



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

## October 2011

*This newsletter is intended for Troop 629 scouts and their families.  
All Newsletters and up to date information are at [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org)*



### Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Lots of events listed on our web site and handouts at meetings. Please let us know as soon as possible your intention to participate in activities so we can arrange the logistics for each outing. Scouting is outing and you know having fun in scouting first means you have to show up and participate. There are many not making the extra effort to participate in the activities planned by the scouts. Overwhelmingly the scout activities have been just great and what everyone expects.

Yes, there are other events on your busy weekends but when you take all the time and effort and actual outcome for each of those; by far the event normally going to be remembered down the road by all is the scouting event..... not the one hour playing a sport. So being the best you can be means adding to those life experiences every opportunity you can.

Please note all our Monday night meetings are now held on the North Campus of Mount Pisgah in the basement studio A. Our sponsor has reallocated their space and this is our new regular meeting space. Same time for the same program. And wasn't the crime prevention night with K-9 demo along with the pet night just great! The scouts can do great stuff when they put their minds to it.

Please indicate now your desire to participate in the ski events for Dec/Jan. We really need advance sign ups to arrange the details.

October Andersonville Camporee being hosted by Troop 629 is a great opportunity for our patrols to utilize the patrol method effectively and everyone participate in a great event. A lot of effort and support from our adult teams has gone into making this activity an exciting and fun filled weekend for all. Please sign up now so we can arrange all the transport needs for the various groups we are organizing.

Keep a close eye on our calendar to make sure scouts are attending the right event at the right location. Monday, October 24 is our annual meeting outside at Newtown park. A huge game night and fall treats are the order for that evening so dress for the weather and come along and have some fun.

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



❖ Please note: **It is time to pay the yearly Troop 629 dues!** *Thanks to all who have paid!* If you have not yet paid, please make your check payable to "Troop 629" and list your son's name and dues on the "for" line. It may be given to Chris Calvert or Marybeth Bierbaum at the next Troop Meeting or you may mail it to: **Karen Korshak, 255 Gaitskell Lane, Johns Creek, GA 30022.** Dues are - \$75 per scout and \$25 per adult registered leader. If you have questions, please contact Karen Korshak at [karcpa@aol.com](mailto:karcpa@aol.com) or Mary Beth Bierbaum at [marybeth@bierbaum.com](mailto:marybeth@bierbaum.com)

❖ The October Troop Committee Meeting will be held on **Sunday, October 2nd at 6pm** in the Dining Hall.



❖ Troop Meeting Location Change! **The Monday night Troop Meeting location has been permanently changed to 2850 Old Alabama Road.** This is the main sanctuary also known as North Campus. We will be meeting in Studio A which is located downstairs. The meeting time remains the same 7:15 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

❖ **There is no Troop Meeting on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.** Enjoy your Halloween at home!

❖ **The Newtown Park Troop meeting is scheduled for October 24.** This is a highly anticipated annual event that all the Scouts enjoy. Games, hot chocolate, apples and caramel and cider. Please have your scout dress for the weather (jacket, tennis shoes etc.) and have them bring a headlamp/flashlight. **Dress in red Troop T-shirt not Class A for this meeting.**

- ❖ **Many thanks!** Thank you to MaryBeth Bierbaum for organizing the wonderful Troop Family Dinner night. The scouts did a fantastic job with the meal and the cobblers were delicious! Also, special thanks to Publix and Kroger on Haynes Bridge for their donations to the meal.



## District Camporee hosted by Troop 629! Answers to your questions!

- **How do I register my 629 Scout?-** Print off a permission slip from the Troop Website under Events and turn it in at the next Troop Meeting. Do not register on line.
- **When and where is Camporee?-** October 21 -23 in Andersonville, GA
- **How will my Scout get there?-** Sign up at the Troop Meeting and we will arrange transportation.
- **Is it too late to volunteer to help?-** No, contact Wendy Kraemer or Gregg Brasher to see how you may help. [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net) or [c.brasher@comcast.net](mailto:c.brasher@comcast.net)
- **Do they still need donations for the event? -** Yes, we are still in need of a portable fire extinguisher (uses water instead of chemicals) and (12) flash light wands which will be used for parking. If you have either of these items, please contact Wendy, Gregg or Fran. **Thank you for all the donations!**
- **What will Scouts be doing at Camporee? -** Team building exercises including: an obstacle course, chicken chuckin' , Scout Jeopardy and much, much more. Sleeping in tents and enjoying the great outdoors. On Sat. the boys can tour the Prisoner of War museum and hear a great speaker Colonel Ron Mastin discuss his experience of being a POW during the Vietnam War. It is sure to be a weekend to remember.

### ❖ 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](http://www.meritbadge.info). **Any 629 Scout who wants to attend the event please inform Mr. Hoang ([erichhoang@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

### AVIATION MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITY



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

## Highlights, Deadlines and Dates

### **Upcoming Troop Board of Review: October 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](mailto:Kathleen@narayanan.us) **Reminder: Full Class "A" uniform and Scout handbook are required for participation in a Board of Review.**

### **Upcoming Events**

**October 15<sup>th</sup>: Epps-Aviation Day**

**October 21-23<sup>rd</sup>: District Camporee hosted by Troop 629**

**October 24<sup>th</sup>: Newtown Park Troop Meeting**

**November 12<sup>th</sup>: Backpacking outing**

## ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

### **October**

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>: Troop Committee Meeting**

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45**

**October 5<sup>th</sup>: Camporee Planning Meeting**

**October 9<sup>th</sup>: Camporee Planning Meeting**

**October 10<sup>th</sup>: Popcorn selling~ Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45**

**October 11<sup>th</sup>: Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.**

**October 12<sup>th</sup>: Camporee Planning Meeting**

**October 13<sup>th</sup>: District Roundtable**

**October 15<sup>th</sup>: Aviation Day-Epps**

**October 17<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting~ Board of Review 7:15-8:45**

**October 19<sup>th</sup>: Camporee Planning meeting**

**October 20<sup>th</sup>: Patrol Leader Council**

**October 21-23<sup>rd</sup>: District Camporee~ Troop 629 Host**

**October 24<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting at Newtown Park**

**October 28-30: Duty to God Encampment**

**October 31<sup>st</sup>: No meeting**

### **November**

**November 4-6<sup>th</sup>: OA Ordeal at Allatoona**

**November 6<sup>th</sup>: Troop Committee Meeting**

**November 7<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45**

**November 8<sup>th</sup>: Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.**

**November 10<sup>th</sup>: District Roundtable**

**November 12<sup>th</sup>: Backpacking Outing**

**November 14<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45**

**November 17<sup>th</sup>: Patrol Leader Council**

**November 19<sup>th</sup>: Autry Mill Service Day**

**November 21<sup>st</sup>: Troop Meeting~ Board of Review 7:15-8:45**

**November 28<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting-Webelos visit**

**Calendar and Web Site Information~** ✍️ Check out [www.troop629.org](http://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](mailto:penderyclan@comcast.net)

## SCOUT HANDSHAKE

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

**Advancement congratulations for this month go to:**

- 🦅 **EAGLE:** none
- 👤 **LIFE:** Paden H.
- 🌟 **STAR:** Kevin A.
- 👦 **FIRST CLASS:** none
- 👧 **SECOND CLASS:** none
- 👶 **TENDERFOOT:** none
- 👦 **SCOUT:** Conner S. and Colin O

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!!**

## 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](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.

## 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)



## 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](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 – **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](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))**.



## 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>

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