

2012 Troop 4 High Adventure Survey (due 10/6/2011)

Hello Scouts and families. Troop 4 is looking into options for our scheduled high adventure trip next summer. We are very interested in soliciting early feedback from both scouts and families as to their interests in these options. Please take the time to carefully consider all questions. Your answers are not a commitment, but will be used by the leaders and scouts to help the decision making process. The target week to schedule this event is July 21-28, 2012. Note that the age limits noted below are firm. Currently, two options have been researched that have made the initial cut for consideration.

- (1) Camp Buffalo Bill in Cody Wyoming. This camp is on the Shoshone River in Shoshone National Forest, near Yellowstone National Park. It offers a full service merit badge camp (like Camp Resolute) for any age scouts, and a week-long high adventure backpacking option for older scouts (age 14, or age 13 & completed 8th grade). In addition, the program for those that stay in base camp offers an "off day" on Wed for the troop to plan an outing to Yellowstone National Park. More info is available on their website at <http://campbuffalobill.com/> Because the camp is accessible only via a small regional airport, the air fare for this trip makes it more expensive than option 2 below.
- (2) Camp Tahosa in Ward Colorado. This camp is located along an alpine lake at 9000 foot elevation, on the edge of the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area. This camp offers guided backpacking trips for all age groups. The troop attended this camp in 2008. Older scouts can participate in the Alpine Adventure; a weeklong backpacking trip along the continental divide. Other scouts can choose to operate out of the alpine base camp taking shorter backpacking trips, working on the rock climbing merit badge, and with the potential for an exciting day trip (e.g., to the high peaks of Rocky Mountain National Park). The oldest scouts (those age 13 by Jan 1 2012) are eligible for a week-long backpacking adventure along the continental divide. More info is available at this website: <http://denverboyscouts.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=11107&orgkey=51>

Both trips offer an unparalleled high adventure opportunity of a lifetime. There will be a parent information night before any firm commitments must be given. The troop has set aside funds to lower both camps by \$350 per scout. Additionally, scouts who sell more than 20 pancake breakfast tickets this year get a **dollar- for-dollar** match. ON the high adventure trip to camp Tahosa in 2008 several scouts went for free and many more went at a steeply discounted price as they sold lots of tickets. Please keep in mind that it is important that your son "own" the trip as it is a once in a life time adventure. As such we encourage scouts to sell tickets to fund most if not all of the trip.

The troop subsidized price of Camp Buffalo Bill is approximately \$1,050 or 210 tickets per scout. Camp Tahosa will be approximately \$625 or 125 tickets per scout. From this point on... the price remains in the Scout's control. It is entirely feasible (and historically proven by several scouts) that hard work selling pancake tickets can allow them to go for FREE. At the time of commitment (TBD, but after the new year) we would be looking for the scout and their family to commit to the trip price. Scouts would have to pay this price (approx \$1050/\$625), either entirely from their pancake sales, entirely from their

own money, or from a combination of the two. Ownership of the trip is in the scout's hands. We realize that these adventures are expensive, and that aggressive fundraising is a commitment. Scouts and their parents should have a serious discussion on their level of interest, and their willingness to commit, before answering the survey questions. While this initial survey is non-binding, we would like it to be an accurate forecast of interest and commitment. A final survey of commitment will be conducted in early winter.

Note that participation on any of the high adventure options for the older scouts also require that scouts be physically fit, and that they must have completed the personal fitness merit badge, and have proven themselves on no less than 2 troop qualifying backpacking or hiking events (similar to the recent qualification for the Presidential Range Trip). The troop will offer no less than 3 qualifying opportunities over the coming year.

Please complete this non-binding survey and return it to the Troop Scribe no later than the October 6th Troop Meeting:

Scout name: _____

Scout: If the troop decided to go to Camp Tahosa, I am

___ seriously interested (~90% sure) ___ possibly interested (50/50 sure) ___ unlikely to go

Parent: if the troop decided to go to Camp Tahosa, I am

___ seriously interested in joining (~90% sure) ___ possibly interested (50/50) ___ unlikely

Scout: If the troop decided to go to Camp Buffalo Bill, I am

___ seriously interested (~90% sure) ___ possibly interested (50/50 sure) ___ unlikely to go

Parent: if the troop decided to go to Camp Buffalo Bill, I am

___ seriously interested in joining (~90% sure) ___ possibly interested (50/50) ___ unlikely

Scout Comments:

Parent Comments:

Your answers and comments will be collected, studied, and be given serious consideration by the scout and adult leadership. It is very important that we receive feedback from all scouts and families. Thanks for your continued support of Troop 4's high adventure program!