

1st BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW

PO BOX 16117
DOWERGLLEN
1612

1 September 2011
Ref: Troop 2011/06

Re: Troop Hike and District Competitions

Dear scouts and parents

Troop Hike 9 – 11 September 2011:

The troop hike for next weekend will be taking place in the Drakensberg close to Van Reenen.

We have obtained permission to use Rosedale Farm on the Free State side of the pass as a base to explore the surrounding mountains. The farm has two large dams on it suitable for swimming in and also has some bushmen paintings on a rocky-overhang on the farm.

The cost of the hike is R180 per person. This covers petrol, toll fees and accommodation, but does not include food. You will need to cater your own food for the weekend. Invested scouts who wish to attend but who are experiencing financial difficulties can approach our committee chairman, Marlou Giannoccaro on 082 457 1820 for assistance.



We will be meeting at the hall at 16h30 on Friday 9 September 2011 and will be departing from the farm once the vehicles are packed. We will stop at Harrismith for dinner. You can either purchase dinner there or you can bring a packed meal along. We will be travelling in FULL scout uniform.

A hike at Rosedale Farm held at the end of 2009

The hike itself will take place on the Saturday. The hike will be between ten and fifteen kilometres long and is ideal for those scouts wanting to attempt their Pathfinder hike. The facilities on the farm also make it ideal for those of you who want to attempt either the Scoutcraft Map Reading Badge or the Mapping Badge. You will not be able to do both badges on the same weekend and the Scoutcraft Badge is a prerequisite for the Mapping Badge.

We will be having a braai on the Saturday evening. Fires will be provided but please make sure you have your own meat etc.

Weather and time permitting, we would like to attempt a visit to the Battlefield at Spionkop, which is in the vicinity of Van Reenen. Entry to the battlefield, if we manage to get there, will be covered by the hike fee. We will head directly home from the battlefield and intend being back in Johannesburg by 18h00.



Troop Scouter:
Assistant Troop Scouters:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 (advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za)
Mark Brown 082 788 0139 (Mark.brown@mweb.co.za)
Warrick Muller 076 153 9291 (wmuller!@oldmutualpfa.com)

In order to finalise arrangements we need numbers for the hike by no later than 21h00 on Sunday 4 September. You can RSVP by telephoning me or (preferably) sending me an email. Please indicate if you want to attempt either the Scoutcraft Map Reading or Mapping badges on the camp.

Due to transport constraints space on the hike is limited. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. If we exceed eight scouts on the hike I will attempt to make arrangements for additional transport, but cannot guarantee that this will be possible. Male friends of a scout-going age with a genuine interest in scouting are welcome to attend.

It is not clear yet whether or not a normal scout programme will be run for those scouts not attending the hike. This will largely depend on the response to the hike. You will be advised of what is happening via email during the course of next week.

Northrand District Cooking and Pioneering Competitions:

Special permission has been obtained for us to submit a late entry for this event. If you are interested in attending, please advise your PL so we can enter a patrol as soon as we have enough scouts wanting to attend.

The event is taking place on the weekend of 23 to 24 September and it will be taking place at the quarry behind the Edenvale Hyperama.

I do not foresee a major problem with scouts leaving the event for an hour or two to attend prior sports commitments.

Star Patrol Evaluations:

The preliminary star patrol evaluations have taken place and it appears that with a little bit of work all four patrols can achieve a bronze star award.

The final evaluation should take place on the evening of 30 September, so time is running out for you to complete those one or two items required for you to get the award.

Troop Equipment:

The PLs have requested that all scouts attend at the scout hall this Sunday (4 September) with a view to sorting out some of the troop equipment. This is particularly important for those attending the hike next weekend as some of the equipment will be used on the hike.

We will be meeting between 10h00 and 13h00 on Sunday. Those who want to have a braai for lunch are welcome to do so. The event will be run by the patrol leaders.

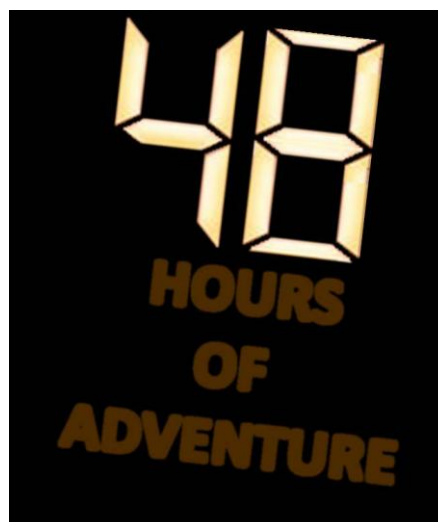
Congratulations:

Ross Robertson has completed his Swimmer Badge. Well done Ross!

Upcoming Events at a glance:

September

- 4 Equipment day at hall
- 9 – 11 Troop Hike
- 23 – 25 Northrand District Cooking and Pioneering Competitions
- 30 Star Patrol evaluations



October

7 – 9 Troop Camp
15 – 16 PLTC (by invitation only)

November

4 Group AGM
26 District Go-cart competition

December

2 Last meeting of the year
3 White Stripe Dinner
9 – 13 Troop Holiday



Mark makes a special friend on Jamboree

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

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell

SUGGESTED KIT LIST FOR TROOP HIKE

- Sleeping bag with a small mattress and pillow
- Hiking bag
- Hat
- 2 litre water bottle
- Hiking boots or sturdy shoes
- 3 x socks
- Underwear
- 2 x shirts (bring your black camp shirt if you have one)
- 1 x shorts
- 1 x warm anorak or similar garment (the nights will be cool). Long pants if you get cold.
- Beanie
- Strops / slippers
- Swimming costume and towel
- Messkit
- Food
- Equipment to cook your food (eg gas cooker)
- Toiletries (soap, sponge, facecloth, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, floss etc)
- Sun cream and insect repellent
- Torch with batteries
- Compass if you have one (the troop will be providing some compasses)
- Pin and a magnet if you do not have your Pathfinder
- A6 hard-cover notebook
- Pen and pencil with sharpener
- One or two bank bags for specimens
- Plastic bags for litter / laundry
- Any personal medication
- A watch
- Duly completed consent form and health certificate with R180,00
- Camera (optional)
- Basic first aid kit