



# Connect

The newsletter for our volunteers

Girl Scouts®

September 2008 • Volume 1 • Issue 3

Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc.

## In This Issue

- HUGS
- Anything is Possible
- Membership Department Updates
- Fund Development News
- GSNWGL Programs
- Adult Development News
- Council Shop
- Property Updates
- Fall Product Program

### 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](http://www.gsnwgl.org)

## HUGS - Help Us Grow Strong

Family Partnership, (HUGS – Help Us Grow Strong) is a giving opportunity for Girl Scout families to invest in girls by making a contribution to Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc. As a Girl Scout volunteer, you play a vital role in helping us ensure that every Girl Scout family is given the opportunity to support HUGS.

### How You Can Help

- Hold a Parent Meeting (see page 2 for more information on Parent Meetings) and talk to families about the importance of supporting HUGS. Resources, such as sample scripts and talking points, are available from your Membership Manager.
- Make sure that each of your troop families receive the HUGS flyer and information about how to make their contribution.
- Lead by example and make your own HUGS contribution!

### Every Gift Helps Us Grow Strong

Every gift to HUGS Family Partnership is a gift for girls - one that will help them realize their dreams and become tomorrow's leaders. Contributions of \$25 and up will receive a HUGS patch.

Please contact Beth Hrubesky with any questions about HUGS: [bhrubesky@gsnwgl.org](mailto:bhrubesky@gsnwgl.org) or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 4013.

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Did you know that each Council Shop carries the new Girl Scout Journey books?

Stop in to your nearest Shop and check them out today!

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## “Anything Is Possible” with Girl Scouts and Karina

**Karina and Girl Scouts launch essay writing contest**

at [www.meetkarina.net/girlscouts](http://www.meetkarina.net/girlscouts)

Def Jam recording artist Karina and Girl Scouts have launched the “ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE” contest. Girls 13 years or older can submit essays explaining what “ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE” means to them.

Submissions can explain how they overcame a difficult obstacle in life, how they are working towards making the impossible possible or how they have been inspired by Karina's music. Ending September 30th, the contest winner will win the chance to meet Karina in person at the 2008 Girl Scout National Convention in Indianapolis.

Girls ages 13 and older can submit their essays at [www.meetkarina.net/girlscouts](http://www.meetkarina.net/girlscouts) by September 30.

Please note: active hyperlinks are indicated by underlined text



## Updates from the Membership Department

### ***The Source* Has Arrived!**

At your September Service Area Leader Meeting you will receive a Leader resource guide called *The Source*. This guide will include all of the new forms and resources you need for Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc.

Each troop will receive two copies of *The Source*. It is also available to download from our website [here!](#)

### **Troop Kits**

Troop kits for new leaders include:

- *The Source*
- *Safety-Wise*
- *Blue Book of Basic Documents*
- Bank account packet
- As many girl registration forms, adult registration forms, health history forms, and parent involvement forms, and insurance brochures and forms you need for your troop.

If you need any of the above items, contact your Membership Manager!

### **Troop Leader Tip: Hold a Parent Meeting**

Start your year off right and gain support for your troop by holding a meeting early in the year for parents only. Have a Co-Leader, another parent, or an older Girl Scout do an activity with the girls while you grab the undivided attention of the parents. Use an agenda like this:

1. Get acquainted with the group. Have the parents introduce themselves, tell who their daughter is, and 2 expectations/hopes for their daughter's troop experience.
2. Explain the basics of Girl Scouting.
3. Explain that you are willing to coordinate the troop activities, but you must have cooperation and assistance from everyone involved in order for their girls to accomplish everything they have set their minds to.
4. Show the group a list of goals that the girls made at their meeting.
5. Explain how you plan to structure and schedule the year. Include the troop meeting schedule, events you know of, special troop activities, and the months you plan to do them.
6. Point out the activities, badges, etc. you will be able to do with the girls. Then go through the girls' list item by item and ask for volunteers to help with each. The more specific you can be in terms of date and workload when asking for help, the more likely someone is to accept.
7. Do this for every aspect of running the troop - delegate!
8. Explain your rules/guidelines and expectations.
9. Ask if there are any questions.
10. Once everyone is committed to their share of the tasks/troop needs, thank them for attending, ask if there are any other questions, and tell them where the next troop meeting will be.

### **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 Service Area Leader 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 our website to be copied as needed). Click [here](#) for the date, place and time of your September Service Area Leader Meeting.

## Reminders from the Membership Department

### Troop Numbers

After realignment the majority of troop numbers were duplicated at least once in other Service Centers, so staff and volunteers created a new troop numbering system. All current troop numbers will stay intact under the new troop numbering system, but all troops will now have a unique four-digit troop number. To do this, each Service Center will add an identifying prefix to current troop numbers and add zeros (if necessary) to make a four-digit troop number. Specific prefixes were assigned as follows:

Appleton: 2  
Eau Claire: 3  
Green Bay: 4  
Marquette: 5  
Wisconsin Rapids: 6  
Schofield (Wausau): 7

For example, troop 244 from the Wisconsin Rapids Service Center will become 6244 and troop 7 from the Schofield Service Center will become 7007.

### Troop Bank Accounts

All Service Area and troop bank accounts will need to be updated with our new Council name, tax ID number, and the four-digit troop numbers. Contact your Membership Manager with any questions. Please make these changes to your troop and Service Area bank accounts by October 1, 2008.

## Fund Development News

### J.J. Keller Offers Matching Grants

We are very excited to announce a new matching grants program that will match all gifts J. J. Keller employees make to Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc. and to other non-profit organizations in the Fox Valley. The program will match gifts made to 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations \$.50 on the dollar, through December 1, 2008. A total of \$500 per employee can be matched.

If you are a J.J. Keller employee please consider a gift to GSNWGL and help us take advantage of this wonderful matching grant opportunity! For more information please contact Laura Martens: [lmartens@gsnwgl.org](mailto:lmartens@gsnwgl.org) or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 4514.

### 15th Annual Eau Claire Women of Distinction

For the past fourteen years, Girl Scouts have been honoring the achievements of women in the Eau Claire area. GSNWGL is pleased to announce the honorees for this year's Women of Distinction event, which will be held September 29, 2008 at the Florien Gardens in Eau Claire, WI:

*Jolene Anderson, Marshfield Clinic - Rice Lake Center  
Kathern Axelsen, Sacred Heart Hospital – Eau Claire  
Polly Wolner, Barron County Restorative Justice – Rice Lake*

For ticket information, or if you, your company or business is interested in being a sponsor, please visit our website or contact Beth Hrubesky: [bhrubesky@gsnwgl.org](mailto:bhrubesky@gsnwgl.org) or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 4013.

### Women of Courage, Confidence & Character

The 2008 Women of Courage, Confidence and Character Awards luncheon will honor three of GSNWGL's finest women leaders at the December 4, 2008 luncheon at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay. Women of Courage, Confidence and Character celebrates the achievements of local women who are role models for the next generation of women leaders.

Nominations are now being accepted and must be submitted no later than October 3, 2008. Complete [the nomination form](#) and return it to the Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Attn: Beth Hrubesky.

For more information about the Awards luncheon, or if you or your company or business is interested in being a sponsor, please contact Beth Hrubesky: [bhrubesky@gsnwgl.org](mailto:bhrubesky@gsnwgl.org) or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 4013.

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# GSNWGL Programs

As GSNWGL begins to plan and deliver programs throughout the Council, our focus this year will be on Portable Programs (see below) and providing similar program opportunities to all girls regardless of where they live. While we have multiple Portable Programs that will be offered, below are three examples that each Service Center will carry. Please see Section E of ***The Source*** for more details on all of the Portable Programs. We are also excited to be offering three Council-wide programs that will take place throughout the Council during the year. More information on these programs will be sent through your Membership Manager and listed on our website.

We will continue to collaborate with many organizations that seek out opportunities to provide additional programs to Girl Scouts and we will have these opportunities available to you through our website. We appreciate the many great legacy Council programs which had previously been offered. Throughout the year, the Council will be reviewing these programs and may choose to replicate some of them. Our goal will be to provide programs which match our mission and the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. If your Service Area is interested in continuing a program that is no longer offered, that is beneficial to girls and follows the leadership program model, you may work with the Program Department to discuss your options.

Camps and summer programs for 2009 are now being planned to highlight each of our camp's unique strengths and allow us to use each camp to its fullest potential and to provide every member of our Council with an opportunity that they will never forget. Exciting new camp themes will be offered for girls at each of our camps located in Michigan and Wisconsin. Watch for the 2009 guide which will be published after the first of the year.

## Portable Programs

If you're looking for a new and exciting way to deliver programming to your troop, but you don't have the time to plan activities, go shopping, and gather items, then check out Portable Programs!

Portable Programs come with nearly everything you need to deliver fun and informative programming to your troop or group. They're designed specifically to help girls Discover new things, Connect with each other, and Take Action on issues that are interesting to them. Portable Programs come with user-friendly leader guides that feature step-by-step instructions on how to carry out activities. You'll also find all the necessary hand-outs, giveaways, and program supplies needed within the kit, which means you'll spend less time rushing to get things organized before a meeting.

Best of all, when you reserve a kit, you get to keep it for two weeks – plenty of time for you to familiarize yourself with the activities and plan ahead. You will be so prepared that your girls will think you've been planning for months!

Want to know more? Check ***The Source*** for more information including a complete listing of the available kits, rental fees, and reservation forms.

### ***Here's a sample of activities you'll find in our Portable Programs:***

- **Wild Edibles** – Forage for food as you create your own “nature buffet!” Taste what nature really has to offer. Recipes include “cat-tail crudités,” “dandelion fritters,” “sautéed maple seeds,” and more. Bon appétit!
  - **Saturday Suitcases** – Sponsored in part by Kimberly Clark. See the importance of washing your hands with GlitterBug! Special lotion and powder creates “germs” on your hands that can only be seen by black light. How long will it take to get rid of the germs with soap and water? This is only one of many activities in these “healthy habits” kits.
  - **FETCH! with Ruff Ruffman** – Teaching science has never been easier! Let Ruff Ruffman show you how it's done by turning simple household items into science experiments. Can you make one sheet of paper hold up a heavy book? Can you train your brain to ignore certain things and focus on others? You'll find out with Ruff!
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## Adult Development News

### School is Back in Session!

Learning is vital for Girl Scouts of all ages. To ensure that our adult volunteers have all of the resources they need for a successful year, GSNWGL will be offering many unique educational opportunities throughout the Council. Courses will range from Leadership Essentials to Outdoor Education, activity ideas, and Multicultural Awareness.

To view the schedule of learning opportunities please check out the [Workshops Schedule](#) in the Calendar section of our website. Check back often, as new programming will be added regularly!

Please contact the Adult Development Department with any questions about training and adult learning: [training@gsnwgl.org](mailto:training@gsnwgl.org) or call your nearest Service Center and ask for extension 3341.

## Council Shop

### For All your Girl Scout Gear

Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc. is licensed by GSUSA to sell Girl Scout supplies including uniforms, gift and recognition items, and accessories. Merchandise listed in the GSUSA catalog is available through any of our six Council Shop locations.

Check out your nearest Council Shop for a full line of uniforms, books, patches, and accessories for your Girl Scout. In addition to items from the Girl Scout merchandise catalog, we also carry patches, sweatshirts, t-shirts, baby items and more with the Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes name.

### Now Available at the Council Shop

GSNWGL is thrilled to offer our new Great Start Kit for girls in every grade level. A Great Start Kit includes the essential items that every girl needs to begin her Girl Scout Journey this fall:

- Grade-level tunic, sash or vest
- Flag patch
- Four troop numerals
- Girl Scout Pin
- Insignia Tab
- Existing grade-level program book(s)
- New grade-level Journey book
- ID set (GS Daisies receive Beginning Certificate)
- Bonus! Free reusable tote bag
- Kits can be adapted to fit your needs (*contact your nearest Council Shop for more information*)

Please contact the Council Shop staff with questions, for more information, or to order: [shop@gsnwgl.org](mailto:shop@gsnwgl.org) or call your nearest Service Center and ask for the Shop Assistant.

***Remember - local purchases help support local Girl Scout programs!***

## Property Updates

### Reserving GSNWGL Properties

Please direct all property reservations, requests for GSNWGL certificates of insurance and supplemental Girl Scout Activity Insurance to the Property Department.

You may contact the Property Department by email at [property@gsnwgl.org](mailto:property@gsnwgl.org) or call the nearest Service Center and ask for extension 3349.

#### Property Fees:

Usage fees for properties and equipment will change effective October 1, 2008. The fee schedules for both are available in *The Source*.

## 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!

### Camp Cuesta

Near Bailey's Harbor, WI

*Enjoy the beauty of Door County! 57 acres of woodland and an open field for fun and games. There is a heated troop house, tent cabins, and some tent sites available to rent. A screened-in pavilion is also available for use. In the winter, cross country skis are available to reserve. The camp is located near Kangaroo Lake and is not far from Bailey's Harbor.*

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Troop House</b><br><b>Capacity:</b><br><b>Fee:</b><br><b>Available:</b>     | 30<br>\$30/day<br>\$40/overnight<br>Year round      | Heat, electricity, phone, bathrooms/sinks, fireplace, fully equipped kitchen with stove, refrigerator, microwave, tables and chairs. Sleeping mats and a leader's room with beds is included. Handicapped accessible. |
| <b>Tent Cabin Unit</b><br><b>Capacity:</b><br><b>Fee:</b><br><b>Available:</b> | 32<br>\$18/day<br>\$30/overnight<br>May - September | Four tent cabins in this unit all have perma-roofs with canvas sides, fire circles, and access to water & latrines. Large screened shelter contains all of the outdoor cooking equipment and tables and chairs.       |
| <b>Tent Sites (4)</b><br><b>Capacity:</b><br><b>Fee:</b><br><b>Available:</b>  | 5 tents/site<br>\$15/overnight<br>Year round        | Campsites are in an open area on the grounds. Includes fire circle, access to water and latrines.   |

## 2008 Fall Product Program - Go Green!

*QSP Be A Reader and Ashdon Farms Nuts and Chocolates*

Visit the new [Product Programs](#) 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!

**This year's Fall Nut/Magazine Program will be held October 3-19 and has a cool "Go Green!" theme and polar bear mascot.** Participating in the Fall Product Program is a great way for your troop to earn funds for programs, trips and other fun activities!

### Important Fall Product Program Dates

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>September 2-9</b>  | Product Program Managers and Coordinators attend training and pick up materials                           |
| <b>September 9-30</b> | Product Program Managers and Community Product Program Coordinators train Troop Product Program Managers  |
| <b>October 3-19</b>   | Order taking and money collection   |
| <b>October 20</b>     | Orders and money due to Troop Product Program Manager   |
| <b>November 12-20</b> | Products delivered to Service Area Product Program Managers and then to girls to deliver ordered products |
| <b>December</b>       | Recognitions delivered to Service Area Product Program Managers   |

### Product Program Training

Trainings for Service Area Product Program Managers and Community Product Program Coordinators will be held September 2-9 at several locations throughout the Council. (*Trainings for Troop Leaders will be held during September Service Area Leader Meetings.*)

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Marquette:</b>     | September 2, 6:00-7:30 pm<br>Peter White Public Library<br>217 N Front Street                  |
| <b>Appleton:</b>      | September 3, 6:00-7:30 pm<br>Girl Scout Service Center<br>4693 N. Lynndale Drive               |
| <b>Green Bay:</b>     | September 4, 12:00-1:30 & 6:00-7:30 pm<br>Girl Scout Service Center<br>2430 Finger Road        |
| <b>Stevens Point:</b> | September 7, 12:00-1:30 pm<br>Ramada (was Country Springs Hotel)<br>1501 Northpoint Drive      |
| <b>Eau Claire:</b>    | September 8, 6:00-7:30 p.m.<br>The Plaza<br>1202 W. Clairemont Avenue                          |
| <b>Schofield:</b>     | September 9, 12:00-1:30 & 6:00-7:30 pm<br>Girl Scout Service Center<br>3511 Camp Phillips Road |

***Dates for the 2009 winter/spring Girl Scout Cookie Program are still to be determined.***

***We will let you know when they are set!***