

2005 WINTER CAMP..... PIONEERING MERIT BADGE

Scouts and Scouters,

The pioneering merit badge Class 1 will be taught at Winter Camp, on Saturday and Sunday during the first and second session. Participants will likely complete all the requirements of the badge IF they are prepared.

The Pioneering Merit badge is not a class on knot tying. Scouts wishing to take this merit badge must not only already know the proper knots and lashings, but must be proficient in their use. In the first minutes of class, Scouts will be tested in their knowledge of knots and lashings. Any Scout failing to be able to tie a clove hitch will be asked to leave and schedule a different merit badge. This will allow other prepared Scouts who are on the waiting list to have a chance to take the course. In this manner those Scouts (**16 max**) who have prepared, will be able to achieve success with this class without being held back by those who have not prepared. Leaders and parents of Scouts wishing to take the Pioneering Merit Badge are urged to prepare their Scouts by teaching the proper knots and lashings in their troop meetings and campouts prior to Winter Camp or urge Scouts to take “other” Merit Badges.

Each Scout is “**REQUIRED**” to bring to each class a 1) Pioneering Merit Badge Pamphlet, 2) A sharpened pocket knife, 3) A pencil, and 4) Note paper. A Scout not having these items will not be asked to leave, but his ability to complete the merit badge requirements covered will be greatly impaired.

Merit Badge Pamphlets will not be provided by the instructor and may not be available for purchase at camp. Because of the limited time available for class, each participant should have access at camp to a Pioneering Merit Badge pamphlet for study and review. Yes! There will be some homework.

The unit leadership of each participant will be given detailed information as to the requirements covered and those completed or not completed by the Scout. This information will be available after the closing ceremonies on Tuesday evening. Units leaving before this time will have to make arrangements with the Scout Service Center to get their information. The final decision to recognize the opinion of the Winter Camp counselor is that of the unit’s designated Pioneering Merit Badge Counselor.

NOTE: Special times can be scheduled to teach knots, lashings and other pioneering skills to Leaders / Parents and senior Scouts who wish to learn and / or practice their pioneering skills so they may pass this knowledge on to their units. This is NOT part of the Pioneering Merit Badge. No recognition will be given. These special classes will be arranged as necessary and for everyone’s convenience.

Knowledgeable Leaders wishing to assist with the Pioneering Merit Badge or with the special classes are more than welcome.