

**Ashgrove West
Spring Association Meeting
April 28, 2009**

The Meeting began with a silent auction of themed baskets, with the proceeds all going to benefit SHARE. The money raised was \$616.00, with approx. 20 baskets purchased.

Opening

Phyllis Martin, SUM from 51-5 read a poem for the opening – “Scouting is a candle.”

Introduction of Special Guests

Jim Kraftchak introduced our special guests for the evening: Sara D'Angio White, Teen Program Specialist and Sue Hansen, Recognition Panel Member.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the Fall 2008 Association Meeting were available for all those in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

Anne Parrish reviewed the Treasurer's Report, highlighting the monies from the Movie Event in Dec. 2008.

Association Reports

SHARE – Penny Halpern

We are doing well, most of the Service Units are very close to goal. Tonight's auction will bring some of them to their goal.

Cookies – Regina Perez

We had 1,135 girls sell \$126,268 boxes of cookies. That was over \$75,000 worth of cookies! We were 3.7 % down from 2008. Kudos to SU 51-5 who was up .2 % from last year, and SU 51-9 who were up 20% from last year.

Training – Sharon Kraftchak

There are trainings listed on the GSCNC website – be sure to check it. The Trainers are now going to become Facilitators. Sharon is stepping down from her role, and Kath Delia and Sandy Alexander will be co-leading the Training for next year

Sandy Alexander – There are trainings coming up. Sign up on line. There will be a training held at the ADAMS Center on July 11. Wed., Sept. 2, there will be a Training Blitz at Potomac Woods, and it will include outdoor training. Oct. 22 or 15, there will be training in the morning, afternoon, and evening at Camp Crowell. More information to follow.

Service Unit Reports

51-5, Phyllis Martin

A Junior troop led their 3rd annual service fair involving multi-level troops and lots of charitable organizations. A Teen troop coordinated an Association service project as part of the Association movie event (coats for Winter Coat Closet and food for pantry). They participated in the Reston Town Holiday parade. The Service Unit led and participated in making cards (over 600) and patches (over 1000) for Australian Girl Guides in areas devastated by the bush fires. One scout is going on a Destination this summer and several have been selected for Congressional Aide. They held a Holiday Happening for just SU adult leaders. They collected things for Homeless and Hypothermia Prevention Shelters and for local food pantries. A Teen led the effort and collected over 1000 Beanie Babies for the Fairfax County Abuse Prevention Program. Another Teen re-established a SU library. Teen Scouts earned 3 Golds and 6 Silver Trefoil this year. A Teen troop hosted a SHARE movie night. Another Teen troop coordinated the Sing for Food holiday food collection event. A Junior troop coordinated a Sweetheart Dance money-earning event. There is a Recognitions Ceremony for Girls and Adults coming up on May 19, and they are also planning a JL Outdoor Skills Day in May.

51-7, Bev Lesser

They have a new SUM, replacing Pat Hutzler. The Service Unit held a movie night. They held SU wide meetings for the girls once a month, with multiple scout levels, and the attendance has been good. They have girls who have earned their Bronze, Silver, and Gold.

51-1, Anne Neal

They participated in the Reston Town Holiday Parade. They participated in “Caroling for Cans”. They had an Olympic Event. They held a Father/Daughter Dance. They will be holding a Service Unit Archery event next month that will be a fund raiser for SHARE.

51-11, Razia Sohail

They had a Teen troop sponsor a book drive for the Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic. They held Thinking Day where 140 girls attended. The Service Unit had a Mother/Daughter PJ Party and a Father/Daughter Dance. They held a Celebration of Sisterhood in Dec. There was a SHARE movie night in April. One troop sponsored a guest speaker for the older scouts about Leukemia. There was one Teen Scout who earned her Gold Award, and she was a Scholarship Winner.

51-9, Anne Juran

They have now met their SHARE goal with the money earned at the Silent Auction. They held a Sing-A-Long. They will have a Service Unit Bridging. The Service Unit held a Thinking Day. Girl Scouts were honored by the Town Council. The Service Unit has started an Older Girl Troop, run by young women, and this troop is open to all girls in the Association. They currently have 12 girls in the troop, and they want to have many more.

Field Director's Report

Rachel Brown reported that so far, none of the Service Units has made goal in membership. Currently, 51-1 has 318, 51-5 has 386, 51-7 has 409, 51-9 has 282, and 51-11 has 346, totaling 1,766. We are 86% to our final membership goal for the year. Phyllis Martin has been hired as a Field Assistant. There are three sampler troops that have been started. The Early Bird goal is 965 girls, and Rachel is confident we will get them. Camp Mariposa will be held July 13-17 at Floris United Methodist Church. One day they will get to take a trip to Wolf Trap. The camp is an opportunity for Teen Scouts to get international or silver trefoil hours.

Teen Program Specialist – Sara D'Angio White

Sara announced that the Bronze Silver and Gold Award requirements will be changing. Dec. 2011 is the deadline for Teen Scouts to finish their awards under the current guidelines. More information will be coming.

Recognition Panel Member – Sue Hansen

Sue is excited to be sure that Girl Scout Volunteers and Leaders are recognized. You may call her most anytime – during the day or early evenings. Sue is also involved with the National Park Service: call Sue if your Teens need help obtaining Federal Hours.

Annual Meeting

Next year the Annual Meeting will be held April 17 at Lansdowne, so it will be close by!

Fall Events

There will be an Association Picnic in the fall. Activities leaders would like to see – continue the movie event, have an Association – Wide Service Project, have Round Tables with the various Girl Scout Levels, and continue holding two meetings a year.

Website

The website we use has started putting ads on the calendar. It was voted to pay \$10.00 per year to have the ads removed.

Recognitions

Pat Hutzler gave out the following recognitions:

Thanks II Badge: Sharon Kraftchak

Ashgrove Award: Carol Frost

Honor Pin: Regina Perez

She also recognized both Donna Frederick and Phyllis Martin, who received the Honor Pin at the Annual Meeting in April.

Girl Scout bags were given to those who are officers of the Association: Jim Kraftchak, Sharon Kraftchak, Penny Halprin, Anne Parrish, and Carol Frost.

Trivets were given to all the leaders in attendance as a thank you gift.

Closing

The closing was read by Bev Lesser from 51-7 about "Girl Scouting is...."

Submitted by Carol Frost,
Association Secretary