



Connect

The newsletter for our volunteers

Girl Scouts®

Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc.

May 2009 • Volume 1 • Issue 11

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GSNWGL Service Centers

Appleton
4693 N Lynndale Dr, 54913
920.734.4559

Eau Claire
4222 Oakwood Hills Pkwy, 54701
715.835.5331

Green Bay
2430 Finger Rd, 54302
920.469.4860

Marquette, MI
131 W Washington, Ste C, 49855
906.225.8020

Schofield (Wausau)
3511 Camp Phillips Rd, 54476
715.355.9850

Wisconsin Rapids
3910 Chestnut St, 54494
715.423.6360

General phone number
888.747.6945

Call your nearest Service Center and we can transfer you to any other Service Center or phone extension!

Message from Mary

Dear Volunteers and Parents,

In the United States today, the average elementary-age child can recognize more than 100 corporate logos, but can't name 10 plants.

A 2003 study published in *Environment and Behavior* concluded that green plants and surroundings reduce stress among children. The more natural the surroundings, the better. A greater degree of "greenery" around the home leads to more significant stress reduction.

On top of that, University of Illinois research found that children with attention-deficit disorder focus more effectively after outdoor activities such as camping and fishing. And other studies have yielded similar results. Urban kids have shown increased cognitive ability when they have access to natural settings, and Swedish preschoolers who played in more natural settings suffered fewer attention lapses - being distracted, interrupting, not listening - than those who played in less natural areas.

Teens also benefit. A survey of participants in wilderness programs found that when teenagers are exposed to nature, the results include enhanced self-esteem, independence and initiative.

What's my point? Summer is just around the corner, and Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes still has openings in a variety of camp opportunities, both in your area and across our beautiful Council region. Encourage your girls this month, as well as their parents, to make time for Girl Scout camp this summer. I understand times are tight right now, but look to these long term benefits - and look to us for financial assistance. It exists to enrich girls in their time of need!

Now, while they're building the foundation on which they will construct the rest of their lives, is their time of need. Women report increased self-esteem, self-respect and self-integrity by participating in outdoor recreational programs (Bialeschki, et al.). Utilize Product Sale Program proceeds, encourage parents, and do whatever else you can to ensure your girls have opportunities to try new skills, 'get dirty,' challenge themselves physically and emotionally, and accomplish things they never knew possible!

- Mary

Happy 1st Anniversary, GSNWGL!

Together we are creating an amazing Girl Scout council!

Thank you for partnering with us as we've built upon our legacy of strong councils, and for staying committed to helping build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.

Year-End Evaluations

GSNWGL is beginning the year-end evaluation process. There are several surveys available - a volunteer survey and one for each Girl Scout grade level. Membership Managers will email you the link with an invitation to participate, or you may access the surveys here. The data gathered in this survey will help us improve Council functions and provide critical information to our funders. Your information will have a direct impact on future funding of Girl Scouting in your community. Please take time to fill out the entire survey and give your troops time at a library or a local college to fill out their surveys as well. Thank you for showing your pride and support in Girl Scouts - it is through you that these traditions and educational programs will move forward and remain sustainable!

Please note: active hyperlinks are indicated by underlined text



GSNWGL Product Programs

2009 Girl Scout Cookie Sale Program

Again, we'd like to THANK all of our 2009 Cookie Sale Program Volunteers, Troop Leaders and parents! Without your dedication, efforts and time the 2009 Cookie Sale Program would not have been such a success!

638 troops participated in Booth Sales and/or the I Called Back Plan. Most troops who participated in the Stimulus Package sold an average of 427 additional boxes of cookies for a an additional average troop profit of \$277.55!

We are proud to announce that 92 girls participated in the I Called Back Cookie Stimulus Plan. Each of these girls sold 50 or more boxes of cookies from their initial order and will receive an I Called Back patch.

On Wednesday, April 30, the drawing was held for one Wii Game Console or \$250 Wal-Mart Gift Card; Elsbeth Hamilton of Troop 6283 (Wisconsin Rapids Service Center) was awarded a \$250 Wal-Mart Gift Card. Thank you to all girls who participated and worked hard to go above and beyond their goals.

Please join us in extending our thanks and congratulations to all troops who participated in the 2009 Girl Scout Cookie Sale Program!

Here's a Sneak Peek at the 2009 Girl Scout Fall Product Sale Program

Planning for the 2009 Fall Product Program is underway! There's still lots to do, but we can share with you a sneak peek:

- The theme for our upcoming Fall Product Program is *GSI: Unlock the Mystery!*
- The program activities will offer a way for girls to investigate more about themselves and their values
- The mascot is an adorable, super-sleuthing bloodhound

Watch the website and upcoming issues of *Connect* for more details!

Updates & Reminders from the Membership Department

Service Team Members - Mark Your Calendars & Get Ready to LEAP into the New Year!

Service Team Training and Rededication Event

- Sunday, August 2, 2009
- 1:00-4:00 p.m. CST (2:00-5:00 p.m. ET)
- Location: all Council Service Centers

All Service Team members (Service Area Managers, School/Community Organizers, Family Partnership Ambassadors, Treasurers, Event Planners, etc.) are invited to “hop on over” to this important event. Come and learn about the new and exciting things GSNWGL has in store for the 2009-2010 year. Network with new friends, meet the staff, pick up your “new year” materials and have a blast! We have a mystery theme (you already have a few hints!) and lots of fun in store for you, so don't miss it! Watch for more details coming soon from your Membership Manager. Remember, it isn't easy being green, but this event will make it a lot more fun!

Summer Services

In the summer your Membership Manager is available to you and will continue to provide all of the same valuable services. She can help you navigate through Council resources and help you find what you are looking for, help you deal with challenging things that come up your troop like cliques, difficult parents and bullies, and give you ideas for great service projects, field trips and guest speakers. Your Membership Manager will also be out and about in your community this summer. If you need a store order or another resource, call your Membership Manager to find out the next time she will be in your community.

Service Area Leader Meetings - April Recap

- We talked about the Coach/Mentor volunteer position
- We heard about changes to Council practices about what activities require First Aid/CPR certification (*see page 9 for details*)
- We heard about new Outdoor Training requirements and options
- We learned about where to find the Council-approved horse riding stables
- We heard about a fee change for events/troop meetings under three hours at Council properties
- We heard about summer camp
- We learned about the great opportunity of BYOU2 Dance parties

More Information About Service Area Leader Meetings

Most Service Areas meet monthly during the school year and all Leaders (01 and 02) are encouraged to attend. If no Troop Leaders can attend, a member of the Troop Committee should attend.

During meetings, Leaders:

- Network with each other
- Give input and help make decisions about Service Area program opportunities for troops
- Receive information from the Council, community and Service Area
- Receive brief, informal training
- Receive items from the Council Shop

There will be Service Area, Council, and community information at the Service Area Leader Meetings. At every Service Area Leader Meeting, there are also copies of forms that leaders use the most (these forms are also in the back of *The Source* and on the website [here](#) to be copied as needed). Click [here](#) for the date, place and time of your next Service Area Leader Meeting.

Fall Kick Off Events at August Service Area Leader Meetings

Do not miss your August Service Area Leader Meeting. August Service Area Leader Meetings will be the official fall kick off events- and they will be right in your Service Areas. At these fall kick off events you will:

- Find out what's new in the 2009-2010 issue of *The Source*!
- Hear about the 2009-2010 council programs, as well as updates from all departments.
- Learn about everything that is new and exciting for the new year!

Updates & Reminders from the Membership Department

Spring Registration 2009

It may seem early to be thinking about registering for Girl Scouts next year, but that's the whole point of **Spring Registration!** Spring registration makes a lot of sense: families can check one task off their fall "to do" list and leaders can better plan the upcoming troop year, knowing how many girls they'll have! **Your Spring Registration packets will be available in May at meetings, events and Council Service Centers. Call your Membership Manager for more information about packet availability or to arrange a time to pick up the materials.**

Note: Beginning with the 2009-2010 membership year (this year's spring registration), Girl Scout annual membership dues will be raised to \$12. Lifetime Membership dues will also increase from \$250 to \$300 on October 1, 2009. To purchase a lifetime membership for \$250, the registration must be received at a Council Service Center before September 30, 2009. Girl Scouts who are graduating high school seniors can take advantage of a special discount and pay only \$130 until September 30, 2009. Starting October 1, 2009 the graduating senior lifetime membership will increase to \$156. The last increase in membership dues approved by the National Council went into effect in October 2003 and raised the dues to the current \$10 level. Over the past 40 years, the National Council has approved dues increases approximately every six years.

Spring Registration Patches

Special offer only for troops who spring register! Troops will be able to purchase Spring Registration patches from Council Shops at the low cost of \$0.75 per patch. The patch will only be available to girls who register on or before June 30, 2009. When you turn in your Spring Registrations, be sure you ask for your patch coupon. After June 30, 2009 the patch will no longer be available!

BYOU2 Dance Parties!

Sabrina Bryan of "The Cheetah Girls" and "Dancing with the Stars" is back with the second installment of BYOU: A Hit Exercise DVD for Girls. BYOU2 teaches girls to be happy and healthy using hot new dance moves to help them get fit! At the BYOU2 Dance Party:

- Learn a BYOU2 dance routine and perform it!
- Sample fun summer camp activities!
- Make a craft and have a healthy snack!
- Take part in fun "Uniquely Me" activities!

BYOU2 Dance Party events will be held in April and May. Thanks to a grant from the Dove / Girl Scout Self-Esteem Program, we have a special offer for every girl who registers for Girl Scouts at a BYOU2 party- \$5 off her membership registration fees!

Check the [BYOU2 webpage](#) for dates, times and locations of the dance parties. There is a \$3 event fee to attend a BYOU2 dance party.

The BYOU2 parties are Girl Scout registration events. If girls are attending with their parents or guardians, they can choose a registration package at the party (listed below). If girls are attending with their troop leaders, then leaders must have completed, signed girl registration forms and payment for all girls who attend the event. (Financial assistance is available.) Leaders: As with any trip away from the meeting place, remember to have completed, signed parent permission slips to attend this event.

Girls will choose from these 3 registration packages at the party (these prices reflect the \$5 discount):

- \$5 to register for 2008-2009; for new members, this membership expires on September 30, 2009.
- \$7 to spring register for 2009-2010; for current members spring registering for next year!
- \$17 to register for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010; for new members registering for this year and next year!

Updates & Reminders from the Membership Department

Year-End Checklist

- Survey girls and adults – Are they returning next year?
- Complete spring registration forms. Send membership forms and dues to any Service Center by June 30, 2009.
- Balance the troop account and complete the Annual Troop/Group Financial Report (also page 99 of *The Source*) by June 30.
- Help your girls go to our website to fill out year-end evaluations and fill out the volunteer one for yourself. The information you provide on these surveys is critical for GSNWGL's funding and guides our future planning for the Council.
- Use the Summer Camp Program Guide to promote summer camp to girls.
- Plan final awards ceremony. Order all necessary insignia for your final awards ceremony.
- Recognize the individuals, businesses and organizations who helped the troop during the year. Send them a note or nominate them for a Community Participation Award (also page 101 of *The Source*).
- Notify your Membership Manager about the adults in leadership positions – Are they returning?
- Plan summer fun activities for the troop.
- Set a date for first formal meeting after summer vacation.
- If the troop is disbanding, fill out the Disbanded/Merged Troop Form (also page 103 of *The Source*).

If troop has bridging members:

- Order bridging kits.
- Make plans to earn the bridging recognition for your grade level.
- Plan a bridging ceremony with the girls.
- If bridging to a new troop, notify families of their new troop, give Girl Record Forms to new leaders, transfer appropriate amount to new checking account, and make necessary changes on the pre-printed Spring Registration forms.

Disbanding Troops

If your troop is disbanding or merging you will need to take these steps:

If girls from a disbanding troop are placed in multiple troops:

- Complete the Disbanded/Merged Troop form
- Give the Girl's Record forms to the new Troop Leaders
- The disbanding troop treasury may be divided among the new troops based on the number of transferring girls
- Give the checkbook and records to your Membership Manager
- Give the troop's supplies and equipment to the School Organizer

If disbanding a troop and girls are not placed:

- Complete the Disbanded/Merged Troop form
- Give the Girl's Record forms to the girls for future reference and use
- Close the troop checking account and forward any remaining troop account money to your Membership Manager. Shred and dispose of all blank checks
- Give the troop's supplies and equipment to the School Organizer
- The School Organizer will work with the Membership Manager to ensure that troop funds are handled appropriately.

If the troop reactivates within 18 months and Council is notified, the funds are reissued to the troop. If reorganization does not take place within 18 months, the troop will be considered officially disbanded and the resources will be used by the Council in the interest of Girl Scouting, as designated by the board of directors.

Updates & Reminders from the Membership Department

Summer Fun with Your Troop

Is summer the time to “shut down” all troop activities? Or can you connect the girls in a fun, relaxed way during the summer months?

Here are five tips to keep girls connected through the summer and into the new troop year.

1. **Set the Dates.** Before the girls grab their sunscreen and iPods and head off to the pool, create a calendar of summer activities. An e-newsletter that keeps everyone up-to-date on what’s ahead is a great way to start. You can grow your troop for next year and have fun.
2. **Fire Up the BBQ.** Have an international or themed barbecue. Plan an activity from a Girl Scout resource book the girls will be using next year. For example, Girl Scout Juniors who are 11 years old can try “Cook a Foreign Dish” from the STUDIO 2B Focus Book: On the Go.
3. **Thank the Village.** Choose a time and place for girls to thank their parents who helped make their activities possible this year. Block parties and picnics are great summer ideas. If you can’t use your street, reserve space in a community park. Use streamers or balloons to reserve your spot; enlist adults to barbecue and play games. This is a great opportunity to talk about next year’s activities as well as recruit volunteers.
4. **Make It “Fair.”** Almost every community has a fair or festival going on in the summer. Organize a trip to a summer-only event and plan activities that count towards earning awards. Why not contact your local science museum, university with an observatory, or astronomy club and arrange for star-gazing? All you need is a clear night. The girls can even make star-shaped cookies or moon pies to mark the occasion. You may even want to develop an ongoing relationship with your contact person for activities throughout the troop year.
5. **Go the Distance.** Some girls may be in camp for a part of the summer. Others may be visiting parents or relatives who live far away. Consider sending small, inexpensive care packages, funny jokes, a treat or two, and ideas for Girl Scout activities to keep everyone connected until September.

Keeping girls connected throughout the summer and getting ideas for the new troop year can certainly make a big splash with the girls throughout the season!

From “More Than Summer Fun” by Helen Orloff

Service Area Best Practices Highlight

Sand Hills Service Area

By Renee Erickson, Membership Manager

The Sand Hills Service Area had a great year! Here are just a few highlights:

- There are two Service Area Managers: Heidi Kolve in the west and Judy Morrow in the east.
- With efforts to recruit and retain, Sand Hills surpassed their girl membership goal by 101 girls and their adult membership goal by 58 adults!
- They have done many fun events this year and in many areas. Osseo had a sleepover where they collected toiletry items for a woman’s shelter, Mondovi hosted a Me and My Guy dance, and Neillsville and Granton took their girls out bowling.
- Osseo is planning a big bridging event in May. It is being organized by a leader; Pam Graham, who knows ceremonies from when she was in the Navy. She has a huge, beautiful bridge and last year even went so far as to take her mirror out of her living room to use for the reflecting pool. Mondovi and Neillsville/Granton will also have ceremonies.
- In June, the Brownies and Juniors will take a trip to Blue Mound, Wisconsin to visit the Cave of the Mounds.
- This spring, all the Sand Hills Daisy troops will get together for a Daisy Fun Day. The girls will get to know one another and make new friends.
- A Junior troop from Osseo will be joining the Nokomis area’s trip to Savannah, Georgia with stops at fun places like Juliette Low’s house as well as the ocean!

Way to go Sand Hills!!

Council Shop News

Special Shop Hours

All Council Shops will be closed on May 25 in observance of Memorial Day. Be sure to check our website for additional hours and changes.

Summer Special!

Is your troop bridging to the next level? We have a great deal for you!

- 10% off the Journey book sets (set includes the How-to Guide for adults and the Journey book for girls). Get a jump start on next year and save! Sale ends August 28.
- FREE Journey keepsake with the purchase of a Great Start Kit. These kits include everything your girl needs to get the most out of all Girl Scout program has to offer. Your choice of vest or sash, the council ID, insignia tab, Girl Scout pin, troop numbers, age level books including the Journey book all in a reusable earth friendly tote, plus the keepsake bracelet or necklace as a memento of her Girl Scout journey! This offer is good until August 28.
- Bridging kits are still available! To make your hectic spring easier, we put everything together for girls bridging to the next level. Download the flyer and order form [here](#).

Join the Council Shops in Celebrating GSNWGL's 1st Anniversary!

The Council shops will have a special sale from May 11-15 on all GSNWGL Council merchandise. This is a great time to purchase special GSNWGL T-shirts, denim shirts or sweatshirts. Great new items are also available. The Appleton Service Center shop will be open before and/or after the Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 16. Watch the website for times.

Year-End Awards

Purchasing end-of-year awards? Call, email or fax ahead of time so that orders can be ready for you, or delivered to your Service Area meetings.

Please allow 48 hours for orders to be processed. If you need large quantities, it is a good idea to allow two weeks in case items need to be ordered for you.

Click [here](#) to download the various Council Shop order forms.

Announcing Camp Care Packages

Whether it is your daughter's first adventure at camp, or she is a seasoned camper, we have a Camp Care Package for her! Packages range in price from \$15-\$25 and can be customized. Download the flyer and order form [here](#), or contact your nearest Council Shop for more information.

In addition to Camp Care Packages, there are lots of fun and exciting items available at the camp trading posts this summer. Click [here](#) to download the Camp Essentials flyer.

Download the Council Shop Spring/Summer Specials Flyer [here](#)!

Fund Development News

Winner Trivia Contest

Green Bay Area Special Event

On Wednesday, May 13, join us for Girl Scouts' 9th Annual Winner Trivia Contest at the Stadium View Bar and Grill at 5:30 p.m. Do you or someone you know love trivia? Try your luck at a few questions below:

1. The daughter on "Bewitched" was named:
 - a) Tabitha
 - b) Endora
 - c) Wednesday
 - d) Sabrina
2. In what movie did Charlton Heston win an Academy Award?
 - a) Ten Commandments
 - b) Ben Hur
 - c) Planet of the Apes
 - d) Soylent Green
3. In the Movie "Casablanca" what roulette number did Rick rig to help a young couple?
 - a) 00
 - b) 3
 - c) 23
 - d) 35
4. Whose back was turned on the back of the Sgt. Pepper album?
 - a) John
 - b) Paul
 - c) George
 - d) Ringo

**See the
Winner Trivia Contest
webpage [here](#) to
find the answers!**

The Winner Trivia Contest is easy and fun! Gather a team of four for a night of laughs and competition. You can sponsor yourselves or have your business or employer sponsor you! Click [here](#) for more information and a downloadable brochure.

Women of Courage, Confidence and Character

Wisconsin Rapids Area Special Event

Each year, GSNWGL honors extraordinary women who make an impact on the community and who have demonstrated significant achievements in their professional and personal lives while serving as strong role models for today's girls.

This luncheon event will honor the following outstanding women: Arline Hillestad, Nancy Schmidt (both of Stevens Point) and Keri Siekert (Wisconsin Rapids).

Save the Date!

- When: June 4, 2009, at 11:15 a.m.
- Where: The Ridges, 2311 Griffith Ave, Wisconsin Rapids

Click [here](#) for more information!

Celebrate Girl Scouting Banquet Wausau Area Special Event

On Saturday, April 4, GSNWGL celebrated the mission of Girl Scouting at the Wausau Country Club. This year's event honored a local couple, Brad and Bitsy Hoffmann, for their outstanding service and commitment to the Girl Scout mission. An elegant evening with friends and family was enjoyed by all. This year's event raised over \$13,000 to help girls in our Council!

Family Partnership 2009 Campaign

***"If we are together nothing is impossible. If we are divided all will fail."* Winston Churchill**

Together we strive to empower your daughter with *courage* to make new discoveries, *confidence* to make connections with others and *character* to take action and make our world a better place. Together we can meet our Family Partnership goals and make Girl Scouting possible for all girls. Please consider a voluntary charitable contribution through the 2009 Family Partnership Campaign.

Adult Development News

Don't Miss Out on These Great Opportunities!

Outdoor Education

Course Overview: Basic, hands-on training course, designed to equip volunteers to teach age-appropriate outdoor skills such as knot tying, knife safety, fire building, outdoor cooking, kaper charts, cleanup methods, and fun activity ideas. One or more adults who have successfully completed the Outdoor Education course are required to accompany troops on any overnight camping activities or engage in fire building and/or outdoor cooking. There is a fee of \$20 for this course. It includes a book, materials, and meals/snacks.

Upcoming sessions:

- May 17 - Camp Birch Trails, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- May 30 - Camp Winnecomac Hawk's Haven, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- June 20 - Camp Nawakwa, Cornell, WI, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- June 27 - Service Area Manager Residence, Sault Ste Marie, MI, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sessions are added regularly, so please continue to check the website [Training Calendar](#) for additional sessions in other areas.

NASA Programming

GSUSA has worked with [NASA](#) for more than 15 years to promote interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) among girls. In summer 2009, GSNWGL will be offering two NASA Facilitator's Training Sessions. These events are geared toward adult volunteers who are interested in leading NASA/STEM activities within their communities. Interactive program topics will include solar system exploration, rocket building, engineering activities and more! The cost for this event will be \$25 per person, and includes course fee, materials, food and accommodations at a Council Camp. The same content will be offered at both sessions.

Event Information:

- Camp Del O'Claire, Schofield, WI
9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 27 - 1:00 p.m., Sunday, June 28
- Camp Pow-Low, Gwinn, MI
9:00 a.m. Saturday, August 8 - 1:00 p.m. Sunday, August 9

New Volunteer Application Available

To increase security and efficiency, the application process has become primarily Internet based, and paper copies have been eliminated whenever possible. The volunteer application may be found on our website [here](#). Please use this updated version if you need to complete a volunteer application, or if you are recruiting a new volunteer. Completed applications should be saved to your computer, and emailed to volunteer@gsnwgl.org. New volunteers without computer access may request paper copies from their Membership Manager or the Adult Development Department. ***The new application has been revised significantly, so please recycle old applications.***

Change in CPR/ First Aid Requirements for Overnight Activities

CPR and First Aid certification will no longer automatically be mandated for every overnight activity. As of April 1, 2009, an adult supervisor with current CPR/ First Aid certification will be required for:

- Any activity taking place in areas with limited access to medical facilities/emergency services.
- Any activity with more than 200 participants.
- Overnight rental of any Council property.
- All camping activities, including those utilizing lodges.
- Many other physical and high-risk activities. Consult *Safety-Wise* activity checkpoints for further details.

**Do not miss the upcoming
BYOU2 Dance Party
near you!**

**Girls will have fun and learn about
staying healthy at
BYOU2 Dance Parties in May!**

See page 4 for more information.

Adult Development News

Have Some Free Time Over the Summer?

It could be a great time to catch up on Girl Scout trainings!

Although we do not offer as many face- to -face sessions during the summer months, training is always available online and through paper packets. Click [here](#) for online courses. To receive a paper copy, please contact your Membership Manager or the Adult Development Department.

Even if you are an experienced legacy council volunteer, there are a few new training requirements. These offerings are designed to ensure that everyone is updated on the policies of the new Council, and familiar with the GSUSA Leadership Experience. All new volunteers are asked to complete required trainings within two months of appointment. Experienced volunteers must complete all new required trainings by October 1, 2009.

Please find more information on GSNWGL's primary courses listed below.

Course Title: GSUSA Volunteer Orientation

Approximate Session Length: 1 hour

Required volunteers: All new GSNWGL volunteers (appointed as a new volunteer after May 1, 2008) are required to complete this course.

Course Overview: This engaging online session acquaints new volunteers with Girl Scouting and the many rewarding opportunities it offers girls and adults.

Steps to complete the online orientation:

1. Visit <http://training.girlscouts.org>
2. Click on basic orientation
3. Enter password: discover
4. Read and critically think about each section in the table of contents
5. When you have completed all sections, click on the Learning Log link at the bottom of the screen (center) or, to access, click <https://eventsreg.girlscouts.org/getdemo.ei?id=16&s= 3200MSPDB>
6. Fill in your personal contact information. IMPORTANT! After filling in your personal email, please add the Adult Development Department email, with emails separated by a semi-colon (example of correct email input: janedoe@hotmail.com; training@gsnwgl.org). This will send your learning log responses to the GSNWGL Adult Development Department for review. We cannot grant credit for completion without this step. The Adult Development Department general email is training@gsnwgl.org.
7. Complete the eight learning log questions and submit via website.
8. Adult Development staff will send you a confirmation email when your materials have been received and reviewed.

Course Title: Council 101: Welcome to Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes Inc.!

Approximate Session Length: 30 minutes

Required Volunteers: All new and experienced Leaders (01), Assistant Leaders (02), Service Area Team Members (11), and Trainers (12) must complete this course. *Note: This course is a one-time requirement; Volunteers do not need to repeat this course annually.*

Course Overview: This course introduces volunteers to the structure, goals, policies and processes of Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc.

Course Title: Leadership Essentials

Approximate Session Length: 3 hours

Items Needed: Journey workbook and leader guide for the age level you are working with, paper and pen or pencil.

Required volunteers: All new and experienced Leaders (01), Assistant Leaders (02), Service Area Team Members (11), and Trainers (12) must complete this course.

Course Overview: Leadership Essentials prepares volunteers working directly with girls to effectively facilitate the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. This course replaces all basic leader and grade-level trainings. Additional grade-level trainings will not be required as volunteers bridge to new levels.

Program Updates

It's Time to Register for Camp!

Summer really is right around the corner, and the best part about summer is definitely camp!

Encourage your Girl Scout troop to attend one - or more! - of GSNWGL's hundreds of camp sessions this summer! GSNWGL camp is all about discovering new things, connecting with new friends, and taking action to make the world a better place. Under the guidance of a caring and nurturing staff, girls gain important life skills in community living, teamwork, leadership and so much more.

Girls love the summer camp experience and we offer something for just about every girl, from horseback riding, swimming, kayaking, to going on trips, singing, dancing, and more. Campers will make memories to last a lifetime at any one of our great resident camps like Camp Birch Trails, Camp Nawakwa, Camp Nesbit or Camp Sacajawea where they'll spend anywhere from 3 to 21 days hanging out and making friends. Sessions for girls, troops and families at Camp Cuesta and Camp Ishnala pack tons of resident camp fun into one crazy weekend. We even have sessions for girls that may not be ready for the overnight thing quite yet - our day camps at Camp Winnecomac and Camp Del O'Claire are great ways to get a great camp experience from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Check out our camp brochure, [GS Camp Rocks!](#), or the [Camp Programs section](#) of our website for more information on sessions, dates and camp facilities. Sessions are filling up quickly so sign up today! (*Financial assistance is available.*)

**Click [here](#) to
download our
2009 Summer
Program Guide!**

Portable Programs

Spring is in the air! Get your troop outside and enjoy the sunshine and grab one of our Portable Programs to help you bring your program outdoors! Try one of these kits which are perfectly suited for an educational outdoor adventure:

- **Incredible Insects:** Have you ever wondered what all the "buzz" is about insects? Here's your chance to get up close and personal with our teeny-tiny friends! In this kit, you will find real insect display mounts, books, and fun games to play outside. You'll also get to use the insect sweep nets, magnifying glasses, and bug catcher jars to examine everything you catch. The leader's guide is equipped with discussion topics, identification tips, and fun activities for the budding entomologist in everyone.
- **Wild Edible Plants:** Munch on mother nature's natural treats with the help of this kit! This kit will help you enjoy an outdoor smorgasbord, and it includes some cooking materials, kitchen accessories, and of course, the books you need to help you identify those tasty goodies. Also included in the leader guide are important safety topics for finding food in the outdoors and seven delicious recipes for you to try. Dandelion fritters, anyone? Cat-tail Crudités, coming right up!

To check availability contact Carrie Andringa: candringa@gsnwgl.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 5513.

Science Spectacular Success!

Science Spectacular was a huge hit with Girl Scouts on Saturday, April 4th. Over 540 girls and adults attended the event, held at six locations throughout our council. Girls participated in physics experiments, chemistry demonstrations, and planetarium shows. Here's what participants had to say about the program:

- *I liked how the program exposed the girls to science labs, the university, and possible careers in science.* - Adult
- *It builds confidence and exposes the girls to opportunities they might not otherwise get.* - Adult
- *The coolest program would be the same as this one with new experiments!* - Girl
- *I liked the animals and fish and all the learning!* - Girl

We can't wait to see you all at the next year's Council programs! See page 12 for a special sneak peek!

Program Updates

2009-2010 Council-Wide & Council-Sponsored Programs

We're thrilled to announce GSNWGL's 2009-2010 troop year Council-Wide Programs!

Each of the programs will focus on a topic that research shows girls are interested in or want to learn more about. Most Council-Wide Programs are offered to all grade levels, and sessions during the event are broken up by grade level to ensure that each girl is participating in a program that will benefit her. Save the date for these exciting programs that will be held at six different locations on the same day! **Registration for 2009-2010 Council-Wide and Council-Sponsored Programs opens August 31!**

Watch the website for changes or additional information about the upcoming Council-Wide and Council-Sponsored Programs.

Into the Woods

Date/Time: Saturday, October 24, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Discover the world in which you live. Investigate and explore the trees, animals and the environment through exciting activities and games. Challenge your friends in a fun nature obstacle course. Outdoor experts will show you the way people impact the environment and what we can do to make the world a better place to live.

Grade Levels: All

Cost: \$10/girl

Amazin' Race

Date/Time: Saturday, November 14, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

The race is on! Teams will compete in the Amazin' Race to solve clues, find different places, and perform fun tasks at each location. Will you make something, collect something, or showcase a skill? See if you can make it to the pit stop, while being aware of surprises along the way such as: detours, speed bumps, and roadblocks! Do you have what it takes?

Grade Levels: All

Cost: \$10/girl

Creation Sensation

Date/Time: Saturday, December 5, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Easel? Check! Smock? Check! Paint, clay, and props? Check, check, and check! Creation Sensation has got it all and we want to bring out the inner artist in you! Painting, sculpting, drama, and so much more. Our volunteers will teach you tips and techniques to get your ideas on canvas or on stage. At Creation Sensation, you'll put the fine in fine arts!

Grade Levels: All

Cost: \$10/girl

GSI: Girl Scouts Investigate

Date/Time: Saturday, March 6, 2010

GS Daisies and Brownies, 9:00 a.m.- noon

GS Juniors and up, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Can you solve the mystery? Spend an exciting day sleuthing with other Girl Scouts as you apply real crime scene investigation techniques to solve a mysterious case. Collect and examine evidence from the crime scene and experience firsthand forensic analysis techniques.

Grade Levels: All

Cost: \$10/girl

Olympic Adventure

Date/Time: Saturday, April 10, 2010, 9:00 a.m. - noon

What does it take to be an Olympic athlete? Answer that question and see if you're up for the challenge in the crazy day full of fun and games. Compete in Olympic style events, learn the history of the Olympics, and participate in games – Olympic style!

Grade Levels: All

Cost: \$10/girl

But That's Not All...

In addition to the Council-Wide Programs above, we're planning many Council-Sponsored Programs!

These events consist of each Service Center area offering smaller events focusing on topics such as camp and outdoors; STEM; health and wellness; art and culture; and leadership and adventure. These programs will vary in activities, dates, and time in each Service Center area, but will be based on the same core topics. All girls and troops are invited to attend any program in any of the areas.

Check out the 2009-2010 issue of The Source (coming this summer!) and the website for details on these program opportunities!

Program Updates

The Girl Scout Bronze Award

Below are GSNWGL Girl Scouts who have earned the Girl Scout Bronze Award from May 1, 2008 - March 31, 2009. If your troop or individual girl (Juliette) is missing from this list please contact Michelle Carr: mcarr@gsnwgl.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 4517.

GSNWGL's Girl Scout Bronze Award Recipients

Claire Allard, Troop 4467	Kirsten Grissmeyer, Troop 7027	Taylor Nenahlo, Troop 4467
Amber Bakos, Troop 6339	Karina Grissmeyer, Troop 7027	Sydney Olson, Troop 4074
Courtney Bauer, Troop 6339	Katy Grulke, Troop 7280	Roanne Ostmann, Troop 7338
Olivia Beilke, Troop 2319	Tiffany Haines, Troop 4467	Catherine Pinter, Troop 7208
Laura Benish, Troop 2092	Emily Hansen, Troop 4638	Ali Pitt, Troop 3193
Alexis Bettinger, Troop 6339	Courtney Hardt, Troop 6306	Skylar Pond, Troop 2092
Kaitly Boggs, Troop 6096	Ashley Hern, Troop 4467	Audra Poppe, Troop 3349
Alannah Bohl, Troop 6339	Madeline Hodkiewicz, Troop 3349	Alley Pue, Troop 6339
Brooke Breitrack, Troop 2319	Raelena Hoff, Troop 7338	Alexis Riemer, Troop 4191
Melissa Brumbeloe, Troop 2332	Lily Holbrook, Troop 2319	Brandi Robinson, Troop 4191
Cera Cadena, Troop 2092	Baily Johnson, Troop 3193	Rachel Ropella, Troop 3193
Miranda Chase, Troop 4191	Stephanie Johnson, Troop 7024	Elizabeth Rosio, Troop 4638
Sarah Conrad, Troop 4191	Heather Jones, Troop 6096	Emily Salmon, Troop 4638
Sierra Crowe, Troop 6096	Erin Karsten, Troop 4648	Zelly Sanders, Troop 7085
Cari Deaton, Troop 6339	Sarah Kemnitz, Troop 7142	Eva Schaible, Troop 4467
Laney Diamond, Troop 2092	Jackie Klaas, Troop 4648	Emma Schumacher, Troop 2332
Jessica Dickman, Troop 4467	Sarah Konicek, Troop 7280	Erin Simon, Troop 2092
Karissa Dierickx, Troop 6339	Alayna Krueger, Troop 3193	Sydney Slavinsky, Troop 7024
Sophia Dionne, Troop 2332	Kiala Kugel, Juliette	Brittany Stelzner, Troop 6306
Miranda Dreckschmidt, Troop 4467	Holly Kugler, Troop 4648	Destiny Stoeckert, Troop 2092
Ashley England, Troop 2092	Victoria Lambie, Troop 2332	Abigail Streu, Troop 4600
Emilie Enke, Troop 4467	Emily Lawrence, Troop 3193	Melissa Strupp, Troop 7208
Mysti Everett, Troop 3193	Courtney Lease, Troop 6306	Becca Swanson, Troop 3349
Shelby Fehrenbach, Troop 4648	Jenna Lee, Troop 4191	Kayla Tabalske, Troop 4638
Shelby Fisher, Troop 3193	Iris Linder, Troop 7024	Amanda Thibado, Troop 3193
Katie Gellis, Troop 4074	Cassie Lindow, Troop 4467	Claire Vander Ploeg, Troop 6306
Serena Gessert, Troop 7208	Anna Lor, Troop 2092	Christina Vedder, Troop 7024
Ashley Gilbertson, Troop 3349	Jordan Manders, Troop 4467	Beth Verheyden, Troop 4074
Nicole Gottfredsen, Troop 4467	Caitlyn Matheny, Troop 4638	Brynn Vinall, Troop 3193
Cheyenne Grant, Troop 2319	Julia McDonald, Troop 7280	Megan Vogelsang, Troop 7024
Alexandra Grassl, Troop 6339	Meghan McMartin, Troop 3193	Tiara Wagner, Troop 7024
Heidi Gray, Troop 7280	Alyssa Meller, Troop 6339	Katie Wallace, Troop 2319
	Stephanie Michlig, Troop 7085	Alyssa Waller, Troop 7085
	Sarah Miller, Troop 4648	Alyssa Warren, Troop 4638
	Emily Monroe, Troop 3193	Brittaney Westley, Troop 6339
	Rebecca Mrozinski, Troop 4467	Krya Wisnicky, Troop 4191
	Desirae Nachtwey, Troop 4638	Zoe Zeitler, Troop 4467
	Rebecca Nelson, Troop 3193	

Congratulations to all of our Bronze Award Recipients!

If your troop or a member of your troop wants to earn this award, please refer to our website for updated forms.

You are invited to GSNWGL's First Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 16 1:00-4:00 p.m. CST Appleton Service Center, 4693 N Lynndale Drive, Appleton

All Girl Scout members age 16 and older are invited to attend the Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes Annual Meeting. The meeting will include a report to the membership on our work since the merger, current status of the Council, election of board and governance and leadership members. In addition we will be recognizing National Award recipients and teens who have earned the Girl Scout Gold Award in the past year.

Please RSVP with your name and Service Area to Theresa Brady at tbrady@gsnwgl.org, 888.747.6945 extension 4016.

Council Communications

The Girl Scouts of the USA Centennial Commemorative Coin Act

In celebration of 100 years of Girl Scouting, we need your help to pass legislation introduced in the 111th Congress that will authorize the U.S. Mint to issue a Girl Scout Commemorative Coin. For this to happen, we need you to contact your Members of Congress to encourage them to pass "The Girl Scouts USA Centennial Commemorative Coin Act."

Here's how you can take action:

- Visit www.girlscouts4girls.org
- Scroll down and click on **Enact Legislation for the Girl Scouts Commemorative Coin!**
- Follow the easy, step-by-step instructions that will generate a letter to your Members of Congress, asking that they support the Girl Scout Commemorative Coin bill.

For this bill to pass, we will need 290 House cosponsors and 67 Senate cosponsors. We can reach these numbers, but there is some work to be done! Please take action today and invite others to do so as well!

Troop News

Troop 5050 Honored as Youth Volunteers of the Year

Linda Remsburg, Youth Development Associate with Great Lakes Center for Youth Development in Marquette Michigan, presented Girl Scouts Caitlin Wright, Anna LaBreche and Mikaela Lindquist with the Youth Volunteer of the Year award for their service to the Harbor House and Women's Center in Marquette. These girls from Troop 5050 collected items needed by the children residing in Harbor House, and hosted "Breakfast with Santa" for 65 Harbor House clients and their children in December, 2008. To make the most of the planning and decorating that went into this party, the girls invited troops from the Marquette Service Area to enjoy a Holiday Party of their own. Over 30 Girl Scouts came to enjoy singing and dancing and games together, led by the girls of Troop 5050. They enjoy working with younger girls and serve as positive role models.

The Marquette County Volunteer Awards 13th annual recognition event was held on Saturday, April 18 at Westwood Mall in Marquette. Nominations are received from throughout the community in a variety of categories, including youth, adult, senior, organization, pet volunteers and the Michel D. Nunnally NMU Student Volunteer Award. The awards event is sponsored by The Volunteer Coordinators of Marquette County, which also supports Make a Difference Day and Spring into Action at Northern Michigan University. Leaders for Troop 5050 are Stan and Carol Wright and Sheri Nottle; other troop members are Kaitlyn Reiland and Chelsea Nottle.

Troops 7265 and 7311 Send Their Gift of Caring Overseas

Submitted by Jeanette Kemp

On March 21, girls from Junior Troop 7265 and Cadette Troop 7311 from Rhinelander, WI donated over 75 boxes of cookies collected in the Northwest neighborhood to the 951st Sappers family support group. The girls then stayed on to assist with packing the cookies into care packages sent to soldiers in Afganastan. By the end of the day the girls had packaged 32 care packages!

Let Us Know Your Troop and Service Area News!

Send a summary with photos to brand@gsnwg1.org. We may submit the information to your local newspaper, use it in Council publications or on our website!

Property Updates

Featured Property

Each month we will highlight a GSNWGL property to help you get to know all of the incredible properties that are available to your troop/group and Service Area! Click [here](#) to see this property on our Council map.

Blueberry Knoll

Houghton, MI

Blueberry Knoll has a pavilion with primitive camping sites. Lots of space to hike, play games, and explore!

Pavilion		Very rustic with a fire circle, pavilion, picnic tables, access to water, no electricity, outdoor latrines, nature trails, and a supply shed with outdoor cooking equipment, tents, tarps, shovel, rakes, and water buckets.
Capacity:	50	
Fee:	\$15/day; \$25/overnight	
Available:	Year round	

Camp Clean-Up

Camp clean up days are set for May and June! If you or your troop is interested in assisting at any one (or more) of these events, please email property@gsnwgl.org or call the nearest Service Center and ask for extension 3349. Include your name, troop number, and the date/location of the clean up that you would like to assist with. We hope to have many volunteers to help us keep our camps beautiful!

- Camp Ishnala - Saturday, May 9, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Camp Sacajawea - Sunday, May 17, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Camp Birch Trails - Saturday, May 30, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Camp Pow Low - Saturday, May 30, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Camp Blueberry Knoll - Saturday, June 6, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Camp Hy Da Way - to be determined

Council Properties will be closed May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

Outdoor Education Training Clarification

When renting a Girl Scout facility, a troop leader does not necessarily need to have Outdoor Education training. If the Girl Scout troop/group is only doing an overnight in a lodge or building, then they do not need Outdoor Education. If the troop/group plans on building an outdoor fire, cooking outdoors, etc., then they will need to provide verification of Outdoor Education. We believe Outdoor Education training provides new program ideas and skills for leaders no matter how much experience they have. However, adults who have had other types of extensive outdoor training (such as college courses, ACA training, etc.) and/or significant experience in outdoor skills may request credit for comparable experience through a test-out option.

Please understand that our training is to ensure that a consistent message is being delivered to all volunteers and for the safety of the girls and the Council's properties.

Troop 4173 Visits Camp Sacajawea

By by Kathy Marlow

"Upon arrival, your staff was very friendly and helpful. We stayed in Mead Hall. It is very creatively decorated. My girls and I were wondering if it was a Silver or Gold Award Project? We were very much in awe that it was a Bronze Award Project. The girls did a great job."

Horse Stable Update

As of April 30, we have six approved stables collaborating with GSNWGL. The collaborating stables will be listed in the 2009-10 issue of *The Source*, posted on the website [here](#) and available on a downloadable document [here](#). We will continue to add stables to the list throughout the year.

Moving forward, the website will be the best resource for a comprehensive list of collaborating stables. Until the list is posted please feel free to contact the Property Department. Also, please continue to send us contact information for stables that you would like to see on the list.

If you have any questions regarding approved stables, or to suggest a stable, please contact the Property Director: property@gsnwgl.org or call the nearest Service Center and ask for extension 4020.

Thank you for your patience and input throughout this process.

Troop Meetings and Events at Council Properties

You shared your thoughts at the recent listening sessions, and you have been heard! Effective immediately, any Girl Scout meeting or event lasting three hours or less between Sunday afternoons and Thursday evenings can be scheduled at any of our rentable facilities free of charge. If your troop is interested in using one of our facilities, you will still need to complete the reservation form and submit with your \$50 security deposit. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the Property Department: property@gsnwgl.org or call the nearest Service Center and ask for extension 3349.