

# Association 51 Newsletter

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Issue #2

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## Tips and Suggestions

- Having trouble talking about SHARE with parents? Check out <http://www.gscnc.org/share/materials.php> for help and information.
- If you have turned in your B220, the camping/activity eligibility form, you have approval when you need to submit the B240. There is no need to wait for a 'receipt' of any sort.
- All forms that need to be sent to council should be sent to [forms@gscnc.org](mailto:forms@gscnc.org)
- When registering girls, please remember to include the school code on each girl registration form. Your Registrar should have provided a list to you.
- For High Adventure Activities, please make sure your intended vendor is on the approved list, otherwise, please submit the request form online to Kendra. She will communicate with you directly.

## Association Meeting Changed!

Due to scheduling conflicts, the Fall Association Meeting has been moved to **NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005** at **Trinity Presbyterian Church in Herndon** at **6:30 pm.**

## Adult Registration? Who and Why?

According to Safety Wise, page 70, "...the group committee members, who provide the principal support to the troop, should be registered..." These members can provide transportation, assistant with projects, childcare support, leader substitutes, etc. However, other individuals who also supply the above support are not necessarily members of the 'group committee', therefore, not every parent must be registered to help with the troop.

Page 13 of 'Volunteer Basics' states that Troop Leaders/Advisors and Trainers are required to join the Girl Scouts of the USA. Those that hold an appointed position also need to be registered as stated in their appointment letter. We also recommend parents that hold an adult position within the troop, such as cookie parent, first aider, and activity-qualified people, be registered as well. Parents that occasionally assist with the troop, such as sitting at a cookie booth to provide supervision, do not need to be registered.

With regards to insurance, page 12 of Green Pages indicates that non-registered parents, or other persons assisting the leader are not covered...under the umbrella GSUSA policy. This umbrella policy, however, is secondary insurance to your own health insurance. The GSUSA insurance does not cover automobiles and any damage is the responsibility of the owners private insurance.

Common practices do not necessarily reflect the guidelines of GSUSA and GSCNC. Please take time to read over these sections and become familiar with them.

## Hurricane Katrina Relief

We have received word that GSUSA has adopted a special rule of order allowing girl members to engage in activities that may include direct solicitation of money to support emergency relief for the Hurricane Katrina disaster. The dates for this special rule of order are from September 12, 2005 through May 31, 2006.

We remind all our troop leaders to follow safety guidelines and activity checkpoints in Safety-Wise.

This is a difficult time for everyone, particularly children. Information for use in your Girl Scout troop can be found when you click the "Helping Children Cope" button to the left. We recommend this link to all leaders/advisors to plan troop activities.

Additional information for our troops can be found on the following sites:

- For the latest information from Girl Scouts of the USA at [http://www.girlscouts.org/news/news\\_releases/2005/update\\_hurricane\\_katrina\\_help.asp](http://www.girlscouts.org/news/news_releases/2005/update_hurricane_katrina_help.asp)
- Helpful suggestions are available on the website of our sister council in Houston, the San Jacinto Girl Scout Council at [www.sjgs.org](http://www.sjgs.org). As you know, Houston is a major evacuation area.
- <http://www.gscnc.org/info/hurricane/organizations.php> is a link to organizations involved with relief efforts, and you can contact them directly. The list was compiled by *The Washington Post*.

## Letter from the Field Director

Work in Herndon! I am seeking an energetic self-starter to assist in recruiting girls and volunteers, and in educating the community on Girl Scout Programs. You must be able to work independently, and must possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills. You must be able to maintain a flexible work schedule, consisting of some evening and weekend activities. You need to have access to a car due to extensive local travel and knowledge of Girl Scouting is helpful.

This is a paid position and mileage is compensated.

Please contact me at 4301 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington DC, 20008, 202-237-1670 extension 292, [jcooper@gscnc.org](mailto:jcooper@gscnc.org) or go to <http://www.gscnc.org/info/hr/default.php> for more information and to apply for this position!

### Letter from the Chairs:

September is over and the scout year is fully underway! October is the GSUSA National Convention in Atlanta (Oct 6-10) and many of the staff as well as volunteers will be attending. I will be going as a visitor this time as I was a delegate six years ago at Kansas City and am really looking forward to it. It's almost hard to believe but GSCNC is taking a delegation of approximately 224 delegates, staff and visitors this time! Sharon Kraftchak is our Association's delegate to the convention and she is looking forward to a fun a productive time. She will have a report at our Fall Association meeting (November 8 at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Herndon) about what decisions were made and how the convention was. We will also have a presentation from Rene Lipari on her experiences at the Wider Op she attended this summer.

The web site ([www.gsassociation51.org](http://www.gsassociation51.org)) is now up to date with all the current information that I have. The calendar has also been updated with all current dates. SU 51-11 is the only one I know of that has a web site and that link is provided on the *Links* page of the association web site. If you would like to build a web site for your SU or troop, I will be teaching a Web Site Basics course at the Leaderfest in February so sign up now, as space is limited. I will be discussing the various free hosting sites out there and how to build a web page to get your message out. If any troops already have web sites and would like them included on the *Links* page, send me the information at [asstchair@gassociation51.org](mailto:asstchair@gassociation51.org) and I'll post it. Due to the number of spam incidents that we have experienced with our web site emails over the past year, I have been forced to turn on anti-spam verification software. What this software will do when you send an email to any of the association officers is require you to simply reply to a message that will automatically be sent to you. I apologize for the inconvenience of this however it is the only way to eliminate the spam.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Association Meeting and remember, the Service Unit with the highest attendance gets a \$25 gift certificate to the council shop.

## *What's Going On?*



Junior Troop 491 from Reston, held a bake sale at Fox Mill Giant with donations going to the American Red Cross Katrina Relief

Fund On Sunday, September 24. The girls collected \$220! They also collected 6 full bags of school supplies for Katrina evacuees attending school in Fairfax County

Troop 1875 went to the scout weekend at the Flying Circus Aerodrome and Air show in Bealeton, VA. They earned the Sky Search, Aerospace, and First Aide Junior Badges. They camped out under the stars and viewed the stars, moon and planets using a high-powered telescope. They finished their weekend with the Flying Circus Air show that included barnstorming planes and female winger walker! They would recommend it he weekend to others!

Junior troop 3457, made up of 7 girls, has begun their bronze award project. This comprehensive project, called "Adopt-a-Soldier", was born after one of the girl's dads was sent to Iraq in early September. Each month, one girl will plan, prepare, and execute an activity that will end in a mailing of items to the soldiers in Iraq. Many themes have already been identified including arts and crafts, care packages, letters, photo collages, and videotapes. In addition, the girls will speak at their Service Unit meeting to engage other troops to participate.

Junior troops 3431 will go horseback riding on October 16 and Junior troop 1494 will go on November 8. Have fun girls and bring s back some great stories!

Senior troop 4517 are currently working towards a cruise by earning money at the Reston Community Center plays, providing drinks and home-baked goods. They are asking for donations only and have, so far, been well received by the audience. In return for this wonderful opportunity, they are volunteering their time to as ushers for the plays. They are sharing this fundraiser with Senior troop 304.

Make sure your troop gets recognized for trips, projects, and activities they did! Send an email to Jenna Cooper at [jcooper@gscnc.org](mailto:jcooper@gscnc.org) or call 202-237-1670, ext. 292.

# Meet Somebody Special

## Association 51 Registrars

Each Association is divided into Service Units and each Service Unit is run by a team that works closely, together, with the association, and the Field Director to make life easier for the leaders and volunteers in their area. One of the primary team members is the Registrar. It is the Registrars job to register girls and adults with the Girl Scouts of the USA. They process a lot of paperwork throughout the Girl Scout year so that every girl has the chance to be a Girl Scout. Thank them for all of their hard work!

### Cindy Wagner, Registrar 51-1

Cindy has been a GS leader since her 11<sup>th</sup> grader was in kindergarten, when she unwittingly checked the box next to "Will help from time to time at meetings" on a form at school orientation. Somehow the school organizer could spot Cindy as the most gullible parent ("It's easy, they'll train you"), and soon 15 Daisies were coming to her house for meetings every week. By her second year she was school organizer and a willing Summer Day camp volunteer; three years later she'd progressed to co-Service Unit Manager, and after four years managing, she became SU Registrar for 51-1. She is a former lawyer, and current tutor for ESOL students. This summer she learned to row and spent many evenings and Saturday mornings rowing with an adult crew team. Cindy and her husband Mark have been married for 20 years and are the parents of two high-school age daughters who are immensely entertaining. Their household also includes three small mischievous cats and one large, patient, sweet-natured golden retriever.

### Rebecca Besbris, Registrar 51-5

She began her Girl Scout journey as a Brownie in Incurlik, Turkey, and was a Girl Scout through eighth grade. Rebecca came back

to Girl Scouts after the births of her two daughters. Both are now scouts--Mara is a 3rd grade Brownie, and Daisy Jane is a new Daisy Scout. Rebecca got involved as an active troop mom in Mara's Daisy troop, then took over leadership when the girls bridged to Brownies after the two Daisy leaders relocated. She was awarded 51-5's "Daisy Award" at the end of the 2004/05 year, honoring her work as a first-year leader. In 2005/06, Rebecca is the Registrar and New Leader Welcomer for SU 51-5, as well as leading both of her daughters' home-school troops.

### Nora Thompson, Registrar 51-7

Nora Thompson is the registrar for Service Unit 51-7, a job she has held for four years. Nora grew up on the island of Hawaii where she was a Girl Scout. She has served as a Troop Leader, Service Unit Manager, and Hospitality Committee Chair. Nora is also the mother of a Gold Award Girl Scout.

### Anna Costigan, Registrar 51-9

Anna was a girl member of Girl Scouts for 9 years, earning her First Class status in 1976. She has been an adult Girl Scout for 8 years. During her time, she has received the Ashgrove Award and the Outstanding Volunteer Award. She has also been an Association Delegate, ran Girl Council for

SU 51-9 from 1999-2000 and 2003-2004, and was the SU Administrative Assistant from 2000 – 2002. She has also been very involved with Camp Fairfax as a volunteer in 2000, co-director from 2001 –2004, and the camp registrar from 2003 – 2005. Her volunteer work has earned her the Town of Herndon Volunteer Award in 2004 and the Service Appreciation VA SIDS award. Anna has a BA in Health Services Administration and is currently a Resource Manager for the Federal Government.

### Carol Frost, Registrar 51-11

Born and raised in Ohio, I have also lived in St. Louis, MO with my husband and three children for eleven years before moving to Herndon, VA in 1995. I have taught Learning Disabilities, worked in a Children's Day Out program, and as an office assistant in a church office. I am currently working as Parish Administrator for St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Herndon. My volunteer work has included Youth Ministries, Vacation Bible School Teacher and Director, singing in church choirs, playing in church hand-bell choirs, playing the flute, assisting with the youth bell choirs, Girl Scout Leader for 15 years, Service Unit Registrar for 9 years, and Girl Scout Day Camp Leader for 5 years. In my free time, I like to read and do needlework.

# Games to Try With Your Troop

## Crime and Punishment

Design a system for secretly identifying the "criminal" and the "cop"--you might use a deck of cards. You only need enough cards so each player may have one card. One card needs to be a jack--the criminal, and one needs to be an ace--the cop. All of the other cards should be below ten in rank. Let each person draw and keep a card, without showing it to anyone. The criminal needs to recruit other criminals by winking at them, but without getting caught by the cop. Any person who sees a wink is to wait a few seconds, so as not to be obvious, and then say, "I committed a crime." That person then turns in his card and is out of the game. Play continues until the criminal recruits all players without being caught by the cop, or the cop identifies the criminal. If the cop misidentifies the criminal, she loses the game.

## Pass that Roll

You will need two rolls of toilet paper. Divide the girls into two teams. Have them stand in single file lines, standing an arm's length away from the person in front of them. The first person in line starts with a roll of toilet paper. They place their thumbs between the cardboard roll and puts their hands above their heads. When the leader says "GO" the next person in line grabs the paper slowly without ripping it. This goes on all the way down the line until the paper rips and then it starts at the beginning again. The first team to get the toilet paper all the way to the last person without ripping it wins.

## Laugh Lines

Divide into two teams. Have the teams stand in two lines facing each other, about 3 feet apart. Select one team to go first. Explain to this team that they have 30 seconds to make someone on the other team laugh or smile. If they are successful, the guilty laughers come across the line and become part of the other team. After the first team has completed 30 seconds, the other team gets a chance to make someone on the opposing team laugh. Continue for several rounds and see how many people each team is able to get and keep through laughter.

# Ice-Breakers to Try With Your Troop

## Knots of People

Divide the group into teams of 8 to 12 members. Have each person join right hands with another person in the group, but it has to be someone who is NOT standing immediately to the left or right. Then have each person join left hands with another person in the group, but it has to be someone who is NOT standing immediately to the left or right and someone other than before. Now the groups have to untangle themselves without letting go of hands. They may have to loosen their grips a little to allow for twisting and turning. They may have to step over or under other people. The first group to untangle their knot is the winner.

## What's Your Name?

For this game, you will need index cards and pencils or pens. Each girl gets an index card and writes her name vertically down the center of the card. Players then circulate and learn each other's names. Each girl prints other girl's names (either first or last) so that they intersect her name wherever there is a common letter. The first girl to use all the letters in her name wins.

## Name Tag Mingle

Each group member will need a 5" x 7" card for a nametag. Then give the following directions:

Put your name in the center of your card.

1. In the upper left corner, write four things that you like to do.
2. In the upper right corner, write your four favorite singers or groups.
3. In the lower left corner, write your four favorite movies.
4. In the lower right corner, write four adjectives that describe you.

When everyone finishes, have them mingle with the group for a few minutes. Without talking, they are to read the upper left corner of the other group members' cards.

When time is up, they are to find one or two people who are most like them and visit for a few minutes. When time is up, they are to mingle again reading the upper right corner of the other group members' cards. They then find the one or two people most like them and visit. Repeat with the lower left corner and lower right corner information. To make sure everyone visits with several people, you could implement a rule that no two people can be in the same group more than once.

## Toilet Paper

You will need two to three rolls of toilet paper depending on the size of the group. Have the group sit in a circle. The leader tells the group to pretend that they are going on a camping trip over night. Pass out the rolls of toilet paper and say that each person needs to bring enough toilet paper for one night in the forests. Once they have taken their sheets, tell them that for every piece of paper that they bring, they need to tell the group one fact about themselves.

## Line 'Em Up!

Divide the girls into groups of 4 to 7, depending on the difficulty level you want. The more girls in a group, the higher the level of difficulty. Give directions for each group to arrange themselves in a line according to a particular characteristic--for example, shortest to longest length of hair, alphabetical by best friend's first name, birth date, shoe size, length of thumb, number of letters in last name. Several rounds can be played in a short amount of time, depending on the size of the groups.