



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

April 2009

*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](http://www.troop629.org)*



## Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Yet again here I am starting off passing on our congratulations to another one of scouts who now joins the list of Eagles we have. Will Padgett is our latest Eagle scout who passed his District Board of Review in March. Pass along your congrat's when you next see him and as with the others he will be letting us know when his special day of recognition and obtaining his medal will occur. Another transition is ongoing with an annual influx of new Boy Scouts from their crossovers from the Cub Scout program. Lot's of interaction will be ongoing to ramp everyone up to our annual program and activities. Keep an eye out for the dynamic program changes, updates on our bulletin board, newsletter and web sites. Open and frequent communications is a key for all our scouts to participate and gain the most out of the entire program. It is not just about advancement. It's about participation in the group and working as part of the patrol method which has always been the basis of scouting. The advancement program constantly changes with the changing society but the patrol method has been going strong since scouting's inception in 1907. There must be something to it and if your not attune then that is what you need to dig into to understand to its fullest extent the true essence of the scouting program.

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

#### April Reminders:

- Apr 1<sup>st</sup>: SALT 3
- Apr 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>: Philmont Prep Hike
- Apr 5<sup>th</sup>: Palm Sunday
- Apr 5<sup>th</sup>: Committee Meeting 6:00-7:30
- Apr 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>: Spring Break
- Apr 6<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
- Apr 9<sup>th</sup>: Maundy Thursday
- Apr 9<sup>th</sup>: RT & OA Meeting 7:30
- Apr 10<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday
- Apr 9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>: Passover
- Apr 12<sup>th</sup>: Easter Sunday
- Apr 13<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
- Apr 14<sup>th</sup>: Merit Badge Help Night 7:00-8:00 North Campus Basement
- Apr 16<sup>th</sup>: PLC 7:00-8:00
- Apr 18<sup>th</sup>: Yard Sale/Car Wash
- Apr 18<sup>th</sup>: Chattahoochee Alien Invasion Clean Up
- Apr 18<sup>th</sup>: ITOLS 2
- Apr 20<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
- Apr 20<sup>th</sup>: Earth Day
- Apr 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>: NYLT Staff Development
- Apr 27<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 ~ Board of Review

## May Reminders:

May 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>: OA Ordeal – Woodruff

May 3<sup>rd</sup>: Committee Meeting 6:00-7:30

May 4<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 ~ Court of Honor

May 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>: Relay for Life

May 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>: Philmont Hike: Coosa Backcountry Trail

May 10<sup>th</sup>: Mother's Day

May 11<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 ~ SPL/PL Elections

May 12<sup>th</sup>: Merit Badge Help Night 7:00-8:00 North Campus Basement

May 14<sup>th</sup>: RT & OA Meeting

May 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>: OA Ordeal: Burt Adams

May 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>: NYLT Setup

May 16<sup>th</sup>: Armed Forces Day

May 18<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 ~ Parent Summer Camp Meeting

May 21<sup>st</sup>: PLC 7:00-8:00 ~ Annual Planning

May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Last Day of School!

May 24<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>: NYLT 1

May 16<sup>th</sup>: Memorial Day

May 16<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

May 31<sup>st</sup>-June 6<sup>th</sup>: NYLT 2

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

*Please frequently visit our website at [www.troop629.org](http://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.*



## Flyers & Links

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

Tons of Troop Pictures <http://tinyurl.com/2yetln>

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/>

Gear Guide for Scouts & Scouters [http://www.troop629.org/Adventure/philmont\\_gear.htm](http://www.troop629.org/Adventure/philmont_gear.htm)

Camp Good Turn Days <https://atlantabsa.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.asp?orgkey=1457&id=52250>

2009 Registration for Eagle Camp [www.BSAEagleCamp.com](http://www.BSAEagleCamp.com)

2009 Summer Camp Staff [www.atlantabsa.org](http://www.atlantabsa.org) or [www.atlantabsacamp.org](http://www.atlantabsacamp.org)

BSA on the Radio [www.radiosandysprings.com](http://www.radiosandysprings.com)

2010 National Scout Jamboree [www.MyScouting.org](http://www.MyScouting.org)

Council-Sponsored Events <http://www.atlantabsa.org>

Scout Shop News [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org)

Merit Badge [www.meritbadge.com](http://www.meritbadge.com)

Merit Badge Madness at Roswell High School

<http://meritbadge.info/mbn/EventDetails.aspx?ID=00B7CB1E-602B-40C9-8283-F688AA691FCA>

Troop Committee Training at Roswell

<http://meritbadge.info/mbn/EventDetails.aspx?ID=0E19535C-590F-41E6-AE61-64DC078C3746>

Chattahoochee Camporee Deadline to save \$5 3/6/09 <http://cdbsa.org/Events/2009-CD-Camporee.pdf>

CPR Saturday [www.goodturn.net](http://www.goodturn.net)

New Leader Essentials for Boy Scout Leaders <http://training.cdbsa.org/ClassSignup.aspx?classtype=NLE>

SALT - Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leadership Training

<http://training.cdbsa.org/ClassSignup.aspx?classtype=SALT>

ITOLS - Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills <http://training.cdbsa.org/ClassSignup.aspx?classtype=ITOLS>

### **~~NEW~~ Sea Base 2010**

The Troop has two 8 person crews that attend a spring vacation 2010 sailing along the Florida Keys. Sign up and reservation are now ongoing for any scout who will be 14 by Sep "2010". See our flyers and web site for more details.

### **~~NEW~~ National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)**

Sign up for one of the three courses now is ongoing for any scout who will be 13 by June 2009. The Troop expects scouts to be graduates of this course to be a patrol leaders or SPL and it has proven to be a very beneficial course for all those attending. The Troop will reimburse the cost of the course into a scouts high adventure account once they return in the fall to help us out as we have a made a commitment to our scouts in this valuable proven course.

### **~~NEW~~ We Need your Help!**

All Scouts and Scouters, We are again joining with the National Park Service to help them combat the invasion of alien invasive plants in the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area. This is the fourth year. They need lots of help to eradicate these invasive plants. This year they are combining Earth Day celebrations along with Good Turn for America. They are again targeting the Paces Mill area of the CRNRA at Highway 41, just south of Cumberland Mall, the same place we worked last year. Go online to sign up for a day of fun and good hard work by clicking on this web site

[www.goodturn.net](http://www.goodturn.net)

### **Court of Honor - May 4th**

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 2009 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 4th 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.

### **Next Troop Board of Review –April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

*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" Field Uniform and Scout handbook are required** for participation in a **Board of Review**.

## Upcoming Events

- Philmont Prep Hike – Apr 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>
- Chattahoochee Alien Invasion Clean-Up – Apr 18<sup>th</sup>
- OA Ordeal: Woodruff – May 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>
- Relay for Life – May 8<sup>th</sup>
- Philmont Prep Hike: Coosa Backcountry – May 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>
- OA Ordeal: Burt Adams – May 15-17<sup>th</sup>
- NYLT 1 – May 24<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>
- NYLT 2 – May 31<sup>st</sup>-Jun 6<sup>th</sup>

Look for flyers and handouts at meeting and on web site or click on the links above.

## **NEW** Summer Camp 2009

Flyers are available and sign up is ongoing to make sure you can get the classes you want. Look for the flyers on the web site and at the meetings.

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



### Eagle Congratulations

WOW! The good news just keeps on coming. Congratulations to William Padget. on being Troop 629's newest Eagle Scouts! 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:

- Will Padget will be celebrating his Eagle Award on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!!!

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

Advancement congratulations for the month of January go to:

- 🏅 **EAGLE:** Will P.
- 👤 **LIFE:** Billy J.
- 👤 **STAR:** Connor P.
- 👤 **FIRST CLASS:** Nate B., Paden H.
- 👤 **SECOND CLASS:** none
- 👤 **TENDERFOOT:** Nick A.
- 👤 **SCOUT:** None

Thanks for the scouting for food participation and scout Sunday support!

## **NEW** Welcome New Scouts and Families

It is Crossover "season" and Troop 629 would like to welcome our new group of incoming scout members and their families. Our newsletter and website ([www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org)) will help you keep up

with what you don't get to hear about from the meetings and help in transitioning from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting. We're glad you're here.

### **NEW Troop Secretary**

A huge thank you to Renee Sevy for volunteering to be the Troop's Secretary. All adults are encouraged to attend the monthly meeting which occur on the first Sunday of the month at Mount Pisgah in the dining room at 6:00 pm. Please check troop calendar on website for any changes.

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

#### **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](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.

#### **Troop 629 Scout Activity Scholarships**

In these turbulent times please understand fully that our policy has always been and is still 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 exists. 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\*\*\*\*\*



### Relay for Life

Troop 629 is registered to participate as a team in the American Cancer Society's Roswell Relay for Life, to be held on Friday evening, May 8, 2009, at the Centennial High School stadium. Troop members are encouraged to participate in any or all activities related to the Relay.

Registration for the Relay is via the Relay website, which is linked from the Troop 629 home page. Scouts may use the Relay site to notify family and friends via e-mail that they will be Relaying, and donations may be made through the webpage as well as personally. Donation envelopes have been distributed to all scouts.

Another participation option is through the luminaria sales. Luminaria bags are available at Scout meetings, if families prefer to decorate their own bags, or they may be ordered through the website and labels will be created. A ten dollar donation is requested for each luminaria.

Relay organizers will also offer a Silent Auction on the Relay evening. If you have items or services you'd like to donate, please let your troop captains know and we will facilitate that donation.

For further information regarding Roswell Relay for Life, please contact Nan Brown (770-642-6859 or [nantbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:nantbrown@hotmail.com)) or Teresa Gibbs Way ([tgibbs-way@att.net](mailto:tgibbs-way@att.net)) or visit the RRfL website at [www.roswellrelayforlife.org](http://www.roswellrelayforlife.org)

**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.

### 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\*\*\*\*\*



### Report from the Librarian, Bill Rettig:

Our Troop library contains 297 Merit Badge books and 2 other Scout books. This does not count books that are out in circulation. If you have a Merit Badge book at home, please call me (404/374-9306) and let me know what you have.

Also, there will be a moratorium on fees and fines until January 31, 2009. If you have a merit badge book at home, please bring it to me before ASAP. No fines. No fees. If you checked out a book and there is \$5 in your envelope, please let me know what book you have. Then we can buy the books that we do not have in the library.

Right now it looks like we are missing 14 Merit Badge titles -- Communications, Computers, Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Science, Fingerprinting, Golf, Indian Lore, Insect Study, Mammal Study, Motorboating, Nature, Nuclear Science, Photography, and Pioneering.

All merit badge books have been revised. Revised books have color covers. We will be updating our library this year, so if you have a new merit badge book (full color cover), please donate it to the troop library.

Finally, if you have a Merit Badge Book that you bought and no longer need, please donate it to the library.

### **NEW Wilderness First Aid Training**

April 24-26, 2009

Wilderness First Aid (WFA) is highly recommended for all High Adventure Treks and any time you are more than 30 minutes from urban EMS systems. The AAC is offering several opportunities for this training and it is open to Adult Scouters and youth Scouts and Venturers over 14 years old.

Applications and additional information can be found on the First Aid website at [www.firstaid-aac.org](http://www.firstaid-aac.org) or the council website at <http://www.atlantabsa.org/> click "Programs and Services", click "Training", click "Wilderness First Aid". Contact information for questions is on the application. – Rich Hallberg [wild1staid@bellsouth.net](mailto:wild1staid@bellsouth.net)



### **Boy Scout Archaeology Badge Day at the Carlos Museum**

May 2 Noon to 5 PM at Carlos Museum at Emory

Boy Scouts in the Atlanta Area Council are invited to complete the requirements for the Archaeology Badge at the Carlos Museum at Emory University. A scavenger hunt for use in the Carlos Museum galleries, a mock dig for Egyptian artifacts, learning how to make pottery, a firing demonstration, and activities in the Conservation Lab are some of the ways scouts will learn about cultures in the Americas, Egypt, and the Near East while fulfilling badge requirements. \$20 per person. Pre-registration is required by calling 404.727.0519 or emailing [nwest@emory.edu](mailto:nwest@emory.edu).

### **NEW NESAs Advancement Day**

The ATLANTA AREA COUNCIL is proud to sponsor NESAs DAY, MAY 16, 2009 to be held at Georgia Perimeter College on the Clarkston Campus. This opportunity is open to all Boy Scouts or Venturers. Cost per Scout: \$5.00 Check-in 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM. GO TO THE ONLINE REGISTRATION AT [www.atlantabsa.org](http://www.atlantabsa.org) to the calendar and click the link on May 16th where you can both register and pay! Registration ends on May 14th or when all the classes fill up so sign up early!

### **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). If you would like to review past Eagle project packages, please contact Ms. Narayanan who will bring the binder to a troop meeting for your review.

### **NEW 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 Padgett**. He still has slots available and waiting for you. Remember ... Mr. Gillis must approve you for a spot after you have received training.

## **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.**

## **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 Mrs. Deaton for a "629" patch** at the next troop meeting. *The troop is picking up the tab for these new unit number patches.*

## **2009 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, [www.atlantabsa.org](http://www.atlantabsa.org) or [www.atlantabsacamp.org](http://www.atlantabsacamp.org). It will be available on our website very soon. Direct your inquiries to Donna Carr, 770-989-8821 ext 2010, or e-mail: [dcarr@atlantabsa.org](mailto:dcarr@atlantabsa.org).

## **Summer Camp Help!**

The staff of the Bert Adams summer camp is reaching out for your assistance! We are in desperate need of physical fitness equipment. Come on, let's be honest you went out at Christmas and bought stationery bicycles, treadmills, Bowflex, free weights, all that good stuff and the only thing using it is your dust mitt! Please be willing to help us by making either a donation or a loan of any and all of this type equipment to enhance our summer camp program! Please contact Jason Eiermann for more on how you can help. Jason can be emailed, [jeiermann@atlantabsa.org](mailto:jeiermann@atlantabsa.org) or phone 770-989-8821 ext. 2099.

## **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 April 14<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Gear Guide for Scouts & Scouters**

With Philmont back in the mix for 2009, the November hiking trip coming up and Christmas just around the corner here is a gear guide for scouts and scouters in the market for backpacking gear. It's posted on the Troop website at [http://www.troop629.org/Adventure/philmont\\_gear.htm](http://www.troop629.org/Adventure/philmont_gear.htm)

### **~~NEW~~ 2010 National Scout Jamboree**

It is not too late for your scouts to sign up for the 2010 Jamboree! Slots are still available at this time but will be gone soon.

Youth positions and Adult Staff positions are still available online and maybe accessed through [www.MyScouting.org](http://www.MyScouting.org) for non-BSA employees. We are no longer accepting applications for the Council Troop leaders with the exception of 3rd Assistant Scoutmasters who must be 18 but not reach their 21st birthday during the Jamboree. Applicants will need to use their BSA ID number or their Social Security number to access the application Web site. This application does not guarantee you a position for the jamboree, but does get you started on the process to be approved as a participant or staff member.

Please do not apply for any Scoutmaster positions unless you are under 21 and qualify for the third assistant position. All Adult troop positions have been filled. For further information contact: Tom Morin, [tommorin@aol.com](mailto:tommorin@aol.com), Bion Jones @ [bjones@atlantabsa.org](mailto:bjones@atlantabsa.org)

### **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\*\*\*\*\***

### **~~NEW~~ Lending Closet**

All scout families, please check to see if you have any items that your scout has outgrown and can donate to the Lending Closet. We are expecting about 25 scouts to be crossing over and it would be great for them to be able to use clothing that you have outgrown, especially for summer camp. Our 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.

### **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.

## \*\*\*\*\*ADULT INVOLVEMENT\*\*\*\*\*

### **NEW Health/Medical Forms**

For all new 'registered' adults and new scouts - We need a current health/medical form on file. Please go to our website and you will see a PDF 'fill-in' form. Please complete, forward to your doctor for signature, and bring to the next troop meeting.

### **NEW Adult Leader Training**

Those adults wanting to participate in any of our overnight and long term activities have a minimum amount of basic training they must first accomplish and have a an up to date physical turned in. Some items are on line and others take participating in a variety of course including overnight training. Please plan ahead, review all your options and look over a year out as some of these requirements are not always available to meet your schedule. The training is a must do so ask us when, where and what you must accomplish to be allowed to participate.

**Upcoming adult leader training** – more details at the District web site (cdbsa.org).

- Wed Apr 1, 7pm SALT - Scoutmaster/ASM Leadership Training 3 of 3
- Fri-Sun, Apr 17-19 Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (ITOLS) Weekend
- Fri-Sun, Apr 17-19 Wood Badge 92-61 Weekend 2
- Fri-Sun, Apr 24-26 Wilderness First Aid Basic

**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 coordinating all of the details for celebration ceremonies for new Eagle Scouts for the last three years. She 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 help out with the Eagle Court of Honor Ceremonies. Please let **Wendy Kraemer** [wlkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlkraemer@bellsouth.net) know if you can help out with this for the upcoming year.

### **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 update/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**  
**Model Design**  
**Skating**

**Climbing**  
**Plant Science**  
**Textile**

**Dentistry**  
**Railroading**  
**Waterskiing**

## 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.

## 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. We would like to thank Donna Martinez for taking over this position. If you know of a troop family going through a difficult time and they need assistance or if you are able to provide a meal when needed, please contact Donna Martinez at [mom3drm@aol.com](mailto:mom3drm@aol.com).

## **NEW** Friends of Scouting

The Friends of Scouting campaign is underway and will continue through April! Don't forget to make your tax deductible contribution. See Mr. Padget at the meetings, or look for your pledge card in the mail.

## Youth Protection Training

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

## 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.

## April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<u>29</u>   <b>Mar</b>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>1</u>   <b>Apr</b>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
District Camporee - BASR ECOH-Ryan D.	7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting		April Fool's Day SALT-3			Spring Break Philmont Prep Hike
<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>
Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
Philmont Prep Hike Palm Sunday 6:00p -7:30p Committee Meeting	7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting	Philmont Prep Hike		Maundy Thursday Passover (Pesach) 7:30p RT & OA Meeting	Good Friday Passover (Pesach)	Passover (Pesach)
<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>
Spring Break Easter Sunday Passover (Pesach) Easter Sunday	7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting	7:00p -8:00p Merit Badge Help - North Campus Basement	Passover (Pesach) Passover (Pesach) Taxes Due	Passover (Pesach) 7:00p -8:00p Patrol Leader's Council		Chattahoochee Alien Invasion cleanup ITOLS-2
<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 Earth Day				NYLT Staff Development	NYLT Staff Development
<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>1</u>   <b>May</b>	<u>2</u>
NYLT Staff Development	7:15p -8:45p Troop Meeting Board of Review				OA Ordeal-- Woodruff	OA Ordeal-- Woodruff