

Jamboree Day 2 - Sunday, January 25

By Terry Honan

After riding on the bus all night we arrived at Mt. Vernon at 8:00 AM. No one got much sleep on the bus.

The troop enjoyed an all you can eat breakfast and then began our tour at Mt. Vernon at 9:00 AM. We started the tour with a film of Washington's life. We followed the film with a tour of the main house. The view of the Potomac River from the porch of the house was beautiful. After touring the main house we had the chance to tour the outbuildings and the Mt. Vernon museum. We concluded our visit with a trip to the guest shop and lunch in the cafeteria.

Then it was off to Washington, D.C. where we all got off the bus on the mall. From there the scouts formed teams of buddies and toured on their own. Everyone visited at least one of the Smithsonian buildings. The most popular were the American Indian Museum, The American History Museum and the Air and Space Museum. Several Scouts visited the National Archives and the Washington Monument.

After touring on the mall we went by bus to Arlington Cemetery where we saw the Changing of the Guard. One boy from each patrol was able to participate in a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier while all the rest of us watched the ceremony. This was a very moving experience. After the ceremony we visited the gravesite of President Kennedy and saw the Custis-Lee mansion from the outside.

After Arlington we took the bus to the Hard Rock café where we had dinner. After dinner we went on a walking and bus tour of the monuments. We visited the Lincoln memorial, the Korean War Memorial, The Vietnam Memorial, the World War II Memorial, the Boy Scout memorial and the Iwo Jima Memorial. At the Vietnam Memorial we found our Cowikey Lodge Chief and Section Chief, 1st Lt. Morgan Weed's, name on the wall.

It was 11:00 PM before we checked into the Marriott in Alexandria. I do not think we will have any problems with anyone staying up late as we had a long, hot day and got little sleep last night on the bus.

Tomorrow we leave Alexandria at 8:00 AM and head south to the jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill. Everyone had a good day. We are all looking forward to arriving at the jamboree in the morning.