
TROOP 629 NEWS **March 2018**

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

Up and Coming:

- ❖ Huntsville Space Center, 3/9-3/11
- ❖ Merit Badge Help Night, 3/13
- ❖ Eagle Court of Honor, Louis Deavers, 3/18
- ❖ Board of Review, 3/19

All newsletters, pictures and up-to-date information are at www.troop629.org
IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THE NEWLETTER OR OTHER TROOP COMMUNICATIONS,
PLEASE EMAIL: Kathryn Cline, Troop 629 Communications Chair at k.cline@earthlink.net



USS Alabama and Florida Beach Camp in February



CHECK OUT THE TROOP WEBSITE TO SEE WHAT ELSE TROOP 629 HAS BEEN UP TO! www.troop629.org



Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

As we have discussed at unit meetings it is a special time for all our Scouts to be very conscious of the communication they are getting with all the new technology they have access to. First and foremost is not to believe anything as the truth until verified. Items need to be verified from credible sources and not just relied on or counted on as the truth. Your contacts may not know for a fact what the truth is and what you should be listening to. Caution is very much to be practiced. Then it is a matter of perspective, especially in light of the instant and repetitive nature of those items being broadcasted by short-sighted bravados. Hearing the same news over and over again just elevates an issue to unwarranted status. Well, any activity that entails hurtfulness to others is a sorry state, making it more than what has been in the great scheme of millions who are potentially or could be impacted. Many areas of so-called hurt and pain have actually decreased over the past years such as a decline in school deaths from the recorded 90's. Let's all keep a true perspective in what is and what was. Yes, we can always do better and get safer without cowering in fear from the true facts. Caution in your surroundings is a clear focus but again verify facts before living a life around rumors and spiteful innuendos.

More from the Scoutmaster:

- ❖ Recently we seem to have an upsurge in activity attendance which in turn necessitates a higher need for transportation support. If your son is attending an outing, please consider your ability to help drive to and from some of those activities so we do not have to leave some Scouts behind who want to attend, as we did for our USS Alabama trip. If we have to start renting vans and charging the Scouts extra for trip cost, that is what we will have to start doing... unless we get more driver support.
<http://www.troop629.org/events/index.htm>
- ❖ Summer Camp forms are due now. New Scouts are covered, but second year and later Scouts need to let us know the classes they want this month, or they may not get the selection they need. Classes do fill up fast when they first open and we want the Scouts to get what they need to have a great camp experience.
- ❖ Please remember any changes we make will always first be made to our calendar on our web site. Always validate the web site first before expecting the facts have not changed.
<http://www.troop629.org/calendar/index.htm>
- ❖ Last-minute submission of permission slips is hard on our planning to conduct trips. Group reservations are always due much earlier than two weeks prior, and as we get on top of the activity, getting travel and feeding arrangements gets difficult. Help meet the due dates for each trip planned.
- ❖ High Adventure Trips for 2018 have been in the planning stages for many months and are soon to take off. The 2019 HA plans are well underway and we do need Scouts to make their desires known as soon as possible so we again can make the proper trip arrangements. We are still in the planning phase for Sea Base Sailing 2019 and already have a Philmont 2019 Backpacking Adventure laid in. These High Adventure trips become some of the most fondly remembered activities of our Scouts' time.

Special Feature:



Summer Camp!

**Our troop will attend Summer Camp at Woodruff Scout Reservation June 17th -23rd!
\$100 deposit was due February 26th, next \$100 payment is due March 26th .**

****REGISTRATION FORMS DUE MONDAY 3/26!!!****

All information regarding summer camp can be found on the troop website under the “Camping” tab at the top. Once on the Summer Camp 2018 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 26th ! Annual Health & Medicals and additional Summer Camp forms are due Monday, May 7th .

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

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.

Scout Handshake

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



Scout – none

Tenderfoot – none

First Class – none

Second Class – none

Star – none

Life – none

Eagle – none

Every now and then, we have a month when everyone is still working on their requirements. Remember to plan some time each week to keep working toward your next rank!



News you can use...

** The Troop 629 Scholarship Program applies to dues, activities and High Adventure trips. No boy should miss an opportunity to participate in Scouting due to finances. Please see Mr. Gillis or Mrs. Bierbaum for confidential discussion.

** We generally ask for activity sign-up forms 2 weeks in advance, so *please* plan ahead for your Scouting fun! We must be sure we have the resources we need. Some trips (i.e. skiing, High Adventure) require more advanced planning, so please look ahead and see what you would like to do, and let us know if you can help drive Scouts to the activity.

Fundraising Report:

2018 Camp Card Sale!!

The 2018 Camp Card Sale is in full swing. Selling Camp Cards is an easy way to fund your High Adventure Account, or to cover the cost of Summer Camp. Each card sells for \$5.00, with the scout receiving \$2.50 for each card sold in their individual account.



Camp Cards can be signed out at each Troop Meeting through March 26th. Cards and/or Money are due at the April 16th Troop Meeting. Scouts can sign out 20 cards at a time. Once you sell 20 cards and turn in the \$100, you may sign out another 20 cards.



Make sure to check out the great deals in this year's Camp Card. Family and Friends are sure to want to purchase one!

Please contact Mrs. Hundt at khundt@gatech.edu with any questions.

Help Wanted:

Troop 629 would not have enjoyed the success it has without the much appreciated help from our wonderful parent volunteers! The Scouts are responsible for their advancement, but **we count on our parents** to be involved to help keep things running! Whether you can help *a little or a lot*, every bit that you can do allows the leadership to help the Scouts stay focused on their growth and development. There are many great opportunities to help your Scout's Troop.



Please see Troop Committee Chair Mary Beth Bierbaum at our weekly meeting or contact her via email at MaryBeth@bierbaum.com to see where you might be able to pitch in!

Volunteers <http://www.troop629.org/about/committee.htm>

We have several volunteers “aging out” with their Scouts or transitioning roles and need help with the following positions: Newsletter/Communications, Medical Records, Friends of Scouting, Scouting for Food, Health/Safety, Scout Sunday, District News. If you would like to get involved, we will find just the right place for you! Descriptions are online. Please contact Mary Beth Bierbaum at MaryBeth@bierbaum.com.

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. 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



MARCH 2018

Monday, March 5 Troop Meeting, North Campus
Wednesday, March 7 GA Legislature Recognition Day
Thursday, March 8 PLC North Campus S201 (7-8)
Friday-Sunday, March 9-11 Huntsville Space Center
Sunday, March 11 Troop Committee Meeting
Monday-Friday, March 12-16 MPCS Spring Break
Monday, March 12 Troop Meeting North Campus
Tuesday, March 13 6PM MB Help Night NORTH CAMPUS basement
Thursday, March 15 District RoundTable
Sunday, March 18 Eagle COH Louis Deavers, 3pm, Autrey Mill
Monday, March 19 Board of Review, Troop Meeting North Campus
Friday-Sunday, March 23-25 NYLT Staff Dev. 2
Monday, March 26 Troop Meeting North Campus

APRIL 2018

Sunday-Saturday, April 1-7 Fulton County Spring Break, Sea Base High Adventure
Monday, April 2 No Troop Meeting
Sunday, April 8 Troop Committee Meeting S-147, North Campus
Monday, April 9 Troop Meeting NC
Tuesday, April 10 6PM MB Help Night NORTH basement
Thursday, April 12 PLC NC S214 (7-8)
Friday-Sunday, April 13-15 HighTree Canopy Callaway
Saturday, April 14 Council Program Plan
Monday, April 16 Board of Review, Troop Meeting NC
Thursday, April 19 District RT
Friday-Sunday, April 20-22 NYLT Staff Dev 3
Saturday, April 21 Braves Scout Day
Monday, April 23 OA Ordeal registration due, Troop Meeting NC
Monday, April 30 Troop Court of Honor, Troop Meeting NC

MAY 2018

Friday-Sunday, May 4-6 OA Ordeal @ Woodruff
Saturday-Sunday, May 5-6 Renaissance Festival
Monday, May 7 Summer Camp Parents Meeting, Troop Meeting NC
Tuesday, May 8 6PM MB Help Night NORTH basement
Thursday, May 10 PLC NC S214 (7-8)
Saturday, May 12 Stone Mountain Scout Day
Sunday, May 13 Troop Committee Meeting S-147 NC
Monday, May 14 SPL/PL/Survey, Troop Meeting NC
Thursday, May 17 District RT
Friday-Sunday, May 18-20 OA Ordeal @ Bert Adams
Saturday, May 19 NYLT setup
Monday, May 21 Board of Review, Troop Meeting NC
Thursday, May 24 ILST/Annual Planning, Last Day of school
Saturday, May 26 NYLT Course 1&2
Sunday-Friday, May 27-June 1 NYLT Course 1&2
Monday, May 28 No Meeting