

1st BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW

www.1stbedfordview.org.za

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

PO BOX 16117

DOWERGLEN

1612

17 November 2013

Ref: Troop 2013/08

Re: Final News for 2013

Dear scouts and parents

A very warm welcome to Matthew Holfeld who was invested since the last newsletter. It is great to have another scout and we wish you all the best on your path to Springbok. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Dave Nunn, who has agreed to lend a hand to the troop as a Troop Helper. Many thanks Dave!

Congratulations must go out to the various scouts who received awards at the recent AGM. Keanan Nunn received the certificate for the best attendance for 2013, Dhruva Dulani was named "Most Improved Scout" for 2013, Douglas Grossett was named "Scout of the Year" for 2013 and Springbok Patrol won the 2013 Inter-Patrol Competition.



Fun on the Dads and Lads Camp in August

On a more sombre note, I would like to extend the condolences of the troop to Martin and the Kleer family as well as to Michael and Stuart and the Omand and Huddy Families. All of these scouts recently lost a grandfather. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your loved ones.

AGM Report-Back

My thanks to all the parents and scouts who attended a very successful AGM. A special thanks to the 2013 Committee for keeping the Group in a healthy financial position as well as to those parents who have volunteered to stand on the 2014 Committee. If you are keen on serving on the Committee but were unable to attend the AGM please let me know and I will put you in contact with the Committee, who are always happy to have an extra helping hand.



Troop Scouter:
Assistant Troop Scouter:
Troop Helper:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 (advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za)
Stephen Westhoff 084 744 9100 (StephenW@cubicool.co.za)
David Nunn 082 453 8607 (dave.nunn@bidfood.co.za)

Subs for the upcoming year have been set at R1440 per scout, with a 5% discount for families with more than one child in the scout group. Invoices should be sent out shortly.

Scouts on Friday 22 November 2013

The programme on Friday 22 November 2013 will be taking place at Arrowe Park in Benoni, just off the Atlas Road off-ramp. Dean Theron will be running an Orienteering Game as part of his Explorer badge, so dust off your mapping skills and prepare to race! We will be meeting at the scout hall at 19h00 and will have a formal opening (with uniform) before changing into some more comfortable clothes and leaving for Benoni. We expect to be finished by 22h00 back at the scout hall.

If any parents can assist with transport, please let me know. If you will not be attending please make an effort to excuse yourself as this will impact on transport arrangements.

District Cooking Competition:

The last meeting for the year will take place on 29 November 2013 at the 1st Kengray Scout Hall in Highland Road, Kensington (opposite Kensington Ridge school between Queen and Royal Oak streets). The competition commences at 19h00 and should be over by 21h30. Scouts should be dropped and collected at the Kengray Scout Hall. Please wear your full scout uniform, but make sure that you have suitable clothes to cook in, even if it is just an apron.



If you are, like me, a fan of “Master Chef” then this competition will be just up your alley. Take on the rest of the District with a slap-up three course meal. Show that you know how to slice and dice like a pro, that you can take the heat in the kitchen and then take some tips in a “Master Class” and use them to produce a mouth-watering dessert.

You need at least four scouts in a patrol to enter and it is my hope that all three of the patrols will take up the challenge. In addition the 1st Bedfordview Guides will be taking part in the competition, so it is up to you to show that the scouts are far better chefs than the guides.

Your PL will be provided with further information as soon as it becomes available, but in the interim please let him know if you are available for this competition. Each patrol will be responsible for sourcing their own ingredients, so the cost will depend on how thrifty your patrol can be.

Troop Camp:

A campsite just below The Barrage on the Free State side of the Vaal River has been booked for the upcoming troop camp. Scouts attending the camp will wake up metres from the mighty Vaal River and all the fun activities that that entails. Arrangements

have already been made with the local sea scout group to spend at least one day of the camp tubing down the Vaal.

The camp is scheduled to take place from 6 – 8 December 2013. Scouts can be



dropped at the scout hall at 07h00 on Friday 6 December, alternatively you can spend the Thursday evening at the scout hall, which will be open from 20h00 on Thursday 5 December 2013. I would encourage scouts to spend the Thursday evening at the hall as this means we will not be waiting for anyone on the Friday morning. A light cereal breakfast will be available for those spending the evening at the hall. Scouts can be collected from the scout hall at 17h00 on Sunday 8 December 2013.

The mighty Vaal at sunset

The cost of the camp is R330 per person, which will cover camping fees and food for the camp. As always, invested scouts that have a problem paying the fees for a camp may approach the committee for financial assistance. Such requests will be kept strictly confidential.

Camp fees may be paid into the following account:

1st Bedfordview Scout Group
Standard Bank
Eastgate branch # 018505
Account number: 022646221
Ref: Vaal Camp + your name

Scouts are requested to RSVP for the camp by 24 November 2013 and to pay the camping fees in full by 29 November 2013 to enable us to properly plan for the camp. The camp fees are regrettably not refundable save in the event of an unforeseen emergency such as the loss of a loved one.

When you RSVP please indicate whether you will be arriving at the hall on the Thursday evening or on the Friday morning. I do not anticipate transport problems, but if your parents are available to assist with transport to or from the camp please make mention of this in case we have more scouts attending than we presently anticipate. A reply slip can be found at the end of this letter to make sure you provide the correct information when RSVPing.

Friends who have been visiting the troop but who are not yet invested scouts may attend the camp. I have also had one request from a scout who would like to attend only part of the camp. Scouts in this situation can chat to me directly to make arrangements to accommodate them. I would encourage as many scouts as possible to attend the camp, which in addition to being a great deal of fun should also be a great

opportunity to hone scouting skills and to maybe get an item or two signed off of your advancement.

A full kit list can be found at the end of this letter.

I hope to see as many of you as possible on the troop camp, which looks set to be a great deal of fun!

Year Planner for 2014:

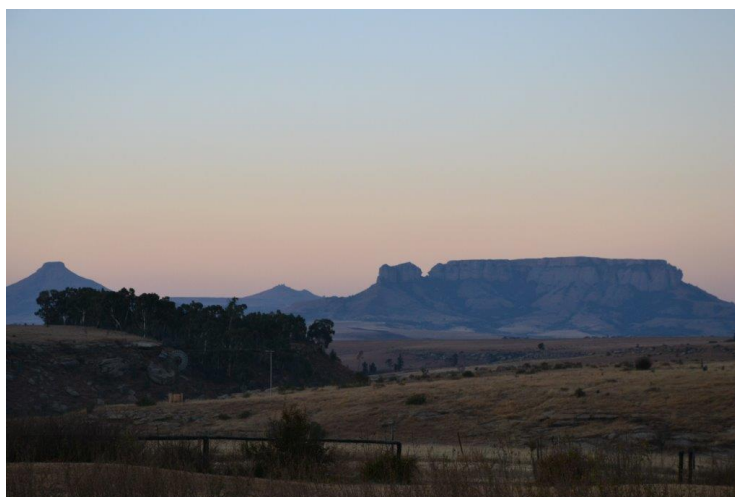
The year planner for 2014 is in the process of being prepared and should be distributed shortly, together with Annual Consent Forms for 2014. I have included some events which have already been set for 2014 below to assist with planning for the new year. Scouts are requested to return the annual consent form at their earliest possible convenience.

The first scout meeting of 2014 will be on 17 January 2014.

Patrol Dens:

We would like to make an appeal to anyone who has old book shelves, chairs, benches or similar items and who is prepared to donate these to the troop to please contact Stephen Westhoff. The dens are now painted and carpeting has been sourced, so once the carpets have been installed the next step is to make sure that the dens are comfortably furnished.

My thanks once again to everyone who has put in so much effort into making the revamp of the patrol dens happen.



The view from Rosedale Farm – Dads & Lads

Upcoming Events:

November

- | | |
|----|---|
| 22 | Orienteering Programme at Arrowe Park |
| 29 | Northrand District Cooking Competition (last meeting of the year) |

December

- | | |
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| 6 – 8 | Troop Camp |
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January

17 First Scout Meeting of 2014
18 Northrand District White Stripe Dinner

February

15 – 16 Northrand District Boot Hike
23 BP Sunday

Warm Wishes:



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support over 2013. May our Christian scouts all have a blessed Christmas and may everyone have a prosperous and peaceful 2014. Those who are travelling please have a safe journey and I look forward to seeing you in the new year well rested and rearing to go!

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

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell

REPLY SLIP

Name: _____ will / will not be attending the Vaal Camp. I will arrive on Thursday evening / Friday morning.

My parents can / cannot help with transport.

VAAL CAMP KIT LIST

- Sleeping bag with a pillow and a compact ground mattress
- A rain coat
- A hat (preferably one that can tie onto your head so you can wear it when tubing down the Vaal)
- A swimming costume and towel
- Full scout uniform together with a hanger to hang it on
- A bathroom kit (comb, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, shampoo, sponge, shaving kit (if you shave), face cloth etc)
- Insect repellent
- Sun cream (high protection factor, should be water resistant)
- Any personal medication
- Shoes suitable for wearing on your feet in the Vaal whilst we are tubing (watershoes or sandals that fasten onto your feet are ideal). This is compulsory.
- A 1 litre water bottle that can be tied onto a tube with a strap (if you do not have one, bring a regular bottle and an old orange bag with some string)
- A waterproof bag that you can store food in whilst we are tubing down the Vaal (if you lack a bag, try an ice-cream tub in an old orange bag with string)
- A torch with spare batteries
- A mess kit (plate, bowl, mug, knife, fork spoon etc)
- Shoes suitable for walking in
- 3 x socks
- 4 x underpants (one of these should be very old – there is very muddy commando course at the campsite)
- 4 x shirts (one will be worn in the river when tubing)
- 2 x shorts (one should be old, again for the muddy commando course)
- 1 x warm clothing for the evening
- A life jacket if you have one (we will provide you with jackets if you do not have your own, but if you have your own one this is generally much more comfortable)
- A duly completed consent form and health certificate (attached). Please note that the health certificate can only be completed immediately prior to the camp. No consent form, no camp!
- One or two plastic shopping bags to store laundry etc in
- A sense of fun and adventure!