



# JAMBO-PREP

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Date: Thu, 17 Oct 1996 10:42:05 -0400  
Message-ID: <961017104204\_1313460897@emout06.mail.aol.com>  
To: jambo97@hoplite.org  
Subject: Re: JAMBO97 Pre-Jamboree Troop Meetings (long)  
Errors-To: owner-jambo97@hoplite.org  
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Reply-To: jambo97@hoplite.org  
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You must remember that this is not a permanent Troop. You are only appointed as a contingent leader until the Jambo is over. This is not a forever job.

While it is important to know your Scouts and for them to know each other and you, you have to be careful. Your unit is not a registered unit. You need to check with your council to see if you have insurance coverage for any meetings or outings besides the mandatory meeting and training which the council must hold for all its Troops.

As a Jambo SM in '93 and ASM2 in '89, I will share with you what we did. In early Jan we held a Troop all day meeting. Prior to the meeting, I had mailed out a questionnaire for each Scout to complete. It asked for a brief summary of their Scouting experiences as well as asking if they were interested in serving as one of the top four leaders (SPL, ASPL, QM, or Scribe). I called their home SM if I felt they were qualified. I had my ASMs to review the questionnaires as well and gave them a briefing on my telephone conversations. We then selected the top four to six Scouts we

wanted to interview.

On the day of the first Troop meeting as the Scouts arrived an ASM gave out one of four different color ribbons to each Scout. The Scouts did not know at that time but this would eventually be their Patrol assignment. We did not allow Scouts from the same unit be in the same patrol. For the first hour, we introduced the Scoutmasters and gave a briefing to the parents and Scouts of what to expect during the time of Jan thru July when we departed for AP Hill. I then asked the parents to leave after the briefing or if they wished to stay not to communicate with the Troop during the rest of the activities unless asked by one of the Scoutmasters to assist. I explained that this was a team building time for the Patrols. I then explained the color ribbons as being their Patrol assignment.

During the team building games lead by one preplanned visiting Scouter, the Scoutmasters interviewed each of the youth leaders candidates. Based on our evaluations, I appointed the leaders for the Troop. (I know we elect the leaders in traditional units but again, this is not a traditional unit. We only exist for a very short period. And then its over! Another Jambo unit from my council did the same but after selecting the four candidates, allowed the Troop to elect the leaders with very little interaction with the rest of the Troop.)

The Patrols by lunch time were ready to elect their Patrol Leaders and APL's were selected. The Patrols then developed their Patrol names, flags, and yells. Assigned tasks, etc. At the same time the Troop leaders, not ASMs, were tasked with supervising the selection of a Troop T-shirt and gateway design.

The second Troop meeting was immediately following the mandatory Council Jambo participants and parents meeting. I introduced all leaders to the parents and covered other administrative details, T-shirts, gateway, needs of Troop, etc.

One other item you should be aware of, my Troop was made up of Scouts from four or more counties. The drive time for some of the Scouts were over an hour one way.

So much for the past. I am willing to share other information if needed. I will be acting as the Council Contingent Coordinator this year since we have six Troop going. I as appointed by the Council Jambo Committee Chairman.

I am holding a training session for all SM's and their ASM's in Nov to assist

them in preparation to all their activities.

This is an exciting adventure for the Scouts and Scoutmasters. Please remember that the Scouts as well as the Scouters have their home Troop activities as well as OA activities and their non-Scouting (can you believe they would do this) activities. Be sparing with meetings, everyone has more than they want to attend.

I would recommend strongly a newsletter where you give updates to include such information as training dates, notices on Home Town Reporter, Science Projects, special events which will occur at Jambo. While part of the newsletter is informational, the other part is to build excitement.

You have the responsibility to create a "once in a life time experience" for each Scout. This should be great experience also for each Scouter.

Develop your written plan before you begin your execution. (Sounds like the Leadership Skill known as Planning.) Build in some, no, that should be lots of FUN and you and your Scouts will have a GREAT time.

See you there, I will be in Subcamp 15.

YIS

Doug

I use to be a buffalo...most think I still am! Me too!