



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

~ A 2019 WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE FOOD TEAM COMMUNIQUÉ ~

~ FEBRUARY 2019 ~

Every week I track the progress of our Food Teams as we continue to invite Scouters from around the world to serve with us this July at the 24th WSJ. It is heartening to have over 500 Food Team volunteers so far from a wonderfully diverse number of countries. In that regard let me share quickly some statistics prepared for the Logistics meeting in January. Food Teams have IST on our rosters from 41 different countries. We are amazingly diverse for of that only one-third of our staff are from host countries and the other two-thirds from around the globe. In addition presently we have 165 International Food House volunteer staff from nine different countries who will be preparing at the Summit their countries' customary food offerings for your sampling pleasure in the Action Point area of the Summit.

All that is exciting, but we have one team that I just don't understand why it isn't filling up like the others. This month in our newsletter I'd like to ask you rhetorically why one of the most exciting teams on which to work – the IST Staff Camp's Chat-N-Chew – is the one team that most needs volunteers.

Rather than belaboring staff numbers further, let me talk instead about the Chat-N-Chew and why it is so important to all IST. Each of us comes to a World Jamboree for a unique reason but there is commonality among us as Scouts, humans and more. One given is that when the work day is done we have the opportunity to enjoy a relaxation zone and the epitome of the place to unwind in the IST staff camp is the Chat-N-Chew. They offer aspects that make a quality of life for all staff and without which we would likely be less fulfilled in some way – food wise that is.

Now I suspect some of you are asking yourself something along the lines of 'what is the Chat-N-Chew?' The pages following this newsletter I truly hope will give you the reader a pictorial and narrative of the fun things this team provides for all of us. Sincere thank to Chat-N-Chew WSJ Team Leader Trey Moran for this insight.

Before turning you loose to read on, for those who are not familiar with the Summit layout for Jamborees the Chat-N-Chew is in the staff camp a few minute walk from the IST Staff Dining Complex and the many IST tenting areas as well. Therefore it is centrally located and a very short commute if you were to join the staff. The volunteer management is comprised of veteran Scouters who care about delivering a quality experience to their guests, but equally so to their own staff. Please peruse what follows and if you have a friend who wants to come join on their team please let the Trey Moran know. He can be reached at tmoran@devitainc.com.



Underlying the festive exterior, the Chat-N-Chew at its core is a retail food establishment operated by the Jamboree Food Services Area. The entrance to the Chat-N-Chew will resemble an old mining camp store. This theme pays homage to the legacy of the many coal mines found on the Jamboree site and surrounding properties. The interior of the Chat-N-Chew retail tent continues with this theme and resembles a food-court.

As you enter you'll quickly realize you are able to select from any of several food choices like pizzas, burgers, chicken tenders, and an array of other traditional and dressed up "snack bar fare". You will also have your pick of fresh brewed sweet and unsweet ice tea, Starbucks® coffee, a full array of Coke and Pepsi products, soft serve ice cream, ice cream novelties, candy bars and energy bars.

The Chat-N-Chew hours of operation are extensive. Coffee service starts at 06:00 with selective food options until 11:00. The full menu will be available from 11:00 until 21:00 and ramps down until 22:00. The retail area closes and the music is turned off at 22:00 but the lights are never turned off.



Let me next lay out some of the staff quality of life aspects that the Chat-N-Chew offers. I ask you to again picture this, as you wander out of their food-court area with your food purchases, as you will find a variety of seating options. There will be several large tents with picnic tables and decorations. Many picnic tables will have an electrical power strip so you can recharge you phone, tablet or computer. The tents will be decorated with flags from different countries and past US National and World Jamborees. In one of the tents, a projector screen will broadcast satellite TV that will be typically showing a news station so you can catch up with



what is happening in the outside world. There will be patio furniture available to provide a softer place to sit as compared to the picnic tables. In the courtyard between the tents you will find several water fountains and more picnic tables (some with canopies) will also be available. Area lighting will be provided in the courtyard. Please note that a food purchase is not required in order for you come and enjoy what the Chat-N-Chew has to offer, though food sales enable us to provide this venue.

When you are not at work, come and enjoy the music and camaraderie of your fellow staff members. Card and board games will be available. Patch trading is always popular and may be found in designated areas near the Chat 'n Chew. During the evening hours, come and enjoy Trivia Night, Karaoke, dancing to the music provided by a disc jockey, or simply watching the flames from a fire pit in the center of a water fountain. This is also an opportunity to meet new friends and share once in a lifetime experiences attending the World Jamboree and the Summit offers.



Once the Jamboree begins, the Chat-N-Chew will also offer specialty evening meals. Why, you may ask, would we need that when we have a staff dining hall? Well for some the staff dining hall may not be the dining spot of choice on a given night. The Chat-N-Chew will sell tickets for these specialty dinners days in advance. The ticket sales makes sure the right amount of food is prepared. The Chat-N-Chew will host their specialty meal service every night from 18:00 to 21:00 as soon as their set up is completed. The menu rotates and includes several premium dinner choices each night. Whether it's a steak dinner, the truly popular South Carolina low country boil, or several other several choices, you are in for a treat with your ticket purchase. Please note that the food court is also available at the same time for those that have not purchased a specialty meal ticket.





In closing we would like to again share that the goal of this retreat in Echo is to help improve your Jamboree staff experience in some way, so in turn you can have a wonderful personal experience at the Jamboree and also help deliver a great Jamboree for the participants from around the world. The Chat-N-Chew has served as a gathering place for so many staff over the past five US National Jamborees and we hope this legacy will leave a positive impression as part of your 2019 World Jamboree experience. So if you enjoy meeting new friends, talking to people, playing games, listening to music, catching up with what is going in the outside world, eating good food, or simply sitting next to a water fountain and watching the flames of a fire, come check out the Chat-N-Chew during the 2019 World Jamboree.

