* Sunscreen
* Tooth paste
* Tooth brush
* Warm Jacket
* Notebook, small
* Sleeping pad or mattress
* Hair Comb
* Chapstick
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**We expect the days to be quite warm, but the nights will be a little chilly.** Please bring warm clothes for the evening, and any other "survival" gear that will fit in the bag.

**All attending adults will be either managing one of the 4 events or serving in the Patrol Judging capacity.** Details of these assignments will be finalized at the Adult program Planning Meeting on April 9th.

As is the tradition of Troop 212, this will be a very safe outing. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at Scoutmaster@troop212.net .

Yours in Scouting,

John Douglas, Scoutmaster

PS: I have been asked about suggesting a compass the scouts will find useful…..this is a very good Amazon bargain.

