



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 629

## NEWSLETTER

### June 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

Congratulations to our new youth leadership team headed by our returning SPL, Vijay N. Already hard at work, they have planned out next year's scouting calendar which is posted on our web site for everyone to begin utilizing. We have a busy summer of scouting for many: starting off with 13 attending National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) and 5 serving on that council program staff, a crew heading to Northern Tier canoeing adventure in Minnesota, 3 heading to New Mexico for the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) course and of course most of our scouts looking for a summer camp adventure at Woodruff and another Scout working on camp staff at BASR. A variety of programs are coming up so the outing in scouting is strong and opportunities for all exist. Look for the new flyers at meetings AND on our Troop web site: [www.troop629.org](http://www.troop629.org)

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



Thanks to a generation gift from the Rettig family, we have a replacement open bed trailer. With generous support from John Rausch, it has been modified for our special needs and we are back on the road for hauling Scout gear and supporting our Troop trips. The trailer was already used to support a scout Eagle project and we are all grateful! We have a spare tire and rim (size ST175/80D13) yet to be obtained but we are otherwise well on the way to mitigating our loss. Thank you Rettig and Rausch families! And thank you Mr. Gillis and Mr. Herring for your time and efforts toward the trailer modification as well.

- ❖ Thanks to Dirk Loedding for heading up our Camp Cards. We thank those boys/families that participated as many boys earned some money for their HA accounts.
- ❖ **Summer meetings starting June 3<sup>rd</sup> are relocated to the south campus family life center (gym) building A. Please enter up the back metal exterior stair case.** Remember summer is a great time to advance because every Monday meeting is a Game Night. Attire for summer is the red Scout t-shirt and CLOSED toe shoes! We will return to north campus studio A and Class A attire when school starts back up in August.
- ❖ Our **Sea Base sailing crew for St Thomas is now filled** and if we have more interest we can seek **out another crew as well.** Just need two adults who will complete all the training and six more scouts to make it happen. Let us know as soon as possible if you are interested.
- ❖ Scout policy wants us to make sure we have **no open toe shoes** being worn by any of scouts at any time except in the showers. This means closed toe shoes at all times for meetings, activities and even going to the showers. **Crocs have been added to the no open toe shoe list as well.** So please do not bring Crocs to summer camp.
- ❖ The **lending closet is available** for those who would like to donate and/or use gently used scout clothing. Scout shorts and pants are available in a variety of sizes as well as troop red t-shirts. We also have a few scout 'class A' shirts. Please check your closets at home and see if your scout has outgrown any of his scout wear and feel free to donate. It is as easy as bringing in a bag of clothing to the next



meeting. For those of you who have donated, thank you so much! We are also accepting other types of clothing and/or equipment that would be helpful such as: hiking pants, internal/external backpacks, sleeping bags, etc. Are you looking for a way to help our troop? We are in need of a couple of folks to assist with the lending closet which is a great way to help the scout and his family. If interested, please contact Wendy at [wlkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlkraemer@bellsouth.net).

- ❖ In our recent Court of Honor **Gregg Brasher was recently recognized for his role as District Chairman** with the Chattahoochee District for the last several years. In addition, Gregg was presented with the God & Service Award for his involvement with Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church, our troop's chartered organization, which includes encouraging scouts to grow within their own faith and to accept others regardless of faith. Thank you Gregg for your many hours devoted to the scouting program.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If anyone is interested in helping in the following areas, please contact Mary Beth Bierbaum ([marybeth@bierbaum.com](mailto:marybeth@bierbaum.com)/770-442-5306) as soon as possible:

- Popcorn Coordinator for the Troop
- Court of Honor Refreshments
- Eagle Scout Neckerchief seamstress
- Eagle Scout Ceremony Hostess
- Relay for Life Troop Co-Coordinator for Spring 2014



## Summer Camp

**Please help your son be prepared for summer camp!**

Details regarding drop off, packing list, maps etc. can be found on the Troop Website (on the home page/right hand side of page under "what's new"/summer camp info)

Remember care packages can be given to a T629 leader in advance. Label the notes/packages with Scout name/Troop 629 and desired date of delivery! Mail Call is very important to 1<sup>st</sup> year Scouts. ☺



For any questions regarding Summer Camp please contact Jason Sutton at the following email address [Jason@GrubbyBoys.com](mailto:Jason@GrubbyBoys.com)

## Highlights, Deadlines and Dates

**Upcoming Troop Board of Review: June 24th**

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**

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

**July 17<sup>th</sup>:** Six Flags White Water outing

July 20<sup>th</sup>: Broad River Kayaking trip

## ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

### 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. Summer location! Family Life Gym South Campus!

June 7<sup>th</sup>- 11<sup>th</sup>: Twilight camp support

June 9-14<sup>th</sup> : NYLT week #3

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

June 12<sup>th</sup>: Leadership Training 4 p.m. ILST room 21

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

June 16<sup>th-22nd</sup>: Summer Camp at Woodruff : No regular meeting on the 17th

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

### July

July 1<sup>st</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.

July 7<sup>th</sup>: Troop Committee Meeting 6 p.m.

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

July 11<sup>th</sup>: District Roundtable

July 15<sup>th-24th</sup> : National Jamboree West Virginia

July 15<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m. ~Board of Review

July 17<sup>th</sup>: Six Flags White Water Day

July 18<sup>th</sup>: Patrol Leaders Council

July 20<sup>th</sup>: Broad Creek Kayak trip

July 22<sup>nd</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.

July 29<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.

July 31<sup>st</sup>- August 7<sup>th</sup>: Northern Tier High Adventure

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


Each monthly outing for the next 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 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: none

 STAR: none

 FIRST CLASS: none

 SECOND CLASS: none

 TENDERFOOT: none

 SCOUT: Jackson P., Will P., and Connor S.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!**



## SCOUTS IN ACTION



**Relay for Life night**



**Renaissance Festival**



**Renaissance Festival**

**Check out all the new pictures on the Troop Website!**

# 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. **Summer is a great time to complete Merit Badges because every Monday night is game night!**
- ❖ 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

### 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>