

Team Connections is the monthly newsletter for service team members. Contact Brenda Lloyd at [BrendaL@GSEIWI.org](mailto:BrendaL@GSEIWI.org) or Jayme Ironside at [Jaymel@GSEIWI.org](mailto:Jaymel@GSEIWI.org) with information for upcoming editions.

## Welcome to our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year!

Welcome to the beginning of a new troop year, one in which we will be celebrating 100 years of Girl Scouts. To celebrate Girl Scouts 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary we have launched [a web site page dedicated](#) solely to everything happening here and nationally. There is a calendar of events, service unit and troop ideas, monthly community service projects, heritage projects, a place to share your stories, and a place to post your photos. Visit the site often to see what else is new, and to see what other service units and troops are doing. In addition, we have a lot of great council events planned, beginning with the Adult Leadership Summit on October 8.

On August 1, we launched the 2012 membership registration campaign. We intend to give every girl the opportunity to join Girl Scouts, and when she does, to exceed her expectations. Our goal for this year is to reach 19,000 girls by December 31. You can help make this happen by working with your regional membership manager to make sure we deliver the perfect recruitment to all 432 of our elementary schools by September 30. Through the perfect recruitment process we encourage all parents to participate in their daughter's Girl Scout experience in a way that will work for them. A new resource called the Parent Guide is available in our school organizer kits and [online](#).

Once girls join, they will be able to participate in the new national program portfolio. GSUSA introduced the new Girl Guides this fall and we are expecting delivery in September. GSUSA has also developed Skill-building badge activity sets to go along with each of the journeys. The initial reaction to these new resources has been extremely positive and we can't wait to hear from girls from your service unit as well.

In August, all O1 troop leaders were sent via regular mail, a new Leadership Experience Guide. We hope troop leaders will use this guide to help plan their year, to take advantage of the monthly program focus, and to attend some great events throughout the council. A more detailed Leadership Experience Guide is available online and leaders can register for events.

One last note, a huge THANK YOU to all of you service team members that helped support troop leaders in the 2010 and 2011 GS troop year. Girl Scouting wouldn't happen if it wasn't for your time, talents, and passion for the Girl Scout mission. Please join me in helping make 2012, our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the best year for girls in Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois.

Sincerely,  
Brenda Lloyd  
VP of Membership

**The Girl Scout Promise**

On my honor, I will try:  
To serve God\* and my country,  
To help people at all times,  
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

**The Girl Scout Law**

I will do my best to be  
honest and fair,  
friendly and helpful,  
considerate and caring,  
courageous and strong, and  
responsible for what I say and do,  
and to  
respect myself and others,  
respect authority,  
use resources wisely,  
make the world a better place,  
and  
be a sister to every Girl Scout.



Hundreds of girls participated in Troop Camp at L-Kee-Ta and Tahigwa this summer. Fall troop camp opportunities are available. To learn more, visit [www.GSEIWI.org](http://www.GSEIWI.org). Photo by Kelsey Kremer, Camp Marketing Coordinator.

## Service Unit Director

Welcome to an exciting year in Girl Scouts! This year GSEIWI is working to achieve a membership goal of 19,000 girls by December 31. Service Units can help. Service Unit Directors are an integral part of what we do in Girl Scouts in supporting girls and adults. To ensure you have a great year, please note the updates and reminders for the 2011-2012 membership year.

- Troop leaders need to be reregistered by September 30 to maintain eBiz access of the troop hub. After this date any adult who registers as an O1 leader will have to wait for the council to make a change in the Personify database.
- Remind troops to utilize the year-long permission slip as the GSUSA membership registration form no longer has emergency contact information. [Click here](#) for the form. Have an efficient and effective SU meeting. Here is a [sample agenda](#) for your service unit meetings. Here is also a link for some [tips to a successful meeting](#).
- Make sure to connect with new and existing leaders. Talk to your Regional Membership Manager about connecting with new troop leaders.
- Mark your calendar for the [Leadership Summit](#) near you!

## Registrar

Welcome to the Girl Scouts 100<sup>th</sup> year! We have some important updates for troops and volunteers.

- Troop leaders need to be reregistered by September 30 to maintain eBiz access of the troop hub. After this date any adult who registers as an O1 leader will have to wait for the council to make a change in the personify database.
- Registration is online! Girls and adults can register online and leaders can manage their troops. [Click here](#) for more information.

## School Organizers

As we begin our 100<sup>th</sup> year, school organizers will be working to offer every girl the opportunity to join Girl Scouts. School organizers have some great resources and tools to make their role easier. [Click here](#) for more info.

## Leader Mentor

Here we are once again looking at a new school year getting underway. With that comes that excitement of seeing school friends and sharing our summer adventures. Listed below are some quick thoughts on getting started, and then you can [click here](#) for additional information and resources.

- Do a quick connect with last year's 'new' leaders – do they need a little boost to get started?
- Use your New Leader Contact Sheet with all new leaders.
- Be sure your Service Unit has a process that everyone is using for hooking new leaders up with Leader Mentors.
- NEW – [online hotline](#) for all those burning questions.

## Treasurer

As the new membership year begins, please note some changes with GSEIWI and troop/SU finances.

- Debit cards can be used for troop and service unit accounts. With eBiz for program event registration and membership registration available troops can use a debit card. If you need assistance setting up the use of a debit card please contact the finance department (309)788-0833.
- Fall and Cookie Sale payments will be made via ACH. More information to come. Troops must have checking accounts to sell cookies and fall product.
- Remind troops that they need to open a bank account and then return paperwork within two weeks of opening the account to their regional Leadership Center.

## Mobile Market Coordinator

The Girl Scout Shop has a lot of great things to offer as we begin the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Girl Scouts, including special discounts on remaining quantities of retired merchandise (try-its, badges, interest project patches, etc) [Click here](#) for more offers and shop information.

All retired merchandise is 30% off beginning Sept. 1. Once this merchandise is gone from our council shops, we cannot purchase more. We suggest that if your troop is planning on earning one of the retired try-its, badges or interest project patches, purchase them now while they are still in stock.

## Outdoor Program Coordinator

The GSEIWI Equestrian program has a lot of options for girls, troops and adults. If there are girls and adults in your Service Unit who are passionate about horses, please check out [all of the great options](#) for girls and adults.

Fall is a great time to take your troops troop camping. [Click here](#) to check out the offerings at all four of our great camp properties. Don't forget to use your free overnight camp certificate if you participated in spring registration.

## Juliette Coordinator

Help get the word out about Girl Scout Pathways! Also known as the Juliette program, Pathways offer all girls a variety of ways to participate in Girl Scouting. Girls can take part in one or all of the Pathway options. They can attend weekend workshops or special events and programs like LEAP, Raise Your Voice or Winter Carnival. They can attend a Day Camp, Resident Camp or a camp program like Camp Creepy. Girls can travel the world with **destinations** or take a trip closer to home like to Chicago or St. Louis. We also will be unveiling a virtual option just for girls who are Juliette Girl Scouts. [Click here](#) to learn more about the pathways, or contact your local Leadership Experience Manager with any questions.

## Adult Learning Coordinator

New this year for Girl Scout volunteers! All of the required courses for becoming a troop leader are available as online courses. Here are the topics to cover at your SU meeting, and then [click here](#) for additional information and resources.

- Invite all new troop leaders/volunteers to Service Unit meetings
- Check out the Adult Learning Calendar Online Adult Learning Schedule for 2011-12
- A new edition of [Volunteer Essentials](#) is available online, we have a limited number of copies available if needed.

- [Volunteer Essentials](#) has some great new features, including Journey and Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting Information.
- Additional trainings are being offered online, including Parent Involvement, Leader Mentor and more. Please check them out on the [Adult Learning page](#).

## Program Event Coordinator

The Journey of the Century is on the calendar! Saturday, March 10, 2012 will serve as the kick-off for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for girls with World Thinking Day on one side of the River Center and a celebration of 100 years of Girl Scouts on the other. [Click here](#) for detailed information.

Questions or interest in getting involved? Email Mollie Hermiston, Leadership Experience Manager, at [MollieH@GSEIWI.org](mailto:MollieH@GSEIWI.org)

## Recognition Coordinator

There are some changes coming to our national Girl Scout awards. [Click here](#) for the latest information on what you need to know as the Recognition Coordinator for your Service Unit.

## Product Sales Manager

### ACH Withdrawals

GSEIWI will be utilizing ACH banking withdrawals to collect troop payments for both of our sale programs this year. Please direct troops to the [ACH Authorization Form](#) to get their troop set up. This form must be filled out before a troop can participate in a sale. It only needs to be filled out one time and will be valid for both sales. Troops should fill it out now even if there is a chance they won't participate in the Fall Sale Program.

Completed forms should be sent to: GSEIWI, Attention Finance, 2011 Second Ave. Rock Island, IL 61201

SUPM training dates for the Fall Sale Program are as follows:

- Monday Sept. 12 – West Burlington Leadership Center
- Tuesday Sept. 13 – Dubuque Leadership Center
- Wednesday Sept. 14 – Quad Cities Leadership Center
- Wednesday Sept. 21 – Waterloo Leadership Center
- Thursday Sept. 22 – Cedar Rapids Leadership Center

Please RSVP your training location choice to Shawna Purdum at [ShawnaP@GSEIWI.org](mailto:ShawnaP@GSEIWI.org) by Sept. 7. There will be a small meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by training from 6-8 p.m. on each date.

### Cookies:

By now you have probably heard that we will be using a direct sale format for the 2012 Cookie Sale Program. We are sure that you have questions about what that means and how it will work. We have put together some information on the subject that we will be posting to our website shortly. In the mean time here are some [Direct Sale FAQs](#).

## Community Information Coordinator

Please welcome Ann McGlynn, our new director of marketing and communications, and Michelle Black, our new web and graphic design manager! Along with veterans Kady Riches and Erika Salek, the GSEIWI marketing and communications team is looking forward to publicizing the deeper value of the Girl Scout experience. Watch for more from the team as everyone gets settled in. If you'd like to share any thoughts you have as a Community Information Coordinator, please email Ann at [AnnM@GSEIWI.org](mailto:AnnM@GSEIWI.org).

## Traditions Coordinator

Traditions are an important part of Girl Scouting. Age-old traditions give meaning to all that we do. As we begin this new year, check out the [100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary website](#) for ideas on celebrating the past, enjoying what we are doing today, and look forward to the future. Then share your finding with the rest of the Service Unit.

One tradition that is tried and true is an Investiture/Rededication ceremony for all of your leaders. Here are [two suggestions](#), but there are many others just by searching the internet.

## Girl Scout High Awards

For those of you with girls in Juniors through Ambassadors, now is the time to start thinking about High Awards. Be sure to check out the Girl Guide to Girl Scouting which has all the requirements and steps to help your girls earn one of the highest awards in Girl Scouting.

There are also trainings in each major geographical area in October that you and your girls are encouraged to attend. This hands-on training will give your group lots of great ideas for the Take Action project required to complete the award. Girls interested in earning their Girl Scout Gold Award are highly encouraged to attend.

## Safety Zone

This is the time of year to remind all leaders to dispose of the [Year-Long Permission Form/Troop Health History Form](#) from the previous year and have all parents/guardians fill out a new form for the 2011-12 year. Children and arrangements change quickly and it is imperative that forms are filled out once a year.

## National Convention 2011

National Convention is just around the corner and it will be the kick-off to the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. The National Delegates will be at Town Hall meetings in September to discuss the proposals that will be voted on at the National Council Session. Be sure to attend a Town Hall meeting near you to give your opinion. The proposals will be available on the website to review.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

We hope by now that you have taken some time to look over all of the fabulous events, activities and programs that we have put together for the celebration of Girl Scout's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have a [website just for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary](#) that will keep girls, troops and service units busy for the entire 18-month celebration. At your service unit meeting, take some time to show this [PowerPoint](#) that is a quick overview of the website. Then invite leaders to dig in and see all of the great things that are available!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** We will be celebrating three big events and kicking off GSEIWI's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the Coralville Marriott on April 28. We will start with the Cookie 500 Club celebration and the High Awards celebration. Our Girl Scout alumnae will gather in the afternoon to reminisce, and that evening our Annual Meeting and Adult Recognition will kickoff the celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! More details coming your way soon.

## Service Units Reach 2010-2011 Girl Membership Goal

Thank you to all of the volunteers worked hard to meet the membership goal for 2010-2011. We look forward to listing EVERY Service Unit in our January issue of Team Connections!

615 Dunkerton	608 Winneshiek
618 Chickasaw	619 Howard
624 Fayette	622 Buchanan
625 Bremer	627 Grundy
750 Dubuque	761 Ed-Co/Starmont
770 Dyersville	771 Western Dubuque
821 Washington	816 Coralville
819 Iowa City	806 NW Cedar Rapids
808 Center Point Rapids	809 SE Cedar
810 SW Cedar Rapids	877 Mercer
886 Geneseo	890 Alpha
897 Knox	855 Davenport
856 Buffalo	857 Bettendorf
858 Pleasant Valley	859 North Scott
871 Andalusia	836 Muscatine
912 Donnellson	940 Henry Co. IA

## Kudos Korner

Kudos to Jen Pazour and the women in Clayton County for organizing a successful day camp! Their theme was "Out of this World" with expert help from the Osborne Nature Center and MFL high school science teacher Mr. Langus. The girls had the opportunity to use temperature/heat guns and helped make planet models for the Osborne center.

## For Your Information

### Let Your Girls Share Their Voice!

GSEIWI will be launching "Girls Speak Up!" a major survey initiative in October 2011 to learn about the quality of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience offered to our girls, the skills they are developing through the program, and best practices for keeping girls excited about Girl Scouting.

*Let your girls' voice be heard!* Girls in grades K-12 can sign up now at [www.GirlScoutVoices.org](http://www.GirlScoutVoices.org). Girls 12 and under will need parental permission to sign up. Girls will be invited to complete two additional surveys in October and November. Girls who complete both the surveys will receive two exclusive prizes. Encourage your girls to take part today!

### GSEIWI Archives

In preparation for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the GSEIWI Archives are accessible to the community in several ways.

- Photos are available through the council's flickr page: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/gseiwiarchives/>
- Uniforms are available for check-out through the leadership centers. Up to six items may be checked out at once, for two weeks. One renewal is allowed, for a total check-out time of four weeks.
- Traveling trunks containing historical handbooks and uniforms are available for check-out through the leadership centers. There is one trunk for each of the Brownie, Junior, Cadette, and Senior grade levels. Up to two trunks may be checked out at once, for two weeks. One renewal is allowed, for a total check-out time of four weeks. Please allow transport time from the Quad-Cities Leadership Center.

For all other archives use requests, please contact the archives supervisor at [Archives@GSEIWI.org](mailto:Archives@GSEIWI.org).

## Green and White Celebrations

This past spring the council launched an initiative called Green and White Celebrations. The purpose of the Green and White is to bring parents together by school at the end of the year to

showcase all their girls accomplished and learned. The pilot Green and White program was a huge success. We shared the Girl Scout story with 1,026 families who then also chose to financially support our council. A huge **thank you** goes out to all the School Organizers who hosted Green and White Celebrations. With even more help, we are hoping to host more than 100 Green and White celebrations this year!

## Grants for Financial Assistance

GSEIWI recognizes the needs of members with financial hardship and strives to eliminate this potential barrier to participation with Grants for Financial Assistance.

Funds are limited and financial assistance amounts are based on level of financial need using National Poverty Guidelines. To ensure a quick turn-around, provide complete information on the request including the membership year, income and size of household.

Girls, their families, and volunteers are encouraged to contribute when able and to be active participants in their Girl Scout experience. Troops need to be as self-sufficient as possible in activity planning to ensure all girls are able to participate.

- Grant for girls - for first-year troop dues, council-sponsored events and trips, uniforms and resources.
- Grant for adults - for council-sponsored events and trips, insignia tab and membership pin.
- [Click here](#) for Grant Guidelines and forms.



Hundreds of girls participated in Troop Camp at L-Kee-Ta and Tahigwa this summer. Fall troop camp opportunities are available. To learn more, visit [www.GSEIWI.org](http://www.GSEIWI.org). Photo by Kelsey Kremer, Camp Marketing Coordinator.