

What is RONDEZVOUS CAMP?

Rendezvous Camp is the Longhouse Council's unique specialty resident summer camp for Scouts BSA and Venturing Crew members of age 14 and over; however, it is recommended that participants complete a prior BSA resident camp experience. It is conducted during the regular summer camp season at Sabattis Scout Reservation located within the Adirondack Park in St. Lawrence County, NY. Rendezvous Camp provides two separate and differently structured year-of attendance programs. Each year has a separate focus, year one helps build a foundation for the year two activities. It is "provisional" camp meaning home troop leadership is not required - the camp staff provides all the leadership necessary.

This camp is formed around a program theme that includes traditional BSA summer camp activities during year one and specialized exciting and different type of experience year two in the goal of teaching leadership, responsibility and the necessary skills to survive in most any situation, while also including the fun, excitement and adventure of the participants becoming "early pioneers" at an 1830's-style fur trapper's rendezvous (on the American Frontier), and participating in the many activities of that time. The program is modeled on events (as is a novel or Hollywood movie) and the activities of the pioneers of the American Frontier in the 1830s to provide a unique experience promoting the values of the Scout Oath and Law while including frontier skills and rendezvous lifestyle into its theme.

The Rendezvous Camp program is a series of events conducted throughout the entire camp period that includes, but not limited to: Scout rank advancement, BSA merit badges and certifications, early pioneer activities, and the experience of assembling their very own muzzleloader rifle from a kit under the watchful eye of a NYS Licensed Gunsmith. After the Scout has built their very own muzzle loading rifle, they will qualify with it by completing the Rifle Shooting Merit Badge and the National Rifle Association's Muzzleloader Shooting Course.

All instruction, certifications and awards are provided by experienced and qualified adult volunteer scouters. Scouts and Venturing youth will benefit by experiencing many new things within the program from the knowledgeable, experienced, and friendly staff. Together staff and campers work together to emphasize a community life of teamwork and will learn skills that, at the end of the week, will have helped build character, leadership, and other skills in the participating scouts.

The Rendezvous Camp staff's goals include making sure all scouts have an unforgettable experience, learn teamwork, and leave as better Scouts. Scouts may earn merit badges, rank advancements and certifications. However, Rendezvous Camp is not just about advancement. It's about fun, camp spirit, building enthusiasm and having an experience that they will be proud of.

Please note that as this is a "Pilot Program" enrollment is limited.

This WILL BE a very rustic camp with scouts building their own campsites on day one which may be ground tents, tee-pee's or lean-too shelters, yet to be determined.

Week/Year One Program will include;

Metalworking, where the scout will make a Tomahawk Head.

Woodworking, where the scout will make the Tomahawk shaft.

Leatherworking, where the scout will make the Tomahawk sheath.

First Aid Merit Badge

Canoeing Merit Badge

Week/Year Two Program will include;

Wilderness Survival Merit Badge

Pioneering Merit Badge

Muzzleloading Rifle Build and the Rifle Merit Badge, muzzleloader option.