

Pine Burr Area Council

Boy Scouts of America

Mississippi Bicentennial Celebration

March 17-19, 2017

Centennial Plaza – Gulfport Mississippi

Celebrating 200 years of Mississippi Statehood



Collection of the Museum Division, Mississippi Department of Archives and History

In 1817, this historic 20-star United States flag marked Mississippi's entrance into the nation as the twentieth state. It is being conserved with funds from the Foundation for Mississippi History. Once Complete, the banner will tour the state to eventually be placed on permanent display at the new Museum of Mississippi History in Jackson.

Schedule

Friday, March 17, 2017

4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
9:30 p.m.

Troop Check In
Scoutmaster / Senior Patrol Leader Cracker Barrel

Saturday, March 18, 2017

7:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m.

Breakfast
Opening Ceremony
 Raising of the Colors
 (Troop Flag Display)
 Welcome
 City Leader
 County Leader
 State Leader

8:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m.

Large Group Picture
Landing of d'Iberville Reenactment
Tour of Mississippi History
Scouts will need **Mississippi Passports**
Mississippi History Stops
 +Civil Rights
 +Farming
 +Railroad
 +Seafood
 +Timber

12:00 noon
1:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m.
5:00 p.m.
5:15 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

Lunch
Civil War Reenactment
Salute to Military Exhibits
Scouts will need **Mississippi Passports**
Judging Mississippi Bicentennial Boards
Lowering of the Colors
Supper
Campfire
Bogue Homa Dance Team
Fireworks Display

9:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 19, 2017

7:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m.

Breakfast
Raising of the Colors
Vesper Service
Closing Ceremony

What to expect.....

Cost - \$15.00 per participant
Meals are the responsibility of the troop.
Sanitary Facilities will be provided.

Early Bird Registration Patch – Every troop that registers and pays their participant fees by February 1, 2017, will receive an Early Bird Patch for each scout. (registration form)

Mississippi Bicentennial History Board – Using a 4-foot x 4-foot piece of ply board, each troop is encouraged to design and paint (boy done) a Mississippi Bicentennial History Board. This history board will be judged and first through third place ribbons will be presented.

Senior Patrol Leader / Scoutmaster Cracker Barrel – Each troop should send their Senior Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster to this meeting. The meeting will be held at the Registration Area to the right as you enter Centennial Plaza. At this meeting the schedule will be reviewed. A Mississippi Pass Port for each Scout will be distributed.

Opening Ceremony – Each troop will need to bring their Bicentennial Board and troop flag with a stand. The history board and troop flag will be displayed around the Flag Pole at Centennial Plaza. This display will remain up throughout the weekend.

Mississippi History Passport – Each scout will receive a Mississippi Passport. As the scout travels through the Mississippi History displays, the passport will be stamped. Upon completion of their journey, Scoutmasters will turn in a list of those scouts that have completed the historical tour and receive a patch for the weekend.

Mississippi History Displays – Community organizations and volunteers are providing displays to cover the wide range of Mississippi History. Displays and activities will represent:

Choctaw Indians

Civil Rights
Civil War
Farming
Military
Railroad
Seafood
Timber



The History of Centennial Plaza

In 1916, hidden within hundreds of live oak trees, a 92-acre parcel of beachfront property was selected as the ideal place to celebrate Mississippi's 100th Anniversary into the Union. The centennial celebration was set for December of 1917, but with the onset of United States participation in World War I, the celebration of statehood never occurred.

In support of the war efforts, the state of Mississippi leased the land and the existing centennial exhibition buildings to the United States Navy for use as a training facility. When the war ended, the U.S. Public Health Service took over the lease, and in 1921, opened a hospital for military servicemen.

In 1922, the hospital was transferred to the U.S. Veterans' Bureau. That same year, the Bureau purchased the property from the State of Mississippi and began construction of several buildings that were completed in 1923. As medical services increased additional buildings were constructed to accommodate more veterans. The facility was established as the Veterans' Administration Medical Center – Gulfport Division.

Still operating as the VA hospital in 1980, the property received National Register eligibility. Approximately 30 of the original buildings were still intact and maintained architectural significance of the Spanish Colonial Revival style.

In 2005 Hurricane Katrina devastated several parts of the Gulf Coast. The City of Gulfport, including the Veterans Hospital property sustained massive damage necessitating the facility's closing. It was necessary during the site cleanup process to demolish a number of buildings. However, several of the buildings still stand, a testament to their sturdy construction and the determination of the City of Gulfport to save as many of the historic structures of Centennial Plaza as possible.

In 2007 the National Register of Historic Places deemed the property still eligible for the coveted award in spite of its losses from the storm damage.

In 2009 the Veterans Administration transferred the Centennial Plaza property, 48 acres, back to the City of Gulfport.

In 2010 the property was designated a Mississippi Landmark.

In 2013 the Gulfport Redevelopment Commission entered into a contract with Centennial Plaza, LLC to reestablish the site as a mixed-use traditional neighborhood development. A family oriented community to include a town square, resort hotel, restaurants, events space, office space, retail space, residential housing, and a festival marketplace with a wide variety of entertainment.

In 2014 this beautiful historic site, full of Spanish culture and military history, received its place on the National Register of Historic Places as "The Gulfport Veterans Administration Medical Center Historic District."

**Pine Burr Area Council
Mississippi Bicentennial Camporee
Early Bird Registration**

Troop Number - _____
(Make additional copies if needed.)

Scoutmaster- _____

Phone Number - _____

Email - _____

Scouts:

Scouts:

Adults:

Please mail with payment to:
Pine Burr Area Council
Mississippi Bicentennial Camporee
1318 Hardy Street
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401
Total Early Bird Payment at \$15.00 per Scout - _____