

# 1<sup>st</sup> BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW

[www.1stbedfordview.org.za](http://www.1stbedfordview.org.za)

GPS Co-Ordinates: 26° 10' 12" S 28° 08' 29" E

PO BOX 16117

DOWERGLEN

1612

15 October 2013

Ref: Troop 2013/07

## Re: Troop News

Dear scouts and parents

Congratulations to Douglas Grossett, Gordon Grossett, Christopher Woods, Keanan Nunn and Matthew Leishman who recently attended a survival camp run by Jan Smuts Scout Troop and who were awarded their Scoutcraft Survival Badges. Next stop ... Backwoodsman!

The troop held a very successful Dads 'n Lads camp in the Drakensberg Mountains in August. In addition to building an aerial runway and training their dads in some scouting skills, the lads learnt a bit about boating and about San paintings on the farm.



Two weeks ago the troop joined the Eastleigh Sea Scouts for an evening of fast, wet fun. Keeping upright in a polo-bat is not as easy as it looks, as a very wet Stephen Westhoff can attest, but the fast-paced canoe polo matches were a hit with all who attended.

The renovations of the upstairs patrol dens are also coming along nicely. A massive thanks to everyone who has contributed to this. At present the lights have been repaired, holes in the walls have been patched, every den now has a door and the dens should be painted within the next week or so. If you have helped out upstairs, you might want to have a look at the Handyman Badge. You might have done a lot more of this badge than you know, and the badge is a very useful one to hold as it counts towards the Explorer Advancement Badge.

### Investiture:

Please note that there will be an investiture this Friday (18 October 2013). Please make a special effort with your uniforms and to be at scouts on time.

### Recruitment Day:

The Northrand District has organised a massive recruitment drive for troops within the District on Saturday 19 October 2013. The event will take place at the Jan Smuts Scout Hall in Beech Avenue, Marais Steyn Park, Edenvale.

be prepared.....

Troop Scouter:  
Assistant Troop Scouter:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 ([advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za](mailto:advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za))  
Stephen Westhoff 084 744 9100 ([StephenW@cubicool.co.za](mailto:StephenW@cubicool.co.za))

The recruitment drive is taking the form of a Leadership Training Course (LTC) for eleven-year-olds at various primary schools in the Greater-Bedfordview / Edenvale area. The hope is that in addition to giving a valuable service to the community, by giving the scholars a taste of scouts that they will want to join troops in the area. Jan Smuts grew their troop from 6 scouts to over 40 in two years using this system.

There has been a request for invested scouts to take part in the LTC so that the participants feel part of a patrol and to increase the fun. To this end I would make an appeal to all those who can to attend the LTC.

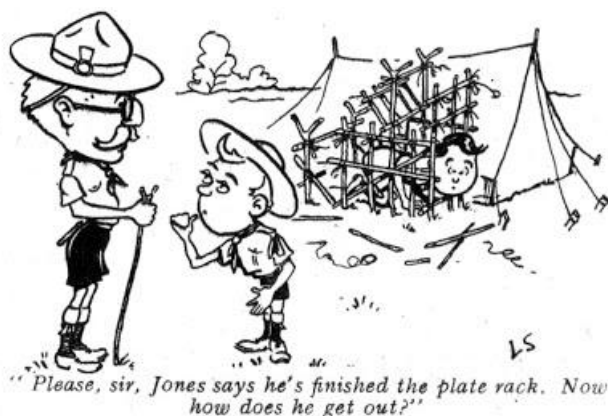
You will require the following items:

- A consent form (attached)
- Full scout uniform with a hanger to put it on
- A troop golf-shirt (if you have one)
- A cap (preferably a Bedfordview cap)
- A water bottle
- Sun cream
- Black shorts (if you have)
- Takkies, socks etc to change into for during the day
- A campfire blanket (if you have one – the day ends with a campfire)

The LTC starts at 07h00 and you can be collected at 21h00. Parents and family are welcome at the campfire, which starts at 18h30. If you cannot make the course, I would encourage you to attend the campfire in full scout uniform. There is no cost for the course and your meals for the day will be provided, save for Saturday dinner. Wors rolls will however be on sale at the campfire.

If you can attend please let me know by Wednesday 16 October 2013. Please also let me know if you have any special dietary requirements.

The Jan Smuts scout troop will be camping at their hall on the Friday evening. If you like, you can go directly to the Jan Smuts hall after scouts on Friday evening and camp there, which may be easier than getting up early on the Saturday morning to get to the Jan Smuts hall. If you are going to do this, please let me know.



### **Group AGM:**

The group AGM will be taking place on 8 November 2013 at 19h00 (as opposed to the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2013 as originally advertised). This is a very important meeting for the following reasons:

- Awards for the scout of the year, most improved scout and best patrol will be made at the AGM. Scouts should attend the AGM in full scout uniform;
- The fees for the upcoming year will be set. This is your opportunity to have your say as to what scouts will cost for the upcoming year and to ask questions about how your funds were spent during the year;
- The group committee will be elected. We are in the lucky position that every year parents normally volunteer beforehand for the committee, but the general body of parents needs to confirm that they are happy with the new committee members. If you want to stand on the 2013 / 2014 committee or find out more about what the committee does, please contact either me or a current committee member as soon as possible;
- You will have an opportunity after the meeting to chat with the scouters about your son's progress (or lack thereof) should you desire.

The meeting normally lasts in the region of 40 minutes and will be followed by a bring and braai at the hall. Braai fires will be provided and I would encourage everyone to join us for a bit of socialising and quality family time.

### **Cooking Compo:**

The cooking competition will be taking place at the 1<sup>st</sup> Kengray Scout Hall in Highland Road, Kensington, Johannesburg on 29 November 2013. This will be the last formal meeting of the year.



### **End-of-year Camp**

The end-of-year troop camp will be taking place from 6 – 8 December 2013. Details will follow shortly, but at this stage we are looking at a camp on the Vaal River. Keep the date open!

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### October:

19 Recruitment Drive – Jan Smuts Scout Hall

#### November

8 Group AGM

29 Northrand District Cooking Competition (last meeting of the year)

#### December

6 – 8 Troop Camp

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell