

PHILMONT PREPARATION MEETING

Sunday, June 29, 2008

In attendance: Janice, Betsy, Shirlee, Mark, Jeff, Jake, Karl, Joe, Thomas

-Travel to Philmont will definitely be via Amtrak train. Definite Amtrak schedules for August 2009 will not be available until September 2008. Looks like the cost of an adult ticket, coach, not including meals will be approximately \$300. Prices are not set in stone, so we will let you know in September the exact cost. These coach tickets do not include a sleeper car, but the seats are very comfortable for sleeping. These tickets do not include meals either. Meals are extra.

-Travel will be from Sandusky to Chicago to Raton, New Mexico. There will be, most likely, a long layover in Chicago. There is a room available to store oversized luggage.

-The payment schedule will be as follows:

-September 15, 2008: \$275.50 for Philmont is DUE.

-October 15, 2008: \$300 (approximately) for the train ticket is DUE.

-February 15, 2009: \$275.50 for Philmont is DUE.

-We need to have all of the above payments on their due dates. If you are not able to pay, then, most likely, an alternate boy will be afforded the opportunity to go instead.

-Equipment: Please remember that all equipment choices are personal choices. If you are not sure which equipment is right for you, try out other people's equipment, i.e. Sleeping bags, back packs, etc.

-Sleeping Bags are Mandatory!: Down is great, but ineffective once wet. Lafuma brand bag is very small and only weighs two pounds. Lafuma is synthetic and is approximately \$40. If you would like to buy a sleeping bag, save the receipt, have Jeff check it out, and if you decide not to keep it you can return it. Sleeping pads are optional.

-Rain gear is Mandatory!: whichever rain gear you choose, you need to make sure your backpack will be covered as well. Ponchos and rain pants are great. Or, you may want to go with a rain jacket, rain pants and a rain cover for your pack. Personal choice!

-Compressor sacks are optional but a great idea: recommend one large and one small. The small one can double as a pillow for your head. These sacks can carry all your t-shirts, underwear, socks, etc. Synthetic compressor bags are recommended because they are very light and they dry very quickly.

-Hardbox is optional but recommended for carrying eyeglasses and digital cameras and journals. A hardbox is a gasketed, waterproof, compression resistant case.

-Philmont Preparation Meeting Schedule will be the first Sunday of every month (except July and September 2008). We will meet from 6-8pm at the Asbury Church. There will be no Philmont Preparation Meeting in July. The September Philmont Preparation Meeting will be September 14th. Our next Philmont meeting will be Sunday, August 3rd, 2008 from 6-8pm at the Asbury Church. We will be going over Back Packs and Pack Organization. Very important!!! We need everyone to start attending these supplemental meetings to ensure a successful trip.

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