1st BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROO
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29 August 2008 Ref: Troop 2008/8

RE: SCOUTING IN THE SPRING

Dear Parents and scouts

Although we are still officially in winter, the green shoots and blossoms on the trees, as well as 27 temperatures let us know that spring is just around the corner. By now you have hopefully noticed that the committee has begun a much-needed paint of the hall in anticipation of new season. There is still a great deal of work to be done though, many windows need replacing, the gutters and window-frames need sanding down and painting, and the floor is in urgent need of attention. If you can lend a hand or know of where we can get cheap building supplies, please contact Penny on 083 267 6853.

There are several exciting troop events coming up just around the corner.

Firstly, Ricardo Peneda will be running his Explorer Expedition to Spionkop Battlefield in KZN. This trip is open to the troop and will take place from 12 to 14 September 2008. It will replace the troop hike scheduled for 5 to 7 September. Letters will be sent out shortly detailing what will be happening on this trip, but if you are interested please contact Ricardo.

Secondly, from 26 to 28 September 2008 the District Compo Camp will be taking place at Gilbanken. The cost is R150 per scout and will include all food for the weekend except for the Friday evening. Entries are closing soon, so please let your PL know by no later than 31 August whether you would like to attend or not. We will then decide how many teams we will be entering and who will be selected to represent the troop. If you are selected, then your R150,00 needs to be paid in full by 5 September 2008 in order to allow us to enter (entry fees need to be paid in full early in September). At this stage the troop has won every district trophy this year, and it would be nice to make a clean sweep of it!

Finally, on 4 October 2008 from 18h30 the Group will be celebrating its 80th Birthday in style. The event will take place at the Scout Hall and will include a three-course meal and entertainment. Cubs, scouts, rovers and scouters are asked to attend in uniform, with other visitors wearing smart-casual clothing. All parents, friends of the Group and ex-members are more than welcome to attend.

Tickets cost R120 per person, R90 for children under 10. Tables of eight are available, and if you book a table the eighth ticket is free. Please confirm your bookings by no later than 25 September 2008 with either me or Penny Lucas (083 267 6853).

There will be a spring clean of the hall prior to the 80th. Details will be sent out shortly, but all scouts are asked to make a concerted effort to help out and to ensure the hall is fit for an octogenarian.

Finally, congratulations must go out to JP Browne who recently successfully completed the Weston PLTU course. I am confident that the skills he learnt on the course will be ploughed back into his patrol and help to make the Troop more dynamic than it already is.

Yours in scouting.

Andrew Campbell

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