

The BDU Troop Banner



WELCOME BACK

We're Back !

Welcome to another exciting season of Scouting in BDU.

Once again, our regular meetings will be at the Red Barn, Wednesday nights, from 7pm through 9pm.

Dues are still only \$1/week.

Each Scout will need their own copy of the Scout Handbook - in it they will keep the official record of their progress through the awards program.

Each Scouting family may also enjoy one copy the new Fieldbook for Canadian Scouting; updated for 1999.

Seneca Scouting Family Event This Saturday

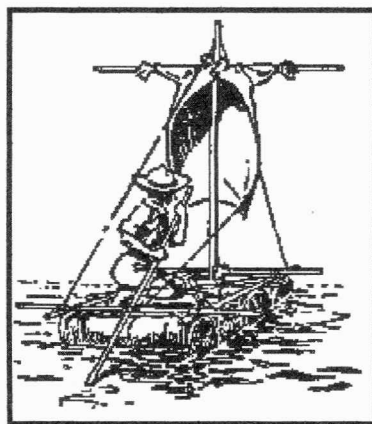
Our District Council is holding a "party" at the Red Barn this Saturday - 25 September - from 10:30am to 1:30pm. All levels of the Scouts Canada movement are asked to bring family and friends, and help us show our community how much *fun* Scouting can be.

We of BDUTroop plan to showcase our pioneering and campcraft skills. We also plan to run games, teach crafts, and generally *demonstrate* our program plans for 1999.

Please plan to join us and join in

This event promises to be a fun way to launch the new season, but to succeed we need your participation.

See you Saturday - 10:30am till 1:30pm!



WISE IN THE USE OF THEIR RESOURCES...

Welcome & Thanks to our Leadership Team

A big BDUTroop **welcome** to 3 new Scouters, this year! Ian McAusland ("Bagheera") and Glenn Chafe ("Kaa") will be familiar friends to "graduates" of our Mohawk Cub Pack. Sheila Williams brings a fresh new perspective to our team - expect to learn a lot about campcraft and cooking with fire.

Also returning this year is Steve Jones - as Skip - and the (seemingly) indefatigable Peter and Annette Zgeb.

On behalf of the youth and the Group Committee, we thank you all for your commitment of time and energy to the BDU Scouting program.

Let the fun begin!



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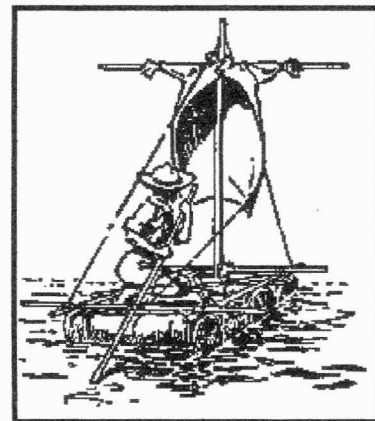
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The "BDU Troop Banner" is Your Paper

The BDU Troop Banner is our weekly newsletter. We use the Banner to communicate our plans, to share our triumphs, and to challenge each other to explore new possibilities.

Any member of the Troop is welcome to contribute articles and ideas to the Banner. Check out the Communicator Badge (page 170 of the new Handbook) and consider the possibilities...

White Wolf's Web Watch

BDU Troop has its own email account - BDUTroop@bigfoot.com - and all of our Scout Leaders are computer enthusiasts.

If you are interested in computers, programming, the Internet, etc..., then watch for this frequent feature of the Banner. Sometimes, old W² recommends a cool web site or two. Sometimes he passes on tips about how to search the web for information or other tips that may help with your homework or with Scouting projects.

For basic information on Scouting in Canada, you might start with <http://www.scouts.ca>.

For a more "provincial" perspective, try <http://www.qc.scouts.ca>.

For local news and views, with a strong "Cubbing" flavour to it, check out the fabulous **award-winning** site at <http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Gorge/1066/>; a site launched last year by Glenn Chafe - then Kaa of the BDU Mohawk Cub Pack.

This year Scouter Glenn is joining BDUTroop. W² is all "a-quiver" imagining the boost that Glenn can bring to our own fledgling Internet efforts.

BDUTroop launched our website last year, at <http://www.bigfoot.com/~BDUTroop>. Check out requirement number 5 in the Computing Badge on page 181 of the Scout Handbook,

and consider what you could add to our site, with a little help from a friend...

The Year in Review

We are still in the process of preparing our year's program plan, so additional details will follow, but in overview we see it going this way:

September Theme: Team Building
Key activities - Form patrols; plan overall program; get comfortable with each other. Family Event at Red Barn, 25 Sept.

October Theme: Outdoors
Key Activities - Prepare equipment and skills for Fall Camp; Fall Camp (possibly at Saranac Lake, NY?); Invest new recruits

November Theme: Food
Key Activities - annual Food Drive; cooking skills; fire building; gourmet camp cuisine; kitchen gadgets

December Theme: TBD
Key Activities - Xmas Break

January Theme: TBD
Key Activities -

February Theme: TBD
Key Activities - Winter Camp

March Theme: TBD
Key Activities - Scout Truck Races

April Theme: TBD
Key Activities - Easter Break, Spring Camp; Home and Garden Product Sale; Annual Easter Basket drive

May Theme: Pioneering
Key Activities - Tri-District Camp; Season ends

June Summer Vacation Begins
Key Activities - Year-end Banquet, Baie d'Urfe Days parade

July Summer Vacation Period
Key Activities - BDU Rocketeers Rocketry Club

August Summer Vacation Period
Key Activities - 1-week Summer Camp at Tamaracouta (tentative)

As you see, there are still a few gaps in our schedule. What would you like to see added? Let us know!

Some ideas that Skip is thinking about:

- organize a BDU\Ste. Anne "Scouting Reunion" as a millennium project. When did Scouting begin in BDU? Who built the cabin in the Arboretum? Who first bought the canoes & how were they used? Many of the folks who were themselves Cubs, Scouts and leaders in BDU and Ste Anne during this past century might enjoy sharing pictures and memories with us and with each other. We could advertise for pictures and stories; use our Web site to find those who have since moved away; host a real and/or a virtual reunion party, create and post memorial plaques, which we invite reunion participants to sign...
- plan a conservation project involving the Ecomuseum - Helping launch Dr. Bider's Chimney Swift* project, for instance. (*Dr. Bider explained to Skip, last year, that he would like to create a tall chimney stack as a home for the local Chimney Swift, whose habitat is rapidly disappearing.
- design one of those fabulous trailers that we see at Tri-District camps.... Maybe even build one in time for this year's Tri-District? Scouter McAusland has generously donated a trailer to the Troop this year! Now comes the *easy* part - designing plans for it, building it, *using* it.
- plan ahead to the year 2001 & the National Jamboree on Prince Edward Island. What will it cost? How many of us can hope to go? How would we get there?
- paint those new canoe racks before winter buries them (again)...

What ideas do you have? Remember, this is *your* program.

END NOTE

Wise in the Use of Their Resources

A note about the credo which BDU Troop has adopted for the Banner.... It is from the final line of the Scout Law:

*"A Scout is helpful and trustworthy, kind and cheerful, considerate and clean, and **wise in the use of all resources.**"*

We learn the law as part of our studies for investiture, and most of us can repeat them by heart, if challenged. How often do we challenge ourselves, in our daily decisions, and choose the course with the best overall outcome? What are our "resources"? Is there a difference between being "smart" and being "wise"? Is Scouting something we do on Wednesday nights, or part of who we are?

I hope the credo helps to remind the BDU Troop of the whole law, and that you will challenge yourselves once in a while, in your daily routines, to ask if you are being wise in the use of your resources.

Yours in Scouting,



White Wolf ,
 BDUTroop@bigfoot.com
 (Steve "Skip" Jones)

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CAMPING UPDATE

Fall Camp Next Week

Skip pays the balance of our Fall Camp fees to Scouts Canada tomorrow. As per last week's Banner, tonight was the due date for fall camp registration cheques - payable to Scouts Canada, Baie d'Urfe.

If you forgot, *please* be certain to bring the money next week - we need it to buy our groceries.

Remember to Prepare!

Don't forget to look through your Scout handbook to see which badges you will try to complete on this camp.

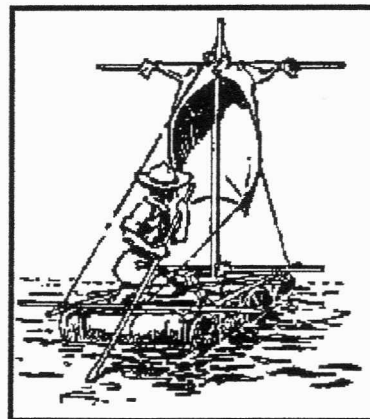
It is so easy to just show up, go, have a great time & come back, with little or no preparation. It is so hard to create a second opportunity to do all the things that are possible on one camping weekend.

Check these specific badges and awards the most carefully: Outdoor Skills (both levels); Cooking; Year-Round Camper; Pioneering; Exploring; Advanced Tripping; Personal Development; Weather; Naturalist; Recycling; Leadership

Some badges require thinking and preparation in the days *before* we go, so remember to plan ahead.

Recheck Your Gear, and Think Warm Thoughts...

If you brought your packs tonight, as requested, then you should have a pretty reasonable idea of whether you have



WISE IN THE USE OF THEIR RESOURCES...

packed well for the coming weekend.

If you are working with a new backpack, or if you grew a bit since last year, be sure to check the fit of the hip belt and the straps again, with your parents' help. It makes an enormous difference to your hiking comfort, to have the load properly balanced.

Think about what you will pack on top, along the sides, on the bottom, in the pockets... Imagine you are hiking when it suddenly starts to rain - how quickly will you be waterproofed and back on the trail? Will you be asking your buddies to help you dry out your bedding or your spare clothes?

Have you rolled a T-shirt, underwear and socks together, for each day? Is it compressed into a ziplock bag, to make it small and waterproof (and so that you can bundle the smells into the dirty clothes without contaminating the clean ones?)

Have you LABELLED your gear? Will you recognize your dishes & clothing from that of your friends, after they are all mixed together in the tent? Will they recognize your favourite things, after they get scooped up into the wrong backpack when we strike camp on Sunday?

Remember - we don't have to dream these things up, we've been there & done that - your challenge is to learn from others' mistakes.

Still wondering what to pack?

Here's that list again...

Things to eat or drink with:

- Plate, bowl, and cup or mug
- Knife, fork, spoon
- 1-liter waterbottle(s)

Things to sleep in:

- Wool or Polyester track suit
- Balaclava (optional luxury)
- Sleeping bag - -10oC or better
- Thermal sleeping bag liner (optional luxury)

Things to sleep on:

- Closed cell foam mattress (NOT air mattress)
- Foil mat (optional luxury)
- Ground sheet
- Camping pillow (optional luxury)

Warm clothing:

- Windproof jacket, hat, lined workgloves
- Rain suit
- Fleece (optional luxury)
- Long sleeved shirts (2)
- T-shirts (2) (for under shirt)
- Long thermal underwear
- Socks (Wool are best, at least 2 pair)

Resource Material:

- Scout handbook
- Scouting Fieldbook
- Compass, camera, rope, rain gauge, etc.. (optional equipment to help with badgework)
- Personal journal + pen \ pencil
- Multi-tool, Pocket knife or sheath knife (optional, & only if holding a current permit)
- Flashlight, with spare batteries + spare bulb
- Personal first aid kit
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, facecloth, sunblock (for nose), lip balm
- Spare glasses \ glasses repair kit (if applicable)
- Medication (if applicable)

Something to carry it all in:

- Knapsack or dufflebag

- Daypack, for hiking
- Plastic bag to collect dirty (smelly) laundry

Administrative Stuff:

- Full uniform (except sash - leave that at home), for trip up & back
- Medicare card (for emergencies)

Extra thoughts for those sleeping at the Falls:

- It's dark up there - and cold. Think candle lantern? Headlamp? (Petzel or a maglite in a headband). Keep your spare batteries warm.
- You're way to far away to walk back to the cabin to use the bathroom. Think trowel & TP - don't try to hang in there for 24hrs.
- There is only one water purifier and you should expect to share it between 3 groups up there. Consider packing a collapsible container to hold extra water at your campsite.
- Plan your first aid kit to cover the types of accidents you might have along the trail. Check it before you go & stock it up.
- You will want to lock and cover the bikes overnight.
- Remember you need a fire bucket, if you plan to have a fire...
- Save grocery money - try to split bulk packaging (like oatmeal) with the basecamp team.

See something we forgot? Let us know & we will add it to the list for next camp.

White Wolf's Web Watch

Our Troop website has a new look - thanks to Scouter Glenn pulling some late nights on the PC. Take a look.

The newsletters are now being posted up there again, too, so if you miss a meeting you can still keep in touch.

Yours in Scouting,



White Wolf,
BDUTroop@bigfoot.com
(Steve "Skip" Jones)

27 October 1999

Volume 3.5

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CAMPING REPORT

Fall Camp a "Learning Experience"

Well! That was certainly not what we planned on. 36 hours of continuous rain put something of a "damper" on our camp, last weekend.

We were very grateful for our new 20'x30' kitchen tarp - which at least offered us a safe haven from which to mount our sorties.

Our tents held up all right for Friday night, but some of them began to develop puddles through the floor toward midday Saturday, as the ground exceeded its natural saturation point.

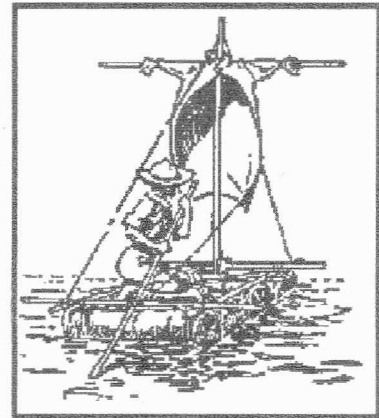
If it had only been a matter of trenching or relocating, we could still have managed fine. The "coup de grace" was that many of our youth members were clearly not adequately dressed for the weather - even some who could have been - and they began opting-out of the program activities rather than continue in the rain.

At that point, the leadership judged that the responsible course of action was to cut the camp short.

We will have discussed the camp tonight - what worked, what didn't, what we have learned, and what we would do differently in future. In that respect, at least, this camp was a very enriching experience for all of us. Let's hope we don't get to learn so many things on one camp again anytime soon...

New Meeting Time Started Tonight

One more time, in case you missed it: as we explained last week, we propose to start our meetings at 7:30



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instead of 7:00, from now on.

We are hoping that moving our start time does not create anyone a problem, and is enough to help those of us who have difficulty with the 7:00pm start.

We will still end our meetings at 9:00pm, and we will continue to open the hall 10 minutes before the start time.

Please let us know how you feel about this change, so that we can take your needs and ideas into account. If anyone has a problem, of course we will want to address it.

Red Cross First Aid ✱ CPR - 30\31 October

A reminder to the Senior Scouts and leaders planning to earn or refresh their First Aid and CPR training this weekend - the course is at the Barn 8am-5pm, Saturday + Sunday.

Yours in Scouting,



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