



BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

May 2008

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

ALL NEWSLETTERS ARE AT www.troop629.org

Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Another one to congratulate! Yes, add Stevie McH. to our list of eagle scouts. Stevie passed his district board on April 24th to be our 55th Eagle. Stevie has already been giving back to the scouting program with this his 5th year with the council Green Bar national leadership training program as a Senior Patrol Leader and really understands what servant leadership is all about.



Each scout working on Star through Eagle knows they have a leadership position requirement that is more than wearing the patch. Every six months each position is either newly elected or appointed by the SPL to meet these challenges. Hopefully great scouts are clear that actually 'performing' is what is expected to get credit and that when coming to the scoutmaster conference they can stand tall and state clearly how they feel they have completed the leadership requirement to the best of their ability. Wearing the patch is not enough and making sure you have been marked down at the beginning of each six month cycle to be gauged on your performance is necessary. So communicate your intent in this next election cycle at the May12th meeting.

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

May Reminders:

May 2nd-3rd: OA Woodruff

May 3rd-4th: Caving

May 4th: Committee Meeting

May 5th: Troop Meeting ~ Court of Honor ~ Eagle Court of Honor for James C. will immediately follow at 8pm ~ Final Summer Camp fee and physicals due

May 6th: SALT III of III Course

May 7th: Reg. deadline for AAC NESAs Advancement Day @ Ga. Perimeter College (5/10)

May 8th: RT & OA Meeting

May 9th: Relay for Life

May 10th: AAC NESAs Adv. Day ~ Reg. deadline FBLA Merit Badge Clinic (5/17)

May 11th: *Mother's Day*

May 12th: Troop Meeting ~ SPL/PL Elections

May 13th: Merit Badge Help

May 15th: PLC Meeting

May 16th-18th: OA Bert Adams

May 17th: Green Bar Staff Set Up ~ Armed Forces Day ~ FBLA Merit Badge Clinic

May 19th: Troop Meeting ~ Board of Review ~ Parent Summer Camp Meeting

May 20th: TCT Course

May 23rd: Last Day of School (Fulton Co.)

May 26th: Troop Meeting (Summer Uniform change "Be Prepared" section) ~ Memorial Day

May 25th-31st: Green Bar Week 1

June Reminders:

June 1st-June 7th: Green Bar Week 1

June 1st: Committee Meeting

June 2nd: Troop Meeting

June 8th-14th: Green Bar Week 3

June 9th: Troop Meeting

June 10th: Merit Badge Help

June 12th: RT & OA Meeting

June 14th: Flag Day

June 15th: *Fathers Day*

June 15th-21st: Summer Camp @ Woodruff

June 16th: Troop Meeting ~ Board of Review

June 19th: Patrol Leaders Council

June 23rd: Troop Meeting ~ Eagle Court of Honor for James P.

June 30th: Troop Meeting

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

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



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

~~~~~ The **Caving** trip is a "GO!" The spelunkers leave Mount Pisgah at **1pm Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** for an overnight trip to **Cumberland Caverns in TN**. They will return to Mount Pisgah at **noon on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**. ~~~~~ **Summer Camp 2008 at Woodruff (June 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>)** information on-line and at troop meetings along with sign-up at Monday night meetings **3rd deposit and physicals are due May 5<sup>th</sup>**. **Merit badge class selections are (past-)due to Mr. Gillis ASAP**. Web link is included in the *Flyers* section below. (Parents' information meeting on **May 19<sup>th</sup>** will run concurrent with troop meeting. Please attend to have all of your questions answered.) ~~~~~ **Relay for Life is May 9<sup>th</sup>**. Click on the link below in *Flyers* section. ~~~~~

## Flyers

Cumberland Caverns <http://www.cumberlandcaverns.com/>

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

Summer Camp 2008 <http://www.troop629.org:80/camping/summercamp2008.htm>

Friends of Scouting (FOS) <http://www.cdbsa.org/Programs/FriendsofScouting/tabid/60/Default.aspx>

Greenbar <http://www.troop629.org/training/greenbar.htm>

Relay for Life [www.roswellrelayforlife.org](http://www.roswellrelayforlife.org)

FBLA Day of Merit <http://tinyurl.com/36blj3>

AAC NESAs Advancement Day (Ga. Perimeter College) [www.atlantabsa.org](http://www.atlantabsa.org)

Summer Camp Staff Applications (Council Activity) <http://tinyurl.com/35zpuq>

SALT <http://www.cdbsa.org/Training/tabid/63/Default.aspx>

TCT <http://www.cdbsa.org/Training/tabid/63/Default.aspx>

Wood Badge 2008 <http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.asp?orgkey=1456&id=29147>

## Court of Honor – May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008

All scouts and their families are **invited, encouraged (and expected) to attend** this special ceremony to recognize scouts' accomplishments since the January COH. Court of Honor is a great place to re-confirm the year's activities (more details on **Summer Camp 2008** will be covered) and how they all fit together for each scout. If you've not attended a COH in a while, you are missing out on a very impressive ceremony that speaks highly of our youth who run Troop 629 and adult volunteers who aide them. It is also an opportunity for moms to get out their Mother's Ribbon and proudly wear them whether their scout gets to pin on a rank advancement or not. It is a convenient time to ask about and sign up for open volunteer troop positions. C.O.H. is held in lieu of a regular troop meeting, same time, same place. Hope you don't miss this hour-packed, inspiring ceremony which only occurs approximately three times a year. Mark your calendar for **May 5<sup>th</sup> for the troop's next COH**. Chances are pretty good that your scout will be standing to receive recognition for his accomplishments and an adult volunteer being recognized is your friend who will deserve your applause. Hope to see all scouts and their families in attendance. *(\*\*\*\* This night is even more special than usual since there is an **Eagle Court of Honor for James C. beginning at 8pm** to which all are invited to remain and join in the celebration. \*\*\*\*)*

## Special Eagle Courts of Honor

Two ECOH are being planned to celebrate two of the troop's newest **Eagle Scouts, James C. and James P.** **James C.** will hold his ECOH on **Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 8pm**, immediately following the Court of Honor. **James P.** will hold his ECOH on **Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8pm**, immediately following the regular Troop meeting. These are very special recognition evenings and we hope that all scouts will attend with their families.

## Parents of New Scouts - Summer Camp Orientation Meeting – Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>

Parents, if your son is a new scout and will be attending summer camp for the first time this June, we encourage you to come to this meeting. We will be going over the items that your son should bring, what he should not bring and what he cannot bring. We will also talk about drop-off, package delivery, handling medicine, early pick-up, and many other topics. We anticipate that the meeting will be approximately one hour. We will be meeting **in front of the old sanctuary**, where the troop normally meets, **at 7:15** and then will go to an available room for the talk. If you have any questions about the meeting, please email **Gregg Brasher** at [c.brasher@comcast.net](mailto:c.brasher@comcast.net).

## Next Troop Board of Review – May 19<sup>th</sup>

*Please read carefully:* After a scout completes his **Scoutmaster Conference**, he must notify **Mrs. Narayanan** [kathleen@narayanan.us](mailto:kathleen@narayanan.us), 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**.

## 2008 Summer Camp at Woodruff

Plans for Summer Camp at Woodruff (June 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>) are developing nicely. The first deposit was due Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>; second deposit was due March 24<sup>th</sup>; and **final deposit is due May 5<sup>th</sup> along with your troop permission slip and medical form (Class II or III, depending on activities)**. Plan ahead as these medical forms involve a doctor's visit and signature ~ appointments aren't always easy to get at the last minute. Merit badge selections were due March 31<sup>st</sup>. **If you have not already done so, it is important to turn in your selections to Mr. Gillis ASAP.** The sooner you review the material and make your decisions, the more you'll love summer camp. Important details are on the troop web site under the *Camping* tab (across the top of page) or see the link in the **Flyers** section above. **See your Scoutmaster (Mr. Gillis)** with any summer camp questions. There will be a **Parent Meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>** to answer your summer camp questions. See paragraph above.



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

**Eagle Court of Honor**

The troop has yet another scout to reach the rank of Eagle Scout – **Stevie McH.** *Congratulations to you, Stevie!* **Stevie McH.** is currently planning his celebration and will share the details upon completion.

🏹 EAGLE~👤 LIFE~🌟 STAR~👤 FIRST CLASS~👤 SECOND CLASS~👤 TENDERFOOT~👤 SCOUT

**Advancement Congratulations for the month of April go to:**

🏹 **EAGLE:** Stevie McH.

👤 **LIFE:** Jonathan A.

🌟 **STAR:** (none this month)

👤 **FIRST CLASS:** Connor P.

👤 **SECOND CLASS:** Isaac S. and Robbie W.

👤 **TENDERFOOT:** Kevin A., Zach D., Wes H., and Evan T.

👤 **SCOUT:** Ryan A., Blair B., John F., Paden H., Zack H., Brent P., and Noah R.

**April Showers bring ... Great Volunteers!**

Thanks go to **Chris Cotney** for organizing yet another successful Spring Flower fundraiser for the troop in April. Also, **Hanson Nursery** has our sincere appreciation for working with our troop by providing a 'drought-friendly' solution so our scouts could sell spring flowers to earn money for their High Adventure accounts.

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

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

Fundraisers have provided many of our scouts with additional funds to use for skiing, summer camp and any High Adventure outing. 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. Spring flower sales have just concluded. Keep an eye on the newsletter, website and troop bulletin board for future 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 gift card)! To get started, contact **Susan Cook**, [ssbcook@bellsouth.net](mailto:ssbcook@bellsouth.net) (678-297-7766) 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. **Your Kroger gift card will be distributed at the Monday night troop meeting at the beginning of each month** (with enclosed reminder of amount owed and address to send payment). Return payment in the mail to Susan by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month or you can bring payment on a Monday night troop meeting and give to her.

### **Popcorn is still available!**

Are you craving some Unbelievable butter or Butter light microwave popcorn? What about Caramel corn or the yummy Chocolate caramel crunch? Good news! The troop still has a small supply of popcorn which you can purchase at the next few troop meetings and take home with you. The current inventory is: Unbelievable butter microwave (1 case + 3 boxes); Butter light microwave (1 case); Chocolate caramel crunch (3 tins); Caramel corn light (2 tins); and Caramel corn w/ almonds (1 case). If you do not see what you are looking for at the meeting, you may also order popcorn online throughout the year go to [www.orderpopcorn.com](http://www.orderpopcorn.com). Then put our **Troop's code** in the blank which is **TE3HMC** and the unit will receive credit for the sale. The council will then send the profit to our unit each month and this money will be applied to each scout's High Adventure account.

### **\*\*\*\*\*SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES\*\*\*\*\***

**Service project opportunities** are available almost every weekend and are open to all. 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. 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 and on the troop calendar on the website. Express your interest to the SPL and SM as to how you can get involved - it's easy - just ask.

### **American Cancer Society Relay for Life**

Troop 629 will continue its tradition of supporting the **American Cancer Society Relay for Life** on **May 9th from 5pm to 11 pm at Centennial High School**. Scouts and parents may register to participate online at [www.roswellrelayforlife.org](http://www.roswellrelayforlife.org). From this website, you may also send emails to family and friends announcing your participation in RFL. They may make donations in support of your walk and/or order luminaria in honor or memory of cancer survivors directly through the website. Scouts will assist with luminaria lighting during the Relay and vie for RFL Diva (ask Martin J. about that!). Roswell RFL is also conducting a silent auction – an excellent opportunity to re-gift ☺ Contact **Nan Brown** at 770-643-6859 or [nantbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:nantbrown@hotmail.com) for further information or details on registration.

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

### **Troop Elections on May 12<sup>th</sup>**

Our semi-annual **Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader elections** will be held this month, **May 12<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. *If you plan to run for a position, Mr. Gillis must know your intentions prior to election night.* Make sure you show up and vote!



## Friends of Scouting

This annual FOS (a council fundraising program) is concluding during this month of May. This is your last chance to get the "Cheerful" council uniform patch for a contribution of \$300. Turn in your pledge card or grab an application at the Monday troop meeting. The money collected pays for crucial services that support our excellent scouting programs in the Atlanta Area Council. See **Flyers** section for the FOS link for more information. Please consider answering the plea with your generous support of a *tax-deductible donation*. Thank you very much for whatever you choose to contribute. If you have any questions, please contact **Nat Padget** [nat.padget@earthlink.net](mailto:nat.padget@earthlink.net) or look for him at troop meetings.

## Patrol Leaders Council - May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Our annual **Troop planning meeting** will take place during the next **Patrol Leaders Council meeting** on **May 15<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 Meeting and Uniform Change

Beginning **Memorial Day, May 26<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.

## Green Bar National Youth Leadership Training (GBNYLT)

The Council week-long National Youth Leadership Training course is ready for this year's participants to **sign up online** (<http://www.aacnylt.org/Home.html>). The course is held at **Bert Adams Scout Reservation (BASR)** and is offered three different times: **May 25<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>**; **June 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>**; and **June 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>**. If you are First Class, 13 years old or older and are looking for a proven opportunity to hone your lifelong leadership skills this is the course to attend. We have a large number of graduates of this course and many who have gone back to volunteer their service to serve on the staff. It's the path to leadership opportunities in our troop as well.

## 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

It is important that we have your son's most current emergency information on a **Class 1** form 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 you can click on the Troop Forms link <http://tinyurl.com/22f6u8> print a new Class 1&2 and fill out 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 signing up for a High Adventure trip.

## Scouts – Available openings for Den Chief Training

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 **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 effectively address the expectations of the Chattahoochee District? Contact [Mr. Gillis](#). [Judi Dammann](#) is organizing the troops past Eagle project packages to create a useful binder for future reference material for our Life to Eagle candidates.

## Order of the Arrow meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>



Every month on the second Thursday there is a district O.A. gathering open to O.A. members. See your O.A. Representative for details: <http://www.cdbsa.org/Programs/OrderoftheArrow/tabid/76/Default.aspx>.

## 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 for May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008.**

## Council-Sponsored Events

Check our website for more opportunities for activities and training through the Council. Individuals from our troop are welcome to participate in any special events <http://www.atlantabsa.org/>. This is an individual sign up, unless our troop otherwise specifies. Some are listed below:

### Your Donations/Loaners are Needed

Bert Adams Nature Center is requesting donations or loaners of the following items to support Summer Camp: an earth globe, aquariums, heat lamps, plastic terrariums, insect pens and display boxes, leaf collections, animal skins-skulls-bones-taxidermy, leaf collections, mineral-rock-fossil collections, nests, hives, and any other items/collections. If you are able to help us, please contact Jason Eiermann at 770-989-8821, ext. 2099 or [jeiermann@atlantabsa.org](mailto:jeiermann@atlantabsa.org).

### 2008 Summer Camp Staff

Applications for youth and adult positions at both Robert W. Woodruff and Bert Adams Scout Reservations are being accepted. The application form is available at the Program Service Center and on the 2 camp websites. It may also be accessed by going to <http://tinyurl.com/35zpuq>. Direct your inquiries to Yvett Battles 770-989-8821, Ext. 2004 or [ybattles@bsaemail.org](mailto:ybattles@bsaemail.org).

### NESA Advancement Day

Atlanta Area Council's NESA Advancement Day will be held May 10<sup>th</sup> at Georgia Perimeter College. Choose from a variety merit badges, including Eagle-required merit badge. There will be some classes for the adults accompanying the boys. Cost is \$5 per scout. For more information or to register, visit the council website at [www.atlantabsa.org](http://www.atlantabsa.org), go to May 10<sup>th</sup> on the calendar and click on NESA Day.

### FBLA Day of Merit

FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) at North Forsyth High School, Cumming, is sponsoring a merit badge clinic on May 17<sup>th</sup>. There are many good merit badges offered with spots left for you to sign up <http://tinyurl.com/36blj3>. Registration deadline is May 10<sup>th</sup>.

## \*\*\*\*\*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). 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. Families are asked to purchase designated food from the list and then they are reimbursed by the Troop Treasurer. Families can ask for an advance and handle reconciliation after the trip. 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.

### 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 Sue [spluspcubed@mindspring.com](mailto:spluspcubed@mindspring.com) 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

### Buy One Get One Free

**Atlanta Scout Shop** has a great sale on Switchbacks (long pants that zip off to create shorts) ~ located at 1800 Circle 75 Parkway, SE Atlanta 30339, 770-998-9912 or shop online 24/7. To take advantage of this offer online at [scoutstuff.org](http://scoutstuff.org) use promotion **code S36822** when checking out. Offer is **valid 4/15/08 – 5/15/08**. (May be purchased in different size combinations ~ including women sizes.)



**\*\*\*\*\* 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, \(wkraemer@bellsouth.net\)](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net) to learn about the available open positions.*

**~~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** [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net) know that you would like to help the troop by taking over this position.

**~~Christmas Tree Pickup Elf – please apply!**

Chris Cotney has successfully organized the Christmas Tree Fundraiser during several past winter holidays and would like to pass on his bag of secrets to a new 'Grand Ole Elf'. Please contact **Wendy Kraemer** [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net) to let her know you would like to step into these well-documented pointed shoes. ONE SIZE FITS ALL!

**~~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**. After meeting notes have been recorded, they are then edited by a few committee members via email, and then final notes are emailed to all committee members.

**~~No Green Thumb Experience Necessary**

Again Chris and Leslie Cotney have lead the way for many flower sales (spring and fall) and through these sales many scouts have funded their High Adventure trips. This is a perfect way to get involved in your son's troop and the Cotneys will be happy to show you the ropes. Please let **Wendy Kraemer** [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net) know that you'll take over this position.

**~~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, Kathleen@narayanan.us](mailto:Kathleen@narayanan.us) or call her at **770-740-8496** so she can add your information to her list to draw from when we have an upcoming BOR. No experience required. (Unfortunately, unit leaders and assistant unit leaders may not serve as a BOR member.)

**~~ Troop 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 \(www.meritbadge.com\)](http://www.meritbadge.com). 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  
Bugling  
Climbing

Dentistry  
Medicine  
Model Design

Plant Science  
Railroading  
Reptile/Amphibian

Skating  
Textile  
Waterskiing

Whitewater

## Troop Committee Meeting

The next scheduled committee meeting is tentatively for **May 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm – 7:30pm** at the **Mount Pisgah Dining Room on South Campus**.

### Attention All Adults (Reasons to Be Prepared)

Are you planning on getting involved with scouts? Want to go on an overnight scout trip? Troop 629 always needs, welcomes and *loves* its volunteers. If you want to participate in any of our activities we have a couple of pre-training requirements we need to have accomplished. 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:

~1~ Complete **Adult Registration Form** (check with Wendy K. if you can't remember if you've already done this). (Found under *Forms* on Troop website, [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org), *Registration Form-Adult*)

~2~ Complete **Youth Protection Training** (found under *Training* on Troop website)

~3~ Complete **Fast Start** (found under *Training* on Troop website)

Upon completion of any BSA training program, please email a copy of your course "completion" certificate to **Kathleen Narayanan** at [kathleen@narayanan.us](mailto:kathleen@narayanan.us) or bring a copy to her at the Troop meeting.

### A message on Adult Training from our Chattahoochee District Training Team

Our training team will be holding two courses aimed at training our District Troop Committees. We are asking all Troop Committee Chairs to have their members register and attend these courses ASAP so we can continue to provide a quality program through the best trained leaders possible. *This is especially important with all of the new Cub Scout parent's crossing over into a Boy Scout Troop.* You must first complete **NLE (New Leaders Essentials)** before taking these courses. The new courses are **SALT (Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leadership Training)** and **TCT (Troop Committee Training)**. These courses are the foundation of an effective Troop Committee. **SALT** is a three-part course offered April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and **May 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrews Catholic Church**. It demonstrates skills and methods which Scoutmasters and Committee Members can use to organize a Boy Scout Troop and support its boy leaders in developing and delivering an effective, exciting Scouting program. **TCT** is tentatively offered **May 20<sup>th</sup> (need 10 people to register)**. It will provide an overview of the core elements of the Troop Committee. Registration will be set up on the district website <http://www.cdbsa.org/Training/tabid/63/Default.aspx> in a few days (keep checking back). If there is a need to hold another NLE class, we will accommodate you. Please feel free to contact **David Rundell** at **770-640-0656** or [dlrundel@bellsouth.net](mailto:dlrundel@bellsouth.net). You can also ask your SM (Scoutmaster) or any ASM (Assistant Scoutmaster) or CM (Committee Member) about the training.

### 2008 Wood Badge Training

Are you an ASM who has attended ITOLS and would like to receive further scout leader training? Wood Badge Training is the next step. The remaining two offerings are a two-weekend course **Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> & Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>**; and a two-weekend course **Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> & Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>**. To learn more, please check out the flyer in the *Flyer* section above and contact **Janet Horton**, District Senior Patrol Leader for Summer 2008 Wood Badge Course [janet@vanepps.com](mailto:janet@vanepps.com).

## BSA and Sponsor Websites



We are [Chattahoochee District \(www.cdbsa.org\)](http://www.cdbsa.org) and [Atlanta Area Council \(www.atlantabsa.org\)](http://www.atlantabsa.org). These websites have additional information regarding upcoming events, training, contacts and library.

Troop 629 is sponsored by [Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church \(www.mountpisgah.org\)](http://www.mountpisgah.org).

Please send all email address changes, deletions and additions to the [Troop Newsletter, \(spluspcubed@mindspring.com\)](mailto: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 2008

| Sun                                                        | Mon                                                                                                                         | Tues                                | Wed                 | Thurs                                      | Fri                                                    | Sat                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>27</u> Apr                                              | <u>28</u>                                                                                                                   | <u>29</u>                           | <u>30</u>           | <u>1</u> May                               | <u>2</u>                                               | <u>3</u>                                                          |
|                                                            |                                                                                                                             |                                     |                     | Ascension Day                              | OA Woodruff<br>Holocaust Memorial                      | OA Woodruff<br>Caving                                             |
| <u>4</u>                                                   | <u>5</u>                                                                                                                    | <u>6</u>                            | <u>7</u>            | <u>8</u>                                   | <u>9</u>                                               | <u>10</u>                                                         |
| OA Woodruff<br>Caving<br>6:00p -7:30p<br>Committee Meeting | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Court of Honor &<br>ECOJ. Cook<br><br>Final Camp fee<br>and Physicals<br>due               |                                     |                     | 7:30p RT & OA<br>Meeting                   | Relay for Life                                         | Reg. Deadline<br>for FBLA Merit<br>Badge Clinic                   |
| <u>11</u>                                                  | <u>12</u>                                                                                                                   | <u>13</u>                           | <u>14</u>           | <u>15</u>                                  | <u>16</u>                                              | <u>17</u>                                                         |
| Whitsun Day<br>Mothers Day                                 | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>SPL/PL elections                                                                           | 6:00p -7:00p<br>Merit Badge<br>Help |                     | 7:00p -8:00p<br>Patrol Leader's<br>Council | OA Bert Adams                                          | OA Bert Adams<br>Armed Forces<br>Day<br>Green Bar Staff<br>Set Up |
| <u>18</u>                                                  | <u>19</u>                                                                                                                   | <u>20</u>                           | <u>21</u>           | <u>22</u>                                  | <u>23</u>                                              | <u>24</u>                                                         |
| OA Bert Adams                                              | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Board of Review<br>Parent Summer<br>Camp Mtg                                               |                                     |                     |                                            | Lag B'Omer<br>Last Day of<br>School (Fulton<br>County) |                                                                   |
| <u>25</u>                                                  | <u>26</u>                                                                                                                   | <u>27</u>                           | <u>28</u>           | <u>29</u>                                  | <u>30</u>                                              | <u>31</u>                                                         |
| Green Bar<br>Week 1                                        | Green Bar Week<br>1<br><br>Memorial Day<br>(Fed)<br><br>7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Summer Uniform<br>change ~ Class B | Green Bar<br>Week 1                 | Green Bar<br>Week 1 | Green Bar<br>Week 1                        | Green Bar<br>Week 1                                    | Green Bar<br>Week 1                                               |