



BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

September 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

Congratulations go out to Jake Brasher our newest Eagle Scout! Jake completed his District Review at the end of August and will have a special court of honor to be announced for a later date. Our scouting calendar is up and running for the next year and can be viewed on our web site. Please keep the outing in scouting and sign up early for our activities. We should not be your last choice and at times, your first activity to lock in. Active participation is necessary to understand and get the fullest out of the scouting opportunities.



Troop 629 News.....Hot off the Press!



The Troop Family Dinner is on Monday, September 12 at 7:15pm in the Dining Hall. The scouts will prepare dinner for our troop family. There is no charge for this meal but we kindly request for all families to rsvp by email to Mary Beth Bierbaum - marybeth@bierbaum.com - to let her know how many people from their family will attend. (We need to know a head count in order to prepare enough food.) We need the rsvp no later than Wednesday, September 7. Thank you!

- ❖ There is no troop meeting on Monday, September 5 as the church is closed.
- ❖ Please note: **Yearly dues should paid to the troop by September 30th**. Checks made payable to "Troop 629" can be given to Chris Calvert or Marybeth Bierbaum. Dues are - \$75 per scout and \$25 per adult registered leader. Any questions, please email Mary Beth Bierbaum: marybeth@bierbaum.com.
- ❖ The September Troop Committee Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 11 at 6pm in the Dining Hall.
- ❖ The Newtown Park Troop meeting is scheduled for October 24. We need donations from parents of Hot Cocoa Packets, cookies, brownies, pretzels, etc. for snacks for the boys at the end of the meeting. Please see sign-up sheets at the Family Dinner and at each Monday's troop meeting through September.

❖ AVIATION MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITY-PROGRAM WILL FULFILL ALL REQUIREMENTS

- Where: Epps Aviation at Peachtree Dekalb Airport
- When: Saturday, October 15, 2011
- Cost: \$5.00 per participant
- Registration: www.youthaviationadventure.org
- Questions: email malaconto@eppsaviation.com or call (770) 936-4420
- Flyer with complete details is on the Troop website





District Camporee hosted by Troop 629! Calling All Volunteers!

Andersonville Camporee on October 21 -23 is quickly approaching and **we need adults to sign-up for events and activities during the weekend of the Camporee or to help behind the scenes prior to the event.** This is a huge effort being led by Gregg Brasher and Wendy Kraemer. Please see the troop calendar for camporee meeting dates with the next one being **Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00 at Mount Pisgah.** If you have been looking for a way to contribute some time to Boy Scouts, this is your chance! Please see Gregg or Wendy at the next Troop Meeting to learn how you may help.

In addition, we are also in need of supplies and donations. If you have anything below you would like to donate, please let us know. Thank you for all the support and previous donations!

6 colored markers	100 old metal political sign holders re-use
12 highlighters	1100 feet of ¼" manila rope
20 clipboards	540 ft of ½' rope
50 pencils	18 10 ft poles 1" in dia
1 cashbox with receipt book	6 6 ft poles 1" dia
1 computer, printer, paper, ink	30 lashing ropes
500 wrist bands, different colors	3 flint and steel kits
12 flash light wands	50 large onions
2 large rolls of white engineer/survey tape with box of nails	7 flat rocks
6 large rolls of twine	4 dozen large eggs
50 trash bags	1 roll of plastic/canvas drop cloth
1 bugler or cd	4 5 gal. cans or buckets
1 lost and found box	24 plastic inner tubes
6 engraving plates	Twine and stakes
Acetate	Large white sheet for movie screen
15 directional sign posts (laminated on 3' stake)	1 projector for movie
Town signs	250 apples
District signs	Caramel tubs
Signs for crossing highway (slow pedestrian crossing)	250 sticks
Registration signs	4 extension cords
Directional signs	Plastic chickens and something to throw at
Lost and found signs	Toilet paper and fake toilet seat
First aid sign	Give aways: Frisbees, cups, key chains
Registration sign	Give aways: compass, pocket knives etc.
8 event signs	

❖ Special Thanks-Summer Camp

At the recent court of honor, Eric Hoang was correctly recognized as one of the leaders that lead in the organization of the summer camp experience. Inadvertently Kelley Gibson was not mentioned and he also was a co-organizer of summer camp. Kelley and Eric worked many hours in preparation for the camp and both spent all week at summer camp and we really appreciate their efforts.

Gregg Brasher-adult recognition volunteer

❖ So My Son Went to Summer Camp, Now What?

Attention all parents whose son crossed over into the troop this past March and April. Gregg Brasher will be running a class for new parents to talk about merit badges, the trips, what is expected, who can sign off on advancement, what is our troop uniform, what are the service positions, how are they earned, patrols...what is a patrol? The purpose of the meeting is to help parents feel connected to the program and better understand the scouting experience at Troop 629. The meeting will be held on **Monday, September 26th at 7:15** pm. We will gather at the normal meeting place where your son is dropped off for the meeting.



❖ Troop 629 will be hosting Den Chief Training

WHEN: September 10, 2011 at 9:30 am until 11:00 am

WHO MAY ATTEND: Active Scouts in the Chattahoochee District of rank First Class and above are invited to attend. They should first complete the on-line Den Chief training at <http://www.scouting.org/training/youth/denchieftraining.aspx>.

WHERE: Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church. 9820 Nesbit Ferry Road (South Campus)-Building A, Room A021/A022.

QUESTIONS: Contact Don Harden at harden1@gmail.com

COST: Free

❖ Merit Badge University

DATE: October 15, 2011

TIME: 7:30 - 12:30 AM

WHAT: The 8TH Annual Merit Badge University (Boy & Girl Scout Program)

WHERE: Kennesaw State University

EVENT DETAILS: <http://meritbadge.info/mbn/EventDetails.aspx?ID=94633648-B981-48E7-B59F-FB2F0DC61632> The Merit Badge University is an advancement event held each October. Students In Free Enterprise-SIFE, Kennesaw State University, BSA Troop 1776, and Friends of 1776, Inc serve as your hosts. Units and individual parents have the opportunity to register Scouts for classes at www.meritbadge.info. Any 629 Scout who wants to attend the event please inform Mr. Hoang (erichhoang@yahoo.com) asap so he can register on line. The fee is \$12 to attend. Breakfast and a drink will be provided at no-charge thanks to a donation by Chick-fil-a.



❖ Become a Trained Leader.....the backbone of Troop 629

If you are interested in becoming or have volunteered to serve as a Scoutmasters or Assistant Scoutmaster for a Boy Scout Troop, please consider this opportunity to complete one of the required training classes for your new role. The Chattahoochee District (Roswell) is offering Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training (SALT) on **the last three Thursday evenings in September from 7:00 to 10:00 P.M.** All three evenings will be conducted at St. Andrew Catholic Church located at 675 Riverside Road in Roswell. This is the classroom portion of the training required for your position. Registrants are encouraged to have completed the online courses: Fast Start Training, Youth Protection Training, and This is Scouting.

These courses are available at <https://myscouting.scouting.org>. After this course, your final requirement to be considered a trained leader as a Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster is the Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (ITOLS) course.

The class fee is \$10.00. To register, please send an e-mail to william.d.leach@gmail.com with your name, address, e-mail, phone numbers (Evening, Day, Cell), unit, and position.

What to Bring:

- Come dressed in your uniform.
- Your registration fee
- Pen and paper
- Copies of the current Scoutmasters Handbook and Boy Scout Handbook

will also be useful. Please feel free to contact me at 404-717-7706 with any questions. Bill Leach
Unit Commissioner, Chattahoochee District; Atlanta Area Council, Boy Scouts of America
Cell: (404) 717-7706

Highlights, Deadlines and Dates

Upcoming Troop Board of Review: **September 19th**

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

September 3rd: Helen Tubing

September 12th: Family Dinner Night

September 24-25: Providence Canyon Trip

October 15th: Epps-Aviation Day

October 21-23rd: District Camporee hosted by Troop 629

October 24th: Newtown Park Troop Meeting

ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

September

September 3rd: Helen Tubing

September 5th: No Meeting (Labor Day)

September 7th: Camporee Planning meeting 7-8 pm

September 8th: District Roundtable

September 10th: Den Chief Training

September 11th: Troop Committee Meeting

September 12th: Troop Family Dinner

September 13th: Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.

September 15th: Patrol Leader Council

September 16- 18th: OA Fall Fellowship

September 19th: Troop Meeting~ Board of Review 7:15-8:45

September 21st: Camporee Planning Meeting 7-8 pm

September 24-25th: CD Training: Providence Canyon Hike and Camping

September 26th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 ~ New Parent Meeting

October

October 2nd: Troop Committee Meeting

October 3rd: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

October 5th: Camporee Planning Meeting

October 9th: Camporee Planning Meeting

October 10th: Popcorn selling~ Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

October 11th: Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.

October 12th: Camporee Planning Meeting

October 13th: District Roundtable

October 15th: Aviation Day-Epps

October 17th: Troop Meeting~ Board of Review 7:15-8:45

October 19th: Camporee Planning meeting

October 20th: Patrol Leader Council

October 21-23rd: District Camporee~ Troop 629 Host

October 24th: Troop Meeting at Newtown Park

October 31st: No meeting

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

Each monthly outing for the entire year has been added into the Troop Calendar! Take a moment to log these into your family calendar so you can plan to attend. Scouting is outing and advanced planning helps make it happen.

Check out your Troop 629 web site to get the latest on all our upcoming events. Pictures from the most recent trips are always being added to the website. Check 'em out!

- ❖ 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:** Jake Brasher
- 👤 **LIFE:** Andrew J., Michael M., Nolan R.
- 🌟 **STAR:** Kevin H., Jacob K.
- 👦 **FIRST CLASS:** none
- 👦 **SECOND CLASS:** Andrew G., Wyatt S.
- 👦 **TENDERFOOT:** Drew H., Wyatt S., Jake S., Sam W.
- 👦 **SCOUT:** none

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!!



Scribe Note

September is going to be a wonderful month for scouting. We have two camporee planning meetings which are always a blast. However we start out the month with Helen Tubing. We also have the Providence Canyon hiking and camping trip. September is bound to be a great time for scouts across the world. Chris Bertrand~ Troop Scribe

BE PREPARED....FRIENDLY REMINDERS

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

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 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.

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

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. **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.

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.



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 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 22nd 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 – **no scout should 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

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 pieces and add to the closet and feel free to pick up an item during the regular Monday night Troop Meetings.

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/2yethn>

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