

TROOP 317

Johns Creek, GA

March 2008



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

March 2008 Important Dates to Remember

March 4	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church -7:00 pm
March 11	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church -7:00 pm
March 14 - 16	Troop Outing Patrol Competition
March 18	Troop Meeting – PLC ONLY
March 25	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church -7:00 pm

March Outing

This month's camping trip is going to be at Simpsonwood on March 14–16. This is a patrol competitions trip. Every patrol, including adults, will participate in each event. The events that are planned for this trip are: burning through rope in the fastest time, knot tying relays, catapult making, (more things of that nature), and the ever popular **FLOUR WAR!!!!** This will be a great trip that insures that all Scouts are having fun while learning and refining scout skills. Sign up now at www.troop317.net.

Merit Badge Opportunities

We are pleased to announce that Troop 317 will be offering two Eagle required Merit Badge classes.

Starting March 4, the Troop will offer the **Communications Merit Badge**. THANK YOU to Mr. Jay Rhodes, who has agreed to lead this Merit Badge class.

Also, a big THANK YOU to Mr. John Crawford, who will be leading a class for the **Personal Management Merit Badge**. This class is scheduled to start mid-March.

Please contact Mr. Thompson if you wish to take advantage of these opportunities.

Got a POR?

CONGRATULATIONS to those of you who have been elected or appointed to a Position of Responsibility. You have a great opportunity to serve Troop 317. These positions are highly desired and they are key leadership roles. You will be in your role for the next six months, so be sure to:

- Take your position seriously. The Troop needs your skills and leadership in order to function at its best.
- Review the Position Description (PD) sheet with your identified Mentor within the next two weeks.
- Sign the PD sheet (and have your Mentor sign) and hang on to it.
- Seek out opportunities to fulfill your duties. It is your responsibility to do your duties without prompting.
- Keep a log of your activities, so it will be easy for your Mentor to sign off on your activity.
- Discuss your activities with your Mentor periodically.
- Meet with your Mentor at the completion of the six month Scouting set to review your activity log and any specific accomplishments. Ask your Mentor sign your PD sheet. Your sheet acts like a Blue Card for a Merit Badge. Once your PD sheet is signed you have fulfilled the advancement requirements and can get your book signed.
- Hang on to your signed Position Duties sheet as part of your advancement records.
- Show a proper type and amount of pride in doing your job well. Now's your chance to show your stuff – so let 'er rip!

For a complete list of the current set of the POR check out the February 2008 Troop 317 Newsletter at www.troop317.com

Super Trip Summary

This year's super trip was very fun-filled and exciting. The scouts really loved the passenger vans in which they traveled. Another thing that the scouts loved, unique to this trip, was the group meals. A big change was that the scouts also slept in hotels as well as in tents. TVQ – YEAH!

Branson Hatcher said that the coolest thing was touring the nuclear submarine. David Beach said that the food in "The Galley" was delicious (a nice change from what some of the scouts were used to eating on campouts!).

This year's Super Trip was a **GREAT SUCCESS** and the Scouts and adults had a great time. Thanks to Mr. Orangio, Mr. Morrow, Mr. Little and all the other adults who helped put this trip together.

Newsletter Contributions

Contact Andrew Deitsch, our Troop Scribe, with any Newsletter contributions at:
andrew.deitsch@comcast.net! Thanks!

Helpful Scouting Links

Here are some helpful websites for more information on Scouting in general:

<http://www.troop317.net>

<http://www.troop317.com>

<http://www.scouting.org>

<http://olc.scouting.org>

<http://www.meritbadge.com>

<http://www.meritbadge.org>

<http://www.boyslife.org>

<http://www.scoutingmagazine.org>

<http://www.miltonbsa.org>

<http://www.atlantabsa.org>

TAKE NOTE – Requirements Changes

Effective January 1, 2008, there have been some advancement and merit badge requirement changes.

Tenderfoot Requirement 9b now reads:

"Explain the importance of the buddy system as it relates to your personal safety on outings and in your neighborhood. Describe what a bully is and how you should respond to one."

Tenderfoot Requirement 12a now reads:

"Demonstrate how to care for someone who is choking."

Second Class Requirement 8 will become 8a, and a **new requirement 8b** will be added. Requirement 8 will now read as follows:

- a. Participate in a school, community, or troop program on the dangers of using drugs, alcohol, and tobacco and other practices that could be harmful to your health. Discuss your participation in the program with your family.
- b. Explain the 3 R's of personal safety and protection.

First Class Requirement 12 is new. Old Requirements 12 & 13 will be re-numbered as 13 & 14. New Requirements 12–14 will read as follows:

12. Describe the three things you should avoid doing related to use of the Internet. Describe a cyberbully and how you should respond to one.
13. Participate in a Scoutmaster conference.
14. Complete your board of review.

Merit Badges with updated requirements or changes are listed here:

Backpacking
Metalwork
Sculpture
Water Sports (replaces Waterskiing)
Wilderness Survival

For more information go to:

<http://www.scouting.org/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/2008RankUpdates.aspx>

or talk to your Assistant Scoutmaster.