



**21st World Scout Jamboree England 2007
Southern Region Newsletter Number 7
January 8, 2007**

It is finally 2007 and now just 200 Days until the Jamboree!!! During this year Scouts all over the world will be celebrating various events related to the 100th anniversary of the Scouting movement. At this moment the "down-under" Scouts of Australia are having their 21st National Scout Jamboree and you will have a chance to ask them how it went when you see some of them in England in July and August. Several other countries are also holding National Jamborees or Moots (for Rover Scouts) this year - Denmark, Kenya, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland and Yemen - just to name a few. And there are many other Scouting conferences and events for leaders as well - all around the World. But **NOTHING** will be more "**bodacious**" than our experience together at the 21st WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE!!

There is great news to report on our "numbers." We have a capacity for 684 Scouts and Venturers in our 19 units from the Southern Region. As of this moment we have a total of 679 applications. That means there are only **5** more spots left to be filled. After we fill those 5 spots we will assign applicants either to another region or to the national waiting list and there is no guarantee of a spot in our Southern Region contingent unless somebody else drops out unexpectedly. SO.....this is really really really your last chance to recruit a buddy who has been talking about it but has not signed up.

PASSPORTS: Most of you should have your passport by now.....do you??? If not, why not??? As always I will remind you about the extra passport photos and the photocopy of your birth certificate for your unit leader. And remember that if you are not yet 14 years of age, both parents will have to go with you to make your passport application and that your passport must be valid for at least six (6) months after our scheduled return date from England which is August 9, 2007. **GET IT DONE, GET IT DONE, GET IT DONE!!!!**

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: Please "do your best" to stay current on your Jamboree payments. At this point in time you should have made a total of \$2,800 in payments. Your next payment is due on or before February 28, 2007 and now that we will be starting a waiting list it is even more important that you stay current with your payments.....

- Sixth payment of \$575 due on February 28, 2007 and
- Final payment of balance due on May 30, 2007 - amount to be determined.

CONTACT FROM YOUR UNIT LEADER: Your assigned unit leader should be in touch with you more and more to discuss your payment status, the pre-jamboree camp date and location, travel details, and lots of other issues. Let me know if you have not heard from him (or her)!

UNIT ORGANIZATION: Now that the final numbers are in, we will be making a few final adjustments in the assignment of Scouts and Venturers among our provisional jamboree troops and crews. There is a maximum of 36 youth in any unit and units in some of our provisional areas ended up with a few more and some with a few less. One of our unit leaders will be contacting you if this affects you. We are certainly trying to keep Scouts from the same area together unless it is impossible to do so.

The following paragraph is a repeat from newsletter number 6.....

MEDICAL FORMS: There is one and only one allowable form for your medical history and that is the one that can be found on the jamboree website. Look under the "FORMS" heading and download it for your use. You may visit the doctor and get your form completed ANYTIME. If you happen to have one of the "MEDICAL ALERT" conditions (see the bottom of page 3 of the Medical Form for a list of those conditions) then your form MUST be completed and mailed to the BSA National Office on or before February 15, 2007. Be sure and keep a copy of the form for your unit leader! If you do not have any of those conditions then you will simply give the ORIGINAL of the completed form to your unit leader, probably at your pre-jamboree camp, unless your unit leader requests you to submit it earlier.

UPDATED INFORMATION: I know that several of our units have already had a "first" meeting and several more units are meeting during the next month or so. This gives you a chance to get to know your unit leaders and your fellow Scouts/Venturers. Your leaders are well-informed and well-trained and should be able to answer most of your questions. But you are always welcome to give me a call (864.271.9857) or email (smart@worldjamboree.net) if you or your parents have any questions or concerns that have not been addressed. Continue to check the websites frequently for information from the BSA National Office and their world jamboree bulletins on-line which you can access on www.worldjamboree.net. And again remember to share ALL newsletters with your parents to keep them just as informed as you.

SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE: As experienced Scouts I am assuming that you ALL know that Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell was the Founder of the Scouting Movement. It is his "experimental camp" held at Brownsea Island in August 1907 that we mark as the first Scouting event and it is that date which we will celebrate in England. However, there are other important dates in 2007 to celebrate as well. Baden-Powell was born in London on February 22, 1857. So February 22, 2007 will mark the 150th anniversary of his birth and will be celebrated as "FOUNDERS DAY" worldwide. The 100th anniversary of his birth was celebrated at the last World Jamboree to be held in England in 1957. (There will actually be a "reunion" of Scouts who attended that jamboree during our jamboree this summer. Maybe some of you will get to return to England in 2057 for the next reunion like that!!!)

Anyway....perhaps you might consider asking the Scoutmaster or Advisor of your local unit to allow you to make a presentation about Baden-Powell during your home unit meeting that week in February. There is plenty of information about B-P on the internet and even a little bit in your Scout Handbook. He led a very interesting life and it is worth your time to know more.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007 TO ALL OF MY FELLOW SCOUTS!

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