

BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

April 2013

This newsletter is intended for Troop 629 scouts and their families.

All Newsletters, pictures and up to date information are at www.troop629.org



Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

And another has made it! Congratulations to Chap Foley for being our newest Eagle scout. Chap passed his District Board of Review recently and will be setting up his ceremony for all to participate and celebrate with him. Welcome to all our new scouts and their families. Communication of the programs and processes that we utilize are all documented on our web site (www.troop629.org) and it's a dynamic document especially with events and the calendar. Frequently view our web site and re-read the posted newsletter to keep abreast of activities and events we are having. Scholarships for all activities are available and no scout should miss any event because of a temporary setback in available family cash flow. Just ask and we can work out an easy to use service hour compensation process.

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

- ❖ Our **March Troop Committee Meeting** is **Sunday, April 14** at 6pm in the Dining Hall on South Campus.
- ❖ **Camp card fundraiser continues. Each card sold gains \$2.50 toward your High Adventure account. Questions? Contact Mr. Loedding at loedding@gmail.com**
- ❖ Several **volunteer opportunities** are coming up in the next few months. Please email or see Mary Beth Bierbaum (marybeth@bierbaum.com) if you are interested in helping with any of the following:
 - Troop Court of Honor Refreshments Coordinator
 - Eagle Court of Honor Reception Host/Hostess
 - Scouting for Food Troop Coordinator
 - Relay for Life Cancer Walk Troop Coordinator
- ❖ **Relay for Life May 3rd at Roswell High School.** Our troop BSA 629 team needs more participants. Join the team by visiting the www.relayforlife website, event zipcode 30075. Together we can make a difference. Contact Teresa Way or Wendy Kraemer for more details.

Summer Camp

Parents please help your son be prepared for summer camp!

Please make sure the following are completed:

- ✓ Registration form and course selection turned in?
- ✓ Medical Form up to date and turned in?
- ✓ Payments made and up to date?

For any questions regarding Summer Camp please contact Jason Sutton at the following email address Jason@GrubbyBoys.com



Watch "Are You Tougher Than a Boy Scout?"

Continues for 2 more weeks

8 p.m. Eastern/7 p.m. Central

That's right! Six episodes of the reality TV show "Are You Tougher Than a Boy Scout?" will air on the National Geographic Channel starting Monday, March 4, at 8 p.m. Eastern/7 p.m. Central time. This is a great family show and continues for two weeks into April. Enjoy some family time and good laughs together!

Highlights, Deadlines and Dates

Upcoming Troop Board of Review: April 15, 2013

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

March 29th-April 7th: SeaBase Bahamas High Adventure Trip

April 27-28th: Renaissance Festival

May 3rd: Relay for Life night

ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

April

April 1- 7th: Seabase Bahamas High Adventure

April 8th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

April 9th: Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.

April 11th: District Roundtable

April 14th: Troop Committee Meeting

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

April 18th: Patrol Leaders Council

April 22nd: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45

April 26-28: OA Conclave

April 27th-28th: Renaissance Festival

April 29th: Troop Meeting & Summer Camp Orientation 7:15-8:45

May

May 3-5th: OA Ordeal Woodruff

May 6th: Troop Court of Honor~ All parents and families plan to attend

May 9th: District Roundtable

May 13th: Troop Meeting~ SPL/PL Elections night 7:15-7:45

May 14th: Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.

May 16th: PLC Annual Planning Meeting

May 17th-19th: Atlanta Area Council Encampment weekend

May 20th: Troop Meeting~Board of Review 7:15-7:45

May 24th: Leadership Training ILST

May 26th: NYLT week #1

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

Each monthly outing for the entire 2012-2013 school year is ON 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. Keep us updated on changes to phone numbers, address and e-mail accounts. Not getting the newsletter? Contact Heather Penderly at penderyclan@comcast.net

SCOUT HANDSHAKE

🏹 EAGLE~👤 LIFE~👤 STAR~👤 FIRST CLASS~👤 SECOND CLASS~👤 TENDERFOOT~👤 SCOUT
Advancement congratulations for this month go to:

🏹 **EAGLE:** Chap Foley
👤 **LIFE:** Vijay N.
👤 **STAR:** none
👤 **FIRST CLASS:** Josh A. and John Michael B.
👤 **SECOND CLASS:** JD B. and John Michael B.
👤 **TENDERFOOT:** JD B. and Alex J.
👤 **SCOUT:** none

Eagle Scout Billy Johns went beyond the Highest Rank to earn his Bronze Palm!
CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!

ADULT INVOLVEMENT

“Many Hands make light work”



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 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 *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 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

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.**

District Training News



MyScouting.org

Leader Specific Training modules are now available online at [MyScouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org)
Get 100% trained and a flag banner to show it off!

Council Calendar for Training

If the course you are looking for is not found here, please visit the Council Calendar
<http://www.atlantabsa.org/openrosters/Calendar.asp?orgkey=1437>

Training Descriptions

Please go here: <http://www.cdbsa.org/training/TrainingDescriptions.shtm>

This is Scouting (Formerly New Leader Essentials – NLE)

The On-line THIS IS SCOUTING class replaces the New Leader Essentials class. THIS IS SCOUTING is a prerequisite to all other ADULT BSA trainings (except Youth Protection Training).

Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster Leadership Training (SALT)

From program items to the patrol method to being an effective resource for the boys – this course will teach you how to be an effective troop leader. This typically \$10 class is offered in three 3 hour evening sessions. THIS IS SCOUTING is a prerequisite. You must attend all 3 sessions to complete the class. To be considered a Trained Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster, you must complete BOTH SALT and ITOLS. The training is located at AAC VSC. For further information <http://www.atlantabsa.org/openrosters/Calendar.asp>

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (ITOLS)

Learn the scout craft skills needed to advance to First Class by essentially being a Scout yourself. This class includes a 4 hour afternoon orientation session and a weekend camping outing. The class fee is typically \$25. Your patrol will incur additional costs for meals for the outing. THIS IS SCOUTING is a prerequisite. Prior completion of SALT is recommended. **To be considered a Trained Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster, you must complete BOTH SALT and ITOLS.**

For further information <http://www.atlantabsa.org/openrosters/Calendar.asp>

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 occasionally come 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. It's not about a memory test – it is about comprehension and covering the material as stated.

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

Scouts in Action



Check out all the
Troop Pictures at
www.troop629.org



EARNING POWER



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.



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.

Be Prepared and Friendly Reminders

Troop 629 Scout Activity Scholarships

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 family's 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 closet "uniform exchange" for all to use. With growth spurts for young scouts it can be hard to keep them outfitted for activities. **Everyone please go through your closets and please consider donating items that no longer fit.** Bring in your used Scout pieces and add to the closet and feel free to pick up an item during the regular Monday night Troop Meetings.

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.

Additional 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

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>