

June 15, 1959
3731 North Glebe Road,
Arlington, Virginia

Dear Parents and Kids:

The time is about here. Sandy and I graduated our first two students from school last night and we feel we can now aim our sights at Cibola. This letter includes all information relevant to departure time, itinerary for the caravan and packing instructions.

Everything is in readiness here. Vehicles are all having their last check up. Coleman stoves, Coleman lanterns and all camping gear was dragged out of the basement yesterday. and we already have a crew of kids working on the gear. Even Douglas, now all of twenty months old is beginning to sense something is happening around the house.

Following are the details; if we have omitted anything please feel free to contact us.

1. Health Forms - All health forms have not yet come in. Please see that they are all mailed to us by June 20. Remember the typhoid shots. If anyone has fallen behind schedule, it is always possible to finish them up in time.
2. Duffle Bags ~ Everyone remember that once the duffle bags are packed they cannot be opened until we reach Cibola, so do not pack anything in your duffle that you may want on the caravan, especially swimming suits. Keep a swimming suit out, this is always needed on the trip. Washington Duffles - Mark clearly in large letters and fasten securely. All Washington duffles must be brought to 3731 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia by 6:00 P.M., Tuesday, June 23. Please do not be late. One late duffle bag makes all of the packing that much harder for us. Directions: Come out Chain Bridge and follow Glebe Road for about 1.5 miles to North Abingdon Street. Turn left on North Abingdon and we are the last house on the right - a white frame house with blue shutters. All Other Duffles - Again, clearly marked and well fastened, will be picked up and loaded on the top of our busses when we pick you up.
3. Washington Sleeping Bags - With poncho wrapped in or around, must be brought with duffle bags to our house on June 23. Again, mark these sleeping bags and ponchos clearly. This is most important since these are constantly being used on the trip. We want the name in big letters, around 2 or 3 inches high.

4. Laundry Bags ~ Be sure to pack well-marked laundry bag. This item is not on the equipment list, but is a real necessity.
5. Work Gloves -These are very necessary. We even recommend 2 pairs. especially for boys who may be working on fencing this summer. Leather work gloves are by far the best.

6. Things To Bring To Point Of Departure

- a. Sleeping bag and poncho for everyone except Washingtonians whose sleeping bags will be packed in advance.
- b. Canteen - Please mark the canteen well. We even suggest names on the metallic canteen in addition to the canvas cover.
- c. Lunch in a disposable container - this applies to only Boston and Washington people.
- d. Small canvas bag, containing minimum clothing for use on the caravan, toilet kit, flashlight, bathing suit and jacket. No matter how hot it may seem when we start, the jacket is a must for the trip. Remember: although we supply towels at the ranch, everyone must bring for use on the caravan an inexpensive towel well-marked, which may not return.

7. Time and Place of Departure

Boston ~ June 23. Meet at Information Booth, South Station at 8:00 A.M., Day Light Time. Miss Daphne Harwood, who will be in charge, will be waiting at the booth. Anyone planning to catch the train at Gate 128 please let us know by June 21. You will take The Colonial, - Pennsylvania Railroad, leaving at 8:30, Day Light Time. Bring train fare (\$22 one way), lunch and money for something to drink. All Eastern out-of-towners will be guests of Washington caravan members Tuesday night and Wednesday night and will be provided with a lunch when they leave for the West. on Thursday morning.

New York - June 23. Meet at Information Booth. Pennsylvania Station at 1:30 P.M. Day Light Time. You will catch The Colonial leaving the station at 2:00. Keep your eyes open so that you can all make the trip together. Remember your train fare (\$10.14 one way).

Newark - The Colonial leaves Newark at 2:15 P.M. Day Light Time and, it is a short stop so be ready. Cost from Newark to Washington one way (\$9.85).

Baltimore -The Colonial leaves Baltimore at 5:20. Again it is a short stop.

Washington - Thursday, June 25.7:00 A.M. Please be on time.

One late person can hold up the whole caravan and has done so in the past. Meet at 3731 North Glebe Road, directions above.

Chicago - Friday afternoon, 2:00 P.M. One of our vehicles will pick people up at 556 Cherry Street in Winnetka. This vehicle will bring the kids to Michigan Dunes State Park at Lake Side Michigan. Please have everything ready so that all gear can be packed quickly and we can get on the road.

8. Spending Money.

- a. Spending money can be a problem. The only real need we have ever seen for any spending of money is to buy pottery, jewelry etc. as mementos of the Southwest. We have learned that \$30 is an absolute maximum. Many kids have found that \$20 is plenty. We would therefore like to set an absolute maximum of \$30, and out of this each will have to buy his own hat. We want this money to be in travelers checks and to be sent by mail to us at the ranch. We will keep this, and the kids will draw from this as they need.
- b. Boots - If anyone is planning to buy boots in New Mexico we ask that this money be sent to us before the caravan leaves. This should be specified as money for boots. We have found that the most practical boots cost \$17. We also ask that the shoe size be sent to us with the check so that the boots can be ordered in advance.
- c. Hats - Hats are required and will cost anywhere from \$5-7. They should be bought out of spending money as mentioned above. It will facilitate the ordering of hats in advance if everyone can send their hat size to us immediately at our home address. Then we can see that these hats are ordered and are ready for the kids when they arrive at the ranch.
- d. Film - We have found that it is most adviseable for kids to bring an ample supply of film with them. This saves many last minute trips back and forth to town. We can do a good deal of developing of black and white at the ranch but all colored film will have to be sent away.

e. Stationery and Stamps - We always have stationery and stamps at the ranch, but our budget does not allow for the supplying of stamps to everyone. If stamps are bought in the office of the ranch it means too much minute bookkeeping, so we ask that everyone bring an ample supply of stamps and stationery with them.

9. Spending Money En Route - We do not want the spending of money en route to become an issue. We have tried to find a sensible way to limit the amount of money carried by kids on the trip. We ask that no one carry more than \$4. It is a great temptation for those who have it to carry more, but trust us that we have found it does not work. It only means that some stop at every gas stop spending money when others do not have it. " We ask everyone to cooperate and realize that we ask this for good reasons. Please do not anyone be tempted to stick extra in his or her wallet thinking that it does not matter. If everyone is willing to accept these things that we ask it makes everything easier for everyone.

10. Address at the Ranch - Cibola, San Cristobal, New Mexico.

11. Telephone - Unfortunately because of great pressure for telephones end the changing from operators to dial system in our area, we will be unable to have a phone et our ranch until July 15. We are sorry but there is nothing we can do about it. In emergencies we can always be reached by telegram.

Best of Everything, See You Soon.

(Signatures S and E)

Sandy and Eleanor

[Supplied by Ann Milstein.]