



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

~ A 2017 JAMBOREE *FOOD TEAM* COMMUNIQUE ~
~ NOVEMBER 2015 ~

It seems that a monthly newsletter at this time of year just starts with the litany of holiday introductions. For last month it was be prepared for Trick or Treat and now I'm opening this November issue with the very appropriate Happy Thanksgiving to all our Scouting friends and families.

Last issue we commenced with a summary of the three Areas of the Food Team and begin to introduce our leadership. This time we are going to delve into the details of the first area, Retail Food, so you can begin to see the extent of the options the staff in this area has in delivering the food that most at the Jamboree 'really want'.

Did I really mean, "really want"? You bet. Sure we give everyone food for breakfast, lunch and dinner but that is designed to provide the basic meals each person needs. Then the folks, nearly all, 'supplement' to the extent they want and can with other stuff they buy at one of several Retail Food establishments. So not going out on any limb, I'm going to say that Retail Food shines as the favored food venue at the Jamboree. Now what types of Retail Food do we plan to have at the Jamboree in 2017 you may be wondering. There are three basic areas, which are separately staffed, as follows.

The first area is called Snack Bars. These are fixed locations that sell prepared and packaged food to participants, staff and visitors depending on the location. There are three large snack bars located in the Summit Center where a lot of daily activities happen and the visitors come. The specific locations for those familiar with that area are: Action Point, Gateway and Legacy Village. Then there are four slightly smaller and more participant oriented locations in the Base camps where the scouts camp. Those are located in Base camps A, C, D and F. (D & F are new in 2017, and oh yes, there is a special staff camp snack bar, called the Chat 'n Chew at E, but that's a topic for a future issue of Food For Thought.) Finally there is the new snack bar, called the Oasis, which will be located at the new Transportation Hub. Yes, increased staff transportation in 2017! Each of these venues will serve a variety of items from hamburgers to pizza, salads to wraps, BBQ to DQ (it seemed to simplistically rhyme and I think you'll understand what I mean even though we won't have the franchise just the frozen treats).

The second area is termed the Pop-ups. That is a rather aptly descriptive area title for a smaller tent, say 10'x10' or 10'x20' that we 'pop up' wherever seems a good location to sell pre-packaged and bottled and frozen retail food products that the scouts, staff and visitors might



enjoy. We will have a lot of these ready to position in different locations based on the activities of the day, or an arena show, and our reaction to how our locations were received the day before. This will be a varied job, but one where you are sure to get into the thick of the Jamboree venue and interact closely with participant and guests.

The final area is called Catering. It's a great place to rub elbows with the Silver crowd. I use that capital letter to describe a stereotype person served at a specially catered event in the Summit Center. The tents in 2013 had names like Silver Buffalo, Silver Antelope, et cetera. The folks served generally had silver or gold loops, depending on whether they were an Executive Board visitor from a Council or the higher ups. Most came for a nice reception but of course there are in any organization those rare few who you might expect would show up at the VIP tents. The catering staff makes our organization's important visitors feel welcomed to the Jamboree and happier to be there particularly following a nice reception. It takes a special person to want to help here, but for those who know this type of service, and are good with this type of meet and greet venue, you will be most welcomed on this team.

As I reach the end of the saga about the work and begin to think ahead to the wonderful times to be shared with family this holiday, let me reflect personally, but in a way that perhaps is universally understandable, on what the Jamboree Food Team and its family means to me. I might best sum it up in a table grace I crafted as though it were Thanksgiving and the honor turned to me. It flows to the page as I type thinking what I would say: "Bless us this Thanksgiving and every day; keep bright the memory of our Food Team comrades who have passed; give us the wisdom to do what is right and good for those of us here who serve our fellow Scouts; grant us the compassion to just shake our heads when we really want to get mad or frustrated, for most just know not what they do; continue to remind us that the youth of this world are not only our future but the future; encourage us not to just pray they develop the skills necessary in life, but give us the constitution to teach them by good example; and perhaps above all cradle us as we realize the certainty that someday, just as we have grown from Jamboree participant to staff to old guard, so will they; and finally please watch over us thus enabling that we may continue to serve, however many remaining Jamboree times we may have, with Scout's honor ." *Pax Vobiscum* and best wishes for a very Happy Thanksgiving!