



BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

May 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

Congratulations to John DiPietro, our newest Eagle scout, who completed his Eagle Board of Review on April 26th. Give John your special pat on the back once you see him again to recognize him as Troop 629's addition to the 45 other scouts who have reached Scouting's highest youth recognition.

This season is a busy time for all as well as our scouting program ~ service projects, outings, training and lots of summer activities to participate in. Over 70 scouts will be attending summer camp, another 20 participating in the week long National Youth Leadership training week as staff or participants, two headed out to the National Advanced Youth Leadership experience in New Mexico, along with 18 heading to Philmont High Adventure camp for the Rocky Mountain backpacking experience and even one going back to serve on Philmont staff. If you haven't found something exciting to do with our troop you are not trying very hard. Scouting is outing and for the most part most of our scouts are seeking out those opportunities and actively participating. For those not going on any of the events, yes it becomes "boring". However, it is not for the lack of our unit offering the opportunities for all to participate in a great adventure.

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

May Reminders:

May 6th: Troop Committee Meeting

May 7th: Court of Honor during Troop Meeting ~ Final deposit for Summer Camp due

May 8th: Merit Badge Help Night

May 10th: RT & OA Meeting

May 11th: Relay for Life Walk

May 11th- 13th: OA Ordeal @ WSR

May 12th: Renaissance Festival

May 13th: **Mother's Day**

May 14th: SPL/PL Elections ~ (*tentative*) Woodbadge Ceremony to follow Troop Meeting

May 17th: Patrol Leaders Council

May 18th- 20th: OA Ordeal @ BASR

May 19th: Setup Day for Green Bar ~ Armed Forces Day ~ NESA Merit Badge Day

May 21st: Board of Review ~ Parent Summer Camp Meeting

May 25th: Last Day of School (Fulton County)

May 27th - June 2nd: Green Bar Week 1

May 28th: Memorial Day ~ Relaxed Summer Uniform/Meeting Schedule

June Reminders:

June 2nd: Last day of Green Bar Week 1

June 3rd - 9th: Green Bar Week 2

June 7th: Scout Night at Atlanta Braves

June 10th - 16th: Summer Camp at Woodruff ~ Green Bar Week 3

June 14th: Flag Day ~ RT & OA Meeting

June 17th: **Father's Day**

June 19th – July 1st: Philmont High Adventure Trek

*****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* ...

Renaissance Festival outing is **May 12th from 9am to 6pm**. Flyers are out and details are on the Troop website listed in the **Flyers** section below. Permission slips are due by **May 7th** meeting.

~~~~~ All scouts who plan to attend **Woodruff Summer Camp** should have their **summer camp schedule**. The **master schedule list** is posted on the bulletin board at troop meetings. Dates for summer camp are from **June 10<sup>th</sup> to June 16<sup>th</sup>**. The first and second deposits have already been collected. The **final deposit is due May 7<sup>th</sup>**. **Parent meeting** for camp is planned on **May 21<sup>st</sup>** - see details on the next page. ~~~~~ **Philmont scouts** ... your final payment, physical and insurance info, and permission slip should all be turned in. In addition, many prep-miles should have been logged at this point. If any of this is sounding new to you ... you need to catch up in a hurry so you are not left at the back of the pack! Travel plans are being finalized. Please see your SM if you have questions.

## Flyers

Relay For Life <http://www.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=189776>

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

Renaissance Festival <http://www.troop629.org/forms/Ren%20Festival%2007.pdf>

NESA Merit Badge Day

<http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.asp?orgkey=1456&id=22381>

Scout Night at Atlanta Braves

<http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.asp?orgkey=1437&id=15789>

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

Friends of Scouting <http://www.cdbsa.org/Events/FOS/FOS.htm>

Tons of Troop Pictures - (Sea Base 2007, Okefenokee Swamp, AT Hike, Callaway Biking, Sandy Springs Festival, USS Alabama, Georgia Tech Ushering, 2006 Summer Camp and more...)

<http://www.troop629.org/pictures/pictures.htm>

## **The Time is NOW to Register for Relay For Life**

Troop 629 will continue its tradition of supporting The American Cancer Society **Relay For Life on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 5pm to 11pm at Northview High School**. Scouts and parents may register to participate on-line at [www.alpharettarelayforlife.org/](http://www.alpharettarelayforlife.org/) or follow the link on the troop website. From this website, you may also send emails to family and friends requesting donations in support of your walk. If you aren't able to participate in the walk, you may dedicate luminaria to family and friends who have had cancer. Scouts will assist with luminaria lighting as well as other Relay activities, so be sure to sign up today! Contact **Nan Brown** at 770-642-6859 or [nantbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:nantbrown@hotmail.com) for further information, or see her on Monday night troop meetings.

## **Welcome New Scouts and Families**

*It is Crossover "season" and Troop 629 would like to welcome our new group of incoming scout members and their families. Our newsletter will help you keep up with what you don't get to hear about from the meetings ☺ and help in transitioning from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting. Adults, please don't overlook the \*\*\*\*\*Adult Involvement\*\*\*\*\* section of the newsletter that has good information on how you can be involved in the troop by getting trained and volunteering for a variety of positions. Your involvement will affect the benefits your son and his friends receive from the program. (Thank you). We're glad you're here.*

## **Parent Summer Camp Meeting**

We will have a separate meeting for parents of summer-campers during the regular **Monday night troop meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>**. We will meet at **7:15 pm at South Hall** with the boys, and then break off to discuss Summer Camp details such as what to and what not to pack, medications, carpools, mail, and any other questions you might have.

## **2007 Summer Camp at Woodruff**

Summer Camp **final payment is due on May 7th** as well as a completed **Class II physical** for each participant. The Class II form requires a doctor's signature and an exam date within three years of summer camp (June 16<sup>th</sup>). Make sure you have verified valid forms and dates on your son's medical records on file with the troop. You can check with **Mr. Gillis** at troop meetings or email **Sue Knoetgen** at [spluspcubed@mindspring.com](mailto:spluspcubed@mindspring.com) to verify dates. Camp information is on our web site <http://www.troop629.org/camping/summercamp2007.htm>.

## **Next Troop Board of Review – May 21<sup>st</sup>**

*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 **B.O.R.** Reminder: **Full Class "A" uniform** and **Scout handbook** are **required** for participation in a **Board of Review**.

## **Friends of Scouting**

The annual **Friends of Scouting** (a council fundraising program) is winding down in May. This is your last chance to get the "Obedient" council strip patch for your uniform. Turn in your pledge card or grab an application if you don't have one next Monday at the troop meeting, make a contribution, and help Scouting! The money collected pays for crucial services that support our excellent scouting programs in the Atlanta Area Council. See **Flyers** section above for the FOS link for more information. **Thank you** very much for whatever you choose to contribute.

\*\*\*\*\***SCOUT HANDSHAKE**\*\*\*\*\*

## **Eagle Court of Honor**

A special Eagle Court of Honor is being planned to celebrate the troop's newest **Eagle Scout, John DiPietro**. *Congratulations John!* 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.

🦅 EAGLE~🦋 LIFE~🌟 STAR~🐇 FIRST CLASS~😊 SECOND CLASS~🍪 TENDERFOOT~🌲 SCOUT

Advancement Congratulations for the month of April go to:

🦅 EAGLE ~ John DiPietro  
🐇 FIRST CLASS ~ Aaron D.



If outdoors bug repellent smells like perfume to you .....  
You Might Be A Wood Badger!

You'll have to put that question to **ASM Gregg Brasher**, **ASM Mike Deaton** and **ASM Albert Bodamer**, Troop 629's newest Wood Badgers. A **tentative date** is set for **Monday night, 8:30pm on May 14<sup>th</sup>** for the troop to honor Gregg's and Albert's completion of Scouting's premiere training course, **Wood Badge**, in a **ceremony to follow the Troop meeting**. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony. A separate ceremony for Mike is being planned – details will follow when they are finalized. Wood Badge is designed to give Adult Scouters the leadership and training skills needed to provide a high quality Scouting program for the youth of America.

### **A Bloomin' Success**

Thank you '**Team Cotney**' and your volunteers for organizing another fantastic fundraiser for the troop. Leslie and Chris have outdone themselves yet again with beautiful weather on delivery day and spring flowers never looking prettier. Thank you **Hanson Nursery** for letting our scouts sell your spring flowers to earn money for their High Adventure accounts.

### **O.K. Troop, on the count of '3', 1,2,3: "Thank you Mrs. Norris and Mr. Sevy!"**

Thank you both for orchestrating another very successful year of a combined troop garage sale and car wash. The car wash received \$376 in contributions (over \$103 more than last year's amount). The garage sale earned over \$507 (over \$81 more than last year's amount, plus Wal-Mart will match the earnings for us – thank you, Wal-Mart). Dorothea and Jerry have been a terrific duo at heading up this important fundraiser and are turning over the controls to new volunteers.

### **New King of the Car Wash!**

After several years of dedicated car wash supervision, **Jerry Sevy** is turning over the drying towels and water hoses to **Cliff Brown**. Thank you both for giving your time and dedication to our scouts. We look forward in 2008 to another day of squeaky-clean cars, and wet and happy participating scouts who earned more money for their High Adventure accounts.

### **A Double Helping of 'Thank-you' Please**

The troop extends a sincere 'thank you' to **Susan Cook** for heading-up the Kroger Gift Card Fundraiser for the past several years. This program currently earns about \$250 a month for the troop ... and it doesn't cost you a penny! 'Thank you' also goes to one of the troop's newest parents, **Greg Elliott**, for volunteering to assist Susan with managing the sale and distribution of the cards to the troop. Troop 629 has some wonderful parent volunteers that make our troop so special. Thank you both.

### **Another Food-Related Thank You**

After many years of organizing the troop's annual Popcorn Fundraiser, **Frank Rocchio** is leaving the position open to a willing volunteer. Thank you, Frank for your willingness to work with our scouts as they earned High Adventure money through popcorn sales. Your volunteer-spirit is greatly appreciated and hopefully contagious!

## \*\*\*\*\*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. Keep an eye on the newsletter, website and troop bulletin board for future opportunities to sign up and earn.

### Troop 629 Scout Activity Scholarships

Through a community service work effort, opportunities are available to all our scouts who may have a temporary cash flow problem. Troop 629 believes that no scout should be denied participation in a troop outing or event because of this very solvable problem. We can help each scout earn his own way easily enough by working off his payments with approved service hours. Just ask Scoutmaster Gillis to work out your scholarship 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 family grocery shopping, 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](mailto: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. Susan will mail your Kroger gift card to you at the beginning of each month (with enclosed reminder of amount owed and her address to send payment). Return payment in the mail to Susan (she should receive this by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month) or you can bring payment on a Monday night troop meeting and give to her.

## \*\*\*\*\*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.

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](mailto:nakmitchell@yahoo.com) for some ideas.

**\*\*\*\*\*BE PREPARED\*\*\*\*\***

**Patrol Leaders Council - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

Our **annual Troop planning meeting** will take place during the next **Patrol Leaders Council meeting** on **May 17<sup>th</sup>** in **Room A008**. Any special program desires or needs which you would like to have considered as an addition to next year's troop calendar should be brought to the troop meeting or emailed to **Mr. Gillis** at [gillisfx@aol.com](mailto:gillisfx@aol.com).

**Troop Elections on May 14<sup>th</sup>**

Our semi-annual **Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader elections** will be held this month, **May 14<sup>th</sup>**. Those scouts who are scheduled to attend Green Bar training, as well as those who have already attended GB training, are eligible to be elected in this troop.

**Green Bar National Youth Leadership Training**

Those scouts, who are 13 and First Class by the end of May, may register on-line to attend Green Bar. This is a council-level training experience for our youth leaders who will return to our troop with new knowledge, leadership tools and tremendous Scout spirit. It is a week-long course, offered three different times: **Week 1 is May 27<sup>th</sup> - June 1<sup>st</sup> registration closed**; **Week 2 is June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> registration closing shortly**; and **Week 3 is June 10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> registration still open**. Go to the Atlanta Area council web site [www.atlantabsa.org/](http://www.atlantabsa.org/) (click on Program/Services... Training ... Greenbar NYLT) or use the Troop 629 web site <http://www.troop629.org/training/greenbar.htm>.

**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**.

**Update Your Contact & Medical Information**

Your son's most current emergency information on a Class 1 form should be on file at all times. **Class 1 is necessary to attend weekly meetings and is valid for one year from date of signature**. A parent/guardian can update it by reviewing the Class 1 on file, noting any changes and initialing it with a new date. Please ask **Sue Knoetgen** ([spluspcubed@mindspring.com](mailto:spluspcubed@mindspring.com)) or **Fran Gillis** to pull your scout's medical file to make changes as they occur or click on the Troop Forms link <http://www.troop629.org/forms/Districtforms/Medical%20Form%20Class%201%20and%202.pdf>, print a new **Class 1&2** and fill out both sides of the Class 1 portion (sign and date it) and have your scout hand it to Mr. Gillis or Mrs. Knoetgen. **Class 2 form is signed by a doctor (valid for 3 years from exam date) and is needed for outings that extend past 72 hours (this would be summer camp!)**. **Class 3** is only necessary when participating in a High Adventure trip.

**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. A religious award is available to Scouts of all major religions. You can earn the award for your faith by meeting certain requirements of religious study and service. Work on these awards is done with a religious leader of your faith and your parents. Please contact **Mr. Mike Deaton** ([mdeaton@mindspring.com](mailto:mdeaton@mindspring.com)) or look for him at a troop meeting for more information on how to get started in the program.

### **Next Court of Honor – May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

All scouts and their families are **invited and encouraged to attend** this special ceremony to recognize scouts' accomplishments over the past few months. We will catch up on all the awards and recognitions for our scouts and scouter's since February. This includes our new scouts who will be presented their first badge ~ Scout ~ *after completing the instructions in Chapter 1 of the Handbook as well as participation in a Scoutmaster Conference*. It is a great place to re-confirm the year's activities and how they all fit together for each scout. It is held in lieu of a regular troop meeting, same time, same place. Hope to see you all there.

### **NESA Advancement Day**

This is a great opportunity to start on some merit badges you've been missing. It will be held on **May 19th** at **Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston Campus**

[http://www.gpc.edu/Campus\\_Maps/index.html](http://www.gpc.edu/Campus_Maps/index.html). The classes will include all three Citizenships (Community, Nation and World); Communications; Emergency Preparedness; Fire Safety; First Aid; Personal Fitness; and Personal Management. Ask Ms. Narayanan for details at a troop meeting.

### **Scout Day at Atlanta Braves**

**Thursday, June 7th at 7:35 PM** vs. the Chicago Cubs. Tickets are \$6 for Upper Pavilion Reserved & \$12 for Upper Level Box. Purchase tickets starting April 9th through the Program Center. Join us as we parade around Turner Field starting 1 1/2 hours before game time. Click here for further information:

<https://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.asp?orgkey=1437&id=15789>

### **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 Meeting and Uniform Change**

Beginning **Memorial Day, May 28<sup>th</sup>**, finally, our troop goes to a relaxed **summer schedule** during troop meetings. That means scouts only need to **wear a "scout" T-shirt to meetings** and can expect to have a game night or to work on individual advancement. No formal program is offered.

### **Troop meetings start at 7:15 PM and end by 8:45 PM each Monday.**

~~~See paragraph above regarding relaxed uniform and meeting summer schedule ~~~

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, 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 May 8th, 2007.**

Order of the Arrow meeting on May 10th



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 the council’s website for more opportunities for activities and training. 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/> (click on the Good Turn For America emblem)

*******MAKING HISTORY*******

(A section dedicated to articles submitted by our Scouts)

Kevin D. wrote:

Sea Base '07

This year for Sea Base we went to the Bahamas. We stopped at Universal on the way down, and Disney on the way back. We took a plane from Ft. Lauderdale to Marsh Harbor and got to the boat, the Reef Chief. We sailed around the Bahamas and made a couple stops at islands like Hope Town, Man of War, and a few others. We cooked our own food, and slept out on the deck. Our Captain, Al, was cool. He bought me a key lime pie for my birthday. On the last day on the boat, it rained and we all got soaked. We flew back to Ft. Lauderdale and drove back to Atlanta. That was all for Sea Base. It was an awesome trip!

Ben M. wrote:

AT Backpacking Trip

The trip started off very hard. It went up hill steeply for the first mile. When we leveled off we had lunch and then continued on. We trekked for many miles. Finally we made it to the campsite and set up the tarp and the tents. Also we sent a few guys down to the stream to pump some water. We collected fire wood and started a fire. Matt and I cooked dinner, chicken and rice, and then we cleaned up. We slept long and hard and then woke up in the morning. A few of the guys had to turn back Sunday morning, I was one of them, and the rest had to hike up to Woody Gap. The guys that turned back

hiked back to the cars in under three hours. During the second day, all day, it poured with rain. In the end we arrived at the cars and drove home after a nice meal at Wendy's.

*******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.

Grubby Details

During some troop outings, patrol food is purchased by scouts working on advancement requirements (Grubmasters). Families are asked to purchase designated food from a list provided and then they are reimbursed by the Troop Treasurer. Families can ask for an advance and handle reconciliation after the trip.

Leftover Patrol Food

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 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. Purchase slips are turned into the Troop Treasurer for reimbursement after each trip by the patrol scout Grubmaster.

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; 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.

We have Committee Positions which need to be filled:

~~~Popcorn Should Be a Food Group!

Our popcorn fundraiser starts in the fall. This is an open position (wide open!). If you currently do not have a position with our troop, *please volunteer*. We need you and will help you learn the ropes.

Frank Rocchio has organized this position for several years and is now ready to step down and advance **you** to the rank of Popcorn Kernel! If you are motivated by troop appreciation for your good deeds, then this position is for you. Please email **Wendy Kraemer** at wkraemer@bellsouth.net to tell her you are the troop's next Popcorn Kernel!

~~~Troop Garage Sale Organizer

This annual fundraiser has been organized for several years by our troop parent, **Dorothea Norris**. It has been very successful each year, bringing in anywhere from \$600 to \$1,000 annually. This also generates money for High Adventure accounts for those scouts who wish to participate. Dorothea is handing over the reins to some lucky troop parent who would like to volunteer for this position. Usually work begins in February (flyers and announcements) with the garage sale taking place in April. Please email **Wendy Kraemer** at wkraemer@bellsouth.net to tell her that you are perfect for this job, or find her or **Fran Gillis** at the next troop meeting.

Troop Committee Meeting

Our May committee meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, May 6th from 6:00pm – 7:30pm** at the Mount Pisgah Dining Room on South Campus.

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.)

2007 BSA National Meeting

The Atlanta Area Council will host the 2007 Boy Scouts of America National Meeting. The meeting, to be held at the **Hyatt Regency, Atlanta**, will be attended by more than 3,000 volunteers and professional staff. Our Council Host Committee is looking for approximately 250 enthusiastic **adult volunteers** to staff this showcase event, **May 28 – June 1**. We need your help! If you are interested in welcoming our visitors and showing them the special place of Scouting in Atlanta, please provide your contact information and indicate your availability on the [linked form](#) and return it to **John Clower** at jclower@westga.edu. Click here for a direct link: <http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.asp?orgkey=1456&id=22762>. Thanks for your help in representing the Atlanta Area Council!

BSA License Plates

The GA Motor Vehicle Division is now offering Boy Scouts of America "In God We Trust" specialized license plates. These plates will not be manufactured until 1000 are ordered. You may request this tag at your county tag office during the established application period (01-01-2007 thru 12-31-2008) with the \$25 manufacturing fee per tag. Important: If the required number of 'paid' requests (1,000) is not received by the deadline (12-31-2008), these tags will not be manufactured & the manufacturing fees will be refunded. Click here to find out how you can help make this happen:

<http://motor.etax.dor.ga.gov/motor/plates/plate.asp?ptitle=BA>

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.

May 2007

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------------|---|--|---|
| <u>29</u> Apr | <u>30</u> | <u>1</u> May | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>5</u> |
| Troop Outing
Cloudland/Lost
Sea | 7:15p -8:45p
Troop Meeting | | | | | |
| <u>6</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>9</u> | <u>10</u> | <u>11</u> | <u>12</u> |
| Lag B'Omer
6:00p -7:30p
Committee
Meeting | 7:15p -8:45p
Troop Meeting
COURT OF
HONOR | MB Help Night | | 7:30p RT & OA
Meeting | OA Ordeal
WSR
RELAY FOR
LIFE WALK | OA Ordeal
WSR
Renaissance
Festival Trip |
| <u>13</u> | <u>14</u> | <u>15</u> | <u>16</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>18</u> | <u>19</u> |
| OA Ordeal
WSR
Mothers Day | 7:15p -8:45p
Troop Meeting
~tentative
Woodbadge
Ceremony
SPL/PL
Elections | | | Ascension Day
6:00p -9:00p
Annual
Planning
7:00p -8:00p
Patrol Leader's
Council | OA Ordeal -
BASR | OA Ordeal -
BASR
Armed Forces
Day
Green Bar Staff
setup
NESA MB Day |
| <u>20</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>22</u> | <u>23</u> | <u>24</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>26</u> |
| OA Ordeal -
BASR | 7:15p -8:45p
Troop Meeting
Board of
Review
Parent Summer
Camp Meeting | | Shavuot | Shavuot | Last Day of
School | |
| <u>27</u> | <u>28</u> | <u>29</u> | <u>30</u> | <u>31</u> | <u>1</u> Jun | <u>2</u> |
| Green Bar
Week 1
Whitsun Day | Green Bar
Week 1
Memorial Day
(Fed)
7:15p -8:45p
Troop Meeting
~ Summer
Schedule/
Uniform is
'Scouting' t-shirt | Green Bar
Week 1 | Green Bar
Week 1 | Green Bar
Week 1 | Green Bar
Week 1 | Green Bar
Week 1 |