

North Halton Scouts hit Bruce Trail for their annual Explorers' hike

By JEAN LAYMAN
Herald Special

North Halton District Scouts trekked along the Bruce Trail for the Annual Explorers Hike last weekend, May 5-7.

After registrations the hike started at Hilton Falls on the Friday evening. Hiking for two kilometres the group set up camp for the night on a side trail.

Picking up the Bruce Trail Saturday morning the teams hiked to the Limehouse Conservation where they set up camp. During the stay here points were given for Bannock making, First Aid, maps and compass, personal gear inspection, campsite inspection, log book. They had to break open their survival kits and make a fire and boil water for points as well.

Sunday the hike continued on the Bruce Trail and because of inclement weather - snow - the hike was called off when they reached the Hannah property on the Sixth Line. Hot drinks were served in the Hannah garage to all hikers.

Winners of the Novice section were: First place: David Boere and Kevin Lumb of 4th Georgetown; Second place: Ryan McDonald and Mark Page of 1st Ashgrove; Third place: Bradley Socha and Darryl Nessman, 1st Limehouse.

Winners in the experienced class went to: First place: Colin Kay and Scott Crawford, 4th Georgetown; Second place: Mark Boere and Owen Lewis, 4th Georgetown; Third place: Mark Henderson, Kevin Tribe, 3rd Acton.

The Excelsior Award went to 1st Georgetown Scouts for highest average. District Commissioner Elaine Hannah completed the hike.

Organizers of this event was A.D.C. Brent Collier, Jim Collier, Vic Zubacs and 2nd Georgetown Venturers.

Brent Collier presented all participants with a crest and thanked everyone helping to make another successful hike.

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Leaders, parents and guests of 1st Ashgrove and 1st Hornby enjoyed the parent and son

banquet held last Thursday May 11 at Hillcrest United Church Hall.

Larry Kivell, Group Committee Chairman, welcomed the large gathering and Reverend Jean Jones offered the grace.

Scouts Lawrence Midwinter was master of ceremonies and Bradley Kivell presented the ladies in charge of kitchen duties with bouquets of flowers as thanks.

Mr. Kivell introduced the head table guests, Reverend Jean Jones, District Commissioner Elaine Hannah, Reverend Margaret Murray, Sandy Booth, Jean Belshaw, Jean Layman and guest speaker Lionel Downes.

Presentations of plaques were made by Cub Leaders Hans Treviranus and Chris Sharpe given to Cubs Glenn Wurster and J.T. Breckon for earning five stars. Paul Brownridge received a trophy for having the fastest Kub Kar and Jeff Manzer Best Design.

Mr. Kivell introduced Lionel Downes, the guest speaker, of Hamilton Safety Council, Hug-A-Tree Director, a teacher at Mohawk College. Mr. Downes kept the boys spell-bound on the survive program, which was started two and a half years ago after Andrew Warburton was lost in Nova Scotia. Andrew had wandered off the trail. Mr. Downes showed a film and reminded the boys of all his years of experience of Scouting and Wilderness Survival he still carries a large orange garbage bag folded up and placed in his sock for protection. Always there if he needs it.

Mr. Downes always carried a whistle and survival kit. He recommended and showed how shoe prints of younger children could be taken by placing a piece of foil on soft material and then step on foil. When going on a hike always remember the letters S.T.O.P. Stop - Think - Observe - Plan.

Troop Scouter Dale Thibideau thanked Mr. Downes for his informative message.

Mr. Kivell thanked everyone helping to make the banquet a real success.

Walt Elliot, MPP was on hand at Ebor Park Blue Springs - Boy Scout Reserve last Saturday morn-

ing for the opening ceremony for the pre-camp C.J. 89 for Halton Region, May 13.

Mr. Elliot presented Burlington, Oakville, Milton and North Halton Districts, all with the Regional flag, Canadian flag and some pins to take to the Jamboree held in P.E.I. in July.

Members, numbering 185, camped in the rain Friday night, but Saturday and Sunday was almost perfect weather for the Scouts and their Leaders to prepare and work together as a team doing camp kitchen gadgets, cooking and team building.

Camp Chief John Ollivier, Regional Commissioner was in charge of the official opening. Larry Adams, provincial Field Executive led in a prayer and two Scouts raised the flag.

Mr. Adams, Co-ordinator for the camp, gave all camp rules and outlined out of bound areas. All sites to be kept clean and the property to be left clean, setting the example for C.J. 89.

During the weekend the Scouts, Leaders, Venturers had sessions on Lantern and Stove Safety, Raft Building, First Aid and a hike to the Railway Museum.

The Venturers did several service projects during the weekend for the camp, as well as unblocked the wood in the river. Venturers also made camp awards.

Everyone enjoyed the Survival Wide Game. All groups participated in the campfire held Saturday night having a selection of songs and skits and yells.

The Scouts-Own on Sunday was led by Larry Adams. Scouts, Venturers and Leaders all had a great weekend and their experiences will be put in use at the Jamboree.



Fourth Georgetown Scouts received awards after their annual Explorers' Hike of the Bruce Trail last weekend. Shown here are, left to right, David Boere and Kevin Lumb, first place winners in novice; Scott Crawford and Collin Kay, first place in experienced; Mark Boere, second place experienced. Absent from the photo was Owen Lewis, second in experienced. (Photo by Jean Layman)



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