



# Signs Up!!!

**Troop 101 Newsletter**

July, 2003



## *Welcome*

Boy Scout Troop 101, Pearl River, LA would like to welcome the all of the new members who are joining our troop. We are looking forward to exciting trips in the coming months. We are also open to suggestions to make the troop more fun.

## *Uniforms*

An important part of scouting is the uniform. Troop 101 uniform will consist of the official tan BSA shirt (with patches), olive drab green pants or shorts, scout socks and belt, and troop neckerchief (available from the troop) and a neckerchief slide. Shirts, patches, socks, belt, and slide can be purchased from the Slidell Army Surplus or the Scout Shop in Metairie, and the neckerchiefs will be available from the troop for \$5.00. The troop neckerchief is black with red piping. Green pants or shorts can be purchased from Wal-mart or a store of your choice. No blue jeans or camouflage pants or shorts will be accepted. Patches needed for the shirt are the Council Strip, troop numbers 101, and the World Crest. Tennis Shoes and hiking boots are acceptable footwear. NO open toed shoe or sandals will be worn with the scout uniform or on camping trips.

## *Scout Handbook*

Each scout will need a copy of the Boy Scout Handbook available from the Scout Shop or the Slidell Army Surplus. The troop also recommends getting a copy of the 2003 Merit Badge Requirements book.

## *Fees & Dues*

The sign-up fee for Troop 101 will be \$20.00 with \$5.00 per month dues. The membership fee includes registration fee to Boy Scouts of America, insurance, and a year's subscription to Boy's Life magazine. The sign-up fees have been prorated for the first year and we will have to recharter in mid January. If you are signing up siblings, the fee can be adjusted to remove extra subscriptions to Boy's Life.

## *Troop Organization*

Troop 101 will be a "boy run" troop with direction and supervision from adults. The troop will have a Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leaders and Patrols, which will be organized and appointed or elected as the troop grows. Derek Krause, Life Scout, will serve as Senior Patrol leader.

## *Camping Trips*

You can't have "Scouting" without "Outing's". Troop 101 has some very exciting ideas for camping trips. See the handout for some of the ideas we are planning. We will work to keep the cost of camping trips to a minimum through careful planning. Scouts can also earn money from fund raisers for their personal accounts to help pay for camping trips. Adults who attend camping trips are free.

## *Garage Sale*

The Troop's first fund raiser will be a garage sale held on Saturday, August 2 from 8:00am to 2:00pm at the Pearl River Lions Den. If you have any items you would like to donate to the troop for the sale, you can bring them to the troop meetings. Please ask friends, family, and neighbors to donate their unwanted items. We can help pick up items too. The troop will need volunteers on Friday to setup and on Saturday to work the garage sale and to clean up after the sale. Please let Elaine or Don know how you can help. We have to purchase camping gear, and supplement costs of camping trips. Our troop will have two annual "mandatory" fund-raisers: popcorn in the fall and scout expo tickets in the spring. We participate in these events not only to raise money for the troop and our scouts but also to qualify for quality unit and receive free advancement badges.

## *Leaders*

A strong troop requires strong leaders. Troop 101 is fortunate to have a well trained and enthusiastic scoutmaster, Don Krause. Elaine Krause will serve as the Troop Committee Chair. Don and Elaine each have over seven years of scouting leadership experience and are ready to make Troop 101

the best troop in the Cypress District, but they will need help. Additional leadership positions will need to be filled to insure a successful troop. Consider a position as an Assistant Scoutmaster, Committee Member, Advancement Chairman, or Merit Badge Counselor.

### ***Merit Badge Counselor***

There are 121 merit badges in the scouting program covering a wide range of interests including astronomy, photography, art, computer, geology, medicine, small boat sailing, wood carving, and wilderness survival, to name a few. There will be at least one merit badge worked on at every troop meeting, especially the Eagle required ones. Please look at the list of badges and decide which ones you could teach. The troop supplies any materials and supplies needed.

### ***Scout Vespers***

Each scout meeting will be closed with a closing circle and the with the singing of the Scout Vespers:

Softly falls the light of day,  
While our campfires fade away.  
Silently each Scout should ask:  
Have I done my daily task?  
Have I kept my honor bright?  
Can I guiltless sleep tonight?  
Have I done and have I dared,  
Everything to be prepared?

And now, may the great scoutmaster of all the great scouts, be with us till we meet again.

**BE PREPARED!!!**

### ***Troop 101 Website***

Troop 101 is on the web. Our website can be visited at [www.lascouts.net/troop101](http://www.lascouts.net/troop101). The site will be updated regularly with information about upcoming events. Newsletters will be available online and there are also a number of useful scouting links.



## ***Scoutmaster's Minute***

### **TWO LITTLE WORDS:**

Scouts, here's a little quiz for you: What's the most welcome two-word sentence in the English language? Some of you might say, it's "We won!" Others would vote for, "Here's Money!" But I think the most welcome two-word sentence is "Thank you."

It isn't used as often as it should be. How often do you use it? And how often do you say thank you to the persons who are closest to you, your mother and father? How often do you say it to your friends or even strangers when they do something for you?

It's so easy to forget, especially if the Good Turn is done by somebody in your family. Too often we take for granted the many things our parents and other family members do for us. Here's a challenge for you, see if you can find some reason to say thank you every day to some member of your family. You may be surprised how they will react.

A simple thank you costs nothing, but it means so much to those who matter most to you. And remember, manners make the man and can be the difference between you being just another Scout and one who earns himself respect from those around him.