



NEW THIS YEAR! COURSE 201: PB & J WORKSHOP (PROFICIENCY BADGES & JOURNEYS)

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is comprised of two distinct components: the Journeys, which develop girls' leadership ability through the three leadership keys (Discover, Connect, and Take Action), and proficiency badges, which build girls' topic-specific skills. Journey awards provide a 360-degree view of a topic while a proficiency badge zeroes in on something specific.

Together they complement each other like peanut butter and jelly. This

experiential workshop will help you make your own particular flavor of the PB&J sandwich.

Prerequisites: Girl Scouting 101 or Volunteer Orientation & Troop Leadership Basics.

All Fall Troop Leader Training Classes are available for registration now on the GSNEX website under Member & Volunteer Resources Adult Education Search for a Course

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 access to your "EBIZ" account, visit www.gsnetx.org/myaccount, enter your username and password, and please verify your email address is current. If you have not already activated access to your "EBIZ" account, go to www.gsnetx.org activate and activate now!

BECOME A TRAINER

Why are Volunteer Council Trainers important? Because Volunteer Trainers 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 trainers to make that happen. 6 opportunities to attend a Train the Trainer Workshop are available this fall. Email dtharp@gsnetx.org for more information. Click [here](#) to register for a workshop.

NEW!! ONLINE TROOP COOKIE MANAGER TRAINING!

We are thrilled to offer online Troop Cookie Manager training! For the first time ever, TCMs will have the opportunity to train from the comfort of their own home while reducing their impact on the environment. If your troop has already chosen a Troop Cookie Manager for the 2012 Cookie Program, please ensure that he/she

has completed a Volunteer Application and Criminal Background Check at www.gsnetx.org/applynow or www.gsnetx.org/reapplynow

Online Troop Cookie Manager training is mandatory and you must have an updated volunteer record in order to register and complete the course.

TOOLS FOR GS TROOP LEADERS

Encourage new leaders in your Service Unit to visit the TOOLS page on the GSNEX website under Member & Volunteer Resources. Here are some of the helpful things they will find:

- The 4 HER toolkit offers a Leaders Guide, Volunteer Menu, Promise Cards and logos to use when soliciting family support for the new troop year.
- A full year's worth of Journey Meeting Plans for Daisies through Ambassadors for the It's Your World and It's Your Planet series can be found.
- Programs in A Box can make your meeting easy and fun. Girls can slip

into the past or examine international uniforms, and more.

- Got questions? Your answer might be found in the Troop Leader FAQ.
- Uncertain about what form to use or how to fill it out? A sample year's worth of planning for a fictional troop has been laid out. Follow Jane Leader and her Co-Leader, Sarah Helper, month by month as they establish a brand new troop and navigate the forms a leader will use.

Download the Forms Guide and read Jane Leader's meeting plan, training & activity plans, as well as her notes to self.

SAVE THE DATE!

Harvest Jamboree- Adult Volunteer Retreat 2011
Camp Bette Perot
October 21-23, 2011
Online Registration Open Now
www.gsnetx.org/retreat

2012 GSNEX Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation

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

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100TH PATCH OPPORTUNITY

The 100th Anniversary Patch will be available in all Retail shops with exciting opportunities to make this year your most memorable yet while commemorating the 100th! Learn more about the **100th Anniversary Patch**.

PROGRAM AIDE

The Program Aide is being updated to meet new national guidelines. Please check [here](#) for updates and information.

Questions? Contact Debbie Chesley at 972-349-2440 or dchesley@gsnetx.org.

LEAVING A LEGACY: CAMP WHISPERING OAKS

On October 29, 2011 from 10 am to 2 pm, we will be gathering one final time at Camp Whispering Oaks to reconnect and share fond memories of our beloved camp. To RSVP for this event please click [here](#). We look forward to seeing you!

COOKIE BOX CREATIONS

Come "Under the Sea" with us and work with Dallas architects to imagine, create and build your own Cookie Box Creation. For more information and to fill out your **Cookie Box Creations** application, just click the link!

FOR SERVICE UNIT REGISTRARS

Your active support in securing fall on-time re-registrations was appreciated! We are now asking you to follow up on troops that have not re-registered at this time.

Emphasize to Leaders that all girls must be registered to participate in the council cookie program and that Leaders should not hold on to registrations but should be submitting them immediately to the Service Unit Registrar or the Membership Specialist.

The SU Cookie Coordinator needs to provide information about the upcoming Council cookie sale and discuss possible plans for a local Service Unit cookie rally.

Below are some points that you may want to highlight:

- Review the Troop Cookie Manager job description/volunteer agreement form.
- Discuss the importance of verifying that all Troop Cookie Managers have completed and submitted a Volunteer Application with CBC.
- Troop Cookie Coordinators will be able to take their training online. More details will be provided to the Service Unit Cookie Coordinator.
- Remember, training is required!

Some Possible Ways to Help and recognize New Leaders and Experienced Leaders:

- Attend a troop parent meeting to support the leader(s) by explaining

what the Girl Scout Leadership Experience is all about.

- Promote the Family Partnership Campaign.
- Help Leaders form a troop committee to actively support troop members.
- Recognize Leaders that have completed their required training: Girl Scouting (101); Troop Leadership Basics 102, and Girls on The Go (103).
- Help Leaders find a troop meeting place.
- Identify and recruit mentors (experienced Troop Leaders) for NEW Leaders by program age level.

TIP: End your Service Unit meeting with an activity that leaders can take to share with their troops!

TIPS FOR GIRL AND ADULT RECRUITMENT

ADULTS: Short-term or episodic volunteers can be a valuable asset in working with individually registered girls because of their wide variety of skills and interests. But where do these volunteers come from, and what is required of them?

- Depending on the audience you are trying to reach, recruitment efforts for short-term volunteers should be different from that of a long-term volunteer. For a diverse pool of volunteers with a range of skills and interests, recruitment can be through corporations, professional publication and organizations, special interest groups and clubs, and academic institutions.
- Keep in mind that many people are looking for short-term volunteer opportunities. They need to know that the time they are donating will be used effectively.
- Short-term volunteers do not need the extensive training that full-time volunteers receive. Keep in mind that this pool of volunteers usually comes with a skill base.
- Short-term volunteers should be trained on Girl Scout Safety-Wise and on ways of working with Girl Scouts on

their specific activity topic.

- Like all volunteers, they should undergo the application and screening process. This is especially important if they are meeting directly with girls.

GIRLS

- **RETENTION** - Ensure girls of disbanded Girl Scout troops are contacted and offered the opportunity to join another GS troop. These girls should receive first preference for placement in another GS troop or can also register as Juliettes. The girl and her parent should be invited to attend Service Unit events until GS troop placement is possible.
- Involve returning girls in the recruitment of other young girls.
- Develop recruitment plans for schools with low Girl Scout participation.
- Search for charter, parochial/religious, and private schools which may not be a part of the original Girl Scout Service Unit plan to obtain additional girl membership.
- Plan events designed to recruit new girls, such as Teddy Bear Teas, Mother & Daughter Socials, Skating Parties, Interactive Movie Days, etc.

TIPS FOR BEING PREPARED

Helpful Hints to support new leaders-

- Icebreaker—welcome new and returning leaders and help build networks— Have an activity to help new leaders feel comfortable (example: a get acquainted activity) facilitated by the Girl Scout Service Unit Team.
- Have a rededication ceremony for returning Girl Scout Troop Leaders and an investiture ceremony for new Girl Scout Troop Leaders.
- Introduce the Service Unit Team and the Membership Specialist (if present) and distribute the Service Unit Team Directory.
- Promote the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.
- Show and tell new Girl Scout Resources for each program grade level and how to obtain resources. Be sure and mention the Journey Facilitator Set as a gift upon

completion of the Troop Leadership Basics.

- Girl Processes- Girl Led, Learning By Doing and Cooperative Learning.
- Highlight council resources that are on-line. (examples: on-line resources-Girl Scout training courses, a sample of the first 4 meetings based upon the Journey Books, forms etc.)
- Hear about updates from Service Unit Team members. Girl Scout Troop Registration, Family Partnership Coordinator, SU Cookie Coordinator, Adult Development Specialist, etc.
- “Remember the new leader wants to learn how to work with the girls”—Share GS meetings and exchange ideas that girls have suggested for this year’s Girl Scout Troop meetings (you could group by program grade level for small discussions).

UPDATE - FALL RE-REGISTRATION DUE NOW

Fall Re-registration - We need your assistance to ensure that all Girl Scouts and Adults are registered for the 2012 Membership Year. As you know, troops should not be meeting until they are registered. The \$12.00 annual membership fee includes supplemental insurance which goes directly to GSUSA, our national office in New York.

Encourage new and experienced leaders to submit registrations to their Service Unit Registrar or Membership Specialist as soon as possible. Girls and adults are not registered until it is submitted to your local Service Center.

WANT TO GET YOUR GIRLS INVOLVED IN THE 100TH?

Do a patch! Attend an event! Enter a contest! Engage in Project Earth 2012! Learn more at www.gsnetx.org/100.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

The Financial Assistance Committee is looking for adult volunteers. The adult committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the JoAnn Fogg Service Center at 6:30 PM. If you would like to join the committee and help evaluate financial assistance requests, please contact Gerri Gordon at 972 349-2436 or ggordon@gsnetx.org.

FUND DEVELOPMENT

- Thank you to everyone who got up and gave during the 2011 North Texas Giving Day on Thursday, September 15th. Money raised will go towards building girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Stay tuned for updates.
- We will let everyone know in future Family Partnership reports exactly how much your service unit brought in as a result of this wonderful opportunity.