



TEAM CONNECTION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009
Girl Scout Council of Greater New York, Inc.

Happy New Year! Best wishes from the Board of Directors and staff to you, your Service Team members, Leaders and girls in your Service Units.

THINKING DAY/GIRL SCOUT SABBATH & SUNDAY

At your next Leaders' Meeting, take a few minutes to review Girl Scout traditions, including the celebrations of Thinking Day and Girl Scout Week. February 22nd is the birthday of Lord and Lady Baden Powell, the founders of the world wide Scouting movement for boys and girls. We celebrate their birthdays on the 22nd as **Thinking Day**. On this special day in Girl Scouting, let us recommit ourselves to their original goals of developing girls and women into Leaders in their communities and to making our world a better place. An attachment with Thinking Day ideas is included.

The 2009 World Thinking Day Resource Guide is now online! www.girlscouts.org/world_thinking_day/. Also, encourage troops to organize a commemorative event for **Girl Scout Sabbath or Sunday in March**.

MEMBERSHIP

The 2009 girl and adult membership continues to grow. Before we begin to focus our energies on School Break programs in February and April, we are striving to meet our Troop/Group membership goals. As of December 19, 2008, we have registered 11,681 girls, over 83% of our troop goal and our first membership benchmark for the year. To help us reach our remaining goals, please assign one Service Unit Team member to contact potential new sites in your Service Unit in coordination with your Membership Specialist. Together we can bring the benefits of Girls Scouting to more girls!

Last year we utilized SurveyMonkey, an on-line survey tool, to gather feedback from Leaders, girls and parents regarding camp and other program activities. Currently, we are developing a **on-line Service Unit Managers survey**. We will be sending you the link to the survey in the coming weeks and would appreciate your taking a few minutes to give us your input on a number of topics. If you receive Team Connection by mail, we will mail you a copy of the survey to complete.

We have updated the **Service Unit Managers Expense Report**. While we are constantly looking for ways to save, if you want to be reimbursed for any allowable expenses, please be sure to complete the form and attach receipts so we can provide you with an expense check. Please allow two to three weeks for us to turn the check around to you.

The **Annual Meeting** will take place in March. The *Call to Meeting Notice* will be mailed to Delegates in February. If, for some reason your Service Unit needs to add or remove a Delegate before the Annual Meeting, complete the attached form and return to Dawn Nolan as soon as possible. Please ask your Delegates to hold the date. Those unable to attend should contact Dawn Nolan at 212 645-4000 ext. 268 or e-mail her at dnolan@girlscoutsnyc.org as soon as possible, so we can contact a Service Unit Alternate.

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Winter Association Meetings will be held in February. Invitations will be mailed in early January to all registered adults and girls over the age of 14. Dates and locations follow:

BOROUGH	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Bronx	Tuesday, February 17	7:15 p.m.	Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club 1930 Randall Avenue

Brooklyn	Wednesday, February 4	7:15 p.m.	Salem Lutheran 450 67 th Street
Manhattan	Thursday, February 19	7:15 p.m.	Girl Scout Council Office 43 W. 23 rd Street
Queens	Thursday, February 12	7:15 p.m.	St. Pascal Baylon Church 112-43 198 th Street
Staten Island	Thursday, February 5	7:15 p.m.	Blessed Sacrament 30 Manor Road

Delegate Training will not be held before each Association Meeting. If you or one of your Delegates needs training, you can request a training packet from Elizabeth López at 212-645-4000 ext. 238 or go online to our Web site and download the forms.

FIELD FUNDRAISING

Hello again from the exciting world of Field Fundraising!! The initial campaign for Family & Friends and QSP has ended and the cookie season is in full swing.

The **2008-2009 Family & Friends Initial Campaign** officially ended on November 26, 2008. As of this writing nearly \$23,000 was raised online (the paper donations have not yet been calculated). In order to be eligible for Service Unit rebates, all paperwork must have been turned in to your Service Unit Family & Friends Manager by December 12, 2008. The families of Girl Scouts who raised \$15 or more per registered girl will receive the participatory patch. Families who raised \$50 or more per girl will receive Scout the kangaroo and mascot for this year's campaign. Families who raised \$100 or more per registered girl will receive an environmentally friendly GSCGNY messenger bag. Everyone who has made a donation of \$25 or more will receive a window decal.

The **2008-2009 Family & Friends Catch-up Campaign** began on January 1, 2009 and will continue until April 30, 2009. Every troop has a chance to raise money through the Family & Friends program. Families who raise money through the catch-up campaign will be eligible to receive incentives. Troops who participate will still receive the same 25% rebate of paid online donations and 20% of paid paper gifts. However, money raised during the catch-up campaign will not be counted toward Service Unit rebates

The **2008-2009 QSP Initial Campaign** also officially ended on November 26, 2008. As of this writing, online subscriptions totaled \$12,000, (paper subscriptions have not yet been calculated). Rebates and incentives will be sent out at the end of January. **Note: There is no Catch-up Campaign for QSP.**

The **Fall Corporate Cookie Connection** took place on Election Day, Tuesday November 4, 2008 at 37 sites across New York City. Congratulations to all the Girl Scouts and their Leaders who sold over 22,000 boxes of cookies in the one-day sale. Over 1,000 boxes were sold for the *Operation: Cookie* Gift of Caring program. Sales that day generated a total of \$77,860. The **Spring Corporate Cookie Connection** is on April 14, 2009.

The **2008-2009 Cookie Campaign** officially began on December 12, 2008. The initial campaign will end on January 18, 2009. The Dulce de Leche is the new cookie this year with a Latin inspired theme. Also new this year, all incentives are cumulative!! We retain our 500+ Cookie Club! Girls who sell 500 or more boxes of cookies will receive The Eco Ellie Sleepover set, which includes the tee, pants and slippers (remember to note your sizes). This year we also have the 1,000+ Club! Girls who sell 1,000 or more boxes of cookies receive the "Music to My Ears" set which includes the USB Wristband and an iPod Nano. Don't forget to plan ahead for your booth sales because this is a great way for your troops to earn extra money. All the forms are included in your cookie materials and all booth sales must be approved by the Field Fundraising department prior to taking place.

COMMUNICATIONS

Troops on Call: New York is the media capital of the world, and we have many media, albeit last minute opportunities, to promote Girl Scouting. We need troops to serve as Girl Scout emissaries to

participate in such activities including marching in parades or attending official events, making media appearances or taking part in photo shoots. In the past year, our girls have been on several television and radio broadcasts. All girls and Leaders would need to sign a Girl Scout Media release forms in order to participate. If you are interested in becoming a Troop on Call, please contact Lalitha Sarma at lsarma@girlscoutsnyc.org or 212-645-4000 ext. 278.

Wanted: Girl Scout Covergirls! The Communications Department wants your Girl Scout photos for the 2009 publications including the Troop Resource Guide, Camp Guides, Girl Guides, Scholars Guide and of course, the Leader Reader! Please send your photo CD's with your troop and contact information to Communications Department, 43 West 23rd Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10010. If you have any questions, please contact Victor Cuevas at vcuevas@girlscoutsnyc.org or 212-645-4000 ext. 279.

PROGRAM

Camp: In partnership with Thunder Ridge Ski Lodge we are offering two opportunities to go skiing with your girls. The weekend of February 20 – 22, 2009 and the winter break week on February 17 – 19, 2009. Older girls along with their Leaders and mothers now have the chance to go skiing at a very special rate of \$100 per person. The package includes a ski day at Thunder Ridge and sledding, hiking, campfires at Camp Kaufmann. (Round trip shuttle bus transportation between Camp and the ski lodge is included). To register for this theme weekend, simply fill out the Seasonal Camping Registration form.

And what about Summer Camp? Summer Camp Weekend Getaways offer an all inclusive camping experience. The weekend includes lodging, meals and a wide range of activities led by experienced staff members. Campers arrive on Friday between noon and 5:00 p.m. and depart on Sunday at noon. Activities include fishing, swimming, crafts, games and archery among many other activities. This year we will have 5 Weekend Getaways.

The dates and Saturday evening themes are:

June 12 – 14	Camp Rock
June 19 – 21	Carnival
June 26 – 28	Craft Round up
July 10 – 12	Spa Night
July 17 – 19	Dancing Under the Stars

We are also offering a new option for our girls. **Sleep Away Adventure** is a sleep away camp experience for girls finishing grades 4th through 12th. The sleep away camp experience starts at the bus! All girls get to meet new friends, bond and share the excitement of going away with other girls their age. The girls will live in cabins with their peers and our Counselors will guide them through activities. Throughout the week they will work towards badges and interest projects and take part in environmental awareness projects. You can sign your girl up for one or both sessions.

Sleep Away Adventure will run on the following dates:

Sunday, June 28th to Friday, July 3rd
Friday, July 3rd to Friday, July 10th

For more information about Camp Kaufmann, please call Jean Lynch at 212-645-4000 ext. 226 or email her at jlynch@girlscoutsnyc.org.

CLUB: Drug Free World! February 4, 2009, 6 p.m.-8 p.m. – Girl Scout Council, Manhattan. Youth today are exposed earlier than ever to drugs. By survey, 50% of the students in public schools in the U.S. have tried an illicit drug, or are using one, by the time they are 17. Since 1993, the "Drug-Free Marshals" youth drug-education and prevention program has been educating teens. The program consists of educating teens on the effects of drugs on the body, emotions and mind. Join us as we all take a "Drug Free" pledge.

3rd Annual Junior Player Development Football Clinic at Giants Stadium: February 7th 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and February 8th 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Giants Stadium, New Jersey. Are you ready for some football? Join us as the New York Sharks women's tackle football team teaches you the basic skills of football! After a fun day of playing the game, girls will get the opportunity to step out onto the Giants Stadium field! Plus girls will receive lots of free goodies, and don't worry about getting there.

A bus will be provided for transportation to and from the city. To register please contact Karen Lundgard at 212-645-4000 ext. 215 or email her at Klundgard@girlscoutsnyc.org.

Leadership Experiences: To register please call Karen Lundgard at 212-645-4000 ext. 215 or email her at klundgard@girlscoutsnyc.org.

Program Aides are trained Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts who provide programming or offer structured activities to Girl Scout troops in a troop setting. Girls earn their Program Aide pin once they complete their training and earn a Program Aide patch once they complete 25 hours of service working in a troop setting.

Next training: January 17, 2009
Eltingville Lutheran School
300 Genesee Ave
Staten Island, NY 10312.
10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

To register please call Karen Lundgard at 212-645-4000 ext. 215 or email her at klundgard@girlscoutsnyc.org.

Gold and Silver Award: There are endless benefits to earning the Gold Award and Silver Awards they include: prestige, since the Gold and Silver awards are the highest a Girl Scout can earn; your accomplishments will reflect greatly on your leadership skills; an increasing number of colleges and universities have recognized the Gold Award and offer scholarships to awardees; and, most importantly, the Girl Scout Gold and Silver award projects themselves solve community issues and improve lives.

Next training: February 2, 2009
St. Kevin's Parish Center
45-21 194th St.
Flushing, NY 11358
7:30 – 9 p.m.

To register please contact Karen Lundgard at 212-645-4000 ext. 215 or klundgard@girlscoutsnyc.org.

Remember Final Gold Award Projects are due March 20th, 2009!

Merrill Lynch's Investing Pays Off®:

Discover: Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts will become business savvy as they discover the skills that will prepare them for a positive and independent future as they participate in the Investing Pays Off (IPO program). Merrill Lynch's IPO® program offers Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts the unique opportunity to learn about money, how to save for a rainy day, set goals, and develop leadership skills.

Connect: Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts will recognize the value of working together by attending an IPO one day event. Whether your girls participate in the Daisy, Brownie, or Brownie Expert Level they will walk away from the program with skills that will help them budget their allowance, think more like an entrepreneur, and become a leader.

Take Action: Through participating in the IPO program Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts will become resourceful problem solvers. Girls will be able to use their knowledge and skills about financial literacy to develop a basic plan to reach their desired goals.

IPO One day events will feature activities such as story time, the Girl Scout Bank, and shopping at the Girl Scout Shop. Girls will earn their IPO patch and take home their very own piggy bank to begin saving!

Check out the Web site for upcoming IPO event dates.

Can't attend a one day event? Troops can participate in the IPO curriculum in a troop setting. Simply fill out an IPO request form, which can be found on our Web site at www.girlscoutsnyc.org and email it to Nicole Torres at ntorres@girlscoutsnyc.org. We provide you with a Leader Guide and an Activity book, one for each of your girls.

Calling All ClubZOOMER's!

Discover: Juniors will discover opportunities for problem solving and setting challenging goals for

themselves through the ClubZOOM™ Engineering program. Junior Girl Scouts get the opportunity to explore, work together, and develop scientific ways to solve fun engineering challenges.

Connect: By attending a ClubZOOM™ one day event Juniors gain a better understanding of team building as they have the opportunity to design the longest-lasting roller coaster ride or create the most stickiest glue. These fun-filled activities teach the girls that engineering is about exploring multiple solutions and solving problems while making real world connections.

Take Action: ClubZOOM™ will help girls become resourceful problem solvers and help them gain confidence in creating action plans for their goals. Juniors will become engineers and define a problem, design solutions, test, redesign, and share results with others.

ClubZOOM™ One Day Event in Brooklyn

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2009

Location: Jesus Joy

716 Lincoln Place

Brooklyn, NY 11216

Time: 10:00a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 per girl

Can't attend a one day event? Troops can participate in the ClubZOOM™ program in a troop setting. Simply fill out a ClubZOOM™ request form, which can be found on our Web site at www.girlscoutsnyc.org and email it to Nicole Torres at ntorres@girlscoutsnyc.org. We provide you with a Leader Activity book and a tester kit.

Nursing 101:

Discover: Girls of all age levels will develop positive attitudes toward learning, and seek opportunities for expanding their knowledge and skills at the Nursing Lab. Girls participating in the Nursing lab will gain a better understanding of the nursing field and recognize the invaluable services that nurses provide for patients, families, and communities.

Connect: At a one day event girls will connect with seasoned professionals in the nursing field as they teach the girls about topics such as emergency preparedness, a Q&A session with a nurse, and the importance of a healthy diet and proper exercise.

Take Action: Girls will gain a greater understanding of how Take Action Projects might impact their communities by participating in a service project. Girls will collect and donate items to local hospitals, nursing homes, or doctors' offices.

Nursing One-Day Event for the Brownie Girl Scouts in NYC

Date: Saturday, January 17, 2009

Location: Phillips Beth Israel School of Nursing

776 6th Avenue

New York, NY 10001

Time: 10:00-1:00pm

Cost: \$5.00 per girl

Can't attend a one day event? Simply log on to our Web site at www.girlscoutsnyc.org and find the nursing lab requirements for the level of your girls. Once your troop has completed all the required activities fill out a program evaluation and use the patch order form to order your try-its, badges, or patches.

Girl Scouts Go Green with Trees for the 21st Century:

Discover: Girls will discover the many reasons why trees are so important to our environment. Girls of all age levels will gain skills that will prepare them for a positive, healthy, and independent future as they take part in an initiative that will make a significant impact on the environment and in New York City.

Connect: Girls will be able to connect to their communities locally and globally as they understand the role that trees play in improving the environment. Girls will participate in a nationwide community service project that promotes environmental awareness and civic responsibility by working together to learn how to successfully plant a tree and nurture its growth.

Take Action: Girls will be able to develop strategies to identify community issues and gain a greater understanding of how Take Action Projects might impact their communities.

Check out the Web site for upcoming Trees for the 21st Century event dates.

Can't attend a one day event? Troops can participate in the Trees for the 21st Century curriculum in a troop setting. Simply fill out Trees for the 21st Century request form, which can be found on our Web site at www.girlscoutsnyc.org and mail it along with a \$10.00 payment to Nicole Torres at the Girl Scout Council 43 West 23rd Street NY, NY 10010. We will provide you with a Leader Guide with age appropriate activities.

The Girls Build Program:

Discover: Junior and Cadette Girl Scouts will have the opportunity to explore new skills and ideas through the Girls Build program. The Girls Build curriculum encourages girls to expand their vision of what they can do and become. These learning activities are designed to educate on homes, homeownership, Habitat for Humanity, community needs and the ways in which girls and women can actively meet those needs.

Connect: The Girls Build program will allow the girls the opportunity to recognize the importance of knowing about, and actively participating in, community groups such as Habitat for Humanity. Girls will learn that Habitat for Humanity offers people from all walks of life an opportunity to help eliminate substandard housing around the world.

Take Action: Participating in this program will allow the girls to recognize the importance of advocacy in accomplishing positive changes for themselves and others. Girls will have the opportunity to learn about Habitat's mission and will hopefully inspire them to become future Habitat volunteers.

Girls Build One-Day Event for the Junior and Cadette Girl Scouts in Brooklyn

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2009

Location: Ridgewood Bushwick Youth Center

1474 Gates Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11237

Time: 10:00-2:00pm

Cost: \$3.00 per girl

Can't attend a one day event? Troops can participate in the Girls Build program in a troop setting. Simply fill out Girls Build request form, which can be found on our Web site at www.girlscoutsnyc.org and mail it along with a \$3.00 payment per girl to Nicole Torres at the Girl Scout Council 43 West 23rd Street NY, NY 10010. We will provide you with a Leader Guide, an activity book for each of your girls, and all corresponding handouts.

The BTU Crew:

Discover: Junior Girl Scouts Go Green as they participate in this program that will help them to make a difference in the world by becoming environmentally responsible. Girls will understand the various ways that they can save energy as well as experience how much fun engineering and science can be. They will also be exposed to a variety of career choices in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM).

Connect: Girls will be given the opportunity to connect with the environment and take action to preserve precious resources.

Take Action: The BTU Crew will help Juniors to advocate for change and inspire others to make changes as they learn how to conserve energy in their every day lives.

The BTU Crew One-Day Event for the Junior Girl Scouts in the Bronx

Date: Saturday, January 10, 2009

Location: First Lutheran Church

3075 Baisly Avenue

Bronx, NY 10461

Time: 10:00-2:00pm

Cost: \$10.00 per girl

Can't attend a one day event? Troops can participate in the BTU Crew program in a troop setting. Simply fill out the BTU Crew request form, which can be found on our Web site at www.girlscoutsnyc.org and mail it to Nicole Torres at the Girl Scout Council, 43 West 23rd Street, NY, NY 10010. We will provide you with a Leader Guide and an activity book for each of your girls.

Panwapa:

Discover: Through the Panwapa program Daisy Girl Scouts will discover their curiosity about the wider world-its cultures and traditions, its languages, and imagery, its triumphs, and inequities.

Connect: Girls will learn to form and maintain meaningful and caring relationships as they take responsibility and develop empathy as well as recognize everyone's common humanity.

Take Action: The Panwapa program will help girls feel connected to their community locally and globally through the belief that their actions, large and small, have the power to change the way things are in the community, their nation, and around the world.

Check out the Web site for upcoming Panwapa event dates.

Can't attend a one day event? Troops can participate in the Panwapa program in a troop setting. Simply fill out the Panwapa request form, which can be found on our Web site at www.girlscoutsnyc.org and mail it to Nicole Torres at the Girl Scout Council 43 West 23rd Street NY, NY 10010. We will provide you with a Leader Guide and a curriculum folder.

VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

Adult Recognition – It's Recognition time again! Don't forget to recognize all your wonderful volunteers and community partners. We have a newly revised Recognition Booklet this year! The criteria for The Essential Woman Award and the President's Volunteer Service Award are included in the booklet. Please discard any old editions that you may have. Please help us to serve you better by submitting your nominations for Adult Recognitions early. Nomination Forms for Recognitions are currently available from your Borough Service Centers and on the Web site. The Volunteer Recognition Booklet is also available on our Web site at www.girlscoutsnyc.org. **Please keep in mind that the deadline for submitting nomination forms for Adult Recognition is January 15.**

2009 Council Recognition Event – We're going to the Bronx! As promised, we will complete the five borough cycle with this year's event. The Recognition Committee is excited to announce that our 2009 Recognition Event will be held at Villa Barone Manor, 737 Throgs Neck Expressway, Bronx, NY 10465. The event will be from 11:30 am to 3:00 p.m. and will cost \$50 per person. Please keep in mind that this is an adult only event. Reservation flyers are available from your Borough Service Centers. The information is also posted on our Web site. The event promises to be an exciting one and is an excellent venue to socialize as we honor the accomplishments of fellow volunteers. Seating is on a first-come, first serve basis and **reservations will not be secured until payment is received. Deadline for reservations for this event is March 20, 2009.** We look forward to seeing you there!

For further information, please contact Charmaine Chung, Sr. Director, Membership & Volunteer Recognitions at 212-645-4000 ext. 257 or cchung@girlscoutsnyc.org.

TRAINERS' CORNER

TRAINERS WANTED

Reminder...The Council "Train the Trainer" course is scheduled for two consecutive Wednesdays in January: Wednesday, January 21 and Wednesday, January 28 at Council Headquarters, 43 W. 23rd St., 6th Fl., 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Dinner will be served. Anyone interested in attending should notify Lisa Golden at 212-645-4000 ext. 239 or lgolden@girlscoutsnyc.org.

HOLD THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2009 for LEADERS' WEEKEND FOR ALL REGISTERED ADULTS

More information will be mailed out soon. The theme for the upcoming Leaders' Weekend is "*Under the Sea.*"

ATTACHMENTS:

Thinking Day Attachment
Appointment of New Delegate Form
Service Unit Managers Expense Report

Monthly Quote: “You are today where your thoughts have brought you; you will be tomorrow where your thoughts take you.” *James Lane Allen*