MORE SPECIAL PROGRAMMING ADDED TO GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN CAMPOUT SCHEDULE

Written by Landis Wofford, Grandfather Mountain
Thursday, 14 June 2012 15:26

The Grandfather Mountain Naturalist staff has made several additions to this year's first annual Grandfather Mountain Campout. Hosted by the Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation, the Campout offers participants unique, never-before-available opportunities on the Mountain and takes place July 27-29. Highlighting the additions is the "Grandfather Night Sky" program for Saturday evening, led by Tom Blevins of the Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club. This informal discussion will astound and educate guests as they gaze up at the night sky over Grandfather's mile-high peaks. Guests will observe and learn about stars, constellations and planets with the naked eye as well as a high-powered telescope. This event is weather permitting. There must be a clear view of the mountain sky for this to take place.

Another addition to the Campout schedule is Native American Games. Throughout the weekend there will be a basket of authentic Native American games and toys for all to enjoy. Naturalist Staff will provide instruction on the games and campout participants are invited to participate in activities that the native people of this country have enjoyed for generations.

During this campout, guests will spend up to three days and two nights camping in MacRae Meadows in between organized events all over the Mountain. Grandfather's education and interpretive staff will be present in the camp area to assist novice campers, answer questions and even offer campfire treats and activities. The campsite will be safe, cater to all levels of camping experience and welcomes families, couples and solo adventurers throughout this weekend of wonder.

"We'll have staff present at the camp area at all times," said Jesse Pope, director of education and natural resources at Grandfather Mountain. "Our goal is to provide a safe environment at the Campout, but also to facilitate a learning environment."

The schedule and registration for the Grandfather Mountain Campout is available on www.grandfather.com. Registration forms must be printed and mailed in. Those who wish to register for a guided hike and/or a Behind the Scenes Tour must be sure their registration is received by July 25. Registration for the campout must be submitted by July 27. For registration questions please call 828-733-4326.

The Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation established to preserve Grandfather Mountain, operate the nature park sustainably in the public interest, provide an exceptional experience for guests, and inspire them to be good stewards of the earth’s resources. For more information, visit www.grandfather.com or call 800-468-7325.