



BOY SCOUT TROOP 629

mini NEWSLETTER

January 2011

*This newsletter is intended for Troop 629 scouts and their families.
All Newsletters and up to date information are at www.troop629.org*



Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Wow what an end of the year meeting with some of the past and present scouts and families of Troop 629. Yes, I was totally surprised with the event and the notes and album full of fond memories. A really special time with extra memories documented for years to come. Many thanks to you all! At picture time, the stage was full of something marvelous. Day in and day out, the newspapers and TVs blare the dome and gloom of society. On that stage, I saw the future and its going to be just great. So many goals and visions being realized with a positive power that shows we have not lost our way with so many great young men yet to hit the world stage and forge our future with values, compassion, sympathy, leadership and enthusiasm. You could just feel the energy and great things to come. My small part, over those years we shared, was to add my two cents in keeping them focused on their future and their personal potential to unleash in whatever endeavor they took on as each and every one was special in their own way. Letting me share their life along those formative years was rewarding in itself but to see the future beginning to grow is truly amazing. So many there and yet so many more out there still on their individual paths. It is just memorable to see and hear about all the personal accomplishments. If I could have captured that feeling that night in jar, I would never have anyone not be able to understand the power of the program in the lives of those who get involved and push to succeed. Of course, they had many other influences along the way from parents, family, school, church and other organizations but I do believe the scouting program was the thread for so many of those years that brought all those talents out and molded the young men into greater spheres than otherwise may have been.

Highlights, Deadlines and Dates

- ❖ **The January Troop Committee Meeting is set for January 9th at 6 p.m. in room A017.** Please contact Mary Beth Beirbaum at Marybeth@bierbaum.com if you have questions or you cannot attend and have updated information for the Committee.
- ❖ Thank you to all the parents and scouts who brought cookies, cupcakes, and brownies to our December 20th Troop Meeting. We had a great buffet of goodies and are very appreciative to everyone who sent something in. **THANK YOU!**
- ❖ **Save the Date and Save your Clutter for the troop's March Garage Sale and Car Wash Fundraiser.** We need parent volunteers to help man the sale and car wash but more importantly, we need items for the garage sale. While we're all cleaning out our basements, garages, and closets for the New Year, please remember to set aside items for the troop garage sale. We'll take furniture, clothing, toys, tools, anything! We will collect the items for the garage sale the day before the sale so make sure to save a spot in your garage or basement for items you can donate to the sale.
- ❖ **Upcoming Troop Board of Review: January 17th**

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 **Reminder: Full Class "A" uniform and Scout handbook are required for participation in a Board of Review.**

Upcoming Events

- ❖ **January 1st:** Christmas Tree Pick Up Fundraiser
- ❖ **January 1-4th:** West Virginia Ski Trip
- ❖ **January 14-17th :** New Hampshire Skiing: Venture Crew
- ❖ **February 12-13th:** Pine Mountain Backpacking Trip

Details on these events are already posted on the website. Be prepared and fill out your trip paperwork on time. 😊

ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

January Reminders

January 1st: Christmas tree Pick Up
January 1-4th: West Virginia Ski Trip
January 2nd: Troop Committee Meeting 6 p.m.
January 3rd: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
January 9th: Troop Committee Meeting 6 p.m.
January 9th: OA Banquet
January 10th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
January 11th: Merit Badge Help Night~ 6 pomp
January 13th: District Roundtable
January 14-17th: New Hampshire Ski Trip (Venture Crew)
January 17th: Troop Meeting~Board of Review 7:15-8:45
January 19th: Camp Kick Off
January 20th: Patrol Leaders Council
January 22nd: NYLT Staff Orientation
January 23rd: Eagle COH- Blake C.
January 24th: Troop Court of Honor & Eagle COH Aaron N.
January 25th: Philmont Leader Training
January 29-30th: Troop Caving Trip
January 31st: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

February Reminders

February 5th: Pinewood Derby Service Day
February 6th: Troop Committee Meeting 6 p.m.
February 7th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
February 8th: Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.
February 10th: District Roundtable
February 12-13th: Pine Mountain Backpacking
February 14th:Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45
February 17th:Patrol Leaders Council
February 21st:Troop Meeting~Board of Review 7:15-8:45
February 22nd: Philmont Leader Training
February 26th: NYLT-Staff Development
February 27th: Derrick G. Eagle COH
February 28th: : Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

Calendar and Web Site Information~ Check out www.troop629.org

The Troop web site is a dynamic place with information being updated as soon as it is 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 on time.** 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. Don't forget to check out pictures from our latest events.
- ❖ Event Fliers are posted as soon as details are known. Make it a point to check the Troop Website regularly.
- ❖ Keep us updated on changes to phone numbers, address and e-mail accounts. Not getting the newsletter? Contact Heather Pendery at penderyclan@comcast.net

SCOUT HANDSHAKE

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

Advancement congratulations for this month go to:

-  **EAGLE:** James D.
-  **LIFE:** none
-  **STAR:** none
-  **FIRST CLASS:** Tyler W., Vijay N.
-  **SECOND CLASS:** none
-  **TENDERFOOT:** Colin C.
-  **SCOUT:** none

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!!

Goal Setting

As we move forward in 2011, it's a great time to set goals in all areas of our lives: physically, spiritually and academically. Why not set some goals for your Scouting Experience? Here are some tips:

- Add the Troop website to your toolbar and check it once a week to stay up on events and happenings.
- Pick a few events that you intend to attendno matter what!
- Set a goal of finishing all those ½ finished merit badges. Use a cold, rainy day to read the book and finish your requirements.
- Lastly, look in the advancement section of your handbook and see the goal that you set with Mr. Gillis on reaching your next rank. Are you on track?

Time is moving forward....let's make sure we are using our time wisely and that we are happy with the results of our efforts. Parents your support of the scouting program will not go unnoticed by your son.



Scribe Note by Christopher Bertrand

The party for Mr. Gillis was a huge, righteous success. Mr. Gillis had no clue at all what was going on. He was extremely surprised and very shocked at what we had planned for him. The white elephant party gifting thing was a successful operation in epic proportions. Some of the best were things like broken fans, race cars, lasers, flashlights, and the extremely rare and valuable Pokémon the first movie limited edition. Yes, scouts, if you were there you had a chance at getting these treasured gifts. Luckily, ALMOST everyone was there, friends and family. This event will probably be remembered as the most groovy get-together on this side of the Mississippi. But on another note, we have an awesome trip planned for this January, the ski trip. Don't forget the Christmas tree pick-up where you actually pick up authentic Christmas trees-Service Hours and Adventure Trip money. We also have the venture ski trip coming up. There is also caving. Don't forget to prepare for Ossabaw Island coming up this March.

Your devout and loyal scribe,
Chris Bertrand

BSA and Sponsor Websites



- We are **Chattahoochee District (www.cdbsa.org)** and **Atlanta Area Council (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)**.



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

BSA on the Radio www.radiosandysprings.com

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

Scout Shop News www.scoutstuff.org

Merit Badge 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>

CPR Saturday www.goodturn.net