



1st BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW

www.1stbedfordviewscouts.co.za

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/52684287286/>

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

PO BOX 16117

DOWERGLEN

1612

3 November 2017

Ref: Troop 2017/07

Dear scouts and parents

SPRING NEWSLETTER

A number of scouts have been quite busy since the last troop newsletter. Jarod Nunn has obtained his Pathfinder badge, Michael Omand has completed his First Aid and Advanced Navigation badges, Jason Bailie finished his Food for Life Silver Scoutcraft badge and Dylan Odgers obtained his Silver Recruiters badge. Congratulations to all of you.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Joshua Cook, Christian Reib and Dean Stones who have been invested since the last newsletter.

The troop has been particularly busy entering competitions and for last newsletter. We took part in the District Competition Camp, the Kim Shield Competition and the District Cooking Competition. The troop did particularly well in the latter two events, with the Wildebeest patrol coming eighth out of 47 patrols in Kim Shield, and with the four patrols obtain the following positions in the Cooking Compo out of 21 patrols entered:

Sable:	1 st
Wildebeest:	3 rd
Springbok:	5 th
Kudu:	15 th



Mandla clearing alien vegetation

The troop is also ran several events since the last newsletter, including a night hike at the Modderfontein Nature Reserve, a fire-fighting programme run at the SAEC Training Centre and a very successful Dads and Lads weekend at the LDYC club on the Vaal Dam.

Michael Omand also successfully completed his Springbok construction project at the hall and cleared invasive vegetation in the Bill Stewart Nature Reserve as part of his Service Project. These will hopefully be the first of many Springbok projects in the

be prepared.....

Troop Scouter:

Assistant Troop Scouters:

Junior Assistant Troop Scouter:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 (Andrew.campbell@scouts.org.za)

Stephen Westhoff 084 744 9100 (StephenW@cubicool.co.za)

Caleb Du Plooy 071 255 0266 (caleduplooy@gmail.com)

Douglas Grossett 072 591 0668 (wolffpotato@gmail.com)

near future. Michael has also won the prize having sold the most tickets to the Bingo Evening. Well done Michael!

“My School” Cards

Scouts South Africa has now joined the “My School” programme. By getting a “My School” card, you can help keep the cost of scouting down and directly support Our National Office. For more information on how to get involved with the “My School” programme, visit <https://www.scouts.org.za/>.



Group Website

The new group website is finally up and running. A massive thanks to Carol Bailie for all the hard work in getting this project off the ground. To visit the new website go to www.1stbedfordviewscouts.co.za.

Group AGM



A reminder that the group AGM will be taking place on Friday, 10 November 2017 at 19h00. The evening will commence with a prize-giving and the annual group photograph, so please do not be late. The actual AGM is not expected to take longer than 40 minutes. The AGM will be followed by a bring and braai.

The committee has done some excellent work over the past year and I think it's only fair that we show our appreciation and support them at the AGM. It is also important that we have a strong committee for the 2018 year as a number of scouts have indicated an interest in attending the World Scout Jamboree, which will require considerable fund raising.

Compo Camp 2017 Team

If any parent is interested in joining the committee, please let me know prior to the AGM so that I can explain what being on the committee entails.

Carols by Campfire

The group will once again be hosting a Carols by Campfire service on the evening of Friday, 1 December 2017. The evening is open to parents, friends and family in addition to cubs and scouts. Full details of this event will be sent out shortly, but in the interim it would be appreciated if anyone who owns a karaoke system and is prepared to lend it to the group for the evening would contact me.

Each year this event has improved and I think that having the carols displayed on a karaoke system is the next logical step in our quest to make this evening even more of a success than it already is.

Year-end Camp

Michael Omand will be running annual end of year camp as part of his Springbok award. The camp is scheduled to take place between 10 and 15 December 2017 at a venue in the Magaliesberg mountain range. The initial correspondence on this camp has already been sent out.

I would encourage as many of you as possible to attend this camp. In addition to providing Michael with much-needed support in obtaining Scouting's top award, the camp should also offer attendees an excellent opportunity to obtain advancement. This should be particularly useful for those scouts wishing to attend the World Scout Jamboree in 2019, as attendees need to have obtained a certain advancement level in order to qualify for this event.



Michael atop his Construction Project

If you have friends who are potential recruits for the troop who are interested in attending the camp please contact Michael to see if there is space available for them. The camp is traditionally open to “visitors” to the troop.

World Jamboree 2019 – 22 July to 2 August 2019 (plus a pre-tour)

The closing date for entries for the World Scout Jamboree has been extended to 30 April 2018. This Jamboree promises to be the adventure of a lifetime and I would encourage all scouts who can afford this to give serious consideration to attending. If you missed the information session run at our hall, please feel free to ask me any questions that you may have about this event and I will endeavour to assist you.

Entry forms for this event can be found at www.scouts.org.za/2017/07/26/apply-attend-usa-24wsj/. The event is open to scouts and adult leaders born before 21 July 2005 and will take place in West Virginia, USA. The event will also include a pre-tour of New York and Washington DC.

Please note that any applications need to be approved by the Court of Honour and signed by me, so do not leave this until the last minute. Get your forms in sooner

rather than later to ensure that the necessary approval is obtained timelessly. This will also assist the organisers with planning and keeping the cost of the Jamboree to a minimum.

Cell phones at scouts

It has been brought to my attention that a number of scouts, and particularly older scouts, have been bringing cell phones to troop meetings. Kindly note that cell phones are not welcome at scouts and should be left at home. The same holds true for cell phones on camp.



Keanan tubing at the Dads and Lads

On occasion an exception to this rule will be made where safety concerns warrant the use of cell phones (for example on hikes with scouters will not be present). These exceptions are generally only made for Patrol Leaders. On these rare occasions Patrol Leaders will be advised that they may bring cell phones to scouts before the event.

Patrol leaders may not bring cell phones to scouts as a matter of course though and, save for these exceptions, the ban on cell phones applies to them as well. Your anticipated cooperation with this rule is appreciated.

90th Birthday Badge Competition

Next year the 1st Bedfordview Scout Group will be turning 90. As part of the celebrations we will be having a commemorative campfire blanket badge made. To ensure that the badge truly reflects the spirit of scouting in Bedfordview, we will be running a competition to design this badge amongst the current members of the Group.



2017 Dads and Lads Attendees

The competition is open to all uniformed members of the Scout Group and will close on 26 January 2018. Entrants may submit up to 3 designs for the badge and these can be emailed to me at: Andrew.campbell@scouts.org.za. A suitable prize will be arranged for the winning design and my decision with regards the winning design is final. Good luck!

Village Rover Crew

Many of you know that the Bedfordview Rover Crew is the oldest continuously running crew in South Africa, a fact which the Group is justly proud. What many of you may not know they is that in years past there existed a second Rover Crew which catered for young ladies who wanted to get involved with the fun of the roving.



Sable Patrol won the 2017 Cooking Compo

After an absence of several decades, the Village Rover Crew has opened its doors again and will be offering roving to young ladies in the Greater Bedfordview Edenvale area. If you know of young ladies between the ages of 18 and 30 who are interested in roving, please put them in contact with the new chairman of the Village Rover Crew, Melanie Welgemoed. Melanie can be contacted on 073 662 0240 or melanie.welgemoed@avon.com.

Excusing Yourself from Scouts

A reminder that if you cannot attend scouts on a particular evening, please excuse yourself timelessly on your patrol whatsapp group. Sometimes this can only be done at the last minute, for example if you are ill, but it would be appreciated if scouts could make a concerted effort to excuse themselves at the earliest possible moment.

All too often scouts who cannot attend scouts due to school events planned weeks before only let their PL know an hour or two before scouts. By this stage the programme has been finalised and often items have been purchased for the programme. By excusing yourself timelessly, we can often save money on programme items and ensure that the programme is correctly planned for the number of scouts attending.

My thanks to those who have been excusing themselves timelessly up to this point.

Patrol Attendance

Remember that each patrol should be striving for a 75% aggregate attendance over the year. Are you doing your bit? Why not check out the attendance register on the notice board to see your personal attendance?

	Kudu	Sable	Springbok	Wildebeest
July	54,16%	53,13%	46,43%	53,13%
August	70,83%	59,38%	29,17%	64,29%
September	48,57%	50%	52,02%	62,86%
October	57,73%	56,25%	57,14%	75%
Average for Year	59,26%	57,25%	53,35%	67,26%

Patrol Points

The points for the inter-patrol competition will be announced at the AGM. As the patrol of the year trophy is awarded based on these points these points are not disclosed in this newsletter.

Upcoming Activities at a Glance

November:

10 Group AGM and prize giving

December:

1 Carols by Campfire (last programme of the year)

8 – 16 SANJAMB

10 – 15 Year-end camp

January:

19 First Programme of 2018

February:

25 BP Sunday

Yours in scouting

A Campbell

Andrew Campbell



Canoeing on the 2017 Dads and Lads