

TROOP 317

Johns Creek, GA

June 2009



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

June 2009

Important Dates to Remember

June 2	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church – 7:00 pm
June 7-13	SUMMER CAMP Meet at the Bank Parking Lot 10:00 am on Sunday, June 13
June 9	NO TROOP MEETING
June 16	NO TROOP MEETING
June 23 *NOTE*	Troop Meeting Perimeter Church – 7:00 pm Patrol Leader Elections for Fall Position of Responsibility DEADLINE
June 30 *NOTE*	Troop Meeting SPL Election for Fall Perimeter Church – 7:00 pm
July TBD	Phase 2 of Program Planning PLC Only Junior Leadership Training

Summer Camp

Summer camp is almost here! Most of our first year campers will be in the Mountain Man program which will give you a great start on your way to First Class. First year campers are also encouraged to take the Swimming Merit Badge. Older scouts will be taking other Merit Badge classes in the morning. Everyone will have the opportunity to do Troop activities in the afternoon, including whitewater rafting on the Nantahala and Ocoee Rivers. Woodruff offers just about every merit badge, so there are lots of chances to earn or start a Merit Badge. The waterfront of Lake Woodruff is a great place to be in the afternoon along with the trading post and the rifle range. Make sure to drink lots of water because dehydration can lead to heat stroke which is very serious.

The recent parent orientation on Summer Camp is available on the home page of www.troop317.com. Check it out for more helpful information.

Canoe Trip Recap

Our most recent campout (May 15-17) was spent canoeing down the Flint River. A **HUGE THANK YOU** goes out to **Mr. Eric Presley** who spent months planning and traveling this river, so as to better prepare for this campout!

During this campout we had a very impressive skit from our newest patrol, the Pyrites. Their skit was modeled after the newest Star Trek release. We also had three special adult guests with us: Mr. Jim Mitchell (brother of Mr. Chris Mitchell), Mr. Jonathan Purcell and our former Scoutmaster, Mr. John Morrow. Mr. Morrow delivered a moving Scoutmaster Minute at Saturday night's campfire about the meaning of Memorial Day.

This canoe trip was a blast, because it was some of the Scout's first time camping without ready access to big heavy gear (requiring a car). On Saturday morning, we packed dehydrated food, backpacking stoves and water filters in our packs and shoved off down the river. We canoed 11 miles on Saturday, including a stop by the "Jumping Rock" about a half a mile from Owens Island (where we camped) and had loads of fun playing around the rock.

After the Saturday night campfire, we packed up Sunday morning and headed off down the river about 5 miles to our pick up point. The Canoeing campout became an instant favorite for many Scouts.

One last thanks goes out to our Lord and Savior who answered our prayers and held back the storms so we could have a day and a half of fun on the river.

Woodruff Mailing Address

We LOVE to get mail at Woodruff. Please mail by **TUESDAY, JUNE 9** to the following address:

Woodruff Scout Reservation
"Scout's Name"
Troop 317, Week #2
10387 Boy Scout Road
Blairsville, GA 30512

Purpose, Freedom and Assurance

As part of the Troop 317 discipleship curriculum we cover three primary themes over the course 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 wrap up this theme discussing three key advantages brought about by Gospel living. First, it gives us purpose—a reason for living. Second, we are truly made free by the cross of Christ. Our debt has been paid in full – a bailout that worked once and for all time. Finally, the Gospel of Jesus Christ gives us assurance that when we stand before a Holy God at the end of all things, He will say “Well done my good and faithful servant.”

June is the month our Scouts will go to summer camp and/or tackle a high adventure camp like Philmont. As they do so, I’d ask both the Scouts and our 317 Scouting family to pray that God would do something so significant *in* the life of each Scout that it’s doomed to failure unless He be in it and that God would do something so significant *through* the life of each Scout that it’s doomed to failure unless He be in it. Each summer God blesses our Troop during these times. I know this summer will be no different.

Here are some passages of Scripture to meditate on related to this month’s theme: Colossians 3:17, 1 Corinthians 10:31, John 8:32, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Psalm 73:25

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

New Troop T-Shirt Design

Congratulations and a Job Well Done go to **ANDREW DEITSCH** for his AWESOME design for our new Troop T-Shirt. The new T-Shirts will be handed out to all of our Summer Camp attendees on Tuesday night, June 2.

Thanks also goes out to Troop 317 Alumnus ZAC ORANGIO, a student at Savannah College of Art and Design, for his assistance with finalizing the graphics and lettering, and helping us get ready for the T-Shirt guy. If you are not attending Summer Camp this year, you can buy a new Troop 317 T-Shirt for \$7.00 at any Troop meeting.

CHANGE IN TROOP ELECTIONS

Please note the following date changes: we will be having the Troop elections IN JUNE, to better prepare for the upcoming Fall Session. **Patrol Leader Elections will be held on Tuesday, June 23.**

June 23 is also the deadline for any Scout to indicate their interest in a Position of Responsibility for the Fall Session.

The SPL election will be held on Tuesday, June 30.

Also, please be alert for the specific dates for the final Program Planning Session, as well as Junior Leadership Training to be held sometime in July.

SUMMER SAFETY ALERT Ticks – Educate Yourself

Please make sure you are reading the emails from Mr. Lumsden and others concerning ticks. If you found any ticks from the canoe trip, it would be extremely helpful if you could email him to let him know the number you found. You can reach him via e-mail: dlumsden@ctflegal.com Any other information you provide would be helpful, too.

Mr. Lumsden is compiling data to help the chief of the Bacterial Disease Branch of the Division of Vector Borne Infectious Diseases at the CDC, so that more people will be spared of the debilitating affects of Lyme Disease and other diseases that ticks can spread. For more information and pictures, you can visit

http://www.lymedisease.org/lyme101/ticks/tick_facts.html

Philmont!

Our day is almost here! Philmont crew 614-N3 leaves for Philmont Scout Ranch on June 13! Crew members should attend the packing party and “haircut fiesta” on June 6 at the Van Cleave’s house. This year, our Philmont Trek is a 12-day hike through the Sangre de Cristo Mountains near Cimarron, New Mexico. Because of the physical demand, BSA policy limits Philmont attendance to First Class Scouts who are 14 years old and older. Most of the hiking takes place during the morning, leaving the afternoons free for fun activities like burro-racing, blacksmithing, black powder rifle shooting, and much more.

More Philmont and other exciting HIGH ADVENTURE trips are planned for upcoming years, so stay tuned!