



Connect

The newsletter for our volunteers

Girl Scouts®

October 2008 • Volume 1 • Issue 4

Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc.

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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 local Service Center and we can transfer you to any other Service Center or phone extension!

Visit us at
www.gsnwgl.org

Rock Star Challenge

Save the date for our first council-wide event of the new troop year!

Dare to take the Rock Star Challenge! Ever wonder how your favorite rock stars like Hannah Montana, the Jonas Brothers, or Cheetah Girls stay so cool? Challenge your heart and mind by dancing, creating bling jewelry, singing your favorite rockin' songs, and making choices that will have you boppin' to the top!

Date/Time: Saturday, November 15, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Locations:

- Camp Birch Trails, Irma
- Camp Nawakwa, Cornell
- Camp Sacajawea, Wisconsin Rapids
- Camp Winnecomac, Kaukauna
- Camp Ishnala, Crivitz
- Central United Methodist Church, Escanaba, MI

Grade Levels: All

Cost: \$10/girl

Troops/groups and individual members may register online [here](#) or by completing and submitting the [Event Registration Form](#). For more information please contact Michelle Carr: mcarr@gsnwgl.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 4517.

Are you ready? It's almost here!

The 2008 Fall Nut/Magazine Program begins October 3!

See Page 7 or [visit our website](#) for more information.

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards honor young people in middle level and high school grades for outstanding volunteer service to their communities.

If you've made a difference by volunteering in your community over the past year and are in grades 5-12, you could win \$1000 and a fabulous trip to Washington DC in May. Apply for a Prudential Spirit of Community Award today! Deadline to apply is October 31, 2008.

For more information and to apply visit www.prudential.com/spirit or call 877.525.8491.

Please note: active hyperlinks are indicated by underlined text



Updates from the Membership Department

Important Notes About Registration

- It's very important to register your troop! Until you are registered, the Council will not have your information for regular communication. And if you are not registered, your troop is not covered by Girl Scout insurance.
- The leadership of a properly registered troop includes 2 registered, non-related adults.
- All new volunteers must complete a volunteer application.
- It's never too late to register. You can always add new girls to your troop! Girls can register at any time of the year.

Safety-Wise Update

Please note that GSUSA has released updates to *Safety-Wise*. You may download the update from our website [here](#). We recommend that you print it out and keep it with your *Safety-Wise* book.

Service Area Leader Meetings - September Recap

- We discussed debit cards. The Council heard your input about debit cards and determined that it is acceptable to have a debit card for your troop.
- Service Areas heard updates about program, training, and property.
- There was some discussion about the importance of establishing expectations and delegating the work of the troop among all Girl Scout parents and families. Volunteers were directed to the website for a great resource about holding a parent meeting and involving more parents in the troop.
- Volunteers were able to browse through the items in the starter kits from the Council Shop.
- Volunteers learned about when they need to collect certificates of insurance (when they do high risk activities and rent buses) and how to request a certificate of insurance if an organization requests one. (You will need: the organization, the address of the organization and whether or not they need to be listed as additionally insured).
- Because *Safety-Wise* does not allow Girl Scout volunteers to sign contracts or agreements in the name of the Girl Scouts, volunteers learned how to get these documents signed (bring or mail the usage agreement to a Service Center or give it to your Membership Manager).
- The dates of the Girl Scout Cookie Program were unveiled!
- **Do not miss the October Service Area Leader Meeting!** Family partnership patches will be delivered. There will be a short enrichment training about ceremonies in Girl Scouting. More Cookie Program news will be available and the program pieces will be passed out. Volunteers will get a sneak peek at the portable program boxes and the remaining two council-wide programs will be announced!

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 October Service Area Leader Meeting.

Updates from the Membership Department

Setting Service Area Goals

The purpose of the Service Area is to recruit and place girls in troops and groups, provide program opportunities, and to support the adults of the Service Area. To support the work of the Service Area, the council provides a Service Area allocation. Based on girl membership from the year before, the allocation is to be used for operating expenses for the Service Area. Now it is time to work with your Service Team and the leaders in your Service Area to determine the best use of Service Area funds. This is a team decision! Think about the goals for your Service Area, and utilize your funds to help reach your goals.

Cheetah Girls Events

On August 23, 2008, over 400 Girl Scouts gathered at sites all over northern Wisconsin and upper Michigan to party “Bollywood style” and watch the premier of the latest Cheetah Girl movie, *Cheetah Girls: One World*. GSUSA partnered with the Disney Channel to sponsor these movie screening events around the country, which were planned and carried out by local Girl Scout Councils. GSNWGL Girl Scouts and their friends were able to watch the movie and participate in fun activities related to the movie, such as trying on an Indian sari, playing a movie trivia game, having their picture taken with a giant poster of the Cheetah Girls, and much more. Everyone went home with a souvenir of the evening—a poster, magnet, folder or DVD. A girl who attended the Hancock, MI event said she’d like to do it “way more often!” and all the other girls thought that was a great idea! Many thanks to the volunteers and staff who made this event possible, and to the businesses who loaned us the use of their site and equipment, and to those who donated refreshments. A great time was had by everyone!

Fund Development News

Take Action Annual Giving Campaign

The time for our Take Action Annual Giving Campaign is drawing near! We will launch the campaign mid-November by sending letters to individuals, businesses and service clubs in each of our communities. We are excited about our campaign theme as those who elect to contribute to Girl Scouts really do TAKE ACTION to make the future brighter for girls!

Throughout the year we inform our donors and prospective donors of the exciting programs and activities happening in Girl Scouting, and ask for their support in continuing our efforts to provide quality programs to 24,000 Girl Scouts throughout our jurisdiction. The Council’s Board of Directors and staff also contribute to the Take Action Annual Giving campaign. The benefit of supporting Girl Scouts is quite simply the pride and satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place!

For more information please contact Laura Martens: lmartens@gsnwgl.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 4514.

HUGS Family Partnership

The primary goal of the HUGS Family Partnership Campaign is to ensure that every Girl Scout family has the opportunity to make a financial gift to Girl Scouting. The support of families is key to the foundation of Girl Scouts.

We know that many of you give your time as well as your contributions - and both are appreciated. HUGS Family Partnership helps build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Thank you for supporting Girl Scouts!

Women of Courage, Confidence & Character

Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes is seeking nominations for Women of Courage, Confidence and Character Awards, Green Bay WI. These awards celebrate outstanding women who provide a role model of achievement for their peers and everyone in their community. Nominees do not have to be affiliated with Girl Scouts.

Nominees should be strong women who approach life with a sense of courage; women with intelligence, diplomacy, integrity and a reputation for achievement that led to success in her chosen profession and family life. Recipients will be chosen by a selection committee and will be honored during the Women of Courage, Confidence and Character Awards Luncheon on December 4, 2008, at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, WI. Tickets for this event will be available for sale after October 1, 2008, by calling 920.469.4860 or 888.747.6945 x4013.

Program Updates

Although we are focusing on three Council-Wide Events for the 2008-2009 program year, this does NOT mean these are the only opportunities that will be offered to Girl Scouts throughout our area! Check out all of the awesome activities available for GSNWGL troops/groups and individually registered girls below.

Portable Programs

The totes are packed, the labels affixed and the kits have made their long journey to the UP and across Wisconsin. There's only one more stop to make their journey complete - your troop meeting!

Reserving a kit is easy - simply complete the reservation form (available in *The Source* or from our [website](#)), and mail it, with any applicable fees, to the Eau Claire Service Center. When your form is received we'll check availability and notify you accordingly. Feel free to call the Eau Claire Service Center at any time to check availability, but please remember that we cannot hold your desired kit until we receive your completed reservation form and payment.

Once your reservation has been confirmed, the kit will be ready for you to pick up on your specified date from your nearest Service Center, or can be brought to your Service Area Leader Meeting. You may keep the kit for two weeks and return it to the same Service Center. Don't worry about restocking kit supplies - we take care of that and get it ready for the next group to check out!

Check *The Source* or visit our [website](#) for a list of available Portable Programs. For more information please contact Carrie Andringa: candringa@gsnwgl.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 5513.

Collaborative Programs

GSNWGL partners with many area organizations, businesses and agencies for programs, badge resources and events. These collaborations present exciting opportunities to share resources, knowledge and expertise in the spirit of the mission of Girl Scouting.

Visit our [website](#) for a list of opportunities. See each opportunity for contact information and how to register. Collaborative Programs are listed there as they are scheduled, so check back often!

If you know of an organization, group, or individual that you feel would be a good fit for Girl Scout programs, please contact Sue Belanger: sbelanger@gsnwgl.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 6011.

Council-Wide Events

As you may know, GSNWGL will offer three Council-Wide Events for girls throughout the year - one each in the fall, winter and spring. These will be held in several locations throughout the GSNWGL jurisdiction. Council-Wide Events are great for Girl Scout troops or individual Girl Scouts attending with a parent.

The first Council-Wide Event, *Rock Star Challenge*, will be held on Saturday, November 15 at six locations throughout the Council. For more information please see page one of this newsletter or our [website](#).

The remaining two Council-Wide Events for the 2008-2009 program year will be announced on October 6, so be sure to check our [website](#) for details!

Patch Programs

Patch Programs cover a wide range of topics and offer unique learning experiences, giving girls additional opportunities to Discover new things about themselves, Connect with each other, and Take Action on issues they care about.

Troops/groups and individually registered Girl Scouts can continue to earn many of the legacy council Patch Programs through June 2009. These will be listed on our [website](#) along with requirements and patch/badge ordering information. *Please note that there may be limited availability for some patches/badges.*

We are currently forming a Patch Committee that will design GSNWGL's first Council's Own Patch Program and establish future Council Patch Programs and their requirements. If you would like to be considered for the committee, or if you have ideas for new Council's Own patches, or other council patch programs, please contact Sue Belanger: sbelanger@gsnwgl.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 6011.

2008 International Folk Fair

Sunday, October 26 - 12:00-4:00 pm

Davies Center at UW-Eau Claire

Free admission

The International Folk Fair offers all who attend an enriching cultural and educational experience that will not be forgotten! Students, community organizations, university departments and clubs represent more than 40 different countries/cultures at the International Folk Fair each year. This is your opportunity to sample foods from around the world, be entertained by international performers, see colorful cultural exhibits, and experience the history and languages of other cultures without leaving Eau Claire. Please contact the Center for International Education at 715.836.4411 or brownkri@uwec.edu for more information.

Adult Development News

Fall Volunteer Learning Opportunities now in Full Swing!

Volunteer training sessions are offered in community locations throughout the Council! Courses range from Leadership Essentials to Outdoor Education, First Aid, Leader's Live and more! Find out more about these sessions and additional information about GSNWGL training on our [website](#). You may also view a calendar of training sessions [here](#), or download the entire Training Calendar [here](#).

Online Training Modules now Available!

Click [here](#) to access our online training modules.

GSUSA Volunteer Orientation: This engaging online session acquaints new volunteers with Girl Scouting and the many opportunities it offers girls and adults. The password needed to access this session is *discover*. To have course completion documented in your volunteer file, the Council must receive a copy of your learning log. You may do this by following the step-by-step instructions listed on page 89 of *The Source*, or by forwarding a copy of the email confirmation you will receive from GSUSA to training@gsnwgl.org. This course is required for new volunteers only.

Council 101: Council 101 is the online overview of key Council policies and procedures. This course is required of all new and experienced volunteers. After viewing the session, volunteers are asked to submit a brief quiz, as proof of completion.

Leadership Essentials: Beginning in October, this course will also be available as a self-directed online module. However, face-to-face sessions provide valuable opportunities for peer ideas sharing, feedback, and networking, and should be attended whenever possible.

*Paper worksheet packets and/or CD versions will be available in the future for all online sessions, and will be made available to any volunteers with limited Internet access. Contact the Adult Development Department or your Membership Manager for details.

For further information on Volunteer training opportunities and requirements, see the [Training section of our website](#), Section F of *The Source*, or contact the Adult Development Department: training@gsnwgl.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 3341 .

Become a Council Trainer

Are you energetic, outgoing, and love Girl Scouting?

GSNWGL has an amazing core group of Volunteer Trainers - but, we need a few more! At present, we are actively recruiting Adult Learning Facilitators in many areas of the Council, to lead Leadership Essentials, Outdoor Education, and enrichment courses. If you are interested in this opportunity, contact training@gsnwgl.org.

Leadership Essentials

Leadership Essentials is an exciting, interactive course developed by GSUSA, designed to prepare volunteers to effectively partner with girls on the new Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Leadership Essentials is now being offered in face-to-face sessions throughout the Council. This course is required for all new and experienced Leaders, Co-Leaders, Trainers, and Service Team members. There is a nominal \$2 fee for face-to-face sessions, and pre-registration is required. Participants should plan to bring copies of their grade-level Journey Books and a copy of *The Source* if possible. Download the Adult Training Registration Form [here](#). For complete registration instructions, visit our [website](#) or see Section F of *The Source*.

Property Updates

Camps Closed During Deer Hunting Season

All of our camps, with the exception of Camp Winnecomac, will be closed during the deer hunting (gun) season. With the safety of the girls in mind, this closure will not only include the 9-day Wisconsin season and the 15-day Upper Peninsula season, but the additional herd control seasons as well. Please keep these dates in mind when planning a stay at our camps:

- Cuesta, Del O'Claire, and Sacajawea will be closed October 16-19, November 22-30, and December 11-14
- Nawakwa will be closed October 2-20, November 22-30, and December 11-14
- Birch Trails and Ishnala will be closed November 22-30 and December 11-14
- Blueberry Knoll, Hy-Da-Way, and Pow-Low will be closed November 15-30

Rental Updates

Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes will no longer rent our facilities out to private parties and for-profit organizations. We will continue to serve other non-profits by allowing them to use our facility at a cost of two times the fee plus a \$100 refundable security deposit. For available dates or if you have any other facility reservation questions, please contact the Property Department: property@gsnwgil.org or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 3349.

Camp Del O'Claire

Weston, WI

Camp Del O'Claire boasts 40 acres of woods and is bordered by Eau Claire River and the Yellow Banks County Park, which has a large field and playground equipment. Additional amenities include a nature center, camp sites, tents, outdoor cooking equipment and, during winter months, a limited number of snowshoes and sleds are available for use.

Alexander Lodge Capacity: Fee: Available:	24 \$45/day \$60/overnight Year round	This heated lodge features two bunk rooms, a fully equipped commercial kitchen with dishwasher, refrigerator, freezer, and microwave. There is a program room with tables & chairs, two separate washrooms with showers, fireplace, and a washer & dryer in the basement. Outside there is a large fire circle (with seating) for outdoor cooking and a sledding hill nearby.
Heinzen Memorial Lodge Capacity: Fee: Available:	24 \$15/day use only April - October	The Heinzen Memorial Lodge (aka the Arts & Crafts Lodge) features bathrooms, refrigerator, stove, fireplace, a program/arts & crafts room, tables, chairs and several fire circles (with seating) for outdoor cooking.
Nature Center Capacity: Fee: Deposit: Available:	24 \$20 \$100 Year round	The Nature Center is a 12' X 24' structure adjacent to the Alexander Lodge. It features animal furs, animal skulls, turtle shells, various nature books and pictures, large-screened microscopes, telescopes and other displays. Program curriculum provided. This facility is NOT available to non-member groups or organizations.
Arrowhead Capacity: Fee: Available:	10 (4-person) tents \$15/overnight Year round	Very primitive campsite in a cleared wooded area with a fire circle (with seating). There is no latrine or running water at these sites.
Wilderness Capacity: Fee: Available:	10 (4-person) tents \$15/overnight Year round	Very primitive campsite in a cleared wooded area with a fire circle (with seating). There is no latrine or running water at these sites.

2008 Fall Product Program - Go Green! Observe & Conserve *QSP Be A Reader and Ashdon Farms Nuts and Chocolates*

Visit the [Product Program](#) section of our website for more information!

Ashdon Farms and QSP want to help Girl Scouts **Discover, Connect, and Take Action** by helping keep the world environmentally healthy. Doing so will help girls learn to observe and conserve through recycling, wind energy, renewable sun energy, greenhouse gases, and much more. This year's fall program is sure to get the girls' attention!

Important Fall Product Program Dates

October 3-19	Order taking and money collection
October 20	Orders and money due to Troop Product Program Manager
November 12-20	Products delivered to Service Area Product Program Managers and then to girls to deliver ordered products
December	Recognitions delivered to Service Area Product Program Managers

It's never too early to get excited for the 2009 Girl Scout Cookie Program!

Get ready for the most powerful Cookie Season ever! Girls of all ages are speaking up. They want change; they want to help and are eager to make a difference in the world.

More information will be at your October Service Area Leader Meetings, but here are some important dates to add to your calendar now!

***Ask your Membership Manager how
you can be a 2009 Girl Scout
Cookie Program Volunteer!***

Important Cookie Program Dates

October	Troop Cookie materials shipped to SACMs
November 8-10	Service Area Cookie Managers (SACM) attend training and pick up materials
November/Dec	SACM train Troop Cookie Program Managers
Jan 16-Feb 1	Cookie order taking!
March 2-6	Cookies & recognitions delivered to SAPPM
March 7-18	Girls deliver cookies & collect money
March 13-29	Cookie Booths held

Cookie Program Volunteer Training

Trainings for Service Area Cookie Managers will be held November 8-10 at several locations throughout the Council.

Trainings for Troop Cookie Managers will be held during upcoming Service Area Leader Meetings.

Appleton:	November 8, 11:00 am-12:30 pm Service Center Training Room <i>You may also participate in this training via videoconference from other Service Centers</i>
Green Bay:	November 8, 3:00-4:30 pm Service Center Activity Room
Schofield:	November 9, 11:00 am-12:30 pm Service Center - Schuette Hall
Wisc Rapids:	November 9, 3:30-5:00 pm Service Center Conference Room <i>You may also participate in this training via videoconference from other Service Centers</i>
Eau Claire:	November 10, 6:00-7:30 pm Service Center Conference Room

Please note, trainings for those in the areas serviced by the Marquette Service Center will be held via teleconference or in a meeting with your Membership Manager.