



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

October 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

These busy times at home, school, church and scouts is just a great opportunity to get a handle on time management even at these early stages of life for scouts. Knowing how to prioritize those efforts that will pay off in long the term; and gaining from the values and morale behavior you want to be known for is some serious business. Dedicating your time solely to one type of activity needs to be looked at as to what it really contributes to your overall character. Are you really significantly contributing during a short few hours at the loss of an entire weekend of scouting outings? Dedicating all your spare time to one event even week after week when the other activities are only once in that month! Look at our website and calendar and decide the right activity for your personal growth.

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

### Gold Rush Rendezvous - November 8th - 10th

All scouts are asked to participate in the Gold Rush weekend event which will be held at the Pine Valley Recreation Field just outside of Dahlonega, GA. This is an elaborate weekend of two nights of camping in the north Georgia Mountains. There will be all kinds of fun activities which will include patrol challenges, obstacle courses, and panning for gold! Our troop is hosting the event for the district and we have room for more volunteers. We will be meeting on a weekly basis after the troop meeting to go over our agenda, have volunteers sign-up for areas of interest and plan. Please come and be a part of the planning. For more information see Wendy at the next troop meeting or email at [wkraemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:wkraemer@bellsouth.net). **Gold Rush Weekly Meetings after Troop Meeting:**

Mondays, 8:45 – 9:15 – Lounge Area (next to our troop meeting area)



### National Forest and Northern Georgia Trail Hike - November 2nd - 3rd

This is a great opportunity to hike the north GA trails. We will depart as a group and split into two smaller groups with the first group being for the more experienced hikers with a longer more challenging trail while the second group will be for the not so experienced hikers. We all meet up at the same destination for the evening and camp as patrols. **Do you need to borrow a backpack, pad, and/or a tent for this?** Please let us know ahead of time so you can test the backpack prior to this event. We have several items in our trailer and/or storage closet that you can use and also know several folks who will be happy to lend you equipment.

- ❖ We want to remind everyone that our **2014 Troop dues are past due.** The amount is \$75.00 per Scout for the entire year 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)).
- ❖ **Grub Master Details-** If your scout is working on the requirements to purchase food for an outing, here is the plan that we follow: The Scout buys the items from the list provided with no substitutions or changes. The scout works from the budget provided and turns in his receipts at the next meeting for reimbursement. If a household needs the cash up front, please let us know so we can get you a check in advance.

- ❖ The next **Troop Committee Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.
- ❖ The troop has a **camping gear lending closet and uniform exchange**. Let us know if you need to look at the items and where we can help.
- ❖ **Scout Master Reminder**- For weekend outings we normally meet in the parking lot of south campus. This helps us avoid church activities and traffic when we return from our trips.



- ❖ If you are interested in a **high Adventure activity in 2014** we really need your deposit to hold that spot for you at Sea Base, Northern Tier and or Philmont. Make sure we know your intent and so we get you on the info update list for those events.

- ❖ **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>
- ❖ **Gold Rush Rendezvous**-We need parental and scout support for the newly added District Camporee at Pine Valley Nov 8-10, Gold Rush Rendezvous. Contact Mrs. Kraemer to give your support as we need to get all the logistics worked out. Sharing the effort with all our team makes for a great event for all.

### 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)** 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: October 21<sup>st</sup>

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

**November 2-3<sup>rd</sup>:** AT Backpacking Trip

**November 8-10<sup>th</sup>:** District Gold Rush Rendezvous- All T629 requested to attend and volunteer!

## ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

### 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 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!)

### November

**November 2-3<sup>rd</sup>:** AT Backpacking Trip

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Troop committee Meeting 6 p.m.

**November 4<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m.

**November 8-10<sup>th</sup>:** District Gold Rush Rendezvous- **All T629 requested to attend and volunteer!**

**November 11<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 SPL/PL Elections

**November 12<sup>th</sup>:** Merit Badge help Night 6 p.m.

**November 13<sup>th</sup>:** ILST 5-9 p.m.

**November 14<sup>th</sup>:** District Roundtable

**November 16<sup>th</sup>:** Autry Mill Service Day

**November 18<sup>th</sup>:** Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 ~Board of Review

**November 21<sup>st</sup>:** Patrol Leaders Council

**November 25<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 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:** Brandon B. and Brandon S.
- 🌟 **STAR:** Briggs C.
- 👤 **FIRST CLASS:** none
- 👤 **SECOND CLASS:** none
- 👤 **TENDERFOOT:** Connor N. and Wesley S.
- 👤 **SCOUT:** none

*CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!*

## SCOUTS IN ACTION



*Helen Tubing and...  
National Whitewater Center,  
Charlotte, NC*

# VOLUNTEER NEWS

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



**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. If you can bring cookies, apples, or a Crockpot with hot caramel, please contact Wendy Kraemer.

**Gold Rush Rendezvous**-We need parental and scout support for the newly added District Camporee at Pine Valley Nov 8-10, Gold Rush Rendezvous. Contact Mrs. Kraemer to give your support as we need to get all the logistics worked out. Sharing the effort with all our team makes for a great event for all. [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://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>

## 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>