



# Smoke Signals

Brampton Area Newsletter

[www.bramptonscouts.org](http://www.bramptonscouts.org)



January 2007

## Commissioner's Corner

### Happy Year

I hope everyone had a great holiday.

As we slide in to the second half of this Scouting year, are you ready to start to count down to the Anniversary celebrations?

August 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 will mark our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Scouting. How are you planning to celebrate?

Areas and Councils all across the country have already set plans in motion so jump on the bandwagon

Whether you plan to take you section to one of the many planned Jamborees or Area events, make plans NOW don't miss out

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries only come once

Please join the Area Team and myself for an Area Social January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007 at Scout house starts at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome

I will also collect any additional registrations or paperwork that needs to be forwarded to the Central Admin Office on January 3<sup>rd</sup>

Apple Day Cheques will be available for pick up please come and pick up you cheque

**Thanks for being part of this great youth movement called Scouting**

Fred Mertinz  
Brampton Area Commissioner



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There are some exciting things happening in the new year in the Central Ontario Administration Area. This notice is provided for your information on what is available if you are looking for some different programming this year. Are you looking for a Weekend Camp this Year with programs like these?

CAMPING SKILLS  
WINTER CAMPING  
SURVIVAL CHALLENGE

WELL LOOK NO FURTHER!  
BOOK A LAFF WEEKEND NOW!  
**L**earning  
**A**dventure  
**F**un  
**F**ellowship

The LAFF Program was developed in 1995 to offer section leaders like you, an opportunity to enjoy a weekend camp with pre-arranged program, so that you can spend the maximum amount of time with your youth members. Who knows, you may also learn some new skills! LAFF was expanded to twelve weekends in the 2006/07 Scouting season. Each program is unique and can be tailored to your section needs.

The LAFF program exists to assist groups and sections organizing weekend camps. You will be accommodated in the Leathem Scouting Centre at Woodland Trails, a very comfortable spot to spend the weekend. Your meals will be plentiful, filling, nutritious and child friendly. The program is organized in advance and includes an emphasis on outdoor activities and camping skills!

All meals, program, crafts supplies, guest speaker fees are included in the very reasonable price of \$83.00 per person + GST. Please click here: [www.gtc.scouts.ca/pageview.asp?section=camping&page=laff](http://www.gtc.scouts.ca/pageview.asp?section=camping&page=laff) & check out the LAFF web site for additional information, this year's schedule, and booking information.

Space is limited to 39 participants per weekend. Book early!

The following weekends still have space:

January 19-21/07 -WINTER CAMPING SCOUTS

February 2-4/07 -WINTER CAMPING CUBS

March 2-4/07 -SPY CAMP FOR CUBS

April 13-15/07 -CAMPING SKILLS - CUBS / SCOUTS

April 27-29/07 -EXTREME ADVENTURE - CUBS / SCOUTS

May 11-13/07 -ROCKETRY WEEKEND FOR CUBS **Please find below a letter from Bill Rice,**



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## DCC Recognition of CEC

As we have moved through the fall season I have come across a few situations that we should be able to streamline. This will not only facilitate getting the job done, but, will eliminate overlapping work, duplication of effort, lost information and frustrated volunteers.

Within each Area we have an executive that is managed by an Area Commissioner. This person has delegated some of their responsibility and authority to volunteers who fill the Deputy Area Commissioner roles. The one I'm specifically involved with is Recognition.

I understand, talking to some DACs Recognition and with the Council Office, that requests for recognition, be they years of service or applications for Awards for Excellence, are, in some cases, being sent directly to the Council office. This is causing a great deal of confusion and unnecessary complexity.

I would ask that each of you, working between the ACs and DACs, agree on a way to impress upon members of Groups, Sections, Group Committees and Group Commissioners that all requests for Recognition of any type, be forwarded to your "Area DAC Recognition". This individual has spent many hours learning about the process for Recognition, researching years of service to clean up MMS, practicing the filling in of Application Forms and tracking what has been requested. They are the best resource to getting Recognition completed for your Area.

Receiving requests from "all over the place" is not something Council or I want. In addition, we can't track what is being done outside the process. What works best is for requests to follow the lines of authority and responsibility, all of which go through the Area Commissioners. The other complexity is that Council is asked to give reports on what is happening in our area of responsibility and if I, or your Area DACs, don't get the information we have no handle on anything. The bottom line to "no process" is that the system collapses and no one knows anything for sure.

Recognition is a complex area primarily because of the number and diversity of requests, so anything we can do to keep it organized and consistent will pay off in the long run.

If there is anything you feel you need to facilitate this line of communication, please contact me directly.

YiS

## Bill Rice

**Please assist me in making the years of service process work correctly. If you know of someone who needs recognition for a milestone, ie 5, 10, etc. Please forward the information to myself for proper processing. I know I can count on your help with this endeavor.**

YiS

**Brenda Mertinz**

**DAC Recognition Brampton Area**

**[dac\\_awards@bramptonscouts.org](mailto:dac_awards@bramptonscouts.org)**



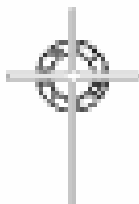
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## RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM



*Roman Catholic Church  
in Canada*

Published for  
the Church by  
Scouts Canada and  
Girl Guides of Canada

St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church will be hosting a Religion in Life Program for youth and adults of the Catholic faith

The Religion in Life program is in four progressive stages, colour-coded and adapted to the age groups concerned.

Stage 1 — Yellow Border (about 7–8–9)

Stage 2 — Green Border (about 10–11–12)

Stage 3 — Blue Border (about 13–14–15)

Stage 4 — Red Border (15+)

There is also an Adult stage with a Purple border

This program will run 6 consecutive Friday nights beginning with the 7 p.m. Mass and end at 9:00 pm after a one hour lesson. A final presentation ceremony will be held during the Saturday 5:00 pm mass February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Start date January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Last class February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Presentation night Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup> 2007 during the 5:00 pm Mass

There will be a \$3.00 cost for the emblem and materials  
Please contact Fred or Brenda Mertinz at 905-796-1330 or  
[ac@bramptonscouts.org](mailto:ac@bramptonscouts.org) for more information or to register