

GSPW E-News

April 2006

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

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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.

Carol Straka is named GSPW Volunteer of the Month



Carol Straka, an energetic, enthusiastic, creative volunteer from Hessel has been selected Volunteer of the Month by Girl Scouts of Peninsula Waters. Mrs. Straka was nominated for the honor by members of Junior Girl Scout troop 169 with whom she has volunteered for the past two years.

Carol got involved in Girl Scouting when her granddaughter joined a troop and she volunteered to be the "badge person." After a few meetings, leader Leeann Landreville asked Carol to become the assistant leader. Leeann had already gone through three assistant leaders and was once again looking to fill the position. Since that day, the troop has maintained strong leadership and Carol has shined in the assistant leader position.

According to Leeann, there is "always badge work for the girls to do, either in meetings or outside the meetings." She keeps great records and gives Leeann a shopping list when the girls have completed badges. She goes the extra miles to make sure troop members are enjoying the meetings, earning badges, and reflecting the Girl Scout Promise and Law in their actions.

"Carol is a creative, energetic, helpful, and patient person," states Leeann. "She pushes me when I need a push, and even when I don't need one! The girls love and respect her very much."

Although Carol never asks for or expects any recognition for her work with the troop, the members felt this "star volunteer" should be recognized by the entire council for her shining example of leadership and partnership with girls.

We congratulate Carol Straka as the GSPW Volunteer of the Month.

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

Congratulations to Troop #105 from Delta Bay, Troop # 3 from Chippewa and Troop # 367 from Portage! These troop numbers were drawn from all of those who added girls during the Add a Member promotion and they are winners of a free weekend at a council camp of their choice! The winner of the portable DVD Player drawing from among all of the girls who brought a friend to Girl Scouting is Damiana Stevens from Quinnesec! Congratulations Damiana and thanks to all of the girls for sharing the fun and friendship of Girl Scouting.

Troop size is often a matter of heart. Are we willing to adjust to adding another to our group? Girl Scouting is about including girls who want to belong and about enlisting adults who are willing to

mentor girls. Girls learn how to include or exclude from their own observation and experiences. I want to acknowledge the many troops who add to their numbers throughout the membership year. Maybe they can't buy things in packages of 10 anymore, or they need to enlist another driver for field trips, or they find themselves looking for a bigger meeting site in the middle of the year, but those things are incidental to offering a once in a lifetime experience to another girl. She is now a Girl Scout!

Super Sisters Troops 30+ girls.

Trillium Troop # 257, serving 32 Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts
Leaders Ann Kashian and Stephanie Stevens
Trillium Troop # 97, serving 31 Brownie Girl Scouts;
Leaders Kathy Kinner and Becky Jacks

Fantastic Friends Troops of 20+ girls.

Chippewa Troops # 102 and #135
Delta Bay Troop # 295
Iron Range Troop # 426
Manistique Troops # 130, #271 and # 294
Marquette Troops # 1, #55, #111
Northern Lights Troops # 26 and # 151
Porcupine Mountains Troop # 65
Portage Troops # 150 and #220
Tahquamenon Troop # 27
Trillium Troop # 215

Best Buddies Troops of 12+ girls.

Between the Bridges Troops # 194 and #205
Chippewa Troops # 163, #202 and #254
Delta Bay Troops # 67, #114, #153, #193, # 231, #232, #266 and #284
Gwinn Troops # 16 and #296
Hiawatha Troops # 107, #108, #120, #256 and #289
Iron Range Troops # 251, #255 and #262
Ke-Bay Troops # 177, #235 and #417
Manistique Troops # 221, #244 and #291
Marquette Troops # 2, # 6, # 8, #32, #46, #70, #81, #181 and #191
Northern Lights Troops # 35, #51, #52, #53, #73, #77, #121, #165, #285 and #345
Portage Troops # 156, #161, #246 and #268
St. Ignace Troops # 72 and 104
Tahquamenon Troops # 41, #146, #212, #248 and #290
Trillium Troops # 143, #178, #222, #300

Congratulations Tahquamenon Area that 7 of your 8 troops have 12 or more girls!

Early Bird troops can earn an additional 15 cents profit per nut and candy item sold above the standard troop profit during the Fall Sales Program! That is a 50% increase over last year's Early Bird bonus offer! Early Bird is an opportunity for Girl Scout troops to register ahead for the next membership year, which begins October 1st. All members are welcome to join ahead, but those troops that wish to earn the Early Bird bonus, must register at least half of their current girl membership, and submit their Annual Troop Report by June 30th. Troops that are bridging girls to a

different troop can still register all of the girls under the existing troop number (if the troop will continue to use that number next year for remaining girls) and transfer them to the new troop in September or October. Or, if the new troop is also registering as an Early Bird troop, they can include the bridging girls along with the new troop's early bird registrations. There is space on the Early Bird form to note that transaction. To transfer girls at any time, a written request or phone request is necessary, stating the girl's name and troop number and the troop number she will be moved to. Help us keep Girl Scouting strong in Peninsula Waters by being an Early Bird troop!

Programs

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

Summer Thing- fun for adults too!

Is your daughter considering a trip to Summer Thing? Do what other moms are doing across the U.P. and sign up as a volunteer! Summer Thing is as much fun for the adults as it is for the girls. "This isn't work, its vacation. Somebody cooks my meals, and I get a one hour rest time every day- I don't get that at home", says one Summer Thing volunteer. Summer Thing staff members receive a stipend that can help reduce the costs of sending your daughter to camp. Many staff return year after year to reunite with old friends. Others use their 2 weeks of vacation time to come back to the place they love the most. Don't miss out on this great opportunity. Staff must have a firm belief on the Girl Scout movement, be able to work well with groups of children, be in good physical condition, and have the ability to handle long hours with children. A sense of humor and positive outlook are both required. Don't miss another year of fun; contact Emily Koren on how to apply for Summer Thing '06.

Savannah Bound 2007? Inquire NOW!

2007 marks the 95th anniversary of Girl Scouting. What better way to celebrate than with a trip to the birthplace of Girl Scouts- Savannah Georgia! GSPW would like to sponsor a trip to Savannah in June of 2007. The trip would cost approximately \$800. An age limit has not been set for this trip, nor have details on accommodations, and other activities while in Savannah. In order for this trip to take place, GSPW will need at least 30 participants.

If you are interested, LET US KNOW!

If you, your troop, or anyone in your troop is interested in possibly going to Savannah, please contact Emily Koren at the Service Center by May 2006. If there is enough interest from leaders and girls, the trip will be in the 2007 council calendar, with a minimal deposit due in November.

Adult Education

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

Upcoming Training Sessions

The following training sessions are scheduled for May

Cooking in the Out of Doors
May 8 Sault Ste Marie 6-9

May 16	Iron Mountain	6-9 CT
	Hy-Da-Way	6-9
May 24	Cedarville	6-9
	Blueberry Knoll	6-9

Tent Camping

May 15	Rapid River	6-9
May 31	Newberry	6-9
	Blueberry Knoll	6-9

Outdoor Workshop Camp Pow-Low May 20 9-4:30
 (registration forms are on the website or ask your service area manager)

Congratulations to the following adults for earning "train pins" for taking training.

Sherry MacFarlane	Delta	Engine, 1 st car, 2 nd car
Julie Clayton	Portage	2 nd car
Kim Saffer	Manistique	Engine, 1 st car
Tracy Frossard	Delta	Engine
Debra Hirn	Delta	Engine, 1 st car
Val Kobasic	Delta	Engine, 1 st car, 2 nd car

Math Box Donated

Cadette troop 159 from Escanaba has donated a math activity box to camp Pow-Low for use with any groups who stay at camp. The kit was put together as part of their requirements for the Math, Maps and More interest project patch. It contains several games to play including Pay Day, Monopoly and card games. If you use the box please treat it well so that it will be there for the next group. Thanks girls for a great addition to our camp library.

Camp Pow-Low Committee Members

The snow is melting and camp season is almost here. There are always many projects that need to be done at camp in order for it to be in good shape for our troops and groups to use. We are looking for some good people who are willing to spend time and muscle to keep camp Pow-Low in the condition we want it to be. If you would like to join our dedicated committee and help plan projects for the summer or just have questions please contact Ann at the service center.

Fund Development & Product Sales

Liz Carr, Director email: lcarr@gspw.org

Congratulations to Liz and Kevin Carr on the birth of their son, Connor.

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

Tidbits from *The Goodie Box*...

End of the year Court of Awards are near! Here are some great ideas to spruce up your ceremonies. *Let's Celebrate! Girl Scout Ceremonies* has ceremony suggestions. Add music with Sisters Hand in Hand CD, G.S. Pocket, Brownie, Sangam, and Pax Lodge songbooks. Give an Ending Certificate to Daisies, Bridging Certificate to those moving to new age level. Thank a volunteer with a certificate—Parent Appreciation, Treasured Volunteer, Years in G.S. Award, and G.S. Husband Award. Juniors who have earned the Bronze Award—give them the Bronze Award Pin, Bronze Award Emblem, Bronze Award Certificate, Bronze Award pendant, or bookmark. A gift of a bookmark, mug or pendant would be nice for the girls who have earned their Silver or Gold Award. Give your leader, co-leader, and troop volunteers a charm bracelet and/or charms. Thank you patches and pins are available for leaders and volunteers. Check out the various gifts on page 28 of the catalog for adults. The votive candles have been used during ceremonies for the girls and then given to them as a keepsake (for larger quantities--order early).

Cookie pins and various related patches are available. Add Girl Scout Week patches to your shopping list. Our Peninsula Waters council patch makes a nice thank you gift.

Go camping with your troop this summer...the shop carries the supplies on page 25 of the catalog, along with additional items. Give your girls a camping scene water bottle to take on your hikes, camping, or summer travel trips.

Call Mary to request a **Goodie Box** for your Summer Fun Days event. If you want special items or quantities, please call early.

Come early to the Annual Meeting! **The Goodie Box** shop will be open at 131 W. Washington Street (council office) from 8:00 ~ 9:30 A.M. and after the meeting from 2:00 ~ 3:00 P.M. The entire shop will be available. **Please call in your special orders by April 20th**. This will allow you more time to browse and tour the office.

Places to Go

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

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

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.

April 27th: Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day

Through the 2006 theme, "Shaping The Future", girls and boys will explore sharing power in the workplace, at home, and in their communities and learn about the possibilities this dynamic can create in their present and future lives.

On April 27, 2006, millions of mothers and fathers across the country will take their children to their workplaces for Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day. Other adults - relatives, friends, neighbors and mentors - will invite a girl or boy to work, giving them an experience they might not otherwise have, enabling them to envision options they might never have thought possible for themselves.

The Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work program is designed to expand career ideas for girls and boys, expose them to what the adults in their lives do during the work day, show them the value of their education, and give them an opportunity to share how they envision their future.

Click here to find more information about [Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day](#)

LETTERBOXING <http://www.letterboxing.org/>

Letterboxing is an intriguing pastime combining navigational skills and rubber stamp artistry in a charming "treasure hunt" style outdoor quest. A wide variety of adventures can be found to suit all ages and experience levels. Click on the desktop items above to explore this fast-growing hobby. Spring is coming! This is a great time to get outside with your girls! Think maybe it will be too hard to find one near you? Currently on the website there are **81 upper peninsula boxes hidden**.

Life of the Forest Updates

Kit: This kit was packaged for classrooms or community groups and contains 10 full-color posters, 10 matching teaching guides and 20 booklets. If you would like to order the Classroom Kit, please visit <http://www.iplifeoftheforest.com>

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