

# INFORMATION SHEET

## FOR MERCER AREA DISTRICT'S

# SCOUTS TO THE SKIES CAMPOREE

AT NAES LAKEHURST, NJ

Friday - Sunday, April 24th - 26th, 2009

<http://mad-bsa.org/skies>

**Summary:** The Scouts to the Skies Camporee is an aviation themed event in which patrols will participate in non-competitive activity stations and displays. This theme also includes the history of the naval air base and the mission of its military tenants. Most of these stations and displays will be located inside historic Hanger 1, where the Hindenburg was held. All participants will be able to camp for two nights in tents in a partially wooded site on U.S. Government property. Troops must provide for and prepare all meals during this event. The purpose of this event is to encourage patrol teamwork and leadership through the participation in the stations; to introduce the scouts to the history and science of aviation, aviation-based careers and the U.S. Military.

**Eligibility:** This camporee is for Boy Scouts, Boy Scout Adult Leaders, Troop Adults, Webelos Scouts, accompanying Webelos parents and Webelos Adult Leaders. All participants, whether they are camping overnight or not, must register and pay the full camporee fee. Webelos Scouts who wish to camp overnight with a troop, must be registered with that troop and not with their own Pack. Webelos Scouts must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, who must also register with the Troop. If a parent or guardian cannot attend, they must sign a note indicating that another parent, who is not a cub leader and who will be attending, will be accompanying their child.

**Registration:** The regular registration fee for this camporee is \$16 per person. The deadline for regular registration is April 15, 2009. All registrations made after this date will be charged the late fee of \$20 per person. The late registration deadline is April 22nd - sorry, no registrations will be accepted after this date. There are two steps to this registration process. The first step will be done online via this event's web page - no other form of registration will be accepted. The online registration process should be up and running on or about the week of March 2, 2009. Leaders using the online registration process should be prepared to provide some personal information about each person they are registering. This personal information is required for base security purposes only. For adults, this information must include the last four digits of their Social Security Number, home address, age, gender, and phone number. The second step to the registration process is presenting the confirmation email to Council Office with a form of payment. This confirmation email will be automatically generated each time the online registration process is used. It will show the names and information for the people registered at that time and the applicable fee. Both steps of this process must be completed in order for these people to be officially registered. Leaders who wish to add people to their Troop roster may use this process more than once for only those people they are adding. Be aware that people added past the regular registration deadline will be automatically charged the late fee. For security reasons, no walk-in registrations will be accepted.

**Foreign Nationals:** Due to security regulations, the Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station has mandated that no Foreign Nationals, of any age, will be allowed to enter base property. Therefore, non-U.S Citizens will not be able to participate in this event.

**Location:** The Naval Air Engineering Station (NAES) is a U.S. Naval Base located in Ocean County, NJ and is in the Pine Barrens, a unique ecological area unlike any other place on earth. It borders on the Collingswood Wildlife Management Area to the North, the township of Manchester and Borough of Lakehurst to the east and south and Fort Dix to the west. The main gate is located on the eastern end of the base along route 547. There are two other gates located along route 547, the new commercial gate, which is north of the main gate and the old industrial gate that is south of the main gate.

**Driving Directions:** From the Mercer area, take Interstate 195 east to exit 16B (Freehold, route 537 East). Continue on Route 537 east for one mile through two traffic lights. At the third traffic light turn right onto Route 571 South – Trenton Lakewood Road (gas stations on corners). Continue on Route 571 South for 11 miles (note: you will pass through a light at Cassville where the speed limit is 40 mph). Turn right at the light onto Route 547 - Hope Chapel Road (Liquor store at corner). Continue on Route 547 for one mile, go past the commercial gate and enter the main gate on your right at the traffic light. After you clear gate security, proceed on Lansdowne Road and then turn left onto Severyns Road, the first left turn before Hanger One. Continue on Severyns Road and then make a left at the intersection near Building 678, which will be the last building on your right (signs will be posted). Continue straight on this road onto the abandoned runway to the encampment area.

**Security:** The NAES is an active naval base and must maintain a certain level of security based on current threat conditions. Permission to enter the base in a vehicle will only be granted to those individuals whose names are on the Camporee participant's roster. This roster will be made up from the online registration forms submitted by each Troop. A Mercer Area Unit Commissioner will be at the gate to greet you. Be prepared to have your vehicle searched at the gate. This search would involve security personal and possibly K-9 dogs. All drivers must be prepared to present their license, registration and insurance card at the gate. Warning: any vehicles with expired or missing registration or insurance will be impounded and the driver will have to pay a fine. All drivers will be issued a vehicle dashboard pass for the duration of the camporee. This pass will allow re-entry onto the base for drivers who need to go off-base for whatever reason. Failure to be pre-approved will cause these individuals to be denied entry to the base. While on base, all participants are required to stay within the areas designated unless given specific authorization. Boy Scouts must be accompanied by an adult when outside the designated camporee area.

**Photo Identification:** For security reasons, everyone entering the base over the age of 14 must have some type of Photo ID card with them. For adults, a photo drivers license is acceptable. For youth, a school photo ID card is acceptable.

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** For serious emergencies and fires: dial 911 and then notify an event staff member. For security or other police related matters dial 732-323-4000.

**Boy Scout Check in:** Scout Troops may arrive no earlier than 6:00 pm on Friday. Each Troop must send a representative to the Headquarters tent to check in their unit. Tour permits and a final roster of all participating unit members must be presented at that time. Troops will be assigned a campsite upon check in and will receive a schedule, maps and any other handouts. Invited Webelos scouts and their adult leaders that arrive before their sponsoring troop leaders will not be checked in and will not be allowed to set up their tents nor bring their gear to the

troop campsite. Please contact the event coordinator if your troop plans on arriving other than Friday night.

**Campsite:** The Boy Scouts will be camping on Friday and Saturday nights in a wooded area located south of Hanger 1 near the northeast corner of the naval base. This encampment is in a partially wooded area along the sides of an abandoned runway that intersects with Severyns and Hancock Road. This partially wooded area has some regularly-spaced pine trees and its sandy soil is littered with pine needles and cones. This is a low impact camping area; all units will adhere to the BSA's leave-no-trace principles. A typical campsite is 80 feet wide and 125 to 150 feet deep. Individual campsite borders will be clearly marked and all campers will be required to stay within the boundaries of the campgrounds during the encampment. Access to potable water, latrines, dumpsters, first aid and the headquarters area will be on site. A lights-out curfew will be strictly enforced.

**Webelos Overnight Camping:** All Webelos Scouts must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, adult relative or friend and be sponsored by a Troop in order to camp overnight on Friday and/or Saturday night at the camporee. Webelos Scouts must register for the camporee with their sponsoring Troop instead of their Pack. Sponsoring Troops must include all Webelos Scouts and accompanying adults in their roster and should help them with tents, camping gear and meals. Troops should coordinate their arrival time with that of their invited Webelos scouts and adults. Cub scout leaders will not be allowed to check in themselves; they must be checked in by their sponsoring Troop.

**Parking:** Vehicle access and parking for the encampment will be allowed on the abandoned runway. Drivers must obey all traffic signs and adhere to the posted speed limit. All campsites will have an adjoining parking area that can accommodate up to six vehicles.

**Off-Limit Areas:** The following areas are generally off limits unless specific permission for access has been granted: all buildings, structures, sheds, equipment – recreational or otherwise, material; storage areas, government vehicles, utilities, hydrants, water retention basins and towers. Participants are not allowed to touch, stand on, climb on or into, throw objects at or otherwise damage or deface objects in these off-limit areas. Participants must keep away from and not climb into any fenced-in area. The following is a list of specific off limit areas: fitness stations, railhead; Freedom Park and the area northwest, the area between Hancock road and the Motorcycle Course/RC airfield, which contains green fire hydrants and large sprinkler heads used for soil remediation; the area north of Lansdowne Road; the industrial area which is comprised of Hangers 2 and 3 and all outlying buildings and structures. Participants may visit the Hindenburg crash site and the exterior of the Engineering complex.

**Prohibited Items:** The following items are strictly prohibited: real or toy firearms; sling shots; B-B guns; bows and arrows; "paint ball" guns; crossbows; real or toy throwing or stabbing weapons (except for pocket knives) or items which could be used as such; explosives; sheath knives; fireworks; alcoholic beverages; narcotics; hazardous materials; liquid fuel (except for model airplane fuel) and equipment that uses it. Scouts will not be allowed to bring electronic entertainment games devices such as: game-boys, CD players, Mpeg players, palm pilots, radios, tape players (unless needed to participate in a camporee activity). No playing cards of any type are allowed.

**Campfires:** No ground fires are permitted at the campsites. Campfires will be allowed only in raised half-barrels or similar-type containers. Ashes and any other fire remains must be packed out.

**Model Aircraft:** Individual scouts and patrols/dens are encouraged to build a model aircraft prior to the camporee. See the handout for specific information on model building and categories of models. Scouts will be allowed to fly model aircraft in approved areas only and under adult supervision.

**Saturday Activities:** Activities will take place in and around the historical Hanger One. Maps will be provided to all adult and youth leaders showing the location of all the stations. The following stations have been proposed and will be open to all Cub and Boy Scouts: History Hike, Aircraft Communication, Gyroscope Fun, Human Wind Tunnel, Aircraft Model Display, Computer Flight Simulation, Flying Models, Paper Airplanes, Balsa Gliders, Wright Brothers Display, Wright Relay, Weather, Pilot Interviews, Flight Attendant School, Aircraft Mechanic Demonstration, Home Builders Hanger, Control Line Model Aircraft Demonstration, Indoor flying model demonstration, History of Lakehurst, History of Flight, Tours of the Aircraft Carrier Trainer.

**Model Rocket Launching:** Weather permitting, a model rocket launching station will be located in the open area west of Hanger 1. Scouts may bring their own rocket to launch, provided it is built from a kit. Rocket engines will be limited to "C" size and below. Successfully launching two rockets is a requirement for the Space Exploration merit badge. Please bring your own launch pad if you have one. The National Association of Rocketry Model Rocket Safety Code will be followed for this activity.

**Trading Post:** Candy, snacks and soda will be available at the Trading Post from 10:00 am until 3:00. Hot dogs will be available at lunchtime.

**Campfire Ceremony:** A campfire ceremony will be held at the time specified on the official event schedule. Each unit is encouraged to present a song, skit or cheer for this ceremony.

**Participation Awards:** Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts who participate in at least 8 activities or who build an aircraft model for the camporee will have "earned their wings" and be given a pin that can be attached to the camporee patch.

**Golden Skillet Competition:** The theme for the golden skillet competition will be "airline food". Dinners will be prepared on site and cooked on charcoal using foil pack cooking methods and presented as an airline meal. Dinners will be judged based on taste and presentation. The dinner must be a balanced meal including a vegetable, starch and meat serving, which may be served in any combination. Bread or rolls and a dessert cooked using the foil pack method are optional. Meals may be presented to look like an in-flight meal on a typical airliner. This may include the use of plastic trays, serving pieces and utensils. Judging for the golden skillet will take place at the Camporee Headquarters per the time posted.

**Religious Services:** Scouts and Scouters are encouraged to participate in religious services on Saturday night per the times posted on the schedule. Jewish, Catholic and Interfaith services will be offered at locations to be announced.

**Aviation Merit Badge:** Scouts will have the opportunity to earn the Aviation Merit Badge after attending the Camporee. The dates for this will be posted on the Mercer Area district's web site. The councilors are flight instructors from the Robbinsville airport. They will be teaching the merit badge using the Young Eagles Workbook. Scouts who earn the Young Eagles certificate will also have met all the requirements for the Aviation Merit Badge. Classes will be taught on weekdays at the airport.

**Boy Scout Check Out:** Troops may stay no later than 12:00 noon on Sunday. All campsites will be inspected prior to check out. Each Troop must send a representative to the camporee headquarters when they are ready for inspection. Once inspected, units will be checked out and receive their patches.

**Photography:** Participants are allowed to take pictures on base in and around the camporee site. The areas where photography is banned are not near the camporee and are clearly marked.

**Off-base restaurants and retail stores:** Go right at light at main gate and continue south on route 547 until you reach the traffic light at route 70. Then continue as follows:

Lakehurst Diner – make left just before light at route 547 and route 70

Chevron Gas Station – make right just before light at route 547 and route 70

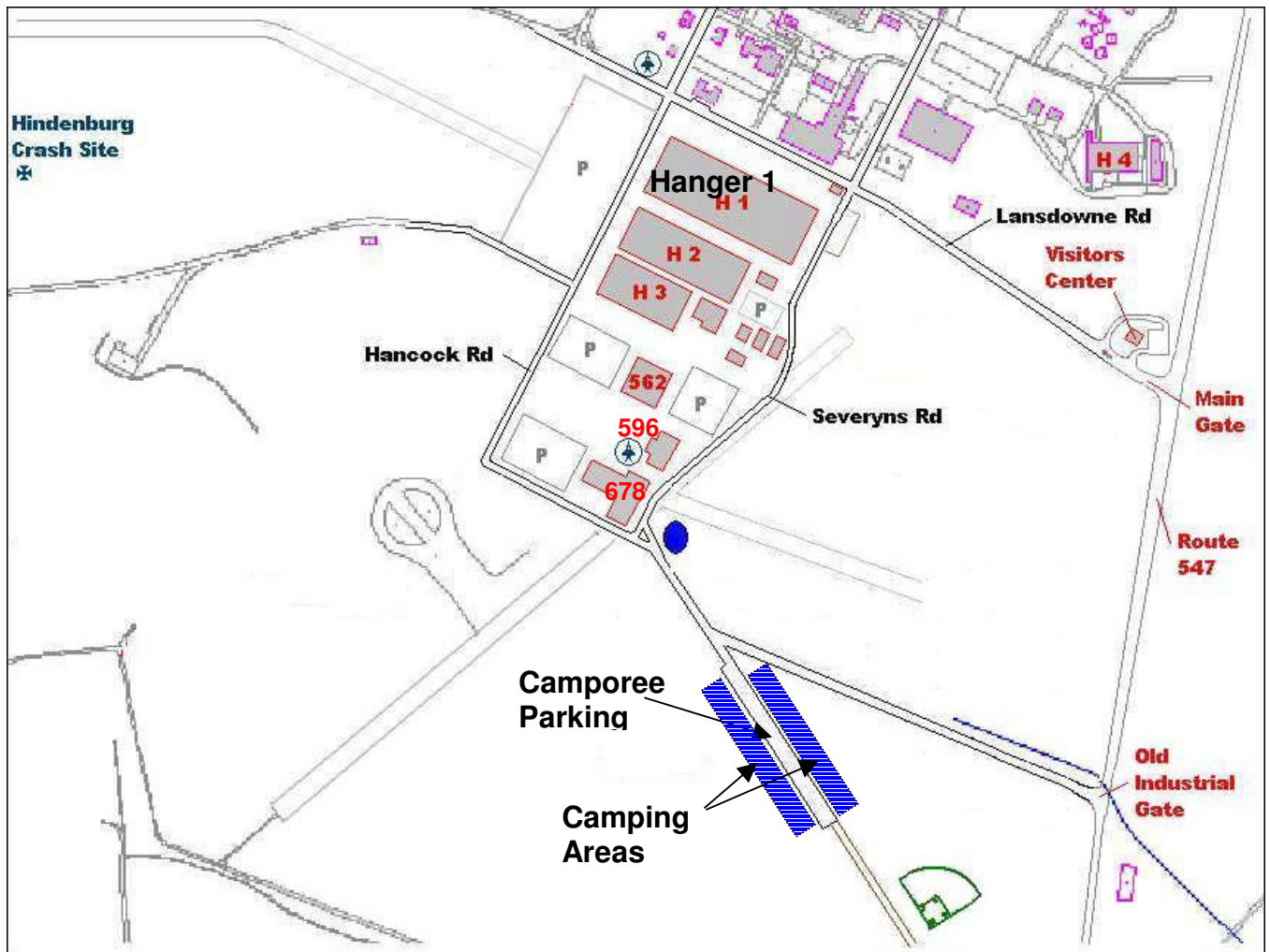
McDonald's – make left just after light on corner at route 547 and route 70

Burger King – go right onto route 70 west - restaurant is not far on the right.

Seven Eleven – just past the Burger King on the right.

Shop Rite – go left onto route 70 east. At traffic circle, stay on route 70 east by keeping left and then taking the first right off the circle. Make left at next light into the shopping plaza.

WalMart – go left onto route 70 east. At traffic circle, keep right and go straight onto route 37 east. Continue on route 37 east for 4.7 miles. Shopping plaza is on left.



**Map of Southeast Area of NAES Lakehurst**