



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

*October 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 THE [TROOP WEBSITE](#)

## Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Troop meetings and advancement are not normally tied rigorously together. The advancement program in boy scouting is a scout's self-paced undertaking and at times we infuse time for rank and merit badge work in the troop meetings. However, it should never be counted on and planned for as troop meetings are specifically for patrol teamwork undertakings and group efforts toward established events, other program goals that scouting is trying to accomplish. The merit badge program, which provides opportunities for youth to explore more than 120 fields of skill and knowledge, plays a key role in the fulfillment of the educational commitment part of the scouting program.

A vital part of the BSA's advancement plan, the merit badge program is one of Scouting's basic character-building tools. Through participation in the program (which may begin immediately upon registration in the troop), a Scout acquires the kind of self-confidence that comes only from overcoming obstacles to achieve a goal. Instruction is offered in everything from animal science and public speaking to swimming and communications, providing a young man with invaluable career, physical, and interpersonal skills.

A counselor is approved/assigned by the scoutmaster and then it is up to the scout to make contact and arrange for an appropriate time to discuss the requirements and work toward fulfilling all that is expected. Sometimes clinics are arranged and of course there are a number of opportunities at summer camp. Troop meeting time is not necessarily a good time to try to accomplish and properly focus on the quality time necessary to accomplish this part of the advancement process. Troop 629 has added a special monthly event called *merit badge help night* where we can focus on individual issues and help move the process along

The bottom line is that advancement is accomplished at other than troop meeting times for the most part. It is also a local Troop 629 policy to have one of our registered adults ensure that the material in the MB pamphlet has in fact been read and understood by the scout so that we can validate a quality achievement. At *no time* do we want any of our scouts to be able to say they earned the achievement by having it just given to them. Scouting is about doing their best – not getting by.

### \*\*\*\*\*ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR\*\*\*\*\*

#### October Reminders:

- Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>: SALT III of III
- Oct 7<sup>th</sup>: Committee Meeting ~ Cavalcade Show/Booth
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup>: Columbus Day ~ Flower Sales Due
- Oct 9<sup>th</sup>: Merit Badge Help Night
- Oct 11<sup>th</sup>: RT & OA Mtng.
- Oct 12<sup>th</sup>: No school for Fulton County

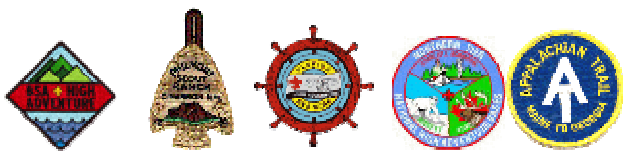
**Oct 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Outing (Loggerhead turtle watch at Hunting Beach, SC)  
**Oct 13<sup>th</sup>:** 2007 Woodbadge Reunion  
**Oct 14<sup>th</sup>:** NLE  
**Oct 15<sup>th</sup>:** Board of Review  
**Oct 18<sup>th</sup>:** Patrol Leader's Council  
**Oct 19<sup>th</sup>:** Fall Flower Pickup  
**Oct 20<sup>th</sup>:** GT Ushering  
**Oct 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>:**JOTA/JOTI  
**Oct 24<sup>th</sup>:** Half Day of school  
**Oct 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>:** Scout Nights at Disney's High School Musical: The Ice Tour  
**Oct 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>:** Duty to God Encampment  
**Oct 27<sup>th</sup>:** Scout Day at NASCAR  
**Oct 29<sup>th</sup>:** Newtown Park Troop Mtng. ~ Popcorn Sale Ends  
**Oct 31<sup>st</sup>:** Halloween

**November Reminders:**

**Nov 1<sup>st</sup>:** GT Game Ushering  
**Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>:** OA Allatoona  
**Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Scouters Academy  
**Nov 4<sup>th</sup>:** End Daylight Saving Time ~ Committee Meeting  
**Nov 11<sup>th</sup>:** ECOH for Martin Jones  
**Nov 12:** Veteran's Day Holiday – Yes, there is a Troop Meeting!  
**Nov 13<sup>th</sup>:** Merit Badge Help Night  
**Nov 15<sup>th</sup>:** Patrol Leader's Council  
**Nov 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>:** AT Backpacking Trip  
**Nov 17<sup>th</sup>:** GT game Ushering  
**Nov 18<sup>th</sup>:** NLE  
**Nov 19<sup>th</sup>:** Board of Review ~ SPL/PL Elections  
**Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Thanksgiving Day  
**Nov 24<sup>th</sup>:** GT Game Ushering  
**Nov 26<sup>th</sup>:** Webelos Visitation Night  
**Nov 28<sup>th</sup>:** Half Day of School in Fulton County

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

*Please frequently visit our [website](#). 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 ...**

~~~~~ **Cavalcade is October 7<sup>th</sup>** at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area at Island Ford, 1978 Island Ford Parkway, Atlanta, Georgia 30350. ~~~~~ The October scout outing will be **October 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>** and will be a trip to **Hunting Beach, SC** for loggerhead turtle watch service project and

beach fun. Watch for information flyers and signup sheets are out at the meetings. ~~~~~ Our annual **Newtown Park troop meeting** always held near Halloween will be on **October 30<sup>th</sup>** (read more about it in this newsletter) ~~~~~ Looking into next month, an **Appalachian Trail Backpacking Trip** is planned for **November 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>**. Flyer is out at meetings and on website (see *FLYER* section below) and signup sheet is at meetings ~~~~~ We need those scouts who are interested in our High Adventure/2008 programs to identify themselves now. Our High Adventure winter ski trip in January will be to NH, Sea Base to the Bahamas over April spring break and Northern Tier canoe base for July. These facilities have started to lock in details and *we need some head-counts* for proper planning. Sign up to go – space is limited – reserve your space with your deposit. Talk to the SM now to let him know your interest if you have not already done so.

## Flyers

[SALT \(Adult Training\)](#)

[NLE \(Adult Training\)](#)

[Scout Ushering at Georgia Tech](#)

[Tons of Troop Pictures - check them out](#)

[Cavalcade](#)

[Duty to God Encampment](#)

[AT Backpacking Hike](#)

[2007 Woodbadge Reunion](#)

[Scout Nights at Disney's High School Musical: The Ice Tour](#)

[Scout Day at the Races](#)

[Scout CPR Saturday](#)

[January Ski Trip to Winterplace](#)

[January New England Ski Trip](#)

[Sea Base 2008 \(Tall Ship Sailing\)](#)

[Northern Tier](#)

## Next Troop Board of Review – October 7, 2007

*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**.

## Annual Boy Scout Re-Charter Dues

Erica Fica will be collecting the **\$60 annual fee** for Boy Scouts from each scout at any of the **October** meetings. (This fee is reduced by \$5 from past years and it still includes a year of Boy's Life.) Please remember to bring your check made out to **BSA Troop 629**. Erica is also sending out letters with a self-addressed envelope (please add a stamp) to families as a reminder and to make it easier for payment. Please look for it in the mail.

## October 30<sup>th</sup> Troop Meeting @ Newtown Park

Continued by wildly-popular demand, we will be having caramel apples and hot cocoa at the last Troop meeting of October at Newtown Park. This is a fun outdoor meeting with the tastes and scents of fall in the air. If you can assist with the caramel apples and hot cocoa, please contact [Wendy Kraemer](#).

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

## Eagle Court of Honor

A special **Eagle Court of Honor** is being planned to celebrate the troop's newest Eagle Scout, **Martin Jones**. *Congratulations Martin!* The ceremony to honor his achievements is planned for **Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm**. It will be held in Room S305 at Mount Pisgah Church.

🦅 EAGLE~👶 LIFE~🌟 STAR~👦 FIRST CLASS~👦 SECOND CLASS~👶 TENDERFOOT~👦 SCOUT

## Advancement Congratulations for the month of September go to:

- 🦅 **EAGLE:** (none this month)
- 👶 **LIFE:** (none this month)
- 🌟 **STAR:** Brandon P.
- 👦 **FIRST CLASS:** (none this month)
- 👦 **SECOND CLASS:** Stuart W.
- 👶 **TENDERFOOT:** Nate B.
- 👦 **SCOUT:** Tim H., Aaron S. and Andrew S.

## \*\*\*\*\*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 (**popcorn and flowers sales are underway this month**) to *sign up* and earn. These both are excellent opportunities to earn 'big money' for your High Adventure account as well as help the troop.

### It's Popcorn Time!

We have had two "Show and Sells" in front of JoAnn's in the past few weeks and have sold over \$1,000 of popcorn! Thanks to all the scouts and parents who came out and made these sales successful! We hope that each individual scout is out there selling popcorn and filling up their order sheet. Several scouts have indicated that they are planning to be the top seller this year so everyone better get busy! Don't forget....a portion of your sales will go directly into your High Adventure Account! If you are considering going to Sea Base, Northern Tier or Philmont, this is a great way to earn part of the money. If you haven't picked up your popcorn order packet, you can get one at the next troop meeting. ALL orders forms and money should be turned in by **Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>** at the **Newtown Park troop meeting**. If you have any questions, please contact **Don and Lisa Dekle** at **770-442-9603** or [dldekle@bellsouth.net](mailto:dldekle@bellsouth.net).



### Save Room for Spring Flowers

Flower orders are due along with payments on **Monday night Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>**. The fulfilled orders will be delivered and available for **pickup Friday afternoon Oct 19<sup>th</sup>** at the rear parking lot behind the South Chapel. *Be sure to pick up your order on Friday as there is no provision for holding flower orders overnight at the church.* If you have any questions call **Chris Cotney at 770-410-1730**. ~~ Because of the **recently imposed outdoor watering ban** scouts might find reluctance on the part

of some potential flower customers to purchase quantities of flowers. Should this objection be voiced remind them of the patio planter option. These beautiful planters can decorate a porch, deck, entry way, etc and be easily and legally watered by hand. In addition, the pansies and snapdragons could be potted instead of planted in an open bed and would not require as much water to maintain them.

~~ Orders can be handily placed on the troop's website. Scouts make \$8.00 for every patio planter they sell; \$4.25 for the Pansy & Viola flats; and \$7.00 for the Snapdragon flats. Flower sales are one of the highest profit margins of the troop's various fundraising events, and there are scouts who earn hundreds of dollars every year from it for their High Adventure accounts.

## 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 \(678-297-7766\)](mailto:Susan.Cook@troop629.org) 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.

## Georgia Tech Football Game Ushers

Tech carries on a 50-year tradition of allowing AAC Scouts to act as ushers during seven home football games and this year our SPL will be looking to see if there is any interest to participate. **See the SPL or James D. for details** and to sign up if you are interested. Check out the link in *FLYER* section above to see dates/times/teams.

## Volunteers needed for CPR Saturday

Over 60 slots for are open for both adults and scouts to participate in CPR Saturday being organized by the Atlanta Area Council. You can sign up on line at [AAC](http://AAC.org). Ten classes for CPR and AED training will be staggered on **December 8<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 8:30am and ending with the completion of the 2:20pm class. Sign up now so AAC can plan their program knowing they have volunteer support from our members.

## **The Pantry is Bare**

Our sponsor, Mount Pisgah UMC, is collecting food to help replenish North Fulton Community Charities bare pantry. (NFCC supports local families.) They have been empty and/or desperately low for many weeks. The next time you are in the grocery store, please consider purchasing a bagful of non-perishable food to donate to a worthy cause. You can either bring them to the next troop meeting and we'll make sure they get to MPUMC or you can drop them off directly to the church in any of the 'Outreach Collection Carts' located on North and South Campuses. Thank you.

## **National Logo Contest**

In honor of BSA's 100th Anniversary, BSA wants to create a memorable logo that captures the true spirit of Scouting... and, we are calling on Scouts all across the country to help us in the effort! We have launched a national contest to inspire creative thinking and engage Scouts at every level. Every registered Scout is eligible. Entries are **due by Nov. 30, 2007**. Winners will be chosen in several categories. The overall winner will work with nationally-recognized graphic artist and Eagle Scout, Kit Hinrichs, to format the design for broad use throughout our celebration. *Every participant will receive a patch and certificate from BSA.* Winners, chosen from several categories, will be recognized at a May 2008 BSA National Annual Meeting. The overall winner will receive an all-expense paid trip to San Francisco, CA to work hand-in-hand with Kit Hinrichs to finalize the 100th Anniversary Celebration logo design. More information: [Logo Contest](#)

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

## **Patrol Leaders Council – October 18<sup>th</sup>, 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.

## **Cavalcade is BACK!**

**Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>** at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area at Island Ford 1978 Island Ford Parkway, Atlanta Georgia 30350. If you've been around Scouting for awhile, you know that Cavalcade is a celebration of Scouting, where Cub and Boy Scouts can experience a walk across a monkey bridge, make parachute men, and learn neat Scouting tricks and skills. Check out the website at [Cavalcade](#).

## **Duty to God Encampment**

This encampment is coming up over the weekend of **October 26<sup>th</sup>** for scouts looking to earn a Religious emblem. This is a campout at **Bert Adams Reservation** where dedicated scouts focus on their faith. Check out the *FLYER* section above to link to council flyer. Interested scouts can see or email [Frank Rocchio](#) for additional details.

## **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**.

## **Attention Trained Den Chiefs**

We have Dens looking for Den Chiefs. If you are trained and need the leadership position for rank advancement, see **Scoutmaster Gillis** and **ASM Nat Padget**. Remember ... Mr. Gillis must approve you for a spot after you have received training.

## 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. Gillis](#). [Judi Dammann](#) will be organizing various successful Eagle projects completed by our numerous troop Eagle Scouts in the past.

## 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](#) or look for him at a troop meeting for more information on how to get started in the program.

## Next Court of Honor – January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008

All scouts and their families are **invited, encouraged (and expected) to attend** this special ceremony to recognize scouts' accomplishments over the past few months. Court of Honor 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.

## Scoutmaster's Notes on High Adventures for 2008

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 check out the [Sea Base 2008 flyer](#) 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, 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 scheduled Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007.**

### **Sign up for Scout CPR Saturday (December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007)**

Yes, I know you are saying "Why are we worrying about activities in December?" The Atlanta Area Council is offering an opportunity to train 1000 scouters (Adult leaders, youth and parents) in Adult CPR and AED skills. Adults and some scouts are required to be CPR-qualified for High Adventure trips. Frequently, there is a mad scramble to find a facility to get this done at the last minute. Since a scout believes in 'being prepared', take advantage of this excellent opportunity by going on line at [AAC](#) to sign up.

### **Scouter's Academy**

Saturday, November 3. Scouter's Academy is a day full of supplemental training that has been designed for all program areas and levels of experience from the newest Cub Scout parent or leader to the highly experienced leader at any level of the Scout program. This year's theme of "Recipes for Success" promises to be a lot of fun. Scouter's Academy is an excellent opportunity to network with other scouting leaders. Attending Scouter's Academy qualifies as the training requirement for many Scout Leader Award knots and earns points toward the Chattahoochee District Honor Unit award.

To learn more or register for the 2007 event, visit the Scouter's Academy web page at [Scouter's Academy](#). Email questions to: AdmSA2007@GeorgiaBSA.com.

### **AAC has Philmont 2008 slots available**

Troops are not allowed to apply for a Philmont trip for two consecutive years, so Troop 629 will not be organizing a Philmont 2008 crew because we sent a crew this past summer. The Atlanta Area Council Philmont 2008 expedition is accepting applications for Provisional Crew 1. This crew will be filled with scouts from council troops who have no crews going to Philmont and who otherwise would not have an opportunity to experience Philmont. Nine openings for scouts and one opening for an adult leader are available. Scouts and adult leaders who are interested in going to Philmont in 2008 should complete an application form, which can be obtained from Mr. Paul Gordy at the Council Program office. Philmont 2008 is June 17 - June 29, 2008. Questions may be directed to Mr. John Pelick, 770-934-5807 or Mr. Paul Gordy 770-989-8821, x2004. Application forms are available upon request in the Program Center or via e-mail.

**\*\*\*\*\*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. Check frequently as scouts are always outgrowing their clothes or going to college after earning Eagle.

### **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:

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

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

~Brigade Quartermaster, Marietta: 10% off by showing your BSA card; 770-428-6870

## \*\*\*\*\*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 could find some time to help out, please see our Committee Chair, [Wendy Kraemer](#), to find out about the open positions available.*

### ~~One parent volunteer needed ASAP ~

Help is needed to join forces with other volunteers for the annual **October 29<sup>th</sup> Troop meeting held at Newtown Park**. This is *wildly-popular* with the scouts as it is a fun outdoor meeting with the tastes and scents of fall in the air. We have had some parents graciously offer their assistance but are still in **need of one more volunteer** to complete the team to supply the hot cocoa and the caramel apples for the scouts. Please contact [Wendy Kraemer](#) right away to let her know you are available. If all you have is a brief spurt of time to give in volunteer hours, this is your chance to help out the troop. *We need someone to please volunteer ASAP so organizing can be completed.*

### ~~Flower Fundraiser Organizer Needed

Currently Chris and Leslie Cotney are heading up our Flower Sale Fundraiser which occurs in both the fall and the spring. This is a great way for scouts to raise money for their high adventure trips. Both Chris and Leslie have been long-time volunteers with our troop and they are also organizing the Christmas Tree Fundraiser during the winter holidays. The flower sales began **September 10<sup>th</sup>** and it would be great if we can find a couple of folks to work with Leslie and Chris so you can take this over in the future. If you would like more details, please let [Wendy Kraemer](#) if you are interested.

### ~~Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony Coordinator Needed

Lu Ann DiPietro has been organizing the position of coordinating all of the details for celebration ceremonies for new Eagle Scouts for the last three years. Once a scout has achieved the rank of Eagle, she requests letters of congratulations from government officials and companies around the United States. She also coordinates the Eagle Court of Honor ceremony with the families and attends the Court of Honor to serve refreshments. We really need a couple of parents to do what Lu Ann has been doing for the troop. Please let [Wendy Kraemer](#) know that you would like to help the troop by taking over this position.

### **~~Uniform Organizer Needed**

This position is OPEN. Mitch Yakrus' son recently received Eagle Scout and is now at college (good luck Greg!). This position entails ordering red scout t-shirts for the Webelos in Cub Scouts who crossover in the spring and any newcomer that joins after that time. This volunteer is also responsible for ordering the leather nametags for the new scouts as well as whistles. This is really an annual event which occurs in **April-May** of each year. See or email [Wendy Kraemer](#) at the next troop meeting to ask her to hold this position for you.

### **~~Troop Secretary Needed**

We need a volunteer to take notes during Adult Leader Committee Meetings, which usually fall on the first Sunday of the month at 6pm at Mount Pisgah UMC in the dining room. You will take notes, have them edited by a few committee members via email, and then email the final notes to all committee members.

### **~~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 email [Kathleen Narayanan](#) or call her at **770-740-8496**. No experience required. (Unfortunately, unit leaders and assistant unit leaders may not serve as a BOR member.)

### **2007 Woodbadge Reunion**

On **October 13<sup>th</sup> from 2pm – 7:30pm** those who have been properly 'beaded' are invited to participate in "A Gathering of Friends Celebrating 100 Years of Scouting – Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow". The reunion will be held at **BASR**. More info at [AAC website](#).

### **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.

**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.

### **Could you please pass the SALT???**

Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Training (**SALT**) is offered to Adult Leaders who have completed New Leader Essential (**NLE**) training. SALT is a **3-session course offered in September and October**. Need to get started with NLE first? No problem ... you can find information on both of these courses in the *CALENDAR* and *FLYER* sections of this newsletter.

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

Your first step is to click [here](#) then print and complete the **Adult Application** and give to **Kathleen Narayanan** at the next troop meeting. Your next step begins your training - go [here](#) 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 email a copy of your course "completion" card to [Kathleen Narayanan](#) 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 [the merit badge website](#). 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](#) and [Atlanta Area Council](#). These websites have additional information regarding upcoming events, training, contacts and library.

Troop 629 is sponsored by [Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church](#).

Please send all email address changes, deletions and additions to the [Troop Newsletter](#). 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.

# October 2007

| Sun                                                             | Mon                                                                                           | Tues                                | Wed                          | Thurs                                      | Fri                                                                         | Sat                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>30</u> <u>Sep</u>                                            | <u>1</u> <u>Oct</u>                                                                           | <u>2</u>                            | <u>3</u>                     | <u>4</u>                                   | <u>5</u>                                                                    | <u>6</u>                                             |
| Succoth<br>Zack B Eagle<br>COH                                  | Succoth<br>7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting                                                      | Succoth                             | Succoth<br>SALT - III of III | Simchat Torah                              | Simchat Torah                                                               |                                                      |
| <u>7</u>                                                        | <u>8</u>                                                                                      | <u>9</u>                            | <u>10</u>                    | <u>11</u>                                  | <u>12</u>                                                                   | <u>13</u>                                            |
| 6:00p -7:30p<br>Committee<br>Meeting<br>Calvacade<br>Show/Booth | Columbus Day<br>(Fed)<br>7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Flower Sales<br>Orders Due          | 6:00p -7:00p<br>Merit Badge<br>Help |                              | 7:30p RT & OA<br>Meeting                   | Hunting Beach<br>SC - Logger<br>head Turtle<br>watch<br>Teacher work<br>day | Hunting Beach<br>SC - Logger<br>head Turtle<br>watch |
| <u>14</u>                                                       | <u>15</u>                                                                                     | <u>16</u>                           | <u>17</u>                    | <u>18</u>                                  | <u>19</u>                                                                   | <u>20</u>                                            |
| Hunting Beach<br>SC - Logger<br>head Turtle<br>watch<br>NLE     | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Board of<br>Review                                           |                                     |                              | 7:00p -8:00p<br>Patrol Leader's<br>Council | Flower Pickup                                                               | JOTA/JOTI<br>GT usher                                |
| <u>21</u>                                                       | <u>22</u>                                                                                     | <u>23</u>                           | <u>24</u>                    | <u>25</u>                                  | <u>26</u>                                                                   | <u>27</u>                                            |
| JOTA/JOTI                                                       | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting                                                                 |                                     | Half Day of<br>School        |                                            | Duty to God<br>Encampment                                                   | Duty to God<br>Encampment<br>Scout Day at<br>NASCAR  |
| <u>28</u>                                                       | <u>29</u>                                                                                     | <u>30</u>                           | <u>31</u>                    | <u>1</u> <u>Nov</u>                        | <u>2</u>                                                                    | <u>3</u>                                             |
| Duty to God<br>Encampment                                       | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>7:15p at<br>NEWTOWN<br>PARK<br>9:00p<br>Popcorn Sales<br>End |                                     | Halloween                    | GT usher                                   | OA Allatoona                                                                | OA Allatoona<br>Scouters<br>Academy                  |