

TROOP 317

Johns Creek, GA

May 2009



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

May 2009

Important Dates to Remember

May 5	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church – 7:00 pm
May 12	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church - 7:00 pm
May 15-17	Troop Outing Canoeing down the Flint River 6:00 pm depart from bank lot 4:00 pm return to bank lot
May 19	Troop PLC Life to Eagle Huddle Perimeter Church – 7:00 pm
May 26	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church – 7:00 pm

April Outing Recap

This year's patrol campouts were a blast! Several of our patrols went to Stone Mountain and camped at a really cool spot in the southwest side of the park. We learned Scout skills (whipping/fusing ropes, knots, Scout Oath/Law/Slogan, etc) and then got to play in the MUD! This was the Pyrite Patrol's first campout, and they all had a GREAT time. Several of the Pyrite Patrol members earned their Scout rank on this campout.

Some patrols camped close by and participated in the Roswell Convoy of Hope service project on Saturday (see next page). Other patrols arranged their outings for a week later so that most of their patrol could attend.

One patrol turned the campout into a true Father-Son campout, which encouraged several of the dads to participate in the campout. If you're a dad, and haven't been camping with us yet, you're MISSING out on all the fun.

The Patrol Option campout has become a favorite tradition of Troop 317 Scouts, and I'm sure it will continue to be popular.

May Campout

This May's campout is already shaping up to be a Troop 317 CLASSIC. From May 15-17, Troop 317 will be canoeing down the Flint River. Friday night, we'll camp at the Gerald Lawhorn Scouting Base, a Souct camp of the Flint River Council.

Saturday morning, we'll load the canoes and set off down the river. On Saturday, we'll canoe about 12 miles down to an island in the middle of the river, where we'll camp overnight. Sunday morning, we'll break camp, have our Worship service, then canoe about another 5 miles to the take-out point.

The canoes can only fit 2-3 people in them, so we'll have to pack LIGHT. Many scouts will most likely have to pair up with younger and older scouts so that everyone stays safe down the river.

Also, the cooking will be completely different for this campout. At our April 21 meeting, we heard from some of our more experienced Scouts as to what to bring and how to prepare it.

Thanks to Mr. Presley and many others for their careful planning so far. We're looking forward to a great time!

CPR / First Aid Certifications

CONGRATULATIONS to the Philmont Crew. On March 29, they participated in a Red Cross Adult CPR Certification Class. All participants passed the exam at the end of the class and are now certified in CPR for a period of one year. BIG THANKS to Mrs. Woyce for leading the training for our Crew.

Also, Caleb Boyce and Mr. Van Cleave completed a 16-hour course in Wilderness First Aid (3-year certification) during the weekend of April 24-25. This training was taken in preparation for our 2009 Philmont Trek, but is important safety training for all of our campouts.

WAY TO GO, GUYS!

“TO LEAD AND TO SERVE”

The month of April was a great month for Troop 317 to exhibit our commitment to Service as we partnered with Perimeter Church to serve our community in two unique ways:

Roswell Convoy of Hope

On April 18, the City of Roswell sponsored the “Convoy of Hope” at Roswell City Hall. The Convoy of Hope is a large scale outreach program designed to reach people in a carnival like fashion. Over 20 of our Troop 317 Scouts and Adults participated. Troop 317 volunteers handed out balloons to kids and worked line duty. These Scouts ushered families into the Gospel Tent where they heard a presentation of the Gospel. **Over 70 kids and over 120 adults made professions of faith in Christ**, as they heard the Gospel presented in a winsome fashion.

Our Scouts also handed out raffle tickets to families and served as security as we directed people into the KidZone. The KidZone contained stations where families could shoot baskets, play on inflatable slides, do a ball toss, and get free popcorn and cotton candy. There were also appearances by Sleeping Beauty, Belle and Prince Charming and Gumby.

THANK YOU, Mrs. Sells for organizing this event!

Scouting for Food

Another great April Service event was our participation with the Annual Scouting for Food campaign, a community project aimed at addressing the problem of hunger in the community in which we live and work. The Atlanta Area Council partners with the Atlanta Community Food Bank and Publix Supermarkets and conducted this drive in 13 counties. Food collected by Troop 317 went to benefit the Norcross Co-operative, one of the ministries supported by Perimeter Church.

On March 29, April 4 and April 11, almost 20 Scouts and adults distributed and collected food bags in three targeted neighborhoods close to Perimeter Church. In spite of Spring Break being in the middle of the drive, we collected and delivered **58 bags of groceries** to a very appreciative Norcross Co-operative! This was a fun project that was very well received by the neighbors. For those who were unable to participate but wanted to we will plan on doing this again.

THANK YOU, Mr. Statham for organizing this event. Thanks also to the Morrow, Clark, and Culp families for their assistance in getting approval to canvass their respective neighborhoods.



Keegan Hanifen serves in an extra-special way at the Convoy of Hope

Cults and the Occult

As part of the Troop 317 discipleship curriculum we cover three primary themes over the course of a Scouting year (August through June). In March, April, May and June we will dive into what it means to be “an available messenger to non-kingdom people.” This aspect of our faith touches many times on the topic of apologetics.

This month we will talk through some of the ways people counterfeit the Gospel. The Watchman Fellowship, founded in Columbus, Georgia, is an independent Christian research and apologetics ministry focusing on new religious movements, cults, the occult and the New Age. We will use some of their materials to talk through topics related to cults and the occult. For more information on these two general false gospel groups go to these two links:

<http://www.watchman.org/cults/sepexpo.htm>

<http://www.watchman.org/occult/occult2.htm>

As Christians, when dealing with a cult, the occult or any counterfeit of the Gospel, we should remember the words of 1 John 4:4 “You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.” For more on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, this month we will also expound upon Randy Pope’s “Story of Grace.”

Here are some passages of Scripture to meditate on related to this month’s theme: Matthew 24:4-5; Deuteronomy 18:9-12; Galatians 1:6; Colossians 2:13-14

For more information on Troop 317 discipleship curriculum go to www.Troop317.com/Discipleship or contact Troop 317’s Chaplain Tony Heringer at tony.heringer@infor.com