



1st BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW

PO BOX 16117
DOWERGLEN
1612

3 December 2010
Ref: Troop 2010/09

Re: Final Announcements for 2010

Dear scouts and parents

We have once again reached the end of a busy year. Many of you will be leaving Johannesburg for the holiday season and we wish you a relaxing break and a safe journey. Scouts will reopen on 14 January 2011.

Congratulations:

Keegan Reynolds, Calvin Knoessel, Cameron Knoessel, Ryan Borrett, Tristan Quigley and Ross Robertson were recently invested into the troop. We wish you a long and happy stay with the troop. Good luck with the scouting trail ahead. As a result of the investitures, Keegan Reynolds and Robert Jones both earned their silver recruiter badges. Hopefully they will soon have their gold recruiter badges!

Robin Serafino and Dean Theron were recently awarded their second stripes. We trust that they will live up to the trust which has been placed in them and provide valuable leadership to their patrols.

At the recent AGM Robert Jones received the prize for best attendance in 2010, Robin Serafino was named Most Improved Scout for 2010 and Ashton Du Toit was named Scout of the Year for 2010. The Sable Patrol won the 2010 Patrol of the Year competition. Well done to all of you!

In other news, Sable Patrol recently held a patrol meeting and a patrol camp, putting them in the lead for the 2011 Patrol of the Year Competition. Ask your patrol leader about holding your own patrol activities in order to catch up with Sable.

Consent Forms:

Attached to this letter is an annual consent form for 2011. Please fill it in and return it to me by no later than 31 January 2011. Scouts without annual consent forms will regrettably not be allowed to take part in ANY scout activities (including troop meetings) after 31 January 2011.

be prepared.....

Troop Scouter:
Assistant Troop Scouters:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 (advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za)
Mark Brown 082 788 0139 (Mark.brown@mweb.co.za)
Warrick Muller 076 153 9291 (wmuller1@oldmutualpfa.com)

Troop Fundraiser – 16 December 2010:

Sufficient scouts have responded positively to this event for the troop to take part. Details of the event will be furnished directly to those who will be assisting with the event. Those who have not yet responded please respond as quickly as possible to enable the smooth running of the event.

Bored during the holidays?

The long summer holidays are going to last roughly a month. If you find yourself without anything to do during the holidays, why not look at an interest badge? The requirements of all the interest badges can be found at www.scouting.org.za.

A number of scouts have also expressed an interest in being tested on advancement work during the holidays. Scouts are welcome to contact scouters in order to arrange for badge testing during this time.

2011 Year Planner:

A year planner has been attached to this letter. Please keep this in a safe place as it will be of great assistance in planning your scouting for the year. A brief description of the activities in the year planner is set out below.

Please note the year planner is subject to change, although we will try to stick to it insofar as is possible.

AGM – An important meeting for parents where subs are set and concerns can be raised, it is also where many awards are made to scouts, including Scout of the Year and the Patrol of the Year.

AIR CHARGE – This is a course run by Province and is only open to older scouts. Scouts who pass this course will be entitled to take their scouts onto air fields (under proper supervision) and will be able to do air-related activities with their patrol provided that qualified professionals assist the patrol.

BP SUNDAY AND GALA – This annual service celebrates the birthday of Lord Baden-Powell and is normally followed by the District Gala. The 2011 celebrations will be hosted by Hellenic Scout Group at SAHETI School.

CAMPFIRE LEADERS COURSE – This course is run by Province and is only open to older scouts. On this course you will learn how to make campfires, how to plan a campfire programme, how to make flames burn with different colours and other pyrotechnic tricks.

CUB NIGHT HIKE – Each year the troops run bases for the cubs in the District on their annual night hike. How creative are you in planning bases?

GROUP FUN DAY – Cubs, scouts, rovers and parents of the group meet here for a fun activity where you get to know each other better. In 2010 the Group went hiking in the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve.

KIM SHIELD – This competition is run at Provincial level and normally attracts over a hundred patrols. It is similar to the NRD Boot Hike, but is larger and normally run during the day.

KONTIKI – This Provincial Competition is run at Murray Park in Springs each year. Troops race against the clock to build a seaworthy raft which they then spend the weekend on. In 2011 Kontiki will visit Rome.

LDC TRAINING – Province is offering day-long courses on various items of interest to senior scouts. More details will be provided closer to the time.

NRD BOOT HIKE – This night-time activity will see your patrol hiking between exciting bases. Can you successfully navigate between the bases and keep your wits about you to finish all the bases successfully?

NRD COMPO CAMP – How well does your patrol camp? Do you know how to do it in style? Can you show the other patrols up by building your own table, cooking over an open fire and successfully competing in various activities over the weekend?

NRD COOKING COMP – This is the District Cooking Competition. In 2010 fifteen patrols competed to show that they could create the most delicious meal over an open fire. Can your patrol lift the trophy in 2011?

NRD CHALLENGE – The District Challenge is issued each year by the troop that won it the previous year. In years gone past the challenges have included paintball, mini-soccer and basketball. This year Kengray will issue the challenge.

NRD GO CART COMPO – Can your patrol build and race its own go-cart down the slopes of Bedfordview? In previous years go-carts have reached over 70 km per hour.

NRD PIONEERING COMPO – One of the most difficult competitions on the District Calendars, in this completion you will need to prove your skills in building bridges, towers and other items with nothing but rope and poles.

PATROL CAMP – Can your patrol work together to plan and put together your very own patrol camp. Where will you go? What will you do? The world is your oyster.

PATROL HIKE – From the Drakensberg to the Magaliesberg, Wolkberg to Lydenburg, the spectacular scenery of South Africa awaits you. Plan your route, organise your equipment and get out there!

PLTC – This is a watered down version of PLTU for senior scouts and takes place over a weekend. Attendees will learn invaluable leadership skills.

PLTU – The ultimate leadership training course, the Patrol Leader Training Units are based at Gilwell, Florida (Gilten PLTU) and at Gilbanken, Bronkhorstspruit (Weston

PLTU). Gilten PLTU is looking at running a boys course in April which has yet to be confirmed. This course is by invitation only.

RECRUITMENT DAY – The troop is looking at running a recruitment day for new members early in the New Year. Patrol leaders who are available to assist are invited to attend.

TROOP CAMP – At the request of the COH it is anticipated that this camp will include boating and other water activities. If you would like to see other activities on this camp, please talk to your Patrol Leader.

TROOP COMPO CAMP – In addition to battling it out to see which patrol is the best camping patrol in the troop, scouts will receive invaluable training on this camp which will stand them in good stead for the District Compo Camp.

TROOP HIKE – If you enjoy the great outdoors and beautiful scenery than a troop hike is for you. There is nothing quite like sitting around a campfire after a day trekking through our beautiful country.

TROOP HOLIDAY – This fun excursion is longer than normal camps. The last troop holiday took place in Van Reenen on the KZN border and included boating, cycling, hiking and a visit to Isandlwana Battlefield. Chat to your patrol leader if you would like to see the troop going to a specific venue.

WATER CHARGE CERTIFICATE – Holders of Water Charge Certificates are able to take their patrols on water activities. The course advertised on the year planner is the basic oars charge. Other courses such as sailing and canoeing charges will also be run during the year. Only senior scouts may attend this course, and one will need to attend both the theory day and the practical component of the course.

WHITE STRIPE CAMP – By invitation only, this is a training camp for senior member of the troop on how to manage their patrols properly. There was very positive feedback on the camp held last year.

WHITE STRIPE DINNER – This prestigious event is run at District level and only Patrol Leaders and Seconds are invited.

WORLD JAMBOREE – Four scouts and two scouters from the troop will be going to Sweden in 2011 to attend the World Scout Jamboree. Some 25 000 scouts are expected to attend. The next Jamboree will be run in 2015. Scouts who want to attend the 2015 event should start working on their advancement now as you will require your First Class in order to attend.

ChI would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and a prosperous 2011. Drive safely and I hope to see you all in 2011.

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell