

GSPW E-News

Summer 2006

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

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In this issue:

Volunteer of the Month
Gold Awards
Camp PowLow Pavillion news
News from the troops
Membership & Recruitment
Programs
Trainer's Tote Bag
Fund Development
News from the Girl Scout Shop
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.

Looking for news on our council realignment? Visit our council website at:
<http://www.gspw.org>

Melissa Coyne is August's Volunteer of the Month



Newberry Girl Scout volunteer Melissa Coyne jumped into the organization two years ago and hasn't slowed down since. Despite having no previous involvement in the organization, Melissa has assumed a variety of roles. She wears the hats of a Brownie Leader, as well as serving as Tahquamenon Service Area Cookie Chair and Treasurer. Last year, she was also the leader of a second troop for Girl Scout Daisies.

Although she was never a Girl Scout during her youth, Melissa has taken the organization's philosophy to heart. She upholds the Girl Scout law in every aspect of her program design. During the course of the past two years, she has doubled the size of her Girl Scout troop, taking in every girl who wants to belong.

Troop members look up to Melissa and take pride in talking about what their troop is doing and how much fun they have thanks to their leader.

"Melissa attends every meeting and puts her heart and soul into every [Girl] Scout activity," stated Christine Casselman who nominated this month's nominee for the honor.

We congratulate Melissa Coyne, the August Volunteer of the Month.

Gold Awards Earned

Two girls have completed the requirements for the Girl Scout Gold Award. Jamie Peterson from troop 122 in Hiawatha decorated a doctor's room at the local medical center to make it more welcoming for children. She painted fun characters on the walls and made the room more inviting so children could be more at ease while visiting the doctor. Through working on this project Jamie learned to push herself and meet deadlines.

Teresa Soldner from troop 207 in Marquette decided to help Janzen House, a house for homeless men in the community, by collecting items for "Fresh Start" baskets. These baskets included kitchen and bath items that the men would need when they move into a new house or apartment. Teresa also cleaned a large closet in Janzen House and made it much more usable by cleaning our unwanted and unneeded items. In addition, she did some general cleaning and straightening at the house. She felt good about keeping to her time-line and finishing everything when she wanted to.

Congratulations to both of these girls for contributing to their communities. If you see either of them be sure to congratulate them for a job well done.

Pow-Low Pavilion Completed

The pavilion at camp Pow-Low has been completed and is awaiting the approval of the inspector. It has taken three long summers to complete this project and we need to give special thanks to the dedicated volunteers who put in countless hours helping to build something to be used for generations of girls. There were several people and families who helped in one way or another but special thanks needs to go to Diana and Joel Anderson and their extended family as well as Carol and Vic Romback. Without their help, this project would not have been completed. Vic was our resident expert and Andersons provided many strong, young backs to do hard labor. Thanks also to Chuck Meyer for providing the plans for the pavilion and Vicki Barrett who also helped with the construction. Together these people and the others who helped along the way have provided a legacy for our council. It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child. In this case it took a village to provide for a child.

Troop 41 traveled to Mackinaw City to the Theater to see the show Hero's of Rock and Roll, and arranged for a back stage tour before the show.

Troop 41 also traveled to Muskegon to visit Michigan Adventure in July. For two years the girls worked hard to achieve their goal to take this trip. The troop spent two nights in a fun hotel with a pool. The weather was grand and the girls stayed at the park from open till close!!! Most of the girls enjoyed the water park attractions, and a few went on the giant rollercoaster- Shivering Timbers.... wow

Delta Bay Service Area held a great summer fun days event! The girls ran a picture "Amazing Race". They were given a list of 70 different locations or things between Escanaba and Gladstone and were provided with camera's. The object was to get a minimum of 27 pictures (including some that were required) and the entire team had to be in each picture. The catch was that they couldn't use their taxi driver to take the pictures, they had to ask someone to take it for them. In some cases this proved difficult because of the location of the picture. The girls had a BLAST!! Check out photos from this event on our council website, <http://www.gspw.org> on the summer fun days page.

Key Volunteers Are Vital to Girl Scouting

How do girls and volunteers learn about the Girl Scout Leadership Development program? Service Areas and Service Teams of community volunteers are formed for the purpose of recruiting and training adult volunteers who will deliver the program to girls in their community. This work is vital to the success and growth of Girl Scouting. Our key volunteers, those who contribute to the work of their Service Area, will be recognized at an event to be held Friday, October 13th at the beginning of the Fall Workshop at Bay Cliff Health Camp. Everyone attending the workshop Friday night is invited to participate. All will receive training hours for completing the Friday night activities we have

designed. Move through a set of stations that will educate and motivate you to reach girls and volunteers in your community and to contribute to the work of the Service Area. Registration information will be included in the Fall Workshop flyer. Join us as we honor our Key Volunteers!

Membership & Recruitment

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

Leadership Is...

At a regional membership staff training this summer, an experienced Girl Scout shared this observation, "Some leaders think that every meeting needs to be like a birthday party for the girls." If that observation is accurate, those leaders missed some valuable information about the Girl Scout Leadership Development Program.

Leadership is teaching. *Safetywise* a troop manual, says "In your Girl Scout training, you will learn how to break down an activity into simple components and teach them one at a time. Role modeling your skills and values is also a powerful form of teaching. Girls watch the adults around them and learn behavior and attitudes from them."

The birthday party scene teaches girls that leaders are there to entertain them. In Girl Scouting, teaching the girls is fun and entertaining when the girls take an active role in the planning and delivery of the activities.

Leadership is coaching. "You are a coach – guiding, questioning, instructing, and advising, directly and indirectly. You teach each girl to carry responsibility so that the group will eventually be able to function on its own." This concept doesn't carry the pizzazz of a birthday party atmosphere, but it carries a powerful punch when implemented. Girls soon tire of being entertained. They can find many ways of satisfying that desire outside of Girl Scouting. Teaching responsibility and sharing leadership with girls brings her the satisfaction of a challenge met. It may be as simple as a new Daisy Girl Scout leading the Girl Scout Promise at her meeting and as involved as a Senior Girl Scout completing her Gold Award.

Leadership is belonging. I think this can be the most challenging aspect of leadership for many people. Girls expect the following from you: acceptance, fairness, a sense of humor and trust. "The girls will rely on you to provide support and encouragement and to create an atmosphere of fairness and fun."

Every girl brings her own unique contribution to the troop. A leader encourages girls to develop the character we learn in the Girl Scout Promise and Law. We all strive together toward that end and are at different points on the journey. Girls want you to believe in them and to be willing to let them try things for themselves. They also have a finely tuned sense of fairness, and know immediately when something isn't done in a fair manner. Respecting the girls enough to explain when your actions were unfair will go a long way in building trust between you.

Leaders have many functions to perform; planning, organizing, motivating, coordinating and reviewing, working with other adults, and keeping girls families up to date. The work of a leader can be just as demanding as coming up with a birthday party for every meeting, but real leadership is purposeful and rewarding and builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

Programs

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



ISLE ROYALE HIKING GROUP

Laura Bulleit (Pelkie, MI), Kelly Arnold (Carney, MI), Caroline Zinser (SSM), Emily Koren (MQT), Brittany Gervais (SSM), Becky Webber (MQT), Lynn Moon (MQT)

Notes from the trail... An Isle Royale Experience

I have been all over this country to explore wild places, to seek out wild places where the quiet allows one to hear the voice within. Of all the places I have traveled, Isle Royale is truly a gem. I was joined by 3 other adults, Laura Bulleit, Becky Webber and Lynn Moon. Caroline Zinser and Brittany Gervais made the journey over from Sault Ste. Marie. Kelly Arnold from troop 20 in Carney came along as well. Several things made this trip magical; the awe inspiring beauty of this national park, the experienced and fun loving adult leaders, and open minded and challenge driven girls.

We stayed on the island for 6 days and 5 nights. During our trek we met up with some Isle Royale celebrities. Liz Valencia, Chief of interpretation for Isle Royale National Park, met with the girls to discuss park history and her career. Candy Peterson, wife of moose researcher Rolf Peterson, joined us at Daisy Farm and inspired us to listen to our hearts and to be inspired by the beauty that surrounds us. We hiked about 30 miles with packs weighing between 35 and 55 pounds. We physically challenged ourselves, and through our accomplishments, discovered that we can do anything we set our minds and hearts to. We grew to understand that we must not only tend to our own needs, but to the needs of the group as a whole.

More information about our Isle Royale adventure will be in the next issue of Penlines. For more information about outdoor adventure opportunities through Girl Scouts, contact Emily Koren.

We're Making Memories of Doing the Things We Love- Summer Thing

The magic of Summer Thing lived on at Camp Nesbit. Over 100 girls and 30 adults experienced the Summer Thing magic. While many girls and staff members returned from last year, we had some new faces and friends in the mix. Some people were sad to leave Clear Lake after 23 years, but found Camp Nesbit to be a wonderful facility. It also reminded us that the magic of camp is not all about the place- it's about the people you meet while you are there.

If you know a girl who went to Summer Thing, ask them about their experience. Ask them to share their stories with girls in your troop and at area events. They carry the spirit in their hearts, and you will see the fire of camp sparkle in their eyes when they tell you all about it. Give them the opportunity to share the magic of Summer Thing with others.

Save now for Savannah 2007!

It is official; Girl Scouts of Peninsula Waters will be heading to Savannah, Georgia in 2007. What better way to celebrate the 95th anniversary of Girl Scouting, than with a visit to the birthplace of Girl Scouts? The trip will cost \$600 per person. Girls 9 -10 may attend with a parent or their troop leader. Girls 11 and up may register independently. Parents and adults are welcome to go as well! A registration form and further details will be made available in the 2007 Program and Training Calendar this fall.

A Century of Scouting Celebration

2007 marks the 95th year of Girl Scouting. It is also the 100th year of scouting worldwide. In honor of the occasion, Girl Scouts of Peninsula Waters and Boy Scouts of Hiawathaland Council will join in celebration at the U.P. State Fairgrounds in May, 2007. We would like to personally invite troops, parents, and area volunteers from across the council to participate in this monumental event. Each service area will be invited to participate in this event, through planning, or helping at the event. Committees are being formed for the following areas: Food/vendors, Registration, Security, Health and First Aide, Program activities, Performances/Entertainment, Ceremonies, Marketing, Booths and displays. Please contact the service center for more information on how you can be a part of the centennial. If you would like to help, please contact Emily Koren. Registration forms will be available in the fall.

Adult Education

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

Welcome To A New Training Year

I hope you have all enjoyed our beautiful U.P. summer. It's hard to believe that it's time to think about fall and another Girl Scout year.

There are some exciting things happening with adult training this year. First of all, be sure to check the new council calendar for a full listing of all training sessions scheduled. You will definitely benefit from finding time in your schedule to attend at least one. There are some new sessions on the calendar so look for Science Sleuth and Celebrating 95 Years of Girl Scouting. If you need to take a required training, be sure to check out the locations and sign up.

Our training CD is bursting at the seams, several new training sessions and tips have been added to it over the summer. If you currently have a training CD, it is still valid. The new one has more information on it including all of the required training as well as additional outdoor information. Check it out. It is still free to volunteers who wish to have it and field executives will have copies at meetings.

Fall Workshop will once again be held at Bay Cliff Health Camp on Oct. 13-14 in conjunction with the Hip-Hop Hoedown for older girls. We will be hosting a special event Friday evening for all involved but especially for our Service Teams. You won't want to miss it. The flyer and registration for this event will be at your Sept. leader meeting and on our website at gspw.org.

Camp Challenge Coming

Even though the girls are just out of school and we are looking forward to the lazy days of summer we need to also think about fall and what needs to be done. So put August 26th on your calendar and plan to bring the family to help get Camp Pow-Low ready for the winter. You can join a team to accomplish a challenge such as taking down tents, cleaning, cooking, raking or cutting wood. Prizes will be awarded and food will be provided. The event will be from 9:- 3:30. Weekend Adventure for Junior Girl Scouts will be happening the same weekend so plan to join in the fun! The more the merrier! For more information about the camp challenge contact Ann at the service center. For information about Weekend Adventure contact Emily at the service center.

Trainers Needed

Do you like to help people? Are you organized? Do you have a love for Girl Scouting? Are you looking for a way to contribute to the Girl Scout Movement without the commitment of having a troop? We have just the thing for you! Consider sharing your expertise with adult Girl Scout volunteers by becoming a council trainer. We are looking for people who can teach a variety of courses.

Trainers are needed from all parts of the council to help spread the word about Girl Scouting and all we do for the girls of the Upper Peninsula. An overnight training event is planned for August 11-12 at camp Pow-Low in Gwinn. To learn more about becoming a member of Girl Scouts of Peninsula Waters training team, contact Ann at the service center.

Fund Development & Product Sales

Liz Carr, Director email: lcarr@gspw.org

Product Sales

I have recently returned from my 12 week maternity leave and I am getting back into the swing of things here at GSPW. The 2006 Fall Sale Program has been planned and we are working on some new and exciting changes this year. Be on the lookout for your paperwork in September or October from you area fall sale chair. Our website will be updated soon with the new girl incentives for the program. Mark your calendars now for the fall sale training on Wednesday, September 13 at Camp Pow-Low. Everyone is welcome to attend. Pick your favorite bear and dress it up! Bring it to the training and prizes will be awarded for the best dressed bear. Registration deadline is September 8.

The 2006 Cookie Sale Program was a huge success this year! Thank you to everyone that participated and helped out while I was on my leave. Next year we will have a brand new cookie: Sugar Free Little Brownie. It's a chocolate cookie packed with mini chocolate chips. Yum!

Fund Development

As you begin to plan events and meetings for the fall, don't forget to plan your activity to meet your area annual giving goal. If you are looking for ideas, email me at lcarr@gspw.org and I'll be happy to offer suggestions and ideas.

Girl Scout Shop News, contact store manager, Mary Beals at girlscoutshop@gspw.org with any questions.

Tidbits from the Girl Scout Shop...

This is a great time to stop into **The Girl Scout Shop** for all your back to troop items before school starts. Uniforms and insignia, fun patches, and awesome gifts are available.

Items from the new 2006-2007 Girl Scout Catalog are in stock.

The scrapbooking kits are popular—those being holiday, vintage, and best friends. The new Girl Scout happy birthday paper has ribbon and stick-ons!

T-shirts with the new "Courage, Confidence, Character" come in both girl and adult sizes. They come in both the traditional style and **New! fitted look**. Vintage looking t-shirts come in three styles and colors.

Beautiful new recognition gifts make thoughtful gifts for area managers, leaders and co-leaders, parents and special people in the community who support the Girl Scout program in your area. Some of the new gifts are: keepsake box, vintage photo mug and box, green or amethyst glass mug, Girl Scout 3-D mug, picture frame, tote bag, pen, and bookmark.

Any registered Girl Scout in levels Daisy through Girls 11-17 shopping in **The Girl Scout Shop**, may enter for the summer drawing ending August 31st. Drawing to be held August 31st.

Troop Crests are pictured on the GSPW website, along with an order form. Order forms are also available on the website for: age level, Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards, and recognition gifts.

If you are attending an event or training, please remember to call in your troop order for delivery to these events (you can save the shipping and handling).

Often troops come in to shop in the fall to purchase uniforms and insignia. Parents are welcome to come at the same time to become familiar with the shop and Girl Scout program. If your troop decides to do this, please call the service center to advise us on the date and arrival time.

Extra catalogs are available upon request. Have a great year in Girl Scouting!

Places to Go

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

Halloween fun with the Michigan Iron Industry Museum

I know Halloween seems far off, but with a little a bit of planning and a phone call to the Michigan Iron Industry Museum, your troop can have frightfully fun Halloween experience! The Michigan Iron Industry Museum in Negaunee can plan and host a cemetery tour for your troop this fall. Curator, Barry James will host a Girl Scout specialized program that will help the girls earn the "Our Councils Own: Our U.P. Heritage" patch.

For more information about programs at the Michigan Iron Industry Museum, contact Barry James at 475-7857, or email jamesb@michigan.gov. For "Our Council's Own: Our U.P. Heritage" requirements, go to www.gspw.org and visit the patch programs page.

Web Wanderings

Kim DeLong, webmaster email: kdelong@gspw.org

Have you visited our council website? Check us out online at <http://www.gspw.org>. We need your input to improve the current site. Send a note to Kim at the email above with your ideas to make our website go from good to great!

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.

DOVE: Campaign For Real Beauty

<http://www.campaignforrealbeauty.com/>

Dove's campaign for real beauty website has a free download of *true you!*, a workbook specially designed for mothers and daughters. Research shows that a mother's attitudes about her health and body image influence her daughter's ideas about sense of self and appearance.

The ten activities in the workbook, touching on topics such as sharing feelings, tracing one's heritage, puberty, and aspirations, are designed to raise self-esteem. Mothers and daughters are encouraged to embrace their own inner and unique beauty.

Color and black and white printable versions of this unique and influential guide are available on the Web site.

Does your troop love to make Swaps or would you like to learn more about this wonderful Girl Scout tradition? You can exchange swaps monthly with other troops, girls or leaders, as well as get information about swapping and lots of ideas, at Troop to Troop Girl Scout Swaps:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Troop_to_TroopGirlScoutSWAPS/ This is a relaxed group where no sign-ups are required for the monthly swaps and there is no minimum number of swaps to make...just trade what you want, when you want. You may choose to get back sets of swaps (all the same from one troop, so each of your girls will receive the same swap) or assorted swaps (different swaps from different troops). All exchanges are moderated so you are guaranteed to get swaps in exchange for yours.

ShillerMath and the Girl Scouts share a common agenda: for girls to learn and love math. Together we are working to acknowledge outstanding performance and potential in math by awarding 4 scholarships and 6 runner up prizes to Girl Scouts graduating in 2008.

To be eligible for the ShillerMath Rising Star Scholarship, you must:

- 1) Be a registered Girl Scout
- 2) Be a junior who plans to graduate high school one or two years from now
- 3) Major in mathematics (or physics) in college

The top four applicants will receive \$2,500 per year up to a maximum of \$10,000 total towards tuition. Your application must be received by May 31, 2007. Applications received after that date will be returned unopened.

For more information and to receive an application, please go to <http://www.shillermath.com/girlscouts/home.php>

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