

SCOUTS-L

PATROL FOOD

Date: Wed, 25 Sep 1996 18:10:37 -0600
From: Jim Peterson <jpeterson@TZNET.COM>
Subject: Re: Patrol food purchasing

At 06:41 PM 9/25/96 Rusty wrote:

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>We've got two eleven year olds (patrol leaders) going to the store this
>week. They will be going with two of the troop leaders.... I understand
>that these two young men will be given the money collected from their
>patrol, and told to shop. Seeing as how these two have never been
>shopping
>for a group before, I expect that they will be uncomfortable, unfamiliar
>with what to do, and somewhat scared. The leaders are going to check
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>basket before they check out, and give them guidance by asking

Also from the perspective of a young Troop, we eased our guys into it. A year ago, our Troop was, much like yours, 7 new Scouts and one Second Class Senior Patrol Leader. The first camp out, we held our Troop meeting for the week at the grocery store. All 8 boys and the leaders did the shopping together, it was quite a site. The next time, we had the boys make a list of what they needed and the Patrol Leader and SPL did the shopping. They were only allowed to purchase what was on the list. The third campout the list included things like: bread for the french toast, butter, syrup, etc. The last campout we went on the boys took care of everything themselves...the only help they received was from the mother who drove them to the store and her only suggestion was that they look at the Turkey Ham, instead of the whole, bone-in ham they had selected (Much less expensive). This process worked out well and the boys have learned to plan their meals and do their own shopping.

YiS,

Jim Peterson
Cubmaster, Pack 379, Auburndale, Wisconsin

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"Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is the probable reason why so few engage in it." - Henry Ford

Date: Wed, 25 Sep 1996 18:41:40 -0500
From: Rusty Chatelain <nighthawks@DATASTAR.NET>
Subject: Patrol food purchasing

Our Troop looks to the patrols to plan, price, and purchase the food for their menus... Being a young troop (new scouts and tenderfoot) they need much guidance in this process. It is our management of this process that I question.

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Now, I think this would be a good method for us to use with a scout who has been coached on how to buy, and what to think about when buying etc.... But not for a scout who has never been put in that situation before. It seems that if we were to coach them once or twice; and then oversee the buying by using the method noted above a time or two..... the young man will have been given the coaching and the guidance needed to know what to do and feel more confident about it... I'm not so foolish to think that it will go great for them from this point, but after teaching them what to do, the hard lessons learned will not be due to our negligence.

I would appreciate any feedback about how your troop handles these situations and any other information you wish to lend...

I would also be interested in the pros and cons of setting a standard fee for food on campouts....

Rusty Chatelain

ASM Troop 81 - and, A working for my beads, Beaver.....

Carriere, MS

If you wish to reply by direct email: Nighthawks@brutus.datastar.net

<http://www2.datastar.net/~chatelar/planet1.html>