
TROOP 629 NEWSLETTER

June 2015

*This newsletter is intended for
Troop 629 Scouts and their families.*

All newsletters, pictures and up-to-date information are
at www.troop629.org

****IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THE TROOP NEWSLETTER OR
OTHER TROOP COMMUNICATIONS, PLEASE EMAIL:
Kathryn Cline, Troop Communications at k.cline@earthlink.net**



Above: The Troop 629 May outing to the Renaissance Festival brought old world adventure and entertainment to life...keep reading for more news and pics!



Left: The Scouts enjoyed the addition of an overnight campout to the trip...what a great opportunity to put their Scouting skills to good use!



Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scout, Jacob Korshak. Jacob successfully sat for his Eagle Board and now joins the Troop 629 flock. Pass along your "atta-boy" next time you see him; a special Court of Honor will be scheduled in the future. Exciting times have begun this summer for many Scouts. A Sea Base High Adventure Trip to the Bahamas has already been completed and many of our youth are participating in National Youth Leadership Training experience and one even serving on staff at Bert Adams Scout Reservation. Summer Camp for many others is fast-approaching, so please make sure you have all your questions answered ahead of time for a rewarding week at camp at Woodruff Scout Reservation in North Georgia.

Good to know (from the Scoutmaster)...

- The Patrol Leader's Council has completed its annual planning for the next year. The draft calendar is updated through June 2016 on the Troop web site. No excuse for missing any activity, as we are ahead of many others in posting those events for your planning purposes.
- There are two High Adventure experiences for those who will be 14 NEXT summer. A \$100 deposit holds a slot for you to attend the Bahamas trip over Fulton County Spring Break in April and an end of June backpacking trip through the Rocky Mountains of New Mexico, a.k.a. Philmont.

...more good to know info

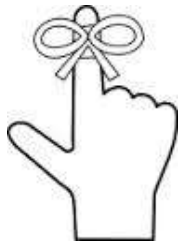
- Summer Meetings are held at the same time BUT over at the South Campus Family Life Center. Come up the fire escape stairs in the back next to the sports fields. Scouts only need their red scout shirts for game nights and advancement help.
- A reminder, Scouts attend summer camp with their parents dropping them off AT Camp Woodruff around 1pm. Details and packing list are online at the Troop web site.
- Please keep us informed of any changes to phone numbers, addresses and other details so we can have an accurate roster and contact information.

Summer is a great time for advancement !

- Parents not sure of the **Advancement Process** in our Troop should review the advancement note page on our Troop web site. A *Scout* is responsible for their *own advancement* at their *own pace*, and a parent knowing the guidelines will *support* the Scout's positive progress towards Eagle rank. Be sure to check out the expectations for participation in meetings and outings.



We are always planning for the next activity and need feedback ASAP. Remember that we are asking for **CONFIRMATION TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE**. This allows **EVERYONE** to plan ahead. *Please at least send in the permission slip as soon as possible*, we can catch up with cost later. No scout should miss out on adventure due to cost, as we have a scholarship service hour program for them to all earn their way... just work with the Scoutmaster.



Don't forget to use the troop website to keep up-to-date on all activities – it's refreshed each time we have a change, and event flyers are posted with all the details. Go to the "Events" tab, then click on the event or activity for the flyer/form. www.troop629.org

Upcoming events:

(These are just a few **highlights** - the Calendar on our Troop web site is updated regularly, so check it often! Flyers typically available for each outing under the "Events" tab on our Troop web site and at every meeting.)

- PLC Meeting 6/11 - - - MOVED to take place at Summer Camp
- Summer Camp @ Woodruff June 14-20 (NO Troop Meeting 6/15)
- Six Flags/White Water Outing 7/14
- Broad Creek Kayaking 7/18
- World Jamboree in Japan 7/28-8/8

**Be sure to pay attention to announcements at the Troop meetings, and check the Troop web site Calendar regularly for updates and additional information. www.troop629.org



Adult Volunteers We Need You!

If you can spare some time to support our Troop 629 Scouts in any way, please contact Troop Committee Chair, Mary Beth Bierbaum at marybeth@bierbaum.com

Thank you to all those adults who serve as leaders and chaperones for our Troop at Camp, NYLT, weekly meetings and outings...

Couldn't do it without you!



Summer Camp

Our troop will attend Summer Camp at Woodruff Scout Reservation June 14th-20th. Please help your son be prepared for summer camp with these last few items:

- Please arrive at Woodruff around 12:30pm on Sunday the 14th, but no later than 1pm. We'll be "on the move" after our 1pm check-in so please don't hold up the troop!
- Mail/Care packages can be turned in at check-in. Remember to have your son's name and the day of week (Sunday – Thursday) you want it given to him on the package. PLEASE only envelopes, zip-loc, bags or very small boxes – we have 67 boys going and can't handle large boxes. If you have a larger box please mail it to Woodruff, instructions are in the Summer Camp flyer.
- If your son will be taking medications, please bring them in the original container in a Ziploc bag, labeled. You will hand them in to Mrs. Sutton or Mr. Gutierrez at check-in.
- Remember to come up 575, do NOT follow your GPS up GA400! A map and directions are on the Troop website in the "Summer Camp Overview & Packing List" link.
- Pack list is on the website! Same document as the map in the above bullet.



For any questions regarding Summer Camp please contact Jason Sutton at Jason@GrubbyBoys.com or call/text 404.502.7537

Helpful 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. Thank you 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.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ **We would like to keep our contact information up-to-date for parents and scouts.** Please provide us with the e-mail your family prefers for Troop Communications AND if desired, please provide your Scout's e-mail so he may receive the Newsletter and other reminders directly as well. Likewise, please let us know if we need to remove any...none of us want and overfilled inbox.
- ❖ Before forwarding pictures of scouts and events to our webmaster for posting, **please remove duplicate pictures and non scout-like photos.** This will help tremendously.

The Merit Badge Process



- ❖ 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: July 20th (MB Help - available at weekly summer Troop Meetings)
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 2015 (stay tuned for additions and changes!)

June 1: Troop Meeting – Summer Location, South Campus-FLC

June 7: Troop Committee Meeting

June 7-12: NYLT Course 5 & 6

June 8: Troop Meeting @ FLC

June 11: PLC – **MOVED** to take place at Summer Camp

June 14-20: **SUMMER CAMP** – Woodruff Scout Reservation

June 15: **NO TROOP MEETING** (Summer Camp)

June 18: District Roundtable

June 19: NYLT Staff Party & Awards

June 20: NYLT Tear Down

June 22: Troop Meeting @ FLC

June 29: Troop Meeting @ FLC

July 2015

July 5: Color Guard for Services; Troop Committee Meeting - Cancelled

July 6: Troop Meeting @ FLC

July 9: PLC Meeting, 7-8pm, South Campus Room A011

July 11: CAAB MB's (Camp Allatoona Aquatics Base)

July 13: Troop Meeting @ FLC

July 14: *Six Flags White Water Outing*

July 16: District Roundtable

July 18: *Broad Creek Kayaking Outing*

July 20: Troop Meeting @ FLC; *Board of Review (bring your Class A Uniform)*

July 25: CAAB MB's

July 27: Troop Meeting @ FLC

July 28-August 8: *World Jamboree in Japan*

Calendar and Web Site Information ~  Check out the Troop web site at 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 Kathryn Cline, Troop Communications at k.cline@earthlink.net


SCOUT HANDSHAKE

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

 **EAGLE:** Jacob Korshak, 05-28-2015

 **LIFE:** none

 **STAR:** Connor Norris

 **FIRST CLASS:** Spencer Scharlatt

 **SECOND CLASS:** Harrison Boyd

 **TENDERFOOT:** Ian Griffith

 **SCOUT:** none

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU!

SCOUTS IN ACTION

Remember all troop pictures are posted on the troop website. <http://www.troop629.org/>

Stay tuned for pictures from the Bahamas Sea Base High Adventure Trip!



Even Waffle Cones and Coke take on Old World flair at the Renaissance Festival!



Above, it looks like a villain has captured the Scouts' attention...or perhaps he has captured a Scout at the Renaissance Festival!

Below, setting up camp!



Above, Scouts in line for an aMAZEing time!



Loads more fun in pictures at our Troop web site

<http://www.troop629.org/>

*Have you taken pictures at a Scouting event?
Be sure to share them with the Troop on the web site...
After you remove duplicates and non "Scout-like" pics.*

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 <http://www.northernridgebsa.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...what's your earning potential?

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.

Hot off the press...Camp Card Report!

**Our Top Seller this year was Matthew Loedding – Congratulations Matthew!

**This year, the Scouts selling cards averaged 30 each, with our Top Seller achieving a sales total of 500 cards!

**The Scouts of Troop 629 collected a total of \$8840, earning \$4420 toward their High Adventure accounts.

WAY TO GO SCOUTS!!!

And THANK YOU Mr. Loedding for running it this fundraiser!

Just in case you didn't 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 Scoutmaster 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 Northern Ridge 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](http://www.northernridgebsa.org/) (<http://www.northernridgebsa.org/>) and [Atlanta Area Council](http://www.atlantabsa.org) (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](http://www.mountpisgah.org) (www.mountpisgah.org).



Flyers & Links

**Our Troop Web Site is a terrific resource for all you need www.troop629.org
...here are a few links to help you out:**

BSA Online Learning Center <https://myscouting.scouting.org>

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

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

<http://www.northernridgebsa.org/> Training tab

SALT - Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leadership Training <http://www.northernridgebsa.org/>

Training tab

ITOLS - Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills <http://www.northernridgebsa.org/> training tab