

1st BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW
www.1stbedfordview.org.za

PO BOX 16117
DOWERGLLEN
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25 April 2012
Ref: Troop 2012/03

Re: General news

Dear scouts and parents

Feedback on the Skeurkrans Hike:

The Skeurkrans hike was a huge success, with eight scouts and two scouters trekking out to Naboomspruit to enjoy the pristine indigenous forests of the Waterberg. For several of the scouts this was their first scout hike and is certainly an experience that they will never forget.

The scouts were accommodated in a-frame bungalows on stilts on the lower slopes of the Waterberg. Paraffin lamps and a gas-powered fridge provided a new experience for most of the scouts and the sounds of baboons barking in the night reminded the scouts that they were out in the wilds of Africa.



Gabriel, Keegan and Byron catch 5 during the hike

Although the first portion of the hike was difficult, the warm weather was very pleasant and gushing streams of cool water meant that there were several shady spots to sit and have a short break. A large pool towards the end of the hike made a welcome change to hiking and the scouts enjoyed a swim for half an hour or so.

That evening the scouts tried their hands at making fires and cooking over the open flames and then retired to their bungalow for a well-deserved rest.

The hike on the second day was much shorter and before the scouts knew where the time had gone it was time to head back home.

Several of the scouts logged the hike for their Pathfinder log. Those scouts are reminded that your logs are due in. All logs should be handed in by no later than Friday 4 May 2012. Logs handed in after this date will regrettably not be accepted.



Troop Scouter:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 (advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za)



Mark and Dean enjoy the view at Skeurkrans

Kontiki:

The new date for Kontiki (24 – 27 May) is just around the corner and preparations for the event are moving up a gear.

A reminder that there will be Kontiki prep sessions on Sunday 6 May 2012 and Sunday 20 May 2012 from 13h00 to 16h00. Scouts who attend these sessions and who work diligently will be afforded preference when it comes to choosing the raft crew.

A list has been put up on the hall door where scouts can indicate whether they will be attending Kontiki and how many Kontiki badges are required. Some scouts have not completed this form and in spite of the fact that several parents have indicated that they want to visit Kontiki, NOBODY has indicated a need for extra badges on the form. Could I encourage all parents to check the list to ensure that your son has filled in the correct information on it by no later than Sunday 6 May 2012. This will allow us sufficient time to order additional badges.

Walk the Talk:

The annual “Walk the Talk” event hosted by Radio 702 is just around the corner and the Court of Honour have decided to enter the 8km event to enjoy the fun and to raise awareness of scouting in the Greater-Johannesburg Community. The COH has not yet determined what uniform will be worn but members of the troop will be wearing either full scout uniform or camp uniform. Cubs, rovers, parents and friends are more than welcome to join in the fun.

The event is taking place on 22 July 2012 and entries are already open. Under 18s and over 60s cost R60, online entries for other ages cost R110,00 pp. Further information is available at www.walkthetalk.co.za.

A 1st Bedfordview team will be created once we have at least 10 people interested in the event. Please email me your details if you want to enter the event by no later than 6 May 2012. If there are less than 10 people interested by 6 May we will then use individual entries. A reply slip is at the end of this letter for those of you who would prefer to respond manually. Further information on the event will be provided after 6 May 2012.

Change to the Year Planner:

The change of dates for Kontiki has resulted in several of our district events being moved about. Although some dates have yet to be confirmed, I have attached a copy of the amended year planner to assist you in planning your lives. Please accept my apologies for the change of dates, this is due to circumstances entirely beyond my control.

Cederberg Meeting:

A reminder to those scouts who will be 15 or older in December that there will be a no-obligation meeting after scouts on 4 May 2012 to discuss the Adventure, what it is about and what expenses are entailed.

Farewell to Mark Brown:

A huge thanks to those who contributed to the farewell gift for Mark. An engraved knife was purchased by the Committee and presented to Mark. Mark was literally reduced to tears and has asked me to convey his deepest thanks to the entire 1st Bedfordview Family.

A reminder that in order to ensure that the troop maintains its high standards it is imperative that a new ATS or two be recruited. Please chat to me if you are in any way interested in becoming an ATS.

Camp Uniform:

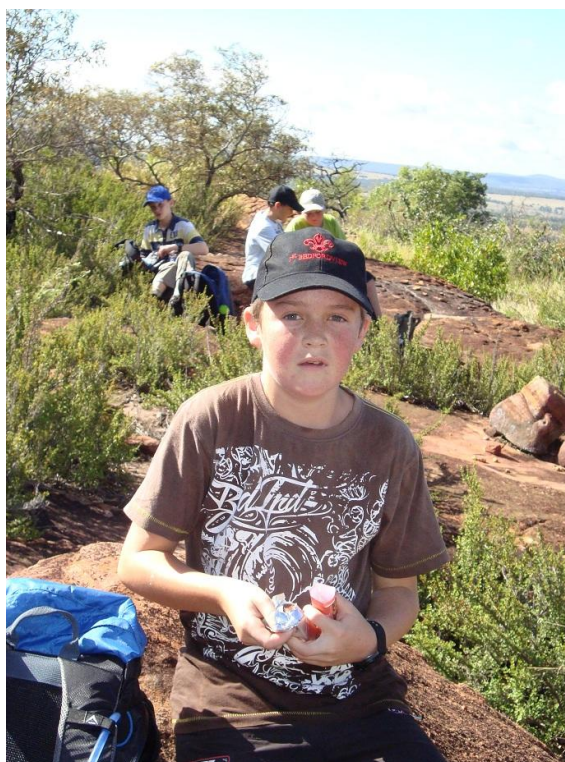
The Committee is in the process of ordering 1st Bedfordview shirts and caps. These items form part of the camp uniform and should be worn on camps, hikes and competitions to avoid the formal "full" scout uniform being damaged. As such all scouts are requested to purchase these items if you have not already done so.

The cost of caps is envisaged at R80,00 and shirts at R100,00. Caps and shirts can be ordered from Zelia (076 792 6744

or

Zelia.Cardoso@macsteel.co.za).

Parents and other members of the 1st Bedfordview family are also more than welcome to order shirts and caps.



Douglas sports his new troop cap whilst snacking on the Skeurkrans hike

Reminder:

Please remember that there is no scouts this Friday (27 April) due to the public holiday and the long weekend. There is normal scouts from Friday 4 May 2012.

Recruitment Drive:

On Friday 4 May the troop will be having a recruitment drive for new members. In addition to the normal “coke” reward for bringing a friend to scouts, scouts who bring two or more potential scouts to the scout meeting on the 4th of May will be treated to a free hamburger meal on a date to be announced.

Upcoming Dates:

April

27 – 30 Troop closed

May

4 Cederberg Meeting
Recruitment Drive
6 Kontiki Prep Session
20 Kontiki Prep Session
25 – 27 Kontiki

June

1 District Campfire



At the end of the Skeurkrans hike

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

Yours in scouting

Andrew Campbell

REPLY SLIP

We want to enter “Walk the Talk” as part of the 1st Bedfordview Team.

Name	Under 18 / Adult / Over 60

Contact number: _____
Contact email: _____