

# Service Unit News

*This newsletter gets you the "inside scoop" on updates & details to help you as the Community Coordinator (CC) and your Service Unit (SU) be effective.*

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## Bring a Friend" Campaign"

Because we know the Girl Scouts program is great, we want to share it with all girls! Our Bring a Friend Campaign has helped many girls to do that. Already this fall, 43 girls have shared Girl Scouts with a friend and both received the "Leap2Lead Together" patch.

### Criteria:

- Girls must be a currently registered Girl Scout.
- New members must not have been registered for the past two membership years.

### What you will receive:

- A "Leap2LeadTogether" patch for you and your friend. (One patch per person)
- A chance to win \$100.00 toward a camp session of your choice for the 2009-10 Camp season or a \$25.00 Girl Scout Gift Certificate to attend Council Camp, Council Programs, or purchases from the Council Shop. Your name will be entered into the drawing one time for each friend who joins.

Send in the membership form by:  
September 1-December 31, 2009  
January 1-April 30, 2010

For a chance to win:  
\$100.00 camp session drawing held January 2010.  
\$25.00 gift certificate drawing held May 2010.

The Bring a Friend form can be found on our website at:

<http://www.gslakesandpines.org/pages/FormsandDocuments/>

**Are you a new troop?** Now is a perfect time for you to build your troop through the Bring a Friend program. Encourage your girls to share Girl Scouting with their friends and to earn their first patch for doing so!

**Are you a small existing troop?** Open your doors and grow through the Bring a Friend program.

**Is your troop large?** Help build a sister troop that you can share ideas, activities, and fun with through the Bring a Friend program.

**Going Green and Web Resources:** A number of paper resources have been included on the council website [www.gslakesandpines.org](http://www.gslakesandpines.org) that allows you to print only what you need when you need it. This has just gotten easier with "Forms and Documents" now appearing on the very front page of the website for quick and easy navigating.

Including these resources on the website reduces the amount of paper consumed and helps to use resources wisely. Many of you have been asking for this for a long time. For others it will take some time getting use to.

**Purchasing a print cartridge and paper for your troop or Service Unit** is a legitimate troop or Service Unit expense and should be included in your yearly budgets as needed. As we continue to encourage the "Self Sustaining Troop" culture, including these expenses as part of running a troop helps girls understand and gain good financial management skills.



### Shop Hours\*

#### September - November,

#### March – May

Monday, Wednesday,

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Thursday,

8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Closed Friday**

#### June - August,

#### December - February

Monday-Thursday,

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Closed Friday**

*\*These are also the office hours for Waite Park and Duluth. Please contact other offices to ensure staff are available to serve you. All Lakes and Pines offices are closed to the public on Fridays as a cost-saving measure..*



## Council Shop News



### Snowball Sale!

You're going to love our fuzzy snowballs! Lakes & Pines Girl Scout Shops are holding a Snowball Sale, December 1-23. Receive 10-40% off your shop purchases depending on the color of snowball you pick from our special holiday bucket. Discounts do not apply to previous purchases, Girl Scout insignia, emblems, and fun patches, and items already reduced. New holiday merchandise is included! Watch for details in the December "Connections."

### Hours Change

Please note for the winter months of December, January, and February, hours for Lakes & Pines shops and offices are 8:00 – 5:00 pm, Monday – Thursday. Extended hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays will return in the spring.

### Journey Maps Go Live Online

A new tool has just been created by GSUSA that integrates traditional Girl Scout program awards and experiences with leadership Journey resources. Six illustrated maps, one for each grade level, have been created to show how all Girl Scout activities — earning badges, camping, selling cookies and more — can tie into the new Journeys. Located on the GSUSA website, maps include animation and interactive content. When you move your mouse over the maps, pop-up copy displays to show the related content.

Go to [www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/maps/](http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/maps/) and start exploring!

### Protecting the Girl Scout Brand

Protecting the Girl Scout brand and symbols is important to all Girl Scouts. From time to time, we hear about troops who want to design their own t-shirts or other apparel to display insignia and earned Girl Scout awards. Why is that a problem? Over the years, Girl Scouts has worked diligently to control the use of its name and logo. GSUSA owns trademarks for words, insignia, emblems, and shapes, and therefore, is obligated to safeguard and monitor the use of its trademarks. Girl Scouts has an aggressive trademarks and licensing department that continuously deals with cases of misuse. Without this oversight, anyone could use the Girl Scout name and symbols inappropriately and/or for personal gain. You might be surprised at the strict guidelines which must be followed by councils, vendors, cookie companies, printers, and others providing goods and services to Girl Scouts. Without such standards, we run the risk that our cherished symbols and name may become generic and nonproprietary. Unauthorized use could ultimately diminish their inherent value and dilute the Girl Scout brand. Preserving our Girl Scout marks benefits everyone in Girl Scouting and ensures their strength and distinctiveness into the future. [Adapted from *Leader* magazine, Winter 2002, p. 7]



So how does all this affect you, the troop leader? **All official Girl Scout insignia, including Daisy petals and centers, Brownie try-its, Junior badges, and Cadette/Senior/Ambassador interest project patches, are to be worn only on the respective Girl Scout tunic, sash, or vest.** It's not okay to attach or display Girl Scout awards on other clothing items, wall hangings, pillows, or decorations. Just remember that official Girl Scout insignia is to be worn on official Girl Scout uniforms. Girl Scout sashes and vests are often keepsakes that girls and women treasure long after their Girl Scout days have passed. (Fun patches are not official, so they can be worn or displayed on other items.) If you have questions about the appropriate use of Girl Scout awards and insignia, please contact Julie Igo, Shop Manager, at 218-726-4714, 877-476-6748 (toll free), or [jigo@gslakesandpines.org](mailto:jigo@gslakesandpines.org)

## The Girl Scout Cookie Program

(Service Units: Be sure to send this Cookie information to Troop Leaders now so the girls can begin setting their individual and troop goals and put their plan in place to reach their goals.)



We are the premier leadership organization for girls and the Girl Scout Cookie Program is the 'largest girl-led business' in the country.' Cookie activities give girls an opportunity to Discover themselves and their values, Connect with others, and Take Action to improve their communities and their world.

The theme for the 2010 Girl Scout Cookie Program is: **LEAP 2 LEAD! Be the Change.** With a tree frog as a mascot, the theme focuses on leading change to make the world a better place.

- ❖ To begin this leadership experience, ABC, our cookie baker, has a great resource available on their website or through the link on our council website. Specifically designed for leaders, there are guides on the website available by level (i.e. Daisy, Brownie, etc) that not only goes step by step through the process of the cookie sale, but can be used throughout the entire Girl Scout year for all planned activities or programs. These guides have activities for the girls that link directly to the 15 Transforming Leadership Outcomes.

All registered Girl Scouts have the opportunity to sell Girl Scout Cookies, including Juliette's by contacting their Community Cookie Manager or the Waite Park Regional Center. Participation in the Cookie Sale Program offers each girl a first hand experience in running their own business – the Cookie Program is a \$700 million business run by girls.

### Lakes and Pines 2010 Girl Scout Cookie Sale Goal: 1,027,500 packages!

To assist you in the Cookie Sale your Council contacts can be reached at the  
**Waite Park Regional Center** at (800) 955-6032 or (320) 252-2952

Carol Weis, Product Sales Coordinator [cweis@gslakesandpines.org](mailto:cweis@gslakesandpines.org) ext. 238

Vickie Strobel, Director of Product and Retail Sales [vstrobel@gslakesandpines.org](mailto:vstrobel@gslakesandpines.org) ext. 237

Nicole Lane, Product and Retail Sales Assistant [nlane@gslakesandpines.org](mailto:nlane@gslakesandpines.org) ext. 200

#### Additional Cookie Resources

**Council Website:** [www.gslakesandpines.org](http://www.gslakesandpines.org)

**Vendor Websites:** [www.abcsnap.com](http://www.abcsnap.com) and [www.abcsmartcookies.com](http://www.abcsmartcookies.com)

**Girl Scouts Websites:** [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org) and [www.girlscoutcookies.org](http://www.girlscoutcookies.org)

#### **Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> is Cookie Go Day**

Volunteers have told us that many of the girls receive their cookie order forms through the school on Friday, because of this, it was decided to allow the cookie sale to begin on Friday. For those who are concerned about their traditional Cookie Pep Fests held the night before the sale – don't worry you can still do this the weekend before to get girls excited and then distribute forms at school or if this does not work in your school, ask to set up a table at the local grocery store for girls to pick up their forms. Another great idea shared by volunteers is to hold a "Silly Supper" on the Thursday evening before the sale and distribute the forms then or hold your Cookie Pep Fest on that night. If you have great ideas to share, please let us know so we can share with all through e-weekly or on our council website.

### **Girl Scouts Can Now Use Online Marketing for Product Sale Activities!**

\*Girls can now use online resources to market their product in a safe and reasonable manner.

**Online Marketing** is the use of the Internet to inform people that you are selling a product and they let you know if they are interested in purchasing from you (NO money may be exchanged online).

Girls who decide to market online should follow these rules:

#### **All Girls Must Do:**

- Obtain parent/guardian permission to participate in the product sale activity and usage of online resources. In addition, parent/guardian oversight must be available for any product activity using online resources.
- Read and sign the Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge with a parent/guardian. Go to the Product Sales page on the council website under Cookies for Girl Scouts. There you will find a link to the Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge, which needs to be read and signed by the Girl Scout and Parent/Guardian prior to engaging in online marketing activities.

#### **Girl Scout/Parent/Guardian "CANNOT DO"**

- Exchange of money CANNOT be transacted for online product sales.
- Commitments for product sales from outside your council's zip codes, unless from family members, CANNOT be accepted (please refer these customers to [www.girlscoutcookies.org](http://www.girlscoutcookies.org)).

## The Girl Scout Cookie Program (continued)

### All Girls Can Do:

- Use vendor email tools, approved by GSUSA, to inform friends **within council zip codes** and family (which can go beyond council's zip codes) that they are selling Girl Scout cookies. This is a safe way for girls to communicate with customers while keeping her information private.
- Use group email address, overseen by an adult, a parent/guardians email in partnership for sending emails to friends and family, and/or a static group Web page for marketing. You **MUST** tell people what your council's zip codes are, which can be found on our council website.
- All girls can manage an online database of customers on the vendor's site. You can also create your own database, as long as the privacy of customers is respected.

### Girl Can Tell Customers:

- Who you are (Girl Scout, relative, friend, daughter of)
- What you are selling
- Why you are selling (share troop goal's)
- How much the cookies costs
- Explain option of Cookie Share

### Purchasing Cookies

- Ask for an order commitment
- Tell them when your order is due
- When cookies will be available for delivery
- Tell them where your booth sales are scheduled
- Ask when you may deliver (with adult supervision)
- Ask for a callback number and delivery address

### All that and more for Junior and Cadette Girl Scouts

- [www.girlscoutcookies.org](http://www.girlscoutcookies.org): You may sign up to receive orders from your council based on customer zip codes, overseen by an adult volunteer. Be sure to follow up on all leads following product sale safety rules.
- Sign off on the Girl Scouts Online Safety Pledge and complete the sections on *Online Devices and Netiquette* on the girl LMK (Let Me Know) pages (<http://lmk.girlscouts.org/Online-Safety-Topics.aspx>)

### All that and more for Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts (Age 13 and older)

- Sign off on the Girl Scouts Internet Safety Pledge, as well as complete the section on *Social Networking* on the girls LMK (Let Me Know) pages (<http://lmk.girlscouts.org/Online-Safety-Topics.aspx>) approval of what is to be posted.
- Girls 13 and older can use social networking sites, such as Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter to market product, as long as they have a parent/guardian's permission, are under adult supervision, and follow Safety-Wise guidelines. Girls 13 and older can use YouTube for marketing, but must have parental permission and meet any council guidelines provided.

If you need specific information on guidelines for Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, YouTube, or COPPA - Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, please contact the Product Sales Staff

### **Be sure to check out these great options for your sale too...**

**CEO-In-Training Program** is an entrepreneurial opportunity for girls ages 13-17 to approach businesses in their area and provide the chance to purchase **CASES**, not just packages, of Girl Scout Cookies to use as thank you gifts for their customers, employee perks, or sales incentives. This program will help teen girls go beyond traditional booth sales and door to door cookie selling methods. With CEO-in-Training, girls can tremendously increase their cookie sales and reach new markets by making presentations to businesses in their neighborhood.

**The "Cookie Share Program"** is an opportunity for customers in our Council who want to support Girl Scouting, but don't want to keep Girl Scout Cookies. This program makes it possible for customers to support Girl Scouting, as well as another local organization in their community.

**Booth sales** are a terrific way during the months of March and April for troops/groups to continue earning troop profit and working towards their troop bonus until May 1. Troops/groups experience selling Girl Scout Cookies and reaching additional customers by setting up a table or display at local businesses and community gathering points. For Daisies, it is recommended they match up with a troop in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and above and only sell in half-hour increments. Booth sales are **ALWAYS** a girl activity.

## The Girl Scout Cookie Program (continued)

Adults are present only to supervise them and meet *Safety-Wise* requirements. The general recommendation is to schedule at least two girls and two adults at each booth sale, and never more than four girls and two adults should be scheduled at one time.

**Trip Planning:** Currently registered girls 11-17 may use 2009, 2010 and 2011 Cookie Dough for Council-sponsored trips, Destinations, Troop trips to Girl Scouts of USA National Centers, or WAGGGS International Centers. Before saving the Cookie Dough, fill out and turn in the Saving Cookie Dough Form found on the council website.

### Upcoming council-sponsored trips include:

- Hawaii (Summer 2011)
- National Convention in Houston, TX (November 2011)
- 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Washington, DC (June 2012) [using 2010, 2011, 2012 cookie dough]
- Savannah, GA (Summer 2012)

### Girl Scout Cookie Training

As a Troop Leader, Troop Cookie Manager, Community Cookie Manager, or Cupboard Manager, you should plan on attending the 2010 Girl Scout Cookie Training. If you haven't already registered, the dates and times are listed below:

#### **Saturday, November 14, Hayward**

(Included with Volunteer Enrichment Day)

- Grace Lutheran Church 1:00-2:00 p.m.

#### **Tuesday, December 1, Bemidji**

- United Methodist Church 6:00-8:30 p.m.  
CCM 6-7:00 p.m. TCM 7:30-8:30 p.m.

#### **Thursday, December 3, Willmar**

- Location: TBA 6:00-8:30 p.m.  
CCM 6-7:00 p.m. TCM 7:30-8:30 p.m.

#### **Saturday, December 5, Superior**

- Concordia Lutheran Church 9:30 a.m.-noon  
CCM 9:30-10:30 a.m. TCM 11-12 p.m.

#### **Monday, December 7, St. Cloud**

- Holy Cross Lutheran Church 9:00-11:30 a.m.  
CCM 9-10:00 a.m. TCM 10:30-11:30 a.m.

#### **Monday, December 7, St. Cloud**

- Holy Cross Lutheran Church 6:00-8:30 p.m.  
CCM 6-7:00 p.m. TCM 7:30-8:30 p.m.

**REGISTER FOR TRAINING** through Staci Hawley at the Waite Park Regional Center using one of the registrations methods below. **Include your Name, SU #, Troop #, phone #, your position for the Girl Scout Cookie Sale and the location of the training you wish to attend.**

- **Mail:** 400 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave S, Waite Park, MN 56387
- **Phone:** (320)252-2952 or (800)955-6032, ext. 230
- **Fax:** (320)253-9403
- **Email:** [shawley@gslakesandpines.org](mailto:shawley@gslakesandpines.org)
- **Online:** [www.gslakesandpines.org](http://www.gslakesandpines.org) Go to Product Sales/Cookies for Girl Scouts

### Important Cookie Dates to Remember!

#### December- January 14:

1. The Troop Leader as well as the Troop Cookie Manager should first attend Council/Service Unit Training. **This is where all of your questions will be answered! Talk to your SU Community Cookie Manager if these dates will not work for you.**
2. Hold a parent meeting, to explain the benefits of participating to the girl, the troop, and the council.
3. Make sure every girl is registered as a Girl Scout for this year beginning October 1.
4. Engage all girls in the goal setting process. Have them each set a goal and explain what steps they will take to reach this goal. Set troop and individual goals (use online "Catch Goals" activity from the ABC website [www.abcsmartcookies.com](http://www.abcsmartcookies.com) or create your own goal setting activity).
5. Explain the recognition items and levels to the girls. Show them what they would earn if they reached the goal they set. Encourage them to set goals to the recognition level they want to achieve (Remember the Super Seller Clubs: 300+ and 500+).
6. Discuss the new online marketing techniques available to all girls, especially those 13 & above.
7. Discuss participating in a cookie booth sale with the girls as a way to meet troop goals.

#### **January 15: Cookie Go Day - Start selling those cookies!!**

Families are "ON THEIR HONOR" to not sell early.

**January 15 – January 31: The Initial Cookie Sale** orders are taken, but no money collected at this time unless it is for the Cookie Share Program described on the previous page.

## The Girl Scout Cookie Program (continued)

### **February 1:**

Girl order cards for the initial cookie sale are due to Troop Cookie Manager.

### **February 1 - March 14: Extended Cookie Sale**

The extended cookie sale time allows girls to continue selling after the initial sale ends until March 14, 2010. This gives girls the opportunity to continue to work toward their goals and the troop bonus, as well as earn individual recognitions and cookie dough.

### **March 1- 5:**

Cookies are delivered throughout the Council.

### **March 5-14:**

Girls deliver cookies to and collect money from customers. Collect money from girls every couple of days and check with girls for additional orders. Girl Scout Week is March 7-13<sup>th</sup> a perfect opportunity for your troop to plan a booth sale at your place of worship (on Girl Scout Sunday).

### **March 14:**

Collect additional orders from girls to get final packages sold by each girl. This is the last day to count packages toward individual girl recognitions.

### **March 15 – May 1:**

Girls can continue to sell cookies to receive their troop profit and "troop" cookie dough for each package sold and to continue working on achieving the 150 package average to earn the Troop Bonus until May 1, 2010.

### **March 17:**

Girl Recognition orders due

### **March 30:**

All money is due. \*\*Be sure to give an earlier deadline for your families/ parents/guardians to ensure your troop can meet the March 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

### **April:**

Individual Girl Recognitions are distributed to troops.

## Girl Scouts Challenge & Change their communities . . .

Thanks to a one year grant from Girl Scouts of the USA and the US Department of Agriculture, Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin Lakes and Pines is offering a new program called Challenge and Change. This national program offers girls (grades 6th-12<sup>th</sup>), living in Wisconsin, the opportunity to discover their leadership potential, connect with other girls, explore their community and learn how to turn their ideas into action through girl led, community action projects. Both new and current Girl Scouts living in and around Ashland, Bayfield, Red Cliff, Spooner and Shell Lake, Wisconsin are welcome. Groups are still forming and currently meeting at Bayfield School, Ashland Middle School and various locations in Spooner/Shell Lake. Help spread the word about this opportunity. Girls can join any time and scholarships are available. Community groups interested in offering this program to girls in their area are welcome. Contact Elizabeth Ellis, Challenge and Change Project Coordinator at 218-969-4030 or [eellis@gslakesandpines.org](mailto:eellis@gslakesandpines.org) for details and meeting schedules in each community.





## The Basics on the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Award

Below is an overview of the pre-summer 2009 requirements for the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Award. During the two year transition period, girls who have already started their projects using these requirements have until September 30, 2011 to complete their projects. Girls who wish to start an awards project now using the old requirements may do so as long as the project is completed by September 30, 2011. At any time, girls may begin to use the new GSUSA guidelines found at: [http://www.girlscouts.org/program/gscentral/insignia/highest\\_awards/index.html](http://www.girlscouts.org/program/gscentral/insignia/highest_awards/index.html).

At each level, these nationally recognized awards give girls a chance to demonstrate their leadership skills and their commitment to make a real difference in their community. All Girl Scout adult volunteers can support these awards by becoming familiar with the basic requirements and expectations, and by encouraging Girl Scout troop leaders and advisors as they work with girls on these awards.

All of the necessary forms for the pre-summer 2009 Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards are found on Girl Scouts Minnesota and Wisconsin Lakes and Pines website, [www.gslakesandpines.org](http://www.gslakesandpines.org). Additional information may be found at [www.girlscouts.org/program/gscentral](http://www.girlscouts.org/program/gscentral).

### **Girl Scout Bronze Award**

The highest award a girl can earn as a Junior Girl Scout, the Bronze Award culminates in a 15 hour community service project that shows the leadership skills girls have learned as Junior Girl Scouts. It is described in the Junior Handbook on pages 202 and 203. Each girl is to fill out the Bronze Award Report Form which is then signed by the troop leader and submitted to the Bemidji Service Center. Girls will receive a congratulatory letter and certificate and be recognized in council publications. The troop or family purchases the Bronze Award pin, available at council shops. Other Bronze Award items such as a patch and necklace are also available.

**Please note:** Girls already working on their Bronze Awards or who plan to start a Bronze Award project following the old requirements have until the September 30 following their 6th grade year to finish their project. If girls use the new requirements, they must complete their Bronze Award projects by September 30 following their 5th grade year.

### **Girl Scout Silver Award**

The Silver Award is recognized as the second highest award in Girl Scouting for girls ages 11-14. Along with activities involving career exploration, leadership, goal setting and community research, girls complete a 40 hour leadership and community action project. Girls work with their troop leader or advisor as well as a project advisor during the course of her project. The Project Advisor/Consultant is an adult with expertise in the approved project subject/area willing to mentor the Silver Award applicant.

Girls must have her Silver Award Final Report Form signed by her troop leader or advisor as well as by the Community Coordinator for her Service Unit. The girl then submits her Silver Award Report Form and Community Coordinator Checklist and Approval Form to GSMWLP. She will receive a certificate of congratulations and be recognized in council publications. The troop or family purchases the Silver Award pin, available at council shops.

**Please note:** Girls already working on their Silver Awards or who plan to start a Silver Award project following the old requirements have until the September 30 following their 9th grade year to finish their project. If girls use the new requirements, they must complete their Silver Award projects by September 30 following their 8th grade year.

### **Girl Scout Gold Award**

The highest award girls can earn in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award is earned by between 3,000-3,500 high school age girls each year, about 5% of eligible girls. Girls who earn the Girl Scout Gold Award are eligible for a variety of scholarships at more than 100 colleges and universities. Branches of the United States military offer Gold Award Recipients the opportunity to enter the military at a higher pay scale and rank.

When compared to other special projects girls may have done in the past, the Gold Award project should take more time, effort, and imagination than it would have taken to achieve any other recognition. Girls who earn their Girl Scout Gold Award are recognized by GSMWLP through letters and certificates of congratulations, and receive the Girl Scout Gold Award pin, a miniature adult pin, and reimbursement toward their Gold Award ceremony. They also receive a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States, their state governor and other national figures.

Girls who plan to earn their Girl Scout Gold Award are required to attend a Gold Award orientation before submitting their project plan for council approval. The orientation is to help girls understand the roles of adults involved in the Gold Award process, money earning issues, safety considerations, and final project criteria. Workshop sessions may be scheduled by contacting the

## The Basics on the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Award (continued)

Bemidji Service Center. Members of the Girl Scout Gold Award Mentor Committee are also available to attend area meetings to provide an overview on the Girl Scout Gold Award.

For more information about the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards, or if you have questions about which guidelines to use, feel free to contact Leadership Program Manager Tricia Andrews at the Bemidji office, 800-955-6031 or [tandrews@gslakesandpines.org](mailto:tandrews@gslakesandpines.org).

## World Thinking Day 2010

Each year on February 22, girls participate in activities, games and projects with global themes to honor their sister Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in other countries. The theme for World Thinking Day 2010 is girls worldwide say "*together we can end extreme poverty and hunger.*" World Thinking Day is part of the [WAGGGS Global Action Theme \(GAT\)](#) based on the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which aim to improve the lives of the world's poorest people.



Thinking Day not only gives girls a chance to celebrate international friendships, but it is also a reminder that Girl Scouts of the USA is part of a global community—one of nearly 150 countries with Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

The [2010 World Thinking Day Resource](#) (click for link) provides activities and resources to learn about Thinking Day ... and even ideas for to plan your own event! A special note from the communications department: If you're having a Thinking Day event, why not invite the community to participate or share the story with the community after the event? If you need ideas for getting the newspaper or radio station involved, contact Tauna Quimby at the Waite Park Regional Center | 800 955-6032 x221 | [tquimby@gslakesandpines.org](mailto:tquimby@gslakesandpines.org).



**2010 World Thinking Day Photo-Art Sew On Patch.** This patch is an UNOFFICIAL recognition and therefore may only be worn on the back of the sash or vest, or on a patch jacket. Made in USA.

Watch for further details in *E-weekly* or *SUN* on how to order from our council shop.

## HELP! Guide for Girl Scout Leaders.

If you are a new troop leader you will want to check out this NEW publication from the membership department. It is a great resource. It will provide you with a better understanding of Girl Scouting, Troop Start-up, and Troop Financials. Contact your membership staff person for a copy, or visit our website at go <http://www.gslakesandpines.org/pages/FormsandDocuments/> then the membership category and look for *HELP! Guide for Girl Scout Leaders*, form #3010.

## Service Unit Monthly Checklist

(taken from form #3604)



### GSMWLP OFFICES

Waite Park Regional Office  
320.252.2952 or 800.955.6032

Duluth Regional Office  
218.726.4710 or 877.476.8748

Alexandria Girl Scout Office  
320.759.1196 or 800.339.4687

Bemidji Girl Scout Office  
218.751.4886 or 800.955.6031

Brainerd Girl Scout Office  
218.828.3515 or 800.955.6029

Greater WI Girl Scout Office  
218.969.4030

Hibbing Girl Scout Office  
800.862.0875

Mora Girl Scout Office  
320.241.7571

Willmar Girl Scout Office  
320.235.2125 or 866.323.1750

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.gslakesandpines.org](http://www.gslakesandpines.org)

### DECEMBER

#### Service team:

- \_\_\_ All new volunteers have their volunteer applications completed and turned into the Duluth Regional Center and completed the online criminal background check.
- \_\_\_ Plans for holiday activities and/or a seasonal service project are made.
- \_\_\_ Your community cookie manager has a date set to train all Troop Cookie Managers who didn't attend the council trainings.
- \_\_\_ Delegates' names have been submitted to the Waite Park Regional Center.
- \_\_\_ Fall Product Sale products are delivered, money is collected, final paperwork is in and incentives are handed out.

#### Leader meeting items:

- \_\_\_ Service team and other committee reports to the leaders.
- \_\_\_ The cookie kick-off plans are in place.
- \_\_\_ A Thinking Day committee is in place.
- \_\_\_ You have accomplished a great deal of work for girls and Girl Scouting in the past few months. You know that, because of your efforts, many girls are experiencing opportunities of a lifetime. Celebrate your accomplishment!
- \_\_\_ Check with Faith Based Coordinator Volunteer. Begin making plans for Girl Scout Sunday/Sabbath.

### JANUARY

#### Service team:

- \_\_\_ Cookie training and kick-off implementation (can include summer camp program information) for the service unit; troops have set cookie and camp goals.

#### Leader meeting items:

- \_\_\_ Service team and other committee reports to the leaders.
- \_\_\_ Have troop leaders do the checklist for leader self-evaluation.
- \_\_\_ Thinking Day plans are in place and all troops are informed.
- \_\_\_ Initial discussion of bridging; are the leaders of bridging troops aware of the process? Do they have help? Are bridging events going to be held?
- \_\_\_ Camp promotions are held. Discuss resident camping, troop camping and BWCA trips with leaders so they can share this information with their troop.

## Agenda Items for SU Meetings

- Review the SU Monthly Checklist. How is your SU doing?
- Remind troop leaders every month to review the *Program Guide* or *E-weekly* for current programs or learning sessions.
- November 26 & 27 Thanksgiving – All offices closed
- December 24 & 25 Christmas – All offices closed
- December 28 – 31 All offices closed
- January 1 New Year's Day – All offices closed
- January 18 Martin Luther King Jr Day – All offices closed
- February 15 President's Day – All offices closed
- February 22 World Thinking Day