

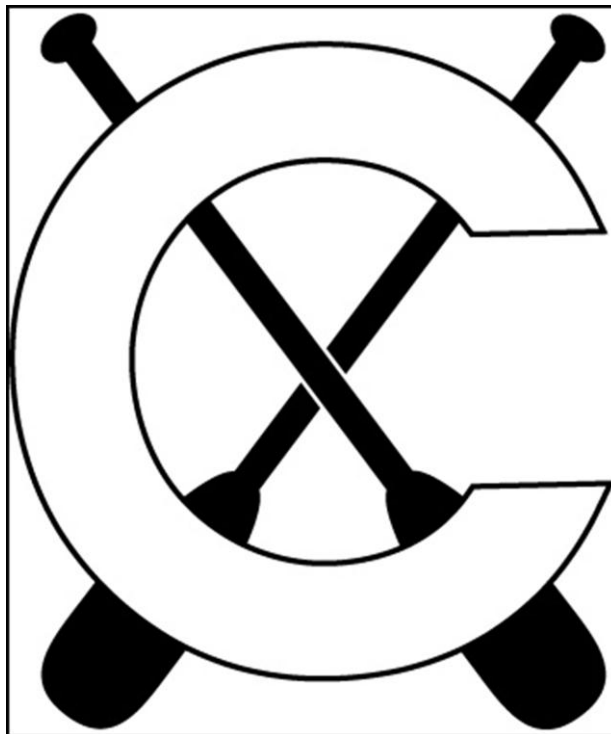


Summer Camp 2014

Camp Constantin

Campsite Skull Ridge

June 22nd – June 28th, 2014





Departure & Return

All gear except your sack lunch, water bottle, swimsuit, towel, and raingear should be dropped off at the church on Saturday, June 21st between 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm for packing.

- Each Scout should check in at the table set up for a final checklist.
- All medication must be given to the Troop Medical Officer, Jeff Mack, at this time. Medication will be kept under lock and key at all times.
- There will be a final chance to update medical history forms, turn in a copy of your personal medical insurance card (front & back)
- Medications will be available at the health lodge at meal times. Scouts are responsible for taking their own medication. All prescription medication must be accompanied by a note from a parent or legal guardian giving permission for the medication to be administered by the Scout Leader or Health Officer at camp.

We will meet at the First United Methodist Church at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 22nd to leave for summer camp. **The troop will leave at 8:30 AM SHARP! We MUST check in between 12:00 and 3:00 pm and we have a 2 & 1/2 hour drive plus lunch ahead of us!!!**

Scouts should wear their swimsuits on Sunday under their uniform.

- Bring your sack lunch, water bottle, towel and raingear preferably packed in a daypack.

A guide will be assigned to our troop for tours, medical rechecks and swim check. After our tour the *entire troop* will head to the pool for a swim test.

We expect to return to The Colony (FUMC) between 12:00 and 1:00 pm, Saturday, June 28th. Scouts will have an opportunity to call their parents or guardians via cell phone as we near The Colony.

Please be at the church upon the Troop's arrival to greet your Scout. They will be excited to see you!!!

Extremely Important!

Parents need to inform the scoutmaster if they do not plan on being at home the week of camp. In the event of an emergency (or bad behavior) we must have the name and number of a responsible party that can retrieve your scout.

All Scouts are expected to stay in camp the entire week. If a parent visits on Friday evening or otherwise is departing camp near the end of the week, you should encourage your son to stay and travel home with the troop. On Saturday morning, results of advancement work are distributed to the Scoutmasters. It is easier to verify the accuracy of these reports if all of the Scouts are still in camp. That way, errors can be corrected before we depart. Once we leave camp, it is more difficult to track down the counselors and make corrections. Just as important is breaking camp. We have all been together for the week; we set up camp together and must break down camp together. Everyone is excited to go home at the end of the week, and working together on Saturday morning helps us to achieve that goal

Visitors to camp cannot spend the night and must check in and out with the Camp Office



Mail

All kids love getting mail, and Scouts away at camp are no different. We encourage you to have parents send letters and/or packages to their Scout while away at camp. Please make sure that the troop number and a return address are present, in case the package is received after the Scout has gone home. Note that it can take a few days for it to arrive at camp!

Camp Constantin
Scout's Name/ Troop Number
3003 Park Road 36
Graford, Texas 76449



Phone & Emergency Contact

Emergency Telephone Number

Camp Constantin :(940) 779-2131

Please note, the camp telephone number is for medical and family *emergencies only*. Parents are asked to use this number only for emergencies. Camp Constantin is not equipped with a paging system. If a parent calls with a non-emergency, that message will be communicated at the next meal.

Camp Headquarters Hours

Sunday: 12:00p.m. - 5:30p.m.
Monday-Friday: 9:00a.m. - 11:00a.m.
2:00p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.

Scouts are strongly discouraged from making telephone calls. If it is necessary, the troop's adult leader must accompany the scout.

Not all adult leaders will carry cell-phones with them, however most will. In the event of an emergency, please contact the camp office first (be prepared to give the individual's name, troop number and campsite SKULL RIDGE) and then feel free to contact one of the adult leaders via cell phone.

- Rudy Kamman: 972-757-1668
- Jeff Thompson: 214-534-8853
- Joe Macy: 940-293-7513
- Jeff Mack: 972-369-9584
- Lyle Grisso: 214-403-6146





Trading Post & Spending Money



Scouts will need some money during summer camp. On average, the amount of money spent each year by a scout in the Trading Post is \$75-\$100. Things that a Scout will likely spend money on include the following:

- Merit badge supplies (leather kits, ammo for shooting ranges, merit badge pamphlets, etc.)
- Souvenirs from the Trading Post
- Snacks

Camp Constantine is pleased to offer the grand opening of a brand new Trading Post that will have all of your camping needs in one location! We will offer everything from chips and soda, to frozen Snickers and Slushies; and then in the same place you can get all of your merit badge kits and supplies. Forgot your compass, or fire starter at home? We remembered it and brought it for you. T-shirts, hats, gag gifts, walking staff emblems, pocket knives, you name it, and it's here at the all-new Trading Post located next to the Handicraft pavilion.

We will be having Cracker Barrel every evening while at camp

Visitors to camp may join their camper for a meal. They are \$6 per person per meal and may be purchased at the Trading Post

Homesickness and Advice for First Year Campers

Homesickness is a natural part of growing up. The only question is when and how severe you will first experience homesickness. Do not be embarrassed if you feel sad and miss your parents. Talk with one of the adult volunteers. They may be able to help.

The best solution for homesickness is lots of fun and activities. If you miss your parents, write them a letter.

Parents can help with homesickness by sending encouraging letters to camp and by setting expectations that their son will have fun and will remain in camp for the entire week. If your son does call home due to homesickness, *please* encourage him to remain at camp and *do not* agree to come and get him. If you mail your son letters or packages, please do **NOT** send food items. Raccoons are a constant problem and there is no safe place to secure food in camp.

Scouts are expected to travel to camp with the troop, to stay the entire week, and to travel home with the troop. Check-in procedures are difficult with hundreds of campers reporting in on Sunday afternoon. If your son arrives at a later time he will miss part of scheduled program and advancement activities while we try to reschedule his check-in. Summer camp can be very busy with advancement activities and just plain fun. Scouts will miss out on significant portions of the summer camp experience and may fail to complete merit badge classes if they leave camp during the week.

There is a lot more to summer camp than just advancement and merit badges. The scouts will want to take time to enjoy the natural beauty of Camp Constantine and participate in the camp's planned activities that are sure to be a hit. Troop 226 may also work on a Service Project while at camp.



Troop Camp Guidelines

We are going to have a good time at camp, but there are a few guidelines we need to follow.

- Scouts are expected to change clothes every day at camp. You should have plenty of clothes packed, wear clean ones and you will smell better, feel better and look better. A Scout is Clean.

- Swimsuits are NOT acceptable attire for meals. No swimsuits are to be worn in the dining hall. This is not just a Troop rule, but also a camp rule.

- Swimsuits should never be worn with your Class A uniform. It is OK if you are wearing your swimsuit with another pair of shorts over them with your uniform (such as the ride to camp), but never visible with the uniform.

- Class A uniforms are always worn at dinner.

- Scouts are expected to shower on a regular basis. Jumping in the lake does not count as a bath!

- Please keep your valuables, especially money, in a secure location. If not on your person, it should be locked in your trunk. Keep your trunk locked any time you are not getting something out or putting something in.

- Every Scout is expected to act in accordance with the Scout Law. This includes keeping your hands to yourself. Respect each other and each other's property and we will all have a better time.

- A duty roster will be posted in our campsite. It is each Scout's responsibility to check the duty roster and do whatever jobs they are assigned, when assigned. A Scout is Helpful.

- Pick up after yourself, there are no maids or butlers at camp. Also, if you see trash on the ground, pick it up. This will make cleaning the campsite on Saturday morning much faster.

- Absolutely no food or drinks, except water, in your tent. This attracts ants and other bugs and critters.

- Please do not wander off without a buddy AND letting someone know where you are going.

- Help your fellow Scouts. If they are lost, can't find their class or have some other problem, help them out as best you can.

- Please follow all camp rules and directions given to you by Troop Leaders and Camp Staff.



Camp Notes

Tents are provided and are 7' X 9' canvas tents with a wooden platform. Consider bringing a tarp to cover the floor. This helps keep bugs from coming up through the floor and is a bit clear. This is optional.

Meals are served buffet style. For every meal, the Troop will provide at least 2 Scouts to serve as table waiters. Your shifts will be posted on the duty roster in camp. They are responsible for setting up the table, if needed and cleaning up after the meal.

Uniforms at meals:

- Breakfast – No uniform required. No swimsuits allowed
- Lunch – No uniform required. No swimsuits allowed
- Dinner & Evening Flag Ceremony – Class A uniform. No swimsuits allowed.

Check with the Troop Librarian, Casey, for any Merit Badge Books you want to check out. You can also purchase them in advance at the Scout shop. You will not need a merit badge book for every class, but for some it is helpful. Example: You probably won't need the book for Basketry Merit Badge, but you might want it for a harder class such as Environmental Science. Books are also available for purchase at the Trading Post, but may be limited in supply. Take the time to review Merit Badge requirements in advance to know what to expect.

Each Scout should be heavily involved with packing their gear if not completely. This way you will know where everything is and is part of learning to do things for yourself. Make sure you keep your trunk locked at all times! Give the combination or spare key to your lock to a Scoutmaster, just in case.

Label **EVERYTHING**. This includes your trunk, clothes, water bottle, wallet, books, etc. At the bare minimum, have your initials and Troop number. Lost items are easier to return in they have this info.



Adult Volunteers

Every troop is required to have a minimum of two adults; these adults must be in camp at all times. Do not plan to leave camp during the day or night to run errands during the time that you have volunteered to help.

The Camp has limited Wi-Fi for adults who need it.

The following is a list of suggested "duties" for adults volunteering during the week of camp:

1. Wander around to each of the program areas and merit badge classes and check up on the quality of the program and the quality of performance of the camp staff.
2. Make sure the Scouts get to their scheduled activities and classes.
3. Be a friend to each Scout and encourage them to take full advantage of the fun and beauty of camp - not just the merit badge program. Take them to open shooting at the rifle and archery ranges, or open swimming and boating. All of these things help keep homesickness in check.
4. Encourage Scouts, especially first year Scouts, to take advantage of Free Swim and other Camp Activities, which will help them to advance to First Class.
5. Coach the junior leaders of the troop to oversee the daily duty roster and get the table waiters to the Dining Hall on time and the latrine cleaned daily.
6. Through personal enthusiasm, get the boys excited about getting up and going each day.
7. Help calm the boys each night and prepare them for lights out with some thoughtful reflection.
8. Keep an eye out for "teaching opportunities" to reflect on the Scout Oath and Scout Law and how it applies to the behavior of the moment.
9. Encourage the boys to write home.
10. Be prepared - to respond to conflicts, injuries, homesickness, forgotten - lost - broken items.
11. Encourage and praise the Scouts and through personal example keep their spirits and enthusiasm high.
12. Encourage and praise the STAFF.
13. Take advantage of the training opportunities while at camp.

- Leader Specific Training
- Paddle Craft Safety Training
- Swimming & Water Rescue Training
- BSA Lifeguard Training
- Leader competitions (shooting sports, sailing, etc.)
- Leadership as a Camp Ambassador
- Many other camp specific programs
- Scoutmaster Merit Badge
- Assist in Merit Badge Classes

