



TROOP 629

Adventures in Scouting

August 2020 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

- **August 24:** Court of Honor at Autrey Mill
- **August 24:** 20/21 Dues Collection Begins
- **August 29:** Outing! Back to Basics at Autrey Mill
- **September 5:** Outing! Tubing in Helen
- **September 7:** No Troop Meeting - Labor Day
- **September 8:** Merit Badge Help Night



[Visit Website Calendar](#)

Troop Weekly Meetings

Weekly Monday in-person troop meetings will continue 7:15pm - 8:45pm at Autrey Mill Nature Preserve in Class B t-shirts.

Scoutmaster Minute

by Jason Sutton

Congratulations to Troop 629's newest Eagle Scout – Brad Spence! Brad passed his District Board of Review on July 30th. His recognition ceremony will come in the near future, but until then be sure and congratulate Brad the next time you see him!

Another summer is wrapping up, and COVID-19 has made its presence well known with no Summer Camp and no High Adventures this year. We are thankful to Autrey Mill for allowing us to hold in-person meetings over the summer to get back to some sense of normalcy and allow us to get together, talk with our friends, and advance – all while social distancing of course.

The coming months will continue to be a challenge, but I know you all are up to the task. Over the last few months we have had many merit badges complete, quite a few scouts advance rank, and have recently had 2 more Eagle Projects complete in addition to Brad's – those two will be sitting on their Eagle Board of Reviews before too long. Everyone keep up the good work and keep your sights on Eagle.

Be sure to continue to watch for emails, website updates, and Facebook posts on updates to meetings, outings, and any policy changes. We will continue meeting at Autrey Mill through August, and our August outing is now a daytrip for "Back to Basics". Updates have been made to the Troop calendar on the website.

Current Events

Outing! Autrey Mill

August 29

Join us for a day of Back to Basics led by the PLC. See flyer on website for info.



Youth Protection Training Renewals for Troop 629 Adult Members

All BSA Adult members are required to retake/renew their Youth Protection Training every two years. The renewal time is approaching for most of the troop's adult members. Because this training is so important to the safety of our youth members, the Atlanta Area Council will purge the BSA membership for those adult members that have expired Youth Protection Training. Adults whose memberships are purged may be asked to complete a new Adult Application to have their membership reinstated. Please contact Mrs. Hundt or Mr. Jackson if you have any questions regarding the expiration date of your Youth Protection Training.

Popcorn Kernel Search

The 2020 Popcorn Sale Has Begun!

The Atlanta Area Council has kicked off the 2020 Popcorn Sale. Troop 629 is in need of an adult to volunteer and serve as the troop's Popcorn Kernel this year. Please reach out to Mrs. Hundt at kellyhundert@gmail.com if you can assist with this year's sale.

If the troop does not have a Popcorn Kernel this year, Scouts will only be able to sell popcorn (and earn High Adventure funds) using the Online Sales option.

To set-up Online Sales, Scouts (with their parent's permission) can go to Trails-End.com and register a personal Online Selling Page, or Login and update your Scout's information if you have sold Popcorn Online before.



Announcements

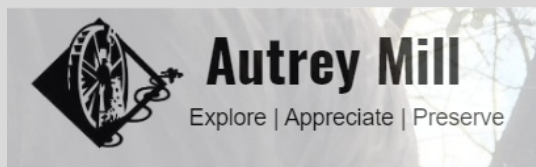
2020 / 2010 Dues:

August and September are the months when Troop 629 collects renewal dues from all active youth and adults. The BSA National increased their 2021 dues. You can reference this [flyer](#) to understand how BSA is phasing in this year's dues increase.

The Troop 629 Committee has approved our 2020-21 Member Dues to be \$110/year for renewing youth members, and \$50/year for renewing adult members.



The Troop 629 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. Troop 629's Scholarship Fund and Financial Assistance policy can be found [here](#). Please reach out to Mrs. Hundt, Committee Chair, or Mr. Sutton, Scoutmaster, with any questions you have about our dues increase, or if you would like to discuss using the Troop's Financial Assistance. Please know that all financial assistance conversations are kept in strict confidence.



Donations of Appreciation

As a thank you to Autrey Mill Nature Preserve for letting us use their outdoor space for the time-being with NO charge, we are encouraging families (if you are able; it is not required) to donate to Autrey Mill.

Donations can be monetary, you can send something for the animals from their [Autrey Mill Amazon Animal Wish List](#), or physical items (such as paper towels, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, bird seed) can brought to our meetings and dropped off.

High Adventure

Sea Base to Bahamas in 2021

Waiting list only.

Sea Base 2020

Postponed: Currently evaluating options with participants.



Small Group Meetings

Troop Committee Chairs

Our next Troop 629 Committee Meeting will be Sunday, September 13th

Patrol Leader's Council

The next PLC meeting is on Thursday, August 13th, at Autrey Mill, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Assistant Scoutmaster Meeting

ASM Meeting Wednesday, September 2nd, at Autrey Mill, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Adult Volunteers

Interested in Helping?

Please see Troop Committee Chair Kelley Hundt at our weekly meeting or contact her via email at kellyhundt@gmail.com to see where you might be able to pitch in!

Volunteers

Our troop is seeking a replacement leader for Popcorn Sales. If you are interested in leading this vital fundraiser, please contact [Kelley Hundt](#)

RSVP for Activities

Please submit your RSVP form for Troop activities 2 Mondays prior to the event.

Life to Eagle

Check the Troop web site to see where you are in the process. Randall Jackson 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.

Newsletters

All previous newsletters, pictures, calendars and events are on the website. If you have any newsletter questions, please contact [Eddie Gibson](#), the Communications Chair.

Merit Badges

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 whom. 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 a memory test - it is about comprehension and covering the material as stated.

Merit Badge Help Night Tuesday, September 8

Keep Up to Date!

The Troop calendar has all events,. Take a look ahead to see which adventures you don't want to miss!

[Click here or on the calendar image to see!](#)

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