

VENTURING MAGAZINE

Corps of Discovery Rendezvous!

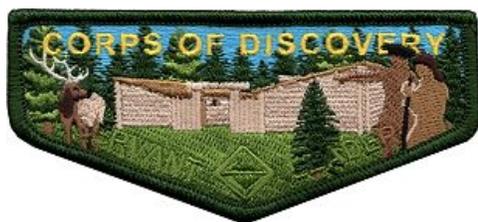
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Our grassroots project has grown and evolved over the years, and now seems to grow by the day.



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 (a year from now). [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.

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 jacket patch for those who come. Craig designed it for me, 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.



6" jacket patch

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 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 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.

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

Make this your super-activity for 2015!

Yours in Service,
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