

Blackbeard Fall Pioneering Weekend

When: **Dec 3-5**

Where: **Camp Bonner**

Cost: **\$14 till Nov. 29; \$16 after**

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At this event Scouts from across the district will work together to assemble both a tower and bridge using pioneering techniques. Whether they are just learning lashings for the first time or refreshing their knowledge, it's sure to be a learning experience for all as they learn to communicate and coordinate with other scouts from outside their own troop.

In the afternoon, Scouts will learn about the proper way to dispose of American flags and participate in the process of preparing them for retirement. Later on in the day we will have a retirement ceremony that the Scouts will all be a part of.

Our hope is that by the end of this event the Scouts will have learned some valuable lessons through working together towards a common goal. By the end of this event they should also have fulfilled some of the requirements for the pioneering merit badge as well as some rank requirements for those needing them.

Schedule

Friday:

4:30pm-Until?	Check In/Register your troop
8:30	Scoutmaster & SPL/Life Scout meeting (Please Attend)
10:00	Lights Out

Saturday:

7:00am-8:15	Breakfast
8:30	Scouts to the event field for orientation & instruction
9:00-12:00	Lashing and building of the Flag Tower & Suspension Bridge from plans
12:00pm-1:30	Lunch
1:30-4:00	Finish projects. Troop/Patrol pictures with projects
4:00-5:30	Flag retirement preparation
5:30-6:00	Flag retirement ceremony
7:15	Supper together
	<i>Each group brings own side dish</i>
	<i>Main course provided by Campout personnel (BBQ Chicken)</i>
10:00	Lights Out

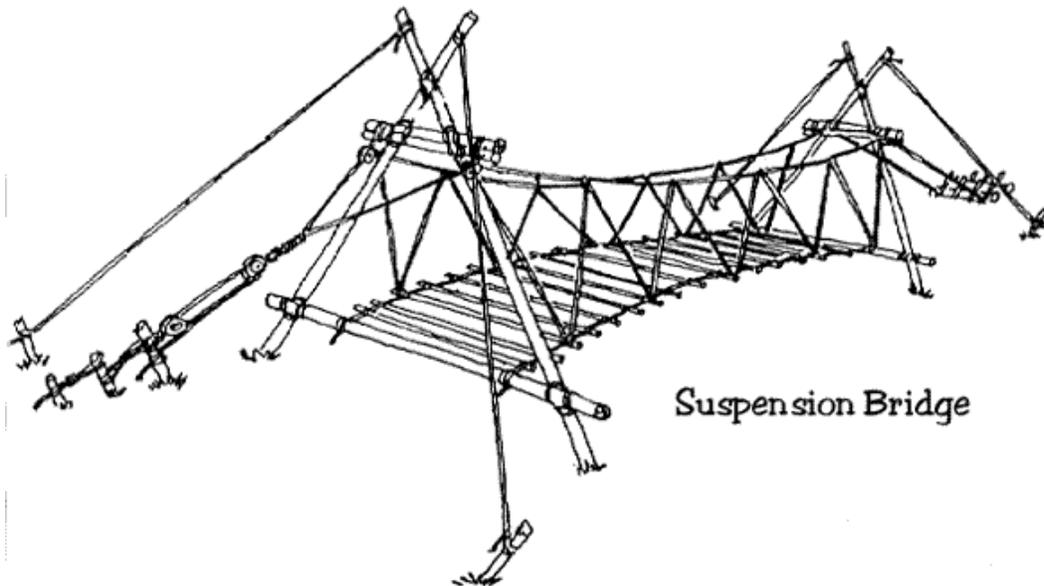
Sunday:

8:00am

Church Service

Everyone that can hang around and disassemble what we have not already done, please do

- Portable bathrooms will be available for use -
- A safety officer will be present -



The above image is the proposed idea for the bridge that we plan to build. The image is from an old scouting publication without any instructions for it. Therefore it'll be an adventure for all of us to put it together!

It consists of two large A-frames with guidelines helping to secure them on either end. The middle is made up of the lower bridge part which is multiple sticks attached to two main ropes.

The top part of this is two ropes attached to pulleys and staked off with a 3 stake anchor system. Another batch of ropes attach the two sections together (the V shape in the diagram).

The purpose of the pulleys on the top part is so it can be tensioned and if it is done right the middle of the bridge should rise up a bit as the actual bridge part stiffens enough for it to be traversed safely.

The following image is of the proposed idea for the tower that we plan to build. The Blackbeard district scoutmasters designed it. It is quite large so it's going to take a lot of hands for it!

The front poles are going to be slightly higher than the back poles so that we can attach a pulley to each one and use them as a flagpole. One for the U.S. flag and one for a troop flag to be raised on when we take photos later.

There are X braces for support on every side of the structure at the bottom. A platform will sit about halfway up with a safety rail built a few feet farther up from it. Either a single ladder on the back or two on the sides will provide access to the platform. We need to make sure to build this project to be very sturdy as we plan on having troops or patrols ascend it for photos, but we'll only do so if it can be done safely.

