

GSPW E-News

February 2006

If you enjoy this newsletter, please forward a copy to your Girl Scout friends and invite them to join.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter send an email to: kdelong@gspw.org put either subscribe or unsubscribe in the subject line. If you need to change your email address please send an email with both the old and new address to: kdelong@gspw.org

In this issue:

Special Requests

NEW: Volunteer of the Month award

The New Normal? What Girls Say About Healthy Living

Service Area Happenings

Women and Philanthropy Day

Membership & Recruitment

Programs

Trainer's Tote Bag

Fund Development

Goodie Box News

Places To Go

Wonderful Web Sites!

Special Requests from around our council

This section is for all of our e-news members to share information. Do you have a great idea you can share with others? Do you have a question about your troop? Need a new craft or game? How about the words to a song? Are you traveling to another Service Area – get tips from the local Girl Scouts before you go. This is your section! When asking for ideas please specify the age levels you are working with.

Send your questions and suggestions to: kdelong@gspw.org for inclusion in the next newsletter. Please make sure to include your name and email. If you are responding to a question you can email the person directly, but make sure to copy the group at the above address so everyone can share.

1. This year's **Earth Day Fair** is Saturday, March 18th from 1:00-4:00 PM at the Lake Superior Village Youth and Family Center, 1901 Longyear Ave. I am looking for troops interested in providing an activity for the fair that is kid and family friendly. Some possibilities include paper making, art with recycled items, etc. Please contact Susan Belanger, Program Coordinator at 228-3771 if you are interested. Thanks!

We just can't say enough good things about our volunteers!

So we need your help. Tell us the good things about a volunteer in your Service Area! Every month GSPW wants to recognize a volunteer of the month. Imagine the fun recognizing these 12 selected individuals at the 95th anniversary celebration during the Council's Annual Meeting in April 2007! Selected nominees will receive a certificate and a surprise from GSPW staff. Send a "secret report" about your nominee to GSPW by March 1st, or the 1st of each month by mail, e-mail or in

person. Use only one page and include the nominee's name and volunteer position. (She/he must be a registered member.) Help us celebrate the volunteers who make Girl Scouts of Peninsula Waters great! Send your emails to Jill Rady at jrady@gspw.org.

The New Normal? What Girls Say About Healthy Living

As part of the launch of The New Normal? What Girls Say About Healthy Living on January 25, GSUSA announced an advocacy opportunity and is calling on all girls to become involved in the development and implementation of their local School Wellness Policies. The School Wellness Policies are currently being drafted in school districts nationwide and present a great opportunity for girls to make their voices heard on healthy living issues that impact their daily lives.

Want to know more? Visit our council website at <http://www.gspw.org>. Also available for purchase: a copy of the report it can be purchased through the service center. The full report is recommended for Service Areas and anyone interested in health and fitness for girls 8-17. An executive summary #40348 can be purchased for \$9.95 (\$10.55 with tax) or the Full Report # 40349 for \$19.95 (\$21.15 with tax).

Delta Bay Service Area holds an Amazing Race!

Five teams of Girl Scouts began their day at 9:00 a.m. and crossed the finish line at 4:30 p.m. during the Amazing Race held on Saturday, January 21 in Delta County. The girls "raced" from one end of Delta County to the other. First had to fuel their "taxis", listen to the story of the 'Dreamcatcher' at Hannaville Indian Reservation and then make a dreamcatcher. Next, the girls purchased bait at the local bait shop (picked out 12 wiggler's), find the mystery fish shack in the Escanaba harbor, bait their hook and try to catch a fish. After a quick lunch break they made their way to the Gladstone Library where they used a Gold Award project to locate their team book and bring it to the librarian for the next clue. Their next challenge was at the Gladstone Ski Hill where they had to tube down the snake run and make their way back up the hill. Next they were off to Perkins and to Cretens Brothers furniture store where they had to purchase \$2,000 worth of bedroom furniture without going over to coming up too short. After completing their shopping trip they made their way to Rapid River to CupaJo Java where each team had to create their own 'new' flavor of hot chocolate, name it, and have it judged. The winning flavor became the flavor of the month for February! Next the teams had to locate a sign in Kipling and find their team picture (which proved to be one of the hardest tasks as the pictures were underneath a sign and the girls couldn't find it)! From there they raced to the Best Western in Escanaba, put on their swimsuits and swim the length of the pool to the finish line. They completed their "Amazing" day with a pizza party and both the girls and adults had a great time. Definitely an event Delta Bay Area wants to do again!

HELP WANTED! Women and Philanthropy Day

On May 4, 2006, GSPW will convene and host a day-long program in Marquette for Upper Peninsula women who are known to be contributors to philanthropic causes in their communities. The program will be titled "Values, Vision and Voice: Women's Philanthropic Potential." Our goal is to nurture in our communities a culture of philanthropy that recognizes the power and importance of women as donors and develop their potential as philanthropists.

We will be inviting women from all over the Council service area to attend this workshop. Please help us reach potential attendees by sending names and addresses of women who donate to organizations and causes in YOUR community. Contact Liz Carr, Fund Development Director, GSPW, by March 15 at (906) 225-8020 or e-mail lcarr@gspw.org

Membership & Recruitment

Jill Rady, Membership Coordinator email: jrady@gspw.org

Paying Out of Your Pocket Doesn't Pay

Generous You

Troop Leaders are among the most generous of people. At the start they offer to give time to girls and their families by becoming a troop leader. They give to their communities by looking for service opportunities for their girls, providing girls with leadership opportunities and a chance to develop awareness and compassion. Troop leaders give. Sometimes it's just a pan of brownies from home, sometimes it's the gas to take girls to an event. Sometimes its spending money from their own pockets to make the girls dreams come true. When does generosity reach its limit? What message do we give to prospective volunteers when one may have more resources to use than another? Girl Scout leaders and girls need to know the guidelines for troop money management.

Be Money Smart

SafetyWise, a GSUSA publication, offers guidelines for troop financial decision making. A basic troop budget is offered to help guide the troop leader and the girls in planning for their activities.

1. Troops have the unique ability to raise money through the Fall and Cookie Sale programs. Additional monies can be earned through other fund raisers with prior council approval
2. A troop sponsor can also contribute to the troop account. Donations of more than \$250 need to be receipted in at the Service Center and will be sent to the chosen troop. Remember, only one troop sponsor per troop.

When troop activities are chosen, it is not a true service to the girls when a leader does not allow them to see the connection between the activity and the expense. As an adult our dreams are not usually met by a generous aunty. Girls can enjoy the adventure while knowing what it cost.

Troop Dues, "Get the Girls Involved"

Troop leaders may use troop funds to cover the cost of gas for travel to an event or training. Training and event fees may also come from troop funds. Troop supplies can often be donated by girls' families as long as it does not make troop participation a hardship. Creative ways to extend the budget can teach the girls to use resources wisely and provide a measure of value to the supplies they use. Let the girls think of ways to make this happen.

From time to time a parent will tell me that the troop their daughter use to belong to charged a lot for dues all at the beginning of the year. This practice can be exclusive and cause girls to drop out of Girl Scouting. Dues collected at each meeting still allow the girls to demonstrate responsibility. Troops can still ask families to contribute above this meeting amount, but we recommend doing so in smaller bites unless a parent requests to pay the amount all at once.

A Rich Experience

We want troops to dream big. Yes you can do it! The payoff is in working to make it happen. Troop leaders and families are not expected to carry a financial burden, and girls benefit the most from

learning about the reality of financial obligations. One troop leader told me "We tell the girls, first we have to pay our (troop) bills, and then we can plan for fun."

Congratulations to our Add-A-Friend prize weekly prize winners! It's not too late to invite a friend to Girl Scouts.

3rd week in February:

Ashley Homola from Ishpeming, Brittany Vickstrom from Champion, Richelle Vandeville from Rock, Katelyn Quinn from Escanaba, and Samantha Burlew from Sault Ste. Marie

2nd week in February

Chelsea Ross from Pickford, Jessica Weber from Kincheloe, Michelle Barrett and Kerryn Winkler from Gwinn

1st week in February

Katrina Lindeman from Iron Mountain, Yana Stevens from Quinnesec, Messiah Markosen from Kingsford and Audrey Annear from Iron Mountain

4th week in January

Becca Forsberg from Houghton, Mandy Scott from Newberry

3rd week in January

Zoey Hulse from Munising, Skylah Minerick from L'Anse, and Molly Dake from Newberry

2nd week in January

Morgan Miller from Gwinn, Annemarie Horn from St. Ignace, And Holly Beaudoin from St. Ignace

Programs

Emily Koren, Program Director email: ekoren@gspw.org

We have received information about a scholarship program from Kohl's for young people age 6-18 (two levels 6-12 & 12-18) for community service. Forms are available at the Service Center or on line at www.kohlscorporation.com. It would be an appropriate recognition and reward for the many fine service projects performed by our girls completing their gold, silver, or bronze awards. Entry deadline is March 15th

Seeking committee volunteers Jamboree in 2007

GSPW and Boy Scouts of Hiawathaland Council are putting heads together for a jamboree in 2007. The jamboree will celebrate 100 years of Scouting world wide. 2007 also marks the 95th anniversary of Girl Scouts in the U.S. It is estimated that over 2000 people will participate in the weekend celebration from across the U.P., from neighboring councils, and from Canada. We are tentatively planning to hold the event at the U.P. State Fairgrounds in Escanaba, **May 18-20, 2007**. Volunteer committee members and chairs from both the Boy Scout and Girl Scout communities are needed to make this event a success. Some of the committees include first aid, registration, camping and lodging, security, publicity, entertainment and performing groups, displays and booths, opening and closing ceremonies, food, races (pinewood derby, rain gutter regatta, and

rope runner). Other committees may be formed or adapted. I invite you to be a part of creating this landmark event. Please contact me at the Service Center, or at ekoren@gspw.org for more information.

Isle Royale National Park, Outdoor Leadership Adventure

August 10-16, 2006

For girls 15 and up

Call Emily Koren, Program Director at 1-800-562-9787 for information

Are you ready for Adventure?

This program will have something to offer anyone who is ready for adventure. Learn how to be comfortable in the wilderness. Stretch your limits and try new things. Develop sound judgment and leadership skills. Everyone will have the opportunity to be a leader. Share your knowledge and outdoor skills in our outdoor classroom. Plan to be able to carry at least 30 pounds, and to hike up to 8 miles each day. Carry all of your food, cook your own meals. Come prepared to have fun, to share what you know, and to learn new things.

Chicago Trip

For Girls 11 and up

Cost: \$290

Depart: Monday, June 19th

Return: Wednesday, June 21

You won't want to miss this trip of a lifetime. Visit a museum, take a walk through Millennium Park. Have an evening at Navy Pier, visit Chinatown, and possibly see a performance in downtown Chicago. There will be other stops along the way.

Adult Education

Ann Smith, Adult Education Director email: asmith@gspw.org

Upcoming Training Sessions

The following training sessions are scheduled for April.

Basic Outdoor Awareness

April 25 Hancock 6-9 p.m.

 Sault Ste. Marie 6-9 p.m.

April 27 Escanaba 6-9 p.m.

Michigan Girl Scout Trainers Conference an adventure!

Five trainers from our council braved winter storms and wind to attend the annual trainers conference in Grand Rapids. We attended several sessions and are bringing home ideas to use at future events in our council. We had fun with the theme CSI (Council Sponsored Instructors) as we investigated and solved crimes all weekend. Some of us presented sessions at the conference this year; Developing Training Designs, the Virus of Violence and Brain Games. Other training sessions we attended included The Future of Training in Girl Scouting, Are You a Trainer or a Facilitator?, Don't Kill the Trainee, Letterboxing, The Art of Seamless Facilitating and Eliminating Nature Deficit

Disorder in Children. It was a busy weekend but also fun as we networked with friends both old and new. If you see Norma Fairbanks, Paula Schwenke, Carol Romback, Carla Hafferkamp or Ann Smith ask for more details.

Changes Are Coming!!!

At the trainer update it was decided to expand our OWL training to be held at Pow-Low in May. We are going to expand our options, change the name and open the workshop to any interested girls ages 15 and up and adults. We will be coordinating with other organizations and businesses to hold training sessions. Look for more information in future weeks. The date and location remain the same, Camp Pow-Low on May 20th, so mark your calendar. This year will be bigger and better than ever.

Fund Development & Product Sales

Liz Carr, Director email: lcarr@gspw.org

Product Sales

Did you attend your Service Area meeting this month and get the latest information on the 2006 cookie sale program? Make sure you attend your leader meeting for the month to get your materials and learn the latest on the sale.

Don't forget that initial order taking begins on **Saturday, March 11.**

Some of you may already know that I am expecting my first baby in early April. I will be taking maternity leave and won't be in the office for a portion of the upcoming cookie sale program. Please do not hesitate calling your cookie chair or field executive if you have any questions about the sale. You can also call the Service Center (800-562-9787) and we will be more than happy to answer any of your questions.

Annual Meeting

Did you receive the latest edition of Penlines? The registration for the upcoming 2006 Girl Scouts of Peninsula Waters Annual Meeting was enclosed. Make sure to complete and mail your registration form and payment by April 2 for the best price.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 22 at Upfront & Co. in Marquette. Service Areas are invited to contribute a basket of items from their area for the silent auction to raise funds for the Opportunity Fund. This is a voluntary contribution and a great way to highlight some of the unique items from your area of the Upper Peninsula. If your area would like to contribute a basket, please contact Liz Carr by March 15.

Thank you to the following areas for contributing a basket: St. Ignace, Ke-Bay, Portage, Chippewa, Marquette and Northern Lights.

Goodie Box News, contact store manager, Mary Beals at goodiebox@gspw.org with any questions.

Tidbits from *The Goodie Box...*

Time is running short for the "Have a Heart" 14% off sale ending February 28th. Any item in the catalog with a heart on it is 14% off. Check out the clothing selections in the shop for red heart hang tags displaying 14% off.

Thinking Day patches for 2006 are available at \$1.00 each. Corn Maze patches are available at \$2.00.

Cookie Activity Pins for 2006 have black background and sell for \$1.10 each. The Cookie Activity sheet has the requirements to earn the pin.

Brownie Try-Its, Junior Badges, and Cadette/Senior Interest Project Awards are available for the cookie sale. Remember you must complete the necessary requirements for these.

Check out the 2005-2006 Girl Scout Patches catalog for related cookie patches. These are fun patches and don't have requirements. Catalogs are available through your field executive or at *The Goodie Box*. Neat Girl Scout week patch #58189 sells for \$1.95.

Girl Scout week is March 12-18. It's a great time to consider getting your Girl Scout her age level membership pin, vest or sash, or uniform piece to wear. It is recommended the girls wear their pin and/or uniform when they are selling cookies.

The Goodie Box will be at March Madness. Please place your orders for delivery at the event by Thursday, March 2nd.

Leaders' Day is April 22nd. Remember to give your leader(s) a great "Thank You" for their time shared in the Girl Scout program. Stop in the shop or call in an order for a gift for your special leader(s). Green Angel pins with poems are at the shop.

Places to Go

Is something interesting happening in your area? Send your information to kdelong@gspw.org to be added in upcoming newsletters.

Are you looking for a Scout Day event for a troop trip? Check these out:

Noah's Ark Waterpark, Wisconsin Dells

May 27-28, June 1-2, June 7-9, June 14-16, and June 21-22

Call 1-800-222-6624 for details

Mackinaw City Getaways:

Hamilton Inn Select, \$43.95 per girl includes: 2-night stay, Mackinac Island ferry, carriage tour on Island, 2-fort tours, campfires on the beach, Mill Creek State Park, hot breakfast, indoor heated pool (don't forget to bring your lifeguard!), and build a teddy bear.

Call 1-800-301-1765 for details, or visit the website at <http://www.mackinawhotels.com>

Quality Inn & Suites Beachfront, \$43.95 per girl includes: 2-night stay, Mackinac Island ferry, carriage tour, 2-fort tours, Mill Creek State Park, each girl earns a "fun badge", 2 hot breakfasts including Belgian waffles, heated indoor pool/spa, beachfront campfires, build a teddy bear. There are optional activities not listed, and meals at reduced GS pricing. Call 1-800-617-3753 for details, or visit the website at <http://www.mackinacsuites.com>

Michigan Adventure Amusement Park & Waterpark, \$16.00 each, June 10-11
Call 1-231-766-9959 or visit the website at <http://www.miadventure.com>

AFTER 67 MILLION YEARS... YOUR WAIT IS FINALLY OVER!! On exhibit at the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science & Art at the Midland Center for the Arts JANUARY 28—APRIL 23, 2006

View a fully mounted cast of SUE, the most complete Tyrannosaurus rex ever unearthed, along with the paleontology that has helped to reconstruct SUE's life and legacy. SUE is 16 feet tall and 42 feet long. If that isn't enough, the exhibit includes interactives and touchable replicas of SUE's arm bone, tail bone, rib and teeth with enough fascinating information to make the viewer an expert!

Slumber Party with T-REX SUE

When: Friday March 17 7pm—7am March 18, 2006 (pickup between 6am and 7am)

Where: Alden B. Dow Museum (at the Midland Center for the Arts)

Who: Girl Scouts (grades 3-6) (Must have 1 adult for every 5 girls)

Cost: \$18 per girl \$7 per adult Spend the night in the Museum, completing the Science Discovery and Creative Solutions badges, while you scope out the museum's newest exhibit, A T.rex Named SUE. Call Debbie at (989) 631-5930 x 1225 for more information or to register. The fees include: Museum admission, Dinosaur Souvenir patch, and hands-on science and art workshops. Snacks and a lite breakfast. **Dinosaur patch not included with adult chaperone fee; they are available for purchase.

Birding By the Bay 2006, May 19-21! Seney National Wildlife Refuge, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, and Hiawatha National Forest are working on an exciting line-up of speakers, banquet, outstanding field trips and a great variety of workshops and activities for adults and youth! Birding is such a great way to spend time outdoors. It's one of those wonderful activities that is enjoyed by people of all ages -- and you don't need to be an expert to enjoy birdwatching! We're trying to get the word out to youth clubs, elderhostels, educators and birding clubs. So whatever you can do to help us pass the word will be greatly appreciated!

If you'd like to request a registration package or more info about the festival or the area, please contact our partner, Alger Chamber of Commerce (906-387-2138). If you've never been to the Central Upper Peninsula, you'll want to ask for tourism info, too -- nestled along the Lake Superior shoreline, we've got amazing cliffs, beaches, waterfalls, trails, rivers and more! Check us out!

Janel Crooks
Hiawatha National Forest
906-387-2512 ext 25
FAX 906-387-2070
jmcrooks@fs.fed.us

2006 National Youth Leadership Training - July 16-23, 2006
Audubon Center of the North Woods, Sandstone, Minnesota

For High School Youths, Educators, and Community Workers

Registration open through June 9, 2006. Each year, high school students from across the country, gather for the National Youth Leadership Training (formerly the National Youth Leadership Camp), for a life-changing week of adventure, self-discovery, friendship, cultural exchange, leadership building, and service.

Held in Sandstone, MN., at the Audubon Center of the North Woods - a 535-acre sanctuary rich with old-growth red and white pines, hardwood forests, restored wetlands, and prairies - NYLT engages participants in a wide range of physical and intellectual activities, from rock climbing and canoeing to stimulating seminars, small-group interactions, and service projects. Young people are challenged to push their limits; use leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills; build cross-cultural bonds; and prepare themselves for active, contributing roles in their communities.

REGISTRATION - Though individuals are welcome, groups of two to 10 youths from sponsoring schools and organizations are encouraged to attend as teams. Attending as a group is one of the most effective ways to sustain what students learn at the NYLT after they return home. It is strongly recommended that all participating students and groups of students select an "adult sponsor" to accompany them to NYLT. Adult sponsors are encouraged to attend the entire eight days, but may choose to attend only the final three days.

For more information: http://www.nylc.org/happening_event.cfm?oid=4856

Web Wanderings

Kim DeLong, webmaster email: kdelong@gspw.org

Have you found a great website in your wanderings? Share your secrets here! Keep in mind, please, that some of these sites are not part of GSPW or GSUSA and we have no control over the content. As always, if you are online with your girls, be safe and never give out the girls' personal information.

Girl Scouts' Program Materials Win Awards

STUDIO 2B online (<http://www.studio2b.org>), the Girl Scout Web site for girls ages 11-17, is now "Parents' Choice Approved." It won the spring 2005 award for the Small Screen from Parents' Choice by exceeding standards set by educators, librarians, parents, and kids themselves. Fewer than 15% of all submitted items receive Parents' Choice Awards!

Girl's Health Website: <http://www.4girls.gov/> a web site made just for girls! There's lots of cool information you can use. Maybe you want to start working out or you're stressed out about school. There are lots of different topics to choose from. Take a look!

That's it for this issue. Was it helpful to you? Is there something you would like to see on the newsletter in future issues? Send your ideas to: kdelong@gspw.org