



BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

December 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

Another new youth leadership team has just taken over after our semi-annual elections so look for Philip K. as our new SPL and his sidekick Alex K. as ASPL to be controlling the helm of our leader"ship" corps. The patrol leaders include Daniel B., Blake C., Aroon N., Derrick G. and James D. with Cory F. and Ryan D. as our Venture crew chiefs. A special thanks to Grayson C. as our outgoing SPL and his team for keeping us on a smooth path.

Another good year of popcorn sales thanks to the Dekle Clan for hanging in there and pushing this program along to another success. Service is key for many of our patrols this month to conduct a patrol outing and give back to the community in some form and we hope all will get out to do their part. By the end of the year we close with the annual tree recycling pick up and many hands on January 1st will make that another successful undertaking by the Troop. The annual ski trip to Winterplace in WV is fast approaching and with the holidays mixed in need a response from everyone if they are or are not attending so we can make all the arrangements for a smooth trip. Finally a good turn out (but could have had a lot more) who attended the fall AT back packing trip. We had good weather, missed the night campfire due to the drought and learned how to get by with the water we could scrounge. Sore muscles and scrapes aside, all felt a sense of accomplishments at the end of this one.

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

December Reminders:

Dec 1st: OA Banquet

Dec 1st-2nd: Patrol Outings/Service Projects

Dec 2nd: Committee Meeting

Dec 3rd: **Godsend voting deadline**

Dec 4th: Hanukkah begins

Dec 8th: Re-Charter Day ~ CPR Training – On The Eagle Trail Merit Badge Clinic

Dec 8th-9th: Patrol Outings/Service Projects

Dec 11th: Merit Badge Help Night

Dec 15th-16th: Patrol Outings/Service Projects

Dec 16th: Green Bar Interviews

Dec 17th: Board of Review ~~ Forms and Money due for WV Ski Trip

Dec 20th: Fulton Co. Schools Winter Break begins ~ Patrol Leaders Council Meeting

Dec 24th: Christmas Eve ~ No Troop Meeting

Dec 25th: **Christmas Day**

Dec 31st: New Years Eve

January 2008 Reminders:

Jan 1st: New Years Day ~ Christmas Tree Pickup

Jan 3rd-6th: WV Ski Trip

Jan 6th: Troop Committee Meeting ~ NLE

Jan 7th: Fulton Co. Schools resumes

Jan 8th: Merit Badge Help

Jan 9th: Camp Kick-off Meeting

Jan 10th: RT & OA Meeting

Jan 17th: Patrol Leader Meeting

Jan 18th-21st: Venture NH Ski Trip

Jan 21st: ML King Day ~ no school ~ Yes, there's a troop meeting AND Board of Review

Jan 26th: Aquarium or Silver Comet Bike Trip

Jan 28th: Court of Honor

*****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 ...

~~~~~ Two ski trips are planned during January 2008: **Winterplace in WV** for any scout interested will be **Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>**. Flyers are at meetings and at link below. **Forms and money are due by Monday, Dec 17<sup>th</sup>**. ~~~~~ **New England Ski Trip** will be **Jan 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>** is only for scouts **over 14 years old**. Flyer links are below and are available at meetings. You need to let your Scoutmaster know now if you are interested so plans can be finalized.

## Flyers

ChristmasTree pickup request <http://www.troop629.org/xmastrees/index.htm>

Tons of Troop Pictures - fantastic new format! <http://tinyurl.com/2yetln>

Scout CPR Saturday <http://www.goodturn.net/>

January Ski Trip to Winterplace [http://www.troop629.org/forms/2007/SKI\\_08\\_signup\\_sheet1.pdf](http://www.troop629.org/forms/2007/SKI_08_signup_sheet1.pdf)

January New England Venture Ski Trip [http://www.troop629.org/forms/2008/New\\_England\\_Skiing\\_081.pdf](http://www.troop629.org/forms/2008/New_England_Skiing_081.pdf)

Sea Base 2008 (Tall Ship Sailing) <http://www.troop629.org/forms/Sea%20Base%20Flyer%201-08.pdf>

Northern Tier [http://www.troop629.org/forms/NT\\_flyer\\_1\\_081.pdf](http://www.troop629.org/forms/NT_flyer_1_081.pdf)

## Next Troop Board of Review – Dec. 17th

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**.

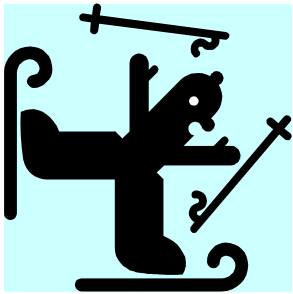
## VOTE ON GODSEND AWARD

Once a year, the Troop awards a deserving volunteer with the Troop Godsend Award. This goes to one instrumental person (or couple) in our troop who has (have) made a big difference to our program. Each unit can nominate one person or a husband/wife team, who has been an exceptional leader(s) in their unit. Please pick one candidate below for our Godsend Recipient Award and cast your vote via email at [wlkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlkraemer@bellsouth.net) or hand carry to Wendy Kraemer at a meeting. Flyers will be available at meeting on Monday to vote. Voting deadline is Monday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> so VOTE NOW PLEASE.

~~Julie and Mike Deaton  
~~Leslie and Chris Cotney  
~~Gregg Brasher  
~~Kathleen Narayanan

## Annual Ski Trip to West Virginia

You will not want to miss this trip on **January 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> (Thurs – Sun.)**. We will leave Thursday night and after a wonderful night sleep in beautiful Charlotte, we are off again early to arrive at Winterplace



Ski Resort on Friday morning. After only a few minutes to check in and get our equipment, away we go to fun city!! We will ski all afternoon and into the night on Friday (yes, they have night-skiing). Lunch and dinner will be purchased by scouts on the slopes. Staggered vehicles runs will deliver us to our luxurious Resort of Glade Springs (really!) as we come off the slopes. On Saturday we hit the slopes again and spend all day skiing, later retiring to our swanky resort to regale each other in our sweetest moments of catching air while we chow down on pizza. ~~ The troop has had many scouts who never skied before

going on the troop's annual ski trip. They are now experienced skiers and snowboarders (some of which are now Eagle rank). If you have not been before, this is the best time to go. Everyone else in West Virginia and the northeast is in school on Friday and we will have the slopes to ourselves.

(Here is the 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/> Money will be due December 17<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Gregg or Carol Brasher if you have any questions [g.brasher@comcast.net](mailto:g.brasher@comcast.net)

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

## Democracy has spoken!

We've just completed our semi-annual leadership elections and want to say a "job well done" and THANKS to Grayson C. (a hard act to follow!) for handling the last six months as our SPL and congratulate Philip K. on his election as our next SPL and looking forward to wonderful things from him. The patrols have re-organized as well and our next batch of Patrol Leaders are Daniel B., Blake C., Aroon N., Derrick G. and James D. with Cory F. and Ryan D. as our next Venture Crew Chiefs.

## Success!

A special 'thank you' goes to **Mike McGoff** for organizing the successful annual Webelo visit to our troop. The Webelos enjoyed their outdoor patrol challenge and got an idea of what a weekly troop meeting looked like, while their parents learned about the troop and its program. Thanks, Mike!

## Eagle Congratulations

WOW! The good news just keeps on coming. Congratulations **Will C.** on being Troop 629's newest Eagle Scout! A special ceremony is being planned to celebrate and receive his award so please watch for announcements of time, date and location at troop meetings, on the bulletin board, website and/or email. Eagle Courts of Honor 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 November go to:

- 🦅 **EAGLE:** (none this month)
- 👤 **LIFE:** Blake C.
- 🌟 **STAR:** Alex K. and Chris N.
- 🏆 **FIRST CLASS:** Ben B.
- 👤 **SECOND CLASS:** (none this month)
- 👤 **TENDERFOOT:** Eric F. and Bill R.
- 👤 **SCOUT:** Bill R.

## \*\*\*\*\*EARNING POWER\*\*\*\*\*

### HO! HO! HO!



Christmas Tree Recycling Elves needed! Christmas will be here soon! Troop 629's annual Christmas tree recycling fundraiser is in need of both adult and Boy Scout elves to help with the recycling for our community. Boy Scouts must sign up for **flyer distribution that starts the first week of December and tree pickup on Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.** All monies earned go directly into the boys' personal high adventure accounts. No experience necessary for adult elves – a variety of opportunities from which to choose – drivers, shotgun riders, cleanup, and more. If you are a parent new to Troop 620 and are looking for a brief but fun way to participate and support your son's scouting, Santa would like to talk to you! See **Chris Cotney** at Monday night scout meetings or **call 770-410-1730.** You can sign up on the troop website if you want your tree picked up <http://www.troop629.org/xmastrees/index.htm>.

### Missed the opportunity to earn H.A. \$\$\$? Don't despair ...

Most of the popcorn has been eaten and (hopefully) the fall flowers have been planted and benefited from our rain over the last week. These fundraisers have provided many of our scouts with additional funds to use for skiing, summer camp and any High Adventure outing. Look for the next opportunities through **Christmas tree pick-up (Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>).** Flyers and sign-up sheets are now available at meetings and on the website. Next year's fundraising opportunity will start with Spring flower sales. 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 to *sign up* and earn.

### Popcorn Sales:

Did you deliver all your popcorn orders and realize that you didn't purchase any for your family? Or did you finish that can of Caramel Corn and wish you had more? We have a few cans of popcorn available for purchase as well as some microwave popcorn. Please **see Don or Lisa Dekle** [dldekle@bellsouth.net](mailto:dldekle@bellsouth.net) for more information. You can still purchase popcorn on [www.orderpopcorn.com](http://www.orderpopcorn.com) as well. If you have not picked up your popcorn order or turned your money in, we need you to do that as soon as possible.

## 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.

## Celebrate the Upcoming Holidays in a Very Special Way

Lots of service projects are just plain fun while helping others, such as helping other scouts with Eagle projects or fundraising for your High Adventure accounts. Consider over the next few months choosing a service project that you can participate in with your family as a very special way to celebrate together during the holiday season. Many local charities are especially in need of the community's support during this very busy time of year. These organizations and the families that they help are very appreciative of your support through your time and donations. What a great way to earn those service hours while knowing you are making a difference in another person's life right here in the community!

## Volunteers needed for CPR Saturday

Participate in CPR Saturday, 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.



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

**Leaders Council – December 20<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 at **7pm in Room A008**.

**December patrol outings**

Our patrol leader's council has normally set aside patrol activities for the month of December. Look for details by each patrol to conduct small group service and fun activities which we hope every scout will take time to participate in with his group.

**On the Eagle Trail Merit Badge Clinic**

Troop 87 has organized this great opportunity to work on important merit badges. Held at the **1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Roswell on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**. Register on-line now <http://meritbadge.info/index.html>. No walk-ins allowed.

**HEADS UP:** Mark your calendars for **March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008** (Sat.) for the **Cherokee District Spring 2008 Advance A Rama Merit Badge Clinic** to be held at Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources @ Univ. of GA, Athens. They plan to offer 20 different classes to 300 Boy Scouts as well as Adult Leader Training on several topics. Look for sign up information in Jan. 2008 or check with **Mrs. Narayanan**.

**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**.

**Get trained as a Den Chief – openings available**

We have Cub Scout Dens looking for Den Chiefs. If you are trained and need the leadership position for rank advancement, see **Scoutmaster Gillis** and **ASM Nat Padget**. He still has slots available and waiting for you. 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.

## **A Free Community Event**

Our Troop Sponsor, [Mount Pisgah Church](#), will have a free community event **on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup>** with Christmas music and more, **North Atlanta Christmas Festival**. Doors open at 6:15pm for the 7pm performance. All are welcome to attend.

## **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** <http://www.troop629.org/forms/Sea%20Base%20Flyer%201-08.pdf> or **Northern Tier flyer** [http://www.troop629.org/forms/NT\\_flyer\\_1\\_081.pdf](http://www.troop629.org/forms/NT_flyer_1_081.pdf).

## **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 Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007.**

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

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.

## **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.*

**~~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. If you would like more details, please let [Wendy Kraemer](#).

**~~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 afterwards. 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.)

**Adult Updates:** All adults please update your training with **Mrs. Narayanan** and update your car/driving info with **Sue Levin**. Look for them at troop meetings.

## **BSA License Plates – Deadline approaching this month**

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.

## **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.

# December 2007

| Sun                                                                           | Mon                                                                             | Tues                                                | Wed                       | Thurs                                      | Fri         | Sat                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>25</u> Nov                                                                 | <u>26</u>                                                                       | <u>27</u>                                           | <u>28</u>                 | <u>29</u>                                  | <u>30</u>   | <u>1</u> Dec                                                                       |
|                                                                               | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Webelos<br>Visitation Night                    |                                                     | Half Day of<br>School     |                                            |             | Patrol<br>Outings/Service<br>Projects<br>OA Banquet                                |
| <u>2</u>                                                                      | <u>3</u>                                                                        | <u>4</u>                                            | <u>5</u>                  | <u>6</u>                                   | <u>7</u>    | <u>8</u>                                                                           |
| Patrol<br>Outings/Service<br>Projects<br>6:00p -7:30p<br>Committee<br>Meeting | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting                                                   | Hanukkah                                            | Hanukkah                  | Hanukkah                                   | Hanukkah    | Patrol<br>Outings/Service<br>Projects<br>Hanukkah<br>CPR training<br>Recharter Day |
| <u>9</u>                                                                      | <u>10</u>                                                                       | <u>11</u>                                           | <u>12</u>                 | <u>13</u>                                  | <u>14</u>   | <u>15</u>                                                                          |
| Patrol<br>Outings/Service<br>Projects<br>Hanukkah                             | Hanukkah<br>7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting                                       | Hanukkah<br>6:00p -7:00p<br>Merit Badge<br>Help     | Hanukkah                  | 7:30p RT & OA<br>Meeting                   |             | Patrol<br>Outings/Service<br>Projects                                              |
| <u>16</u>                                                                     | <u>17</u>                                                                       | <u>18</u>                                           | <u>19</u>                 | <u>20</u>                                  | <u>21</u>   | <u>22</u>                                                                          |
| Patrol<br>Outings/Service<br>Projects<br>Green Bar<br>Interviews              | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Board of<br>Review                             |                                                     | Winter Vacation<br>Begins | 7:00p -8:00p<br>Patrol Leader's<br>Council |             |                                                                                    |
| <u>23</u>                                                                     | <u>24</u>                                                                       | <u>25</u>                                           | <u>26</u>                 | <u>27</u>                                  | <u>28</u>   | <u>29</u>                                                                          |
|                                                                               | Christmas Eve<br>7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Nah - have a<br>happy holiday | Christmas Day<br>Christmas (Fed)                    |                           |                                            |             |                                                                                    |
| <u>30</u>                                                                     | <u>31</u>                                                                       | <u>1</u> Jan                                        | <u>2</u>                  | <u>3</u>                                   | <u>4</u>    | <u>5</u>                                                                           |
|                                                                               | New Year's Eve<br>7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting                                 | New Year's Day<br>(Fed)<br>Christmas Tree<br>Pickup |                           | WV Ski Trip                                | WV Ski Trip | WV Ski Trip                                                                        |