GSSU UPDATE
GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHEAST TEXAS
ISSUE FOR APRIL 2011 | www.gsnetx.org

Support Family Partnership

There are many reasons why Family Partnership directly affects every girl participating in the Girl Scouts, but below are just a few highlights.

1. It costs $250 per girl to provide the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. 100% of membership fees go to GSUSA and any dues that are paid to the Girl Scout troop stay at the troop level. The remainder of the funds must come from member and community support.

2. What about the horses? The cabins? The boats – and more importantly, the life preservers? To ensure girls enjoy camp every summer, maintenance is required during the off-season to feed the animals, to replace old boats and life preservers, and to get the cabins ready for the summer. Many of you may know that the dining hall roof at Camp Bette Perot recently had to be replaced in order to accommodate campers in 2011. Family Partnership dollars helped make this happen.

3. Family Partnership also helps to give the Gift of Girl Scouting to girls throughout Northeast Texas to make sure that EVERY girl has the opportunity to participate regardless of circumstances. It helps pay for membership fees, uniforms and after school activities.

With the school year coming to a close, many Girl Scout troops will have the summer off. Please reflect on the experience your girl had in the program this year and support our girls through the Family Partnership Campaign. Every SU that exceeds their goal and has a Family Partnership SU member will receive a refund that goes directly back to the service unit to provide programs, events, and opportunities for the girls in your life. Thank you for contributing through the Family Partnership Campaign and for showing that our families value investing in girls!

Camp For Fun This Summer!

Still can't decide which Resident Camp session to attend? Spaces have now been added to some of our most popular resident camp sessions! If the session you were interested in was "full", check back to see if it has opened up!

Choose Your Own Adventure
Camp Rocky Point, Entering grades 5-9
June 12-17
Campers will live out their own Choose Your Own Adventure story at Camp Rocky Point! As campers complete a "chapter", their choices will move the story along! You will enjoy swimming, kayaking, campfires, and all of your favorite camp activities!

Ropes & Rodeo
Camp Bette Perot, Entering grades 6-12
June 19-24
During this action packed session you will learn rodeo style play day events and then compete in the Camp Bette Perot rodeo at the end of the week.

Little Mermaids
Camp Gambill, Entering grades 1-3
July 10-12
If you love the water, this session is for you! You will enjoy swimming, kayaking, and sand castle building on Lake Gambill. Take a break from the lake and enjoy archery, hikes, and a campfire! This session is open to all swim-levels and each girl will have the opportunity to become a more confident swimmer with the help of trained staff.

Climb and Cast
Camp Bette Perot, Entering grades 6-12
July 10-15
Spend your week challenging yourself to master the low and high elements on the ropes course and learning how to fish! Learn fun team building techniques and become certified as a TPWD Junior Angler! You will also enjoy swimming, tie dye and crafts!

2011 Real Girl Award Nomination Deadline- May 2, 2011

The Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas Real Girls Real Women Awards Luncheon celebrates outstanding Girl Scouts and women leaders. Two 2011 Real Girl Award recipients will be selected and honored at the event in November of 2011 at the Hilton Anatole. Award recipients must attend.

AWARD CRITERIA: Nominees for the Real Girl Award are high school grade level current girl members of Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas who demonstrate courage, confidence and character and make the world a better place. Nominees cannot be previous winners of the Real Girl Award. Winners will be announced by May 31.

NOMINATE YOUR CANDIDATE: Complete the Nomination Form and one page narrative. (Guidelines are on the form.) Please click **here** to access the nomination form online. For questions contact: Lindsay Thompson, at 972.349.2438 or **lthompson@gsnetx.org**.

Day/Twilight Camps

Looking for something fun for your daughter to do this summer for an affordable price? Or do you have want to have a great time as an adult volunteer for a week? Be sure to check out the GSNETX Day/Twilight Camps at **www.gsnetx.org/camps** and click on the Volunteer Run Day/ Twilight Camps for great opportunities throughout June 2011.

Day/Twilight Camps are only $50/girl and are a great way to create long lasting memories she will cherish! For more information, contact each specific camp or e-mail **program@ gsnetx.org**.

Adult Development Updates

Want the newest info about Girl Scouts?

Visit **www.gsnetx.org/newinformation** to learn about National Proficiency Badge Categories, How the National Girl Scout Program Portfolio Works, Examples of National Proficiency Badges, the Anatomy of a Badge, What's new with Girl Scout Daisies Petals, Awards and Leaves, and The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting.

Are you an adult volunteer that really loves nature?

If so, we've started planning a new outdoor event for adult volunteers. This event will take place April 27-29, 2012 at Camp Rocky Point.

If you would like to be a part of making this event a success, contact Pat Sherwood, **psherwood@gsnetx.org**.

Have a skill to share or want to develop a new one?

Are you a closet archer? How about a lifeguard? Are you a master at Dutch Oven Cooking? If you would like to help girls grow in character, confidence and courage in the outdoors, email us at **camp@gsnetx.org**. You bring the desire to work with girls; we can provide the training!

Did you know that GSUSA has updated the requirements to earn the bridging awards for girls.

As we transition away from the current handbooks and badge books to the new Guide to Girl Scouting, the bridging requirements are changing. To find the most up to date requirements, visit the national website at **http://www.girlscouts.org/program/gs_central/insignia/bridging_awards/.**

While the current requirements found in many of the current handbooks are still ok to use, be careful in your planning so that awards your girls may be earning are still relevant after they have moved up. If your Girl Scouts are using any GSUSA resources now through Summer 2011 or Fall 2011, click here for recommendations about how to plan ahead and prepare for all the changing resources!

Remember, bridging awards are an optional award girls can choose to earn when they move up to the next program grade level.

GSNETX is On-Boarding New Volunteer Trainers. Would you like to be one of them?

Volunteer Trainers really are vital to fulfillment of the Girl Scout Mission. The promise of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience is only as strong as our leaders' understanding of what that means, and rests entirely upon how prepared they feel to deliver the Program. It takes volunteer trainers to make that happen. We are offering 3 more Train the Trainer Workshops. If you are willing and able to commit to a progressive learning plan and teach a minimum of 4 courses per year, please fill out the attached Facilitator Application and forward to the Adult Education Manager.

Facilitating Adult Learning	Facilitating Adult Learning	Facilitating Adult Learning
Saturday, April 30th , 2011 11:00 pm – 4:00pm JoAnn Fogg Service Center 6001 Summerside Drive Dallas, TX 75252	Saturday, May 14th , 2011 12:00 pm – 5:00pm JoAnn Fogg Service Center 6001 Summerside Drive Dallas, TX 75252	Saturday May 28th, 2011 12:00 pm – 5:00pm Paris Service Center 3920 Lamar Avenue Paris, TX 75460

Save the Date! Harvest Jamboree!- Adult Volunteer Retreat 2011

Camp Bette Perot, October 21-23, 2011

The Adult Volunteer Retreat is an annual event for ALL volunteers. Come for the day or stay for the entire weekend! Visit **www.gsnetx.org\retreat** and watch closely. There's more information to come!

Help us begin the celebration of our 100th Birthday

We are looking for people who would like to help in the creation of the 100th Birthday activity patch. We will meet in person or through conference call to discuss ideas, define badge requirements and design the patch. The patch and its requirements will be unveiled at the Kickoff in August. If you are interested, please contact Gerri Gordon at 972 349-2436 or **ggordon@gsnetx.org**.

Girl Scout College Journey

July 10th - July 15th 2011 -
Texas Woman's University, Denton

Girl Scout College Journey, previously called Interest Project College (IP College), is for Girl Scout Cadettes (beginning with those entering 7th grade) through Girl Scout Seniors (through those entering the 11th grade). This program is now being redesigned to fit the needs of the Girl Scout in the year 2011. For more information check out the website, **www.gsnetx.org/collegejourney.**

GSNETX 100th Anniversary Trips

Spaces are still available for the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas trips to Washington, D.C or Savannah! All trips are either for Girl Scout Troops or "She and Me" (Girl Scout and Mom/Grandmother/Aunt/Adult Sister). Girls need to have completed at least one year of GS Juniors, or completed 4th grade, by 2012. See **www.gsnetx.org/travel** for more information. To learn how to enroll in the trips or for any questions please contact Emilie Anderson at 940-243-1314 or **eanderson@gsnetx.org**.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Spring Re-registration Packets
Please remind your Girl Scout leaders of the Service Unit Spring re-registration due date. The Service Unit Registrars will be contacted by their Membership Specialist to set a date to receive registrations.

Annual Troop Financial Reports-
Determine due date for leaders to submit their Troop Financial Report to the appropriate SU Team member.

Service Unit Action Plans for 2012 Membership Year
- Determine the date that you and your team are available to meet with your Membership Specialist to evaluate your team accomplishments for the 2011 membership year. Accomplishments can include SU Retention Activities/ Events, SU Extension- Recruitment activities, recruitment of new team members and to begin planning your 2011-2012 SU Action Plans.

Remember that your Membership Specialist works in partnership with the SU Team to develop your 2012 SU Action Plan. A copy of the 2012 SU Action Plan will be available in May and due in June. Your membership specialist can provide you with a variety of resources which includes Membership Statistics for your Service Unit; training data to assist you with your planning for the 2012 membership year. : We are asking all Service Units to include year-round retention and recruitment activities in their 2012 SU Action Plans.

Adult Recognition Information & Events
Your Adult Development Specialist should have received the Adult Development Newsletter which contains ideas for recognition events.