



Troop 45

Daniel Webster Council, Boy Scouts of America

9 August 1999

Dear Troop 45 Family,

Each year for the past several years, the troop has undertaken a summer adventure in addition to summer camp. We have gone to Philmont, attended the National Jamboree, and undertaken backpacking, canoeing, mountain biking, and sea kayaking trips from Mead Adventure Base. Last summer we mounted an expedition to Grand Teton National Park, which, for the first time, included families as well as scouts. A survey of the troop last winter revealed enthusiastic support to continue the tradition of a major expedition on a biennial basis. Subsequently, the PLC appointed a committee (supervised by Shirley Morris) to study the issue, recommend a destination and a date, and begin planning the expedition. And the conclusion of The Summer Adventure 2000 Committee is.....

We're going to Mt. Rainier National Park 19-27 August 2000! Just as with the Tetons Expedition last summer, the Rainier Expedition is open not just to individual scouts, but to all Troop 45 family members, so that families may take advantage of the trip as a family vacation if they wish. There are certainly many attractions and activities available throughout western Washington that would make the expedition attractive to everyone.

Attached to this letter you will find a planning proposal for the expedition. In order to make reservations and secure permits in a timely manner, the Rainier Committee needs a reasonably accurate estimate of who's coming. Please review the proposal and return the response form (or the info in it) to Shirley Morris as soon as you can--preferably by 22 August. We're not asking for commitments at this point, but we really do need to make some reservations and permit applications a year in advance, so please discuss the proposal in your family and let us know your thoughts.

In considering this expedition, some of you may find that the cost, even to send only your scout on the trip, is more than your family budget can support. Please do not assume that this means that your boy cannot participate. Part of the proposal is that the scouts will be responsible for raising a significant portion of the cost of the expedition through troop-sponsored fundraising activities. We'll find a way to accommodate any boy who really wants to go.

The Tetons Expedition was truly a great success. With what we've learned we believe that the Rainier Expedition can be even better. I hope you will plan to be with us.

Yours in Scouting,

Yorke Brown
Scoutmaster, Troop 45

Planning Proposal for the Troop 45 Mt. Rainier Expedition

What: An expedition to Mt. Rainier National Park, WA. The trip will be open to all Troop 45 Scouts and their families.

When: 19-27 August 2000. This date is firm (at least in the absence of a real forehead-slapping revelation.). Note that the summer camp expedition runs the week of 16-22 July.

Where: Mt. Rainier National Park lies in the Cascade Mountains about 60 miles southeast of Seattle, WA. We will be camping outside the park at the Packwood Campground (showers, flush toilets, laundry, groceries) in the village of Packwood. Mt. Rainier, Mt. St. Helens, and the Cascades offer a variety of outdoor activities, including hiking (from meadow strolls to serious climbing), sailing, swimming, canoeing, nature study, horseback riding (including backcountry pack trips), backpacking, mountaineering, mountain biking, and whitewater rafting. The Seattle area offers its own unique blend of cultural activities and attractions, including Puget Sound ferry rides to exotic places, the Space Needle, the Boeing Aircraft factory, McCord AFB, museums, shopping, and Starbucks!

How: The troop will travel by air to Seattle, and then rent vehicles as appropriate to support the activities we plan. Presumably, most whole families will want their own transportation; the troop will arrange transport for scouts without families. Although flexibility will be required to accommodate all the different activities different families and groups of scouts will wish to undertake, the basic approach to accommodations will be that we will camp as a troop at the Packwood Campground in Packwood, WA and make excursions from there. Supervision will, of course, be provided for scouts not under the immediate supervision of their families, whether that be for the whole expedition or for a single activity. We will function as a troop, accommodating the plans of families as necessary. We will plan troop activities in advance, and secure reservations wherever possible.

Cost: The major cost of the trip will clearly be transportation. Current airfare estimates are running around \$375 per person (Boston-Seattle) provided we book as a group well in advance. Car rentals will depend on the type of vehicle, but \$20-30 per person per day would not be an unreasonable estimate. Park entrance fees and campsite fees will probably eat up another \$20 per day. Food need not be more expensive than eating at home, but you may want to figure some increase. A basic budget will probably run somewhere near \$700 per person, with additional costs for any fee-based activities like pack trips.

Response Form. Please respond to Shirley Morris by 22 Aug 99.

2 Hunter Lane Hanover 03755 -- shirley.napps@dartmouth.edu -- 643-2767

- Yes, we'll definitely send ____ persons.
 Yes, we hope to send ____ persons.
 Yes, we're interested, and we might send ____ persons.
 No, we just can't do it.

Comments and suggestions:

My cool idea for a keynote activity is:

- Whitewater Rafting
 Outing to Mt. St. Helens
 Ferry ride to Olympic Pen.
 Other: _____