

Dunwoody Data

The Monthly Newsletter for Girl Scout Leaders of the Dunwoody Service Unit

April, 2004

SERVICE UNIT DIRECTORS

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www.dunwoodygirlscouts.com

CALENDAR

See *Connections*, *DCNR Data*, and *The Insider* for Council Activity dates, deadlines and forms

April	
19 Mon	Service Unit Meeting
22 Thurs	LEADER APPRECIATION DAY
May	
2 Sun	Service Unit Bridging Ceremony - St. Luke's
7 Fri	Badge & Dash - Dunwoody Walgreen
17 Mon	Service Unit Meeting - End of Year Awards (7:00 pm)
24 Mon	Deadline to turn in Spring Registrations

DISTRIBUTED AT MARCH MEETING

- ▶ DCNR Data
- ▶ Troop Finance Report
- ▶ GSCN WG Leader Survey (receive \$2 gift certificate from Badge & Sash/Dash for filling out!)
- ▶ Clay Time brochures (Daisy, Brownie, 4th & 5th grade Juniors)
- ▶ Studio 2B information (4th grade and up)
- ▶ Silver Award Guidelines (6th grade Juniors,

7th and 8th grade Cadettes)

- ▶ Silver and Gold Award Workshop Request (6th grade Junior and Cadette)

SUD Notes

Well, we're starting to wind up this Girl Scout year. Part of that process is beginning to make tentative plans for next year – trips the troop is interested in, how to structure activities to meet long term goals, etc. It's been a busy year and, we hope, a rewarding one as well.

I ran into an acquaintance from another service unit during cookie booth sales. When we started chatting, I asked her how her troop was doing. Her response was immediate and animated: "Great! We combined with three other (Cadette) troops, and it was the best thing we ever did – we now have 18 girls!" I laughed and exclaimed, "18?! Goodness, what a huge troop!"

She then went on to explain that having a larger number of girls allowed the girls to pursue different interests, and yet almost always be assured of having someone else that would share their interests. For example, all 18 might not be interested in horseback riding – but six of them were, and could plan activities just for them, with a large enough group to make it fun. The leader also commented that the *girls* enjoyed having a new, larger group of friends.

I was struck forcibly by two things: One, here was a leader who was a walking advertisement for making a larger troop work! And two, this leader's willingness to open her troop and her heart to other girls had breathed new life into her troop and rekindled interest in Girl Scouting among the girls in her own troop.

Girl Scout troops are not sororities or private clubs. Remember the catch-phrase: "Every girl, everywhere". Each year, our service unit has dozens of girls who are anxious to become involved in Girl Scouting, but who go without a troop because troops are unable or unwilling to accept new girls. The reasons vary from troop to troop, but the result is always the same: A girl

unable to participate in Girl Scouting.

Girl Scouts purposely does not specify a maximum number of girls per troop, and has always taken the position that a leader must not be forced to accept more girls than they are comfortable managing. But think about your own comfort zone – is it time to step outside of the zone just a step or two? Have you and your troop fallen into a comfortable rut, and welcoming a new girl would be just too much trouble? Consider the positives that new girls would bring to your troop.

Think about it.

FYI: Everyone

Leader Appreciation Day

Thursday, April 22

Leader Appreciation Day is this Thursday, April 22nd, a time when we say "Thank you!" for all of your hard work. Council has provided a small gift in honor of your volunteer work this year, so please pick up your license plate holders before you leave this evening!

In honor of Leader Appreciation Day, we have an essay on what makes a Girl Scout volunteer:

NINE CHARACTERISTICS OF GIRL SCOUT VOLUNTEERS

Philip de Montmollin

First, Girl Scout volunteers care. They care about each other, they care about other people, they care about their families. Not just plain old "care," but sincere, deep-down, bottom-of-the-heart kind of care. They care about people who have less than they do. They care about people who have more. They care about their council, they care about the national organization. They care about the youth of the world and, of course, most especially, they care about girls.

Next, all of the Girl Scout volunteers I've met are committed. They have a deep sense of commitment to the purpose of Girl Scouting. They believe in what they are doing. They have made personal commitments to help our country's young women. They support the Girl Scout promise and law, and live them both in their daily lives.

Girl Scout volunteers work hard. Whatever you say about Girl Scout volunteer work, you can't say it's easy. It's hard work. That's okay because Girl Scout volunteers are busy active people, full of energy and enthusiasm. They work hard and they enjoy it. And they get a lot done.

Successful Girl Scout volunteers enjoy life and they share that joy with the people around them. They're happy people. They smile a lot. They like to sing.

Girl Scout volunteers are understanding. They are open to the ideas of others, and take the time to listen. They are skillful in perceiving the needs of others, and react with sensitivity to those needs. They understand the need for compromise and mutual support.

Girl Scout volunteers are generous. Generous with their time, generous with their talents, generous with their treasures.

Girl Scout volunteers have a sense of humor. They have fun and can laugh at themselves.

Girl Scout volunteers are confident. They are positive thinkers. They are persons who know we can succeed and convince others of that.

Finally, Girl Scout volunteers have faith, they believe. They have faith in themselves, faith in the Girl Scout Movement, and what we're trying to do. They have faith in others, especially in little girls. They have faith in their council, faith in their community, faith in God.

Girl Scout volunteers are special, very special. Not everyone can be one. Some try and don't succeed. But those who do are special, some of the most special people in the world. People just like you.

**Thank you!
Without volunteers
like you, there is no
Girl Scouting!**

2005 Family and Community Partnership

Remember, Family and Community Partnership contributions should be turned in with the bright yellow envelopes that designate them as part of the 2005 campaign! Contact FCP Chairmen Kathy Simcoe at 770-393-9470 or Joan Patton at 770-668-0273 with any questions regarding this year's campaign. FCP envelopes may be turned in with your spring registrations (although your Registrars will be unable to answer any questions for you regarding FCP.)

Spring Registration Now Underway

Spring Registration packets were distributed at the March Service Unit meeting. Please contact your Registrar and make an appointment to turn in your spring registrations. The deadline for registrations is Monday, May 24th.

Rising Brownies Mary Ann Gardner
770-451-2184, gardhome@bellsouth.net

Rising Juniors Molly Davis
404-459-7279, davis_mg@bellsouth.net

Rising CASE/Studio 2B Kitty Lowry
770-393-3809 (no email)

These registrars will only be accepting registrations for 2005. **IMPORTANT:** Turn in all current-year registrations to Diane **ONLY**. *Absolutely do not, under any circumstances, turn in registrations directly to Council!*

Camp Packages Available

To fund her Wider Ops/Destinations program next winter, Sarah Hendrickson is providing Camp Survival packages. Sarah gave out



information at the January service unit meeting – if you have any questions, please call her at 770-451-7470. She'll appreciate your support!

Service Unit Bridging Ceremony

The Dunwoody Service Unit Bridging Ceremony will be held on Sunday, May 2nd at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church. All participating troops should have all insignia turned in to Lyndelle and all names of participating girls and



leaders turned into Diane. Girls participating in the flag processional and in the Promise/Law ceremony should arrive at 1:30 for a quick run-through of their parts.

High Harbor Details

Packets will be distributed at the April Service Unit meeting to troops attending High Harbor in August. The packets will contain sign-ups and permission forms that must be returned by the May Service Unit meeting, along with your final payment. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Kelly at 770-673-0650 or odysseymama@aol.com.

May Service Unit Awards Dinner

Our meeting in May will begin at 7:00 for dinner and awards – please note the earlier start time! Checks for \$10 per attendee should be turned in tonight. Our thanks to Senior Troops 69 and 200 for coordinating our end-of-the-year celebration!

Girl Scout Day at Six Flags Over Georgia!

Girl Scout Day at Six Flags will be Saturday, June 5th, from 10 a.m. until 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$24 per person, and available by reservation only until May 15th. See "The Insider" on the council website (www.girlscoutsnwga.org) for registration details.

