

Volunteer Connections

emailed monthly to volunteers of
Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Inc.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

The Girl Scout Gold Award

Congratulations to the thirty-four girls who have earned the Girl Scout Gold Award this year! "Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is thrilled to celebrate the accomplishments of these young women,"



Pictured: nine of the Girl Scout Gold Awardees at the Young Women of Distinction event on April 17.

said CEO Jennifer M. Orban, "Their dedication and leadership are a testament to the power of what girls can do." This year,

girls took action in a wide variety of ways. Their projects ranged from workshops on topics such as leadership, fitness, and faith to restoring local parks, emergency shelters, and homeless shelters.

Fewer than 5 percent of all Girl Scouts nationwide earn the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award annually. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, each girl must complete extensive leadership requirements, including thirty hours in a leadership role and forty hours of career exploration. Girls must also complete at least sixty-five hours of research, preparation, service, and evaluation for a project that serves a need in their community, locally or globally.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, May 31

All GSMH service centers/retail shops closed

Saturday, May 15

Summer Camp registration deadline

Tuesday, June 15

Early Bird membership registration deadline

Thursday, July 1

End-of-year financial reports due

Changes to Service Center Hours

Effective May 3, 2010, all GSMH service centers and retail shops, except Springfield, will be closed to the public from 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm, Monday through Friday to allow for proper staff coverage. The hours are as follows:

Cape Girardeau, Dexter, Jefferson City, and Joplin Service Centers:

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Closed Daily 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm

Springfield Service Center

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Additionally, there may be rare occasions when a particular service center will need to close at irregular hours during the day, so it would be a good idea to call ahead (877-312-4764 x0) before making the trip.

Basket Auction a Success!

Thank you to the Girl Scout troops, service units, and individuals that donated a basket for the silent auction that was held at the Annual Meeting. They were pretty, creative and filled with great items that generated lots of bidding. We appreciate those that bid generously as well! Funds raised from the auction will be used for the financial assistance program to allow more girls to participate in Girl Scouting.

2011 Annual Meeting Location

Do you have an idea for where the 2011 GSMH Annual Meeting event should be held? Tell us! Service units are encouraged to complete an Annual Meeting Host Form, available online at www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org, by August 15, 2010. The 2011 Annual Meeting event will be on March 26, 2011.

Wrapping Up the School Year...

Spring has sprung, and we know that girls and families are getting ready for summer! As the school year ends, remember these few important reminders:

The **Early Bird membership registration deadline** is 6/15/10 at 4:30 pm. Registrations may be paid with cash, check, credit card, or Girl Scout Cookie Credit (*please note: the latter may not be used for adult registrations*).

Service unit and troop **financial reports** are due on 7/1/2010. However, if you submit your troop's financial report by 6/15/10, your troop will receive a \$5 gift certificate for the GSMH retail shops.

There's still one more **Membership Blitz Incentive**: The service unit that has increased its membership by the largest percentage from the previous year by 6/1/10 will receive a special surprise in the month of August. Fall 2011 membership blitz information will be available in the August 2010 *Volunteer Connections*.

If you have not already planned one, consider doing an **end-of-year ceremony** with your Girl Scout troop or service unit. Ceremony books are available at GSMH retail shops and libraries.

Girl Scout Cookie Program Follow-Up

Thank you to everyone for your participation in this year's Girl Scout Cookie Program! This year's program has ended, with girls having met ambitious goals and

learned great business and life skills.

Girl Scout Cookie Credit

We are in the beginning stages of processing Girl Scout Cookie Credit, which will be mailed to girls in mid-May. Please have girls and families watch for these in the mail. Please note: If a girl's information in SNAP does not match her Membership Registration Form, her Girl Scout Cookie Credit will be processed later and will not be mailed until mid-June.

Over-Payments

Any troop that has overpaid the council will be mailed a check in May. If you believe that you have overpaid and have not received a check from the council by the end of May, please contact the GSMH Finance Department at 877-312-4764 x1110.

Troop Bonus

Troops that qualified for the Troop Bonus should receive deposits to their troop bank accounts in May. If you believe that your troop should have received a bonus, and has not received a deposit by the end of May, please contact your community/membership development specialist at 877-312-4764.

Evaluation

Please check the GSMH website (www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org) in May for the 2010 Girl Scout Cookie Program evaluation. We appreciate any feedback or comments that will help make next year's Girl Scout Cookie Program a success.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

Remember, a Training Registration Form is due 10 days before the training. Additional information is in the Spring 2010 Volunteer Magazine. Questions? Please contact the Volunteer Services Specialist at 877-312-4764 x1122.

Saturday, May 8	Basic Outdoor Skills training	Sacajawea-East Program Center
Tuesday, May 11	Basic Troop Camping pre-camp	Joplin Service Center
Sat. & Sun., May 15 & 16	Basic Troop Camping training	Mintahama Program Center
Saturday, May 15	Basic Outdoor Skills training	Latonka Program Center
Tuesday, May 18	Basic Troop Camping pre-camp	Friendship Fields Program Center
Sat. & Sun., May 22 & 23	Basic Troop Camping training	Friendship Fields Program Center
Tuesday, June 1	Basic Troop Camping pre-camp	Jefferson City Service Center
Sat. & Sun., June 5 & 6	Basic Troop Camping training	Green Berry Acres Program Center
Saturday, June 5	Basic Outdoor Skills training	Finbrooke Program Center
Thursday, June 10	Basic Troop Camping pre-camp	Dexter Service Center
Sat. & Sun., June 12 & 13	Basic Troop Camping training	Latonka Program Center

Check out page 3 for information about the NEW online version of *Leadership Essentials!*

NEW!

Online Leadership Essentials

Girl Scouts of the USA has released the new home-study version of *Leadership Essentials*. It's your inside look at the *Journey* books and how to use them for the Girl Scout Leadership Experience!

This training can be completed in the privacy of your own home (computer access required*), and in place of the in-person version; just follow the instructions below to ensure that we get a copy of your responses, and that you get credit for the training.

1. Start here: <http://training.girlscouts.org>
2. Click on the link for your language preference. No password is needed. For tracking purposes, please put our council information in the Learning Log section of this online training. Also, please make sure that you fill in all of your personal information so that we can give you credit for the class.
3. After you have completed the Learning Log, be sure to hit the submit button so that we can review your answers.

Questions? Please contact the Volunteer Services Specialist at 877-312-4764 x1122 or via email at pworkman@girlscoutsmoheartland.org.

***Computer Specs for PC or Mac:**

- Flash 8 or 9
- Disable Pop-up Blocker
- Sound Card
- High-Speed Internet Connection
- Speakers
- Headphones are optional

Get Ready for Day Camp!

Many service units are planning summer day camps for Girl Scouts. If you are interested in helping, or know girls who are interested in attending, please contact your service unit day camp manager or community/membership development specialist. Many day camps are also "Bring a Buddy" events, so it's a great opportunity to recruit new girls to Girl Scouts!

Healthy Media for Youth Act

From Girl Scouts of the USA

Girl Scouts, with Congresswomen Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), have recently introduced the Healthy Media for Youth Act (H.R. 4925). The bill supports media literacy programs and youth empowerment groups, facilitates research on how images of women and girls impact youth, and establishes a National Taskforce on Women and Girls in the Media to develop voluntary standards that promote healthy, balanced, and positive images of girls and women.

The importance of this bill is best summed up by the father of a Girl Scout Daisy from Colorado: "[I] am happy to see that GSUSA has put its support behind the bipartisan supported Healthy Media for Youth Act (H.R. 4925). Our kids are assaulted every day with negative images of girls and women and HR4925 can help combat this. Thank you very much for always thinking of our precious girls first!"

Girl Scouts is now seeking cosponsors for the bill. Join the Advocacy Network, www.girlscouts4girls.org to send a letter to your member of Congress asking them to sign on and be a Voice for Girls!

come work at girl scout summer camp!

Do you know any college students in need of leadership experience? What about recent high school graduates who need something to do before they head off to school?

GSMH is in need of unit leaders for all summer camps, as well as kitchen staff and lifeguards on the east side of the state. Unit leaders must be 21 years old, and would be employed for seven weeks total (one week of training and six weeks at camp). Interested candidates should contact the Senior Manager for Leadership Programs at 877-312-4764 x1327 or email cimhoff@girlscoutsmoheartland.org.



Writing a Check? Dark Ink Only, Please!

Please use only black or blue ink when writing checks to GSMH. Some banks will require that checks be re-written if the ink is a different color.

Strive for 25! Family Campaign

All families are asked to help make a difference in the lives of girls in our council by participating in Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland's *Strive for Twenty-Five!* Family Campaign.

As a Girl Scout volunteer, you understand that the Girl Scouts you are mentoring today have the potential to shape our world and make important decisions that will affect the future. That's why it is so important that we provide financial support so that Girl Scouts can learn to discover their strong sense of self, connect with others, and take action to make the world a better place - this is the foundation of leadership development.

At a parent meeting, please help by explaining the importance of family support for Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland in order to help maintain safe program sites, continue to provide hundreds of leadership programs, and help girls who can't be Girl Scouts without financial assistance.



Daughters of families that make a minimum \$25 donation will receive a family giving patch as a thank-you for their support. *Strive for 25!* forms are included in troop *Early Bird* registration packets. Thank you for your commitment to girls.

Memorials & Honorariums

Making a donation to Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is a great way to remember someone - as a memorial or in honor of milestones such as birthdays, anniversaries, graduation, or earning an award. Just send your donation to any service center and let us know the name of the person(s) who should be notified that a memorial or honorarium has been made. The amount of the donation is not mentioned.

CRASH COURSE:

The Three Processes of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) is the primary conduit through which we achieve our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. One important aspect of the GSLE that sets it apart from other opportunities for girls is that it engages girls in processes that are especially conducive to leadership development:

- 1. Girl-Led:** Depending on their age level, girls will vote on, create, and implement their own plans for Girl Scout meetings, activities and projects. Adults help facilitate the process, but girls are the true leaders in Girl Scouting.
- 2. Learning by Doing:** There are many different styles of learning, of course, but hands-on experiential learning is always powerful. This process encourages girls to do things for themselves.
- 3. Cooperative Learning:** Girl Scouting is structured for girls to learn and grow together. They work with their fellow Girl Scouts, peers, adult mentors, community collaborators, and others as they learn and explore.

As mentors, facilitators, and advisors, it is the role of adults to give girls every opportunity possible to participate in these three processes. The GSLE is, after all, about girls learning and doing for themselves. It's by no means a new concept; these keywords are simply an easier way to remember something that we've been doing from the beginning. Our founder, Juliette Gordon Low, said it best: "What do the girls WANT to do?"

Council Media Releases - April/May

- Girl Scouts honored with Girl Scout Gold Award
- Thank you to Girl Scout volunteers



SPOTLIGHT ON...

Taking Action

On April 17, more than 200 girls gathered at GSMH program centers for the Girl Scouts Forever Green Take Action Day. Projects to help beautify the program centers included:



- cleaning flower beds
- planting vegetable gardens
- building recycle bins
- painting rain barrels
- planting flowers
- mulching
- raking trails

The goal for the event was to give a total of 100 hours of service, but our girls gave more than 400 hours!

Pictures, from top: gardening at Finbrooke, recycle bins at Latonka, rain barrels at Mintahama, beautification at Silver Meadows

Shop with us!

Did you know that when you shop at GSMH's online or retail shops, all proceeds stay in our 68-county jurisdiction, to support girls locally? They help us provide quality programs, volunteer support, safe program centers, financial assistance, and much more!

Ordering directly from GSMH is the only way to ensure that your purchase supports the Girl Scout Leadership Experience for girls in your community. If there is an item in the Girl Scout catalog or on the

SAVE THE DATE!



**Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland's
4-PERSON GOLF SCRAMBLE**

Mark your calendars! Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland's Annual 4-Person Golf Scramble is scheduled for Monday, August 9, 2010, at Meadow Lake Acres Country Club in New Bloomfield, MO. Join us for a wonderful day of golf and networking - and know that you are making a difference in the lives of girls! \$125 per person fee includes lunch, dinner, beverages, greens fees at one of Missouri's premier golf courses, two shared carts, range use prior to tournament, and prizes. For suggestions of potential sponsors and prizes, please contact Resource Development Manager Renee Trout at 877-312-4764 x 1418.



national shop Web site that you would like to see in our retail shops, please contact us at 877-312-4764. We're happy to help you with special orders.

NEW! Shop Order Form

Can't get to the shop? We can do mail orders! A new GSMH Retail Shop Mail-Order Form is attached to this newsletter and available online! You can also shop online at www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org; just click on "The Shop."

Send us your photos!
We love to see what girls have been doing to discover, connect, and take action! Email ahyde@girlscoutsmoheartland.org so that we can add them to our album and use them in upcoming publications!

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Inc.

Toll Free: 1-877-312-4764
gscouts@girlscoutsmoheartland.org
www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org  

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.



Camp Essentials



NEW!

Cascadian 7pc. Table Set. This one person table setting fits in its own dish dunking bag for easy packing. Set includes: 6½" bowl, 12 oz. cup, 9¾" plate and three piece plastic cutlery set. BPA free polypropylene plastic. Imported. **15093. \$19.50.**



Girl Scout Knife. Official multi-purpose knife by Colonial Knife Co. Knife handle is made of wood grain resin with four stainless steel components including: 2½" cutting blade, screw driver/cap lifter, can opener, punch awl. In gift box. Lifetime warranty. Imported. **15123. \$24.00.**



Bio Green Plastic Water Bottle. This eco friendly water bottle is easy to use and is leak proof. Cap flips open or can be pulled up for drinking. Informational hang tag attached describing this 100% biodegradable, recyclable and reusable water bottle. BPA free plastic. Made in USA. **15069. \$4.00.**



Girl Scout Backpack. Features a large inner compartment, a zippered front compartment with organizer wall pockets, mesh side pockets and a small easy-access zip-front pocket. 12" L x 16" H x 5" W. Fully padded adjustable straps and carrying loop. Imported. **11020. \$25.00.**



Stainless Steel 5pc. Mess Kit. Rugged and durable this stainless steel kit contains: 1qt. pot, 7½" x 1½" fry pan/lid/plate, with removable gripper handle, 6" bowl and 12 oz. cup. Comes with mesh dunking bag. Imported. **15012. \$23.75.**

Girl Scout Lanyard. This heavy duty, turquoise grosgrain lanyard is screenprinted with colorful stars and the words "Girl Scouts". Plastic hook and safety snap closure. Imported. **11456. \$3.75.**



Iron-On Get Outdoors Patch
2¼" x 1½"
58003. \$2.00



Iron-On Hiking Is Fun Patch
2¼" x 1½"
58006. \$2.00



Sew-On Backyard Camping Patch
2" x 2"
18935. \$1.50



Sew-On Sing-A-Long Patch
1½" x 2"
18920. \$1.25



Sew-On Camping Patch
2½" x 2¼"
18880. \$1.50



Sew-On I Love To Go Camping Patch
2¼" x 3"
18565. \$1.25



Sew-On Vintage GS Camping Patch
2½" x 2¼"
18881. \$1.25

Visit the GSMH Retail Shops for these CAMP ESSENTIALS and more!
Shop online at www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org.

All proceeds from your GSMH retail shop purchase help provide programs and services to girls in our area.

Camp Favorites To Wear...



NEW!

Camp Bandana. This cotton bandana is perfect for camp. In turquoise with "Girl Scouts" and "I Love Being a Girl Scout" imprint. 22" x 22" Imported. **15184. \$4.75.**

Peace Love Euro Sack. This must-have euro sack is perfect to take with you anywhere! With rope drawstrings and carrying loop. Nylon. Imported. **11027. \$12.00.**



Head Wrap and Ponytail Set. Includes four 8" x 1/4" head wraps and twelve 1 1/2" x 1/4" ponytail holders imprinted with "Girl Scouts" or hearts. Olive green, burgundy, black, khaki. Spandex/polyester elastic. Imported. **11605. \$4.25. Set of 16.**

Girl Scout Pierced Earrings Set. Set features two pairs of post back earrings and one pair of dangle earrings. Silvertone with epoxy; rhodium finish. Surgical steel post or wire. Imported. **12251. \$12.00. 3 pair set.**



Girl Scout Signature Sock Pack. For Girls and Adults. Navy and white socks feature turn cuff and trefoil design with "GS". Cotton/polyester/nylon/spandex. Imported. S(fits shoe sizes 6-10 1/2), M(fits shoe sizes 9-2 1/2), L(fits shoe sizes 3-10). **0770. \$6.50. Pkg. of 2.**



...And To Share



Patches The Bear. "Patches" is her name and she is dressed in her very own removable Brownie hoodie. Approx. 15" H. Imported. **11807. \$20.00.**



Petals The Dog. Her name is "Petals" and she is ready to be your best friend. Fleece hoodie is removable. Tan/brown. Approx. 16" H. Imported. **11810. \$22.00.**



Girl Scout Plush Animal T-Shirts. Everyone likes a change of clothing including Patches and Petals. Whether you own one or both of them, these message tees fit them all. Now when Daisies and Brownies dress in their own T-shirts, they can bring along their favorite friend in a matching tee! Cotton/polyester knit. Made in USA. **Daisies Have Attitude Tee. 11846. \$9.00. Brownies Can Do Anything Tee. 11845. \$9.00.**

