



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 629

## NEWSLETTER

### May 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](http://www.troop629.org)*



#### Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Transportation is a vital issue for every activity we do in scouting. At times it is not easy to line up the required "seat belts" to transport all our scouts who want to participate in any activity. We have specific needs for each trip and sometimes it is just the same few that make it happen. We hope that all parents seriously look at their availability for any trip to help spread the need around. It is not required for drivers to stay with the group, just to help get the scouts to and from. Normally we have the minimum of two adults to handle any overnight requirement but at times we just need the drivers for those activities. Drivers can venture out on their own after arrival and the link up for return or swap with another adult volunteer. Drivers are not required to be registered or trained and approved. Willing parents can assist us in meeting our needs so no scout is denied participation purely because of lack of seats.

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

What: **Relay for Life – American Cancer Society**

When: **Friday, May 3rd @ 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm**

Where: Roswell High School, 11595 King Road, Roswell, GA 30075  
**(Campsite #22, near Silent Auction and Centennial High School campsites on turf)**



Register: There are two ways to register:

- 1) Bring \$10 to troop meeting and sign participation list
- 2) Go to [www.roswellrelayforlife.org](http://www.roswellrelayforlife.org); view 'all teams' and you will see 'Troop 629 - BSA'. Join team!

Donation: \$10

### BSA Troop 629 Team Goal - \$500

**What is Relay for Life?** This is an organized, overnight community fundraising event where teams of people come for the evening and/or campout along the track and members of each team take turns walking around the track. During the evening there are laps dedicated to survivors and caregivers. Luminaria bags and candles are lit for the Luminaria Ceremony to honor loved ones who have passed or are still fighting the disease. Food, games and activities provide entertainment and build camaraderie and is a family-friendly environment for the entire community. The \$10 is a donation to the American Cancer Society who is making progress toward a future without cancer. Our fundraising efforts can make the world's largest fight for more birthdays continue.

All scouts are and their families are encouraged to attend. If you cannot attend and would like to donate, please see donation envelope at Monday's troop meeting.

This is a great way to earn Service Hours.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Way our Team Captain, Teresa Way at [tgibbs-way@att.net](mailto:tgibbs-way@att.net). You may also contact Louis D., our Scout in charge for Relay for Life at [vdeavers@gmail.com](mailto:vdeavers@gmail.com)



## ARE YOU A LITTLE LOOSE IN THE CAGE?

Now's your chance to be **ScoutSTRONG** and accept the **President's Fitness Challenge**

The **SCOUTstrong Presidential Active Lifestyle Award Challenge** will help you add activity to your life, and reward you when you do!

This challenge is for everyone associated with the Boy Scouts of America, including Scouts, Venturers, Parents, Volunteers, Council Staff, Board Members, Friends of Scouting, and BSA Alumni.

To earn the **SCOUTstrong PALA Challenge Award**, you are required to meet a daily activity goal of 30 minutes a day for adults and 60 minutes a day for kids under 18 for at least five days a week, for six out of eight weeks. Stick with the program and you'll earn an award in less than two months!

Visit <http://www.troop629.org/pala/index.htm> to get started!



Many **thanks to Cappy Foley** for providing the wonderful food at all of our Troop Court of Honor receptions for the past several years. Also **thank you to Helen Rettig** for all her help in our Eagle Courts of Honor receptions for our Eagle families. We need two volunteers to "step up" into these roles. It's a great way to connect with other 629 families. Please consider how you may contribute to the success of Troop 629 and contact MaryBeth Bierbaum, Troop Committee Chair at [marybeth@bierbaum.com](mailto:marybeth@bierbaum.com)

**Thanks to Dave Pendery** for his time and great work in coordinating our Webelos crossovers. We are thrilled to welcome over 24 new scouts to our Troop 629 family!

Also, **thanks to Karen Korshak**, our Troop Membership Chair, for her great work in welcoming our new scouts and their families

**Thanks to Eric Hoang** for also making sure our new scouts received their official Troop red t-shirt and name badge.

- ❖ **May Committee meeting will not be held this Sunday.** It will be rescheduled – date to be determined.
- ❖ Please consider donating any scout uniform clothing that your son no longer wears to our **Troop Lending Closet**. Wendy Kraemer is collecting and items will be on display during May and June to help boys get outfitted for summer camp. Remember, the price is right! **FREE!** **Please see Wendy or Mary Beth Bierbaum at any troop meeting to donate items or to shop!**

**Our Troop Court of Honor is this Monday, May 6 at 7:15pm.** **ALL** parents are encouraged to attend to support not only their own son's advancement but all of our boys' accomplishments since our last COH in January. If your son has received a rank advancement since January, **HE will be recognized in front of everyone along with YOU, his parents!** So parents are highly encouraged to attend. Also please note that all boys will be recognized for any merit badges they have earned since our last COH in January.

**Eagle Courts of Honor: Chappell Foley will celebrate his Eagle Court of Honor THIS Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.** The ceremony will be held on North Campus in room S305 (upstairs from our normal meeting location). **Christopher Bertrand will celebrate his Eagle Court of Honor on Monday evening, May 6<sup>th</sup>** immediately following the Troop Court of Honor. Please make sure to congratulate these Eagle Scouts!

## 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](mailto:Jason@GrubbyBoys.com)



**The River**, which is the **Chattahoochee District Monthly Newsletter** is available at this link: <http://www.cdbsa.org/River/2013/CDBSA-2013-04.pdf>  
To subscribe to the newsletter go here: <http://www.cdbsa.org/join/index.shtm>

## Highlights, Deadlines and Dates

### Upcoming Troop Board of Review: May 20, 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](mailto:Kathleen@narayanan.us) **Reminder: Full Class "A" uniform and Scout handbook are required for participation in a Board of Review.**

### Upcoming Events

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Relay for Life night

**May 17<sup>th</sup>:** Atlanta Area Council Encampment at Bert Adams Scout Res.

**June 16-22<sup>nd</sup>:** Summer Camp at Woodruff Scout Reservation

## ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

### May

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Relay for Life

**May 3-5<sup>th</sup>:** Northern Tier prep weekend

**May 3-5<sup>th</sup>:** OA Ordeal Woodruff

**May 6<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Court of Honor~ **All parents and families plan to attend**

**May 9<sup>th</sup>:** District Roundtable

**May 13<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting~ **SPL/PL Elections night 7:15-8:45**

**May 14<sup>th</sup>:** Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.

**May 16<sup>th</sup>:** PLC Annual Planning Meeting

**May 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>:** Atlanta Area Council Encampment weekend

**May 20<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting~Board of Review 7:15-8:45

**May 26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>:** NYLT week #1

**May 27<sup>th</sup>:** **No meeting due to Memorial Day**

**May 29<sup>th</sup>:** ILST Leadership Training

### June

**June 2-7<sup>th</sup>:** NYLT week#2

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

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.

June 9<sup>th</sup>: NYLT week #3

June 10<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.

June 13<sup>th</sup>: District Roundtable

June 16<sup>th-22nd</sup>: Summer Camp at Woodruff

June 24<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.

Calendar and Web Site Information~  Check out [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org)

Each monthly outing 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 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:** Jacob K.

 **STAR:** Drew H., Colin O., and Connor S.

 **FIRST CLASS:** Ashwin R. and Matthew W.

 **SECOND CLASS:** Curran M. and Will S.

 **TENDERFOOT:** Jason H. and Spencer S.

 **SCOUT:** Jackson C., Matthew G., Luis G., Adam K., Nick M., Vumsee P., Eric R., Wesley S., Ryan T., and Thomas T.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!**

*And thank you to the parents who sat on the Board of Review this month  
and continued thanks to Mrs. Narayanan*

## 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](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.**

## District Training News



### MyScouting.org

Leader Specific Training modules are now available online at [MyScouting.org](http://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](mailto:Kathleen@narayanan.us)**

## **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](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.

### **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](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.

## Additional 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

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>