27 August 2007 Ref: Troop 2007/10

1612

Troop Hike 7 – 9 September 2007

Dear Parents and Scouts

It is hard to believe that we are entering the final stretch of the year once again. With spring around the corner, it is time once again to pull on the old hiking boots and make another trip to an unspoilt corner of our beautiful country.

From 7 to 9 September there we will be hiking in the pristine Korannaberg mountains, near Excelsior in the Free State. Named for the fierce Koranna Griquas, who used to take refuge in the area after raiding the Boers, the trail starts off from a barn with full ablution, sleeping and cooking facilities where Friday evening will be spent. The trail winds along the base of the mountains before following up a river to the plateau high above. Lunch may be spent next to an ice-cold waterfall. The trail then makes its way to the overnight cave, high above the surrounding plains. The second day of hiking treats the hiker to breathtaking views of the rural Free State as one hikes along the edge of the plateau before winding back down to the barn.

Regrettably the hiking trail is expensive. The trail itself costs roughly R165 per person, which does not include petrol or food. A budget of R90 per person for petrol is anticipated, and scouts will need to provide their own food. The amount charged for petrol will vary according to the number of scouts who attend the hike.

Scouts are reminded that the committee may be contacted by any person who requires financial assistance with any scouting activity. Penny Lucas, the chairman, may be contacted on 083 267 6853 should you wish to request help from the committee, who treat all enquiries as strictly confidential.

At 27km, the trail is suitable for both Pathfinder and Adventurer hikes, for any individual who wants to start working on the hiking interest badge, or for anyone who simply enjoys getting out into the great outdoors.

Further information on the hike is available from the Jacana Trails website at www.jacanacollection.co.za.

Due to the fact that we need to finalise transport and to finalise the booking with Jacana, scouts must please advise me by no later than 2 September 2007. A provisional booking for 10 people has been made, so space on the trail is limited.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in scouting.

Andrew Campbell

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