



Troop 45

Daniel Webster Council, Boy Scouts of America

10 October 1999

Rainier Expedition Update

The Rainier Expedition Planning Committee has held several meetings and has been diligently pursuing travel and accommodations arrangements. So far, the committee has located a campsite that should meet our needs and has made a group reservation on United Airlines for transportation between Manchester and Seattle. Based on returns of the survey, we are currently projecting a group of about 50 persons. In order to proceed from this point, however, we need to make a few commitments and we need to do it soon. If you've been waffling, it's time to decide to go! If you've decided not to go, it's time to change your mind! Here's the plan so far:

Transport: Transport is the current hot item. We have negotiated a contract with United Airlines to purchase up to 40 seats at the price of \$356.07 each (taxes included). The schedule has us leaving Manchester at 8:15 AM on Saturday 19 Aug, changing planes in Chicago, and arriving in Seattle at 2:20 PM. The return trip leaves Seattle at 10 AM on Sunday, 27 Aug, changing in Chicago, and arriving in Manchester at 8:13 PM. A deposit of \$40 per seat is required to reserve space and the spaces will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis. This deposit is refundable *after* completion of travel. When tickets are actually paid for (probably May), you must pay the *full* amount for the ticket. The deposit is *not* applied to the ticket price. United refunds the deposit after completion of the trip.

So if you think you want a seat, please send Shirley the your deposit of \$40 per person before 27 Oct. Include the name of each traveler.

You will *not* be excluded from the trip if you do not grab one of the first 40 seats. You may, however, end up paying higher plane fare to go. When a contract is negotiated with the airlines, the tickets are sold as blocks, and the number can only be increased if there are more seats available at the previously negotiated price. In order to negotiate a second, separate, block of tickets, a minimum of 10 passengers is required.

Some families are making independent air reservations.

Transportation between Hanover and Manchester is unsettled--but last time most families preferred to take care of themselves. The drive from Seattle to Packwood is over good roads during daylight hours. We'll figure out ground transportation when we have a firmer roster.

Campsites: We have not yet reserved our site at the Packwood Campground and RV Park, but the management has assured us that they can accommodate us if we reserve soon. Look for more info on this issue in the near future. We chose this site because it has amenities to make it comfortable for the widest range of participants. The site itself has showers and flush toilets, with laundry and groceries available within walking distance in the village of Packwood.

Other Accommodations: We want to encourage everyone to camp with the troop. But if you don't wish to camp, there are other possibilities in the area.

Orphans and Siblings: Although we have advertised this expedition as a family opportunity, please understand that "orphan" scouts are more than welcome. We expect them and will provide adult supervision for them. At the same time, please understand that we cannot accommodate non-scouts without adult supervision.

Activities: We're working on it. It looks like a raft trip will be feasible. Hiking and backpacking opportunities abound. There are many interesting places to visit. If you have ideas, or you'd like to volunteer to organize or lead a specific trip, please speak up.

Leadership: Scoutmasters and Assistants currently on the roster include Yorke Brown, Gregg Hoge, Mark Noel, and Shirley Morris. Dan Nelson has agreed to guide the Venture Patrol climb of Mt. Rainier. If you'd like to lead a specific activity, please let us know.

Key Dates:

Contact:

27 Oct	\$40 airfare deposit due	Checks payable to Hanover Boy Scout Troop 45 to Shirley Morris, 2 Hunter Lane, Hanover 03755
? Mar	\$35? per person campsite fee due	
30 May	\$356.07 airfare payment due	Direct questions, suggestions, comments, and offers to help to Yorke Brown (643-4950) or Shirley Morris (643-2767).
1 Jul	Air Transport Roster final	
9 Aug	Depart (MHT-SEA)	
27 Aug	Return (SEA-MHT)	