

## Ockanickon Scout Reservation Leaders Meeting

(<http://www.ockanickon.org/>)

6 May 2006

The leaders meeting was very informative and was attended by all of the troops scheduled for the 2006 camping season. Each of the program departments provided updated information concerning their respective areas and allowed time for questions. Most of the program directors are adults. Our previous camping experiences were with Directors who were generally no more than college age. The following notes are a highlight of the information provided during the meeting. One of the many points they highlighted was to continually check the Ockanickon website for updated information.

If you have pre-requisites you must bring them to camp.

There are no visitors allowed in camp. If you are not on the Unit Roster as a registered Scouter you will be turned away.

Meals are included in the week long adult price. Daily prices are in effect for non-week long campers. Meal payment is due upon check-in for all meals served during the time you are there...regardless if you eat.

We will know our campsite two weeks prior to getting to camp. We are allowed to bring our own tents if we desire. We must bring our own dining tarps. Each site has either tents, Adirondacks, Baily tents or a combination of all three.

The camp recommends that the Scout take between two and three MB's while at camp. The main focus is to have fun, not see how many MB's they can take.

They recommend that we bring our own MB books. They have no control over which or how many they receive per shipment.

There will be conflicts with the MB schedules. The scout must decide which MB they want to take - there are too many campers (over 500) to accommodate special times for MB's.

### Mail Address:

Scout Name, Troop 680, Campsite  
Ockanickon Scout Reservation  
5787 State Park Road  
Pipersville PA 18947

The camp phone numbers are for emergency use only (703-297-5290). If you need to get in touch with T680 please call my cell (571-215-9101) or Keith Kettell's cell (703-851-2685). We will check our messages several times a day. **DO NOT SEND YOUR SCOUT TO CAMP WITH A CELL PHONE - WE WILL TAKE IT FROM HIM!** The pay telephones will be off limits to all T680 scouts while at camp - no exceptions!

There is a Summer Camp Insurance Plan that is similar to one you may get if you take a cruise or an expensive vacation. It is cancellation/interruption protection that is available for a price. The information will be available on the T680 webpage (Protection Plan)

The following are notes from the specific departments. Additional information can be found on the T680 webpage.

#### Ecology:

- The requirements for Environmental Science MB have changed; there is no longer a requirement for the terrarium.

#### Handicraft:

- This is not a “Gimmie” MB station.
- The MB’s start on Monday and may last all week.
- There are no “One Hour” MB’s.
- This is not the place to send the Dan Beardlings to kill time.
- The director believes in service projects and will take every opportunity to conduct one. She offers boot cleaning as a project for those taking Leatherwork MB. Scouters can drop off their dirty boots in the evening and pick them up the next day after the MB [participants have refurbished them as part of the MB process.

#### Photography:

- The Photography MB is open to older scouts only.
- Due to safety concerns only eight scouts are allowed to take the MB during the week.
- Sign up is on Sunday evening and the eight scouts will be chosen via a lottery.
- The Scout must provide their own camera (Digital or SLR).
- The Troop Photo is on Sunday evening.
- The cost is \$6.50 per photo. Troop/Group/individual photos are available.

#### Spoke n’ Rope:

- Updated program information will be available on Sunday
- Sailing MB may not be an option if you desire to take other MB’s
- Sailing MB is conducted on a lake at a local State Park.
- Mountain Boarding is an “Open Session” activity.
- Mountain Biking is a 13+ activity; additional information will be available on Sunday.
- Cycling MB - Monday is the book work with the rides during the rest of the week. There are no 25 or 50 mile rides.
- You may bring and use your own protective gear. Helmets are required by all riders.
- Service projects are available at the lake.

#### Science:

- Age restricted - no exceptions!
- There are four sessions per day - 1½ hour sessions.
- Troop sign-ups are all week long, but the priority will be for the MB scouts.

### Scout Craft:

- Camping and Wilderness Survival MB's are 1½ sessions.
- Overnights are on Thursday
- Cooking MB is 1100-1500, Tuesday through Friday.

### Shooting:

- If you want to shoot you must attend the Sunday evening class.
- Shot Gun - \$.75 for 2 shells; recommend a box of shells to start with for the MB; tickets available at the TP.
- No "open" vs. MB shooting; maybe near the end they will limit the range time to those still requiring MB assistance.
- If a scout qualifies on the first day they will ensure he gets the MB in one day.

Shooting MB's are not for everyone; Leaders are to ensure they be leaders when allowing scouts to attempt MB's.

### Aquatics:

- Try and get your swim test done prior to attending camp
- Use the form for recording the swim tests.
- The Aquatics staff reserves the right to retest any Scout or Scouter.
- There are two classes per day not three.
- Bring your own gear for the flotation test in Swimming MB.
- They use chlorine in their pool - clothes will fade.

Flotation testing is done on Monday evening; everyone attends who needs to complete that requirement.

### Eagle:

- Use the form (see attached) and the newest requirements.
- C in C: M&T or W&Th
- C in W: All old pre-requisites are excepted with proof.
- You must sign up NLT Monday for Eagle required MB's.
- If you come to camp with a partial there is a meeting on Sunday evening - bring proof.
- All pre-requisites must be presented to the counselors at camp - no exceptions.

### Dan Beard:

- See hand out (Dan Beard Program).
- DB is a full day program.
- Individual requirements must be scheduled.
- We will attend the overnights.
- We will need to provide at least one Scouter per eight scouts.

### Rock Climbing:

- You must attend the Belay certification training prior to climbing - Yes, they offer the training at camp.
- We sign up for COPE on Sunday evening.
- A Class 3 physical is only required for those over 40.

### Other Stuff:

- Wood burning - They are supposed to have a primer wood burning facility. Wood prices vary but are between .50 and \$15. You may bring your own wood and no talent is needed. The facility is open from 0900-1200 and 1400-1700 daily as well as select evenings.
- Golf MB - Tuesday from 1200- 1800. \$40 per scout. They have the clubs and you will receive instruction. We must provide transportation and there is a dress code (collared shirt). *Please continue to check the Ockanickon web page for more information.*
- SCUBA - \$35 for the course. The course is T, Th, and F from 1800 - 1900. You receive the BSA Dive certificate. You may also participate in the Discover SCUBA classes. The classes are \$6 per person and let you become familiar with the gear and actually go under water. There is no swimming requirement for the Discover SCUBA class.
- Horsemanship MB - \$40 for the MB. This MB is given at a local ranch and the instructors are college girls. The troop must provide the transportation. *Please continue to check the Ockanickon web page for more information.*
- Rafting - The camp contracted out the rafting activities this year. The company is the Buck Country River Company (BCRC). A complete price list is available at their web site ([www.rivercountry.net](http://www.rivercountry.net)).