



Photo by Jason Sutton Northern Tier, Summer 2014

# BOY SCOUT TROOP 629

## NEWSLETTER

### September 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**

It's an absolutely busy time for all which is even more of a reason to run a consolidated calendar. A balance between other activities and Scouts can be accomplished by sitting down with the calendars and deciding on a participation 'plan of action' for sharing the various events. Really decide which is more important for the future and what you may be missing over what you actually may be doing.

Yes, the road forward is not easy but if it was not challenging, then it wouldn't be recognized as such a potential accomplishment: noteworthy to your future success and recognized by so many throughout the country.

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

- ❖ **Many service opportunities and extra outings outside the Troop schedule are available.** **Nolan R. needs help with his Eagle Project on Saturday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>.** Starting at 9 a.m. at 4955 Avalon Ridge Parkway. Contact Nolan with questions. Also check the bulletin board. Also upcoming is a weekend to help the Cub Scout program, Cub-o-Ree Sep 20-22. A flier is on the table.
- ❖ **High Adventure opportunities for summer 2014:** Will you be 14 by Aug of 2014? Do you want to participate in a high adventure sailing (Sea Base), backpacking (Philmont) or canoeing (Northern Tier) trip? Make sure the SM knows you are interested so as we work out details we can make sure you are part of any plan.
- ❖ We want to remind everyone that our **2014 Troop dues are due by September 16, 2013.** The amount is \$75.00 and checks should be made payable to "Troop 629". The dues for all adults registered with our troop are \$25.00. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Troop Committee Chair, Mary Beth Bierbaum ([marybeth@bierbaum.com/770-442-5306](mailto:marybeth@bierbaum.com/770-442-5306)).
- ❖ **Advancement News:** There is a new PowerPoint slide show on the Troop Website PLC page (the green bars) that explains Service, Leadership and Participation requirements for 1<sup>st</sup> Class and higher scout ranks. Check it out! <http://www.troop629.org/plc/index.htm>
- ❖ Lost and found and exchange items are in the lending closet. Check it out for a smarter way to outfit a scout.
- ❖ **Gold Rush Rendezvous** will be an elaborate weekend of two nights of camping in the north Georgia Mountains. There will be all kinds of fun and challenging activities which will include panning for gold! We need adults to not only help behind the scenes prior to the event but we also need adults to help during the weekend of the event. Please mark your calendar for the upcoming meetings on Wednesdays, **September 11th and October 9th.** Both meetings will be from 7pm-8pm in room A006 - South Campus. Please come and be a part of the planning. Please see display at the next troop meeting or email Wendy at [wlkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlkraemer@bellsouth.net)

- ❖ If a scout is a grub master for a trip the normal process is to sign up, use the budget and list provided for shopping and turn in the receipt for reimbursement at the next troop meeting. Please note however that a pre check can be obtained if necessary.

## Merit Badge Clinic

**Date:** October 26, 2013

**Time:** 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM

**What:** The 10TH Annual Merit Badge University (Boy & Girl Scout Program)

**Where:** Kennesaw State University

Event Details: <http://meritbadge.info/mbn/EventDetails.aspx?ID=94A9D4E8-1666-4219-A456-866E85567DD7>

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)) so he can register on line and arrange for carpool. The fee is \$13 to attend. Breakfast and a drink will be provided at no-charge thanks to a donation by Chick-fil-a.

## 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.

## Highlights, Deadlines and Dates

### Upcoming Troop Board of Review: September 16th

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

**September 13-15<sup>th</sup>:** National Whitewater Center, N.C.

**October 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>:** Huntington Beach Trip, SC

# ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

## September

**September 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Special holiday Meeting  
**September 8<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Committee Meeting  
**September 9<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.  
**September 10<sup>th</sup>:** Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.  
**September 11<sup>th</sup>:** Gold Rush Rendezvous Planning Meeting  
**September 12<sup>th</sup>:** District Roundtable  
**September 13-15<sup>th</sup>:** National Whitewater Center, N.C.  
**September 14<sup>th</sup>:** Nolan R. Eagle Project Work Day (service hour's opportunity)  
**September 16<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 ~Board of Review  
**September 19<sup>th</sup>:** Patrol Leaders Council  
**September 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>:** Cub Scout Cub o Ree (service hour's opportunity)  
**September 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.  
**September 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>:** Duty to God Encampment  
**September 28<sup>th</sup>:** Allatoona Clean Up day  
**September 30<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.

## October








**October 6<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Committee Meeting  
**October 7<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 Popcorn Orders Due!!!  
**October 8<sup>th</sup>:** Merit Badge Help Night 6 p.m.  
**October 9<sup>th</sup>:** Gold Rush Rendezvous Planning Meeting  
**October 10<sup>th</sup>:** District Roundtable  
**October 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>:** Huntington Beach S.C. trip  
**October 17<sup>th</sup>:** Patrol Leaders Council  
**October 21<sup>st</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45~ Board of Review  
**October 28<sup>th</sup>:** Newtown Park Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 (A great night of fun and games!)

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:** Jordan M.  
 **FIRST CLASS:** none  
 **SECOND CLASS:** Alex J.  
 **TENDERFOOT:** none  
 **SCOUT:** Cole U.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!**

# VOLUNTEER NEWS

*Our volunteers....what makes T629 Great!*



**Lending Closet** - Thank you Laura Hemauer for offering to help with the lending closet. Laura joins Denise Healy and will be organizing our donations for scout shirts, class A & B, and scout pants, etc. The donations will be available at the next Court of Honor.

**Court of Honor - Refreshments** - Thank you Debbie Caddell for joining Michelle Davis with the Troop Court of Honor Refreshments which were fantastic last month.

**Relay for Life**-Thank you to Lea Taylor for joining Virginia Deavers with the Relay for Life in May 2014.

**October Newtown Meeting**-The Monday before Halloween we have our Troop meeting at Newtown Park with all kinds of treats available for all such as caramel apples, cookies, hot apple cider and hot cocoa. We have two volunteers who have offered to help with this event, Leslie Gibson and Jen Schoenl. We will need more volunteers to pull this together. Please look for sign-up sheets at the Court of Honor in August. If you can bring cookies, apples, or a Crockpot with hot caramel, please contact Wendy Kraemer.

**Eagle Court of Honor Hostesses**-We want to thank Sue Ann Rhodes, Leslie Gibson, and Jen Schoenl for volunteering to help with the Eagle Court of Honor Ceremonies. They join Judy Semones and will work together (with setup, serving and cleanup)to make the Eagle COH a nice celebration.

**Gold Rush Rendezvous** will be an elaborate weekend of two nights of camping in the north Georgia Mountains. There will be all kinds of fun and challenging activities which will include panning for gold! We need adults to not only help behind the scenes prior to the event but we also need adults to help during the weekend of the event. Please mark your calendar for the upcoming meetings on Wednesday, September 11th and October 9th. Both meetings will be from 7pm-8pm in room A006 - South Campus. Please come and be a part of the planning. Please see display at the next troop meeting or email Wendy at [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net)

If you are interested in any of the areas above, please see Wendy Kraemer at the next meeting or email [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net) or reach out to our Committee Chair Mary Beth Bierbaum at [marybeth@bierbaum.com](mailto:marybeth@bierbaum.com).

## 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>

## 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/Kathryn Cline at [629kroger@gmail.com](mailto:629kroger@gmail.com)** 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 her.



### **High Adventure Accounts: Current Fundraiser~ Popcorn Sales!**

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>