

BOY SCOUT TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

June 2014

*This newsletter is intended for Troop 629 scouts and their families.
All Newsletters, pictures and up to date information are at
www.troop629.org*



T629 Georgia Aquarium overnight



Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Closing out another scouting year; and congratulations to our newest T-629 Eagle scout, Logan Wolk! Next time you see Logan give him an "attay boy" and hopefully you can celebrate with him later in the summer when we make his medal presentation. We start off the next year of scouting with a new PLC to be led by Jacob Korshak our newest SPL and congratulations to him for being elected as our youth leader. Hard at work already the new PLC has outlined the troop program calendar for 2014-15 and it is posted on our web site already for all to use.

Upcoming events- Something for everyone:

(Flyers are available for each outing on the Events tab on the web site.)

- Troop Summer Camp at Woodruff June 15th-21st
- Whitewater Park July 16th
- Kayak Trip on the Broad River July 19th
- Dauset Trail Outing August 15th-17th
- Helen Tubing August 30th



Troop 629 News...Hot off the Press!

- ❖ The technical knowledge orientation program called STEM/NOVA is available for all scouts. Details on-line at (<http://www.bsaseabase.org/Scouting/stem.aspx>). See the SM once you have reviewed the materials and need a counselor or mentor to start working on those special awards.
- ❖ There will not be a Troop Committee meeting for the month of July.
- ❖ **Due to construction delays we will continue to meet on North Campus, Studio A (regular meeting spot) for the month of June. We will not move to FLC (Family Life Center) on South Campus until July.** Please check the website prior to meetings in July for exact location of the meeting as things may change due to construction over the summer.
- ❖ **Remember attire for summer meetings is the red troop t-shirt and CLOSED TOE SHOES!** Summer meetings are typically Game Nights.
- ❖ Any adult interested in helping with a troop position, please contact Mary Beth Bierbaum (marybeth@bierbaum.com/770.442.5306). We have several positions we are trying to fill. Our plan is to have all new people shadow current committee heads so training time will be included in the position transfer.

Reminders

- ❖ **Lending Closet:** 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. We have a new addition to our troop website which shows you not only the clothing and equipment that is available to borrow and/or to donate to the troop but also instructions on the process. Please view at: <http://www.troop629.org/about/lending.htm>.
- ❖ **Don't forget to refer to our web site regularly.** As always, all of our events are listed with separate info sheets and we are making corrections and clarifications weekly. Look for updates on what constitutes participation requirements and leadership completion forms. The calendar is updated as soon as we know a change. Thanks Mr. Bodamer for keeping our website up to the minute!
- ❖ **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.

ARE YOU READY FOR SUMMER CAMP?

Our troop will attend Summer Camp at Woodruff Scout Reservation June 15th – 21st.

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

Don't forget "mail call" occurs each day during camp. A simple note, a piece of candy (non melting), or \$2 for a slurpee goes a long way in telling your son that you are thinking of him and support his scouting efforts.

Important Information about Health Forms

As we are gearing up for Summer Camp, we will be collecting and updating health forms for both our scouts and registered adults. Forms for all those attending summer camp are due May 5th. A few important pieces of information to keep in mind when you update your forms:

1. It is against BSA policy to accept or store health information via electronic means. You must bring in a hard COPY of forms for us to file.
2. There are times when the C form is needed outside of troop activities, BE SURE to keep a copy of the form with the Doctor signature, DO NOT hand in your only form. We store the forms in a secure locked area, and cannot always get them quickly with only a few days' notice and make a copy. PLEASE help us to make this big job MUCH easier by keeping a copy of your forms at home, both for outside events or in case we need to replace a misfiled copy.
3. Before sending in forms please look them over and make sure all parts of the form have the appropriate signatures and are dated where indicated. Every year we have to track down dozens of parents for unsigned or undated forms.
4. If you need to get a copy completed of your form and your personal physician is not an option, check around for nearby places such as Walgreens, Wellstreet, or other family practices doing specials for inexpensive "sports physicals".

The health form and information can be found via this link

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/healthandsafety/ahmr.aspx>

If you have any questions about Health Forms you can email Pam Sutton at pam@grubbyboys.com

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: June 23rd

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.**

ORGANIZE YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR

June

June 1-6th: NYLT week #2

June 1st: Troop Committee Meeting 6 p.m.

June 2nd: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m. North Campus/normal location

June 8th-13th: NYLT week #3

June 9th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 p.m. **North Campus/normal location**

June 14th: NYLT tear down

June 15th-21st: Troop Summer Camp at Woodruff

June 16th: **No meeting due to summer camp**

June 19th: Patrol Leaders Council

June 21-July 3rd: Philmont High Adventure

June 23rd: Troop Meeting~Board of Review 7:15-8:45 **Family Life Center (south campus)**

June 30th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 Family Life Center (south campus)

July

July 7th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 Family Life Center (south campus)

July 10th: Patrol Leaders Council

July 14th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 Family Life Center (south campus)

July 16th: Whitewater Park

July 17th: District Roundtable

July 19th: Broad River Kayak day trip

July 21st: Troop Meeting~Board of Review 7:15-8:45 Family Life Center (south campus)

July 27th-Aug 5th: Northern Tier High Adventure Trip

July 28th: Troop Meeting 7:15-8:45 Family Life Center (south campus)

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

Each monthly outing for the upcoming 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

SCOUT HANDSHAKE

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

- 🏹 **EAGLE:** Logan Wolk
- 👤 **LIFE:** none
- 🌟 **STAR:** none
- 👤 **FIRST CLASS:** Matthew L.
- 👤 **SECOND CLASS:** none
- 👤 **TENDERFOOT:** none
- 👤 **SCOUT:** none

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!

SCOUTS IN ACTION

Remember all troop pictures are posted 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 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 qualified.

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** *This is Scouting* (Formerly called New Leader Essentials), SALT, ITOLS and/or Committee Training. Information on these training opportunities is available on the Northern Ridge 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.**

EARNING POWER



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.

GOOD TO KNOW

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 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 **Northern Ridge 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

"This is Scouting" formerly called New Leader Essentials for Boy Scout Leaders www.cdbsa.org Training tab

SALT - Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leadership Training www.cdbsa.org Training tab

ITOLS - Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills www.cdbsa.org Training tab