

TROOP 317

Johns Creek, GA

May 2008



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

May 2008

Important Dates to Remember

May 6	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church -7:00 pm
May 13	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church – 7:00 pm
May 16-18	Troop Outing Tree Climbing/Patrol Activities
May 20	PLC Only Annual Program Planning * Perimeter Church - 7:00 pm
May 27	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church – 7:00 pm

* YOUR ATTENDANCE VERY IMPORTANT

May Campout Planning

This month we have two separate activities planned. Due to some logistical limitations, the older scouts are going TREE CLIMBING in Decatur, Georgia with Tree Climbers International. TCI is a worldwide organization of people who love to climb trees. They do this safely and with utmost care for the trees they climb. They want the sport of "rope and harness" tree climbing available so that everyone can experience the joy and wonder of seeing the world from the heights of the treetops! Tree climbing is not just for children. Explore their website and learn more about it? Better yet, come experience the adventure with us! Their website is www.treeclimbing.com

The younger scouts will be camping at Camp Highlands, and will be focusing on Scout skills. Camp Highlands offers a TON of fun activities: canoeing, fishing, swimming, basketball, hiking, etc. This is a GREAT campout for all the new dads to come on, as well. Please plan to join us.

Camporee Recap

The April Camporee was a blast. There were approximately 500 people at Bert Adams Scout Reservation including scouts and adults. Troop 317 had over 70 participants. We had lots of activities and events in which all of the different troops and patrols competed.

Saturday morning, though, we participated in a service project to benefit the campground. Bert Adams is an older campground, and they're currently making new space for additional camping areas.

After a short talk by the camp Ranger about tree conservation, the Scouts got to go through a specific area of the campground and clear brush and downed or fallen logs, and put them in big piles for burning later. Some of the logs that we moved were HUGE. It was great to work together as a team, though, and see an immediate positive result from our efforts.

Saturday afternoon, Drew Hettenbach, Gavin Brand, and Andrew Deitsch headed-up the event team for Troop 317. Our two events were "The Dam Thing," where each group tried to build a dam that the water would not go through, and a water erosion box experiment. Each troop performed a skit, and ours was funny. We asked different Scoutmasters from the audience to act out random activities, for example, ride a motorcycle, yell like Tarzan, and shoot a machine gun. Then, we secretly told the audience that they were using the Port-a-Potty. The audience all had a good laugh, and so did the Scoutmasters.

Several of the patrols brought home prize ribbons for their performance in the events. While all patrols represented Troop 317 well, the Fusion, the Horned Vipers, and the Great Blades all received recognition for their performance. The weather was good, for the most part, and everyone had fun.

Electronics reminder

This is just a friendly reminder that there are no iPods, cell phones, or any other electronic device allowed at any scout meeting or outing. There are plenty of adults with cell phones or phones at the church if you need to borrow one. Thank you for your support.



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.com>

<http://www.scouting.org>

<http://olc.scouting.org>

<http://www.meritbadge.com>

<http://www.meritbadge.org>

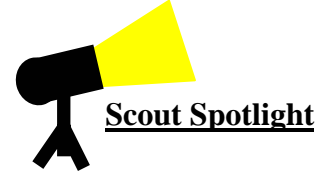
<http://www.boyslife.org>

<http://www.scoutingmagazine.org>

<http://www.miltonbsa.org>

<http://www.atlantabsa.org>

<http://www.macscouter.com>



This month's spotlight is on Scout **Branson Hatcher**. Branson is in the 6th grade at Perimeter Christian School and joined Troop 317 last fall. I have known Branson personally for five years because his brother is a good friend of mine. I am glad that he has joined our troop because we have a good time together and he has a great sense of humor. In an interview with Branson, this is what I found out:

Andrew: Why did you join Scout Troop 317?

Branson: I joined because I had friends in the troop and I thought it would be fun.

Andrew: What is your most memorable scouting experience so far?

Branson: The hail storm at Simpsonwood was intense chaos!

Andrew: Which scout trip has been your favorite?

Branson: The Super Trip is my favorite because we got to go to a Naval Base and a nuclear submarine – two things I had never done before.

Andrew: What do you like to do in your spare time?

Branson: I like to play video games – Wii/PS2 – Bully.

Andrew: Who has made a big impact in your life?

Branson: Ms. McConaughy is a fun teacher and is Christ-like.

If you would like to see a particular scout in the spotlight, please contact, Troop Scribe, Andrew Deitsch.

Did you know...

...that the very first Scout camp was held in August of 1907. It was held on Brownsea Island in England, and included 20 boys.

...that the BSA was incorporated in February of 1910 by William D. Boyce. Today the BSA has over 5 million members.