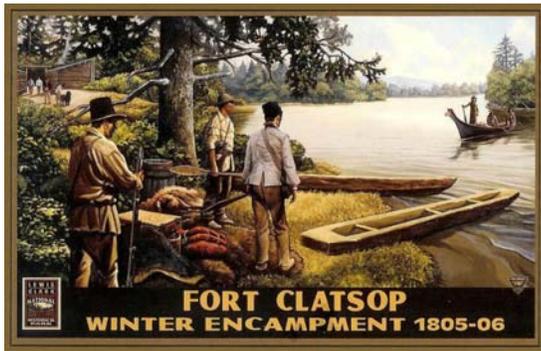


VENTURING MAGAZINE

Venturing Corps of Discovery Gathering is coming up soon!

May 2015



The first ever Venturing Corps of Discovery Gathering is coming up soon! June 26-28, Corps Members from the Western United States will gather at Fort Clatsop National Historic Park near Astoria, Oregon. This reproduction of Lewis & Clarks' home during the Winter of 1805-1806 will serve as the focal point for the gathering. Group camping is available at the nearby Kampground of America (KOA) and local attractions include the Pacific Beaches of the Oregon Coast, the Columbia River, and the historic fishing port of Ilwaco, WA where Lewis & Clark first spotted the

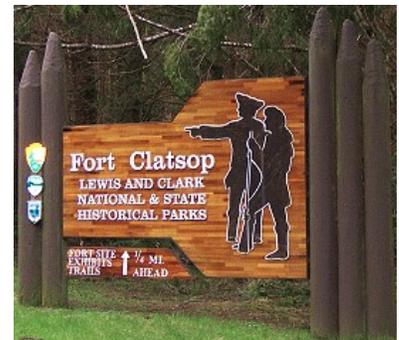
Pacific Ocean, the ultimate goal of the original Corps of Discovery.

Included here are excerpts from the event's Leaders Guide. The entire leader's guide can be requested from Chris Hagerty, the event coordinator, at laughingoak@mac.com.

General Information

Our grassroots project has grown and evolved over the years, and now seems to grow by the day.

The Guidebook we put out last year helped define and promote the Corps of Discovery; now it's time for the next step. I'm organizing a Regimental Rendezvous at Fort Clatsop (outside Astoria, Oregon) for the Summer of 2015. Fort Clatsop is a National Historic Park where Lewis and Clark wintered over in 1805-1806 before starting the return trip to the (then) United States.



The Rendezvous will run differently from many other similar Scouting events with a lot less structure, allowing your Crew to make their own fun! We will have 2 specific days of organized program. This provides your group with the chance to plan your own adventure in the area before or after the Rendezvous. There's backpacking, whitewater rafting, several historical sites, the Oregon Coast, Mount Hood, Mt. St. Helens National Monument, the Long Beach Peninsula (longest drive-able beaches in the world), etc. For those who are unaware, Fort Clatsop was the westernmost outpost of the Voyage of Discovery and is located near the Pacific Beaches at the mouth of the Columbia River. Another interesting historical site to visit is the End of the Oregon Trail in Oregon City just east of Portland. Portions of the Oregon Trail (the Barlow Road) can be seen and hiked on the way from Portland to Mt. Hood.

We will gather Friday, June 26th, 2015 to tour and explore Fort Clatsop National Historic Park and Ft. Stevens State Park (one of only two US Army forts on the West Coast during the Civil War; the other is Ft. Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay) as a group for the day. Saturday, June 27th, will be a chance to get

together, have discussion groups about where our program is going, and where we are all coming from. We'll have a Regimental meeting, our first, to elect Regimental officers, create a Regiment name, and basically form our organization for the West Coast. We will also have an induction ceremony for new members. The Saturday Dinner will be a BBQ put on by our Service Corps. Please bring \$5/head for dinner.

We will work out proxy voting for Outposts/Companies/Camps that cannot attend, but I think you'll be missing out if you don't attend. Oh! And yes, there'll be a pocket flap & jacket patch for those who come. Craig designed it for us, it shows a scene at Ft. Clatsop.

Again, not suggesting you drive or fly in for just two days, we just aren't dictating a week-long program. Why? Who knows how many different kinds of units we're talking about? Some may want to hike the hills Lewis and Clark did with a 50 mile backpack trek. Others may want to go whitewater rafting down the Deschutes River (which L&C unsuccessfully named the Jefferson River after President Thomas Jefferson), before or after the organized program. It's up to you. You may just want to see if you can find all the scenes from THE GOONIES, FREE WILLY or KINDERGARTEN COP (filmed in Astoria).

All logistics -- your food, camping, hotels, etc. -- whatever your crew chooses for both the Rendezvous and time before or after the Rendezvous need to be made by your crew. We do have a group camping area at the nearby KOA Reserved.

Tony Burns is handling reservations there (packman260@gmail.com).

We recommend you reserve space well ahead of time. There are a couple of National Parks, State Parks as well as other campgrounds, and Astoria is packed with hotels. BSA Camp Meriwether is nearby. I know my Sea Scouts for instance are planning to take the train up to Portland, visit some museums, etc. then come down to Astoria, stay in a hotel, see as much of the Lewis and Clark Sites as we can, then back to Portland on Monday, home on the train, and we're working on doing the Kodiak challenge on the trip. It's up to you what you choose to do.

This is going to be a great time with other members of the Corps of Discovery.

Contact me for questions (email and phone number below). Later this year, we will be asking folks to let us know if they're coming.

There will be no event cost charged by the Rendezvous. The camping/hotelling, entrance fees and other fees will be what you plan. Of course, please plan to buy some jacket patches as a memory of this first Corps of Discovery event.

Fees: \$3/Head for a weekend pass to the Fort, \$15/Head to camp in the group camping at KOA (Reserve by April 15th), \$5/Head for the BBQ at the Regimental dinner & meeting. Otherwise, Patches, food, etc, whatever you want to buy is up to you.

All Corps of Discovery Members are invited. This invitation includes members from the other regions.

Make this your super-activity for 2015!



Uniforming. While we will be in public, attending a major Scouting event, the first of it's kind, we want to make a good impression. The best uniform you have is requested. This does pose the question; what uniform do you have? We'll have Venturers and Sea Scouts, and I'm told some Explorers maybe. We all wear different stuff. I'd expect most crews use the Green Shirts from National, but those that wear just T-Shirts or whatnot, that's cool too. Again, just asking best uniform you have.

There will be no "Uniform-Police" checking your patches at the door. This is going to be a great event, possibly historic! Probably don't want a bunch of photos with folks wearing shredded cut-offs in Scouting Magazine 25 years from now.

As far as expectations of participants. We'll publish an agenda in the leader-guide in November. Nothing major, just when we all might meet for the tour Saturday, when and where the Regimental Dinner will be Saturday Night, etc. Attend it all, pick and choose, it's all up to you. Again, the idea is to offer a relaxed schedule of things to do as a group, but not to have an over-scheduled event that keeps everyone hectically running around all day.

Liability. This is simple; we're all coming from units of the Boy Scouts of America. We will all file Tour Plans for our own trips, that Tour Plan will include the Rendezvous, as well as any other activities in which you plan to engage. As this will certainly be a 72+ Hour trip, that crosses Council, let alone State borders for most everyone, we'll all need Physicals and Tour Plans.

This is really no different than attending any group activity, like a camporee, etc. There will not be anyone checking these at the Rendezvous. First, we have no authority to do so. Second, we have no authority to do anything if you don't have it.

With the model of everyone doing their own thing before or after the 2015 Rendezvous, I'd like to ask the groups attending to take lots of video and photos, and then share them with me. I want to build a YouTube video of the whole rendezvous, including everyone's adventures and activities. If you're climbing Mt. Hood, hunting Bigfoot in the woods, shooting the Deschutes in a raft, going to museums in Portland, looking for the places they filmed Goonies in Astoria, WHATEVER! We'll put it all together into one big video to celebrate the first Regimental Rendezvous!

Youth & Adults interested in working on this, or other projects for the Rendezvous, please get a hold of Chris Hagerty.

Article provided by: Joe Garrett