

Consistent Agenda Items

Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

February 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!

It's almost time to recognize numeral guard honorees. If you have a volunteers that has combined years of membership as a girl and an adult that equals 20+ years (in 5-year increments), please email Cinnamon Draper at cdraper@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org, their name, address, daytime phone number, and number of years.

2008-09 President's Award update

This transitional 2008-09 year has brought many questions about the 2008 President's Award criteria. For this year only, Areas 1-4 (including Forsyth, Clayton and South Fulton counties) will use the former Girl Scout Council of Northwest Georgia's President's Award nomination form. Area 5 (including Carroll and Haralson counties) will use their respective former council's nomination forms.

Please make note of the following changes:

- All areas will now carry a new deadline for submission of the President's Award of **March 1, 2009**.
- In addition, Areas 1-4 (including Clayton and South Fulton counties) will no longer have to report on service units' troop cookie payments by a predetermined deadline for President's Award consideration. We do ask that service unit directors or cookie chairs continue to follow up on cookie debt. Please provide written correspondence to the volunteer services coordinator showing any outstanding debt is being pursued.

These changes are all in an effort to recognize service units for their outstanding efforts during the year in which they serve at the council's annual award ceremony in April.

Please use the new forms on the website that can be found under volunteer zone>adults recognition and awards>resources that reflect the changes listed above for the 2008-09 year only. A new, more consistent form for the entire council will be released in the spring of 2009

For more details about volunteer recognitions, contact **Cinnamon Draper** at 678-686-7557 or cdraper@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org

We're looking for Numeral Guard recipients:

As we update our membership database, we ask that if you have been a member of Girl Scouts (girl plus adult years) for 20+ years, in five year increments, please email Cinnamon Draper at cdraper@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org. In your email include your full name, mailing address, email address, daytime phone number and the number of years you've been a member.

B. Adult Education and Training: Many have asked! Here is a list of classes that can be taken on-line:

WBT1000	ONLINE NEW LEADER TRAINING	1.50
WBT1001	NUEVO ENTRENAMIENTO EN LÍNEA DEL LÍDER	1.50
WBT1100	ONLINE LEARNING WHILE SERVING	1.00
WBT1200	ONLINE MONEY MANAGEMENT TRAINING	1.00
WBT1300	ONLINE TRIP AND TRAVEL	1.00
WBT1400	ONLINE PLANNING EVENTS BEYOND YOUR TROOP	1.50
WBT1500	ONLINE CABIN CAMPING	1.00
WBT1600	ONLINE BROWNIE LEADER TRAINING	1.50
WBT1700	ONLINE TROOP LEADER COACH TRAINING	0.50
WBT1800	ONLINE SHORT-TERM PROGRAM LEADER TRAINING	0.50
WBT1900	ONLINE BRIDGING ALL LEVELS	0.50
WBT2000	ONLINE ANNUAL MEETING DELEGATE TRAINING	0.50
WBT2100	ONLINE STEPS TO SAVANNAH	1.00

C. Annual Fund: Service Unit chair has report.

D. Badge and Sash: New Store opening in Cumming Georgia in early February!!!! Call 404-527-7669 for more details.

Super Sale on Cookie T-Shirts and Sweatshirts continues until all stock is depleted. Most sizes still available including youth sizes. Perfect attire for Cookie Booth sales.

Cookie Booth sale tools still available in stores are the Tablecloths, Yard Signs, Bins, Table Toppers and more. **Green Cookie Jars** with matching plates and mugs are reduced.

Girl Scout Nights at the Ringing Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus are Sunday Feb.15, Thurs. Feb. 19 and Fri. Feb. 20. tickets on sale in our stores.

Girl Scout Days at UniVerSoul Circus are Sat. Feb. 21 and Sun. Feb.22. Tickets will be sold in our stores.

Remember, **Thinking Day is February 22** patches are available in the stores.

Our new Council patch: **New Beginnings Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta** patches are still available for \$.99 in all stores.

Service Unit Directors/ Leaders please be aware of the **Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008** when buying supplies and gifts for your girls age 12 years and younger. This Act deals with new limits on the amount of lead and phthalate in products for children 12 and younger. All products sold in our stores will be in compliance. You may contact Mary Forbes in the store for more details.

Atlanta-404-527-7669, Dalton-706-226-1435, Griffin-770-227-2524 x 201

E. Community Service Opportunities: Girls Care Youth Project Coordinator Training:

Junior, Senior, Cadette, and Ambassador age girls who plan on leading their service unit's Global Youth Service Day community service project during the weekend of April 24-26, 2009 should sign up for youth project coordinator training. Dates and times can be found on the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta website under Contributing To Society. If you have any questions, please contact Cinnamon Draper at 678-686-7557 or cdraper@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org

Girls Care Design-a-patch contest

The council's Girls Care initiative is an effort to encourage girls to step into leadership roles while serving their communities. This leadership opportunity will allow girls to *Discover* the world around them, *Connect* with others, and *Take Action* to solve problems and improve their communities. That's why this year we're looking for the best girl-designed logo to represent our council-wide initiative. The winning design will be the 2010 Girls Care council participation patch. This contest is open to all grade levels.

To enter the Girls Care design-a-patch contest:

1. Create your design within the attached template.
2. Using clip art, free hand drawings, shapes, or photos, design your patch to illustrate a logo that would represent Girls Care projects council-wide. (Your logo should not represent your individual service unit project.)
3. E-mail your work to cdraper@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org, or mail to Cinnamon Draper, 1577 Northeast Expressway, Atlanta, GA 30329.

Visit www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org the week of April 1 for the announcement of the winner. ****Contest entries accepted through March 21****

If you have any questions, please contact Cinnamon Draper at 678-686-7557 or cdraper@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org for service opportunities.

F. Cookie Program: Girl Scout Cookie Booth Sale Reminder!

As a newly realigned council, we are still expected to live by the Girl Scout Law. Girl Scout Cookie Booth Sales are no exception to this rule. The only jurisdictional boundary for holding a Girl Scout Cookie Booth Sale is for our troops to stay within our council's jurisdiction. It is expected that troops would first seek locations within their service unit. However, troops that seek locations outside of their assigned service unit area are required to be considerate of the troops in that particular service unit and not monopolize a location. Also, it is expected that the adults working with our girls will conduct themselves with the utmost respect and courtesy should a conflict arise. Any other type of behavior will jeopardize our organization's ability to continue holding booth sales at local businesses. Service unit cookie managers are strongly encouraged to work directly with the owners/managers of the prime booth sale locations to secure dates and manage the sign-up process for all troops.

Girl Scout Cookies are safe!

We want to assure all of our loyal Girl Scout Cookie customers that the peanut butter used in Tagalongs® and Do-Si-Dos® cookie products is not sourced from Peanut Corporation of America, the supplier recently implicated by the FDA in their ongoing investigation of a Salmonella outbreak. FDA and other regulatory agencies have indicated that Peanut Corporation of America (PCA) is the focus of their investigation concerning a recent Salmonella outbreak thought to be caused by tainted peanut butter. PCA does not supply peanut butter used in any variety of Girl Scout(R) cookies.

For more information visit: Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc. Web site
http://girlscoutsnwga.org/cookies_and_more/default.asp?page=cookie_program

Little Brownie Bakers Web site:
http://littlebrownie.com/cookies/news_pb.html

Girl Scouts of the USA Web site:
http://www.girlscouts.org/news/news_releases/2009/girl_scout_cookies.asp

- G. Girl Program Department:** The *Lime Green Giraffe* is accepting applications for girls who would like to be a part of our council's very own by girls, for girls magazine. Girls learn what it takes to put together a magazine, from layout to photo shoots to final copy. Applications will be on our website shortly and are due February 23rd.

I would like everyone to know that I will meet with troops & SU volunteers that are interested in running events & short term programs to train & support them in putting these together and getting volunteer, service or leadership hours. I can be scheduled to come to weekday meetings in the afternoon or evenings to work with these groups. This could be useful for girls working towards Silver or Gold, girls or adults looking to earn volunteering awards or SUs wanting to recruit girls when there are no leaders available so that they could be Juliettes (adding to their membership numbers) with quality programs available in their area.

Thanks... Terry Otto, Juliette Specialist; e-mail: totto@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org

- H. Girl Scout Resource Center: Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors and their advisors** are invited to try out three new "murder mystery" games now available at the Atlanta Resource Center:

- a. "Sherlock Holmes, The Case of the Silver Bullet" is a classic detective murder mystery dinner party for 6-8 players, ages 14 and up. It contains a DVD, party planner, invitations, scripts and clues. *"The night of 21 March 1905 saw a full moon rise over the remote Hampshire village of Thor Bridge."* Perfect for a cabin camping trip!
- b. "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, the Board Game." Join Grissom's team, gather the evidence, then solve the crime. Includes eight different games, for 6 plays age 13 and up; rules, crime scene photos, descriptions and solutions. Great for a slumber party or lock-in.
- c. "The Pungent Pumpkin Poisoner" for 7 people (*some adult material*) - an impromptu murder mystery where the murder has not yet happened. Which one of you will not survive the night...!!! **Download** your own free copy at:
<http://www.merrymurder.com/murdersoverview/themurderspumpkin.htm> or checkout a copy from the Atlanta Resource Center.

Remember, you can reserve materials up to six weeks in advance: contact Margaret Paschal at 404-527-7672/800-771-4046 ext. 7672 or mpaschal@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org.

- I. Outdoor Program:** Registration for summer camp started January 21. Help us bust the myth that camps fill the first day. Spaces are available! Find those spaces immediately by using the online registration system on the website.

Did you know that day camp is offered at Timber Ridge, Meriwether and Pine Acres? Sign up for one week or the whole summer. What a great way for girls to spend their summer, knee deep in the outdoors during the day with the comfort of their own bed at night.

Check the website regularly for new outdoor program events. You may discover a great opportunity for your girls that are not in the Program Event Catalog.

Spaces are still available at all our camps for spring troop camping. Contact Melinda Wyatt, mwyatt@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org or 404-527-7524; with date and site options and she will be happy to work with you to find a camp bed to rest your head.

J. Membership Department: Just a reminder: At the recent 2008 Girl Scout National Council Session/51st Convention held in Indianapolis, the delegates approved the proposal to increase the dues from \$10 to \$12, effective the October 2009 membership year. This goes into effect for spring registration that starts March 16, 2009.

- Top Five Reasons to Participate in Spring Registration
 1. You will have uninterrupted service in mailings, publications, etc. from the council office.
 2. By signing the troop up now, girls and parents can go ahead and plan for troop activities in the fall
 3. Girl incentive will fill in a “blank” spot on girls’ vest/sash.
 4. Girls can begin working on their leadership awards over the summer – rather than waiting until the fall.
 5. Troop proceeds from the cookie sale or troop treasury can be used to pay for girls’ registration fee. You can carry on Juliette Gordon Low’s idea of troops being self sustaining and the parents will appreciate the good financial stewardship.

Save the date - Spring registration starts March 16 through May 22

Service unit directors will receive spring registration materials the first week of March

Reminder: The Annual Meeting will be held at **Spelman College** on **Sunday, April 26 from 11:30 – 1 p.m.**

The deadline to submit the information to the council office was January 20, 2009. Please submit ASAP if you haven’t done so. The following information is needed from the service units:

- Delegate Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone Number and e-mail address
- Alternate Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone Number and e-mail address

Please submit delegate information to membershipworkorders@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org

K. Marketing and Media:

New Volunteer conference calls: Hear from the experts about what works, share your ideas and get your questions answered!

Conference Call for New Volunteers (unlimited registration):

Thursday, February 26

10:00 am or 7:00 pm

Wrapping Up the Year with Service and Spring Registration

Hear from the experts about what works, share your ideas and get your questions answered!

Use this link to register:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=7SeZXRRGVVSwvnBnOInocw_3d_3d

Call Ruth Caproni at 404-527-7517 for more information.

- L. Risk Management / Safety-Wise:** Is your troop planning a trip? Did you know that there is a new tool available on-line at the council web site that will make notifying the council easy and convenient? It's called the **Trip Permission Guide** and here is how to find and use it.

Enter the council web site at www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org
Click on Events and Things to Do – a drop down menu will appear
Click on Trip Permission Guide and you are on your way!

The Trip Permission Guide will ask you questions about your proposed trip. Based on the answers you provide it will automatically take you to the correct form to fill out for the type of trip you are taking. After completing the form you will have the option of printing a copy and mailing it in to the council service center, or you will have the option of immediately emailing the form. In either case, be sure to print a copy of the information for your records.

Some important tips about using the Trip Permission Guide:

- In section 6 of the Trip Application be sure to list the names of the adults serving as first Aider, trained troop camp and lifeguard or boating instructor – you can fill in their names right on the same line. Additionally be sure to list all adults accompanying the troop on the trip.
- Be sure to answer all questions – leaving anything blank may cause a delay in processing.

How do you know if the trip is approved?

- For short trips an email is automatically sent to council staff and is kept on file. You will not be notified of receipt unless there is a problem with your response to one of the questions.
- For all domestic trips (trips within the Continental US of two nights or less) you will be notified by email of trip approval status within seven business days of receipt by council staff.
- For extended trips (any trip that is three nights or more), cruises and international trips you will be notified within 14 business days of receipt by council staff.