

the V.I.N.E

Volunteer Information & News Electronically

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland 4806 Seton Dr. Baltimore, MD 21215 P: 410.358.9711 F: 410.358.9918

Nov. 2009



GIRL SCOUTS

AND THE



WINTER HOLIDAYS



The holiday season is a VERY busy time for Troop Leaders and parents who are busy with shopping, planning and entertaining, so, with that in mind we have some activity ideas for you and your Troops during this time.

There are a variety of cultural celebrations during the month of December — make them even more special by having your girls plan one for their winter Troop meeting.

Varying traditions within a Troop provide a great opportunity for girls to learn about each other as well as other cultures. For example, Girl Scout Daisies can share their favorite family holiday traditions and then talk about how their traditions are alike and different as they work toward the Violet Petal for being a sister to every Girl Scout.

Girl Scout Brownies can share their holiday traditions by sharing

their favorite holiday song. This activity applies to the Making Music Try-It. Have the girls learn songs in other languages, like “Oh Christmas Tree” and “O Tannenbaum” and teach them to each other. Girl Scout Juniors can explore holiday folk songs from around the world too and earn their Music Fan Badge while learning holiday songs from other cultures.

The holidays offer Girl Scout Cadettes and Seniors an opportunity to *discover* the symbolism in various religions by making jewelry that reflect different cultural beliefs as part of their Just Jewelry Interest Project Activities. These finished pieces would make wonderful holiday gifts.

The holidays are also an opportunity for Girl Scout Ambassadors to *take action* by getting involved with local community service projects. Girls can join a well established community service project in a local senior residence, hospital or place of worship or create a project involving diverse cultures and religions.

We hope these ideas will help make your holiday planning easier and that all our Troops take this opportunity to *discover, connect* and *take action*.

Happy Holidays!

We Need You

Day Camp Opportunity *(Training is available)*

We need high school age Program Aides and adults 18 and up to be counselors for two of our day camps:

Camp Woodlands Back to Basics

June 28 – July 2, 2010

8:30 am – 4 pm

GS Daisies – Juniors

Camp Oregon Ridge Back to Basics

July 19 – 23, 2010

8:30 am – 4 pm

GS Daisies – Juniors

Adults who volunteer at Camp Woodlands and Oregon Ridge are eligible to have their daughters attend day camp for free. Responsibilities include being on the committee to develop the camp program and attendance at camp for the entire week.

Interested? Contact: Chris Garrett at cgarrett@gscm.org or by telephone 410.358.9711, ext.260 or via cell at 410.949.6044.

Techbridge At Camp Opportunity

We need adult volunteers to assist the GSCM staff in delivering a three-day winter break camp program December 28, 29 and 30. The program is based on our NEW Techbridge program. Girls will learn the basics of building an environmentally friendly home.

Interested? Contact: Chris Garrett at 410-358-9711, ext 260 or Shawnda Cooke at scooke@gscm.org or 410.358.9711, ext. 219.

Committee Opportunity: Financial Assistance Committee

This committee meets monthly to review financial assistance applications and requests made by girls and adults. The time commitment is approximately 2-3 hours a month and is busiest April through July. All meetings are held at the GSCM Seton Office. Individuals on the committee must be able to maintain a high level of confidentiality.

Interested? Contact: Ann Green at agreen@gscm.org or 410-358-9711, ext 223.

All adults who work with girls in our Council must complete our Council's adult volunteer process. Parents do not have to be Girl Scout Leaders to help at our Council Directed Day Camps. If you are a Girl Scout leader in good standing with our Council you have already completed the application process but must complete the background check.

Contact Shawnda Cooke scooke@gscm.org for more information about becoming a volunteer.

Adult Learning

Please visit:

<http://www.gscm.org/volunteers/training/trainingschedule.html> for a list of all the trainings scheduled for fall. If you have to cancel out of a course, please notify us as soon as possible so that anyone on a waiting list can be offered the spot. To receive the quickest confirmation and save on postage, please check e-mail notices.

GS DAISY TRAINING

Jan. 9 1:30 - 4:30 pm
St. Phillips Episcopal Church

GS BROWNIE TRAINING

Jan. 9 1:30 - 4:30 pm
St. Phillips Episcopal Church

GS JUNIOR TRAINING

Jan. 9 1:30 - 4:30 pm
St. Phillips Episcopal Church

TEEN TRAINING

Jan. 12 6:30 - 10 pm
Peterson Center, Camp Ilchester

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Nov. 21 9 am – 12:30 pm
Our Lady of Grace

Jan. 9 9 am- 12:30 pm
St. Phillips Episcopal Church

FIRST AID / CPR

Dec. 3 6:30 pm - 10 pm
GSCM Seton Center

Jan. 9 8:30 am - Noon
GSCM Seton Center

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

Prints and Graphics Program for Junior Girl Scouts

Girls will learn the art of printmaking and *discover* techniques to create pictures, T-shirts, wrapping paper and more. *Connect* at January's Prints and Graphics Program Series for Girl Scout Juniors, Wednesdays January 6, January 13, January 20, and January 27, 2010 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the GSCM Seton Center. Each session costs \$20 and includes printmaking supplies. Sign-up for just one or all four! Girls will *take action* by creating art and gifts!

This Winter Break – Make It Green

Girls will design and build a house using environmentally friendly materials. They will

choose the room they would like to design and furnish to be part of the house. Each room is assembled to create a “green” home. There will also be outdoor activities that focus on ways to sustain and keep the camp “green.” Campers should bring a bag lunch (snack will be provided) and come dressed for indoor and outdoor activities.

Who: Girl Scout Brownies – Ambassadors
When: December 28 – 30
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily
Where: Camp Ilchester
Fee: \$45 per day

Register online www.gscm.org through E-Council, our online registration system that allows you to sign up for GSCM programs, camps, events and training. You may also download the registration form from the GS411 booklet and send it to GSCM, 4806 Seton Drive, Baltimore, MD 21215.

Techbridge

Announcing two big events for girls and leaders to explore the world of science, math and technology: Design Time and Toy Design/Engineering. Register today! Only 100 slots available.

Who: Girls in grades 5, 6, 7, 8 and their leaders
When: January 30, 2010
9:00 am-2:00 pm
Where: Clementine Peterson Activity Center
Fee: \$7 per girl

Please bring a bag lunch. Drinks and snack will be provided.

Power It Up or Circuitry and Soldering

Register today! Only 50 girls per session

Who: Girls in grades 5, 6, 7, 8 and their leaders

When: February 27
1st session 9:00 am-
Noon /2nd session
1:00 pm-4 pm

Where: Seton Business Center
Fee: \$7 per girl

DECEMBER GS411 PROGRAMS

Room Arts – Holiday

Who: Girl Scout Juniors
Fee: \$16
When: December 4, 2009, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Where: GSCM Seton Center
Registration: August 1 – November 25, 2009

Night Owl Patch Program Activity

Who: Girl Scout Brownies
Fee: \$12
When: December 4, 2009, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Where: Camp Ilchester
Registration: August 1 – November 25, 2009

Healthy Relationships (Twilight Night)

Who: Girl Scout Seniors – Ambassadors
Fee: \$15
When: December 5, 2009, 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Where: Clementine Peterson Activity Center
Registration: August 1 – November 25, 2009

Self Defense

Who: Girl Scout Cadettes - Ambassadors
Fee: \$15
When: December 6, 2009, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Where: Kick Xplosions, Pasadena
Registration: September 1 – November 25, 2009

From Stress to Success

Who: Girl Scout Cadettes – Ambassadors
Fee: \$15
When: December 6, 2009, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Where: Clementine Peterson Activity Center
Registration: September 1 – November 25, 2009

Caitlin Dunbar Nature Center Winter Camp

Who: Girl Scout Brownies – Juniors
Fee: \$45 per day
When: December 28 – 30, 2009, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily
Where: Camp Ilchester
Registration: September 1 – December 2, 2009

TECHBRIDGE KITS

HAVE ARRIVED!

Leaders who attended training in August and September may begin to check the Techbridge activity kits out through the VRC. (Additional training for leaders will be scheduled beginning January 2010.)

To check out a box or find out more information, please contact the VRC at 410-358-9711 ext. 201 or vrc@gscm.org.

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

In April 2008, GSUSA and FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) announced a partnership in order to expose more girls to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields. We are excited to announce that FIRST Lego League (FLL) is coming to Girl Scouts of Central Maryland. FLL is a robotics competition for students ages 9-14. Teams will:

- Design, build and program robots using LEGO MINDSTORMS® Technology
- Apply real world math and science concepts
- Research challenges facing today's scientists
- Learn critical thinking, team-building, and presentation skills

To learn more about the program: visit <http://usfirst.org> or <http://mdfirst.org>.

To find out how to form a team: contact Melissa Corkum, Director of Girl Scout Relations for FLL-Maryland at 410-935-0793 or melissacorkum@umbc.edu.

To see First Lego League in action you can attend a regional qualifier. This is the first year that regional qualifiers will be held for advancement to the state tournament. Qualifiers are a great way to see FLL firsthand and make a great field trip to get your Troop excited. The schedule is as follows:

December 12 South River High School
201 Central Ave East
Edgewater, MD 21037

December 19 Owings Mills High School
124 Tollgate Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117

December 19 Digital Harbor High School
1100 Covington St
Baltimore, MD 21230

December 19 Oklahoma Road Middle School
6300 Oklahoma Road
Sykesville, MD 21784

January 9 Parkville High School
2600 Putty Hill Ave
Parkville, MD 21234

January 9 Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab
11100 Johns Hopkins Road
Laurel, MD 20723

<http://www.mdfirst.org/FLL/Tournament/qualifier.htm>

CATCH THE DREAM!

**December 16-27 at the Hippodrome Theatre,
Student matinee on December 17 at 11 a.m.**

Direct from the world famous Apollo Theatre in New York City, a brand new, sensational stage production of DREAMGIRLS is coming to Baltimore! DREAMGIRLS tells the rags-to-riches story of a 1960s Motown girl group, and the triumphs and tribulations that come with fame and fortune. With music by Academy® Award nominee Henry Krieger and lyrics and book by Tony® and Grammy®-winning Tom Eyer, DREAMGIRLS features the unforgettable hits. Tickets from \$66 to \$16 for Girl Scouts, friends and family. Call 443-703-2401 for ticket information.



Join other Girl Scouts for several special upcoming events at the 1st Mariner Arena

Christmas Spectacular

December 17, 4 p.m. or 7 p.m.

Harlem Globetrotters

December 26, 2 p.m. or 7 p.m.

The Great Russian Nutcracker

December 19, 7:30 p.m. or Dec. 20, 5 p.m.

For tickets contact Sam at: 410-347-2006
sam@simplytixs.com

Girl Scout Awards Update Bronze, Silver, & Gold

Guidelines for the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards have been revised to align with the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. The new guidelines take effect nationwide October 1, 2011, although a council could decide to transition to the new guidelines sooner. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland has reviewed the guidelines and will make a decision about when we will officially start using the new guidelines after January 1. Meanwhile, all Troops working on the Girl Scout Bronze and Silver Awards will continue to follow the current guidelines as written. The Girl Scout Gold Award Workshops scheduled through January 1, 2010 will continue to utilize the current guidelines and the resources that go with it.

Girls currently working on a Girl Scout Bronze, Silver or Gold Award will complete their projects using the current guidelines.

Online Registration

Please note: Online registration for Program and Adult Learning will be unavailable January to mid-February.

Here's how to register:

Mail, fax or e-mail completed forms to:

Connie Adams, Registrar

4806 Seton Drive Baltimore, MD 21215

Fax: 410.358.9918

You may also e-mail your registration to Connie at registrar@gscm.org if you are paying by credit card and wish to include that information on the form. Registration forms may be found on our website: http://www.gscm.org/volunteerresources/forms/attachments/2009/08-1466_Training_Registration_Form_11-08.pdf.

SAVE THE DATE Spring Learning Conference

April 17, 2010 at the College of Notre Dame

This conference provides learning opportunities for Service Team Members, current and interested members of the Adult Learning Team and any volunteers interested in becoming more involved in their Service Unit. Registration information will soon be available. Mark your calendars now!

SU51 International Trip Group Sponsored Trainings

Girl Scout Silver Award Marathon

Fee: \$50 for girls, \$20 for adults

Who: Girls 11-14

When: Tuesday December 29, 2009, 12:00 pm –
Wednesday, December 30, 2009, 5:00 pm

Where: College of Notre Dame of Maryland

Registration Deadline: December 1, 2009 or when full

Girls will begin work on the prerequisites for the Silver Award (current requirements), including some of the Silver Career Award, the Silver 4 B's Challenge Award, and the Silver Leadership Award. Several Council's Own IPs included!

Girl Scout Gold Award Marathon

Fee: \$50 for girls, \$20 for adults

Who: Girls 14 – 17

When: Tuesday December 29, 2009, Noon –
Wednesday, December 30, 2009, 5 pm

Where: College of Notre Dame of Maryland

Registration Deadline: December 1, 2009 or when full

Girls will begin work on the prerequisites for the Girl Scout Gold Award (current requirements), including some of the Gold Career Award, the Gold 4 B's Challenge Award, and the Gold Leadership Award. Several Council's Own IPs included!

Mail registration form and fee (checks made payable to Girl Scouts) for the Gold and Silver Award Marathon to: Lorien Boia, 369 Beaghan Drive, Glen Burnie, MD 21060. For more information email: theothersgold@yahoo.com or call 443-474-0367. This event is sponsored by the SU51 International Trip Group.

Camping with Your Troop

Winter may be just around the corner, but it is not too early to think about Troop camping. When Troops camp, they are required to have an adult who is camp certified. There are two ways to become camp certified.

1. Let's Go Camping

This is an adult training consisting of a four hour Planning Meeting followed by an overnight camping trip about a week later. The overnight begins at 9 a.m. the first day and will end at 11 a.m. the following day. Both course sessions must be attended – no exceptions. You will be expected to contribute to the food and supply budget for your patrol.

2. Camping for Dummies

This is a girl program with an adult learning component. You and your girls will register for this program through GS411 or www.gscm.org. While at camp, the Outdoor Program Staff will teach girls introductory camping skills while the adults work with the Adult Learning Team to earn their Let's Go Camping certification. Volunteers are required to attend two 2.5 hour planning sessions prior to the overnight to complete this certification – no exceptions.

Troop Use of ATM/Debit Cards

At some recent trainings, questions about the use of ATM/Debit cards by Troops have been asked. Currently our Council does not have a policy that would prohibit Troops from being issued an ATM/Debit card. However, with this said, it is important that Troops comply with all financial policies and are fiscally responsible and accountable for all Troop monies and purchases.

- If a Troop decides to accept an ATM/Debit card upon opening their bank account they must comply with all policies and/or procedures as noted in our Council Policies. Please refer to pages 1 – 4 of the document for the Council Troop/Group Financial Policies and Procedures as well as Council Service Unit/Cluster Financial Policies and procedures.

- When using an ATM/Debit card all policies and procedures must still be adhered to which means that should someone use the ATM they would be expected to provide proof of purchase (receipts to accompany the withdrawal.) We highly discourage using the card for withdrawals – taking funds from an ATM can lead to tracking and reporting issues. It is our position that it would be in the best interest of the volunteer NOT to do so. Having this type of card for use as a debit card would be the only appropriate means that we could foresee volunteers needing given the direction of online ordering and banking. Again, receipts are required for all purchases and/or services.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your Membership Specialist.

Juliette's Closet

Holiday Open House IN-STORE ONLY December 12, 2009: 10% off all gift and clothing items (Excludes badges and patches)

GSCM is pleased to announce that we are bringing back our own exclusive line of merchandise, some just in time for the holidays. A lovely denim button down shirt stitched with the contemporary logo in gold on the upper left side, the perfect glass coffee mug, a zip hoodie and a reusable GSCM shopping bag, perfect for carrying your store merchandise and all your Troop supplies!

To add to your holiday wish list we have in stock many holiday ornaments, patches, gifts and clothing.

- Girl Scout Pearl Necklace
- Great starter charm bracelet
- Girl Scout tin or glass ornament – Elf, Daisy, Brownie and Junior styles to select from!
- Bronze, gold and silver award gifts: necklaces, charms, magnets and music boxes.
- Our future Girl Scout line – bibs, onesies and a 2-piece dress set – perfect for babies 0-12 months.
- Keep warm this winter with hoodies and sweatshirts. They are available for every level of Girl scouting, including adults! Remember to include lovely items that your family members will be thrilled to see this holiday season!

Store hours

Seton: closed Sunday & Monday and 3rd Friday. Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Ilchester: closed Sunday & Monday and 3rd Friday. Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and Noon – 2:30 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. (not closed for lunch on Sat)



share update

'Tis the season to celebrate: GSCM's family SHARE participation is at an all time high! Through October, more than 7,400 Girl Scout families supported SHARE having donated \$78,717.17. This year's family SHARE goal is \$155,000 and we have already reached 51%.

SHARE Her Journey by Supporting these Upcoming SHARE Events

Phone-a-Thon / Thank-a-Thon

Seton Urban Program Center, November 18, 2009, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Help rally SHARE support by calling Girl Scout families to encourage them to support the 2010 SHARE campaign. Enjoy food, fun and camaraderie with other SHARE supporters. Don't worry -- volunteers are also needed for non-caller duties as well. Girls can earn their service learning hours by making "thank-you calls" to donors for their past SHARE support.

Holiday Giving

Two years ago, Girl Scout leaders in SU 38 incorporated SHARE into their holiday festivities by mailing holiday cards to GSCM with SHARE donations in lieu of exchanging presents. This is an easy and timely way to show your support for Girl Scouting and SHARE. All cards will be displayed in the lobby to "share" the Girl Scout spirit with visitors, staff and friends of Girl Scouting.

Year-End Charitable Support

As the year winds down, many people are making their year-end donations to charitable causes. This is the perfect time for families and friends to make a gift to SHARE. The idiom "true charity begins at home" means that family members are important and should be the primary focus of a person's efforts. We are all part of the Girl Scout family and play an important role in the development of programs that promote physical activity, health and fitness, civic responsibility and community involvement. Your support, on so many levels, allows us to do just that and because of your generosity, we have the unique opportunity of playing a crucial role in the lives of girls in our community. So don't forget our girls when making your charitable gifts this holiday season. Each gift, regardless of the amount, benefits the nearly 30,000 girls and more than 10,000 volunteers GSCM serves. Again, thank you for being a leader, role model and ambassador of GSCM's SHARE campaign.

For additional questions about SHARE contact:

**Niakia Cheese, Annual Fund Manager, 410-358-9711 x 225
or ncheese@gscm.org.**

Safety-Wise Tips and Reminders

Often volunteers ask if they have to take the First Aid Training offered by GSCM to be certified. The answer is no. The Safety-Wise update found in the form section of our website, lists the certifications accepted by GSUSA. The CPR training must be adequate for the participants in the activity covered by the first-aider: for example, child CPR for children younger than eight and adult CPR for older girls and adults. Volunteers who are certified through trainings other than those offered by GSCM, must complete and return the First Aider Registration Form (08-1602) available online or through the VRC.

GET AN E.D.G.E.

On October 10, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland held Get an E.D.G.E. (Energize, Discover, Galvanize and Enrich) enrichment day for our adult volunteers. Workshops included Geocaching, Songs, Knots, Lashing, Science Activities, WAGGGS, Leader Thank You, Girl Scout History, and Ceremonies. Plans are underway for the 2nd Annual Get an E.D.G.E. event to be held at Camp Ilchester on October 9, 2010. Mark your calendars now! If you would like to be on the planning committee for this event, please contact Valerie Brooks at 410-358-9711, ext. 220 or vbrooks@gscm.org.

Pen Pals

Get your Troop signed up as Girl Scout pen pals. Complete the National and Local Pen Pal form 04-401 (found on our website at <http://www.gscm.org/volunteerresources/forms.html>). This program requires at least a one-year commitment. Girls should be prepared to give time every month towards this program. For more information contact the Volunteer Resource Coordinator at 410-358-9711 ext 201 or by e-mail, vr@gscm.org.