

Consistent Agenda Items

Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

April 2009

A. Adult Awards & Recognitions:

As you prepare for your end of the year celebrations and submit volunteer award nominations, please remember that the forms for Outstanding Leader and Outstanding Volunteer have changed. Please throw out any old Northwest Georgia or Pine Valley forms that you might have tucked away, and use the new forms. They can be found on the website, www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org under volunteer zone>adult recognition and awards>resources.

Also, don't forget about the Special Supporter, Extra Mile, Dads of Girl Scouts, Super Star, Light House, Rookie of the Year and Fantastic Family awards!

B. Adult Education and Training:

Guiding the Journey in the classroom is still available for those who would like to explore the Journey materials. You will sit at the table specific to your level (e.g., Brownies) and explore both the girl and adult book for that level, plus how to expand the Journey with field trips, speakers, events and the cookie program. Some classes are for Daisy/Brownie/Junior and some for Cadette/Senior/Ambassador, which only means the trainer may be more familiar with the books in those levels and better able to answer questions. You still focus on the books at your particular level. If you have both Girl Scout Juniors and Cadettes in one troop, pick a level on which to focus and attend that class.

NEW - The Facilitated Home Study (workbook option) for **Guiding the Journey** has been divided by **grade level**, so sign up for your specific level (e.g., *Guiding the Journey for Daisies*) to explore the girl and adult book. For troops with more than one level (e.g., Girl Scout Daisies and Brownies), choose one level to explore to meet the class requirement. You can then explore the other level books on your own. It is not required for you to take more than one *Guiding the Journey* class or workbook, but you are welcome to if you like.

If you have any questions, contact **Tenequa Wildy**, at twildy@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org or (404) 527-7523.

Added Program Aide Workshops:

14012A	PROGRAM AIDE LEADERSHIP TRAINING	Below Minimum	Council	Specific Location Withheld	04/25/2009	04/25/2009	08:30 AM	05:00 PM	GLORIA T.
14009A	PROGRAM AIDE LEADERSHIP TRAINING	Below Minimum	Henry	Specific Location Withheld	06/08/2009	06/08/2009	08:30 AM	05:00 PM	GLORIA T.

C. Annual Fund – Other Ways to Donate:

Gifts in Kind - As summer camp season approaches, we are looking for several **“Gift-in-Kind”** donations for items on our **“Wish List”**. We depend on the generosity of parents, volunteers and other donors to help us fulfill the needs of our organization and we need your help to network in the community! If you have contacts or friends that might be able to make a Gift-in-Kind donation, please let us know who they are. We will be happy to contact them for you. Some of the items we are looking for include the following: Golf Carts, Shop Vacs, Pontoon Boat, “50 or larger Flat Screen TV, Saddles – English or Western, Expanding Folding Carts with Wheels.

Vehicle Donations - Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta is now accepting gifts of cars, trucks, SUV’s and vans. Through our association with **Cars4Charities**, you can donate your vehicle to Girl Scouts and receive the following benefits:

- A federal tax deduction to the extent allowed by law
- Free pick up including the cost of towing
- The satisfaction of knowing that your donation is an investment in making a difference in the lives of girls.

If you have any questions about these programs, please contact Ca’ Sandra Griggs Philips at (678) 420-2698 or by email at caphillips@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org.

D. Badge and Sash:

- **New Cumming Girl Scout Badge & Sash Store** Officially opened March 17. Located at 133 Samaritan Dr. Suite 204 Cumming, GA 30040, (770) 205-0412. Store hours: Tues. & Thurs. 10-5; 3rd Saturdays March-May 10-2 (closed for lunch 2:30-3:30)
- **Girl Scout Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards Ceremonies** - Great new gifts for your awardees in each store.
- **Leader Appreciation Day, April 22** - Great gifts in all stores.
- **Earth Day-Stay Green-Think Green - April 22** - New “Keeping Green” merchandise in all stores including t-shirts, water bottles, stuffed animals, patches and reusable shopping bags.
- **Year- end ceremonies** - Shop early to miss the crowds!! Please remember if you need large quantities (20 or more) of any item other than Try-Its or Jr. badges contact us at least 3 weeks before you need them to ensure we will have enough to supply your needs.
- **Gifts for Girls and Adults** - Check out our new gift suggestions and our Clearance items for Girls and Adults. Great prices on t-shirts and other merchandise for all age levels.
- **Camp Care Bags** for summer 1- week or longer resident campers in our Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta camps. All bags are \$36.99. Order thru the Atlanta store. Orders forms are on line at: www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org or call (404) 527-7669 to place your order.
- **June Inventory Closings** - All Stores will be closed at sometime during June for annual inventories. Please check our website or call the store you plan to visit in June for inventory closing dates.

Girl Scout Store locations and phone numbers:

Atlanta Girl Scout Badge & Sash Store

1577 Northeast Expressway

Atlanta, GA 30329

(404) 527-7669/800-771-1139
Hours: Mon-Fri 10-5, Sat. 10-2 August - May

Cumming Girl Scout Badge & Sash Store

133 Samaritan Dr. Suite 204
Cumming, GA 30040

(770) 205-0412

Hours: Tues & Thurs 10-5, 3rd Sat. 10-2, March - May; closed for lunch: 2:30-3:30

Dalton Girl Scout Badge & Sash Store

2002 E. Walnut Ave.

Dalton, GA 30721

(706) 226-1435

Hours: M-T-W-F 9-6, Thur. 10-6; 2nd Sat. 10-2 August - May

Griffin Girl Scout Badge & Sash Store

350 Airport Road

Griffin, GA 30224

(770) 227-2524 x 201

Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5; 1st Sat. March - May 10-2

E. Community Service Opportunities:

Girls Care patches are here. If your troop would like a special way to commemorate a spring community service project you can purchase the 2008-09 *Girls Care Patch*. They will be available starting this month in the Girl Scout Badge & Sash Store for \$1.50 each. You must be sure to tell us more about your project by filling out a Girls Care tracking form at the time of purchase. If you'd like to do it ahead of time, you can find it on the website at [www.girlscoutofgreateratlanta.org>events and things to do>contributing to society](http://www.girlscoutofgreateratlanta.org/events-and-things-to-do/contributing-to-society).

F. Cookie Program:

The Last Bite Cookie Campaign is here! Having received requests to provide added incentives and bonuses for a last push towards the end of this year's cookie season, the Last Bite Cookie Campaign was created to do just that – give troops and girls an additional opportunity to meet their goals with added rewards!

Troops are eligible for rewards that include a \$50 gift certificate, a patch for each girl in the troop, and a chance to win a FREE troop camp overnight at the camp of their choice. Visit the **Cookie Program** page of the council Web site for more details.

See your service unit cookie manager for details on the extended warehouse dates for additional cookie orders and extended deadlines for final cookie program paperwork.

G. Girl Program Department: Check with your area program specialist for girl program updates.

H. Girl Scout Resource Center:

Planning Ahead With Patches: As new "Our Own Council" awards have been added, some council enrichment patches have been retired. Please remove the following from the list of active patch projects: All About Us; American Adventures; Leave Me Alone; Pride of Pine Valley; and Super Trooper. Look for a

revised A-B (School Grade) Patch and Discovering Our History patch. All of these patches are currently a bargain, on sale for .50 each while the supply lasts!

“Centenary” Starts In September! If you are looking for a unique way to kick off the 2009-10 Girl Scout year, consider joining your sister Guides and Girl Scouts in celebrating what is considered the birth of the Girl Guide Movement in September of 1909. Look for the full story on our council Web site at “Girl Scouts Around the Globe”

(http://www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org/volunteer_zone/default.asp?page=around_the_globe) or at the WAGGGS Web site, <http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/about/100years>. Centenary patches, shirts, and other memorabilia can be ordered through the WAGGGS Web site.

I. Outdoor Program:

Have you ever wanted to attend summer resident camp with your troop? Camp Pine Acres and Camp Pine Valley is offering 3-day troop resident camping this summer. Camp provides the activities, meals and activity staff while you provide the transportation and unit supervision. You and your girls will enjoy living in platform tents, swimming, boating, arts and crafts and campfires as you are a part of the resident camp program.

Read the details and register today: visit www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org, click on the Events and Things To Do heading, then click on council sponsored events and activities, then click on multi-age June or July and find Troops, Tents and Trails. Use the Event Registration Form for Troops to register. For more information contact:

Erin Steill at esteill@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org at Pine Acres or Jennifer Buckelew at jbuckelew@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org at Pine Valley.

SEND A HORSE TO CAMP - Camp Meriwether, Camp Misty Mountain and Camp Pine Acres are seeking good horses to delight and meet the needs of summer camp horse lovers. The camps are looking for horses on short term lease, to purchase, or for tax exempt donation. Camp horses need to be well trained, kid friendly, healthy and sound enough to work up to four hours per day, five days a week, with a preferred age of 6 – 18 years. Horses do not need to be in peak condition or currently schooled. Camp staff will ride and condition the horses when they have been placed at camp. Horses accepted for short term lease will need to be available May 1 – August 1, 2009. If you or someone you know has a horse that may be appropriate to work in the summer equestrian program please contact Gloria Driggers at cmmhorses@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org (706) 629-1030 or Mary Tebo Grimes at cmwhorses@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org (770) 927-1020. Gloria or Mary will schedule a visit to evaluate the horse. If a horse is determined to be suitable for the camp equestrian program, terms of use and transport arrangements will be made with the owner at the time of the visit.

Summer resident camp spaces are still available at all five camps! Visit the Web site to check availability and register today!

J. Membership Department:

Spring registration is underway and continues until May 22. Help your service unit team plan their fall recruitment by registering now. Set aside a portion of your cookie proceeds to pay for membership dues. Please check with your service unit registrars as to their individual turn-in dates so they can meet their deadlines with the area registrars.

K. Marketing and Media:

New Volunteer conference calls: Hear from the experts about what works, share your ideas and get your questions answered! There will be two sessions, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., every fourth Thursday (except Dec.) available for new volunteers. Just call-in on a toll-free number and join the conference call.

April 23 – “Summer Fun” to keep your troop strong – thinking ahead to next year.

L. Risk Management / Safety-Wise: Girl Scout Daisies just want to have fun! Many questions have come up in the last few months regarding travel distances and overnight experiences for Girl Scout Daisy troops.

The travel guidelines were developed to give leaders an opportunity to start out with very short local trips that would give the girls the opportunity to get to know one another, learn what acceptable expected behavior on trips is, and become more familiar with their leaders. The leaders have the opportunity to get to know how the girls will interact with one another in different situations, how the girls will interact with the adult volunteers and how the girls will react when away from their parents in an unfamiliar situation. Until leaders have gone on several trips with the girls, they really can't be sure what to expect. This is true of any age level, but it is especially important for younger girls who might not have had many experiences away from the familiar.

The travel distance guideline for Girl Scout Daisies is 50 miles or less one way. There are many places to go and things to do within 50 miles of most regular meeting places.

However, as we move into our next program year, there will be many troops of Girl Scout Daisies who will begin their second year of Girl Scouting as first graders. Some of these troops may be ready to “broaden their horizons” and take some longer trips. Here are some questions to ask yourself when trying to determine if your Girl Scout Daisy troop is ready for longer trips:

- Has the troop taken several day trips including short meeting-long trips, longer half day trips and finally all day trips?
- Were the longer trips a good experience for the girls?
- Are the leaders and other adult chaperones prepared for a longer outing with the girls?

If you are able to answer yes to all of these questions and your troop has been together for at least one year, you may request to take your Girl Scout Daisy troop on longer adventures. Be sure to fill out your Troop/Group Trip Application at least 30 days in advance and submit it to the council for review and approval.

Girl Scout Daisy camping experiences were recently revised by GSUSA to reflect the addition of first grade girls as part of that program level. According to the latest update for *Safety-Wise*, Girl Scout Daisies may camp under the following guidelines:

- Under the leadership of an adult, a Girl Scout Daisy troop may participate in an occasional overnight camping experience.
- Girl Scout Daisies who have completed Kindergarten may independently participate in day camp and resident camp experiences lasting up to three nights.
- Girl Scout Daisies who have completed first grade may independently participate in resident camp experiences lasting four or more nights.

The council offers several opportunities for camp experiences for Girl Scout Daisies. Check the Program Events catalog on line to see what is offered. Be sure to note the location of the event and the travel distance.

Keep in mind that there are always going to be fun opportunities that are open to all age groups, but that does not necessarily mean that every troop in our council would be eligible to attend (for example - the travel distance to Chattanooga is close enough for some Girl Scout Daisy and Brownie troops in the extreme north counties, but Atlanta is too far - the reverse is true for our extreme south counties).

Remember – the girls don't have to experience everything as Girl Scout Daisies – give them something to look forward to in the next program level. Give yourself a chance to get to know them and most importantly for them to get to know one another so that all your travel experiences will be fun, exciting and safe!

The agenda is posted to the website on the third Monday of each month. Please check the website after April 20th for updates and/or additions to these reports.