



BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

February 2007

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

DOWNLOAD THIS NEWSLETTER AT www.Troop629.org

Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Here I go again – another congratulations to our newest Eagle Scout, Adam Norris. Adam passed his District Board of Review in late January to join our 44 other Eagle scouts. 2007 is off to a great start and as Adam works out the time for his special recognition we will pass along the details to troop members. Little Things: Most of us miss out on life's big prizes. The Pulitzer, The Nobel, Oscars, Tonys, Emmys. But we're all eligible for life's small pleasures. A pat on the back, a hug, a four-pound bass, a full moon, an empty parking space, a crackling fire, a great meal, a glorious sunset, hot soup, cold drink! Don't fret about seizing life's grand awards. Enjoy its tiny delights. There's plenty for all of us.

*****ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR*****

February Reminders:

- Feb 1st:** District Banquet
- Feb 3rd:** GA Aquarium trip ~ Gladiator Scout Day
- Feb 4th:** Scout Sunday at Mount Pisgah Church ~ Troop Committee Meeting
- Feb 5th:** OA Elections (during regular troop meeting)
- Feb 8th:** District Roundtable ~ OA Meeting
- Feb 10th – 11th:** Pine Mountain Backpacking ~ Green Bar Staff Training 1A
- Feb 13th:** Merit Badge Help Night
- Feb 15th:** Patrol Leader Council Meeting
- Feb 16th – 19th:** WV Ski Trip
- Feb 17th:** Green Bar Staff Training 1B
- Feb. 19th:** Board of Review (Yes! There is a Troop Meeting) ~ Presidents' Day
- Feb 24th:** Green Bar Staff Training 2A

March Reminders:

- Mar 3rd:** Centenary CPR Training ~ Green Bar Staff Training 2B ~ Philmont Training Hike
- Mar 4th:** Troop Committee Meeting
- Mar 8th:** District Roundtable
- Mar 10th – 11th:** Okefenokee Swamp Trip
- Mar 13th:** Merit Badge Help Night
- Mar 15th:** Patrol Leader Council Meeting
- Mar 23rd – 25th:** District Camporee
- Mar 24th:** Centenary National Park Cleanup
- Mar 24th – 25th:** Green Bar Staff Training 3
- Mar 25th:** Eagle Recognition
- Mar 26th:** Summer Camp signup due
- Mar 30th – Apr 8th:** Sea Base Bahamas

*****DEADLINES AND DATES*****

Please frequently visit our web site www.troop629.org. It is a dynamic, changing document that will keep you abreast of all troop activities and catch up on any of the latest changes. Click on Calendar for the most current information. You'll also find more meeting dates and service project opportunities. The troop annual calendar has been formulated by the Patrol Leaders Council, who has a special meeting once a year to plan next year's events and activities. Also look for flyers at meetings or postings on the bulletin board.

Preparation for Next Troop Outings ... a.k.a ... Cures for Boredom and Laziness ...

The troop is planning a special "behind the scene" bonus to the **Georgia Aquarium** trip on **Feb. 3rd**. Look for more details in the flyers at meetings and website. ***** Scouts attending **Sea Base** trip over Spring Break need to submit their physicals, update payments and copy of their passport to the SM. Those are **due now** as we need to finalize travel plans. ***** **Philmont** scouts need to get their slips, money and physicals into SM so we can start checking off the "what is required" list. The next practice hike for all is **Feb. 10th - 11th** backpacking trip at **Pine Mountain**. Plan to be there and get your 50-mile practice overnight hike requirements a little closer to that completion. The backpacking trip is open to all registered troop members. Permission slips and money **due by Feb. 5th**. ***** Get ready for a great cool weekend of **skiing at Winterplace in West Virginia, February 16th – 19th (Fri. – Mon.)**. Road Trip (!!) Day- and night-skiing (and other snow sports), friends, food and fun! You do not want to miss out on this fun yearly event! Check out the troop flyer link and the resort link below. Your plans should be in place now! ***** **Okefenokee Swamp Trip** is the next fun event on the fun Troop radar. Mark your calendar for **March 10th – 12th**. Money and permission slips **due by March 5th**. Flyers are out at meetings and on website. ***** **Woodruff Summer Camp** flyers and information is out. **Dates are from June 10th to June 16th**. **First deposit is due on February 5th** so look for the flyer at a meeting or go onto our website and pull up the information.

Next Troop Board of Review – February 19th

Please read carefully: 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**.

Flyers

Ga. Aquarium Trip <http://www.troop629.org/forms/aquarium%2001%2007.pdf>

Pine Mountain Backpacking

<http://www.troop629.org/forms/pine%20mt%20backpack%2002%2007.pdf>

West Virginia Ski Trip <http://www.troop629.org/events/ski07.htm>

Okefenokee Swamp Trip

<http://www.troop629.org/forms/Okefenokee%20Swamp%20Trip%2007.pdf>

Eagle Camp 2007 <http://www.miltonbsa.org:80/index.php?section=pages&id=109>

Sea Base Bahamas Tall Ship

<http://www.troop629.org/forms/Sea%20Base%20Parents%20meeting%20Aug%202006.pdf>

Summer Camp info <http://www.troop629.org/camping/summercamp2007.htm>

Philmont, NM <http://www.troop629.org/forms/Philmont%202007%20parents%20items.pdf>

Pictures - (AT Hike, Callaway Biking, Sandy Springs Festival, USS Alabama, Georgia Tech Ushering, and more...) <http://www.troop629.org/pictures/pictures.htm>

Good Turn For America Centenary Opportunities <http://www.atlantabsa.org/>

Troop Committee Meeting

Our February committee meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, February 4th at 6:00** at the Mount Pisgah Dining Room on South Campus.

Annual Ski Trip to West Virginia










You will not want to miss this trip on **February 16th – 19th (Fri. – Mon.)**. Leaving **Friday night at 5:30 pm** and returning to Mount Pisgah on **Monday at 5:00 pm**. After an overnight stop in Charlotte, we are off again and will arrive at Winterplace Ski Resort on Saturday morning. It will only take minutes to check in and away you go to fun city!! We'll ski all day and into the night on Saturday (night-skiing!). We'll stay at a hotel in Princeton, WV, just minutes from the slopes. On Sunday we hit the slopes again and spend all day skiing, later retiring to our hotel to trade ski stories. Winterplace website (to get excited about the trip – BUT DO NOT BOOK ANYTHING through the website - your trip will be arranged through hard work done by your free tour guide a.k.a. THE TROOP.) <http://www.winterplace.com/>. If you have questions, contact **Gregg Brasher** at g.brasher@comcast.net.

*****SCOUT HANDSHAKE*****

EAGLE COURTS OF HONOR

A special Eagle Court of Honor is being planned to celebrate the troop's newest Eagle Scout, Adam Norris. *Congratulations Adam!* When planning has been completed, the details will be shared with the troop. These are very special recognition evenings and we hope that all scouts will attend with their families.

ADVANCEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

-  **EAGLE:** Adam Norris
-  **LIFE:** Ryan D., Will P. and Zack P.
-  **STAR:** Will H.
-  **FIRST CLASS:** (none this month)
-  **SECOND CLASS:** (none this month)
-  **TENDERFOOT:** (none this month)
-  **SCOUT:** (none this month)

Godsend Award for Troop 629 goes to.....

Congratulations **Albert Bodamer**. Once a year, troop adults vote on a person(s) who significantly impacts our troop in a positive way. That person is then recognized by the District at the Annual Banquet. In addition to his active scouting participation, one only has to click on this link www.troop629.org to see why Albert was chosen this year!

More recognition for T-629 Adults!

Congratulations are also in order for our **Scoutmaster, Fran Gillis**. At the Annual Banquet, the District awarded our Mr. Gillis with the Super Scouter Award for really going above and beyond and making a difference in scouting with his life-long contributions to scouting all over the world, in many countries. Of course, we at Troop 629 already knew that and are excited about his recognition. Also at the same banquet, more of our troop adults were recognized for exceptional district-level volunteerism: **Julie Deaton** for her work as finance person and **Mike Deaton** for organizing scouting events in conjunction with Roswell Youth Day. Thank you for your contributions to scouting!

Green Bar National Youth Leadership Training

Those scouts who are 13 and First Class by the end of May, registration is now on-line for you to begin the sign up process. Go to the Atlanta Area council web site for the linkage or use the Troop 629 web site training tab. Congratulations to our scouts who have been selected to serve on the

2007 staff for this course including Steven McH. who will be one of the council SPL's and Collin C. and Adam D. who will be course ASPL's. Grayson C., James D., Jacob McG., Chris B., Blake C., Alex K., Jonathan A., Zack B. and Daniel B. who will be council staff members as well.

*****EARNING POWER*****

Missed the opportunity to earn High Adventure \$\$\$? Don't despair ...

Fundraising programs provide our scouts an opportunity to earn their own way on those High Adventure trips as well as skiing and summer camp. 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. Look for your next opportunity through the troop's Spring Flower Sale. Informational flyers will be available at meetings near the bulletin board and on the website as soon as the ground thaws! Look for details in this newsletter.

Troop 629 Scout Activity Scholarships

Through a community service work effort, opportunities are available to all our scouts who may be in need. No scout should be denied participation in a troop outing or trip purely for temporary financial situations. We can help each scout earn his own way easily enough. Just ask the Scoutmaster to work out your plan, then sign up for that outing you want to go on.

Fabulous Troop Fundraising Activity: KROGER GIFT CARDS - \$\$ Turn your grocery shopping into funds for our Scouts in Troop 629 at no cost to you! Why not participate?

Join Troop 629 families in this fabulous, painless and easy monthly fundraiser. By just participating in this generous Kroger program at no cost to you and in conjunction with your normal routine of buying groceries for the family, our **troop receives 5%** of our total gift card orders each month. 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 Kroger gift card)! To get started, call or e-mail **Susan Cook (678-297-7766; ssbcook@bellsouth.net)** 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. At the beginning of the month, Susan will mail your Kroger gift card to you (with enclosed reminder of amount owed and her address to send payment). Return payment in the mail to Susan (requested to be received by the 22nd of the month) or you can bring payment on to Monday night troop meeting and give to Susan.

*****SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES*****

Service project opportunities are available almost every weekend. Ask yourself when you say you're bored: Am I really *bored* or am I just being *lazy* and not really looking to get involved? Active participation for each rank is simple but many are making it difficult to meet this requirement. Active quite literally means showing up and the participation part is just as simple ... you've got to get out and do something at least. Sign up for Centenary projects at <http://www.atlantabsa.org/>.

Many **service opportunities** exist and are open to all. Why not sign up for a few exciting service opportunities with one of your scout friends today? Flyers and handouts with details are available at the meetings, check out the troop calendar below or express your interest with the SPL and SM as to how you can get involved - it's easy - just ask! Or you can email Noreen Mitchell at nakmitchell@yahoo.com for some ideas.

Scout Sunday at Mount Pisgah Church

If you can, please plan on attending the **Mount Pisgah Church service Feb 4, 2007**. Boys and leaders should wear their uniforms. It is important that Troop 629 have a good showing to demonstrate our appreciation for Mount Pisgah being our charter organization. Please know you are not required to be there, nor is this a suggestion that you need to convert to being Methodist or in any way suggestive of anything other than continuing your current faith life. It would simply be as a show of support to our chartering organization. We have worked with the Church and they are planning to recognize the scouts during the service and we have one scout that will speak for the Troop at the service. ******* We need greeters**, scouts to stand with the honor/rank board and scouts that will attend both or the 9:30 am service or the 11:00 am service. Please email **Gregg Brasher** at g.brasher@comcast.net and let Gregg know if you can attend and which service your son can attend. It's not too late to let him know. If you would like to be a part of this, please plan on arriving 30 minutes early for the given service. The Church service is conducted in the main sanctuary on the Old Alabama Road.

Our Sponsor is Collecting Canned Goods

If you attend Mount Pisgah on Scout Sunday, please consider bringing a bag full of canned goods to contribute to a collection for some local charities. Thank you for your generosity.

*****SCOUT CORNER*****

Flaming Wolves December service project by James D.

The Flaming Wolves helped Mount Pisgah with cleaning, repairing, and making bikes for their Santa shop on December 9th from 8 a.m. to noon. Mount Pisgah collected bikes from their congregation. Then we and other volunteers helped make them nice. David Lemcoe was an amazing worker and made a little kid and a teen\adult bike with no help from an adult. The rest of us helped clean and test ride the bikes. The test riding we did the most. When we were done we went to the movies and watched Unaccompanied Minors. In total we repaired, cleaned, and made about 60 bikes and collected about 20 helmets. Thanks to Mr. Deaton and Mr. Bierbaum for driving and helping us.

New Hampshire Ski Trip 2007 by Daniel B.

Well, the first trip of the New Year was the much-anticipated 14 and older ski trip to Mr. Gillis's mountain lodge! Everyone met at the church, and Mrs. Bodamer drove us to the airport. The flight to New Hampshire was about 2 ½ hours, and most of us were in separate rows on the plane. When we arrived, we went to Wal-Mart and bought some supplies. Once we got to the Gillis Lodge it was 1:15a.m. Everyone chose a room and we were all soon asleep. The next day we went to a ski resort. Unfortunately, most of the trails were closed because it had been a warm winter, but we still enjoyed it. On the way up a slope, we saw there had been a crash, and a man had to be carried down on an emergency sled. (Much less fun than it sounds.) Everyone was tired when we got back but we still stayed up late watching T.V. On Sunday we drove to a ski resort that was much closer than the last one. The trails were more difficult, and it was icy. On one slope, yours truly slipped and hit himself in the eye with his knee, and then fell over. Overall thou ~ it was fun. When we got back to the lodge, we went sledding and had a violent snowball fight, and everyone ended up soaked. On Monday we drove home. Along the way, we stopped because a woman had lost control of her car and fell off the road. No one was hurt, but the car was stuck. After much pushing, the scouts finally managed to get the car back on the road. When we finally arrived at the airport, we learned our flight had been delayed an hour. We finally boarded, and then sat on the plane for another 45 minutes before we took off at 11:00 p.m. We finally arrived back in Alpharetta. What a trip!

*****BE PREPARED*****

New to the Troop and Have Some Questions?

Last year, we held a meeting for the parents of the new scouts and you may have not been able to attend. **Gregg Brasher** would be happy to field your questions or schedule another meeting, depending on the interest. In order for your son to benefit from the program, it is very important that you are involved in the process. We want to be sure that you are knowledgeable about how the troop works, how your son advances, the trips, etc... If you have an interest in meeting or speaking with Gregg about the program, please email him at g.brasher@comcast.net

Patrol Leaders Council - Next PLC is set for February 15th, 2007.

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. Meet in Room A008.

CPR Saturday Arrangements for Boy Scouts

Atlanta Area Council Boy Scouts will participate in and volunteer to help run **CPR Saturday** in coordination with the American Red Cross on **March 3rd, 2007**. The program will involve participation in two different ways: as facilitators and as participants. Plans are underway to train the Scouts and Adult leadership in First Aid skills that can save a life and at the same time support the program by serving as volunteers (earning Service Hours) running the event. Classes will be held at the BSA Service Center - 1800 Circle 75 Parkway. Each class should take about 3-1/2 hours to complete and begin at 10 different times: 8:30 AM; 9:00 AM; 9:40 AM; 10:20 AM; 11:00 AM; 11:40 AM; 12:20 PM; 1:00 PM; 1:40 PM; 2:20 PM.

CPR Saturday event is no longer free, but a special **Scout discounted fee of \$20 per person** has been arranged. (The Standard Class Cost for an Adult CPR Class from the American Red Cross is \$55.00 per person). Sign up on-line for both training and volunteering: <http://www.goodturn.net/>. **Payment is due on or before Feb. 21st, no late registrations or walk-ins can be accepted** due to the need to order supplies in advance. Payments may be made in person or by mail to the program center but in either case they must be received by the 21st of February, 2007. The address is: Atlanta Area Council, BSA, 1800 Circle 75 Parkway, Atlanta, Ga. 30339.

B.S.A. Religious Emblems Program

"A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties..." "On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God..." What's a great way for a Scout to demonstrate his "duty to God"? The B.S.A. Religious Emblems Program. An award is available for Scouts of practically all major religious faiths. Through religious study and service, Scouts can earn one of these awards by working with a religious leader and his parents. This program has not been active at our Troop for quite a while. **Mike Deaton** has recently taken on the responsibility for our Troop Religious Awards, and he is now actively seeking Scouts who would be interested in working towards the award for their faith. Please contact Mr. Deaton (mdeaton@mindspring.com) for more information, or to get into the program. We would like to know of your **interest in participating not later than the February 26th** meeting. We may be able to organize some classes for the program, and now is a great time for Scouts to get started on this.

2007 Summer Camp at Woodruff

Summer Camp 2007 flyers are out and registration has begun. Make sure you get your copy and have you merit badge selections in by **March 26th** so you have the best possible chance at getting your first choice options. All information is also on our web site under the camping tab or see the link in the Flyers Section above. See your SM with questions.

Life to Eagle Candidates

Is your project stalled? Do you need fresh ideas or perspective? Does your project plan address the expectations of the Chattahoochee District? Contact **Mr. Walker** at bob@walker-ga.org.

Eagle Camp 2007

April 1 – 7 at FFA Camp Covington, Georgia. Eagle Camp is an intensive one-week merit badge advancement camp that will guarantee the necessary safeguards and facilities, while developing a Scout's responsibility, resourcefulness, self-reliance and a sense of loyalty to the principals as set forth in the Scout Oath and Laws. Eagle Camp is a rigorous program for goal-oriented achievers, for Scouts who are sincerely interested in earning Eagle. Undecideds, fence-sitters, couch potatoes, etc. need not apply! This is a full-blown, aggressive merit badge program. Eagle Camp will offer a full sports, nature, outdoor package. This is an upscale program with tremendous challenges and rewards. Application due before April 1st. Check out this website for more details and application <http://www.miltonbsa.org:80/index.php?section=pages&id=109>

Careful Planning Insures Successful Projects

Our annual Carwash and Yard Sale is on the troop calendar for April 21st. Please consider holding onto any unwanted items for the troop as you clean out a closet or clear out a space. Ask your neighbors to do the same thing. The troop benefits greatly from these sales. Thanks!

Next Court of Honor – May 7th, 2007

All scouts and their families are invited and encouraged to attend this special ceremony to recognize scouts' accomplishments over the past few months. It is a great place to re-confirm next year's activities and how they all fit together for each scout. Hope to see you all there.

Scoutmaster's Notes on High Adventures for 2007

For those scouts 14 and older adventures include Bahamas tall ship sailing in April and Rocky Mountain backpacking in Philmont, NM in June and if interest is given, a backwoods Canadian canoe trip in July with Northern Tier. If you haven't made your interest known and signed up for your High Adventure – what are you waiting for? See the Scoutmaster at the weekly meeting or visit the web site <http://www.troop629.org/Adventure/adventure.htm> for more info.

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 and troop website links can be found in the *****ADULT INVOLVEMENT***** section in this newsletter.

Troop meetings start at 7:15 PM and end by 8:45 PM each Monday. Full uniform is expected unless otherwise noted. Time spent on Merit badge work is limited to the designated "game time" only at each meeting. If it is a patrol competition night then there is no merit badge time at those meetings. Scouts are expected to be active members of their patrols and cannot be constantly away working on their own advancement. Scouting is not just about the individual scout – **Scouting is Outing**, using the patrol method and working with the group. *Please dress appropriately for the weather as some activities are outside at night. (Be Prepared)*

“YOU’VE GOT TO READ THE BOOK”

Scouts in our troop earn merit badges **only** after they have read the entire merit badge book and have met with a designated approved adult who will verify the completeness of all the requirements. Clinics and camp-earned badges are to be verified with this process as well to ensure quality control over the process being used to help a scout actually learn the expected materials. When a scout is ready to get checked out by a counselor, he needs to ask Mr. Gillis to direct him to an approved counselor for that particular merit badge. Troop meetings **are not** the normal place to accomplish merit badge verifications, but rather with adult counselors at separate settings. Advancements to achieve Scout through First Class are conducted during troop meetings and that is where new scouts need to be concentrating their time. Merit Badge Help Nights are on the **second Tuesday of each month from 6-7pm. The next MB Help Night is February 13th, 2007.**

Order of the Arrow meeting on February 8th



Every month on the second Thursday there is a district O.A. gathering open to O.A. members. See your O.A. Representative, Philip K., for details: <http://www.cdbsa.org/Pages/OA.htm>

Council-Sponsored Events

Check our website for more opportunities for activities and training through the council. Individuals from our troop are welcome to participate in any of these special events. You will see some on our troop calendar, i.e. Gladiator Scout Day, Centenary Tree Planting, CPR Saturday, and National Park Cleanup... <http://www.atlantabsa.org/>

Scouting Engagement Study Results are Posted

Council releases local study where Boy Scouts and their parents were surveyed on the effectiveness of the Boy Scout program.

<http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.asp?orgkey=1437&id=19591>

*******A SCOUT IS THRIFTY*******

Lending Closet

A lending (and donating) closet of items from gear to uniforms is available to Troop 629 scouts. Our closet holds recycled items that any scout can seek to use or have just for the asking. Those who have items to pass along are also encouraged to do so for the next thrifty scout.

Patrol food items

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 some cost for future trips and eliminate some waste now on-going. 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.

Why Pay Full Price When You Can Get It At A Discount?

We have some outdoor equipment stores in the area that want your scout's business and will offer a discount on some or all of their products *just because he is a scout*. Here are a few that our adult leaders have found (email me with your own discoveries of stores that support scouts by giving a scout discount). Most stores want to see your scout membership card and it is always a good idea to verify with an employee prior to purchase that the discount is still offered:

~Call of the Wild; 10% off of all CAMPING items; 425 Market Place, Roswell; 770-992-5400

~REI; 10% off at Customer Service; 3 local locations; 770-901-9200, 404-633-6508, 770-831-0670

~Dick's; 10% coupons off of specific items (troop bulletin board); Northpoint Pkwy.; 770-521-1195

*****ADULT INVOLVEMENT*****

Behind the scenes of any great Troop are many helpful adults doing their part to keep the activities and events running smoothly. If you have some time and can help out, please see our committee chair, Wendy Kraemer, wkraemer@bellsouth.net to find which areas open for your assistance.

Parents Needed for Troop Boards of Review

A troop Board of Review (BOR) provides a great opportunity for parents to better understand rank advancement and to get to know the Scouts. Each Board consists of three troop parent volunteers. Boards of Review are typically held each month for those Scouts who have completed all requirements and Scoutmaster Conference for rank advancement. If you are interested in participating as a Troop BOR member please contact Kathleen Narayanan at **770-740-8496** or kathleen@avalonintl.com. No experience required. (Unfortunately, unit leaders and assistant unit leaders may not serve as a BOR member.)

Looking for One Good Friend

We are desperately seeking a volunteer for Friends of Scouting. This is a once-a-year project which involves sending letters to each scout family in our troop requesting donations for the Scouting program. This will require a couple of meetings with the district. If you can spare a couple of hours, we need you. Please email **Wendy Kraemer**, wkraemer@bellsouth.net, to let her know you'd like to fill this position.

Popcorn Should Be a Food Group!

This is an open position (wide open!) for our annual troop fundraiser. If you currently do not have a position with our troop, *please volunteer*. We need you and will help you learn the ropes. The most recent organizers of this fundraiser to whom the troop is grateful are Frank Rocchio, Alvaro Munoz and Frank Rivest. If you are motivated by troop appreciation for your good deeds, then this position is for you. Add your name to this list of leaders who have lead this important troop fundraiser over the years. Please email **Wendy Kraemer**, wkraemer@bellsouth.net to tell her you are the troop's next Popcorn Kernel!

Golden Eagle Breakfast

Our Community Golden Eagle Breakfast will be on Tuesday, Feb. 27th at 7:30am at the new Holiday Inn on Holcomb Bridge Road in Roswell. Doors will open at 7am, breakfast will be at 7:30am and the program will conclude well before 9am. ~~~ U.S. Congressman Tom Price will be our speaker and the mayor of Roswell is planning to attend. This Golden Eagle breakfast will be an opportunity for the members of the business community to learn more about scouting, *and hopefully*, to contribute to that effort. If you are interested in attending and/or recruiting friends to attend, please let me or **Steve Dorvee** stephen.dorvee@agg.com know ASAP. Thanks for your consideration of this request.
John Roland jroland@atlantabsa.org, Chattahoochee District Executive.

Adult Training: All adults wanting to participate in any of our activities have a number of pre-training requirements we like to and need to have accomplished depending on the activity. It's best to get your qualifications completed early so when that trip comes up that you want to go on, you aren't scrambling to get in. Many of the courses are held on limited basis. Check our website under Training for the minimum needs and look for notices of when the classes are coming up.

So now you are ready to get started? Want more insight on what scouting is all about?

Your first step is to click on this link <http://www.troop629.org/forms/adult%20ldr%20app%2028-501.pdf> then print and complete the **Adult Application** and give to Kathleen Narayanan at the next troop meeting. Your next step begins your training- go to <http://www.troop629.org/training/training.htm> and click on **Youth Protection Training** and follow it through to the end. After you've completed this simple on-line course, you are on your way to being trained.

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 Kathleen Narayanan, at kathleen@avalonintl.com, or bring a copy to her at the Troop meeting.

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

Archaeology	Dentistry	Plant Science	Skating
Bugling	Medicine	Railroading	Textile
Climbing	Model Design	Reptile/Amphibian	Waterskiing
			Whitewater

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.

Troop 629 is sponsored by **Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church** www.mountpisgah.org

Please send all email address changes, deletions and additions to this address:

spluspcubed@mindspring.com Do you know of a troop adult or scout who is not receiving their newsletter by email and would like to be included? Forward this copy to them and have them send me their name and email address.

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.

February 2007

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
28	Jan 29	30	31	1	Feb 2	3
	7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting Court of Honor			District Banquet	Groundhog Day	Gladiators Scout Day WFA-BASR Georgia Aquarium
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6:00p -7:30p Committee Meeting WFA-BASR	7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting OA Elections			7:30p RT & OA Meeting		Pine Mountain Backpacking GB Staff Trng 1A
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Pine Mountain Backpacking	7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting Lincoln's Birthday	MB Help night	Valentine's Day	7:00p -8:00p Patrol Leader's Council	Winterplace WV Ski Trip	Winterplace WV Ski Trip GB Staff Trng 1B
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Winterplace WV Ski Trip	Winterplace WV Ski Trip 7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting Board of Review Presidents Day Vacation Presidents Day (Fed)		Ash Wednesday	Washington's Birthday		Green Bar Staff Trng 2A
25	26	27	28	1	Mar 2	3
	7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting					Centenary CPR GB Staff Trng 2B Philmont Trng Hike ??