

# Consistent Agenda Items

## Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc.

### October 2008

#### A. Adult Awards & Recognitions: It's Time...

Do you know of a volunteer who has done extraordinary work to benefit multiple service units, counties or the entire council? Maybe you know of an organization or business that was instrumental in the council meeting its goals and objectives for the year. Well, now is the time to nominate these individuals for the recognition they deserve.

- Provided service to two or more service units in multiple volunteer positions: **Helen Foster Award of Excellence**
- Provided service to two or more counties in one position: **Honor Pin**
- Provided service to benefit the total council or entire Girl Scout movement in one or more volunteer positions: **Thanks Badge**
- Provided continued service after receiving the Thanks Badge that benefit the council or entire Girl Scout Movement: **Thanks Badge II**
- Provided service as an organization or business in support of the entire council: **Trefoil Award**

For more details about volunteer recognitions, contact **Cinnamon Draper** at 678-686-7557 or [draper@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org](mailto:draper@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org)

- B. Adult Education and Training:** In October, on Learning Opportunities on the Web, you will find some of the *Guiding the Journey* workshops are designated Daisy, Brownie, Junior **OR** Cadette, Senior, Ambassador. This is to provide more comprehensive information and guidance for those grade levels. They are especially good for new leaders, as handouts about behavior management and troop government are provided. We hope adults will come prepared with their Facilitator Guide book sets for their grade level and be prepared to enjoy and learn during the two hours of training.

Learning Opportunities and the Program Events Catalog and are now combined into one and have been printed. Take the time to review the workshops section. You will notice that there are workshops near you if you register by the registration deadline. Sign up – you may make the difference of canceling the workshop or ensuring that the workshop will be presented. If a class is cancelled, there may be an online or home study option. Contact the training department at 404-527-7523 at any time with questions.

Would you be interested in facilitating a workshop? Contact Mary Kottkamp, Trainer Development Specialist, about becoming a trainer!  
Email [mkottkamp@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org](mailto:mkottkamp@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org) or 678-420-2693. All applicants complete an application and interview before being accepted into the trainer program.

- C. Annual Fund:** S.U. Chair has monthly report.

#### D. Badge and Sash:

1. **The Greater Atlanta ID Strips are here.** They are \$.50 each. Troops can either replace their NWGA/Pine Valley ID strips with this new one or leave the NWGA/Pine Valley ID strips on. We hope to have the full Greater Atlanta ID Sets by the first of 2009.

2. Tickets for **Girl Scout Nights at Disney on Ice, Worlds of Fantasy** for Oct. 23-23 at Philips Arena, Atlanta are on sale in the Atlanta B&S thru Oct.11.
3. **Calendar sale packets** are in the Badge & Sash. Call or come to pick them up.
4. **New official adult uniforms** effective October '08 are your own navy blue business attire with your official Girl Scout Scarf and membership pins for ladies and pins tie for men. There are three official Girl Scout Scarves. All three are in stock, they are \$22, \$25 and the silk scarf is \$75. The men's silk tie is \$40.
5. **New official adult separates** shown in the new catalog are in stock in the Atlanta Badge & Sash Girl Scout Store. **Remember, if you are attending the Girl Scout National Convention you are expected to be in your official Girl Scout uniform!**
6. **The new Journey Books**, award patches, pins and most keepsakes are in stock.
7. **Celebrate Juliette Low's Birthday** & Halloween at your favorite Girl Scout Store.
8. **Girl Scout Night with the Gwinnett Gladiators** is Saturday Nov.22 at the Gwinnett Arena. All troops purchasing 20 or more tickets will have an opportunity to win a table for a "Cookie Booth" during the March 7<sup>th</sup> Gladiators game. Get details at the Atlanta Girl Scout Badge & Sash Store.
9. All merchandise with Northwest GA and Pine Valley have been reduced, especially patches in all stores.

**E. Community Service Opportunities:**

- Nothing new to report this month.

**F. Girl Scout Cookie Program:** This year Girls and troops may choose to earn the Gift of Caring and/or Cookies 4 a Change patch in conjunction with their participation in the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Both patches will be available for purchase at the Girl Scout Badge & Sash Store.

- **Gift of Caring:** Girls choose to take a collection of cookies purchased for donations to be given to a group of their choice (e.g., a children's hospital, the military, firefighters, police officers, senior facilities, etc.)
- **Cookies 4 a Change:** Girls choose to use portions of their troop proceeds to support a "Cause" of their choice (e.g., animal shelters, Toys for Tots, food pantries, Project Linus, etc.)

**Cookie Rally Guide** books are available. Rally patches will be issued upon receipt of the Post Rally Form for all girl participants. Cookie Rallies can be held at any time, so talk with your service unit cookie manager to start planning now!

**F. Girl Program Department:** Check out your regional newsletter from your program specialist.

**G. Girl Scout Resource Center:** It's never too early to start planning for World Thinking Day, and the Atlanta Resource Center has several new CDs to keep in mind as girls plan their WTD celebrations: "Caribbean Celebration" (tropical steel band music); "Piñata Fiesta" and "Cantina Mariachi" (Mexico.) The Resource Center also has a new international packet available for

checkout: "Discover Our World Centres," with lots of information about WAGGGS' international hostels in Switzerland, The UK, Mexico, and India. For information on World Thinking Day 2009, be sure to go to the "Girl Scouts Around the Globe" section of The Volunteer Zone on our council Web site, [www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org](http://www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org). (And remember, China is NOT a member of WAGGGS) Also at the Atlanta Resource Center is a new Treasure Box, "Earth Is Our Home" Brownie Try-It.

**H. Outdoor Program:** A Girl Scout Summer (day and resident camp brochure) is almost done. We have so many exciting changes to share with you. The first is that the brochure will be laid out by program levels instead of by camp. This will help girls and parents see all the options available for their age group. Invite a Camp Director to your Service Unit Meeting to hear all the changes that will better meet the needs and interests of all our girls.

**I. Membership Department: Add-A-Member!** Please see the attached flyer regarding Add-A-Member patch guidelines for this year.

**K. Marketing and Media: Council-sponsored events now online!**

Visit the [Events and Things to Do](#) section of the Web site to see the full list of events for the 2008-09 membership year.

**New volunteer conference calls:** You don't have to face Atlanta traffic for this learning opportunity... you can do it in your pajamas and slippers! 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 toll-free number and join the conference call. **Here's your chance to learn about:**

- **Oct. 23** – A great Girl Scout Cookie Sale – use your imagination
- **Nov. 23** – Taking your troop on the road – field trips and more
- **Jan. 22** – Let's get global – World Thinking Day and other traditions
- **Feb. 26** – Wrapping up the year with service and spring registration
- **March 26** – Celebrating your success – end-of-year celebrations
- **April 23** – Summer fun to keep your troop strong – thinking ahead to next year

Spots are limited! [Click here to sign up for any session](#). Once you are registered, you will receive the details about how to call in.

#### **Things every leader wants to know**

During any time of transition, patience is generally needed; and the beginning of Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc. is no different! We ask that everyone understand that many of the things you want to know are still being developed. The priority is to get the membership year off to a good start and keep things moving forward. [Learn more!](#)

Also, marketing is still looking for people to interview so if anyone has an interesting story contact Katie Bower at [kbower@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org](mailto:kbower@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org)

**Risk Management / Safety-Wise:** Troops and other groups often forward information to service unit directors to share with troops. Service unit directors should be sure before allowing anyone to share information or distribute flyers that the event is approved. An event sponsored by a troop or service unit is not approved until a Beyond the Troop Event application has completed the cycle of approval by your membership and program specialists. Once the application is approved, it is forwarded to risk management and at that time, non-member insurance is ordered and certificates of insurance are issued if needed.