

TROOP 317

Johns Creek, GA

November 2007



Visit our Troop website at www.troop317.com for regular announcements and information updates.

November 2007 Important Dates to Remember

November 6	Troop Meeting – 7:00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Aid – Collin Clark• Food/Water – Jonathan Rhodes <i>\$5 CAMPOUT PAYMENT DUE</i>
November 13	Troop Meeting – 7:00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pack Review – Chiefs Patrol• Leave No Trace – Gavin Brand
November 16-18	Troop Outing: Backpacking/Hiking <i>Vogel State Park</i>
November 20	PLC Meeting – 7:00 pm
November 27	Troop Meeting – 7:00 pm
DECEMBER	STAND-DOWN MERRY CHRISTMAS!

November Campout – Backpacking/Hiking

November is a GREAT month for Scouting! This month we'll be backpacking and hiking on the trails surrounding Vogel State Park.

Mr. (Glenn) Alexander has done a ton of planning to provide us with an excellent trip. Backpacking is unique, because you have to carry everything you need (food, stove, tent, clothes, etc.). You quickly learn what things you really need by having to carry it on your back for 10 or 15 miles!!

Newer Scouts will enjoy a long hike and other advancement activities.

While the upcoming campout will be challenging, it will be a ton of fun, as well. Backpacking / Hiking is a great way to see, experience and appreciate God's creation. It's going to be a great trip.

Congratulations, Top Popcorn Peddlers!

Here are the winners of this year's Popcorn Sales contest. In addition to the prizes they won from the popcorn company, they each get CASH.

RANK	Scout	CASH Prize
1 st Place	David Beach	\$100
2 nd Place	Jonathan Rhodes	\$60
3 rd Place	Caleb Maier	\$30
Patrol Prize	Preston Little	\$20
Patrol Prize	Karl Ingraham	\$20
Patrol Prize	Steven Sexton	\$20
Patrol Prize	Chad Woyce	\$20

These Scouts also have the satisfaction of helping to pay their own way in Scouting, and the respect that comes along with that accomplishment.

Congratulations, Scouts, on a job well done!!

Did You Sell Popcorn in 2007?

Every year scouts from Troop 317 and many other troops in the Atlanta Area Council work towards earning money for their troop and earning great prizes by selling Trails End popcorn. They also work towards the joy of knowing that they got out there and helped themselves and their Troop. To me, selling popcorn is a very enjoyable activity and helps build good communication skills. "Selling popcorn is good for my son because when he sells door to door it definitely teaches him responsibility and builds good character," says scout parent Jay Rhodes. Selling can also earn you money for your scout account, which goes to pay for camp and outings. So, if you are a scout I encourage you, if you didn't get a chance to this year, to start selling next year when the time comes!

Jonathan Rhodes

Rewarding Efforts on the October Biking Trip

The October campout was a HUGE success thanks to Mr. Thompson. He organized and planned all of the events, races, and rides. Because of his advance planning, the Scouts had a blast! In the morning, we broke up into groups, based on how far each group wanted to ride. Some groups rode as many as 50 miles! In the afternoon, we had a five-mile time trial. Here are the results of the time trial:

Under Thirteen Category	
1 st Place	Eric Thompson
2 nd Place	Jonathan Rhodes
3 rd Place	Daniel Dardaman

Thirteen and Over Category	
1 st Place	Ross Thiele
2 nd Place	David LaBarr
3 rd Place	Cameron Van Cleave

After the cycling and racing, the scouts were able to enjoy the sunny afternoon by playing Frisbee, lacrosse, football, washers, golf-ball toss and launching potatoes (and other projectiles), thanks to Ben Hooper's potato cannon.

Nic Orangio

One Scout's CIA Story

On October 6, 2007, Perimeter Church participated with over 100 churches in the Atlanta area for **Compassion in Action** (CIA) weekend. As one of the many people who served in the community that weekend, I felt that I really made a difference.

I was a part of a project at South Forsyth High School. We repainted rails, stabilized stairs to the trailers, and cut down low hanging branches. I feel good about what I did to help my school, my community, and my Lord. It was awesome to help my school and see the work of fellow Christians and friends around me.

As Jesus said, *"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."* – Matthew 25.40

Nic Orangio

Troop 317 = Compassion in Action

CRN - Jars of Clay - 15 Scouts participated

CRN - Ellis Street - 4 Scouts participated

Duluth Hands of Christ Coop - 21 Scouts participated

There were also Scouts who participated in other CIA events over the week. This is AWESOME participation from our Troop, and truly illustrates our call, "To Lead and To Serve". Thanks, Troop 317 for a GREAT weekend of service to our Lord.

Leader's Corner – A God Story

Thanks to a "miscommunication", we were led to believe that our adopted CRN partner at the Ellis Street Shelter needed a swing set. One of our Troop families graciously offered theirs. When we visited the Ellis Street Shelter in preparation for the CIA weekend, there was already a swing set! It needed some re-vamping but the structure was sound. Now, we had a swing set without a home.

Because our church was looking for other places to serve, we visited Jars of Clay. I was totally unprepared for the wonderful welcome I received! It was a Saturday, and Saturday is "hair day". All the little girls were getting their hair plaited, curled, or straightened for Sunday worship. Bible verses were painted on the lintels above the door. We even saw a cross on the wall in their common room/sanctuary that had been **hand-hewn** by freed slaves from the late 1800s to be placed in their house of worship. What a great reminder of the lost coming to find true freedom in Jesus Christ.

Now, let me take you to the miracle. Mrs. Favors, Director of Jars of Clay, said "We need a play area, so the kids can have somewhere to play while we are teaching life skills to their parents. We are trying to raise \$750 for a swing set."

As I looked at the picture she had printed off the web to show me, it looked an awful lot like the swing set that had been donated!

Rhonda Sells
Troop 317 – Community Service Coordinator