

TROOP 629

Newsletter **June / July 2005**

Hot Topics in this Edition

June 20 (7:15): Board of Review

June 24: Sea Base Crew Leaves for the Bahamas

July 4: Sea Base Crew Returns from the Bahamas, tan and happy.

July 4th: Happy Independence Day

July 12 – Tuesday (6:00 to 7:00): Merritt Badge Help Night

July 14 (7:30 to 9:00): RT and OA

July 18 (7:15): Board of Review (CLASS A Uniforms required)

July 20: Six Flags / Whitewater outing

July 21 (7:00 to 8:00): Patrol Leaders Council

July 24 to July 30: Green Bar Training

Camp Rainey Mountain a HUGE success



July Board of Review Reminder

All Scouts participating in the July 18 Board of Review are required to wear their Class A uniform.

ALL ACTIVITIES FOR 2005 and 2006 are posted at www.troop629.org



Scoutmaster Minute, by Scoutmaster Fran Gillis

Congratulations to David White our newly elected Senior Patrol Leader and the other members of the PLC (Stevie McHugh, Neal Ruggles, Martin Jones, Will Chesson, & Grayson Cotney). The new leadership group is off and running already. The Troop is off to Camp Rainey Mt (we hope the name does not hold true) for another summer camp experience with a good showing for 47 of our scouts. Lots of advancement and activities planned and speaking for the other adults attending I hope we can hang in there with scouts. A solid 14 (maybe a bit water logged) of our scouts (9 on staff and 6 as participants) have just attended the Council National Youth Leadership Training this week with many more to attend the second session later in July. We have one at Philmont, NM on staff in the back country, another trying to head that way to work on a trail crew, one up on Woodruff camp staff and yet some more working with Bert Adams Scout Camp staff. Three are heading out for National Youth Leadership Instructors Course in Philmont NM and yet another 16 heading for the Bahamas Tall ship sailing end of June. Scouting is outing and I hope everyone that can is affording themselves the opportunity to attend one of these great adventures. Hey, if your scout is bored over the summer we can always send them back to Woodruff as part of the “provisional” scouting program for another week or more! Our Patrol Leaders Council has completed its annual planning and if you go to the Troop web site you’ll see our next years activities already laid out. So start next years planning with the Troop calendar in hand so you can maximize your scouts experience in the scouting program. Our most successful scouts have always been those that have made the scouting program one of their highest priorities over the years.

In loving memory of Brian Prevo -

Brian Prevo, 17 Venture Crew 9999, was killed in a single car accident on May 28, 2005. Brian was an outgoing and fun loving young man who was loved by his fellow crewmembers, friends and most everyone who came in contact with him. He had been active member of the Crew 9999 for over 3 years, participating in the Philmont Trek the summer of 2004. Please remember Brian's family and friends in our prayers for God's blessings as they grieve and adjust to life without Brian.

Deaton Cracks the whip -

James Deaton is the new librarian for troop 629 and is requesting that all library books be returned for inventory. Anyone who has a troop merit badge book please bring it to the next meeting in the south hall or face the wrath of Deaton. ;-)

Troop Outings - Overnight adventures!

Troop Outings - Overnight adventures!

NEXT Troop outing

Our annual day trip to SIX FLAGS or WHITWATER will be towards the end of July. Look for more details in early July.

SEA BASE 2006

We have 2 crews going to Sea Base in April of 2006 during Fulton County Schools Spring Break. Those who have signed on for a week of sailing, sun and fun, please make sure you \$100.00 deposit is in ASAP. In addition to John DiPietro, Mike McGoff, and Lewis Wilkinson, We will need one more adult who is fully trained up through ITOLS and including Safe Swim, Safe Boating, and First Aid/CPR to help man the second crew. Please contact Mr. DiPietro or Mr. Gillis if you are interested in this adventure in the Florida Keys! Thanks John DiPietro jdipietro@bellsouth.net or jdipietro@sclawgroup.com

Short on Cash, but love to travel?

For all scouting activities the Troop has set up a scholarship fund to help any individual who may just not capable to participate at any particular time or event through a service hour trade off agreement with Committee Chair know you if you have any individual needs. Our goal is not to deny any scout an opportunity they truly want to participate in. The high adventure bases and camps also normally run scholarship applications for those various events, just ask us for the forms if help is needed for a particular event. ***The High Adventure*** bases and camps also normally have scholarship applications available for those individual events. Just ask the Scoutmaster for the form if help is needed for a particular event.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS BE SOMEBODY!

Rank Advancement - Congratulations to all!

April, May, June Advancements

Scout - Sean DeBuys, Trevor Hymel, John Russell, Philip Sasse, William Haynes

Tenderfoot - Gabe Unger

2nd Class - John Briski, Justin Janssen, Brian Napier

1st Class - Derrick Grunwald, Justin Janssen, Brian Napier, Dale Rocchio

Star - Peter Melampy

Life - Adam Daniel, James Padget



Merit Badge Reminder from Scout Master Gillis

Scouts are still coming forward to work on a merit badge *WITHOUT* reading the whole MB book from cover to cover. This is not a negotiable and it doesn't matter where the MB was started or with who. To complete the summer camp merit badges or any other follow the simple rules. Read the book from cover to cover. Bring any completed paperwork to a meeting or merit badge help night and coordinate an approved counselor from the scoutmaster. Sit down with the counselor and explain, show or complete the requirements as detailed. 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 Rm A017 from 6-7 PM for those who need extra help with merit badge requirements or advancement.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND OUR POLICY: TROOP MEETINGS ARE FOR GROUP AND TEAM DEVELOPMENT AND NOT GENERALLY FOR MERIT BADGE TIME. THERE IS TO BE NO MERIT BADGE WORK DURING PATROL MEETING TIME, INSTRUCTIONAL TIME AND COMPETITION TIMES. THE ONLY EXCEPTION ON MONDAY'S IS THAT SCOUTS CAN OPT TO WORK ON MERIT BADGES DURING GAME TIME.

Order of the Arrow

Every month on the second Thursday there is a district OA gathering OA members can attend. See your OA rep for details.: <http://www.cdbsa.org/Pages/OA.htm>

Scout Merit Badge Opportunities

Check Out Merit Badge University

The Merit Badge Calendar offers many merit badge opportunities. Scouts follow the links to download Registration Forms and Merit Badge fliers. The Merit Badge Calendar is updated as new merit badge opportunities become available. Check out Merit Badge University at:

<http://www.meritbadge.info>


SERVICE PROJECTS:

The Troop frequently has **last minute service project opportunities** for scouts to participate in. Keep an eye out for them weekly, look on the bulletin board and pick up the flyers that are usually at the meeting.

Upcoming Troop Board of Reviews: Monday June 20, 2005

After a scout completes his Scoutmaster conference, he must notify Mrs. Smith, Troop Advancement Chairperson, that he is ready for the next BOR. *Reminder:* Full Class "A" uniform and Scout handbook are required for participation in a Board of Review.

ADULTS – PARENTS TROOP 629 NEEDS YOU!



All adults are required by this troop to be properly trained for the event they are participating in. From being properly prepared just for a weekend outing to getting all the specialized training for high adventure now is the time to get yourself into those classes so you can help be ready on time.


Our adults are encouraged to participate in one of the many training opportunities available for scouting. A great way to get started is by completing the online Boy Scout Fast Start or Youth Protection Training located at the Chattahoochee web site via a link from our troop's web site: www.troop629.org. To participate as an adult leader in the troop on overnight camping, you must complete Youth Protection Training, Fast Start and review the Troop 629 Adult Guide.

Assistant Scoutmasters and Committee Members must complete the above training and New Leaders Essentials, SALT, ITOLS and/or Committee Training. Information on these training opportunities are available on the Chattahoochee District web site. To participate in High Adventure, leaders must complete all the above along with special classes such as CPR, FA, safety afloat, and safe swim.

- ♦ NOTE: For Youth Protection and Fast Start, print from web site your completion form page and pass to the unit's training chairperson. When you have completed any of the BSA training, please contact Linda Dembowski at lindahd@ofsoptics.com or call her at 770-552-1472 or/ and to volunteer

Monthly reminders

Patrol Leaders Council



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. Next PLC is set for **July 21**. Another reason to check the Troop bulletin board or web site to keep the ever dynamic and fluid scouting calendar up to

date.

KROGER Debit Cards are going FAST!

Kroger Debit Cards continue as a fabulous Troop fund raising activity. It's painless and easy for families to help support the Troop by just participating in a no cost to you program and it is in conjunction with your normal routine of buying groceries for the family. Why not participate? The new Kroger debit card which will allow you to have actual cost deducted on each purchase rather than the set amount on the gift certificates have been a great convenience. Please contact **Susan Cook** at 678-297-7766 for these great funding raising cards!

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.

Uniforms

At all troop activities a designated uniform is specified. Also during Troop meetings the proper wear of the uniform shirt during the school year is expected and all great scouts are not without their handbook to make a complete uniform. Proper uniform includes your shirt tucked in and closed toe shoes! Please dress for the weather as some activities are outside.

REMINDER: It is the BSA insurance policy that no open toe shoes to be worn on any activity. This includes meetings, camping and water activities. The only exception is flip flops for showers but sandals are a no go for any activity we do including weekly meetings. ***Scouts will not be allowed to participate if they show up with open toe shoes.*** Once school is out we will conduct meetings with our Troop Red Field T-shirt as the primary uniform throughout the summer.

Patrol food items

Non Perishable (left over) from camping trips that can be reused need to be turned in with the patrol gear at the end of each trip and are stored by the troop in special patrol containers. This will help cut back on some cost for future trips and eliminate some waste now ongoing. A scout buying food will get a menu to use with a budget to follow. It's important to follow the list and items/quantities specified as the menu has been planned for patrol guest and other program considerations. Purchase slips are turned into the Troop Treasurer for reimbursement after each trip by the patrol scout grubmaster for that trip.

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

Our Chattahoochee District (www.cdbsa.org) and Atlanta Area Council (www.atlantabsa.org) have web sites as well where additional information is also available concerning upcoming events.

Please note that Troop meeting start time at 7:15 and closing at 8:45 PM on Mondays. Please show up on time so we can start the program on time.

Keep an eye out for new opportunities that crop up for special events and classes being offered. Details can be found on the bulletin board for emergency disaster exercises looking for scouts to participate in, special merit badge sessions for railroad MB and nature events. Those kind of events are open to all scouts but generally are not organized for attendance as a Troop activity. Normally an individual parent takes on the lead to help arrange rides and details.

Keep us updated on changes to phone numbers, address and e-mail accounts.

***Communication channels works best when everyone
is getting and giving timely information.***

“View the bulletin board and troop web site for latest details.”

Questions concerning this publication?

Joe and Neal Ruggles

Receive this by email, just send your email address to joe@RealtyExecutivesUSA.com

Produced by RUGGLES PUBLISHING ®