



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

October 2010

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

All Newsletters and up to date information are at [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org)



## Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Another set of congratulations are in order. Blake Cotney and Aroon Narayanan sat with the district board of review and have now been approved as our newest Eagle Scouts. So when you see them, pass along your congratulations. A separate ceremony will be organized for them to properly recognize their fabulous accomplishment. These two are just proof that sticking with it and balancing their activities can be accomplished along this path and not just by doing advancement. Their active participation in many of the activities and opportunities within the troop has made them even better prepared for their future endeavors. All scouts need to understand this troop promotes the total involvement in all aspects of the events and programs and to keep in mind advancement is just a tool to accomplish the complete development of the scouts to be a great citizen. We do not just do advancement and many troop meetings are devoted to team building, leadership opportunities and personal challenges so expect not to have the meetings devoted to advancement only.

## Highlights and Important **New** News!


**U.S.S. Alabama Trip-** Our October Trip to the USS Alabama is packed with other events including: visiting the estuary museum, an old fort and beach camping. Signing up early helps us properly plan for any activity. So please forecast your participation in events as early as possible, so that all the proper arrangements can be made for everyone's enjoyment. Find a detailed flyer for the USS Alabama trip on the Troop Website under Events.

**NEW Troop Committee Meeting Cancelled-** The Troop Committee Meeting scheduled for this Sunday, October 3 at 6pm has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled to later in the month at 6:30pm prior to one of our troop meetings. We will announce the date as soon as it is confirmed. Enjoy your Sunday and thank you!

**Newtown Park Meeting-** The highly anticipated Newtown Park meeting is set for Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:15. This is an awesome night of capture the flag, caramel apples, apple cider and fall fun. Your scout will not want to miss this meeting! In order for the evening to be a success, we need a few parents to provide the following items:

- ❖ 65 McIntosh type (smaller sized) apples => washed and ready to eat
- ❖ 65 craft sticks for apples
- ❖ 2 gallons apple cider
- ❖ 6 dozen cookies – Halloween themed with no nuts

Please contact Mary Beth Bierbaum at [MaryBeth@bierbaum.com](mailto:MaryBeth@bierbaum.com) to let her know how you may help. Thank you!

 **Check it out!** Many of the event fliers through January are already posted on the Troop Website. Please visit the website regularly to ensure that you are up to date on the latest Troop 629 news and events. [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org)

### Hot off the Press!

Troop 629 Eagle Scouts were spotted in the local newspaper. Check it out...online posting date of September 13, 2010 – *Revue and News* local paper

<http://www.northfulton.com/Articles-c-2010-09-13-184226.114126-sub24320.114126> [New Eagle Scouts for the Chattahoochee District.html](#)



### Have you Registered?

If you have not registered with the Troop then please contact Karen Korshak by email at [karcpa@aol.com](mailto:karcpa@aol.com). Troop 629 Scout dues for this year are \$75.00. All registered adults dues are \$25.00. Please make your checks payable to "Troop 629" and submit your payment to Karen Korshak. We are trying to wrap up this process so "let's get it done".



**Popcorn Deadline!** Remember the deadline for all popcorn orders is October 18<sup>th</sup>. Please have your orders ready by this date and checks payable to Troop 629. Questions? Contact ASM John Herring at [johnannpaden@gmail.com](mailto:johnannpaden@gmail.com)

## ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

### October Reminders

- October 4<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
- October 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>: USS Alabama Trip
- October 11<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
- October 12<sup>th</sup>: Merit Badge Help 6 p.m.
- October 14<sup>th</sup>: District Roundtable
- October 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>: Duty to God Encampment
- October 18<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting~ Board of Review (Popcorn Sales Due)
- October 21<sup>st</sup>: Patrol Leader Council
- October 23<sup>rd</sup>: Fire starters/Scout Fest
- October 25<sup>th</sup>: Newtown Park Troop Meeting 7:15 p.m.

### November Reminders

- November 1<sup>st</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
- November 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: NYLT CD Training
- November 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>: OA Ordeal
- November 7<sup>th</sup>: Troop Committee Meeting
- November 8<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
- November 9<sup>th</sup>: Merit Badge Help 6 p.m.
- November 11<sup>th</sup>: District Roundtable
- November 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>: Backpacking Trip
- November 15<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting~ Board of Review & SPL/PL elections
- November 18<sup>th</sup>: Patrol Leader Council

**November 20<sup>th</sup>:** Autry Mill Scout Service Day  
**November 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45  
**November 29<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting~Webelos visit 7:15-8:45

## Calendar and Web Site Information

Keep in mind the Troop web site is a dynamic place always having items added and the latest updates being posted as soon as they are known. **Scouting is outing! Make it a habit to look at the website each week to ensure you are submitting your participation permission slips for designated trips and events.** Flyers and details of trips can be found under EVENTS on the website.

- ❖ Check out your Troop 629 web site to get the latest on all our upcoming events and view the latest pictures of our scouts in action.
- ❖ Keep us updated on changes to phone numbers, address and e-mail accounts. Not getting the newsletter? Contact Heather Pendery at [penderyclan@comcast.net](mailto:penderyclan@comcast.net)

## DEADLINES AND DATES

### Upcoming Troop Board of Review: October 18<sup>th</sup>

After a scout completes his Scoutmaster conference, he must notify Mrs. Narayanan, Troop Advancement Chairperson, that he is ready for the next BOR. Mrs. Narayanan can also be reached at [Kathleen@narayanan.us](mailto:Kathleen@narayanan.us) **Reminder: Full Class "A" uniform and Scout handbook are required for participation in a Board of Review.**

**NEW** **Parents** ~Mrs. Narayanan could use a few additional adults to help with Board of Reviews. Helping with a BOR is a minimal time commitment and very helpful to the troop. Please contact Mrs. Narayanan to learn more about how you can help.

### Upcoming Events

- ❖ **October 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>:** USS Alabama Trip
- ❖ **October 25<sup>th</sup>:** Newtown Park Meeting
- ❖ **November 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>:** Backpacking Trip

Look for flyers and handouts at meetings and on the web site. **Remember the on-line calendar is dynamic so always refer to it to get the latest changes and updates.** [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org)

### **NEW** Mark Your Calendar for ScoutFest 2010

ScoutFest is set for October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 at Cobb Galleria Center from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. As part of the 100 years of scouting celebration, this day is dedicated to providing hands on experiences in everything scouting. Troop 629 will participate by running a "booth" for this event. Questions? Ask YOUR patrol leader. For information on ScoutFest please visit [www.scoutfestatl.org](http://www.scoutfestatl.org)



## Scribe Note

Hello Troop 629. This October we have some righteous outings. Coming up is the USS Alabama. You can go on a real battleship. It's pretty awesome. Make sure you don't miss the Newtown Park meeting. We play a groovy game of capture the flag all over Newtown Park.

Chris Bertrand- Troop 629 Scribe

## SCOUT HANDSHAKE

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

Advancement congratulations for the month of September go to:

🦅 **EAGLE:** Blake C. & Aroon N

👤 **LIFE:** Robbie W.

🌟 **STAR:** Michael M. & Nolan R.

👤 **FIRST CLASS:** none

👤 **SECOND CLASS:** Vijay N.

👤 **TENDERFOOT:** Ashwin R.

👤 **SCOUT:** Sam W.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!!

## BE PREPARED....FRIENDLY REMINDERS

### High Adventure

Remember, the Troop has three high adventure activities planned for older scouts in 2011. First up is the NH skiing trip in January, followed by an April Bahamas tall ship sailing experience and finally Rocky Mt backpacking at Philmont, NM in June. **If you are interested in any of these trips, make your intent known NOW.** Spots are limited! Adults wanting to participate have very specific pre-training requirements in order to be eligible.

### Double Check your Medical Forms! ✓

Please contact Mr. Street to check on the status of your troop medical form. Many of you have medical forms that have just expired or are coming up for renewal. (Remember that your medical form is valid for only twelve (12) months from the date your physician signed your form and therefore must be renewed annually.) We don't want anyone to miss out on a trip because they do not have a current medical form on file with the troop. If you have any questions, please contact Ian Street at [ian.street@daltile.com](mailto:ian.street@daltile.com)

### Leaders- Check Your Youth Protection Training ✓

Youth Protection Training is required for ALL registered adult leaders and must be taken every two years. To ensure that we fully comply to the BSA's policies, please take the following steps:

- Please log on to MyScouting (<http://www.myscouting.org>) to take or validate the training. Be sure to have your member ID number. The number can be found on your Boy Scouts of America membership card.

- To take the training: From the MyScouting portal, click on E-Learning and take the Youth Protection Training. The training consists of watching a short video (30 mins.) and taking a post assessment test. Upon completion, print or save the certificate for your record.
- To validate your training: From the MyScouting portal, click on Training Validation and enter your user name or member ID to search for your training records.

If you have any question regarding the training please contact Eric Hoang through e-mail [erichhoang@yahoo.com](mailto:erichhoang@yahoo.com) or cell phone 770-265-7945.

## Uniforms

Please wear your Class A uniform to all events unless otherwise noted. Remember all great scouts are not without **their handbook** to make a complete uniform. **A proper uniform includes a tucked in shirt and closed toe shoes!** Please dress for the weather as some activities are outside.



## Merit Badge Reminders from Scout Master Gillis

- ❖ Please remember our policy: **Troop Meetings are for group and team development and NOT generally for Merit Badge time.** (Summertime is an exception and unfortunately summer is over!) **There is to be NO merit badge work during patrol meeting time, instructional time and competition. The only exception on Mondays is that a Scout can opt to work on Merit Badges during game time.**
- ❖ Scouts are still coming forward to work on a merit badge without reading the whole MB book from cover to cover. This is not negotiable and it doesn't matter where the MB was started or with who. To complete the summer camp merit badges or any other please follow these simple rules.
  1. **Read the book from cover to cover.**
  2. Bring any completed paperwork to a meeting or merit badge help night and coordinate an approved counselor from the scoutmaster.
  3. Sit down with the counselor and explain, show or complete the requirements as detailed.
  4. Its not about a memory test – it is about comprehension and covering the material as stated.

**The second Tuesday of every month the SM will be available at the Mount Pisgah 6-7 PM for those who need extra help with merit badge requirements or advancement.**

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. Another reason to check the Troop bulletin board or web site to keep the ever dynamic and fluid scouting calendar up to date.

## 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.

## 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 Scott Bowen**. 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.** [Kathleen@narayanan.us](mailto:Kathleen@narayanan.us)

### **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 are on the troop website.

## **ADULT INVOLVEMENT**

### **Want to be more involved?**

**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, **Mary Beth Bierbaum** at [marybeth@bierbaum.com](mailto:marybeth@bierbaum.com) to learn about the available open positions

### **TRAINED LEADERS- The Backbone of 629 (Reasons to Be Prepared)**

Are you planning to get 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.

### **All adults must complete the Youth Protection on line course before registration.**

1. Complete **Adult Registration Form** (Found under *Forms* on Troop website, [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org), *Registration Form-Adult*)
2. Complete **Youth Protection & 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.

**To participate as an adult leader in the troop on overnight camping, you must complete on line Youth Protection Training, Fast Start Training and review the Troop 629 Adult Guide.** Assistant Scoutmasters and Committee Members must complete the above training and New Leaders

Essentials, SALT, ITOLS and/or Committee Training. Information on these training opportunities is available on the Chattahoochee District Website at [www.cdbsa.org](http://www.cdbsa.org)

To participate in High Adventure, leaders must complete all the above along with special classes such as CPR, FA, safety afloat, and safe swim.

❖ **When you have completed any of the BSA training, please notify Kathleen Narayanan.**

### **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



## **EARNING POWER**

### **High Adventure Accounts**

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. High Adventure earning opportunities will be announced at Troop Meetings, the Newsletter and the Troop Website.



**Krispy Kreme Fundraiser:** Remember Krispy Kreme offers an opportunity for Scouts to earn even more money for their High Adventure Accounts. Selling donuts for 50 cents each at a neighborhood event or Scout event gains 25 cents profit per donut! And that price saves the customer money too! If you would like to get involved, please contact Don Harden [harden1@gmail.com](mailto:harden1@gmail.com). And remember to get approval from the event sponsor in advance. More details at [www.krispykreme.com](http://www.krispykreme.com) too!



### **KROGER GIFT CARDS – Easy money that adds up!**

Join Troop 629 families in this easy on-going monthly fundraiser. By participating in this Kroger program, **our troop receives 5% of our total gift card orders each month and each scout received 75% of those funds for their personal high adventure account.** These funds go directly to keep the costs down on each of our monthly activities and to help pay for various troop operational costs and scholarships. The gift cards can be used at any Kroger store or Kroger fuel center [during each use your purchase is deducted and when the amount of the card is depleted, it is kept by the cashier – new cards are issued each month and mailed to you]. There is no service charge – (if you order a \$50 Kroger gift card, you will receive a \$50 gift card)! To get started, contact Mike Bramel at [bramel.mike@gmail.com](mailto:bramel.mike@gmail.com) or 678- 234-7188 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 Mike by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month or you can bring payment on a Monday night troop meeting and give to him.

### **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 or Committee Chair to bring this about but do not hold back asking if the need exists. In addition, the high adventure bases and camps also normally run scholarship applications for various events, just ask us for the forms if help is needed for a particular event. Scouting is outing and if you miss that portion then it can be rather boring.

## **A SCOUT IS THRIFTY**

### **Lending Closet**

The Troop maintains a scout uniform exchange or drop off point for all to use. With growth spurts for young scouts, it's hard at times to keep them outfitted for activities. Bring in your used uniform pieces including Troop T-shirts. Or feel free to visit the closet for items that your Scout may need.

### **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.

## 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 know 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).

## 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))**.

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.



## Flyers & Links

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

Troop Events <http://www.troop629.org/events/events.htm>

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)

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

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)

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>

Jamboree on the Air and on the Internet (JOTA/JOTI)

[http://www.scout.org/en/information\\_events/events/jota/the\\_52nd\\_jota\\_2009#](http://www.scout.org/en/information_events/events/jota/the_52nd_jota_2009#) and <http://www.joti.org/>.

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

ScoutFest [www.scoutfestatl.org](http://www.scoutfestatl.org)