
TROOP 255 - CAVING OUTING
Shenandoah Trail Confederate Breastworks

WHEN: Feb 11-12, 2006 (Sat-Sun)

Leave: 7:30 am on Saturday (2/11) at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church (CCUMC) parking lot.

RETURN: 3:00 pm Sunday (2/12) at CCUMC parking lot.

For emergencies call Mr. Rose's cell phone at 301-807-6441.

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OVERVIEW:

Troop 255 will be caving in New Trout Cave, a limestone cave outside of Franklin, West Virginia, which also was used to mine saltpeter during the Civil War. You will be climbing up a 25 foot cable ladder to the cave entrance, crawling, walking and climbing within the cave's maze of passages. You will see stalagmites, stalactites, columns and other formations. This cave is dry.

We have hired professional guides (Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias) for this activity.

The caving equipment will be provided by the guides. The Scouts should dress in layers. Wear old outer clothing you don't mind getting dirty. Bring a second set of outer clothes in a plastic garbage bag. These are to change into after the caving. The plastic bag can then hold your dirty caving clothes. Bring a canteen of water.

We will be sleep in cabins at the Thorn Spring Park campground, located just south of Franklin, and near the cave (304-358-7737). The cabins come only with stoves and bunks. Crews will be responsible for cooking supper and breakfast. Scouts need to bring a sleeping bag as well as usual winter camping provisions. **Bring a bag lunch.** We will eat lunch as we receive caving instruction outside the cave entrance.

The actual caving will last about 3 to 4 hours depending on the wants of the individuals involved.

On Sunday morning, we will drive to the Confederate Breastworks where we will hike a portion of the scenic Shenandoah Mountain Trail, which crosses the Confederate Breastworks. The Breastworks (Fort Edward Johnson) was instrumental in defending Staunton during the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1862. In early 1862, this fort garrisoned 3,000 troops. It involves a winding .5 mile interpretive trail along the top of Shenandoah Mountain. Over one mile of trench or "breastworks" was dug in the rocky, frozen earth. Learn how these soldiers built breastworks, tried to keep warm as sleet drenched their fires, felt the excitement of a false alarm, and how the fort was prelude to the Union defeat at the Battle of McDowell.

ROAD-TO-FIRST-CLASS:

This activity will help partially satisfy participation and campout requirements T2, S2a & F3 for scouts still seeking 1st class.

COST:

A check for \$55/person should be made out to "Troop 255 BSA" and is due 2/7/2006. The cost is \$35/person for caving + \$10/person for transportation (unless parent is driving) and \$10/person for cabin camping. Scouts should also bring money for a fast food lunch on the way home.

PERMISSION SLIP:

Both the Troop permission slip and the "Outdoor Adventures" permission slip are due to Rob Klein by 2/7/06.

EQUIPMENT:

Scouts should bring the usual camping items (sleeping bag, food, etc.) packed in a backpack. Tents will not be needed. Be prepared for cold weather.

Bring a good trash bag to hold your dirty caving cloths. Also bring a change of clothes.

A canteen of water is a must because no potable water is available in the cave.

The scout should dress in layers. A cap for your head is suggested. Good foot gear is a must.

Flashlights, helmets and other caving gear will be provided by the caving guides.

UNIFORMS:

Class B uniforms (Troop 255 T-shirt) encouraged.

MEALS:

A ready-made lunch and snacks (gorp, power bars, etc.) for Saturday should be brought by the Scout for eating prior to entering or in the cave. Bring extra snacks for the Sunday morning hike. Patrols should plan meals for Saturday dinner and cracker barrel and Sunday breakfast.

For Sunday lunch, we will stop for fast food on the way home.

DIRECTIONS TO Meet Caving Guide:

By car from CCUMC: (total time is about 3 hours and 10 minutes. The distance to Franklin (Pendleton County), WV is 176 miles)

- Start at CCUMC parking lot.
- Connecticut Ave North to I-495.
- Take I-495 West to I-66 West.
- Take I-66 West to I-81 South toward Roanoke. (65 miles)
- Take I-81 South toward Roanoke. (53 miles)
- Take exit 247B onto US 33 West toward Harrisonburg (1.6 miles)
- Continue on US 33 West around Court Square
- Turn right onto US 33/VA-42/W. Market Street, following US 33 to Franklin (41 miles)
- We will meet our guide (Tony Smith) in Franklin, WV, at Mean Jeans Gas Station (corner of US 33 and US 220. The cave is about 3 miles from Franklin on US 220 South of Franklin, about 1 mile south of County Route 33.

Directions to the Confederate Breastworks:

- From Campground turn left onto US 220, following it to Monterey, Va. (about 23 miles)
- At the Monterey, Turn right at flashing light onto US 250, toward Staunton.
- At the top the third mountain (Shenandoah Mountain) is the cross of the Shenandoah Mountain Trail and the Confederate Breastworks. (about 19 miles)

Direction Home:

- After the Shenandoah Mountain Trail/Confederate Breastworks, continue on US 250 to Staunton where we will eat lunch and pick up I-81 for our trip home. (about 25 miles to Staunton)

Trip date: Feb. 11, 2006 Trip time 11: a.m. Group organizer: Troop 255 Chevy Chase, MD
Name

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Read Carefully

Read Carefully

In consideration of Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias furnishing services and/or equipment to enable me to participate in mountain biking, hiking, camping, wild caving, 4X4, and similar activities I agree as follows: I fully understand and acknowledge that outdoor recreational activities have: (a) inherent risks, dangers and hazards and such exists in my use of Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias equipment and my participating in mountain biking, rock climbing, hiking, camping, wild caving, 4X4, and similar activities; (b) my participating in such activities and/or use of such equipment may result in injury or illness including, but not limited to bodily injury, disease, strains, fractures, partial/or total paralysis death or other ailments that could cause serious disability; (c) these risks and dangers may be caused by the negligence of owners, employees, officers, agents or subcontractors of Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias, the negligence of the participants, the negligence of others, accidents, breaches of contract, the force of nature, or other causes. Risks and dangers may arise from foreseeable or unforeseeable causes. Including but not limited to guide decision making, including that a guide may misjudge terrain, weather, trail, route location, and water level, risks of falling, or drowning and such other risks, hazards and dangers that are integral to recreational activities that take place in a wilderness outdoor recreational environment; and (d) by my participation in those activities and/or use of equipment, I hereby assume all risks and dangers and all responsibility for any losses and/or damages whether caused in whole or in part by the negligence or other conduct of the owners, agents, employees, or subcontractors of Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias, or by any other person.

I, on behalf of myself, my personal representatives and my heirs hereby voluntarily agree to release, waive, discharge, hold harmless, defend and indemnify Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias and its owners, agents, officers, employees and subcontractors from any and all claims actions or losses for bodily injury, property damage, wrongful death, loss of services or otherwise which may arise out of my use of Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias equipment or my participation in mountain biking, rock climbing, hiking, camping, wild caving, 4X4, and similar activities. I specifically understand that I am releasing, discharging and waiving any claims or actions that I might have presently or in the future of the negligent acts or other conduct by the owners, agents, officers, employees, or subcontractors of Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias.

I further agree to obey and follow all rules, regulations, and instructions of Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias, its agents, employees, associates, and subcontractors.

I hereby certify, irrevocably consent to and authorize the use and reproduction by you, or anyone authorized by you, of any and all photographs, moving pictures, or videotapes which you may this day take of me, negative of positive, for any purpose without further compensation to me. All negatives and positives, together with the prints shall constitute property of Outdoor Adventures of the Virginias – solely and completely.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE WIAVER AND RELEASE AND BY SIGNING IT AGREE. IT IS MY INTENTION TO EXEMPT AND RELIEVE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES OF THE VIRGINIAS FROM ANY LIABILITY FOR PERSONAL INJURTY, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR WRONGFUL DEATH CAUSED BY NEGLIGENCE OR ANY OTHER CAUSE.

Signature Age _____ Date
SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIANS (IF UNDER AGE 18)

PLEASE PRINT BELOW

NAME _____ EMAIL

STREET ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE

City _____ state _____ zip code

LIST ALL MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS, AND PRETINENT MEDICATIONS ON THE BACK.

CAVING FLYER

APPROVAL / PERMISSION SLIP

Approval/permission is granted by the parents/guardians of Boy Scout _____ for their son/scout to participate in the activities of Troop 255, Chevy Chase, Maryland, National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Approval/permission is granted to the adult members of Troop 255 to authorize treatment of the Boy Scout named above in the event of an accident or emergency. Adult members of Troop 255 that authorize treatment of the Boy Scout in the event of an accident or emergency shall be released from any or all liabilities.

Local and national tour permits will be obtained by Troop 255 when necessary.

This approval/permission is valid for the February 11-12, 2006, Caving Outdoor Camping Activity.

I can drive: _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, I can carry _____ scouts including my own.

Parent Signature

Parent Name (Print)

Date
