
TROOP 629 NEWS **April 2017**

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

Up and Coming:

- ❖ **Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Colin Olander 4/9**
- ❖ **Friends of Scouting Donation Deadline, 4/10**
- ❖ **Camp Card Sales Deadline, New Parent Night 4/17**

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

IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER OR OTHER TROOP COMMUNICATIONS,

PLEASE EMAIL: Kathryn Cline, Troop 629 Communications Chair at k.cline@earthlink.net



Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

A big thank you to all who helped me through my back surgery and recovering needs. It's just not words in the scouting movement but friends and actions that shows how many live the slogan and follow the oath in their daily lives. A faster recovery with so much good will.

Summer camp is probably the most important event in a new Scout's success in scouting. If a Scout is not able to go, it's important we discuss all available options for each Scout to include attending at another time or camp maybe as a provisional Scout. Please discuss with us all issues including maybe financial assistance so that each Scout has this important opportunity.

Adults can complete their "trained" options for position-specific items online when you use **scouting.org** after registration. The menu tab on the upper left gets you to your dashboard which will guide you into the training classes. Please let us know all completions so we can keep the local records up to date.

Each Scout is responsible for his own advancement and we keep track of those records, but do need a regular update for our Advancement Chair, Mrs. Narayanan. A Scout sets his own pace and the leaders are there to *help* but not to *do* for a Scout. Advancement can be accomplished at any time with proper communication for a Scout's particular need.

All our activities are updated regularly on the Troop web site, **www.troop629.org**. Our calendar is updated as changes are known. Upcoming activity flyers are in the "event" tab and we ask all Scouts to register as soon as possible so we can properly plan all the logistics for a great trip. Highlights of past trips are added to our "pictures" tab which helps all understand an activity better.

Wow! We have three approved high adventures being organized for 2018. Yes, a spot or two are available for Cavalcade horseback trip in Philmont for 2017. We need adults and Scouts who will be 14 by August 2018 to start making a deposit to hold your spot for Philmont backpacking in July, Sea Base in Bahamas for spring break and Northern Tier canoeing in July. All spots are first come with deposit to ensure a space. Act now.

All scouts are eligible to earn a religious award for their particular faith. Ask the SM how to arrange for their self-paced or special class to complete the requirements for their medal.

A note from Troop 629 Friends of Scouting Chair

Greetings Troop 629 Scout Parents:
THANK YOU!!



This year's Friends of Scouting initiative is going well - thanks to those of you who have already contributed - your generosity is most appreciated! We do have some VERY generous parents in our Troop!

IF you have not yet had the chance to contribute, please do so soon - the deadline has been extended -

NO LATER THAN MONDAY, APRIL 10th please!!!

Remember there are a lot of very deserving boys that your sons interact with in Scouts that come from homes where funds are not so readily available – Friends of Scouting benefits these boys! I am only writing to ask you to add Boy Scouts to your list of charitable causes that you support. I'd like to ask you to join me in a fully tax deductible contribution - you can pay by check to "Atlanta Area Council" and put Friends of Scouting at the bottom of the check or by credit card OR online at <http://www.atlantabsa.org/donatenow>.

ANY contribution is most appreciated, but \$280 will completely cover one Scout for a year! There are also some recognition "gifts" beginning at the \$280 level. Also please check with your company and see if they will match your gift! Mail your pledge card or donation to me at 6105 Poplar Spring Drive, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092 – or return it to me or Mary Beth Bierbaum at a Troop Meeting no later than April 10, 2017. Let's Finish Strong!! Thank you very much once again!!

Yours in Scouting,
Chris Reynolds (Alec's Dad)

Scout Handshake

SCOUT – TENDERFOOT – SECOND CLASS – FIRST CLASS – STAR – LIFE – EAGLE



Tenderfoot – Mason Ray

Star – Nick Rice

Life – Jermain Leon

***Congratulations to each of you
On achieving your next rank!***

Summer Camp!



Our troop will attend Summer Camp at Woodruff Scout Reservation June 18th-24th! \$100 deposit was due February 20th, next payment was March 20th. Please see Mr. Gutierrez with questions (see below).

****REGISTRATION FORMS WERE DUE MONDAY 3/20!!!****

All information regarding summer camp can be found on the website under the "Camping" tab at the top. Once on the Summer Camp 2017 page, check out the links on right hand side of the page. The "Informational Packet & Registration Forms" link contains all of the detail and logistics. Make sure we know that you want to attend and your desired classes so we can make that happen. **Sign up early to help ensure you get the classes you want as classes do fill up!** Registration forms must be turned in by Monday, March 20th! Annual Health & Medicals and additional Summer Camp forms are due Monday, May 8th.

For any questions regarding Summer Camp please contact Luis Gutierrez at 770 - 309 - 4451, at the following email address: twogutz@gmail.com, or stop by any Troop Meeting to discuss with him.



Important Information about Health Forms!



Please see Mrs. Sutton with questions (see below).

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 of those attending Summer Camp (scouts and adults) are due May 8th. 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 your health form for us to file.
2. There are times when part C of the health 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 copy. 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 your personal physician is not an option to complete the part C of the health form, check around for nearby places such as Walgreens, Well Street, 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>. Please choose the "Are You Going to Camp?" download link that includes part A, B, and C. If you have any questions about Health Forms you can email Pam Sutton at pam@grubbyboys.com.



Camp Cards Fundraiser

Camp Card Sales are wrapping up. All unsold cards and all money from cards sold is due at the 4/17 Troop meeting. If you are willing to put in the time, you could raise the money for your next High Adventure Trip! This is a terrific fundraising opportunity to fill your HA account.

Did you know? <http://www.troop629.org/calendar/index.htm>

The calendar has been posted for the rest of the year. Take a look ahead to see which adventures you don't want to miss! There's something out there for everyone! Have an idea? Let your PLC know!

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

By now, everyone should be working from the updated handbook. Please see Mrs. Narayana if you do not have one or if you have any questions about how this affects you and your rank.

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 give everyone as much notice as possible when planning and arranging for adult volunteers, drivers, and paying deposits.

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 back 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. Narayana 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 Mr. Calvert, or email him at stouf29@yahoo.com



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. Gillis with any questions.

Looking ahead...



**FULL Calendar on the troop web site www.troop629.org

APRIL

Sunday-Sunday, April 2-9 Fulton County Spring Break, Florida SeaBase
Monday, April 3 NO Meeting
Sunday, April 9 Colin Olander ECOH 4pm @ North Campus S305
Monday, April 10 Troop Meeting (North Campus)
Tuesday, April 11 6pm Merit Badge Help Night Front Steps (South Campus)
Thursday, April 13 PLC North Campus S215 (7-8pm)
Monday, April 17 Board of Review, New Parent Night, Troop Meeting (North Campus)
Thursday, April 20 District RoundTable
Saturday-Sunday, April 22-23 FDR Horseback/Callaway Tree Top/Safari
Sunday, April 23 Sam Warren ECOH 4pm @ North Campus S305
Monday, April 24 Troop Court of Honor, Troop Meeting (North Campus)
Friday-Sunday, April 28-30 NYLT Staff Dev 3

MAY

Monday, May 1 Troop Meeting (North Campus)
Friday-Sunday, May 5-7 OA Ordeal (Woodruff)
Sunday, May 7 Troop Committee Meeting
Monday, May 8 Summer Camp Parents Meeting, Troop Meeting (North Campus)
Tuesday, May 9 Merit Badge Help Night, 6pm (South Campus Front Steps)
Thursday, May 11 PLC, S215 (7-8pm North Campus)
Saturday, May 13 Renaissance Festival
Monday, May 15 Board of Review, Troop Meeting (North Campus)
Thursday, May 18 District Roundtable
Friday-Sunday, May 19-21 OA Ordeal (Bert Adams)
Saturday, May 20 NYLT Setup
Monday, May 22 SPL/PL elections, Troop Meeting (North Campus)
Thursday, May 25 ILST/PLC Annual Planning Meeting
Friday, May 26 School out for summer!
Sunday-Friday, May 28-June 2 NYLT Session #1
Sunday-Friday, June 4-June 9 NYLT Session #2

Coming Soon...

Parent's Corner: a monthly feature to help you guide your Scout along his journey