

Troop –

I gathered some additional information regarding the National Jamboree that I would like to pass along. First and foremost this trip is a huge opportunity to not only tour Washington DC but to participate in a historic Boy Scouting Event. As such I will be there and hope you will be too.

You can view the really cool Jamboree video that shows a few of the activities that will be available at Jamboree. Visit www.bsajamboree.org and click on the link that is on the upper left hand side of the screen that says “View Promo Video”.

I know that in today’s economy the cost issue has to be addressed. The good news is that we have more than 17 months to raise the money. I am confident that even those who have financial hardships to overcome will be able to attend. I hope each of you considers the huge opportunity this trip presents. Some items of note:

Dates:

- Contingent Tour will leave July 22, 2010 and return August 4, 2010
- Washington DC Tour is July 22nd to July 26th
- Jamboree is July 26th through August 4th

Cost:

- The cost is not expected to exceed \$2400 plus personal uniforms and gear (although official communications require that we tell you that an increase in the cost of fuel may require an adjustment to this number.)
- Those that attend will be part of a Council contingent comprised of 7 “Troops” who will have over 17 months to do fundraising to help offset this cost.
- This trip breaks down to \$150 per day for 16 days and covers admission fees to attend the Jamboree and tour Washington DC, as well as food, lodging and transportation (including airfare and bus travel).
- There is a \$10 Processing Fee due at submission of this application. Print your confirmation, get your Scoutmaster signature of approval, and return the confirmation along with your \$100 deposit to your local council.

Accommodations:

- We will be staying in hotels when we tour Washington DC.
- The Jamboree will be held at Fort AP Hill, Virginia. The 76,000-acre facility has hosted the National Scout Jamboree since 1981. The Boy Scouts of America uses approximately 3,000 acres of land to support a city of more than 43,000 Scouts and leaders.
- Longhorn Council will be providing all tents, chuck boxes and other camping gear that will be used during the actual Jamboree.
- Jamboree infrastructure will include a safe and secure environment at Fort AP Hill. The campgrounds will include everything from bus systems, telephone, internet, first aid stations, a hospital, police and fire departments, post offices, food warehouses, and retail stores will be available for the event. They will even deliver a daily newspaper to the participants!

What is there to do at Jamboree?

- The Jamboree program includes rappelling, discovering scuba, kayaking, rafting and sailing, trap shooting, archery, bike-a-thons, buckskin games, arts and sciences. Think of it as a bigger and grander version of our very own Council Camporee.
- A merit badge midway will be available for those who want to earn badges while we are there.
- Exhibits will include a re-creation of Baden-Powell's original Scout camp on Brownsea Island, Civil War reenactments and an American Indian village.

Contingent:

- Each of the 7 Contingent Troops will consist of a mix of youth from the Troops in their own district. For example, you could be in a Council Contingent Troop with youth from T1932, T1993, T445, T421, T127, etc. Alternatively, if 36 Scouts from T127 sign up to attend, then we will be our own Council Contingent Troop!
- *I have applied to attend and I anticipate that I will be a leader in Council Contingent Troop from the Tejas district.*
- Right now there are over 100 spots available from Longhorn Council. These will be given on a first come first serve basis to the youth who register for the event.
- Leaders who desire to attend can either register as part of the contingent or work the event. They are looking for staff. See Scoutmaster Ploetz for details.

Participation Requirements:

- To attend you must be:
 - 12 years old or have completed the 6th grade by July 1, 2010
 - First Class by July 1, 2010
 - Under 18, or not have had your 18th birthday before August 3, 2010
 - Active in your Troop for at least 6 months prior to July 1, 2010.
- Youth and adult leaders must be in good physical health and be able to walk up to 10 miles a day.

Registration:

- Register on line at www.bsajamboree.org or skip the promotional information and go straight to www.myscouting.org.
- You must log in to myscouting.org to register. Those who are new to myscouting.org should plan to create an account.
- After logging in, go to "Event Registrations" then to "Jamboree" and then select the "2010 National Scout Jamboree Youth Participant Application" link.
- When submitting an application there will be a non-refundable \$10 processing fee payable by credit card. This fee is not part of the \$2400 Jamboree fee.
- Once you are registered you will need to print your confirmation, get my signature of approval, and return the confirmation along with your \$100 deposit to Longhorn council.
- NOTE: Parents, you must use your own Myscouting.org account (not your son's) to register your Scout.
- Registration deadline has been extended to February 15, 2009 (that is less than 4 weeks away!)

Please call or email me if you have any questions ☺
YIS,
Scoutmaster Ploetz