

Scouting About

News from the South African Scout Association.

www.scouting.org.za



SCOUTS
South Africa

Member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement

0860SCOUTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF SCOUT

The Scout Movement is a Movement for young people in which adults provide guidance and support for the youth. The development of the youth programme require active involvement of many competent adults but so often the adults tend to forget that the youth need to be part of decision making.

One of the requirements of the Movement is that we should involve the youth in all decision making areas of our organisation. This starts at Troop level when Assistant Patrol Leaders and Patrol leaders are exposed to leadership training and Court of Honours. This is where the first opportunities arise for young scouts to decide on things that affect them. As they gain more experience they should be given opportunities on District, Provincial and National levels.

In March 2009, the National Scout Council passed a resolution that requires every Province to ensure that youth are involved



Rev. Vukile C. Mehana

in all decision making in the levels mentioned above. In September this year we will host our first National Youth Forum and your Province will be invited to send two youth representatives between the ages of 16 and 26 years to participate in this historical event. The National Youth Forum delegates will then elect two representatives to become full members of the National Scout Council, the highest decision making body in South African Scouting.

My appeal to all adults in our Association is to embrace the youth and work with them to make our Association an example to the rest of the Scouting world.

Let's work together to "Create a Better World" by guiding our youth to become leaders of the world.

God Bless and enjoy the FIFA World Cup!

Viva Bafana Viva!

Winter 2010

CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK SCOUTS



Gareth Lindley - Mpumalanga
Previn Vedan - KwaZulu-Natal
Joseph Brickhill - KwaZulu-Natal
Ivan Povall - KwaZulu-Natal
Stuart Windgram - Gauteng
Kay McCallum - Gauteng
Machelle Brown - Gauteng



SOCCER WORD CUP 2010

Some years ago we all sat spellbound and watched on TV, Mr. J.S. Blatter the President of FIFA, as he slowly extracted the card from the envelope to reveal who would host the 2010 Soccer World Cup. The joy of everyone in our country as we saw "SOUTH AFRICA" appear. My first thought was "How are we going to do it? Is it possible in our relatively small country?"

Well, the intervening years have all passed, South Africans have done it, provided all that is necessary to host "The Greatest Show on Earth!" This month the games will start in the magnificent stadia that seem to have just sprung up, with the infrastructure, road works that have so

frustrated us drivers, and places of service and accommodation to house our many world visitors that will undoubtedly flock to watch "the games".

We have watched a marvel unfold, an example of everyone working together to achieve a magnificent goal.

We can do it – let's not stop there! Let's continue the drive to achieve the other goals that our country so desperately needs. The youth of today, that you have in your Troops and Packs, are the men and women of tomorrow, the leaders of the future, and it's you, with their parents, that are leading them into that future.

It's then up to them to grasp the baton and achieve the goals that must still be attained.



South Africa is ready!!

be prepared....

COLLEN CONQUERS DUBAI

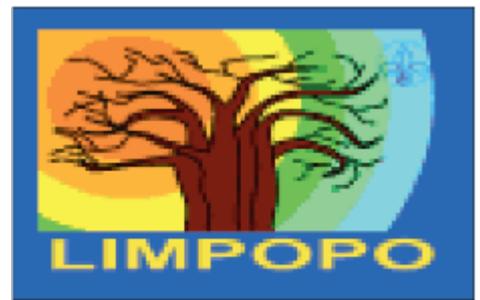
Collen Fhulufhelo Ramuthivheli, a Rover from Unified Rover Crew (Gauteng) represented the South African Scout Association in the Emirates, at the "4th International Scouting Gathering for Scouting & Intellectual Initiatives" held from 3rd to 13th February 2010 in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. Nineteen year old Collen, conquered and changed the thinking of many in Dubai, with his HIV/Aids dialogue in a country where sexual issues are not spoken about openly.

Placed in fourth position in the category for Micro projects, presented by representatives from 78 countries and with 123 participants, Collen says: "I am so happy with my accomplishment and I am more than delighted that I got the chance

to share information on HIV/Aids and my views on it, with so many people from around the world. It was such an honour to have been among so many different cultures and nationalities."

He adds that being a Scout, there are no issues of being different from one another, despite speaking in different languages and coming from so many other countries. "It's the diversity that makes them one!" Bravo!

Brian February, Chief Scout's Commissioner, said that Collen represented the Association so well, and he would like to congratulate him for being such a good Ambassador. He encourages other young leaders to keep their eyes open for opportunities like this, from time to time and often at short notice.

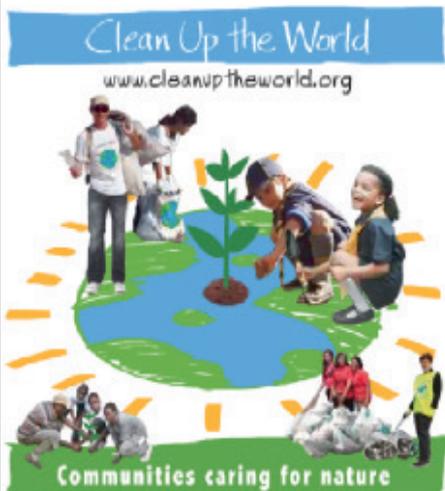


Limpopo's Provincial Badge

The bright Limpopo Provincial Badge highlights their Tropical background with the iconic Bayobab tree, so prevalent in that province. The badge has the Scout "Arrow head" and rope, which makes it so much more sought after by Scout badge collectors.



CLEAN UP THE WORLD



"Clean up the world" weekend is September 17 – 19. This year they are encouraging participants in Clean Up The World to act locally to care for nature in the Year of Biodiversity. The tag line is "Communities Caring for Nature".

You can register your Group's activity today! Go to www.cleanuptheworld.org

Report your activity to SAHQ soon after the event with photographs. Scouting works with their community caring for nature at every opportunity.

SCOUTING is in the FIGHT to eliminate HIV/Aids



Earn and proudly wear your AIDS badge on your uniform!

WATER! WATER! A SCOUT ACTIVITY.

Did you know that 97.5% of all water on earth is salt water. That's right – in our oceans! Of the 2.5% water remaining a half percent is "brak" – of what is left is potable water, that which we can drink. Half of that is frozen, in the Arctic, Antarctic and on mountain tops, snowfields and glaciers. We do get some of that back when the ice melts, but most of it just runs back into the oceans and is salty again. Only about 1% of all water that exists on earth, must satisfy the thirst of the billions of humans, all the animals, insects and everything that grows in the ground. The forests, the savannas, the bushveld and water all the crops that we humans and animals depend on from farms, for our food. Water is also needed to run our industries, to give us jobs and to make the things we need to maintain our comfortable standard of living. No wonder our newspapers are always telling us of the shortage of water and how soon our water supply dams and pipelines, our water processing plants, our waste water reclamation plants, will not be able to satisfy our wasteful ways. Then we must consider droughts, just like the ones affecting parts of our country at present.

We all use water – we all waste water!

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT THE SITUATION?

Most households in urban areas use a lot more water than they really need to, in particular, they use tap water that has been treated so that it is safe to drink for many purposes other than drinking. These include watering the garden, washing cars, washing driveways, roads and pavements. These activities are wasting precious drinking water and which is not necessary for watering the garden.

If we could all reduce the amount of drinking water that we "waste" then there would be drinking water to spare and more

people could be supplied without building new treatment plants..

We could collect rainwater from our roof and use that for watering the garden when it is dry. We can also use grey water, that is water that has been used for washing up, washing clothes, bathing or showering, quite safely on our gardens. We could also use grey water for washing our cars and driveways.

We really only need to use water that has been treated to make it safe to drink for drinking and cooking.

How much water do you use in your house?

If you live in a rural area and had to collect water in buckets or drums then you will know just how much water you have carried each day.

If you live in an urban area, with water supplied to the taps in your house, then you probably do not know how much water you use at all. But you could find out.

Do you know where your water meter is?

Do you know how to read it?

Do you know how much water your household uses and pays for each month?

Do you see the account that comes to your house? It shows the water you have used and the cost each month?

Do you think you could save water in your house?

If you read your meter everyday, or even every week for perhaps two weeks and then embark on a water saving campaign then you would be able to tell how much water you can actually save.

When you have been saving that water has it really affected how you lived or have you just being more careful with the water you have used?

BP'S GREAT GIFT – THE PATROL SYSTEM.

Baden-Powell would have been a great person to spend time with; he would have been so interesting to talk with.

Not only was he a brave soldier, a creative military commander – the Hero of Mafeking, but he had proved himself also as a writer of books (Scouting for Boys was for a long time one of the top three English Books for the number of books sold), an artist, a horseman, a spy (we know this from his own stories in Scouting for Boys) and an actor.

One man, who was himself acknowledged as a truly successful leader in South Africa, and was a much respected Principal of the University of Natal in Durban, was a fan of Baden-Powell; but not for any of these attributes I have mentioned. He suggested that Baden-Powell would be remembered as one of the greatest educators of the 20th Century,

Now Scouting is an educational movement. In 1907 B,P's methods of training were revolutionary. One hundred years later, though many, many organisations, including educational organisations, have adopted these methods, somehow in the Movement B.P. gave us we struggle to truly implement his unique and most important lesson – the use of the Patrol System.

Here is a little question. How do you see the Patrol System in a Scout Troop? Hands up. Yes, you over there.

"A troop is divided up into patrols." No. Wrong.

Yes you there.

"A troop is made up of patrols". Right!

The central unit of Scouting is the patrol. The clue to that is in something the founder wrote to Patrol Leaders –

"I want you Patrol Leaders to go on and train your patrols in future entirely yourselves, because it is possible for you to get hold of each boy in your patrol and make a good fellow of him."



This applies as much today to the girls and boys who are Patrol Leaders in 2010. The successful troop is the one that truly operates the system, where the Troop Scouters train, guide, co-ordinate and assist the PL's in their job, and don't try to do it all themselves.

We can see the fruits of that success in countless fine people today, who lead exemplary and important lives as good fathers and mothers, as motivators and inspirers, as entrepreneurs and as leaders in the professions, trades and business – because they were products of well run troops that really ran the patrol system.

Vital to this, is of course the attitude and performance of the Troop Scouter, who realises the main function of training these 'leaders in training' who are not yet 'trained leaders' and provide the necessary support – BUT – who lets them take responsible for running, managing and organising their patrols, and training their scouts.

It is magic, but it works.

The troop scouter who appreciates the importance of personal example in living the Scout Law and Promise, in truly sharing the leadership of the troop through that magnificent training vehicle the 'Court of Honour', who develops the skills of the PL's so they in turn can pass these on to the scouts, is truly running a Scout Troop and not a Youth Club and rightly understands the job to be done.

The Patrol Leader in turn, who will have a busy family, school and social life apart from Scouting, will find there is so much to learn, not only in scouting skills, but in how to work with other people, what leadership is and what it means to be a leader and take real responsibility. There are fewer more valuable and important opportunities anywhere in the education system to get ready for life, that to be a PL in a well run troop.

The Patrol System was indeed a rare gift.

Dudley Forde



Discover the Wilderness

Join 500 Scouts from around the world for 10 days of extreme adventure in the Cederberg Wilderness



19th CEDERBERG SENIOR SCOUT ADVENTURE

From 11 December to 23 December 2010, five hundred Scouts from around the world will be taking part in 10 days of extreme adventure in the magnificent Cederberg Wilderness. This world famous Scout activity is held every two years and is an adventure every Scout of 15 years or over should experience in their Scouting career. For particulars visit www.Scouting.org.za and click on the adventure website.

"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago!"

A Warren Buffett, the financier's observation.

If we look at this from a Scouting viewpoint – a man, more than a hundred years ago, had a great idea for youth education and formation. Today we are sitting in his shadow.

There is no need to change any of his fundamental thoughts – only a fool would try.

WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?

THE WINNER: is always part of the answer

THE LOSER: is always part of the problem

THE WINNER: always has a programme

THE LOSER: always has an excuse

THE WINNER: says "Let me do it for you"

THE LOSER: says "That's not my job"

THE WINNER: sees an answer for every problem

THE LOSER: sees a problem for every answer

THE WINNER: says "It may be difficult, but it's possible"

THE LOSER: says "It may be possible but it's too difficult"

PRESIDENT'S AWARD NATIONAL YOUTH FORUM

In the Autumn 2009 SCOUTING ABOUT we reported that Scouting South Africa had signed a memorandum of Understanding with the President's Award. As part of this initiative 30 Scouts and Rovers have enrolled on the programme. The cost of enrolment is sponsored by the Scout Foundation.

From 27 to 31 March 2010, five Scouts currently busy with their Springbok Award, joined the President's Award National Youth Forum at Heron Bridge Retreat. The forum focussed on three main themes – "leading change", "the sky is not the limit" and "paying it forward". This enabled the young leaders to change their perspective on life to become more open minded, to see things in a different light and to respect other people's views and opinions.



Five Scouts who represented the Association at the National Youth Forum of The President's Award are (back row from left) James Vella (Gauteng), Nicholas Reinten (Gauteng), Umar Kaprey (Western Cape) and (front row from left) Travis Duck (KZN), Dominique Battle, (Western Cape) with Shaun February (t-shirt) also a scout from Western Cape who represented the President's Award as a Gold Award recipient.

On the first night the Scouts were given the opportunity to lead the camp fire and this acted as the introduction to Earth Hour and to an inspirational talk given by Sibusiso Vilane, the first black African to summit Mount Everest.

The President's Award is a youth empowerment programme that has three levels – Bronze, Silver and Gold. There are definite similarities between the scheme and the advancement programme within Scouting, especially regarding Community Service, the Outdoors and the focus on Leadership development. While completing requirements for Adventure, 1st Class and above, Scouts complete the three levels of The President's Award respectively. The President's Award caters for young people between the ages of 14 to 26 so it can easily be offered to Scouts and Rovers.

Anybody interested to join the President's Award, should contact their Provincial Scout offices.

WRITING MATRIC 2010?

An article in "Scouting About Tzaneen" reports that in 2008, five of their Scouts wrote Matric. All received bursaries and are studying further. In 2009, fifteen of their Scouts wrote Matric, all passed with Bachelor entry to University. The Department of Education in Limpopo had to concede that the pass rate for the entire province was only 50% and these Scouts achieved a 100% pass, not only a pass but with a result of the very highest caliber. What does this say about Scouting and the encouragement Scouts received from their Leaders? Congratulations to you all!

To all those studying for Matric in 2010, you have a magnificent task to uphold! All we can say is "Do Your Best!"

DALBERT BOTES – How Scouting affected my life.

I am a Scout working on my Springbok Scout requirements. One of those requirements is to deliver a speech to a group of people about the effect Scouting has had on my life. Not being a talkative guy, in fact not even being very sociable when I first joined Scouting, I am amazed how I have changed in the various patrols I have been active in, now as the leader of Gemsbok Patrol they can't shut me up.

Aside from speaking, Scouting has equipped me with so many life skills. Make fire and cooking outdoors, I can attend to basic first aid and emergencies, read maps and follow them. I have learned much about nature and nature conservation which is a major issue in our world today – climate change and global warming and its impact on our lives. All those knots and lashings have enabled me to be part of building rafts and pioneering projects which has brought so much fun and adventure into, not only my life, but everyone else in the Troop. Hiking has become such a pleasure, seeing the beautiful unspoiled landscapes from Groenkloof and Thabazimbi, even to Kenton-on-Sea and Graskop. Organising and hosting my own camps and hikes has taught me even more valuable skills.

Apply these skills to the word "SCOUTING" – **S** I have learned self control – **C** confidence – **O** organization – **U** stands for unique, every Scout you deal with is unique – **T** time management – **I** initiative you need some wild ideas to keep these Scouts entertained – **N** never assume that things will go according to plan, have a plan B – **G** overall Scouting is great. It is a great activity, a great learning experience and a great indicator of what a supportive family I have.

Finally I must thank every Scout Leader that has encouraged and supported me in my endeavours. I must also thank every Scout that has made my journey through the programme so much fun and filled with enjoyment, and especially those Scouts that were dragged out on my camps and hikes.



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be prepared....