



BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

September 2010

This newsletter is intended for scouts and their families. Please assist us in sharing this information with our parents and scouts.

All Newsletters and up to date information are at www.troop629.org



Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Commitment: *A Pledge to do something.* Belonging to a scout unit is in essence a commitment to participate in the group. Various levels of participation occur for those who step up to be not just a member but one of the leaders. To obtain credit for this extra effort requires that the job be accomplished and not just wearing the patch for a period of time. This troop has an outline for each scout leadership position that spells out the expectations and commitment expected. Yes, this troop supports a balanced experience throughout the formative years but when you stand up and make a special commitment to lead that literally means you have to be there, participate and promote the programs and lead through example by attending. The Troop should not always be the last on your list of activities to participate in. At times it requires it to be the first choice, especially if you are a leader. Those in leadership positions choose to be there and therefore there is the inherent obligation to do your best, to be there, to lead, and accomplish what you have committed to.

Highlights and Important **New** News!

August 30th Troop Court of Honor and Parent Meeting Dinner Details

Please remember that **Monday, August 30**, is our **Troop Court of Honor, Parent Meeting, and Family Dinner**. The program will begin at **6:45pm in South Hall** with the Court of Honor followed by the parent meeting and then dinner in the Dining Hall. If you have not rsvp'd and want to come, please contact **Mary Beth Bierbaum (marybeth@bierbaum.com/770-442-5306)** so that we will have enough food prepared for your family.



Registration Time Is Here!

It's that time again...annual registration for the troop. Troop 629 dues this year for your scout are \$75.00. All registered adults dues are \$25.00. Please make your checks payable to "Troop 629" and submit your payment to Karen Korshak at one of the September troop meetings. Karen will also be available at our Family Dinner on August 30 if you would like to take care of your payment at that time. **We hope to have all dues collected by the September 27 troop meeting.** If you have any questions, please contact Karen Korshak by email: karcpa@aol.com Thank you!

Cavalcade

Cavalcade is a District scouting event scheduled for Sep 25th to be held at First Baptist Church of Roswell on Mimosa Blvd open to all units to help demonstrate and promote all the scouting programs in our area. The Troop is participating with a booth to be handled by the scouts. All our Troop members should try to attend either by helping to operate the booth or visiting other scouting booths to experience a variety of scouting activities. A similar event called Scout Fest held at the Council

Level is schedule for Oct 23rd at the Cobb Galleria where we hope most of our scouts will also participate by visiting other unit booths and running the Troop activity as well.

Leaders- Check Your Youth Protection Training

Youth Protection Training is required for ALL registered adult leaders and must be taken every two years. To ensure that we fully comply to the BSA's policies, please take the following steps:

- Please log on to MyScouting (<http://www.myscouting.org>) to take or validate the training. Be sure to have your member ID number. The number can be found on your Boy Scouts of America membership card.
- To take the training: From the MyScouting portal, click on E-Learning and take the Youth Protection Training. The training consists of watching a short video (30 mins.) and taking a post assessment test. Upon completion, print or save the certificate for your record.
- To validate your training: From the MyScouting portal, click on Training Validation and enter your user name or member ID to search for your training records

The target is to have ALL adult leaders completed the Youth Protection Training by **September-13**. If you have any question regarding the training please contact Eric Hoang through e-mail erichhoang@yahoo.com or cell phone 770-265-7945.



It's Popcorn Time! Did you know that Trail's End Popcorn returns 70% of profits back to local Scouting Organizations? Better yet, did you know that Troop 629 puts the majority of those monies into **YOUR personal High Adventure Account** to pay for future trips and outings? Trail's End Popcorn is good to eat, good for Boy Scouts of America, good for Troop 629 and good for YOU! From Sept 1st there are 48 days left to sell popcorn....just one quick phone call a night to grandma or Uncle Bill, and your high adventure trip is within reach...try a few calls. Missed the popcorn frenzy? Contact ASM John Herring and get your popcorn packet today! johnannpaden@gmail.com **Order deadline is October 18th**. Make checks payable to Troop 629.

Pictures Anyone?

Are you interested in having a reasonably priced professional photograph of your son in his full Scout Uniform? How about a Troop 629 picture? Please contact Troop Committee Chair, Mrs. Bierbaum if you are interested - marybeth@bierbaum.com The Troop will gauge interest and make arrangements if appropriate.



A Scout is timely....

Please respond on time for each event. Activities require coordination, equipment planning, supplies, food purchase, lots of paperwork, checks and transportation arrangements. Without accurate numbers, the proper planning is difficult to accomplish. We strive to have fliers posted on the website in a timely fashion....please respond accordingly by the expected deadline date.

ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

August 30th: Court of Honor/ Parent Dinner Meeting (Mount Pisgah South Hall @ 6:45 pm)

September Reminders

September 4th: Helen Tubing

September 6th: No Meeting

September 9th: District Roundtable

September 12th: Troop Committee Meeting (Mount Pisgah Room A012 at 6 pm)

September 13th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

September 14th: Merit Badge Help 6 p.m.

September 16th: Patrol Leader Council

September 18-19: Rappelling

September 20th: Troop Meeting ~ Board of Review

September 25th: District Cavalcade

September 27th: Troop Meeting 7:15.- 8:45

October Reminders

October 3rd: Troop Committee Meeting

October 9th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

October 9th-11th: USS Alabama Trip

October 11th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

October 12th: Merit Badge Help 6 p.m.

October 14th: District Roundtable

October 15th-16th: NYLT CD training

October 18th: Troop Meeting~ Board of Review (Popcorn Sales Due)

October 21st: Patrol Leader Council

October 23rd: Fire starters/Scout Fest

October 25th: Newtown Park Troop Meeting

❖ **Please note that with the start of Fulton County schools, the Troop Meetings will return to their normal schedule with a start time of 7:15 and end time of 8:45 and Class A uniform requirements. Please arrive on time so the program can start on time.**

❖ **Check out your Troop 629 web site to get the latest on all our upcoming events and view the latest pictures of our scouts in action.**

Calendar and Web Site Information

The Troop has its annual calendar published and it's available for all on the web site www.troop629.org. Keep in mind the Troop web site is a dynamic place always having items added and the latest updates being posted as soon as they are known. **Scouting is outing! Make it a habit to look at the website each week to ensure you are submitting your participation permission slips for designated trips and events.** Flyers and details of trips can be found under EVENTS on the website.

❖ **Keep us updated on changes to phone numbers, address and e-mail accounts. Not getting the newsletter? Contact Heather Pendery at penderyclan@comcast.net**

DEADLINES AND DATES

September and October fliers are late in coming out with details. Check the website frequently for updates so you will not miss out. Rappelling at Camp Merrill for September and USS Alabama overnight in October are expected to be exciting events. We are still ironing out the details. Backpacking in November and Skiing in December are then next up. A variety to meet a little for everyone. And remember....Scouting is Outing.

Troop Committee Meeting: September 12th

The September Troop Committee meeting will be held on Sunday, September 12 in Room A012 at 6pm. All registered adults are also welcome to attend. Please let Mary Beth know if you will not be in attendance – marybeth@bierbaum.com.

Upcoming Troop Board of Review: September 20th

After a scout completes his Scoutmaster conference, he must notify Mrs. Narayanan, Troop Advancement Chairperson, that he is ready for the next BOR. Mrs. Narayanan can also be reached at Kathleen@narayanan.us. **Reminder: Full Class "A" uniform and Scout handbook are required for participation in a Board of Review.**

Upcoming Events








- ❖ **September 4th**- Helen Tubing (**Flyer with details on website**)
- ❖ **September 18th-19th**- Rappelling
- ❖ **October 9th-11th**: USS Alabama Trip

Look for flyers and handouts at meetings and on the web site. **Remember the on-line calendar is dynamic so always refer to it to get the latest changes and updates.** www.troop629.org

SCOUT HANDSHAKE

 EAGLE~ LIFE~ STAR~ FIRST CLASS~ SECOND CLASS~ TENDERFOOT~ SCOUT

Advancement congratulations for the month of July go to:

-  **EAGLE:** none
-  **LIFE:** none
-  **STAR:** none
-  **FIRST CLASS:** Henry H.
-  **SECOND CLASS:** Ross H., Henry H., Shane S
-  **TENDERFOOT:** Jacob M.
-  **SCOUT:** none

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!!

BE PREPARED....FRIENDLY REMINDERS

NEW Response Needed for High Adventure

Remember, the Troop has three high adventure activities planned for older scouts in 2011. First up is the NH skiing trip in January, followed by an April Bahamas tall ship sailing experience and finally Rocky Mt backpacking at Philmont, NM in June. **If you are interested in any of these trips, make your intent known NOW.** Please make your reservation with us so we can continue the process and not have to cancel these activities due to the lack of interest. Adults wanting to participate have very specific pre-training requirements in order to be eligible.

Double Check your Medical Forms!

Please contact Mr. Street to check on the status of your troop medical form. Many of you have medical forms that have just expired or are coming up for renewal. (Remember that your medical form is valid for only twelve (12) months from the date your physician signed your form and therefore must be renewed annually.) We don't want anyone to miss out on a trip because they do not have a current medical form on file with the troop. If you have any questions, please contact Ian Street at ian.street@daltile.com

Uniforms

Now that school has started, please wear your Class A uniform to all events unless otherwise noted. Remember all great scouts are not without **their handbook** to make a complete uniform. **A proper uniform includes a tucked in shirt and closed toe shoes!** Please dress for the weather as some activities are outside.

Merit Badge Reminders from Scout Master Gillis

- ❖ Please remember our policy: **Troop Meetings are for group and team development and NOT generally for Merit Badge time.** (Summertime is an exception and unfortunately summer is over!) **There is to be NO merit badge work during patrol meeting time, instructional time and competition. The only exception on Mondays is that a Scout can opt to work on Merit Badges during game time.**
- ❖ Scouts are still coming forward to work on a merit badge without reading the whole MB book from cover to cover. This is not negotiable and it doesn't matter where the MB was started or with who. To complete the summer camp merit badges or any other please follow these simple rules.
 1. **Read the book from cover to cover.**
 2. Bring any completed paperwork to a meeting or merit badge help night and coordinate an approved counselor from the scoutmaster.
 3. Sit down with the counselor and explain, show or complete the requirements as detailed.
 4. Its not about a memory test – it is about comprehension and covering the material as stated.

The second Tuesday of every month the SM will be available at the Mount Pisgah 6-7 PM for those who need extra help with merit badge requirements or advancement.

Once a month our SPL leads his PLC to formulate the plans for meetings and activities. Changes and or improvements are discussed at that time and all scouts should be making sure their representative is up to date on issues, concerns and program request. Another reason to check the Troop bulletin board or web site to keep the ever dynamic and fluid scouting calendar up to date.

Life to Eagle Candidates

Is your project stalled? Do you need fresh ideas or perspective? Does your project plan effectively address the expectations of the Chattahoochee District? Contact Mr. Gillis gillisfx@aol.com. If you would like to review past Eagle project packages, please contact Ms. Narayanan who will bring the binder to a troop meeting for your review.

Get trained as a Den Chief – openings available

We have Cub Scout Dens looking for Den Chiefs. If you are trained and need the leadership position for rank advancement, see **Scoutmaster Gillis** and **ASM Scott Bowen**. He still has slots available and waiting for you. Remember ... Mr. Gillis must approve you for a spot after you have received training.

A Scout's Responsibility

A scout's advancement record is only as accurate as the information he has provided to the record-keeper. It is the individual scout's responsibility when working with his youth leaders and assigned adults on his advancement to make sure all updates are given to our **Advancement Chairperson, Mrs. Narayanan**. Kathleen@narayanan.us

Trip Paperwork – It is important

Prior to each trip we ask for a permission slip for a scout's participation to ensure we have the parents' concurrence and have the latest info on that scout. This permission slip is important for each activity and should be carefully completed. Include details if you can help with the driving to and from any activity. Please fill them out completely and have them in by their deadlines so we can gather the proper resources to carry out each and every activity. **Please make your intentions known early so we can properly make reservations for everyone and have the food and travel arrangements ironed out.** Adults wishing to participate are *always welcome and appreciated*. However, we do require each to be registered, complete the minimum training and have an updated physical. Details are on the troop website.



EARNING POWER

High Adventure Accounts

Fundraisers have provided many of our scouts with additional funds to use for skiing, summer camp and any High Adventure outing. It's never too early for a scout to start his own individual High Adventure account which the troop maintains. Many boys have been able to fund their entire big-ticket trips from accumulating earnings over the years. High Adventure earning opportunities will be announced at Troop Meetings, the Newsletter and the Troop Website.

Krispy Kreme Fundraiser: Remember Krispy Kreme offers an opportunity for Scouts to earn even more money for their High Adventure Accounts. Selling donuts for 50 cents each at a neighborhood event or Scout event gains 25 cents profit per donut! And that price saves the customer money too! If you would like to get involved, please contact Don Harden harden1@gmail.com. And remember to get approval from the event sponsor in advance. More details at www.krispykreme.com too!



KROGER GIFT CARDS – Easy money that adds up!

Join Troop 629 families in this easy on-going monthly fundraiser. By participating in this Kroger program, ***our troop receives 5% of our total gift card orders each month and each scout received 75% of those funds for their personal high adventure account.*** These funds go directly to keep the costs down on each of our monthly activities and to help pay for various troop operational costs and scholarships. The gift cards can be used at any Kroger store or Kroger fuel center [during each use your purchase is deducted and when the amount of the card is depleted, it is kept by the cashier – new cards are issued each month and mailed to you]. There is no service charge – (if you order a \$50 Kroger gift card, you will receive a \$50 gift card)! To get started, contact Mike Bramel at bramel.mike@gmail.com or 678- 234-7188 with this information: Name; Address; Phone #; E-mail address; Amount for Monthly Kroger gift card (i.e. \$25; \$40; \$50; \$75; \$100, \$200...etc.). Orders are placed at the end of the month for the following month. Your Kroger gift card will be mailed to you at the beginning of each month (with enclosed reminder of amount owed and address to send payment). Return payment in the mail to Mike by the 22nd of the month or you can bring payment on a Monday night troop meeting and give to him.

Troop 629 Scout Activity Scholarships

In these turbulent times please understand fully that our policy has always been and is still the same – **every scout should never miss participating in any activity due to a temporary shortfall in their families ability to afford the activity.** We have been blessed to have sufficient funds to offer every scout the ability to quickly earn their way through a service project of their choosing. Coordinate with the SM or Committee Chair to bring this about but do not hold back asking if the need exists. In addition, the high adventure bases and camps also normally run scholarship applications for various events, just ask us for the forms if help is needed for a particular event. Scouting is outing and if you miss that portion then it can be rather boring.



Scribe Note

Make sure you're at the meeting. We will be recognizing all your accomplishments at the court of honor. We also have a family dinner.

Chris Bertrand- Troop 629 Scribe

A SCOUT IS THRIFTY

Lending Closet

The Troop maintains a scout uniform exchange or drop off point for all to use. With growth spurts for young scouts it's hard at times to keep them outfitted for activities. Bring in your used or any pieces you come across and add to closet and feel free to pick up an item at any meeting. Ask for other items that may be store at another of our locations.

Grubby Details

During some troop outings, patrol food is purchased by scouts working on advancement requirements (Grubmasters). A scout buying food will get a menu to use with a budget to follow. It's important to follow the list of items/quantities specified as the menu has been planned for patrol guest and other program considerations. Families are asked to purchase designated food from the list and then they are reimbursed by the Troop Treasurer. Families can ask for an advance and handle reconciliation after the trip. Turn your receipts into **Julie Deaton, Treasurer**, to be reimbursed for any authorized cost. Non-perishable (leftover) food from camping trips that can be re-used needs to be turned in with the patrol gear at the end of each trip and is stored by the troop in special patrol containers. This will help cut back on costs for future trips and eliminate waste now on-going.

A Helping Hand

On occasion the troop is able to provide a helping hand in preparing meals for a Troop 629 family going through a stressful situation. If you know a troop family going through a difficult time and they need assistance or if you are able to provide a meal when needed, please contact Donna Martinez at mom3drm@aol.com.



Merit Badge Universities

The following Merit Badge University is being offered by Troop 1776. Remember these are not Troop 629 sponsored activities, so you must register yourself and provide your own transportation. Questions? Click on the link below or contact the sponsoring organization.

7th Annual Merit Badge University at Kennesaw State University 10/16/2010

ALT Adult Leader Training
American Business
Architecture
Bugling
Chemistry
Citizenship in the
Community*
Citizenship in the Nation*
Citizenship in the World*
Communications*
Computers
Textile
Veterinary Medicine
Weather

Dog Care
Drafting
Electronics
Emergency Preparedness*
Energy
Entrepreneurship
Environmental Science*
Family Life*
Fingerprinting
First Aid*
Golf

Graphic Arts
Law
Medicine
Nuclear Science
Personal Fitness*
Personal Management*
Photography
Plumbing
Radio
Salesmanship
Stamp Collecting

Please see <http://meritbadge.info/mbn/EventDetails.aspx?ID=91E44A30-0D2D-434A-B9C9-F936F3F44445> for full details.

BSA and Sponsor Websites



- We are **Chattahoochee District (www.cdbsa.org)** and **Atlanta Area Council (www.atlantabsa.org)**. These websites have additional information regarding upcoming events, training, contacts and library.
- Troop 629 is sponsored by **Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church (www.mountpisgah.org)**.

Why not print out the troop calendar and post it near your family calendar? Remember to verify dates often on the website and bulletin board.



Flyers & Links

Tons of Troop Pictures <http://tinyurl.com/2yetln>

Troop Events <http://www.troop629.org/events/events.htm>

BSA Online Learning Center <http://olc.scouting.org:80/>

Scouting Magazine (Adult Leaders) <http://www.scoutingmagazine.org/>

Boys Life Magazine (Scouts) <http://www.boyslife.org/>

Gear Guide for Scouts & Scouters http://www.troop629.org/Adventure/philmont_gear.htm

BSA on the Radio www.radiosandysprings.com

Council-Sponsored Events <http://www.atlantabsa.org>

Scout Shop News www.scoutstuff.org

Merit Badge www.meritbadge.com

New Leader Essentials for Boy Scout Leaders <http://training.cdbsa.org/ClassSignup.aspx?classtype=NLE>

SALT - Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leadership Training

<http://training.cdbsa.org/ClassSignup.aspx?classtype=SALT>

ITOLS - Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills

<http://training.cdbsa.org/ClassSignup.aspx?classtype=ITOLS>

Jamboree on the Air and on the Internet (JOTA/JOTI)

http://www.scout.org/en/information_events/events/jota/the_52nd_jota_2009# and <http://www.joti.org/>.

CPR Saturday www.goodturn.net

ScoutFest www.scoutfestatl.org