

Camp Geronimo, June 16th - 23th, 2012 (Sat – Sat)

- 1) Please show up at Lookout Mountain School on Saturday, June 16th at 8:00 A.M. in full Class A Scout uniform. We will load packs into the open utility trailer, check any last minute paperwork and then head out by 8:45 A.M. Scouts must bring both \$15.00 Saturday morning for the troop to cover gas and, a healthy sack lunch. No lunch is provided that Saturday at camp. There is no rush to get to camp but plan on meeting everyone in the Geronimo parking lot by 11:30 A.M. so we can get a good spot in line to check-in. Driving time is between 2 to 2.5 hours. Typically we eat our sack lunches in the Geronimo parking lot. Some people grab something from Payson.
- 2) Money: Scouts should bring about \$40 to spend during the week at camp for souvenirs, some merit badge costs such as woodcarving kits, basketry, leatherworking, and to buy snacks in the trading post. Save about \$6.00 as we typically stop for fast-food in Payson on the way home from camp. If needed, one of the adults staying in camp the whole week will be the designated banker for Scout's cash (mark an envelope with Scout's name/\$).
- 3) Driving directions: Phoenix to Payson via Highway 87 (Beeline Highway) is about 100 miles. In Payson continue north on Highway 87 towards the town of Pine. About 12 miles north of Payson and just past highway marker 265 is the turn off for Control Road. If you've reached Pine you've missed the turn-off. Control Road is a dirt forest service road easily accessible with a 2 wheel drive car. Turn right (east) on Control Road and continue about 6 miles. Then turn left (north) on Weber Creek Road and drive about 1.5 miles to the Camp Geronimo parking lot. We'll regroup in the parking lot and eat lunch.
- 4) Scouts should pack all their gear into a backpack as we will be hiking into our campsite from the parking lot. Only extra gear such as a sleeping cot or camp chair can be driven into the campsite via the utility trailer. Drivers: only one vehicle will be allowed into camp at a time during check-in and check-out Saturdays. Otherwise, no vehicles will be in camp. We'll drive the troop and utility trailers to camp and off-load them.
- 5) Medical: All Scouts and adults staying at camp for the week will need medical forms good until at least 6-24-12, and as a troop we will go through a medical check during the check-in process Saturday afternoon. The Health Lodge will need to know all prescription medications that will be brought to camp. One of the adults staying the whole week will hold all Scouts' medications and dispense them. Please ensure the Scout's name is on all meds and it's clear when and how much to dispense. If you could get your Scout's medication information to me before our departure day I would appreciate it.

- 6) **Weather:** This time of year it still may drop down to the high 40's in the middle of the night, and could possibly be very hot in the afternoons to the high 80's or low 90's. Please check the Payson forecast as we get closer to departure. It can be very hot and dry in the afternoons so plan on wearing **sunscreen, chapstick, and your Scout hat.** Rain is always a possibility so bring a **poncho or rain gear.** Camp Geronimo is about 5200 feet in elevation so drinking enough water on a regular basis is a must. **Bring your Camelback or daypack with about 2 liters of water for occasional day hikes and daily use.** Water! Water! Water!
- 7) **Mail:** If you're planning on mailing your Scout a letter(s) please be aware it could take several days, so be sure to mail it early. Please don't mail packages. To save stamps you can give the Scoutmaster the letter(s) and write down what day(s) you want it given to your son. Address mail as follows:

_____ Scout's name _____
 Troop 323
 Campsite #2
 Session #3
 Camp Geronimo
 2599 W. Weber Creek Road
 Payson, AZ 85541-9568.

- 8) **Emergency phone number for camp:** 928-635-9891 (Headquarter's phone)
- 9) **Cell phones:** Do not count on having cell phone service. **Scouts will not be allowed to have any electronics in camp other than cameras.** It's time to leave the city behind! If it's an emergency and you need to reach the troop call the emergency number (Headquarters phone).
- 10) **Don't bring:** Sheath knives, matches, lighters, hot sparks, laser pointers, Ipods.
- 11) **Bring:** Scout Handbook, compass, Camelback or similar daypack for carrying water and other items to merit badge classes or day hikes. Merit badge books, notebooks, writing items for classes, sunscreen, chapstick, personal first aid kit, flashlight and good batteries, Totin' Chip card, pocket knife, drinking cup and mess kit with fork and spoon (for when we're not eating in the cafeteria) troop hat, class A uniform consisting of tan shirt with proper patches, bolo tie, Scout pants or shorts, Scout socks if wearing shorts, and Scout belt it's not affixed to the uniform pants/shorts, Order of the Arrow sash (if in the OA), class B shirts for wearing during most of the day, swim suit and towel, hiking shoes or tennis shoes, sandals that can be worn in the water or an extra old pair of tennis shoes in case we find a swimming hole

on a day hike, pajamas, Scout jacket or sweatshirt in case we have a cool evening, sleeping bag, sleeping pad or cot, pillow, long pants, extra underwear and extra socks, toothbrush and toothpaste, comb, soap, shampoo (they have showers for the boys), deodorant, bath towel, and rain gear. A camp chair can be nice to have too. Teddy bears optional. Scouts taking the Swimming Merit Badge class should bring a clean set of street clothes including a long-sleeve shirt and spare tennis shoes (swimsuit worn underneath) for an exercise in the pool.

- 12) **Lost and found**: Please use a permanent marker to mark your Scout's gear and clothing. You may even want to mark the zip-off lower pant legs on the Scout pants, and socks because those items seem to get lost and mixed up on the last day of camp. No one wants to hold on to found items so please label everything. Mark the bolo ties and hats.
- 13) **Patrol flags and Troop flag**: Each patrol must bring their patrol flag and the Troop flags will be needed.
- 14) The **troop trailer** will be towed to camp by _____ and _____ will tow an open utility trailer for packs, extra gear such as cots and camp chairs. You can bring those for extra comfort! Bring a sleeping pad if no cot.
- 15) **Extra help** will be needed to set up the Minute Man structure when we arrive at our campsite. Extra help will be needed preparing our in camp dinner Tuesday evening and another meal such as a lunch away from the cafeteria when we do a day hike.
- 16) **Tents**: Campsite 2 has a capacity for 40 people. At this time we have 25 Scouts and 7 adults total, from both Troop 323 and 613. I recommend a few adults bring tents just in case.
- 17) **Visitors**: family members visiting for the day can eat meals with us in the cafeteria. There will be many Scouts at Geronimo during the week so we will be eating meals during the 2nd shift. Meals are \$7 for breakfast, \$9 lunches, and \$12 for dinners (cash or check only).
- 18) **Sunday services**: Sunday at 9:15 A.M. are services at various locations throughout camp, such as for Protestants meet at Inspiration Point, Catholics at the chapel by the pool, LDS meet at the Pioneer chapel, and Jewish meet Friday at 6:50 P.M. by the Commissioner's Lodge. Many of our Scouts go to the Sunday services and during that time everyone else must stay quietly in our campsite. Also, **Chaplain Aide training** should be available Thursday, 1:30 to 2:30 P.M. by the Catholic chapel.
- 19) **General camp attire**: We'll be changing into our full class A uniform several times such as, for evening meals, Sunday services, KP duty, flag

ceremonies, and evening campfires. Otherwise everyone should be wearing their class B shirts when walking around Camp Geronimo and always have a buddy. During Merit Badge classes you must wear your class B uniform. For free time when hanging around in our campsite you do not have to wear a uniform. Those who have ordered the new Geronimo shirt should receive them during the week of camp. The Trading Post will also have shirts and other souvenirs for sale. The Geronimo shirt can be worn as a class B shirt during the week at Geronimo.

Don't forget to do the Merit Badge prerequisites and read the MB books before coming to camp.

More about Camp Geronimo can be found by downloading the Camp Geronimo Almanac at www.grandcanyonbsa.org. Click on Council camps, Camp Geronimo, and go to the Camp Geronimo Leader's Almanac. You can also see the e-mail I sent out to the troop on 05-07-2012.

Any questions, comments, or concerns please email or call me, but please don't wait until the morning of departure.

I'm looking forward to another great week at camp with a great group in the great outdoors!

David Wright, Scoutmaster Troop 323
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