



BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

November 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 month and another congratulations for our newest Eagle Scout, Philip Knoetgen who passed his District board and has added his name to our growing Eagle flock. Pass along your congratulations to our newest Eagle and prior SPL.



This month is full of elections. National, State, local and our very own SPL's and PL's who will be seeking their peers endorsement to lead them for the next six months. Our "elected" leadership positions are filled by those who are stepping up and not only seeking to satisfy the advancement requirements of their next rank but in reality stating they are going to hopefully take the extra promise to do their very best in even more service to their unit. This best means they should be making a strong commitment at actively participating in all our meetings, activities and events actually leading the way. These special few to be successful must really be active and not just holding the slot and wearing the patch. We hope that our next team stands up as many in the past have to be outstanding servant leaders for our unit. All our leadership positions have to be recertified and approved by the SPL and SM during the twice a year process we have for these positions. No scout can just assume he is still in any position and your records must be annotated after proper approval with our advancement chairperson. So let's make this a banner new beginning full of a enthusiastic and dynamic team bringing home the program to each and every one of our scouts.

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

November Reminders:

- Nov 2nd:** Committee Meeting ~ Daylight Saving 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 ~ SPL/PL Elections
- Nov 20th:** Patrol Leaders Council
- Nov 24th:** Troop Meeting ~ Board of Review
- Nov 27th:** Thanksgiving Day (Be Thankful!)

December Reminders:

Dec 1st: Troop Meeting ~ Webelos Visitation
Dec 1st: OA Banquet ~ Green Bar Interviews (Tentative)
Dec 6th: Patrol Outings/Service Projects
Dec 7th: Committee Meeting ~ Green Bar Interviews
Dec 8th: Troop Meeting ~ Re-Charter Day ~ CPR Training
Dec 9th: Merit Badge Help Night
Dec 11th: RT & OA Meeting
Dec 12th-13th: Lock-In
Dec 15th: Troop Meeting ~ Board of Review ~WV Ski Trip Sign Up Due
Dec 18th: Patrol Leaders Council
Dec 19th: Fulton Co. Schools Winter Break begins
Dec 20th: Patrol Outings/Service Projects
Dec 22nd: Hanukkah begins
Dec 22nd: No Troop Meeting
Dec 25th: Christmas Day
Dec 29th: No Troop Meeting
Jan 1st: Christmas Tree Pickup

*****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* ...

~~~~~ 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>

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.aacrcc.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/>

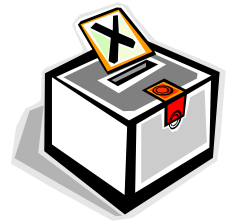
Boys Life Magazine (Scouts) <http://www.boyslife.org/>

## Next Troop Board of Review – November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007

*Please read carefully:* After a scout completes his **Scoutmaster Conference**, he must notify **Mrs. Narayanan**, Troop Advancement Chair, that he is ready for the next **B.O.R.** Reminder: **Full Class “A” uniform** and **Scout handbook** are **required** for participation in a **Board of Review**.

## Semi annual SPL/PL Elections

Elections for Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader are held twice a year – May and November. The next round of elections is slated for **November 17<sup>th</sup>** to give those who are eligible a chance to step forward and offer their services and to finish off some of their leadership requirements for advancement. Let the SM know if you intend to run so your name can be put on the ballot for that night.



## 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 Due Now!

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 now 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)** .

## Lock-In

Decembers lock-in details are posted on our web site and a flyer is available at meetings. This normally high participation event just brings all our scouts together for a night of what they may be doing anyways but with a larger group in a safe supervised environment. Activities are worked out by the scouts for the best desired activity for all.



## Winterplace Ski Trip

Now is the time to let us know if a scout is going on the West Virginia ski trip Jan 1-4, 2009. Details and flyers are already available and we sure would like to know early if you are or are not going. So let the SM or Mr. Brasher know now your intentions.

## December 1<sup>st</sup> is our Troop 629 Open House / Webelos Visit

Do you have a friend or sibling in Cub Scouts or know a boy who may not be in scouting at all but considering to join. Please invite both the boy and their parent to our Troop 629 Open House which will be hosted during our regular Troop meeting December 1st from 7:15 - 8:45 PM. We will incorporate the new boys into a typical troop meeting to give them a sense of scouting and have a parent presentation to provide information on our program. Current adult leaders in Troop 629 should try to attend to show our strong parent involvement and to help answer visiting parent questions. For any questions contact Dave Penderly h 770-552-4220 w 404-676-4686 [penderyclan@comcast.net](mailto:penderyclan@comcast.net)

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



#### Eagle Congratulations

WOW! The good news just keeps on coming. Congratulations Philip Knoetgen 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 Court of Honor

A special **Eagle Court of Honor** is being planned to celebrate the troop's newest Eagle Scouts:

- **Neal Ruggles.** *Congratulations Neal!* The ceremony to honor his achievements is planned for **Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**. It will be held at Prince of Peace Church on Haynes Bridge Road.
- **Hayes Wilkinson.** *Congratulations Hayes!* The ceremony to honor his achievements will be **Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** following he regular troop Court of Honor.

🏅 EAGLE~👤 LIFE~🌟 STAR~🐦 FIRST CLASS~👤 SECOND CLASS~🐦 TENDERFOOT~🏅 SCOUT

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

- 🏅 **EAGLE:** Philip K.
- 👤 **LIFE:** (none this month)
- 🌟 **STAR:** (none this month)
- 🐦 **FIRST CLASS:** (none this month)
- 👤 **SECOND CLASS:** Paden H.
- 🐦 **TENDERFOOT:** Nolan R.
- 🏅 **SCOUT:** Alec A.

#### Newtown October Troop Meeting

Once again, this was a huge success. We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the hot cocoa, cookies, hot apple cider, and caramel apples. This is great event for the scouts, as well as the adults.

#### Cavalcade

Thank you to Troop 629 from the Chattahoochee District for hosting the 2008 Cavalcade. It was awesome and such a great day for Scouting!

Thanks again for your leadership in the District!

Sincerely,  
Frank Cook-District Commissioner

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

### Popcorn Results

The popcorn fundraiser has ended and the top seller for the troop is Billy J. at \$878! The sales tally for the troop is currently just under \$5000 and the scouts earned over \$1500 towards their high adventure trips. **Popcorn will be distributed at the Monday meeting November 10<sup>th</sup>.** Thanks to all the adults who helped with the fundraiser!



### 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 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**

**wlkraemer@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 is open; 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, 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.

### Troop 629 Scout Activity Scholarships

In these turbulent times please understand fully that our policy has always been and is till the same – every scout should never miss participating in any activity due to a temporary shortfall in their families ability to afford the activity. We have been blessed to have sufficient funds to offer every scout the ability to quickly earn their way through a service project of their choosing. Coordinate with the SM to

bring this about but do not hold back asking if the need exist. The scouting family can handle this continuation in each of the scout's important participatory development process. Scouting is outing and if you miss that portion then it can be rather boring.

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



### **Volunteers needed for CPR Saturday**

Over 60 slots for are open for both adults and scouts to participate in CPR Saturday being organized by the Atlanta Area Council. You can sign up on line at [AAC](#). Ten classes for CPR and AED training will be staggered on **December 6<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 8:30am and ending with the completion of the 2:20pm class. Sign up now so AAC can plan their program knowing they have volunteer support from our members.  
<http://www.goodturn.net/>

### **Scouter's Academy – REGISTRATION ENDS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

**Saturday, November 15** Scouter's Academy is a day of fabulous supplemental training for scout leaders. The 40+ class choices include topics on advancement, running your committee, den ideas, outings, scout skills and more. It is a great day of learning and networking. AND, it counts for the training requirement for your Leader Award Knots. This year's event will be held at **Peachtree UMC** near Lenox mall. Scouter's Academy and is a day full of supplemental training that has been designed for all program areas and levels of experience from the newest Cub Scout parent or leader to the highly experienced leader at any level of the Scout program. This year's theme of "Hooray for the Red, White, Blue & You" promises to be a lot of fun. Scouter's Academy is an excellent opportunity to network with other scouting leaders. Attending Scouter's Academy qualifies as the training requirement for many Scout Leader Award knots and earns points toward the Chattahoochee District Honor Unit award. To learn more or register for the 2008 event, visit the Scouter's Academy web page at [Scouter's Academy](#). Email questions to: [AdmSA2007@GeorgiaBSA.com](mailto:AdmSA2007@GeorgiaBSA.com).

### **BSA on the Radio!**

Check out the Boy Scout segment on Radio Sandy Springs. 1620 AM, Saturdays from 3:00 – 4:00 pm. You can also stream the broadcast from [www.radiosandysprings.com](http://www.radiosandysprings.com).

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

### **Patrol Leaders Council – November 20<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.**

## 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.

## 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 November 13<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.



## Reptile and Amphibian Merit Badge

Autrey Mill is going to offer two occasions to work on most of the requirements for the Reptile and Amphibian merit badge. **November 15<sup>th</sup>** is the first date and is only two hours *and close by*. These programs are complex events that really force scouts to focus and apply themselves in order to complete the badge. This program will guide Boy Scouts through the majority of the requirements to earn the Reptile and Amphibian merit badge. The program lasts approximately two hours. Parents are not required to attend.

**November 15, 2008 and April 25, 2009**

**2 - 4pm**

**\$15.00 per scout** *Reservations are required as class size is very limited.*

Contact us to make a reservation or for more information: <http://www.autreymill.org/scouts.htm>

**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 November 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**Philmont 2009 - Council Provisional Crew**

The Atlanta Area Council Philmont 2009 expedition, **June 16-28, 2009**, is accepting applications for provisional crew 1. This crew should be made up of Scouts that otherwise would not be able to attend Philmont this year. Click here for the [application](#). Interviews to determine qualified participants in the crew will be conducted on a first come, first serve basis by the crew leader. Troop leaders are requested to not submit more than 3 scouts from their troop. Final cost will be determined as travel arrangements are completed. No down payment is due until selected for the crew. Applicants must be 14 years of age as of January 1, 2009 and be an experienced backpacker capable of completing a strenuous 75+ mile hike carrying a 50 pound backpack. Questions about the Philmont 2009 Expedition may be directed to Mr. John Pelick, [jdpelick@hotmail.com](mailto:jdpelick@hotmail.com), 770-934-5807 or Mr. Bion Jones, [bjones@atlantabsa.org](mailto:bjones@atlantabsa.org), 770-956-3175.

**National Jamboree signup**

**National Boy Scout Jamboree** will be held **July 26th – August 4th, 2010 in Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia**. The Atlanta Area Council will be represented by 6 troops (216 youth and 24 adults) at the 2010 Centennial Jamboree. This is a fantastic opportunity to be part of scouting history. 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.

For all our activities the troop has a lending closet to allow scouts to borrow essential items necessary for a particular event. Just lets us know the need and we can sort out the right item for any scout. See the SM for coordination.

### 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); North Point 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**, ([wlkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlkraemer@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** [wlkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlkraemer@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** [wlkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlkraemer@bellsouth.net) to let her know you would like to step into these well-documented pointed shoes. ONE SIZE FITS ALL!

**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  
Whitewater

Dentistry  
Medicine  
Climbing

Plant Science  
Railroading  
Model Design

Skating  
Textile  
Reptile/Amphibian    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).

**Leader Training**

The Chattahoochee Training Team will be presenting the New Leader Essentials (NLE) and Cub Scout Leader Specific (CSLS) training classes on **Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**. NLE is the prerequisite class for all other scout leader classes, but only need to be taken once. Cub leaders changing positions should sign up for the appropriate break-out session of CSLS. To register, visit <http://cdbsa.org/training/NLESignUp.html>

## Youth Protection Training

Youth Protection Training must be updated every two years. Please check with Kathleen Narayanan.

### 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.

### 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 (629newsletter@avants.net)**. 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.

## November 2008

| Sun                                                                                                     | Mon                                                    | Tues                                                         | Wed       | Thurs                                      | Fri       | Sat                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| <u>26</u>                                                                                               | <u>27</u>                                              | <u>28</u>                                                    | <u>29</u> | <u>30</u>                                  | <u>31</u> | <b>1</b> <u>Nov</u>                 |
| 12:00p 6:00p<br>Cavalcade<br>sponsored by<br>T629<br>Duty to God<br>Encampment<br>Scout Day at<br>Races | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Popcorn Sales<br>End  |                                                              |           |                                            | Halloween | GT Usher                            |
| <u>2</u>                                                                                                | <u>3</u>                                               | <u>4</u>                                                     | <u>5</u>  | <u>6</u>                                   | <u>7</u>  | <u>8</u>                            |
| 6:00p -7:30p<br>Committee<br>Meeting<br>End Daylight<br>Saving Time                                     | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting                          | Election Day<br>Election Day                                 |           |                                            | OA Ordeal | OA Ordeal                           |
| <u>9</u>                                                                                                | <u>10</u>                                              | <u>11</u>                                                    | <u>12</u> | <u>13</u>                                  | <u>14</u> | <u>15</u>                           |
| OA Ordeal                                                                                               | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting                          | 6:00p -7:00p<br>Merit Badge<br>Help<br>Veterans Day<br>(Fed) |           | 7:30p RT & OA<br>Meeting                   |           | Nat Forest<br>Backpacking-          |
| <u>16</u>                                                                                               | <u>17</u>                                              | <u>18</u>                                                    | <u>19</u> | <u>20</u>                                  | <u>21</u> | <u>22</u>                           |
| Nat Forest<br>Backpacking-                                                                              | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>SPL/PL<br>Elections   | 6:00p -9:00p<br>Heritage<br>Cobblers                         |           | 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>                           |
|                                                                                                         | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Board of<br>Review    |                                                              |           | Thanksgiving<br>(Fed)                      |           |                                     |
| <u>30</u>                                                                                               | <b>1</b> <u>Dec</u>                                    | <u>2</u>                                                     | <u>3</u>  | <u>4</u>                                   | <u>5</u>  | <u>6</u>                            |
|                                                                                                         | 7:15p -8:45p<br>Troop Meeting<br>Webelos<br>Visitation |                                                              |           |                                            |           | Patrol<br>Outing/Service<br>Project |