



Food for Thought

~~ A 2017 Jamboree *Food Team* Communiqué ~~

~ July 1, 2017 ~

Call it an educated guess but among the tens of thousands of us preparing for the event that is all but upon us, more than a few are wondering (self included) how it will be possible to get everything done (that needs to be done) in time to depart for the Jamboree. If it is any solace, let me say as I prepare to leave for my tenth Jamboree it gets easier each time. Why you may ask? Well one realizes over time that somehow in the midst of life, family, community, other volunteerism (and of course real work) we find the moments to carve out a little time to plan, pack, acquire, sew, spend time with loved ones we will leave, and ultimately travel to another Scouting event of a lifetime. Since there is nothing we can do to assist you in that, it seems only fitting that I should share a few nuggets of what to expect as you come to the Jamboree, so the first steps of your arrival are the principal topic of this Food for Thought.

On whatever day that happens to be set for each of you to come, if you drive set your destination for the Ruby Welcome Center. Here is the link: [Ruby Welcome Center Map Link](#). Of course, if you are coming by other means you should long ago have plans in place and will find a shuttle drops you off there. The Ruby Welcome Center is where you will find the Jamboree central registration and medical review, not to mention the major parking lot.

Many ask about what to wear for arrival and call me. I'm old school, so Class A would be my choice. You won't wear it often during the Jamboree, but as you travel in it is nice though obviously, the choice is yours. By now I trust you have heard a few times to bring a hard copy of your medical form submitted and evidence of your current youth protection training (within one year). From there you will park your car if, you came in that way, and board a shuttle to Basecamp Echo. (There might be an option to drive into Echo July 13-16 for a drop & go, but please pack as if you won't have that option).

When you get to Echo, they will drop you off. Unlike the past, there are THREE bus stops in Echo for arrivals. You will get off at the stop based on your tent assignment. I'll pause briefly for those who are asking 'when did tent assignments happen' and 'how do I know mine?' (among an array of other questions about tent mates and location). It is set in stone that initial housing assignments are being handled by the Jamboree Division this year, so they will be given to you during registration. Many of you will recall the online tent mate selection process that was suggested and closed in May – that is the basis for the assignments. Is there anything you can do to influence them now? No. Can you

change them later? We don't know. So, if you have a problem once you arrive, inquire of the Food Team housing liaison then.

Once you find your tent, look at your watch. Did I just date myself by saying that instead of look at your phone? Be that as it may, think about your timing toward the next Food Team Welcome Meeting. These will take place every three hours starting at nine am -- so 9, 12 noon, 3pm, 6pm and 9pm are the times. Pace yourself while you get settled being mindful that you want to get to one of the next meetings to join up with our team. Please don't rush unduly, so if you arrive at 11:45am, it is probably best to unpack as necessary, organize, change out of class A, et cetera, and target to make the 3pm meeting. When you are thus set to engage, head to the Staff Dining tent. Which one is that -- the one that looks like it is big enough to cover a football field.

There you will find for the Food Team Welcome Wagon setup area and staff. It would be premature to speculate where they will be set up so we will send out a supplemental special Food for Thought edition after our July 9th arrival and once we know where to tell you to come.

When you find us, we will be ready to greet you and help you to immediately join our team. Our staff will give you an overview of the various food team areas so you have a sense of how your role fits into the big picture of providing all food at the Jamboree. We will explain, particularly for those who are new, how staff meals work. We will go over any training that you need to do as part of joining your area of food team and then introduce you to representatives of your work area so that you may go with them to meet your area leaders, learn what you will be doing and begin as part of that team area.

Stay tuned for more, but hopefully the above eases questions a little about what to expect the first few hours of arrival. We look forward to seeing you soon!

P.S. Here is a link to the 2017 JAMBOREE STAFF GUIDE:

<http://www.summitbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Staff-Guide.pdf>

It contains a lot of valuable information worth reviewing if you haven't look at it recently!