



Girl Scouts – Diamonds of Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas Leaders Notes – May, 2009

www.girlscoutsdiamonds.org

Program

- **UPDATED INFO: Regional Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards Receptions:** Invitations will be mailed to Bronze, Silver and Gold Award recipients and graduating seniors in each region. Families and friends may attend the celebration at no charge. For planning purposes, we do ask that guests RSVP to the appropriate regional offices by the date listed on the invitation.
 - Pine Bluff Region – May 16, in conjunction with the adult ceremony
 - N Little Rock Region – May 17, 3:00 – 5:00 pm, Masonic Grand Temple, Little Rock
 - Texarkana Region – June 4, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, Trinity Baptist Church, Texarkana, AR
 - Jonesboro Region – June 6, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, ASU Centennial Hall, Jonesboro
 - Fort Smith Region – June 6, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Christ the King Church, Fort Smith
 - Fayetteville Region – June 13, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Rolling Hills Baptist Church, Fayetteville
- **PROGRAM IN YOUR AREA**

Would you like to have badge workshops in your area? Do you know of a great resource that has provided program for your troop? Would you be willing to lead a workshop for girls/troops near you? If so, please contact Debra Green at 870/773-2151 or email at dgreen@girlscoutsdiamonds.org.

Membership

- **ATTENTION: Please remember that GSUSA (this is nationwide) is now raising membership rates to \$12.00 annually.**
- **SPRING TROOP RE-REGISTRATION**
 - In an effort to retain our current membership it is strongly recommended that troops re-register this spring. Don't forget troops can use part of their 2008 Troop Cookie Sale Bonus for registration. Also, don't forget you can add members now for next year. Troops are to keep the yellow copy of the registration form when turning in their registration. The council is set to receive re-registration forms in May. However, GSUSA is running behind in production, so it may be much later. Troops wishing to re-register before school is out may use this year's registration forms, if they wish. Just remember that the stated cost of registration, \$10.00, refers to the 2008-09 year, and that registration for next year is \$12.00.
- **SPRING RECRUITMENT**
 - If your Service Unit is planning Spring Recruitment Rallies please contact your MMS as soon as possible for recruitment flyers.

Camping Services

- **It's not too late to sign up to go to Camp!** Regular camp fees are due May 22, but "late registrations" are accepted after that for an additional \$20 late fee.
- **How to Sign Up for Troop Camp!**
 - So you want to go to the Brownie Weekend at Camp Storeywood, or one of the other troop camps around the Council but don't know what form to use?

What you need to do is have each girl's family fill out the form in the Camp Brochure on pages 21 & 22 (front and back of form). Then any adults that are attending fill out forms for themselves (obviously we don't need what grade you are in!).

Then as the Troop Leader you send all the forms in one envelope. Please enclose in this envelope a one page roster with just the names of the adults and girls attending so I can match the forms with the roster and make sure I have everyone. Send the payment in for the troop and that should do it!

This prevents annoying calls and emails from the Camp Registrar trying to figure out who is going where and with whom. I know you want to avoid those phone calls so get those registrations together and send them in!

Also this year the safety wise ratio of adults can attend free. Any additional adults pay the \$75.00 per person fee.

Don't have a camp brochure? You can find one online at www.girlscoutsdiamonds.org, or contact your Membership & Marketing Specialist for one.

- For parents/leaders interested in having a “**parent meeting**” with a Camp Director or having the Camp Director come out to talk with the girls at a troop meeting, etc., please contact your Camp Director!
 - **Camp High Point: Pam Pennington** ppennington@girlscoutsdiamonds.org
 - **Camp Storeywood: Carol Caldwell** ccaldwell@girlscoutsdiamonds.org
 - **Camp Cahinnio: Jamie Campbell** icampbell@girlscoutsdiamonds.org
- Note for signing up for **Brownie Weekend or Troop Camp Weekends!** If your troop is signing up for one of these weekends, please fill out a form for each girl and adult attending and send the entire troop in the same envelope to the Camp Registrar. Also include a roster of adults and girls attending. As a reminder, adults required to meet the Safety Wise ratios attend troop camp for free. Additional adults are \$75 per person.
- **CAMP PHYSICALS**
 - **Free Physicals! for all resident camps. See Flyer**
- **CAMP HIGH POINT – Service Projects await you**
 - Camp High Point is a site with screened cabins, lights, fans and an underground shelter for safety from severe weather or overnights in any month of the year. The underground shelter has lights, indoor plumbing and heat in any month of the year. The fees are reasonable and if a major service project is performed the fee could be negotiable. Camp High Point has many possibilities for Bronze and Silver projects.

Product Sales

- **Cookie News!**
 - The 2009 Cookie Sale is over and girl incentives should be given to the troops by the Service Unit Cookie Managers. Please get these incentives to the girls as soon as possible. The girls worked hard to earn these and will be excited to receive them.
 - **Thank you** to all the volunteers at the troop level who worked many extra hours to bring the cookie program to the girls.
 - **Thank you** to the Service Unit Coordinators who worked tirelessly to make the Cookie Program a success in their area.
 - **Vote on 2010 cookie incentives online**.....more information coming soon!! Be sure to contact the girls in your troop when you receive the information so they can vote.

**Congratulations
Girl Scouts- Diamonds of Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas
Big Elly Winners!**

- **Hayley Howard #3154 Green County SU**
- **Autumn Limbocker #4387 Maple SU**
- **Rachel Jones #5497 Ozark Diamonds SU**
- **Lindsey Aylect #2319 Dixie Gem SU**
- **Congratulations to Service Unit Cookie Manager Winner Beverly Robertson** with Petit Jean Service Unit! Her Service Unit had 343 average boxes sold per girl!!!
- **CONGRATULATIONS SHILOH YARBERRY**.....she is the Wii Winner! Shiloh is in Troop 4054 in the Dogwood Service Unit in Poteau, Oklahoma.

Council Shops

- **SHOP NEWS**
 - Diamond Shops are receiving **NEW G.S. MERCHANDISE** a perfect gift for that special Girl Scout in your life whether she's a girl, leader or graduating senior. New age level **Casual Uniforms** are arriving weekly. Plus we have **discontinued items marked down and ready to sell**. The shop still has **BRIDGING KITS** available in the shop. Please contact us quickly if you need KITS for the month of May.
- **GIRL SHOP NEWS**
 - To all girls with **2009 COOKIE CREDITS** come and shop in the Council Shop during the months of June or July and if you use your **COOKIE CREDITS** to purchase your items you will receive a **FREE GIFT just for shopping!!!!** If you are flying up you can use your cookie credits for your **Basics in a "BAG"**.
- **2009 THINKING DAY PATCHES, 2009 COOKIE PINS & OLD LEGACY COUNCIL MERCHANDISE**
 - Shops still have some items left and are able to order extra cookie pins. As for the Thinking Day patches we may be able to order however we can not guarantee this item. All GS 95th Anniversary along with old legacy council items have been reduced for quick sell. Order forms for cookie pins and Thinking Day patches are attached or you can pick one up at your local Diamond shop.

Communications / Public Relations

- **HOTEL DISCOUNTS**
 - **La Quinta Inns & Suites** has given anyone affiliated with the Girl Scouts (staff, troop leader and/or staff and their families) a 15% discount at any of their Inns. If we use the hotel enough, we could be reviewed and have a chance for a 20% discount. The special code to be placed (or told if by phone) is **GIRLSC**.
 - **Hampton Inn – I40** has agreed when staying in this hotel (across from the Girl Scout office in North Little Rock), anyone affiliated with the Girl Scouts will be given the Girl Scout rate of \$80.00 per night. This also can go down if we used their accommodations on a regular basis. Just tell them that you request the Girl Scout rate when booking a reservation.

Other

- **SERVICE UNIT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
 - Service Unit Financial statements are due to the Girl Scout Service Center no later than June 30, 2009. If your legacy council had forms for presenting the Financial Statement, you may use these forms. If your legacy council did not have forms, or if you prefer using new ones, you may get the new forms from your Membership & Marketing Specialist.
- **2009/2010 Program Books**
 - New Program Books will be available in August. We are offering three methods to view our books this year. The first, most environmentally friendly method is through the Diamonds Council website. By visiting the website, you will have updated program information available to you throughout the year. Next in environmental friendliness is to have your Program "Book" delivered on a computer disc. Information on the disc will be the exact information contained in the paper book. For those who still prefer a paper Program Book, those will be available too. Please complete the form provided by your Membership & Marketing Specialist to let us know how you would like your Council Program information.
- **EXTRA INSURANCE**
 - Extra insurance must be purchased for any service unit or troop event lasting more than 72 hours. Extra insurance must also be purchased for any service unit or troop event that will have **any** unregistered girls or adults in attendance. To purchase extra insurance or if you have any questions contact Jani Ceasear at 870-773-2151.
- **MENA TORNADO VICTIMS**
 - As most of you know, a tornado hit the Mena area last month. The middle school was destroyed and students are being bused to Hatfield, the college was damaged and is continuing classes in a church, all available churches are serving as shelters for the community. Many are without homes and staying in these shelters. Some of these victims are Girl Scout families. The Texarkana Regional Service Center is requesting donations of non-perishable food items, clothes, toys, toiletry items, and lines to help the tornado victims and the shelters in the Mena area. Please bring your items to the Texarkana Regional Service Center so that we can get them to those in need.



**2009
FREE PHYSICAL EXAMS**
by licensed physicians



(Required for Girl Scout Campers and Girl Scouts going on extended trips)

Fort Smith

**Tuesday, May 19th
5:30 PM - ?**

Fort Smith Regional Office
5705 Gordon Lane
Fort Smith, AR 72903

Special instructions* Make sure to come early! Physicals are over when the last camper gets through the line!

Texarkana

**Thursday, May 28th
3:00 PM – 4:45 PM**

Collom and Carney Clinic
5002 Cowhorn Creek Rd
Texarkana, TX 75503

Special instructions* Bring all fully completed paperwork, including original immunization card (Hint: also make a copy of your immunization card to turn into the council).

Jonesboro

**Saturday, May 30th
1:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

Jonesboro Regional Office
4803 East Johnson Ave
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Special instructions* Bring prescriptions in a zip lock bag with camper's name to discuss with the doctor.

MORE FREE PHYSICALS IN...

Batesville and

Northwest Arkansas!

Keep your eyes open for more info.
Dates and Times TBA

BRING:

- **Health History form (have pages 1 & 2 completed)**
- **Copy of shot record and**
- **Copy of Insurance card**

***SEE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS for where you will be getting your physical!**

