GSSU
GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHEAST TEXAS
UPDATE
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Writing Competition & Scholarship Opportunity

Calling all Girl Scouts grades 9–12! Join Girl Scouts of the USA, Chief Executive Officer, Kathy Cloninger for a special dinner in her honor on Friday, May 13, 2011.

Kathy Cloninger will be delivering the commencement address at Texas A&M Commerce on Saturday, May 14 and the university will be hosting a reception and dinner in her honor on Friday, May 13, 2011.

100 girls in grades 9-12 will be invited to be a part of this amazing opportunity. To be considered for selection, please submit a 100 word essay on "How Girl Scouts has enabled you to be a leader today and has prepared you to be a leader for tomorrow."

Essays can be submitted starting March 2, 2011 on gsnetx.org and the deadline is March 15. The winners will be announced by April 1, 2011.

Texas A&M Commerce will also hold a drawing during the dinner for a scholarship opportunity for one of the girls in attendance. Scholarship amount to be announced soon. Stay tuned for more information.

Cookie Box Creations

Cookie Box Creations teams girls with women architects and engineers, in a design contest to turn empty Girl Scout cookie boxes into free-standing structures.

This year's theme is "Dinosaurs Unearthed" and coincides with the Museum's dinosaur exhibit. Come see the Cookie Box Creations dinosaurs at the Museum of Nature & Science in Dallas between February 27 and March 20, 2011.

For more information click **here**.

Girl Scout College Journey

The Girl Scout College Journey, previously called Interest 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 Girl Scouts in the year 2011.

The tentative date is June 26-July 1 at Texas Woman's University. The Girl Scout College Journey will be a fun week for girls to work on a Journey, do career shadowing, etiquette and resume building, and learn all about being in college!

For more information please visit **www.gsnetx.org/collegejourney** or contact Emilie Anderson at, **eanderson@gsnetx.org** or 940.243.1314.

DOODLE 4 GOOGLE

Girl Scouts of the USA has partnered with Google for the opportunity of a lifetime! Doodle 4 Google is an opportunity to design the Google homepage doodle for millions to see.

This year's theme is "What I'd like to do someday..." Registration closes on March 2, 2011, and entries must be postmarked by March 16, 2011 so register now! For more information click **here**.

2011 GSNETX Project Earth: What's Your Footprint?

Earth day is coming up on April 22. You can make a difference by participating in 2011 GSNETX Project Earth: What's Your Footprint? This program is an opportunity for Girl Scouts of all ages to get involved in Earth Day in their local communities through the It's Your Planet - Love It! Journey.

If you have never tried a Journey series before, this is a great place to start with accessible program support and unique ideas on how to tailor a Journey to each girl's community and environment that will culminate in a council-wide Earth Day project!

For more information, visit **www.gsnetx.org/ProjectEarth**

Save the Date!

2011 ANNUAL MEETING
April 16, 2011

Union Station, Downtown Dallas
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Annual Meeting: 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Volunteer Recognition Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Don't miss the excitement of this year's event!

Council Delegates will:

- Review the work of the Board of Directors for the past year.
- Elect new Board Officers & Board Members, Board Development Committee Members & National Delegates & Alternates
- Greet our new Board Chair
- Be the first to see the Property Master Plan preliminary report.
- Learn about exciting plans for GSNETX as we prepare for our 100th Anniversary Celebration.

If you haven't sent the names of your Council Delegates to Council, please do so ASAP! Names and any questions may be addressed to Jenifer Moreau at **jmoreau@gsnetx.org**.

The Annual Meeting is open to all members of GSNETX. Please visit **www.gsnetx.org/recogevent** for more information and registration information.

FUND DEVELOPMENT

Family Partnership: A big THANK YOU to all Service Unit volunteers for working so hard on raising money to support the girls! Through the Family Partnership Campaign, families who benefit from Girl Scouts are able to give back and help provide amazing leadership opportunities for girls. We encourage 100% of families to give to Girl Scouts and make an impact on the future of tomorrow and in the life of a girl. Family Partnership gifts can be made online at **www.gsnetx.org/mygift** and on the membership form.

2011 Real Girl Awards: The 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 October of 2011 at the Hilton Anatole. Award recipients must attend the event.

AWARD CRITERIA: Nominees for the Real Girl Award are high school level current girl members of Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas. Nominees cannot be previous winners of the Award. Deadline for nomination is May 2, 2011, winners will be announced by May 31, 2011.

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, GSNETX, Fund Development Coordinator, 972.349.2438 or **lthompson@gsnetx.org**.

Adult Development Updates

Have Questions About All The Changing GSUSA Resources?

If your Girl Scouts are using any GSUSA resources now through March 2011, Summer 2011 or Fall 2011, click **here** for recommendations about how to plan ahead and prepare for all the changing resources! For answers to questions about all these changes, please refer to **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**.

Why is Training Important?

Leadership training goes beyond building skills and sharing information, as important as that may be. Training builds a leader's self confidence. Confident leaders—who know how to use their resources—naturally feel pride knowing how they play an important role in the development of girls.

We are seeking volunteers who have the time and desire to invest in developing leader potential by becoming Volunteer Council Facilitators to lead GSNETX classes. Courses include:

- Troop Leadership Basics
- Grade Level Adventures
- Troop Camping Certification
- And higher award level classes such as Inspiring Action, Silver Award Overview, and Gold Award Overview

Trainer On-Boarding Workshops are currently scheduled for:

- Tyler – Saturday 4/2 from 2 – 7 p.m.
- Paris – Sunday 4/3 from 2 – 7 p.m.
- Southern Sector – Saturday 4/9 from 2 – 7 p.m.
- JAFSC – Saturday 5/14 from 2–7 p.m.

You must commit to following GSNETX course curriculum and be able to commit to a progressive Trainer On-Boarding plan. Once graduated, you must commit to teach a minimum of 4 courses per year. An application and pre-screening interview is required. For more information click **here**.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Spring Planning for Service Unit Teams
Spring is a great time to recruit adult leadership for new Girl Scout troops in the spring, summer, or fall and potential Service Unit team members. Some ideas include Girl Scout booths at kindergarten roundups this spring; Girl Scout booths at local community events such as schools, churches, other youth oriented organizations. You can also begin to recruit adults to serve on the Service Unit Team in partnership with your Membership Specialist.

NOTE: Adult Volunteer brochures and recruitment flyers are available through your Membership Specialist.

Adult Recognition

Is your Service Unit team a possible candidate for the President's Award? Be sure to ask your Membership Specialist about the criteria for this award or go to page 16 in the **Adult Recognition Guide** to review the criteria. If you still have questions, be sure to ask your Membership Specialist.
One of the criteria for this award includes your Service Unit membership girl and adult goals. If you do not know what your goals are be sure to ask your Membership Specialist. As of now, quite a few Service Unit teams have met their goal. Your membership goal should be met by May 2011. Don't forget that Girl Scout recruitment is year round!

Adult Development Specialist
The SU Adult Development Specialist promotes and reviews the Adult Recognition System Guide and highlights awards for Outstanding Troop Leadership and for Service Unit Team Members. The Adult Development Specialist may request a Training Report and a history of award report for their Service Unit to begin identifying potential candidates for these awards. Please contact your Membership Specialist for these reports. Some nominations are due by March 1.

Troop Organizer/Recruiter – Promote Spring recruitment plans and provides assistance if needed.

Event Coordinator – Review upcoming Service Unit events that support girl and adult retention and extension.

Registrar – Begin to promote Spring 2012 Re-registration for Girl Scout troops that are currently registered for the 2010-2011 membership year. The timeline for Spring Re-registration will be emailed to you and your Service Unit Manager in March. Spring Re-registration packets will be available after March 1st. Your Membership Specialist will have your spring re-registration packets. Annual membership dues are $12.00. Note: Troop Cookie funds can be used to pay for all or a portion of annual registration membership.

Benefits of Spring Re-registration
• It allows Girl Scout troops to develop long range plans for summer and early fall activities.
• It reduces the volume of stress and paperwork in the fall!

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of northeast texas