

SCOUTS-L

LANTERNS

From owner-jambo97@freke.hoplite.org Tue Oct 1 15:42:22 1996
Return-Path: owner-jambo97@freke.hoplite.org
Received: from custmail.InterNex.Net (custmail.internex.net [199.2.14.213])
by cap1.CapAccess.org (8.6.12/8.6.10) with ESMTP id PAA13402 for
<mfbowman@capaccess.org>; Tue, 1 Oct 1996 15:42:22 -0400
Received: from freke.hoplite.org (freke.hoplite.org [205.158.197.130]) by
custmail.InterNex.Net (8.7.1/8.7.1) with ESMTP id MAA19250; Tue, 1 Oct
1996 12:38:13 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (daemon@localhost) by freke.hoplite.org
(8.7.5/8.7.5) with SMTP id MAA02110; Tue, 1 Oct 1996 12:37:53 -0700
(PDT)
Received: (from daemon@localhost) by freke.hoplite.org (8.7.5/8.7.5) id
MAA01780 for jambo97-outgoing; Tue, 1 Oct 1996 12:28:48 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Tue, 1 Oct 1996 13:16:24 -0600 (MDT)
From: Amick Robert <amick@spot.Colorado.EDU>
To: jambo97@hoplite.org
Subject: Re: JAMBO97 Gas/Electric Lantern
In-Reply-To: <32513F35.3338@otter.IVY.TEC.IN.US>
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.95.961001123736.10132B-
100000@spot.Colorado.EDU>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
Errors-To: owner-jambo97@hoplite.org
Precedence: bulk
Reply-To: jambo97@hoplite.org
Status: RO
X-Status:

Electric fluorescent lanterns are the way to go for both troop and personal use. They are five times more efficient than tungsten bulb lamps and give a broad, evenly distributed light. Gas lamps are far too bright, and cause incredible glare which reduces the adaptive ability of the eye to see (i.e. the pupils constrict so the amount of light reaching the retina is reduced, hence what you are looking at appears much darker than it would if the light source were not "blasting" you directly.

It's kind of like looking into a setting sun when you are trying to drive down a highway. Once you get into a shaded area, your pupils dilate and you can suddenly see what you are looking at much better. So keep the light source shielded from your eyes, and let it illuminate what you are looking at.

To get back to the fluorescent lamps, always use alkaline lantern batteries because they last five to seven times longer than carbon zinc batteries. They cost two to three times as much, but will provide continuous current until they fail, where carbon zinc batteries just start getting weaker and weaker.

If you can use rechargeables, so much the better. Generally the Jamboree Subcamp HQ has power outlets and will allow you to plug in your chargers, for video cameras, lanterns, whatever. If you have a solar charger, that is also preferable.

The vertical dual fluorescent tube camp lanterns are ok for general illumination, but also tend to produce "glare" because they shoot light out in all directions. If you can get one with a reflector, or even build your own reflector out of aluminum foil to place on one side of the plastic lens to reflect light in the opposite direction, it is preferable for adaptive vision.

The solar powered fluorescent walkway lights are a great idea and will keep your camp softly illuminated all night for safety and security. Siemens and other companies make nice varieties of these lamps and can be obtained at most hardware/building stores.

Newer fluorescent lamps have very good color rendition. If you can get the "spec 35 designer series" they have a color rendition very similar to tungsten light bulbs or tungsten halogen (quartz) lamps; and can be retrofitted into existing fluorescent lanterns that use the smaller tube diameters and lengths. A major advantage is that they allow you to see the true color of objects. Most cool white or daylight fluorescents distort colors and make them look faded or washed which results in eyestrain.

The most common size is about 7 watts. If you can't get designer series, then get warm white as the next best thing. The warm white or designer series phosphors produce more useful light in the color spectrum utilized by the eye than cool white or daylight series and is easier on the eyes for close work and reading.

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