



**21st World Scout Jamboree England 2007
Southern Region Newsletter Number 6
November 19, 2006**

Just 250 Days until the Jamboree!!! About 20 days ago all of the adult leaders for the Southern Region 18 troops and 1 crew met in Atlanta for a weekend of training. By the end of our time together most of them were saying that they wished we could get on the airplane and head for the World Jamboree right then!! Yes....they are very excited. And I bet that this excitement continues to grow so that by the time you have your pre-jamboree camp with them next spring....well, there's just no telling how crazy ALL of you will be by then.

So the countdown continues and I am planning to send you a newsletter about every 50 days until just before the jamboree. Even though our "official" recruiting period has ended as of October 17, 2006, we are still taking applications and will keep doing so as long as space in one of our units is still available. After that applications will be assigned to our waiting list and there is no guarantee of a spot in our contingent. SO.....there is still a chance for your buddy who has been talking about going but has not yet submitted an application.....BUT tell him or her to please turn it in NOW! If you need help from me or one of our local unit leaders just let me know and we will assist you. We want as many Scouts as possible to have this great experience so our motto will be 'NO SCOUT LEFT BEHIND' until we cannot take any more.....

PASSPORTS: Do you have yours yet??? If not, why not??? I stressed this with our adult leaders also and I bet that they will also be asking you about this when they contact you soon. It is THAT important. And don't forget 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 \$2,225 in payments. Your next payment is due on or before November 30, 2006 and it is VERY important that you stay current with this and the remaining payments.....

- Fifth payment of \$575 due on November 30, 2006
- 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 soon to discuss your payment status, the pre-jamboree camp date and location, and a variety of other issues. Let me know if you don't hear from him (or her) soon!

UNIT ORGANIZATION: After the October 17 application deadline, we did make a couple of additional adjustments in the assignment of Scouts and Venturers among our provisional jamboree troops and crews. As you know, there is a maximum of 36 youth in any unit and there is always the possibility that we will have to make a few other adjustments later but it is not our intention to do so unless absolutely necessary. Your unit leader will advise you on this situation as needed. We will "do our best" to keep Scouts from the same area together.

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION: More and more you will be receiving information directly from your assigned unit leaders but you should feel free to give me a call (864.271.9857) or email (smart@worldjamboree.net) if you or your parents have any questions or concerns at any time. You should check the websites frequently for new information from the BSA National Office on their world jamboree bulletins on-line. You can access all current and past info on www.worldjamboree.net. Always remember to share ALL newsletters with your parents to keep them just as informed as you. A well-informed parent is a happy parent! And happy parents are much easier to convince to keep your world jamboree payments current.....

SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE: I hope that each of the newsletters so far have helped you to be even more excited about preparing for your World Jamboree experience. Even the word "Jamboree" is special since it was invented by Baden-Powell in 1920 to describe the first encampment of World Scouts to be held in London that year. According to an interview with Lady B-P in 1967, the word was a combination of the Swahili word "JAMBO" meaning "hello" and the ending of the Australian word used for a big scouting event...CARROBOREE. After he sent out invitations to every country that had started a Scouting program, B-P and his assistants hoped that at least a few hundred Scouts would come and participate. The slowness of communications and the difficulty of international travel in that era prevented him from knowing for sure who would come or how many. But by the second day, over 8,000 Scouts from every invited country were there, including 301 from the United States. The South Africans even brought their mascot - a 400 lb lion! B-P and his staff managed to get everyone housed and fed and it was a fabulous first Jamboree. There have now been 20 jamborees since 1920 and each one has been unique, reflecting the culture of the host country and the character of the participants. We have the great honor to be a part of the CENTENARY JAMBOREE to be held back in the birthplace of Scouting, and as Baden-Powell himself always said, it is sure to be a "jolly good show!"

OUR JAMBOREE WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!