

**Daniel Carter Beard & Ernest Thompson Seton Ole Time Camporee  
at Hatcher's Island—on the James River  
the weekend of November 14, 2009**



Dan Beard



“Wolf” Seton

Cost: \$5 – patches awarded to all registered participants.  
See the last page for **Registration Information**

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### **Overview**

The plan is to have an old-fashioned campout focused on the classic Scout skills of: Woodcraft, Campcraft, and Scoutcraft. Indeed, these are the three major sections of the centennial edition of the 2010 *Boy Scout Handbook*.

Beard and Seton were two of the founders of the Boy Scouts of America. Daniel Boone inspired **Daniel Carter Beard** to organize the **Sons of Daniel Boone** and the **Boy Pioneers** in 1905, two years before scouting began in England. Beard was a novelist and successful illustrator, publishing *The American Boys Handy Book* in 1882. It is a treasury of information on how to make squirt guns, boomerangs, cabins, rafts, balloons, theatrical costumes and more....

**Ernest Thompson Seton** was a naturalist, author and painter. His stories and paintings of wildlife are standard works on nature study and wood lore for boys and girls that continue to be used today. He published *The Birch Bark Roll of the Woodcraft Indians* and founded the **Woodcraft League of America**. It was founded on the principles of: Recreation, Outdoor Life, Self-rule, The Campfire, Woodcraft traditions, Honors by standards, Personal decoration for personal achievement, A heroic ideal, Picturesqueness in all things.\*

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\* More details on this are at the end of this program guide.

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## Events

- Map and compass into campsite (in the dark)
- Backpack or canoe into camp
- Wood cooking
- Pioneering-rope making and axmanship
- Cook with water from the James River
- Sleep on the ground or under a tarp
- Campfire: Songs! Skits! Cheers! Stories!
- Flag retirement
- “Scouts own” chapel service

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### Sections below:

Units <i>Must Dos</i> : _____	3
Hiking in .....	3
Water .....	3
Vehicles .....	4
Fires .....	4
Camporee Quartermaster’s Truck .....	5
Latrines .....	5
Leave No Trace .....	5
Staff Tarp .....	6
Uniforms .....	6
Unit Suggestions: _____	6
Schedule _____	7
Required Equipment _____	8
Troop Equipment .....	8
Patrol Equipment .....	8
Individual Equipment .....	8
Troop Meeting Program Ideas _____	8
Overview Map _____	9
Directions .....	13
Ernest Thompson Seton’s Nine Important Principles of Woodcraft _____	17
Registration _____	21

For all event-related downloads go to: [www.people.vcu.edu/~albest/Hatcher/](http://www.people.vcu.edu/~albest/Hatcher/). Look there for any updates or eMail: [ALBest@vcu.edu](mailto:ALBest@vcu.edu).

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## Units *Must* Dos:

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### Hiking in and out

Everyone will **hike or canoe in ALL personal, patrol and troop gear**. All gear is to be brought in this way (*none* using vehicles). Park along the side of the road *before* the wooden bridge. Offload everyone with their backpack and have the SPL lead the troop into camp. The vehicle and a single occupant may then drive across the bridge, turn right, drive South to the big field and park.

**Hiking out:** On Sunday no vehicles are allowed in camp. Hike everything out the same way you brought it in.

**Exception:** Webelos and “first year Scout” patrols *may* choose to have *some* of their gear carried near their campsite in *one* vehicle. The intent is to have new Scouts comfortable in camp and that may mean that they need to sleep in a real tent or have additional “stuff”. OK, no problem. This extra can be taken near the site in a vehicle and the **vehicle immediately returned to the parking lot**. Note also that is exception is NOT for adults or the other patrols to “sneak in” extras. Another possibility to bring a *small* amount of extra gear in is to use the Camporee Quartermaster’s Truck (see below). No vehicles are to remain in camp. On Sunday this same vehicle may be used to take out *some* of the gear brought in for these first year campers (and no more).



**Canoeing:** Of course, it’s possible to tote a lot more stuff in a canoe than on your back. Going on the water is the real appeal, however.



*Do you fear the force of the wind,  
The slash of the rain?  
Go face them and fight them,  
Be savage again.  
Go hungry and cold like the wolf,  
Go wade like the crane.  
The palms of your hands will thicken,  
The skin of your forehead tan—  
You’ll be ragged and swarthy and weary  
But—you’ll walk like a man.*  
Written by Hamlin Garland for Dan Beard

Note that you’d be canoeing in the dark on Friday (sunset is 5 and there is no moon) and that none of the campsites are near any of the boat landings. This would be a good opportunity to bring along your tumpline, basket packs and Duluth packs.

**Second exception:** Folks who have volunteered to lead part of the program can put their “stuff” on the Camporee Quartermaster Truck.

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## Water

Note that there is **no potable water on the island**. Bring in water, as you like, and then purify the ample supply available from the James River and the large pond on the island. Yup, hauling water from the river is an ongoing job. The recommendation is that drinking water be filtered (to remove the grit mostly) AND then be chemically treated (halogen pills). Cooking water should be filtered and boiled.

**Fire buckets:** Note that every patrol must **keep at least two 5-gallon buckets of water at each campfire** at all times (see “Fires” below). Since you do not want to backpack in these fire buckets, label them clearly (troop number and patrol name) and leave them at the Camporee Quartermaster’s Truck (see below).

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## Vehicles

The medical officer’s vehicle will be the ONLY vehicle allowed out of the parking lot on the island between the hours of 8pm Friday and noon on Sunday. No vehicles are to be used to transport gear, except for the exception noted above. Period. Really.

**ALL passengers MUST disembark and walk across the bridge! Only one vehicle on the bridge at a time!** After driving vehicles and trailers across the bridge and parking in the big field in the south-west corner of your island, the vehicles are to remain *parked* until departure on Sunday. If you wish to tour the island, bring a canoe, a bike, or walk.

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## Fires

All **cooking will be done on a wood fire—and boiling water for washing up too**. All fires will be in a fire barrel. One fire barrel per patrol. We suggest no propane stoves. No large propane canisters (how would you backpack this in anyway?) If you place a grate in the barrel, it will get transported to the site as well.

**Wood:** There is plenty of down wood available to be gathered and cut. Patrols will need to provide their own woods tools. As always, DO NOT cut any live trees. Note that you’ll be hunting for firewood in the dark on Friday evening and, probably, also early on Saturday morning. It may be safe to gather wood in the dark but **it’s not safe to be wielding an ax or saw in the dark**. Suggestion: gather wood that can be easily broken. Be prepared.

**Fire barrels:** Are you planning to backpack in the fire barrels? Well, don’t. **Do CLEARLY** label them by Troop and patrol and put them in the bed of the Camporee Quartermaster’s Truck. Note: one barrel is need for each patrol’s fire. **We will transport them to the Staff Tent**. If your troop does not have fire barrels, then contact Al Best and let him know how many you need; We’ll get them to you.

**Ashes:** on Sunday, put your fire ashes in the latrine pit (see below).

**LNT:** Place the fire barrels up on a few rocks or log. Leave no trace means that you do NOT want to scorch the ground.

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## Camporee Quartermaster's Truck

Note: **NO individual or troop vehicles are allowed in camp** (with the exceptions noted above). Just *after* the bridge will be a tractor and haywagon. Troops may put the following (CLEARLY labeled) items in the flatbed haywagon. The Friendly QM will transport the following to the Staff Tarp area for your pickup:

- Fire barrels (and optional grate)
- 5-gallon buckets (for fire safety and wash water)
- Sand (for campfire)
- Optional: A *small* amount of extra gear for Webelos/first-year patrol
- Equipment needed for those in charge of a part of the program.

For example, the troop bringing the flagpole does not have to backpack it in. This option is not available for a patrol; That is, except for “new Scout patrol” exemptions noted above, no patrol items will be driven in.

Note that propane canisters, stoves, lanterns, coolers, large-screen TVs ... and all that extra stuff you think you need will *not* be transported. Leave them at home.

**Departure times:** The tractor/haywagon will leave the bridge at about 7:30 to transport gear to the Staff Tarp. Send your patrol QMs to the staff tarp at 7:45pm. If necessary, the truck will return at 8pm for the last pickup at the bridge. If you know you'll need a different time, then contact Al Best and we'll see what arrangements may be made.

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## Latrines

No porto-potties are provided. Every troop should see to their own latrine pit(s). See a *Scout Handbook* for instructions on location and pit size. The latrine is one reason why every patrol needs a shovel.

**LNT:** Carefully place the pile of dirt in such a way that you can fill the pit back in when you leave and there will be no trace that the pit was there.

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## Leave No Trace

We're certain that Dan Beard and ET Seton would have followed the LNT principles if they were tromping around in the woods with us this weekend. Below are some specific notes on the Principles

- **Plan Ahead and Prepare**—Wood fire cooking, hauling water, packing in minimal (but necessary) gear all takes time. Consider menus carefully. Adapt; innovate; overcome.
- **Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces**—*No* vehicles in camp. There are a number of low areas that, especially if they are wet, are particularly susceptible to impact.
- **Dispose of Waste Properly**—Pack it in and pack it out; do not bury uneaten food.
- **Leave What You Find**—We have permission for Scouts to make hiking sticks and take them home.
- **Minimize Campfire Impacts**—See the section on fire barrels. Patrol campfire impact should be near zero. Do not cut or harm live trees.
- **Respect Wildlife**—Including not leaving food for animals.
- **Be Considerate of Other Visitors**—Quiet time is between 11pm and 7am.

*In the wilderness  
is the preservation of the world*  
Henry David Thoreau

For support in our quest to Leave No Trace, see: [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org).

### **Staff Tarp**

This area is where Camporee staff are located, including the medical officer. The PLC will meet here. When there are Troop formations (for example, flag raising), it will be near the Staff Tarp. Come here for information or in emergencies. It will be marked on maps handed out and it will be near the flagpole.

### **Uniforms**

Quote from B-P's 1911 edition of the *Handbook For Boys*:

*It should be clearly understood by all interested in the Scout Movement that it is not necessary for a boy to have a uniform or any other special equipment to carry out the scout program. There are a great many troops in the country which have made successful progress without any equipment whatever.*

### **Unit Suggestions:**

Each unit should provide **three 50-pound bags of sand** (construction grade). This is to provide a leave-no-trace base for the Saturday night campfire. A palate will be located before the wooden bridge; put your bags there.

Each unit is encouraged to send a **Chaplain Aid** to the first PLC so that the Scouts can get together to provide a "Scouts Own" chapel on Sunday.

Each patrol is strongly encouraged to plan to lead a **song** or **cheer**, or to do a short-funny **skit** at the campfire. Plan ahead and, during the Friday evening PLC, the SPL should turn in a written list of: Patrol name, Troop number, song/cheer/skit name. All skits must be reviewed and approved by the Patrol's Scoutmaster. Content must be acceptable.

We will be conducting a **flag retirement ceremony** at the evening campfire. All Troops should bring a suitable flag, if you do not have one we will provide one.

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## Schedule

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### Friday Schedule

Units should plan on arriving as close to 7pm as possible (and no earlier than 6pm)

7:00 All Scouts and adults must hike into campsite, vehicles stay parked in parking lot

7:30 Quartermaster's Truck leaves from the bridge. Pick up gear at the Staff Tarp at 7:45

9:00 SPL Meeting at Staff tarp; Chaplain's Aide meeting at Staff tarp

9:30 Event leaders and Scoutmasters' meeting at Staff Tarp

Staff tarp will be a green dining fly at the corner of the field.

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### Saturday Schedule

6:30 Reveille

9:00 Opening Ceremony, Flag Raising, announcements

9:15 Events begin

12:00-1:30 Lunch and cleanup at patrol sites

1:30 Meet at flag pole, announcements

1:45 Events continue and conclude at approximately 4:00

5:00 Retreat (flag lowering)

5:00-8:00 Supper and clean up

8:15 Campfire, Flag retirement

11:00 Quiet time

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### Sunday schedule

Note: **no vehicles allowed in camp at any time on Sunday**

7:00 Scout's Own Service

7:30 Flag raising and announcements,

Closing Ceremony, awards

9:00 Quartermaster's Truck will be available at the Staff Tarp for loading.

9:00 Troop and Patrol specific activities to include:

Breakfast in Patrol sites

Scout skills instruction, games, pack up gear

Noon lunch in campsites

1:00 Quartermaster's Truck leaves Staff Tarp, destination: the bridge.

1:30 Troop departs (all off the island no later than 3pm) all hike out.

Really: **no vehicles allowed in camp at any time on Sunday**. Except those taking the "first year Scout" gear.

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## Required Equipment

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### Troop Equipment

Three 50 pound bags of sand  
Troop first aid kit  
Troop flag  
Tape or string to go around ax yard(s)  
A flag to be retired in the ceremony at the campfire

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### Patrol Equipment

Patrol flag; patrol cheer  
Patrol first aid kit  
Saw, ax  
Fire barrel and grate  
Camp shovel  
two 5-gallon buckets of water (full at all times)

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### Individual Equipment

Carry the 10 scout essentials throughout the day (see your *Handbook*)  
**Everyone** must have a hiking stick

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## Troop Meeting Program Ideas

Here are some things to do at your troop meetings to prepare for the Hatcher Island Camporee (or, indeed, the Klondike Derby as well).

- Whittle a tent stake from a small branch (and knife, ax, saw)
- Make rope
- Pitch a tarp with the above
- Flint and steel fire starting
- String burning, Water boiling in a paper cup
- Lash together individual hiking sticks and patrol flag to make a flagpole
- Lead songs: Silly songs, scout songs
- Practice camp fire skits
- Use map and compass to find a location
- How to gather wood (tree identification too)
- How to cook on a wood fire (answer: slowly)
- Menus that work best on a wood fire
- Flapjack flipping (with just the pan)
- Purifying water (from the James River)
- How to clean up after cooking on a wood fire
- First aid for burns



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## Other "Plan ahead" Thoughts

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### Menus

What works best on a wood fire for a fall campout? Think one-pot or no-pot meals (and nothing "instant" or prepackaged):

- Hobo packs
- Chili or spaghetti
- Baked potatoes (with lots of "extras")
- Shish kebab (meat with vegs) and rice
- corn bread (journey cake) or biscuits in a skillet
- boiled eggs, toast, bacon/sausage
- Beans and rice (and cheese)
- Macaroni and cheese (NOT out of a box)
- Baked apples and cinnamon
- Grits, butter and salt/pepper
- Granola (with hot milk) and fruit
- Cinnamon french toast with apples
- pancakes (out of a box-mix, NOT the plastic container)

(any kind of "trail breakfast" or "trail snack" that you've used while backpacking will do)

**Rule: Cooks eat LAST.** That way all will be fed (or the cooks will eat their mistakes) and all will be fed quicker.

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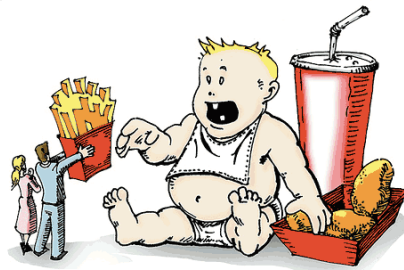
### Don't go there:

Pop tarts, chips, canned drinks, ... anything you can buy at 7-11.

Any "pre packaged" or "precooked" food.

Biscuits in a can -- actually, anything in a can.

Dutch ovens, tables, chairs, propane lanterns, ... too much "stuff"



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### Still challenged?

Do a search for "one-pot meals" or "no utensil cooking". Trust me, you can still eat like a king and sleep like a baby.

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### Perishable food

In mid November in the Richmond area, there is only a 33% chance that the temperature will be higher than 51degrees. The 30-year average high in November is 61degrees. Most refrigerator settings are 32-meat, 41-fridge, and 50-vegetables. The intent is that no coolers will be brought into camp. If it turns out that the weather prediction on the

Thursday before is that it will get into the 90s, then we'll reconsider (and add swimming as an activity).

So there is a couple of ways to think about perishable food: Choose one

- 1 – Only bring food that requires no refrigeration. For instance, dried kidney beans for your chili.
- 2 – Freeze any perishable food, wrap it carefully in your pack and it should keep cool enough. For instance, a frozen block of steak for shish-kebab.
- 3 – Carefully pack food and it should keep just fine. Use fresh foods first and save the rest for Sunday.
- 4 – Package foods carefully. Cook them well. It's been done this way for centuries. Humans have been living with bacteria since before there were humans.
- 5 – Don't eat.

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## Jobs

Note that when cooking on a wood fire, the "Fireman" is a separate job from the cook. His job is to always keep the fire "just right" – this is hard. It takes way longer to cook on a wood fire. It takes way more wood than you think. It's much easier to burn your food. Plan ahead – be patient. But, the first job of the fireman is to make a good-sized fire so that the clean up crew can heat the wash water (see below):

Anyone not busy should probably be sent out to gather wood (unless your pile is higher than the PL's waist).

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## Fireman, and the Clean up

The fireman will begin with a real fire. He's headed for coals to cook over but his first job is to make a fire that can boil both buckets of wash water.

**Do not put a cook pot on the fire until the wash pots are removed** (after the water has boiled)

- Bring real brillo pads to clean the fire-scorched pots
- Bring plenty of trash bags
- Bring a plastic trash bag to sit on during the campfire

Since the wash water is ready before the cooks put things on the fire, the cooks will have an easier time if they need to instruct the clean up crew that one of the cook pots must be washed before the cooks can begin. The clean up crew may *not* begin to eat until the clean-up area is ready to go.

**No "floaties!"** Keep your first wash (soap wash) as clean as possible this way: **Wash all personal gear first.** Station the head of the clean-up crew to oversee the following:

1. When done eating, scrape the few scraps of uneaten food into the fire and then wipe your dish with your bandanna (99% of the floaties are now gone).
2. Then go to the first-wash and DIP out a little water into your dish (do NOT just dunk it in). Take your dish away and scrub away until it's clean. Dump your dirty water at the edge of the fire or in the latrine pit.
3. Then, go back to the first-wash and dunk.
4. Then dunk in the sterilization water.

5. Then air dry. Hanging up in a mesh bag is best. Do NOT use your dirty bandana to dry your dishes!
6. If the PL has a rule that the clean-up crew will wash their gear *last*, then he'll have a better chance of enforcing the no-floaties! rule.
7. When all have washed their personal gear, the clean up crew can do the cookpots in a similar manner.

Note: When all is done, you still need two full 5-gallon buckets of water. If they are low, your patrol MUST head to the river and fill them up. You absolutely positively gotta-have these fire buckets. This is mostly for that *other* knuckle-head patrol that let their fire get away. Your patrol would never let this happen.

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**Meditate on this:**

*weight comes from fear*

The weight you carry comes from what you fear.

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**Give up?**

**Come anyway!** With whatever you decide you “need”. Boy Scout is “challenge by choice” and you’ll can choose your challenge level. All you give up is “bragging rights.” That’s right, Scouts who’ve roughed-it will be heard first.

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## Friday night checklist

SPL verify: all patrols have these items **done before turning in on Friday night.**

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### Planning

- SPL and PLs should set the following goals: time to serve breakfast is: \_\_\_\_
- Time to finish breakfast cleanup is: \_\_\_\_
- To be on time for 9am formation at the flagpole, Troop departs camp at: \_\_\_\_

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### Fire area

- Goals: the fire is always “just right” so that the cleanup crew and the cook crew can accomplish their goals. The fire is contained and no one is burned.
- Fire barrel in place and raised off the ground
- Decide: Either gather firewood tonight or get up *very* early on Saturday. Note that the entire patrol’s effort will be needed to gather wood.
- When will the fire crew get up to start the fire? (firemen get up *before* the cooks)
- Inform the firemen that their first job is to get the wash water boiling.
- Inform the firemen that it is their job to verify that the fire is OUT before the patrol leaves the site.

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### Cleanup area

- Goals: when an individual is done eating breakfast, he may proceed directly to the cleanup area to clean his individual gear. After individual gear is cleaned, the patrol gear is cleaned *before* the patrol departs.
- Decide: where is the closest/best access to the river to get water?
- Decide: how and who will prepare water for cooking and for drinking?
- Decide: either fill the fire-buckets (and wash buckets) tonight or get up very early on Saturday.
- Fire buckets must be full and at the fire before the match for the fire has been lit.

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### Kitchen area

- Goal: Good food on time. Don’t leave a mess.
- Who are the breakfast cooks? Note: cooks eat last
- Where, exactly, are all the ingredients for breakfast?
- Who will do what when? Who will do grace?

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### Event preparedness

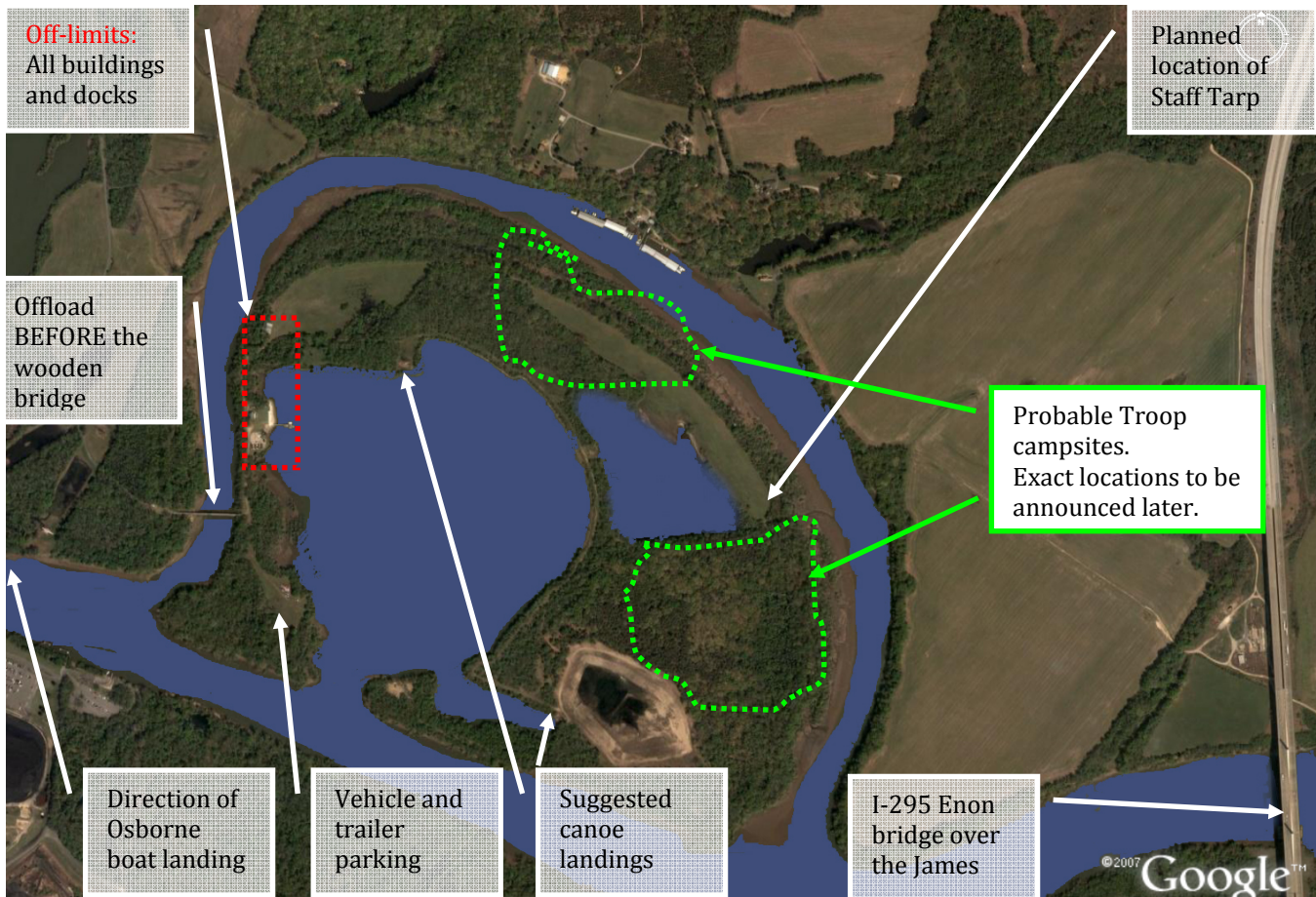
- Scout must carry their “10 scout essentials” and a hiking staff
- Who will carry the patrol first aid kit?
- What do we need to carry to be successful at the morning activities?
- Who will carry the patrol flag? Does everyone know the patrol cheer?

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### SPL report to SM

- The SPL should report *how* each of the above is to be accomplished
- The SPL should report *when* **the SPL will wake up every PL**

## Overview Map



To download a topo map, go to:

[www.people.vcu.edu/~albest/Hatcher/HatcherIslandTopoMap.pdf](http://www.people.vcu.edu/~albest/Hatcher/HatcherIslandTopoMap.pdf)

## Directions

To Henrico County – Osborne Boat Landing

From Interstate 64 (east or west) - Take Exit 195 (Laburnum Avenue). Go south on Laburnum Avenue and then left onto New Market Rd (approximately 7 miles). Travel on New Market Rd approximately 2 ½ miles and take a right onto Strath Rd (Food Lion on the right). Follow Strath Road to a stop sign and turn right onto Kingsland Road, which turns into Osborne Turnpike. Travel approximately 2 ½ miles (slowly – 90-degree turn to right) and turn left into Osborne Boat Landing.

### Driving Directions to the road to into camp

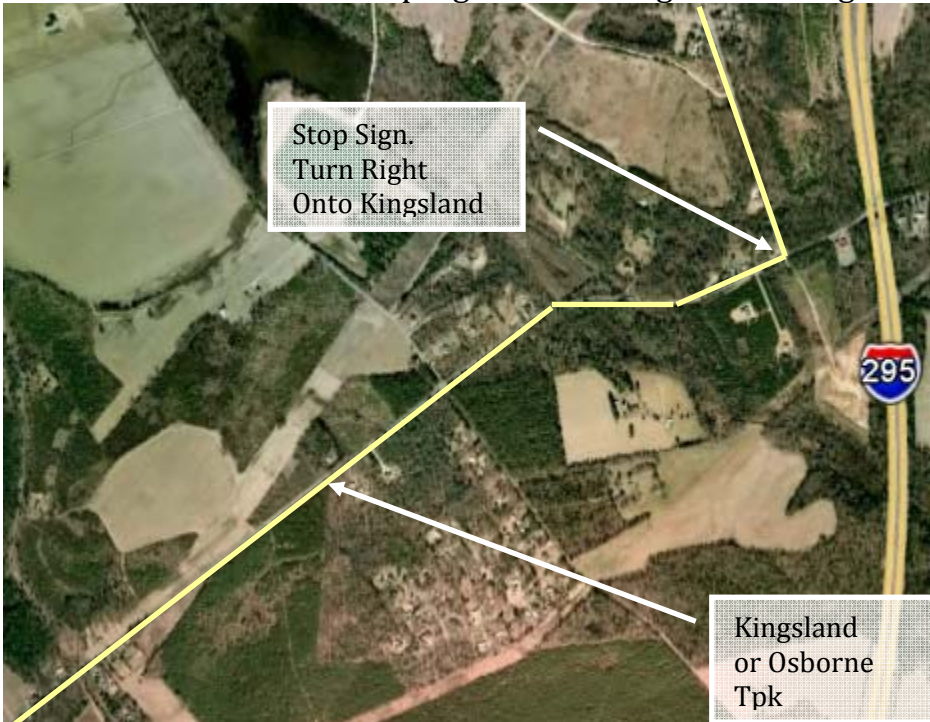
From Interstate 295 (East and South)

Take Exit 22B (Varina/Route 5).

Travel seven-tenths of a mile and turn left onto Strath Road.



Follow Strath Road to a stop sign and turn right onto Kingsland Road,



which turns into Osborne Turnpike.

Turn Left into the gravel road BEFORE the 90degree turn.



Zooming in:



Turn into a gravel road under the trees

Do NOT turn into the gravel in the open field

The view to the power plant

Offload gear and people here.

Road North is **off limits**. The QM's flatbed will be after the bridge

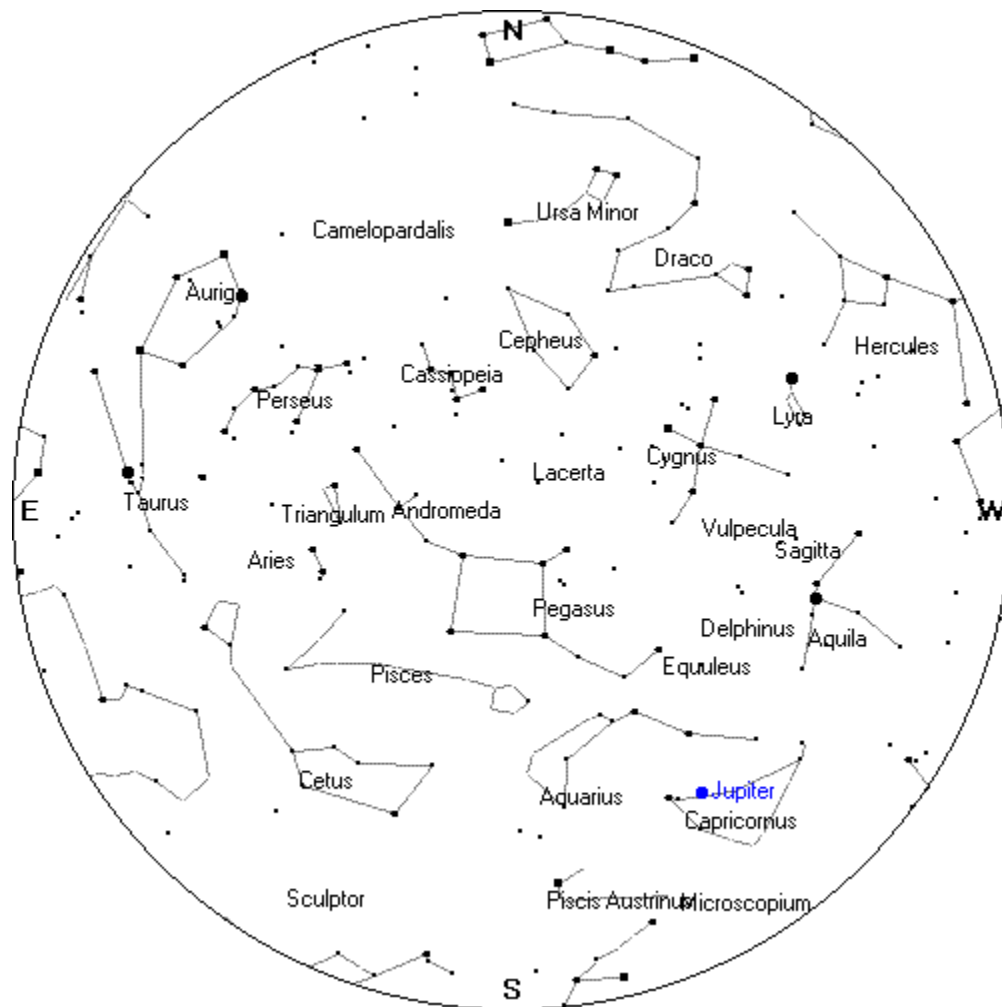
Vehicle and one drive head here to park

Stop before the wooden bridge—all passengers must walk in.



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## Star Chart



Stars at Saturday at 8pm. Moon near “new” (illumination 5%), Rise 4:34am; set 3:33pm. That is, it will be a beautiful dark night.

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### Ernest Thompson Seton’s Nine Important Principles of Woodcraft\*

This is a time when the whole nation is turning toward the Outdoor Life, seeking in it the physical regeneration so needful for continued national existence—is waking to the fact long known to thoughtful men, that those live longest who live nearest to the ground—that is, who live the simple life of primitive times, divested, however, of the evils that ignorance in those times begot.

Consumption, the white man's plague since he has become a house race, is vanquished by the sun and air, and many ills of the mind also are forgotten when the sufferer boldly takes to the life in tents.

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\* From the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of *The Birch Bark Roll*. See [www.inquiry.net/traditional/seton/woodcraft/9\\_principles.htm](http://www.inquiry.net/traditional/seton/woodcraft/9_principles.htm)

Half our diseases are in our minds and half in our houses. We can safely leave the rest to the physicians for treatment.

Sport is the great incentive to Outdoor Life: Nature Study is the intellectual side of sport.

I should like to lead this whole nation into the way of living outdoors for at least a month each year, reviving and expanding a custom that as far back as Moses was deemed essential to the national well-being.

Not long ago a benevolent rich man, impressed with this idea, chartered a steamer and took some hundreds of slum boys up to the Catskills for a day in the woods. They were duly landed and told to "go in now and have a glorious time." It was like gathering up a net full of catfish and throwing them into the woods, saying, "Go and have a glorious time."

The boys sulked around and sullenly disappeared. An hour later, on being looked up, they were found in groups under the bushes, smoking cigarettes, shooting "craps," and playing cards—the only things they knew.

Thus the well-meaning rich man learned that it is not enough to take men out of doors. We must also teach them to enjoy it.

The purpose of this book is to show how Outdoor Life may be followed to advantage.

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### **Nine leading principles are kept in view:**

(1) This movement is essentially for **recreation**.

(2) **Camp-life**. Camping is the simple life reduced to actual practice, as well as the culmination of the outdoor life.

Camping has no great popularity to-day, because men have the idea that it is possible only after an expensive journey to the wilderness; and women that it is inconvenient, dirty, and dangerous.

These are errors. They have arisen because camping as an art is not understood. When intelligently followed, camp-life must take its place as a cheap and delightful way of living, as well as a mental and physical savior of those strained or broken by the grind of the over-busy world.

The wilderness affords the ideal camping, but many of the benefits can be got by living in a tent on a town lot, a piazza, or even a housetop.

(3) **Self-government with Adult Guidance**. Control from without is a poor thing when you can get control from within. As far as possible, then, we make these camps self-governing. Each full member has a vote in affairs.

(4) **The Magic of the Campfire**. What is a camp without a campfire?—no camp at all, but a chilly place in a landscape, where some people happen to have some things.

When first the brutal anthropoid stood up and walked erect—was man, the great event was symbolized and marked by the lighting of the first campfire.

For millions of years our race has seen in this blessed fire. The means and emblem of light, warmth, protection, friendly gathering, council. All the hallow of the ancient thoughts, hearth, fireside, home is centered in its glow, and the home-tie itself is weakened with the waning of the home-fire. Not in the steam radiator can we find the spell; not in the

water coil; not even in the gas log; they do not reach the heart. Only the ancient sacred fire of wood has the power to touch and thrill the chords of primitive remembrance. When men sit together at the campfire they seem to shed all modern form and poise, and hark back to the primitive—to meet as man and man—to show the naked soul. Your campfire partner wins your love, or hate, mostly your love; and having camped in peace together, is a lasting bond of union—however wide your worlds may be apart.

The campfire, then, is the focal center of all primitive brotherhood. We shall not fail to use its magic powers.

(5) **Woodcraft Pursuits.** Realizing that manhood, not scholarship, is the first aim of education, we have sought out those pursuits which develop the finest character, the finest physique, and which may be followed out of doors, which in a word, make for manhood.

By nearly every process of logic we are led primarily to Woodcraft—that is, Woodcraft in a large sense—meaning every accomplishment of an all-round Woodman—Riding, Hunting, Camper-craft, Scouting, Mountaineering, Indian-craft, First aid, Star-craft, Signaling, and Boating. To this we add all good outdoor Athletics and Sports, including Sailing and Motoring, and Nature Study, of which Wild Animal Photography is an important branch; but above all, Heroism.

Over three hundred deeds or exploits are recognized in these various departments, and the members are given decorations that show what they achieved. (See Woodcraft Manual.)

(6) **Honors by Standards.** The competitive principle is responsible for much that is evil. We see it rampant in our colleges to-day, where every effort is made to discover and develop a champion, while the great body of students is neglected, That is, the ones who are in need of physical development do not get it, and those who do not need it are over-developed. The result is much unsoundness of many kinds. A great deal of this would be avoided if we strove to bring all the individuals up to a certain standard. In our non-competitive tests the enemies are not "the other fellows," but time and space, the forces of Nature. We try not to down the others, but to raise ourselves. Although application of this principle would end many of the evils now demoralizing college athletics. Therefore, all our honors are bestowed according to world-wide standards. (Prizes are not honors.) (See Woodcraft Manual.)

(7) **Personal Decoration for Personal Achievements.** The love of glory is the strongest motive in a savage. Civilized man is supposed to find in high principle his master impulse. But those who believe that the men of our race, not to mention boys, are civilized in this highest sense, would be greatly surprised if confronted with figures. Nevertheless, a human weakness may be good material to work with, I face the facts as they are. All have a chance for glory through the standards, and we blazon it forth in personal decorations that all can see, have, and desire.

(8) **A Heroic Ideal,** The boy from ten to fifteen, like the savage, is purely physical in his ideals. I do not know that I ever met a boy that would not rather be John L. Sullivan than Darwin or Tolstoi. Therefore, I accept the fact and seek to keep in view an ideal that is

physical, but also clean, manly, heroic, already familiar, and leading with certainty to higher things.

(9) **Picturesqueness in Everything**, Very great importance should be attached to this. The effect of the picturesque is magical, and all the more subtle and irresistible because it is not on the face of it reasonable. The charm of titles and gay costumes, of the beautiful in ceremony, phrase, dance, and song, are utilized in all ways.

#### THE IDEAL

When two or three young people campout, they can live as a sort of family, especially if a grown-up be with them; but when a dozen or more are of the party, it is necessary to organize.

What manner of organization will be practical, and also give full recognition to the nine principles of scouting? What form of government lends itself best to —

- Recreation;
- Outdoor Life;
- Self-rule;
- The Campfire;
- Woodcraft traditions;
- Honors by standards;
- Personal decoration for personal achievement;
- A heroic ideal;
- Picturesqueness in all things?

In my opinion, the Tribal or Indian form of organization.

Fundamentally, this is a republic or limited monarchy, and many experiments have proved it best for our purpose. It makes its members self-governing; it offers appropriate things to do outdoors; it is so plastic that it can be adopted in whole or in part, at once or gradually; its picturesqueness takes immediate hold of all; and it lends itself so well to our object that, soon or late, other forms of organization are forced into its essentials.

No large band of boys ever yet camped out for a month without finding it necessary to recognize a leader, a senior form (or ruling set whose position rests on merit), some wise grown person to guide them in difficulties, and a place to display the emblems of the camp; that is, they have adopted the system of the Chief, Council, Medicine Man and Totem-pole.

Moreover, the Ideal Indian stands for the highest type of primitive life. He was a master of woodcraft, and unsordid, clean, manly, heroic, self-controlled, reverent, truthful, and picturesque always.

America owes much to the Redman. Then the struggle for freedom came on, it was between men of the same blood and bone, equal in brains and in strength. The British had the better equipment perhaps. The great advantage of the American was that he was trained in Woodcraft, and this training which gave him victory, he got from the Redman.

But the Redman can do a greater service now and in the future. He can teach us the ways of outdoor life, the nobility of courage, the joy of beauty, the blessedness of enough, the glory of service, the power of kindness, the super-excellence of peace of mind and the

scorn of death. For those were the things that the Redman stood for; these were the sum of his faith.

These and other "traditional scouting" resources may be found at [www.kudu.net](http://www.kudu.net).

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### Registration

**No later than Sunday, 1 November 2009**

Email to: Richard Brett [RBrett1154@aol.com](mailto:RBrett1154@aol.com), and to: Al Best [ALBest@vcu.edu](mailto:ALBest@vcu.edu)

The following information:

Troop Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Scoutmaster: \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Patrol Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of (youth) patrols participating in activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Youth: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_

\$5 times Total of above = \_\_\_\_\_ (bring a check in this amount)