

volunteerconnections

Help for our Communities Coming Together in Times of Need



Girl Scout Troop 26728 supporting the Joplin community.

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland sends its thoughts and prayers to Girl Scouts and communities affected by recent natural disasters - severe

flooding in southern Missouri late April and tornadoes in the Joplin and Sedalia areas in late May. As our neighbors work to repair their homes and reconstruct their lives, we are heartened to see our members and friends throughout the country respond so quickly to help.

GSMH has established special Disaster Relief Fund to help members who have been affected by these historic disasters. 100% of donations earmarked for this fund will be used to provide:

- Replacement uniforms, books, patches, and supplies for affected girls and adults
- 2011-2012 membership fees for affected members
- Summer camp and program event financial assistance for affected girls
- Training fee financial assistance for affected adults

Contributions to this fund may be mailed to the GSMH Administrative Service Center at 210 S. Ingram Mill Road, Springfield, MO 65802. Please write "Disaster Relief Fund" in the memo section of checks.

For a list of other ways to help Joplin-area tornado victims, please visit www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org. Many community organizations in our southeast region continue to offer assistance to flood victims, including:

- www.semoredcross.org
- www.semofoodbank.org
- www.hope-international.us/flood.php

The devastation that these events have caused will take months and years to repair, and we know that Girl Scouts will remain at the front of the line to lend a hand.

Joplin Service Center

The recent disaster in Joplin has left many businesses without operating space, many of which are looking to reopen as quickly as possible. As many of you are aware, our Joplin Service Center has been on the market since June 2010, after the board of directors voted last year to sell it and move operations to a storefront facility. A sales contract for our service center was submitted on May 27, and approved by the board on June 1.

We recognize that this catastrophic event has disrupted many lives, and we are dedicated to make the transition process as seamless as possible for the girls, volunteers and staff in Joplin. The board also approved a lease for space one mile from the current service center location, in the Crown Plaza at 1202 S. Rangeline Road, Suites 8 & 9. This space will accommodate our staffing needs, house retail operations and a seasonal cookie cupboard, and provide a location for members to drop off paperwork.

Information about the transition plan will be posted on www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org/pages/propertyinfo.php as we receive it.

It's Not Too Late for Camp!

Since Girl Scout Cookie Credit gift cards or 500+ box-seller Program Credits were not mailed by the camp registration deadline, we are still accepting camp registrations. For instructions on submitting late registrations, visit www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org/pages/camp.php.

June/July Service Center & Shop Hours

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Closed (except Springfield) 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

CLOSED Saturdays until September
Wed., June 8 until 2:00 pm
Monday, July 4

SHOPS CLOSED Springfield June 27-29
(Service Centers Open) Jefferson City July 11-13
Joplin July 25-27
Cape & Dexter Aug. 3-5

Learn 2 Lead

Volunteer Training & Information Event

Saturday, August 6, 8 am-4 pm at Praise Assembly in Springfield
Saturday, August 13, 8 am-4 pm at Capital City Christian Church in Jefferson City
Saturday, September 10, 8 am-4 pm, Temple Baptist Church in Poplar Bluff

All leaders, co-leaders, and volunteers for Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland are invited to this one-day volunteer training and information event! Benefits to attending include:

- Latest council news and updates
- Training opportunities
- First peek at the new *Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* material
- Networking with other volunteers
- Getting rejuvenated for the upcoming year
- Gaining confidence as a leader
- Take a break and have a little fun before the summer gets away from you

Why is it only one day? GSMH wants to use your time as wisely as possible. You can choose from several different sessions designed to help you as leaders. We hope you'll join us for the fun-filled day!

Registration packets for each location are available online at www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org. Be sure to submit yours as soon as possible to ensure your classes are still available, as each class has a limit.

For questions or comments, contact the appropriate staff member:

Southwest Region (Springfield event): Dawn Irvine, dirvine@girlscoutsmoheartland.org
Central Region (Jefferson City event): Megan White, mwhite@girlscoutsmoheartland.org
Southeast Region (Poplar Bluff event): Kara Glaus, kglaus@girlscoutsmoheartland.org

Welcome New Staff!

Jerry Pierce

Ranger (Latonka)

Julie Wall

Volunteer Services Specialist
(Jefferson City Service Center)

2012 – Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting!

You may have heard! Girl Scouting will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2012. The official 100th Anniversary celebration kicks off in November at the National Convention in Houston, Texas and councils across the country will begin their celebrations in 2012. Volunteer and staff committees are hard at work right now planning events for GSMH! Here is the approximate timeline:

- May through November 2011 – coordinating historic displays at various venues across the council (this will continue into 2012); quilt project; 100th anniversary patch contest
- November 10-13, 2011 – 52nd National Convention and 100th Anniversary Kickoff in Houston - includes Girl Leadership Institute for older girls (contact April Isbell for more information if any girls are interested in attending)
- March 2012 – earth hour service project; birthday

activities conducted by local service units; Girl Scout spirit week for girls

- March 31, 2012 – council celebration, alumnae event, annual meeting in one weekend;
- June 2012 – Young Women of Distinction at the Capitol Building; GSMH Europe trip; State of Girls Summit (Chicago); Resident Camp -100th Anniversary style
- July 2012 – resident camp continued
- September 2012 – regional Camporees
- October 2012 – high-profile gala (fundraising event)
- In addition to the activities planned above, the local program subcommittee will be developing sample program plans for implementation by local service units and troops!

Look for updates at www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org (click on 100th Anniversary in the menu at the top), and via email in the coming months!

END OF YEAR CLEARANCE

at the gsmh retail shops

STOP BY TODAY - QUANTITIES/SIZES MAY BE LIMITED!

Recap: Senior Team Chat at Annual Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2011 annual meeting event in Lake Ozark, Missouri in March. Below is a summary of some of the questions and concerns that were brought forward at the morning's senior team chat:

Q: We seem to have oversized service units and are having to drive to four towns to have meetings. Is there anything that we can do about it?

As a new council, after the merge, we had over 120 Service Units of varying sizes, both geographically and in terms of membership. What we know is that all service units, regardless of size, require the same services. We will not be breaking down service units, but we do want to be sensitive to the needs of our volunteers and are interested in suggestions that will help us develop strategies for delivering excellent service within the new structure.

Q: I am from nowhere. I am at the office a lot and do not have internet or Mediacom. Can you help?

While electronic resources are still the most economically feasible at this time, we will be providing more resources in a new volunteer publication (Volunteer 411), including girl program events, trainings, sample activities, etc. This piece will replace the Volunteer Magazine and will be distributed to all leaders via mail. Additionally, the Go Guide will no longer be a large publication. The program events will be included in the volunteer publication and in the new girl newsletters which will be mailed 2 – 3 times per year to three different age levels – Daisy/Brownie, Junior, and Cadette/Senior/Ambassador.

Q: Trainings are always cancelled and there are never resources available where I can go to get them. What do I do?

Trainings are cancelled when the minimum required is not met. We are moving toward "on request trainings". If you would like to request a training in your area, get in touch with the adult development staff and let them know that you have several people who need the training and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Q: Can you find a way to take credit/debit cards for cookie sales?

We currently do not have the capability for girls/troops to accept credit/debit cards for cookie sales. We will continue to explore options for offering this type of payment in the future.

Annual Meeting Agenda Item Procedures

The Board of Directors welcomes and encourages input on matters of policy and governance. The Board values **Volunteer Connections**

your input, and will consider all appropriate matters of importance brought before it, regardless of the timing or procedure utilized; however, for discussion items to be placed on the agenda of the annual corporate meeting, there is a request form that must be submitted by a deadline. To download the *Discussion Item Submission* form, please go to www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org.

PROPERTY UPDATE

The Property Committee met on May 11. The committee members were updated on the effects of the historic flooding around the council. They were informed of the decision to suspend all activities at Latonka Program Center until the property can be completely restored and cleaned up from the record flooding. The committee continued its discussion of a plan for council service centers and how best to provide service for our membership. The committee discussed dates for a face to face meeting this summer.

Latonka Program Center Flooding, Resident Camp and Activity Usage Update

Flood conditions at Wappapello Lake have caused high water levels (35 ft above normal on May 9) at the Latonka Program Center. Due to safety concerns, we have suspended all usage until the water recedes and clean-up and restoration can be completed. Unfortunately, this affects resident camp, which will not be held at Latonka this year. Many of the sessions scheduled for July 10 – July 29 at Latonka have been moved to Cherokee Ridge, where we have also added more horse program sessions (check our website for a full list of new sessions). Girls who are affected have the option to attend their scheduled session at Cherokee Ridge, a substitute session if the property does not allow for the activity (e.g. no ropes course), or receive a full refund. We have contacted the families who were registered for Latonka to let them know about the alternative locations and activities. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carolyn Imhoff at 877-312-4764 ext. 1327.

This historic flood has forced us to make a difficult decision; however, we want to make sure the water has receded and the environment is safe for girls and families before resuming activity on the property. We will keep you posted as to when activities can resume. If you would like to offer donations to help with the clean-up and restoration of the Latonka Program Center, please contact Angie Sullivan at 877-312-4764 ext. 1343.

NEW! Clean Unit Award!

When you camp at a GSMH program center, we hope you'll take the opportunity to leave your site better than you found it! As a recognition for the troop/group that receives the highest "score" from our Rangers – on cleanliness, any improvements made, and items put back where they belong – we will provide a free overnight at any program center. This will be given semi-annually: October 1st – April 30th and May 1st – September 31st.

program pathways

Coming Soon...



Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is excited to participate in a nationwide transition of Girl Scout resources that will help ensure a consistent and productive Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) for all girls. The first component of the National Program Portfolio has already been introduced – the Girl Scout journeys. The second part – *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* – will be available in fall 2011 (pictured above). Together, the Girl Scout journeys and *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* help girls develop leadership skills and experience the fifteen leadership outcomes of the GSLE.

What does this mean?

Starting this fall, every Girl Scout at every age level will begin to use two resources that will make her part of a powerful sisterhood. Girls throughout the United States will explore leadership - learning the skills, experiencing the process, and putting it into action - through the outcomes-based Girl Scout Journeys and building practical skills through the new *Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*, which will include badges, handbook sections, an awards log, accessory pages, and more.

Transition Tips

What should you do between now and fall 2011, when *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* is released?

- Help girls choose a journey. Check out the journeys maps for each age level to learn more about how they work: <http://girlscouts.org/program/journeys/maps/>. Remember that journeys – the core of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience - may be completed at any time of the year, and in any order.

- If your girls are working on or want to work on a badge from a current handbook, contact a GSMH retail shop to make sure that it is available for purchase. We will work with council shops nationwide to find stock for you, but please bear in mind that inventory may become limited as the summer progresses.
- Review the FAQ attached to this newsletter and check the GSMH website for updates; we will post information as we receive it.

Upcoming Programs

Registration deadlines are usually two weeks before a program. Please refer to the GO! Guide for details.

Age levels are denoted by initial after each program title (D=Daisy; B=Brownie; J=Junior; C=Cadette; S=Senior; A=Ambassador).

A Day with My Favorite Guy (All)
6/18/11 Patterson, MO

Skinny Improv Workshop/Show (All)
6/18/11 Springfield, MO

Spunky Spelunkers (DB)
6/18/11 Suphur Springs, AR

Troop Camping (DBJ)
6/24-6/25 Hallsville, MO
9/16-9/17 Patterson, MO

Program Aide Troop Camping (CSA)
6/24-6/26 Hallsville, MO
9/16-9/18 Patterson, MO

Babysitter 101 (CSA)
7/9/11 Joplin, MO

Express Yourself Series (JC)
7/11-7/15 Poplar Bluff, MO
8/1-8/5 Joplin, MO

Cavin at the Springs (BJC)
7/23/11 Eminence, MO

Surf's Up! (All ages)
July 24, 10am – 6pm (* Register by July 1)
Big Surf Waterpark, Linn Creek, MO
Children 3 and under are free, everyone else is \$12
List everyone attending on the registration form indicating which are Girl Scouts so they can receive a patch. Vouchers will be mailed to the adults registering.

Goin' Places (BJ)
7/28/11 West Plains, MO

Sundown Sing-a-Long (All)
7/30/11 Pittsburg, KS
9/10/11 Van Buren, MO
9/19/11 Cape Girardeau, MO

Wilderness Survival School Series (CSA)
8/1-8/5 Wapappello, MO

The Gathering (CSA)
8/5-8/7 Hallsville, MO or Wappapello, MO

Daisy Teeny Gardens (DB)
8/13/11 Houston, MO

Last Blast: End of Summer Party (All)
8/13/11 Rogersville, MO

Staff Spotlight: Resident Camp Managers

With summer camp just around the corner, our camp staff are busy! This year's managers are no strangers to camp - both have been attending since they were girl members.

Christina Matthews (aka Toad), Resident Camp Manager - Southeast Region, has worked as an equestrian director and aquatics director for camp, and loves providing today's young girls with some of the same great opportunities that she has had. She says that seeing girls challenge themselves and try repeatedly until they succeed motivates her to give her whole self to her job. "I remember one girl for whom riding was a challenge," she says, "After several practices, she finally accomplished her goal. Observing that joy in her face encouraged me to work even harder to achieve that every day."



Melody Hutchison (aka Harmony) works full-time as a GSMH product program specialist, but has also worked at camp in various capacities; she is resident camp manager for our southwest region. Her passion for camp runs so deeply that, despite the long hours and many challenges at camp, she says she finds it hard to think of it as a job. "I have had so many moments that have touched me and made me glad I work for Girl Scouts. Watching the girl that would never say a word to anyone belt out a song on Karaoke night, or seeing a girl who was afraid she'd fall in the lake finally have the courage to go canoeing, or when two campers become best friends and would have never met if it wasn't for Girl Scout camp. ..It reminds me that I am making a difference in girls' lives."



Resident camp managers and staff are supervised by GSMH's senior manager for leadership program, **Carolyn Imhoff**, who also supervises 6 leadership program specialists and 17 part-time wranglers year-round. This is one of her busiest times of year, working with her full-time staff to plan next year's program opportunities *and* getting ready for camp. In her 25 years as a Girl Scout professional, Carolyn has been a field director, program director, facilities director, and customer service director. She loves that Girl Scouts gives girls opportunities - like traveling abroad and stepping out of their comfort zones - that they would not have had anywhere else. It "makes me proud to work for such a wonderful organization," she says.



monthly checklist: july/august

- Early Bird Deadline June 15
- Financial Report Deadline July 1
- Submit registration for *Learn 2 Lead* event
- Keep eye out for GS Cookie Credit gift cards
- Register girls for summer camp - it's not too late!

please call ahead (877-312-4764) to be sure we either have them in stock or can order them for you. We encourage you to come to the shop and get what you are working on now! As the summer progresses, inventory will become limited.

GSMH shops will not accept returns or exchanges of discontinued merchandise as of June 30, 2011. Please note that this includes all current Brownie Try-Its, Junior Badges and Interest Project Patches.

Mark your calendars!

Service unit fall product and cookie program chairs should plan to attend a training this fall.

Fall Product Program Training Dates

- September 26 - Sikeston (6:30 p.m.)
- September 27 - Houston (noon)
- September 27 - Springfield (6:30 p.m.)
- September 28 - Joplin (6:30 p.m.)
- September 29 - Jefferson City (6:30 p.m.)

Cookie Program Training Dates

- November 15 - Cape (6:30 p.m.)
- November 16 - Dexter (7:00 p.m.)
- November 17 - Houston (noon)
- November 17 - Springfield (6:30 p.m.)
- November 18 - Joplin (6:30 p.m.)
- November 19 - Jefferson City (11:00 a.m.)

quick contacts

If you have questions or comments about the content of this newsletter, please let us know!

Photos and Stories	Anne Hyde x1131
Product Program	Mary Beth Schwenck x1346
Program Pathways	Karen Lawrence x1329
Retail Shop	Kaye Kissee x1138
Volunteer Trainings	Shirley Stevens x1513
Other Questions	gscouts@girlscoutsmoheartland.org

Shop Merchandise During Program Transition

To complete GSUSA's 2010-2011 Program rollout, which includes Journeys and the upcoming *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* (see page 4), Girl Scout Merchandise has announced a final discontinued item list. View the list at www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org/pages/shop/php.

If your girls plan to work on a badge or patch listed,



**Girl Scouts of the
Missouri Heartland, Inc.**
877-312-4764

gscouts@girlscoutsmoheartland.org
www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org





The National Program Portfolio: A Nationally Consistent Program for Girls

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is excited to participate in a nationwide transition of Girl Scout resources that will help ensure a consistent and productive Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) for all girls. The first component of the National Program Portfolio has already been introduced – the Girl Scout journeys. The second part – *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* – will be available in fall 2011. Together, the Girl Scout journeys and *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* help girls develop leadership skills and experience the fifteen leadership outcomes of the GSLE.

About Girl Scout Journeys

Journeys are the core of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. They offer girls the opportunity to truly explore leadership, and to experience Girl Scouting's three leadership keys: discover, connect, and take action. Journeys can be completed in any order; as with all aspects of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, the decision-making process should be girl-led.

What's special about the journeys?

- They are the core of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.
- They are the only program resources that cover all 15 national leadership outcomes, ensuring that girls learn tangible and lifelong leadership skills.
- The awards earned through completing each journey represent a true and deep exploration of a topic.

About *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*

The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting will provide updated badge activities and handbook information for girls at all Girl Scout age levels. In the past, both a badge book and a handbook were needed, but this resource is a hybrid – one simple binder for girls to track their Girl Scout activity. *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* will include badges, handbook sections, an awards log, accessory pages, and more.

Badges are here to stay! Girl Scout Daisies will continue to earn petals, but Girl Scout Brownies through Ambassadors will now all earn badges for their age level. Each age level will have its own unique shape for badges (similar to the current triangular Brownie Try-Its, circular Junior badges, and rectangular Interest Project Patches).

FAQs

Q. What's in *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*?

A. There are three sections: Handbook (with grade-appropriate information), Badges (in five categories: Legacy, Financial Literacy, Cookie Business, Skill-Building, and Make Your Own), and My Girl Scouts (information about bridging, Girl Scout awards, and more).

Q. How many badges are included in *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*?

A. For Girl Scout Brownies, Juniors, Seniors, and Ambassadors, 12 badges per age level will be offered. Cadettes are offered 14. Daisies will be offered 10 Petals and Promise Center, and – new in *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* - two "leaves" each for Financial Literacy and Cookie Business.

Skill-Building Badge Activity sets, coordinating with each of the three journeys series, will also be available for each age level. Each set will include requirements for five badges. That means there are fifteen skill-building badges available for Brownies through Ambassadors *in addition to* the 12-14 badges in *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* and the badge awards available through the journeys.

Q. How do journeys and badges work together?

A. *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* will work with national leadership journeys to add skill-building to the leadership skills girls learn through the three keys of Discover, Connect, and Take Action.

Journeys are the only program resources that cover all 15 outcomes. Badges build specific skills and are primarily aimed at the Discover "Girls develop a strong sense of self" outcome. National leadership journeys and *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* make up the program portfolio. Check out the journeys maps for each age level to learn more about how they work:

<http://girlscouts.org/program/journeys/maps/>.

Q. When will the books be available?

A. The first shipment should arrive in late September. GSMH is taking pre-orders through July 15.

Q. Are there adult handbooks or guidebooks for *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*?

A. Unlike past editions of Girl Scout handbooks, there is no specific guide for volunteers. Volunteers are encouraged to have their own copy of the girl book, so they can advise and mentor girls through their activities and badges. Information about working with girls is available in *Volunteer Essentials*, and orientation document distributed to volunteers on CD each fall. Each journey series also has adult "How To" guides available.

Transition Tips

What should you do between now and fall 2011, when *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* is released?

We recommend:

- Help girls choose a journey. Check out the journeys maps for each age level to learn more about how they work: <http://girlscouts.org/program/journeys/maps/>. Remember that journeys – the core of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience - may be completed at any time of the year, and in any order.
- If your girls are working on or want to work on a badge from a current handbook, contact a GSMH retail shop to make sure that it is available for purchase. We will work with council shops nationwide to find stock for you, but please bear in mind that inventory may become limited as the summer progresses.
- Check the GSMH website for updates; we will post information as we receive it.

take a journey this summer...

Girl Books and Adult "How To" Guides available now for all three Girl Scout journey series!



coming
this fall...

*The Girl's Guide
to Girl Scouting*

pre-order your copy today!



2011 Girl Scout Camp T-Shirts

**Program center name will be
included on t-shirts. Color
varies by program center.*

NEW THIS YEAR!
Camp t-shirts* will not be issued with camp registrations; they will be available for purchase at camp trading posts and GSMH retail shops.



get ready for camp...



going on now...

END OF YEAR CLEARANCE

stop by today!
quantities/sizes may be limited.

