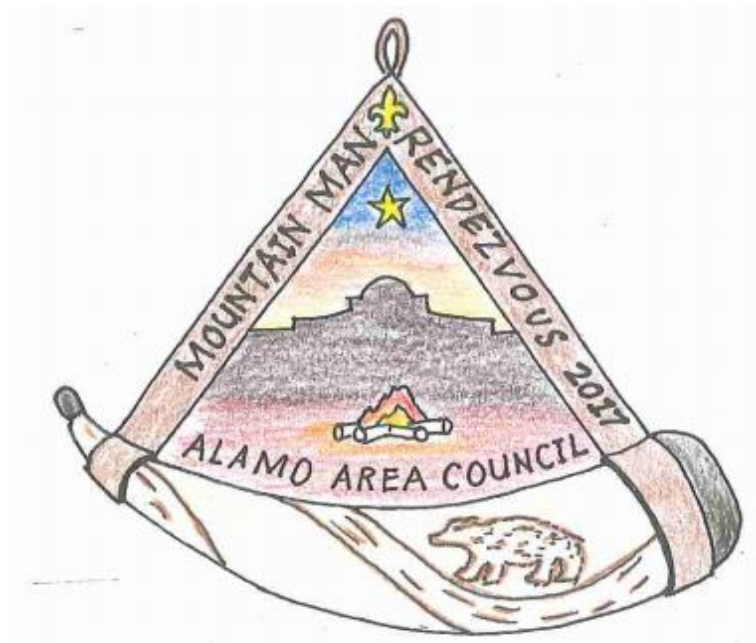


Alamo Area Council

Mountain Man Rendezvous



February 17 – 19, 2017

*(*Units are available to stay over until February 20th if they chose)*

Bear Creek Scout Reservation

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What is a Mountain Man Rendezvous?

Mountain men played a major role in extending the frontier of America to the Pacific Coast by exploring the fertile valleys of the unchartered West and sending word back East to eager farmers and frontiersmen. In their search for beaver the trappers explored and mapped out an extraordinary part of our country. Their campsites became towns, their paths highways.

The tradition of the mountain rendezvous was started by General William Ashley and the men in his company in 1825. The first rendezvous was simply a designated location to exchange pelts for supplies and reorganize trapping units. These men shared stories about narrow escapes from bears, and hostile Native Americans. Over the years, the event took on some aspects of an impromptu Olympics and they competed in test of skill, physical strength and agility. There were horse races, running races, target shooting, and other events.

What is Rendezvous? In the 1820's-1840's, beaver pelts were a prized commodity in the Eastern US and Europe for the making of gentlemen's hats. The Rocky Mountains and Upper Missouri River were prime grounds for trapping beaver. The only problem was transporting the pelts from the Mountain West to St. Louis where they could be prepped for shipping to the East. A trapper would have to give up 2-3 months of prime trapping season to transport the pelts to St. Louis before winter came. By 1825, the Henry-Ashley Trading Company figured that it would be more economical to have their trappers stay in the mountain west and meet them on the plains of Wyoming with supplies for the upcoming year. In turn they would collect the pelts and take them back to St. Louis. The event became known as the Rendezvous. For the next 15 years, the annual Rendezvous was a gathering of not just mountain men, but also Native Americans. Trading, competition and storytelling were standard for each Rendezvous. By the 1840's, the demand for beaver pelts had fallen in favor of silk hats. Most of the mountain men found employment as guides for the army or in leading pioneers across the Oregon, Mormon, and California Pioneer trails.

Why is it a part of Scouting? What can youth learn from Rendezvous? The Mountain Men had to learn to live in and respect nature and the elements, things that we teach the youth in the scouting program. By understanding the types of things they did almost 200 years ago to survive and make a living, youth of today can better appreciate things they take for granted every day of their lives. Also, by doing hard things, youth are able to better understand their own capabilities and potential in life.

GENERAL INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP - All participants must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America. All Boy Scouts Troops, Varsity Scouts, & Venturing Crews are invited to attend.

LOCATION – Bear Creek Scout Reservation is located about 20 miles west of Kerrville. Take Interstate 10, exit Harper, turn right to Hwy 27 and go 6 miles to Ingram and take Hwy 39, 6 miles to Hunt. In Hunt, turn onto FM 1340 and go 6 miles to Bear Creek. ***Please follow the directions of the Staff directing you the designated parking areas.***

TWO-DEEP LEADERSHIP - All units must comply with the BSA policy of “two registered adult leaders or registered adult leader and a parent of a participating Scout, one of whom must be at least 21 years of age or older, are required for all trips and outings”.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES/TOBACCO PRODUCTS - Alcoholic beverages are NOT permitted. Anyone possessing/consuming alcoholic beverages will be required to leave the Camp. The use of any tobacco product is discouraged at a BSA event. There are no designated smoking areas on camp.

NON-SCOUTING EQUIPMENT – Fireworks, guns, sheath knives and other such equipment not accepted by BSA are prohibited. Any equipment of this kind will be confiscated and returned to adult leader at check-out. Please leave your personal electronic devices at home so everyone can enjoy the outdoor experience peacefully.

CRITTERS AND PLANTS - Be prepared with spray for mosquitoes, chiggers, and ticks. Be careful to avoid any fire ants, snakes and poison ivy. Bring your personal first aid kits for temporary treatment. All units should have a properly labeled First Aid kit visible available in their campsite. Please remember – be courteous in the outdoors, that includes our wildlife habitat.

WEATHER - Everyone must be fully prepared for conditions at this time of year. Temperatures range from cold too warm (this is Texas!). Bring clothing appropriate for current weather conditions. Always remember personal rain protection gear.

FIRST AID - The First Aid station staffed 24 hours per day. Please advise your unit members of its location, (announced at Friday’s Unit Leadership Meeting and Saturday morning Flag ceremony). Unit Leader should have medical forms in their possession.

EMERGENCIES - Notify Staff immediately. Contact information provided at the Unit Leadership (the unit adult & youth leader) meeting.

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION FEES – Cost is \$20.00 per Scout registering as a Youth participant and \$5.00 for Adults. PLEASE NOTE THAT ONLY YOUTH PARTICIPANTS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENTS. All units must designate a Troop Contact and ONLY TROOP CONTACTS CAN REGISTER SCOUTS. All Registration is done online at <http://www.alamoareabsa.org/Events/2017MountainManRendezvous>. Please contact your unit leader to get scouts registered as participants. Registration opens November 7, 2016 at 9:00 am and will close February 3, 2017 at 11:59 pm so please plan accordingly. ***Walk-ins will not be allowed at this event.***

SPACE LIMITED ACTIVITIES – These activities have limited space for participation. To allow as many Scouts as possible to have the opportunity to participate in one of these activities, a Scout can only participate in one of these activities. Any spots held without payment will be released without notification. Registration for these events is available through the online registration until all the spots are full. **Black Powder Rifle Shooting** – Additional cost is \$5 for ammunition and must be paid during online registration. There is no additional cost for **Archery** and **Climbing/Rappelling**.

Staff – Cost is \$20.00 if you are eating Staff food or \$5 if you bring your own food or eating with your home unit. Staff may register under a Unit registration or as an Individual. Youth may register as Staff for the event if they are committed to supporting an event. Please understand, youth staff will not be able to participate in the activities if they choose to be on staff. They will be expected to support the event for the entire weekend.

Camp sites will be assigned within your unit's District by area as registration is done online. No requests for specific campsites will be accepted.

CHECK-IN – Check-in will be at the designated staging areas close to your District Campsite area from 6:00-10:00 pm on Friday night.

- **PLEASE COMPLETE ALL YOUR PAPERWORK IN ADVANCE.** (*For fairness in competition events Scouts need to be in patrols with 6 - 8 Scouts*). **Please bring a paper copy of your registration paperwork with you.**
- **Do not block the road with vehicles.**
- **Troops must check in as a unit – NO INDIVIDUAL CHECK-IN ALLOWED.**
- The Unit Adult and Youth Leader (Example - Scoutmaster/SPL) need to bring the completed Unit Check-in Form to your District Check-in Area upon arrival.
- All Adults (over 18 years of age) are required to have proof of current Youth Protection training. It is suggested that all Adults carry the YPT card or have a picture on your cell phone to be able to provide proof of training at any time.

CHECK-OUT - Check-out for everyone leaving Sunday will begin Sunday afternoon after the Closing Ceremony. If you plan on leaving prior to Sunday, please notify camp staff at check-in. Units leaving on Monday should stop by check out to turn in evaluations and pick up patches. Patches will be distributed at check-out in exchange for the evaluation forms.

CAMPING

CAMPSITES - Each Unit will be assigned a campsite within their District area adequate for the number of Scouts listed on your online Registration form. No Last Minute additions will be allowed, all attendees must be registered online". This is a regular troop campout. Come prepared with all Troop gear and Patrol gear that you use on a campout.



COOKING AND SANITATION - Each unit will cook by the Patrol Method, and must furnish its own food, ice, stove, fuel, wood or charcoal. We will adhere to any burn ban that may be in effect so **BE PREPARED**. All units should use charcoal or stoves for cooking according to BSA rules as stated in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.

GARBAGE - No large dumpsters will be available. Please plan on taking your garbage with you.

WATER - Abundant water is available. **HOWEVER**, it will be several hundred feet from our Camping area. **All Units should bring their own water containers** to transport the water to their campsites.

VEHICLES/PARKING – Only one motorized vehicle and the unit trailer will be parked in the campsite. Please plan your packing. Unauthorized vehicles will be towed at owner's expense. **Only properly marked Staff or Handicapped vehicles will be permitted in camping areas or activity areas.**

PROGRAM EVENTS

There will be some Competition events and others to learn about the Mountain Man experience. Please note that any of these activities are subject to change. Scoring is based on:

Skill/Performance – This should be based on quality of results, time to complete, or some other appropriate measure of performance. It can be a combination of more than one measure.

Scout Spirit – Did the boys have a good attitude and exemplify the Scout Law? Does the patrol have a patrol yell?

Teamwork - Is the patrol helping each other? Did all of the Scouts participate? Points should be deducted for inappropriate adult involvement (the boys should be performing the activities).

Time Completion – If applicable, the time taken to complete the task will be included in overall score.

Competition Events for ALL units will take place on Saturday only –

CAMPSITE INSPECTION – Judging will be done on Saturday between 1:30–3:00. A checklist for this inspection is included in this packet. Points will count towards awards for Top Units. Please follow BSA’s Low Impact Camping Guidelines.

Dutch Oven Dessert Cook-off – For unit patrols for Scouts only. Please make sure your patrol entries are brought to Buzzard’s Roost Pavilion by 6:30 pm. Your entry should include your recipe legibly written on the Dutch Oven Entry form include in this packet. Please put a serving of your dessert in a disposable container – it will be shared with the judges. Please refer to the Dutch Oven Cooking Competition – What are the judges looking for form on at the end of this packet.

Tall Tales – Scouts participate on an individual basis. The top story tellers will participate in Stage Show.

The other competition events – **Are done by Patrol. These events will take place on Saturday and Sunday.**

Patrol Competition Events

Ropemaking – Making rope is a skill that has been around for thousands of years. Once people got past vines and other natural materials for binding up things, they discovered that fibers could be combined and twisted into great lengths by taking advantage of the tendency of materials to remember their natural condition. Learn how to make your own length of rope.

Fire starting – You need to start a cooking fire, there are lots of fire starting methods. We will be using items found in nature and matches to see who can get their fire going. Are you up for the challenge?

Arrow Making – Mountain men used Bow and Arrow as a primary source for hunting. You will make your own arrow from start to finish.

Atlatl Throw – The atlatl or spear-thrower is an ancient weapon used by man for tens of thousands of years. Today, the atlatl is used for sports ranging from target shooting, to hunting and fishing.

Tomahawk Toss - Mountain Men didn’t always get along with the Native Americans he met during trapping season. The tomahawk was a tool that could be used in close quarters combat for protection. In this activity, scouts will try their hand at throwing tomahawks at a target.

Cope Event – Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience provides team building games.

Leatherwork – At Leatherwork, you have the opportunity to make your very own pouch.

Mountain Man Regalia – Don't go to a great expense in order to look authentic. For the men, long sleeve shirts, un-tucked with the belt worn over the shirt goes quite a long way in making one look like a mountain man. With denim jeans or earth tone cotton pants and you're on your way. You can add a wide brim hat and grow your beard out for 3 months! There's no one right way to dress like a mountain man.

Any women in your unit are welcome to come dressed like the men (sans the beard), or they can try their hand at prairie dresses or suede leather outfits. Simple skirts, & blouses with a pinned apron were also common during that time period. **Adults are encouraged to dress in period clothing also.**

Space Limited Events - *Please note that advance registration for this event is required for participation. See Registration Section for details.*

Black Powder Rifle - The most valued tool of the Mountain Man was his rifle This activity will be held at the Shooting Range. **Cost is \$5 to cover ammunition costs.**

Archery - Native Americans and Mountain Men used their archery skills to kill prey for both food and hide. Youth will learn to properly and safely shoot arrows at archery targets. This activity will be held at the Archery Range.

Climbing/Rappelling – This is a great opportunity to have some adventure. This activity will take place at the OA Cliff.



Passport Activities - Participation in the following activities provide Scouts the opportunity to earn this limited edition patch.



Special Program Areas –

Chuck Wagon Cooking – A World Champion Chuck Wagon Cook will be with us to show us some authentic chuck wagon cooking skills.

Indian Village – Indians, of course there will be Indians.

Mountain Man Camp – Stop by and see some authentic Mountain Men and their campsite.

Medicine Man Camp – There will lots of exciting things to see and learn here.

Indian Fry Bread - is a flat dough bread and fried. Fry bread can be eaten alone or with various toppings such as honey, jam, powdered sugar, or hot beef.

Flint Knapping - Flint knapping is the age-old art of making arrowheads and other edged stone tools. Hunter-gatherers relied upon this key wilderness survival skill to create important tools and hunting implements. Many people continue to practice the skill today, including traditional bowyers, experimental archaeologists, and primitive skills enthusiasts.

Events –

Candle making – Make your own candle to take home.

Beading – An opportunity to learn how beading is done.

The Forge - (Blacksmithing, Bullet Casting, and Branding) A great place to learn about how Mountain Men did things. Bring something that has parent/guardian approval to be branded.

Institute of Texas Cultures – You will have an opportunity to do some corn shucking and play the Trap Ball Game.

Dutch Oven Cooking – Whether you're an experienced Dutch oven chef or a novice, you can learn so new skills.

Utensiless Cooking - Yes, it is possible to cook without utensils. This is some cool stuff!

LEADER MEETING – **Two people** from each unit – **Unit Adult and Youth Leader** must attend the ***Leader Meeting at the Headquarters located at the Eco-Pavilion at 10:15 pm Friday.*** At that time, any questions on check-in materials received or on the schedule of activities may be discussed. Additional information or schedule changes will be presented at that time.

OPENING CEREMONY- Will take place at 7:30 am on Saturday morning and remember to bring Patrol flags.

STAGE SHOW – An entertaining Stage Show will be held on Saturday night.

ORDER OF THE ARROW AND BROTHERHOOD WALK - There will be an Order of the Arrow Call Out on Saturday evening. At the conclusion of the Call Out, there will be a Brotherhood Walk (Brotherhood testing will be available during the day Saturday). Unit Leader/Troop Contacts will need to register their Scouts/Scouters that will be called out online in advance. Brotherhood participants are asked to register in advance.

AWARDS – **Units and Patrols** will be recognized for competition events and Top Units. *Early departures will receive their awards at Roundtable!*

WORSHIP SERVICE – Services will be held Sunday morning. More details to follow.

EVALUATION - Please fill out the included Evaluation and return it at check-out. Be fair and honest in your opinions as they will have a bearing on future events. All suggestions are greatly appreciated.



Mountain Man Rendezvous Schedule

Friday, February 17, 2017

6:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Check in, Registration, Set up Camp
10:15 pm	Unit Leadership Meeting
11:00 pm	Lights Out

Saturday, February 18, 2017

6:00 am	Reveille/Breakfast
7:30 am	Flag Ceremony (Done by Staff/OA) Opening Ceremony
8:00 am – 11:30 am	Events
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Events Continued
4:30 pm	Supper
	Flag Retreat (Done by Staff/OA) at Sundown
6:30 pm	Dutch Oven Dessert Competition Entries Due at Buzzard's Roost Pavilion
7:30 pm	Camp-wide Stage Show
11:00 pm	Lights Out

Sunday, February 19, 2017

6:00 am	Breakfast
7:30 am	Flag Ceremony (Done by Staff/OA)
7:35 am	Church Service
8:00 am – 11:30 am	Events Continued
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Events Continued
4:00 pm	Closing Ceremony
	Flag Retreat (Done by Staff/OA)
6:00 pm	Camp Cleared (unless staying until Monday)

Monday, February 20, 2017

10:00 am	Camp Cleared
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Schedule Subject to Change

Campsite Inspection

Unit # _____

100 Points Max

ALL unauthorized motor vehicles moved to parking lot?	10 _____
American Flag properly displayed at Campsite?	5 _____
Unit Flag properly displayed at Campsite?	5 _____
Unit site perimeter properly marked?	5 _____
Entire Campsite free of litter?	10 _____
Patrol chuck boxes off of the ground?	5 _____
First Aid Kit available and ready in case of emergencies?	5 _____
Unit cooking gear properly stored and clean when not in use?	5 _____
Patrol food properly stored and a Unit or Patrol menu posted?	5 _____
Cooking area proper distance from tents?	5 _____
Wash station available?	5 _____
Charcoal/Liquid Fuel safely and properly stored?	5 _____
Tents pitched orderly by Patrol	5 _____
Personal gear clean and properly stored?	5 _____
Unit or Patrol Duty Roster posted in Campsite?	5 _____
Unit or Patrol Membership Roster posted in Campsite?	5 _____
Garbage in bags or cans and protected from animals?	5 _____
Designated safety area (axe/knife yard)?	5 _____

Total Score _____



Unit Check-In Form

Unit - Crew Troop Team # _____ District _____

Adult in Charge _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Asst Unit Leader _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Youth Leader _____

Total Scouts _____ Total Adults _____ Total Attendance _____

Patrol Information

Total # Youth _____ Total # Patrols _____

Patrol Name _____ # in Patrol _____

Patrol Name _____ # in Patrol _____

Patrol Name _____ # in Patrol _____

Patrol Name _____ # in Patrol _____

Patrol Name _____ # in Patrol _____

Evaluation

Your comments are always welcome and will be used in designing future events. Please be honest with your thoughts about what was good and what needs improvement. Use back of evaluation sheet for additional comments.

	<u>FANTASTIC</u>	<u>GREAT</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>
CAMPSITE LOCATION	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
ONLINE REGISTRATION PROCEDURE	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
ON-SITE CHECK-IN PROCEDURE	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
ACTIVITY STATIONS	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
SATURDAY CAMPFIRE	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
SUNDAY SERVICE	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
CAMPSITE INSPECTION	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
SCORING	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
AWARDS	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
INFORMATION PACKET	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					
CHECK-OUT PROCEDURE	5	4	3	2	1
Comments:					

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE ADDED TO THE PROGRAM NEXT YEAR?

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Optional – It is up to you whether you give your name. Your comments are not shared.

Unit _____ Name _____ Unit Position _____

Dutch Oven Dessert Cook-Off Entry Form

*An entry form and recipe is REQUIRED for each entry.
A legible copy of the recipe can be attached to this entry form.*

*Staff will assign
Entry # _____*

Unit Type: **Crew** **Troop** **Team** Unit # _____

Patrol Name _____

Recipe Name _____

Ingredients:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Directions: _____

DUTCH OVEN COOKING COMPETITION

WHAT THE JUDGES LOOK FOR...

PRESENTATION – Maximum Points 10

The food can include appropriate garnish, serving containers, color contrasts, harmony and edible decorations. The serving container should be clean inside and outside. Contestants will be rewarded for pleasant emphasis on the desirability of food. Contestants will be penalized for gaudy garnishes that hide the food, or are not edible. Extra décor will not result in additional points or a higher placement.

APPEARANCE - Maximum Points 10

Contestants will be rewarded for even cooking which results in a uniform color and surface texture such as the golden brown rolls with crisp crust and the evenly browned meat. Contestants will be scored lower for spotty cooking, burned spots, raw, tough, soggy, brittle, or crumbling results.

AROMA - Maximum Points 10

Contestants will be rewarded for pleasant aroma, uniform color, evenness of cooking, consistent texture, and completeness for the cooking process. Contestants will be scored lower for spotty cooking, burned or raw spots, streaks or unusual lumps.

TASTE - Maximum Points 20

The ideal dish is food that tastes delicious. Contestants will be rewarded for pleasant use of spices, natural food flavor, evenness of cooking, tenderness of meats, and aroma. Contestants will be scored lower for toughness, off flavors, rancid oil flavor from improperly seasoned cast iron, burned food, foreign objects, ash, flatness, unwanted lumps, spotty cooking, cold spots, raw spots, missing ingredients, unnatural food colors, and soggy crusts.

 Grand total of 50 points