

SATELLITE SCOUT

A CAMPOREE FOR OUR TIME

WHEN: A WEEKEND BETWEEN 16 APRIL AND 31 MAY 2021

WHERE: ANY CAMPSITE YOU CHOOSE

RULES: WHATEVER THEY ARE AT THE TIME

Your unit is a band of colonists on Ganymede, Jupiter's third and largest moon, early in the 25th century. Your Scouts' families have emigrated in hopes of creating a better life, and your Scouts, having mastered Earth-appropriate Scout skills, find themselves having to learn an entire new skill-set...

The theme is based on the story *Satellite Scout*, by science fiction grand-master Robert Heinlein, which was serialized in *Boys' Life* in 1950. (The story was later expanded and published as the book *Farmer In the Sky*.) The first of four segments of the story has been posted to the District Roundtable Resources web page (see link below) - you can download the installment in PDF form and print it for your Scouts, or they can use the link provided on that page to read the story in the *Boys Life* issue stored on Google Books (it's not a bad idea to introduce them to the heyday of Scouting that way...). Each month, you'll receive another segment of the story to share with your Scouts. By next spring, they should be prepared for Ganymede...

This is a distributed Camporee - each Troop will pick a weekend which fits its own schedule, and will camp at a location convenient to the unit. The District will have some suggested locations arranged where multiple troops can camp at appropriately distanced sites (assuming that's still something we need to do by next Spring), or pick someplace you prefer.

Your unit will receive instructions in advance as to equipment and supply needs, suggestions of Scout skills to practice prior to the camporee, and a packet of program materials appropriate to the number of patrols you'll have camping that weekend.

The packet of materials will include timed envelopes to guide your unit through the Camporee. You arrive, set up camp, and open the first envelope. Your Senior Patrol Leader briefs the Patrol Leaders, and off you go...

For handouts and the first installment of *Satellite Scout* see <https://TCScouts.org/roundtable.htm>
Questions? e-mail Camporee@TCScouts.org



What will it cost? We'll certainly try to keep the fee as low as possible - a budget will be established later this fall. There will be a patch and some administrative costs related to preparing and delivering packets of materials. Food and any campsite fees are the responsibility of your unit. Camping will be available at Mike Brown's pond at no cost. Tent camping at Barton or Tuscarora can be arranged with the Council at the usual cost.

What about COVID-19? Hopefully, by next spring, Covid will be nothing but a memory. However, this camporee is being planned on the basis of the worst-case scenario. With several weekends and numerous locations available, social distancing between Troops is easy to arrange, and as of right now, only our largest Troops might have issues within their unit as to gathering size. If we go to complete shutdown, this program can be tweaked to work with each Scout camping in his or her own back yard, communicating with Troop and Patrol leadership electronically or by phone.

How will judging and scoring work? After your weekend campout, your Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders will assemble a report to be submitted electronically to the camporee leadership. The document may include photos, videos, rosters, maps, written reports, descriptions and lists. The details of the report will be included in the event packets. It is possible that your Troop may be visited by your Unit Commissioner during the weekend, as well. (We'll be encouraging Commissioners to do that.)

What about Webelos? By next April or May, you should have already inducted new Scouts from your neighborhood Webelos dens. Rising Second Year Webelos could visit for part of the day, if you and your local Packs can work that out. They are not allowed to participate as a Patrol or to blend with your Patrols, and there will not be any program planned for them; you could perhaps plan something. It might work well to invite them for part of the afternoon and dinner, if it is appropriate based on social distancing requirements at that time.

Advancement? Most of Surveying merit badge will be able to be completed at the Camporee, and we're going to try and make arrangements with the two Surveying Counselors in the council to make it easy for your Scouts who are interested to complete the badge. Of course, your new Scouts will have cooking, camping, first aid, and pioneering opportunities as a part of the campout, and there will be time to work on those skills. We're also going to look at Space Exploration merit badge requirements...



More Questions? e-mail Camporee@TCScouts.org