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## EXTENDED: AT&T Employee Matching Gift Opportunity - March 31, 2012

As a result of strong employee response, AT&T has extended their special matching gifts initiative. When current AT&T employees make a gift to a local Girl Scout council or to GSUSA between now and March 31, 2012, AT&T will match their gifts dollar for dollar up to \$500,000. Employee gifts made to Girl Scouts through the

2012 United Way/Employee Giving Campaign will also be matched. AT&T Employees must contribute through the company intranet, AT&T Insider, or tSpace. Search Girl Scouts Centennial for details. Please pass along this information to any AT&T employee you know. Thank you for supporting Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas!

# How do I know if the First Aid/CPR class I'm considering is acceptable?

GSUSA recognizes 4 approved providers. From Volunteer Essentials and the **GSNETX Volunteer Policies and Procedures** document Risk Management section:

First Aid/CPR:

Approved providers of First-aid/CPR training are American Red Cross, National Safety Council, EMP America, and American Heart Association. First-aid/CPR training that is available entirely online does not satisfy Girl Scouts' requirements. Such courses do not offer enough opportunities to practice and receive feedback on your technique.

Use caution when selecting a First Aid / CPR class. Many fly by night

companies have begun offering "cheaper, faster, online" first/aid CPR courses. Avoid these as you do not want to waste your time or your money on a certification that does not meet the standards. The average time for an approved certification course is between 4 to 6 hours. A blended learning class is acceptable if practice sessions and testing sessions for certification purposes are in person with an instructor. If considering a CPR class from a third party vendor, ask them if their facilitators are certified instructors from the above organizations.

### Is Your Girl Scout Troop Training Still Current?

With Spring weather come Spring camping plans. Don't wait until the last minute to make sure that your camping certification is still up to date! Camping certifications are good for 3 years from the time you took the class. Leaders whose certifications are still current can take the **Recertification Exam online** and cover themselves for the next three years. (Don't wait until the last minute – take the online exam, even if you have several

months to go before expiration!) If your certification has lapsed, simply take the in person class again. To find out if your certification is current, check with your Service Unit Adult Recognition Specialist. If you need further assistance finding your expiration date or need a new copy of your certification card, send an email to adulteducation@gsnetx.org with the subject heading: "TCT Inquiry".

# Summer Camp Guide & Spring GPS will Hit Your Mailbox Soon!

Be on the lookout for the Summer Camp Guide and Spring GPS combo that will be arriving in your mailbox shortly. The guide will feature everything you need to know about the upcoming Summer Camp Sessions, Day Camp and programs available for you and your troop! To view these programs in a searchable format please visit <a href="https://www.gsnetx.org/gps">www.gsnetx.org/gps</a>

#### Dallas Heritage Village 100th Birthday Celebration

It's PARTY time!! You're invited to Girl Scouts' 100th Birthday Celebration on March 31, 2012! Come join us at Dallas Heritage Village to experience all that Girl Scouts have been doing for the last 100 years.

Come get your "Ticket through Time" stamped as you play games, exchange SWAPS, sing old and new Girl Scout songs, explore historical uniforms and memorabilia, learn Morse code, compete in the Wagon Decorating Contest, watch the Parade of Decades, meet Juliette Gordon Low and eat a yummy birthday treat!

Bring in the 100th year of Girl Scouting with us! This celebration is one you won't want to miss! Click **here** to purchase your tickets now.

#### Is Your Email Address Current?

Did you know your primary email address is used by the system for confirmation of registration and many other communications? If you have already activated your "EBIZ" account, visit <a href="www.gsnetx.org/myaccount">www.gsnetx.org/myaccount</a>, enter your username and password, and please verify your email address is current.

If you have not already activated your "EBIZ" account, go to **www.gsnetx.org/ activate** and activate now!

#### **GSNETX Shop Updates**

If there are any 3rd grade or 5th grade troops that are looking for additional awards to earn, we still have large quantities of several different Try-Its and retiring badges in stock at Highland Village. Call 972-318-1300 or email tbrown@gsnetx.org. for availability prior to starting, as quantities are limited.

Announcing bridging kits and starter kits coming April 1! We will be offering single bridging kits which will include a certificate to be personalized for the bridging Girl Scout, bridging rainbow award, membership star & disc. For GS Brownies we will also include the Brownie wings.

Starter kits are coming April 1, and will include a vest or sash, wavy flag patch, 4 troop numbers, Council ID, insignia tab, 100th anniversary pin, Girl Scout pin, World Association pin and a Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting. When the entire package is purchased, you receive a free drawstring bag (valued at \$10, while supplies last). We will continue the special price of \$16.87 on the Girls Guide until June 30. After that, the price will be \$22.50 (GSUSA will increase the price on April 1).

#### Save the Date!

2012 GSNETX Annual Meeting & Awards

Celebrating 100 Years Dallas Arboretum April 14, 2012 Registration will open February www.gsnetx.org/recogevent

#### **Register Now!**

**Real Outdoor Women at Camp Rocky Point** April 27-29

www.gsnetx.org/row to register

#### **Spring Membership Planning for Service Unit Teams**

Activities for review should include:

- Spring Recruitment Plans (i.e. targeting K-3rd grade, Kindergarten Roundups). Recruiting in the spring allows new leaders to get a head start before school starts.
- ADS, please begin to identify potential candidates that have met the criteria for Leader and Asst. Leader awards. Awards are available for Service Team Members and adults, businesses and other organizations that have supported Girl Scouting in your local community. Retention activities for spring (i.e. Bridging Ceremonies, Leader and Asst. Volunteer recognition activities)
- VIP Meetings (Volunteer In Partnership Meetings) begin in April designed for Service Unit Team volunteers. Check with your Membership Specialist for dates, times and locations.
- 2012-2013 Early Bird Packets formerly call Spring Re-registration will be available beginning March 1st. All members will have the opportunity to re-register using our paper forms because we understand that may be the preference for some of our members and leaders. When the Early Bird packets are distributed on March 1st, details of how existing members can now re-register on line. Two great ways to register! Contact your Membership Specialist for more details.
- Service Unit Managers, please begin to identify potential new team members to shadow team members that will not be returning for fall 2012 to begin on-thejob training process before June 2012.
- Training for leaders- "How To Complete The Annual Troop Financial Report". This is a good time to review with new and experienced leaders the importance of completing and submitting their annual Troop Financial Report.

Note: Please continue to collect registration from leaders for new girls. Thank you!

#### Year of the Girl: Celebrating 100 Years of Girl Scouting

#### **Area Celebrations**

March 10: Area 5 Celebration: "Green Carpet" Hollywood Night March 25: Area 2 Celebration: 100th Anniversary High Tea Party

May 5: Area 4&6 Celebration: Celebrating 100 years of Girl Scouts: Honoring

the Past and Serving the Future.

Please click here for more details about each event.

#### Save the Date! Service **Unit Team Training**

Position training for newly added members to your Service Unit team is scheduled for the following dates and locations. See **E-Biz** for registration.

- June 2nd in Rockwall
- June 9th in Flower Mound
- June 16th at Southern Sector Service Center
- June 23rd at JoAnn Fogg Service Center

#### Have You Set up an eBiz Account?

eBiz access makes it easier to register for events, training & camp, update emergency contact & personal information, print your membership card and contribute to our annual Partnership Campaign! Visit: www.gsnetx.org/activate. eBiz account activation assistance? Email us at helpdesk@gsnetx.org.