

TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

MAY 2006



Monday, May 8th - Eagle Court of Honor -

The Eagle Court of Honor for David Munoz will be held on in conjunction with our scheduled Troop Court of Honor. Please make plans to attend and congratulate David on his achievement!

Monday, May 8th - Court of HONOR

Please join the Scouts and their families as we recognize the achievements for the past couple of months. Please mark your calendar for Monday, May 8th at 7:15.

May 9th (Tuesday) Next Merit Badge Help Night: Is Tuesday May 9th from 6-7. There will be no special help nights in June or July.

May 11 (Thursday) – RT and OA Meeting at 7:30p.m.

May 15th - Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader Elections: It's that time for our 6 month transition for the patrol leader's council so at the meeting scouts will get a chance to elect their next SPL and confirm who their Patrol Leader will be for the next 6 months. SPL nominees are required to have served or be serving as a staff member on a NYLT course and PL nominees have to be graduates of the same Council level course.

May 15th - Summer Camp Parent Orientation

Reminder-Parent Information Night-Summer Camp 2006

Please plan on attending the meeting for the parents of the new scouts. This meeting is set for Monday, May 15th at 7:15 pm. Please come to Building A, the same place where we normally meet and we will direct you to the meeting room. The purpose of the meeting is to orient all new parents about what goes on at camp, what to pack, what not to pack, what you can bring, what you cannot bring and a general question and answer session. The meeting will probably last one hour. There will be handouts provided, but you may want to bring paper and pen for notes.

If you have questions, please direct them to Scoutmaster Fran Gillis (770-649-7825) or Gregg Brasher (770-998-9143).

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MAY 15 - Next Troop Board of Review –

After a scout completes his Scoutmaster conference, he must notify Mrs. Narayanan, Troop Advancement Chair, 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.

May 18th - Annual Planning PLC: Yes another scout year is coming to a close and we have to set up our next years events. The annual planning meeting for all PLC members (current and future) will be from 6:30-9:00 (with pizza) at C-107. Input is needed from all our various sources to get a complete picture of what next year will set in motion for activities and events for participation.

May of the Arrow Ordeal at Bert Adams Scout Reservation for those who have been elected into this national Honore Camper society.

May 19 – Green Bar staff set up goes through the 21st

May 25 – Board of Review and Life to Eagle Clinic

May 26 – God help us! Last day of School

May 28 to June 3rd – GREEN BAR BABY! Week #1 and June 4-10 Week #2

Scoutmaster Minute: Another three Eagle scouts!

Steven Conter, Joe Dembowski, and Kevin Smith all just had their Eagle Boards of Review and have been recommended for advancement to our highest youth award that of Eagle Scout. Congratulate them when you see them and as the details of their ceremonies become known we will certainly pass them along. Significant milestones in each of these young mans lives that are potentially available to each and every scout who sets his own internal goal to go all the way and sticks with it even when being bomb barded with opportunities and events to distract them away from completion. As we have a number of service opportunities being offered to our scouts I hope each of you can remember that this program is not just about your individual needs but the caring and sharing for others as well. So it's easy to find other things to do and not to do on weekends and nights but some focus on helping others is always a stepping stone to being a true Eagle Scout.

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.

DUE NOW: Philmont 2007: The Troop has been approved for a crew to go to Philmont, NM in the summer of 2007. Hold your spot now with a \$100 reservation fee. Must be 14 by Jan 1, 2007 and FC to participate. Only one slot left but certainly get your name on the wait list if you're still serious about wanting to go.

DUE NOW: Sea Base 2007: Next spring break in April 2007 will offer an opportunity to sail in the Bahamas. Those who will be FC and 14 by "Aug 2007" are eligible so sign up now with a reservation fee of \$100 to hold your space for this great adventure.

June 11-17 -Summer Camp 2006 at Woodruff sign ups are now completed and class reservations made. Do not be left out for this June 11-17 experience in the Georgia outdoors for all registered scouts. Flyers are available at the meetings and on our web site. Those who signed up need to verify they have the classes they wanted, selected a tent-mate, completed all the class II physical

submission needed and finished paying balances due if not already. Check to make sure you are all up to date with your records so we can have a smooth assimilation into camp. We may have a pre camp swim test on May 21st for all going to camp. Look for details at the meeting if it gets confirmed. New parents are certainly welcome to attend as well and the Troop has some basic registration and training requirements that need to be accomplished so let us know. Come on by for the new parent camp orientation set for May 15th during weekly meeting that night.

Summer Meetings: Yes we do meet most Monday nights during the summer but with a modified agenda. Usually it is a choice of game activities or advancement help with only red "activity" sheet required – no formal meeting until school starts up. Look for other activities and notices on the web site.

Welcome NEW SCOUTS!

Get ready for the thrill ride of your life!

Troop 629 Packs in the action and welcomes our new Scouts:

Jack Tillman
Austin Bedford
Benjamin Bierbaum
Daniel Kaminski
Dylan Lu
Nicholas Sheridan
Michael Przybylinski
Alec Mazzuckelli
Kevin Crone
Bryan Roberts
Jake Brasher
John Foley
Aaron Durrence
Robbie Warren
David Lemcoe
Charles Stebbins
Palmer Brasher
Benjamin Mortimer

THANK YOU - Flower Sale a HUGE SUCCESS

Thanks to everyone for making the spring flower sales a success. The boys sold over \$4700 in flowers and earned over \$1200 for their high adventure accounts. Congratulations to the 5 top sellers - Aroon Narayanan earned \$126.60, Alex Johnson \$120.80, Bryan Roberts \$111.00, Grayson Cotney \$109.40 and Derrick Grunwald \$101.80. Good job guys.

NOW -Positions Available

We are in need of adult volunteers. We have several folks who have served over two years in current positions and we are looking for some new faces. If you are interested but do not know what the position involves, please contact **Wendy Kraemer**, wkraemer@bellsouth.net for more details. If you want to volunteer and do not know where, there will be a sign-up sheet at the Court of Honor. Please sign-up and we will call you for different opportunities.

Current open positions:

- *Refreshments for Court of Honor
- *Secretary - Monthly Committee Meetings
- *Newsletter - Monthly

Please give a big THANK YOU to Ann Tillman to taking over the meals position. She joins us from PACK 449

ADVANCEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:

SCOUT

Aaron Durrence
David Lemcoe
Alec Mazzuckelli
Michael Przybylinski
Nicholas Sheridan

FIRST CLASS

Kevin Dekle

EAGLE

Kevin Smith
Steven Conter
Joe Dembowski

Next Troop Board of Review – MAY 15

After a scout completes his Scoutmaster conference, he must notify **Mrs. Narayanan**, Troop Advancement Chair, 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. Kathleen@avalonintl.com

Merit Badge Counselors Needed

Being a Merit Badge Counselor is an easy and fun way to be involved in the Troop. All Merit Badge Counselors must complete a Merit Badge Counselor application and Adult Leader Registration form (both can be found on our Troop website Forms page). To learn more about your role as a merit badge counselor visit www.meritbadge.com/info/. Please give completed forms to Mrs. Narayanan.

We are seeking counselors for all BSA merit badges; however, we currently have no one registered for the following merit badges:

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Archaeology | Disability Awareness | Plant Science | Veterinary |
| | Fly Fishing | Railroading | Waterskiing |
| Bugling | Graphic Arts | Reptile/Amphibian | Whitewater |
| Cinematography | Medicine | Sculpture | |
| Climbing | Model Design | Skating | |
| Collections | Music | Textile | |
| Dentistry | | Theater | |

Adult Leaders - Tell Us You've Been Trained

We need trained leaders! Upon completion of any BSA training program, please send a copy of your course “completion” card to Mrs. Narayanan, at Kathleen@avalonintl.com, or bring a copy to her at the Troop meeting.

FREE EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Please send all new or revised scout email addresses to Mr. Ruggles, communication director for Troop 629 at joe@realtyexecutivesUSA.com

Merit Badge University

Check out Merit Badge University at: <http://www.meritbadge.info/>. 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.

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>

Merit Badge Reminder from Scout Master Gillis

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".

Reading the whole MB book from cover to cover is required. 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 C006 from 6-7 PM for those who need extra help with merit badge requirements or advancement. The next one is scheduled for December 13th

Scout Merit Badge Opportunities

SERVICE PROJECTS and Special Events:

The Troop frequently has last minute service project opportunities and their scouting activities 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.

LET'S GO KROGERING –

TURN YOUR GROCERY SHOPPING INTO CASH FOR TROOP 629!

TROOP 629 FUNDRAISER : Join the families of Troop 629 in our monthly fundraiser – Kroger Gift Cards. Our troop receives 5% of our total order each month; participation has resulted in the following funds going directly to our Troop 629 in recent months:

September - \$251.00

October - \$241.00

November - \$251.50

December - \$238.50

The Gift Cards can be used at any Kroger store [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 Kroger Gift Card)! To participate and get additional information, call Susan Cook (678-297-7766).

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.

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.

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.

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