

BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

October 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

A triple home run! Congratulations to the troop's three newest eagle scouts who just passed their district Boards of Review. Grayson C., Neal R. and Hayes W. are now part of Troop 629's legacy of quality scouts attaining the highest youth award in scouting. Pass along your personal "attaboy's" and look for their special recognition ceremonies in the future.



Are you *really* getting it? While finally getting all your "ticket punches" along the way to being recognized as an Eagle scout, the real down deep question is "have you really truly lived and grown with scouting values along the way?" Our more recent three Eagles have all been providing quality service to others while working on their own accomplishments.

For the rest of you, it's not about the badges: It is the depth and breath of the scout's participation in the team building through our patrol and troop activities, participation in the citizenship service orientated projects and the servant leadership opportunities that each and every scout is afforded the opportunity to participate in. Getting involved in all that we offer builds that well-rounded scout we hope that each and every one will ultimately turn out to be like.

Are you just a 'ticket puncher' out for yourself or are you a true scout who has down deeply understood and strives to be the best you can be in all the values of scouting, of good conduct, respect for others, honesty and how to get along with others?

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

October Reminders:

- Oct 1st: Rosh Hashanah
- Oct 5th: Committee Meeting
- Oct 6th: Troop Meeting ~ Permission and fee due for Caving/Aquarium trip
- Oct 9th: RT & OA Meeting
- Oct 10th: No School for Fulton County Schools
- Oct 11th-12th: Lost Sea Caving/TN Aquarium
- Oct 13th: Troop Meeting
- Oct 14th: Merit Badge Help Night
- Oct 16th: Patrol Leaders Council
- Oct 17th-19th: Wood Badge Training (2nd of 2 weekends)
- Oct 18th: JOTA/JOTI
- Oct 20th: Troop Meeting ~ Board of Review
- Oct 24th-26th: Duty to God Encampment
- Oct 25th: 5th Annual M.B. Univ. @ KSU

Oct 26th: Cavalcade (sponsored by T629)

Oct 27th: Troop Meeting @ Newtown Park ~ Annual Scout Fee Due ~ Popcorn Sales End

Oct 31st: Halloween

November Reminders:

Nov 2nd: Committee Meeting ~ Daylight Savings Time ENDS

Nov 3rd: Troop Meeting

Nov 4th: *Election Day – GO VOTE!*

Nov 7th-9th: OA Ordeal

Nov 10th: Troop Meeting ~ AT Backpacking permission due

Nov 11th: Merit Badge Help

Nov 13th: RT & OA Meeting

Nov 15th-16th: AT Backpacking/Camping

Nov 17th: Troop Meeting ~ Board of Review

Nov 20th: Patrol Leaders Council

Nov 24th: Troop Meeting ~ SPL/PL Elections

Nov 27th: Thanksgiving Day (Be Thankful!)

Dec. 1st: Troop Meeting ~ Webelos Visitation

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

Please frequently visit our website at 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. We try to make sure all updates are posted as soon as they are known. Click on Calendar for the most current information with details and events. You'll also find more meeting dates and service project opportunities. The troop annual calendar is formulated by the Patrol Leaders Council once a year at a special meeting where they plan next year's events and activities. Next year's schedule is now posted on the website. Pictures of our scouts in action are also available for all to view. 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 October troop outing will be an overnight trip to the **Tennessee Aquarium and Lost Sea Caving**. The **trip will be October 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>** and the **permission and fee is due October 6<sup>th</sup>**.

Please ask your SPL or Scoutmaster if you have any questions regarding the trip. ~~~~~ Looking ahead to the November outing .... an **AT Hike on November 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>**. Look for the sign-up sheet soon at a meeting. Meanwhile, pick a tent buddy and mark your calendar. **Permission slip due November 10<sup>th</sup>**.

~~~~~ It is not too early to give you a 'heads up' on the upcoming, ever-popular **Lock-In on December 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>**. Keep it on your radar during these very busy fall/winter months. **Permission and fee due December 8<sup>th</sup>**.

~~~~~ Why stop at the December outing when we can mention two January outings on the calendar! Even hibernating scouts have been known to emerge to go on the fun Troop Ski trips. **Winterplace, WV, is January 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>** and is open to all troop scouts and adults. The **New England Ski Trip** is open to **scouts who will be 14** during the trip dates of **January 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>**. Tell your Scoutmaster if you are interested in going on this venture ski trip.

## Flyers & Links

Annual Dues Form <http://www.troop629.org/forms/Troop%20629%20Yearly%20Dues.pdf>

Lost Sea Caving/TN Aquarium <http://www.troop629.org/forms/2008/cave%20oct%2008.pdf>

Cavalcade <http://www.narayanan.us/cavalcade/moreinfo.htm>

AT Backpacking <http://www.troop629.org/forms/2008/AT%20Hike%2011%2008.pdf>

Lock-In <http://www.troop629.org/forms/2008/Overnight%20lockin%202008.pdf>

Winterplace Troop Ski Trip 2008 <http://www.troop629.org/forms/2009/SKI%2009%20signup%20sheet.pdf>

Winterplace Ski Resort [www.winterplace.com](http://www.winterplace.com)

Venture Crew New England Ski Trip <http://www.troop629.org/forms/2009/Venture%20New%20England%20Skiing%2009.pdf>

Tons of Troop Pictures – summer activities, Cohutta Wilderness hiking <http://tinyurl.com/2yetln>

Advance-A-Rama <http://www.meritbadge.info/mbn/eventdetails.aspx?id=306>

Duty to God Encampment <http://www.aacrrc.com/Duty%20to%20God%20Encampment.htm>

National Jamboree <http://www.bsajamboree.org/>

BSA Online Learning Center <http://olc.scouting.org:80/>

Scouting Magazine (Adult Leaders) <http://www.scoutingmagazine.org/>

Boys Life Magazine (Scouts) <http://www.boyslife.org/>

## Next Troop Board of Review – October 20<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**.

## Court of Honor – Tentative Date of January 26, 2009

All scouts and their families are **invited, encouraged (and expected) to attend** this special ceremony to recognize scouts' and scouters' accomplishments since the May COH. Among these awards and recognitions will be first badges presented to new scouts ~ *Scout rank: Completion of the instructions in Chapter 1 of the Handbook as well as participation in a Scoutmaster Conference. Please ask your Senior Patrol Leader or Scoutmaster Gillis if you have any questions about this process.* ~ It is a great place to re-confirm the year's activities and how they all fit together for each scout. It is held in lieu of a regular troop meeting, same time, same place. Hope to see you all there.

## Annual Boy Scout Re-Charter Dues

**Erica Fica**, our Membership Chair, will continue to collect dues for all scouts throughout the month of October. Thanks to everyone who has already paid! Dues (national/local fees that also include Boy's Life magazine) have been reduced by our troop to **\$50 this year**. Please fill out the **Annual Dues Form** which can be found on our website [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org) (Forms, Misc. Forms and Reports, Annual Dues Form) and have your scout return it with a check payable to **BSA Troop 629**. They can drop it off with **Wendy Kraemer, Erica Fica or Julie Deaton** at the meetings. Dues must be **paid by the October 27th** scout meeting in order to keep your scout on the troop roster. Please look for the green info sheet from your scout or feel free to contact **Erica at 678-624-9543 or [efica@comcast.net](mailto:efica@comcast.net)**.

## October 27th 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. Assistance with the caramel apples is still needed. If you are able to help, please contact **Wendy Kraemer @ [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net)**. It is a fun meeting to attend!

## Cavalcade

This year Troop 629 is hosting the **2008 Chattahoochee Cavalcade** which will take place on **Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>** from **12:00 pm to 6:00 pm**. It will be at **Roswell City Hall**, located at **38 Hill Street, Roswell, GA**. Our plans for Cavalcade are going well. In order for Cavalcade to be successful, all members of our troop need to play a small part. Many hands make light work. If you have any questions, please contact **Terry Rettig** at [terryrettig@comcast.net](mailto:terryrettig@comcast.net) or **770-363-2526**.

Our scouts will be cooking their 'now famous' cobblers and quesadillas (see paragraph in "Scout Handshake" section below. They'll also be using their box ovens to demonstrate their cooking skills! Scouts, when you come to Cavalcade, a food drive donation of *a bag of dried pinto beans* would be greatly appreciated.








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

### Three Special Eagle Courts of Honor

Three brand new Eagle Scouts will be celebrating their Eagle Rank accomplishments. Congratulations go Grayson C., Neal R. and Hayes W. Please watch the newsletters and email notices as details develop and are shared with the troop. These are very special recognition evenings and we hope that all scouts will attend with their families.

 **EAGLE**~ **LIFE**~ **STAR**~ **FIRST CLASS**~ **SECOND CLASS**~ **TENDERFOOT**~ **SCOUT**

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

-  **EAGLE:** Grayson C., Neal R., and Hayes W.
-  **LIFE:** Jake B. and James D.
-  **STAR:** (none this month)
-  **FIRST CLASS:** Bill R. and Robbie W.
-  **SECOND CLASS:** (none this month)
-  **TENDERFOOT:** Michael M.
-  **SCOUT:** (none this month)

### Special family night meeting was a huge success

The Sept 15<sup>th</sup> **special family night** was a huge success. The committee meeting was well-attended by troop parents and committee members who then sat down together with our scouts to have supper, cooked by the scouts. **Thank you** to all the scouts (and special adult leaders) who cooked a delicious dinner and *very yummy assorted Dutch oven cobblers*. Several family members told our committee chair, Wendy Kraemer, that we should do it again next year. In addition to thanking the scouts, Wendy would also like to pass along her thanks to **Publix** for donating all of the hamburgers, hot dogs and buns. The Annual Parent Meeting is a great way to get involved with our troop and to meet other parents. The troop extends an invitation to parents to attend the monthly Adult Leaders meetings which are held the first Sunday of each month at 6:00 pm at Mount Pisgah. Again, thank you to the scouts and adults who made the evening such a very productive and pleasant family night ~ **you know who you are!**

### Scouts Ushered at a Georgia Tech football game

**James D., Paden H. and Kevin A. ushered** at the Georgia Tech game on September 20 along with adult leaders Ken Avant and Wendy Kraemer. The scouts had a marvelous time where they raised the flag, then helped out in the press box. **Thank you scouts** for taking the time to perform an important community service to represent the scouting image.

## \*\*\*\*\*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. Popcorn fundraiser will begin this month. Check out this newsletter for details, as well as the website and troop bulletin board for future to *sign up* and earn.

### Troop 629 Scout Activity Scholarships

No scout should be missing any of our scout activities due to any family financial shortfalls. We have a scholarship program where the scout can earn his fee as a trade for some service hours. *Just ask* Scoutmaster Gillis to work out your scholarship plan, then sign up for that outing you want to go on.

### Popcorn Sales = Salesmanship Merit Badge Opportunities!

Scout Parents - now is the time to help your Scout help himself. With popcorn sales, our Scouts can jump-start their accounts and pay their own way through their Scouting careers. These young men can do it on their own, but the Scouting experience brings benefits to us all. The most benefits come when we all work together.



Parents, you can help by opening the doors to your workplace, so that these young men can practice honing their presentation skills and sell a few cases of popcorn in the process. If your workplace can afford an opportunity for your Scout to present Trails End popcorn, please coordinate this for your Scout. Contact your Popcorn Kernels listed below with any suggestions you might have. If you have any ideas or opportunities for Show and Sell, bring 'em on.

### Important Popcorn Dates:

**Kickoff: September 8 at the Troop 629 Meeting**

**Deadline for Sales: Monday, October 27**

John Herring [johnannpaden@earthlink.net](mailto:johnannpaden@earthlink.net)

John Rausch [jumping\\_jr@yahoo.com](mailto:jumping_jr@yahoo.com)

For Salesmanship Merit Badge information, check out this website:

<http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/advancementandawards/meritbadges/mb-SALE.aspx>

### Fall Flowers off the troop calendar



Unfortunately our fall flower fundraiser has experienced a major setback. It looks as though this will not happen this year. Right now the troop is shifting its concentration to making a huge success out of selling **popcorn** and getting its members to participate in our **Kroger gift card program** (details for both are immediately above and below). **If anyone has some good ideas on a new fundraiser program that might be a good fit for our troop, please contact**

**Wendy Kraemer at [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net). We are open to new ideas.**

### 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]. **Groceries and Discounted Gas in one location!** The new Kroger Fuel Center at the corner of Old Alabama Road and Haynes Bridge Road will open mid-October (depending upon gas availability); customers can use their Kroger Plus Card (free and easy to obtain) and accumulate points (from their purchases) for gas discount – 10¢ per gallon (\$100 minimum in purchases) – go to Customer Service Desk to obtain Kroger Plus Card. You can use your Gift Card you've purchased through the troop to make it even easier to purchase gas. What a great way to budget food and gas! 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](mailto:ssbcook@bellsouth.net), [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 mailed to you 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.

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

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

#### **Patrol Leaders Council – October 16<sup>th</sup>**

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**. Our new calendar of events for the upcoming year has been posted on the troop website calendar.

#### **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**.

#### **5th Annual Merit Badge University @ KSU**

Merit Badge clinics are a great way to get a badge or two started. This one has over 60 classes on **October 25<sup>th</sup> at Kennesaw State University** (1000 Chastain Rd., Kennesaw 30144).

#### **Duty to God Encampment**

This encampment is coming up over the weekend of **October 24<sup>th</sup>-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.

## Custom "629" Patches for New Shirts

If you are buying a new-style BSA uniform shirt (not mandatory), you will need the new-style green troop numerals. We have received a custom order of our "629" troop number all in one patch. No need to sew on the 6, 2, and 9 patches individually! If you need one for a new shirt, **please see Ms. Deaton for a "629" patch** at the next troop meeting. *The troop is picking up the tab for these new unit number patches.*

## High adventure for 2009!

(Just a note from our S.M. to our adult leaders) No trip is scheduled by the troop at this time – we still waiting for a few adult leaders to coordinate their schedules and let us know what trip to be trying to set up. Lots of time and preparation goes into these trips. If you are willing and able, please contact Fran Gillis so we can get on some High Adventure waiting lists to start the ball rolling.

## 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** [gillisfx@aol.com](mailto:gillisfx@aol.com). **Judi Dammann** [jdamma@bellsouth.net](mailto:jdamma@bellsouth.net) 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 October 9th



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 October 14th.**

## National Jamboree signup

**National Boy Scout Jamboree** will be held **July 26th – August 4th, 2010 in Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia**. Scout must be at least First Class rank. They must have completed the sixth grade or be at least 12 years of age by July 1, 2010, but not have reached their 18th birthday by August 4, 2010. All scouts must participate in a pre-Jamboree training experience; file a complete Personal Health and Medical Record, prior to the training; have been active in a troop at least six months prior to July 1, 2010; and be approved by your Scoutmaster and local council. If you qualify and are interested, please **see Mr. Gillis** for more information and how to proceed. Website link is listed above in the **Flyer** section.

## Council-Sponsored Events

Check our website for more opportunities for activities and training through the Council. Individuals from our troop are welcome to participate in any of these special events <http://www.atlantabsa.org/>:

### Scout Shop News!

The brand new **Centennial Scout Uniform** was unveiled in August. Although you are not required to buy this new uniform, it will be hard to resist wanting to add this one to your Scouting wardrobe. Go online to [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org) and take a peek. For more information on this uniform contact the Scout Shop at 770-988-9912. The Scout Shop will have them ready and waiting when it is time to replace your old one (i.e. wear/tear/growth spurts).

## \*\*\*\*\*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. If you are missing an item after an outing, it might be waiting for you in the Lending Closet to come claim it.

Lending Closet includes some old camping equipment. There should be no need to go out and buy anything new for a scout until they are really ready to commit to an outdoor type experience on a regular basis.

### 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. Turn your receipts into **Julie Deaton, Treasurer**, to be reimbursed for any authorized cost. 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

## \*\*\*\*\*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!

### ~~ Needed: Caramel Apple Engineers!

The annual October Troop meeting held at Newtown Park is well in its planning stage. 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 now have volunteers for the hot cocoa and hot apple cider for the scouts. We are still in need of two helpers to manage the caramel apples. Please contact **Wendy Kraemer**, [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net) 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. The scouts are always appreciative of the adults who organize this fun event.

### ~~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 [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  
Medicine  
Climbing

Dentistry  
Railroading  
Model Design

Plant Science  
Textile  
Reptile/Amphibian

Skating  
Whitewater  
Waterskiing

## A Helping Hand

On occasion the troop is able to provide a helping hand in preparing meals for a Troop 629 family going through a stressful situation. If you are able to provide a meal over the next month, please contact **Wendy Kraemer** at [wlkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlkraemer@bellsouth.net).

## 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 Kraemer 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.

## 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. A two-weekend course will be offered on **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 for adults and scouts 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.

## October 2008

| Sun                                                                | Mon                                                                                    | Tues                                     | Wed                 | Thurs                                | Fri                        | Sat                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>28</u> <u>Sep</u>                                               | <u>29</u>                                                                              | <u>30</u>                                | <u>1</u> <u>Oct</u> | <u>2</u>                             | <u>3</u>                   | <u>4</u>               |
| Sept. Backpacking Cohutta Wilderness                               | Erev Rosh Hashanah<br>7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting                                       | Rosh Hashanah                            | Rosh Hashanah       |                                      |                            |                        |
| <u>5</u>                                                           | <u>6</u>                                                                               | <u>7</u>                                 | <u>8</u>            | <u>9</u>                             | <u>10</u>                  | <u>11</u>              |
| 6:00p -7:30p Committee Meeting                                     | 7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting                                                             |                                          | Erev Yom Kippur     | Yom Kippur<br>7:30p RT & OA Meeting  | No School in Fulton Co. :( | Lost Sea/TN Aquarium   |
| <u>12</u>                                                          | <u>13</u>                                                                              | <u>14</u>                                | <u>15</u>           | <u>16</u>                            | <u>17</u>                  | <u>18</u>              |
| Lost Sea/TN Aquarium                                               | Columbus Day (Fed)<br>7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting                                       | Succoth<br>6:00p -7:00p Merit Badge Help | Succoth             | 7:00p -8:00p Patrol Leader's Council |                            | JOTA/JOTI              |
| <u>19</u>                                                          | <u>20</u>                                                                              | <u>21</u>                                | <u>22</u>           | <u>23</u>                            | <u>24</u>                  | <u>25</u>              |
|                                                                    | 7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting<br>Board of Review                                          |                                          | Simchat Torah       |                                      | Duty to God Encampment     | Duty to God Encampment |
| <u>26</u>                                                          | <u>27</u>                                                                              | <u>28</u>                                | <u>29</u>           | <u>30</u>                            | <u>31</u>                  | <u>1</u> <u>Nov</u>    |
| 12:00p 6:00p Cavalcade sponsored by T629<br>Duty to God Encampment | 7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting @ Newtown Park<br>Popcorn Sales End<br>Annual Scout fee Due |                                          |                     |                                      | Halloween                  |                        |