
TROOP 629 NEWS **December 2016**

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



Pumping and filtering water

Keeping the OUTING in SCOUTING!



Having Fun!



Hanging packs in the trees

The last PLC meeting, the Lock-in and the final Board of Review for the year are behind us...

Up and Coming:

- ❖ **Merit Badge Help Night TONIGHT 12/13**
- ❖ **Troop White Elephant Gift Exchange and Holiday Party 12/20**
- ❖ **No Meeting Monday 12/27**
- ❖ **Christmas Tree Pick Up 12/31**

****All newsletters, pictures and up-to-date information are at www.troop629.org
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Scoutmaster Minute, by Mr. Gillis

With holidays in full swing it is also time to dust off those unfinished summer camp merit badges and dig into some new ones, especially with some family travel time making room to study the remaining requirements. All Scouts will begin using the new requirements this January and it's time for each Scout to make sure they have transitioned their old requirements into the new book, get updated sign offs, and make a plan to get their next rank.

It's also time to let us know some plans. Signing up for one of the ski trips or lock in gets us properly ready to handle or we may just may have to cancel if we do not have enough to finalize the logistics that make these trips work. Each family really needs to let us know when and if they are planning to participate.

Scouting is about outings as well as advancement. It's really a boring program for those who do not try to participate and at times decide that the Scouting activity is the one to choose to participate in. Thinking our activities are the last minute stuff to do just is not the way to plan, especially as our calendar has been published since May.

- ❖ We need some input as soon as possible to complete our travel plans for future trips. Please let us know if you are planning on joining us for the Jan 3-6 West Virginia ski trip or for Ventures New Hampshire ski trip Feb 17-20, 2017.
- ❖ Christmas Tree pick up service project is scheduled for Dec 31st. Share in the work effort and share in the proceeds to fatten your High Adventure account. Flyers are out!
- ❖ Our High Adventure trips are all coming together. The Sea Base trip to Florida Keys is full, while a few slots are available for the horseback Cavalcade trip to the Rocky Mountains in July at Philmont in New Mexico.
- ❖ Keep an eye out for any changes to any activity on our web site as we update the calendar and event sheets as we always have the latest information there.
- ❖ All Scouts will have to be using the new advancement requirements regardless of where they stand on their current rank starting Jan 1, 2017. New books have been distributed.

Our Annual holiday Troop Meeting is Monday, December 19th.



We are in need of snacks for the boys to enjoy during the meeting. If you haven't already signed up to send something and would like to, please email Mary Beth Bierbaum (marybeth@bierbaum.com) what you would like to send it. The boys look forward to these treats each year. Thank you in advance for the consideration!

*****Please remember that if you choose to bring a gift for the white elephant exchange, they are to be less than \$25 in value and NOT new! This is an activity of repurposing and recycling fun!***

A very special THANK YOU to Traci O'Sullivan and Erin Hayes for their great work in getting our Troop rechartered for 2017!

Troop Committee Update:

The Troop has some open Committee spots. Please contact Mary Beth Bierbaum (marybeth@bierbaum.com) if you are interested in learning more about these volunteer opportunities with our Troop:

*Lending Closet Coordinator

*Eagle Ceremony Reception Hosts/Hostesses

*Eagle Book Coordinator

*Communication/News Co-Chair

*Popcorn Co-Chair

*Scouting for Food Chair

Our Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Fundraiser will be Saturday 12/31. What a great way to wrap up the year! See flyers for details.



SCOUT HANDSHAKE

🦅 EAGLE~🦋 LIFE~🌟 STAR~👤 FIRST CLASS~👤 SECOND CLASS~👤 TENDERFOOT~🦋 SCOUT

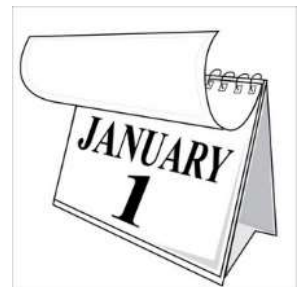


Eat TONS and take a nap.

Looks like we had too much turkey at Thanksgiving! We had no advancement completed in November...HOWEVER we had quite a large group this month, so be on the lookout for congratulations in January!



Mark your calendars for the new year!



Tuesday, December 13 6PM Merit Badge Help Night Front Steps, South Campus
Thursday, December 15 District Roundtable
Saturday, December 17 Patrol Outing/Service
Sunday, December 18 Patrol Outing/Service
Monday, December 19 Troop Holiday Party, Troop Meeting North Campus
Friday, December 23 School Break begins
Monday, December 26 NYLT course 9 begins, NO Troop Meeting
Saturday, December 31 TREE PICK UP

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Sunday, January 1, 2017 Troop Committee Meeting (to be rescheduled)
Tuesday, January 3-6, 2017 ski wv ???/Mercedes Plant
Sunday, January 8, 2017 ECOH Colon Olander 4pm@ Studio A, NYLT Staff Interview
Monday, January 9, 2017 school starts, Troop Meeting NC
Tuesday, January 10, 2017 6PM Merit Badge Help Night Front Steps, South Campus
Thursday, January 12, 2017 PLC NC S215 (7-8pm)
Saturday, January 14, 2017 UofS

2017 Continued...

Monday, January 16, 2017 MLK Holiday, NO meeting
Thursday, January 19, 2017 District RT
Sunday, January 22, 2017 ECOH Damani Philip 4pm@ Studio B
Monday, January 23, 2017 Board of Review, Troop Meeting NC
Friday, January 27-28, 2017 Zoo Atlanta Overnight
Saturday, January 28, 2017 Nothern Ridge Banquet
Sunday, January 29, 2017 Scouting for food bags
Monday, January 30, 2017 Court Of Honor, Troop Meeting NC

Flash Forward to February

Saturday, February 4, 2017 NYLT Staff Orient
Sunday, February 5, 2017 Scout Sunday, Troop Committee Meeting
Monday, February 6, 2017 Troop Meeting NC
Thursday, February 9, 2017 PLC NC S215 (7-8)
Saturday, February 11-12, 2017 Pine Mountain Backpacking
Sunday, February 12, 2017 ECOH Brandon Semones 3pm@ Autry Mill
Monday, February 13, 2017 Troop Meeting NC
Tuesday, February 14, 2017 6PM Merit Badge Help Night Front Steps
Thursday, February 16, 2017 District RT
Friday, February 17-20, 2017 venture ski nh
Monday, February 20, 2017 No Troop Meeting, President's Day Holiday
Saturday, February 25, 2017 NYLT Staff Dev 1, Reed Carlson Eagle
Sunday, February 26, 2017 ECOH Jordan Minchew @ Autry
Monday, February 27, 2017 Board of Review,
Troop Meeting NC

***Remember that ALL of this is on the web site,
and is updated as soon as any change is made!*

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DID YOU KNOW?

All of our Scouts are eligible to request scholarship support for Scouting activities. Scholarship money is only earned through outside service work AFTER approval by the ScoutMaster and for a specific activity. It is not added for routine Troop-approved service activities and is not just added to a High Adventure account to build up the total funds the Troop maintains for each Scout. Routine Troop-sponsored service work is utilized for advancement requirements and is an important part of our Scouting commitments.

ADVANCEMENT <http://www.troop629.org/advancement/index.htm>

Don't forget that there is a new Scout Handbook. The new rules go into effect 2017, even if you have already started a Merit Badge. Please see Mrs. Narayanan if you have any questions about how this affects you.

RSVP for ACTIVITIES <http://www.troop629.org/events/index.htm>

We ask that you please submit your RSVP form for Troop activities 2 Mondays prior to the event... that gives us about 10 days to finalize the details with a solid number of participants. We would like to be able to give everyone as much notice as possible, and having a final count in advance will help tremendously in arranging for needed adult volunteers, drivers, food, etc.!

High adventure <http://www.troop629.org/Adventure/index.htm>

Did you know that we start planning these over a year in advance? That's what it takes to secure a spot for our Troop to participate in Sea Base, Northern Tier, Philmont, Summit, or the new Cavalcade. Parents, please come on in to the Troop meetings and take a look at the info flyers on the table. All the flyers and related info are also posted on the Troop web site. Adults are needed for High Adventure too, and special training is required and well worth the fun!

Life to Eagle <http://www.troop629.org/advancement/lifetoeagle.htm>

Check the Troop web site to see where you are in the process. Mrs. Narayanan has updated everyone's records. Please be sure to follow the directions for the Eagle advancement process, it will help you be sure to get everything done on time.



Den Chiefs:

Looking for a leadership position? A great way to serve and have some fun in the process is to be a Den Chief for a local Cub Scout Den. See or email Mr. Calvert if you're interested. Stouf29@yahoo.com



Popcorn Fundraiser:

Popcorn sales earned the Troop over \$1700! Thanks to our Popcorn Kernel Mr. Myers (and Mrs. Myers!) for ensuring a successful fundraiser! Way to go Scouts!



Merit Badge Counselors:

Please remember to update your YPT training, we want to be sure we observe all Youth Protection rules at all times with all of our Adult Leaders and Scouts. See Mr. Gibson or Mr. Gillis with questions.