

Dunwoody Data

*The Monthly Newsletter for Girl Scout Leaders of the Dunwoody Service Unit
November, 2004*

Service Unit Directors

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CALENDAR

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

November, 2004

15 Mon SU meeting 7:15 pm
Badge/Try-it Night (during SU meeting)
21 Sun Light Up Dunwoody parade
25 Thurs Thanksgiving

December, 2004

1 Wed Deadline to submit 20+ years
Recognition
Begin registration for Spring troop
camping
20 Mon **No SU Meeting**
25 Sat Christmas

January, 2005

1 Sat Happy New Year!
7-9 Fri-Sun DCNR Leader Weekend
8 Sat Super Saturday SWAP
10 Mon Cookie training DUMC room E224
17 Mon SU meeting 7:15 pm
MLK Birthday (holiday)
22 Sat Scrapbooking Event—Troop 276
21-30 Girls take cookie orders
27 Thurs Bridging planning 7 pm, Scout Lodge

February, 2005

12 Sat Surprise Breakfast
21 Mon SU meeting 7:15 pm
26 Sat Thinking Day – Troop 1334

IN THE TROOP FILES THIS MONTH

Dunwoody Data DCNR Data
DCNR Leader Weekend (3 pieces)
Summer 2005 Resident Camp FAQ ***
GS Day at the Georgia State Capitol ***
Zoo Atlanta GS Day ***

** not in all troop files

SUD Notes

Thanksgiving affords us the perfect time to reflect on all the good things in our lives. For the moment, let's concentrate on what we share as Girl Scouts. Certainly the Scouts in Dunwoody are fortunate to have such a dedicated group of leaders & other volunteers, who selflessly offer their time & talents to bring a very worthwhile program to the girls in their troops. At times you may feel that it's a thankless job, but you are doing so much for these girls. We are so thankful for you and for all that you do!

We are also fortunate in Dunwoody to be the beneficiaries of the insight & commitment of past SUDs, who started and fostered so many traditions that we sometimes take for granted, but would dearly miss if they were gone. Tradition is an important part of an organization with a history as long and rich as Girl Scouting in the USA, and we all need to be aware of preserving it.

Service is an important part of Girl Scouting. Many of our troops have already participated in service projects this year—see the column "Service Super Stars". There are probably many more of you who participate in projects during the Scout year. Please share these with us! We'd love to recognize your involvement, & you may inspire ideas for other troops. It is also very important to the Council that you submit a "Contributing To Society" tracking form. This data is used to show businesses & other organizations that Girl Scouts are indeed committed to service, and it can also be used to obtain financial aid and grants for Council use. We hope that the service project at the Georgia Baptist Children's Home will be the start of a new tradition – a yearly Service Unit-wide project. Working with a state agency was an eye-opening experience, and we hope that the girls who participated found a new appreciation for all the advantages they have. That's one of the beauties of doing service – both the givers and receivers reap benefits!

The Service Unit is in need of a Contributing To Society Coordinator. Please see the article in the Data.

Again, thank you so much for all you do!
Happy Thanksgiving.

New Volunteer Services Coordinator

Jill Dominguez is the new Council Volunteer Services Coordinator. She will train Contributing To Society Coordinators from service units, hold CTS Team meetings, send out newsletters, & keep us aware of service ideas. She also collects the Contributing To Society tracking forms that troops are asked to submit after they complete a service project. Her contact information is: 404-527-7387, jdominguez@girlscoutsnwga.org

There are two community service enrichments workshops available:

Contributing To Society Coordinator workshop for those in that Service Unit position;

Learning While Serving, which is designed for adult leaders & will focus on engaging girls in service. The workshop teaches about community service & how to encourage girls to reflect upon service provided to their communities.

Check out the Contributing To Society link under "Resources" on the Council website for more information.

Service Super Stars

***Congratulations to Troop 22440 for collecting the most items **in the Council** for Kids Cut Out Hunger Day on Saturday, September 25! They collected 1,301 items! Great work, girls!!!

Other DSU troops that participated in this project are: 3920, 20407, 22419, & 25403.

The food items collected were distributed by the Atlanta Community Food Bank to shelters, community kitchens, child-care centers, & many other organization that provide services to those in need. Over 15,000 pounds of food was collected by Council troops for this cause.

***Troop 21436 hosted a Juliette Low birthday celebration at the Atlanta Children's Shelter on October 27. Many DSU troops contributed items to make this project a success.

***Troop 22424 sponsored the Service Unit-wide service project, Birthday Bash, at the Georgia Baptist Children's Home on October 30. Five other troops: 23421, 22437, 24418, 1304, & 21442, each hosted one of the children's cabins for the day.

Many other troops donated party goods, presents, & other items for the kids.

Contributing To Society Coordinator needed

The Service Unit needs a volunteer to serve as our Contributing To Society Coordinator. She would be responsible for taking the Council training for this position, then keeping the SU informed of service ideas & community resources to carry these out. She would also be responsible for making sure that the CTS tracking forms are submitted to Council. We hope to continue having a yearly Service Unit-wide service project, so the coordinator would be instrumental in making sure that this is implemented. If you are interested in filling this important position on the Service Unit team, please contact Alisa or Carol.

No December SU meeting

Since December 20 is the third Monday, we've decided **not** to have a SU meeting that month. To accommodate this, the Dunwoody Data will be available on the SU website by Dec. 20. There will be no printed copies of the Data that month. We'll send an email to alert you of any pressing information you'll need, & let you know if there is anything in your troop file to pick up before the January meeting. If you have an upcoming event that you want to publicize in December, please be sure to email the info to Carol by Dec. 13 so that it can be put in the Data.

Recognition for 20+ years in Scouts

If you have been a Girl Scout for 20 years or more (girl & adult years) in 5 year increments (20, 25, 30, etc), you can receive a numeral guard & recognition at Council's second annual "Pick of the Bunch Lunch" in April. If you qualify, please let Carol know by Wednesday, December 1, so that your name can be submitted by the deadline.

Bridging 2005

The Service Unit Bridging ceremony is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, May 1, 2005, at St. Luke's Church. The planning meeting for all participating troops will be on Thursday, January 27, 2005, at 7 pm in the Scout Lodge. We hope to have many bridging troops participate, as well as girls who will receive Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards. Please let Carol or Alisa know ASAP if your troop will participate if you have not already done so.

Light Up Dunwoody Parade—Please note correct date

The Light Up Dunwoody Parade will take place on Sunday, November 21 (NOT Saturday, Nov. 20, as previously stated). Participants will meet at St. Luke's Church at 1:30 pm, & the parade is scheduled to start at 2:00. It will proceed down Mt. Vernon Road to Dunwoody Village, arriving at 2:30-3:00 pm. All ages can march in the parade, & we have been asked to wear GS uniforms (as much as possible, depending on the weather—vests could probably be worn over sweatshirts or heavy sweaters). Girls age 12 and older are needed to act as Santa's Helpers at the 1420 House (the old Harry's In A Hurry site, behind Bruster's), where children can visit with Santa.

Reindeer will be outside the House, & there is a variety of entertainment & other activities scheduled.

This is the parade that everyone wanted to participate in, rather than the July 4th parade, so let's have a good turnout! Girls will need permission forms to march in the parade, & we must go by Safety Wise rules for girl/adult ratios. ***This is NOT a drop-off situation; each participating troop must provide the required supervision & a first-aider with kit.

If you can march, &/or if your older girls can participate as Santa's helpers, please notify the SU coordinators:

Rohini Piyasena rohip@mindspring.com

770-671-0054

Ellen Augustine ema2801@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us.

770-394-8333

Spring Troop Camping Applications

Registration for Spring troop camping (March thru May & limited dates June thru August) at Council campsites begins December 1. Fill out the Application/Reservation for Troop camping, available on the Council website. It must be signed by a SUD before you mail it in. Just be sure it isn't postmarked before December 1! See page 16 of the November *Insider* for more details.

Brownie Religious Award

Randi Strumlauf, SUD of the Havarim Service Unit, has information about earning a religious award, Lehavah, for Brownies who are Jewish. If someone in your troop would be interested, they can contact Randi:

Randi_courtreporter@hotmail.com

DCNR Leader Weekend

The information is here! There is a set of 3 separate pieces in each troop file. Please review it carefully. Register by Nov. 30 & save \$!0.00!!! Registration deadline is December 17. You can go for the entire weekend, or Saturday only.

This should be a fantastic weekend! There is a HUGE list of training classes to choose from, including both separate & combined First Aid & CPR, and Troop Camping Basics: Cabins.

The Health History form must be submitted with your registration. You can copy your current form or use the one in your file.

Get a group together & attend, but don't delay. This event is rivaling the infamous Cobb Leader Weekend in popularity & space is limited.

Adult recognitions

Do you know an Outstanding Leader or Outstanding Volunteer in the DSU? Or a local organization or business that has been very supportive of Girl Scouts that should receive the Daisy Award? If so, you need to submit their name to receive one of these awards at our May meeting! Check the criteria for each award on the information sheet, which is in each troop file. This information is also on the SU website, along with a list of previous awardees. Nominations must be received by the Service Unit meeting on January 17, 2005, and can be submitted to Ivonne Mastin, Recognitions Committee chair, or to Carol & Alisa.

This is a highly anticipated part of our May meeting. The names of the nominees are kept secret & not revealed until that night, so it's a big surprise! Please help us make this a special night for a number of our deserving leaders.

Individual Adult Record

Please check the binder & update your record. It is brought to every SU meeting & is also available in the file cabinet (bottom drawer) on Carol's porch. All new leaders who attended the one of the New Leader orientation meetings received one of these

in their binders. As you complete your initial trainings, please put them on the form, then add other classes as you take them.

DCNR Data

Please read this carefully each month. There is a wealth of information about topics such as upcoming programs sponsored by both Council & our DCNR Cluster, always new information about Teen Program (ages 11-17), and much more! You really miss a lot if you don't read this publication. *The Monthly FYI*, for instance, has info on programs fro Bridging Brownies (Jump Into Juniors) & Juniors (GS Madness). Girl Regional Planning Boards voted to change the CASE name to S.A.I.L. -- **Strong And Independent Leaders** – so this new acronym is now being used. SAIL Savy is the event for bridging MS girls.

Much of the older girl program is now being offered to ages 11-17, rather than grades 7-12.

TLC's: there's a TLC Corner just for you!

Check the calendar on the last page for events for all age groups.

National Girl Congress

This event will be held in Atlanta on October 5-7, 2005, just before the National Convention. Girls who will be 14-17 years old by October 1, 2005, can apply to attend. The Girl Delegates (10) to the National Convention will be chosen from this group. Please encourage your girls to apply. The application can be downloaded from the Girl's Only section of the Council website. The application must be received in the VSC by January 10, 2005.

Be In The Know With Teen (11-17) Program

The SU website has new information about Teen Program for girls ages 11-17. Please check this out if you're a leader of girls in this age group. There are new Silver Award guidelines, new Gold Award guidelines, and much more! These guidelines are effective as of October 1, 2004.

It is very important to update your training if your troop has bridged to a new level. There are many changes in girl program, & HGG2 classes will keep you up-to-date. It is particularly important that you have current training if girls in your troop are or will be working on Silver & Gold Awards. You don't

want any of their hard work to be wasted because you weren't aware of current guidelines.

National Convention October 7-10, 2005

Our Council is privileged to host the next National Convention in Atlanta on October 7-10, 2005, at the GWCC. There are exciting opportunities available to act as delegates & to volunteer at the meeting.

Nominations for delegates are now being accepted. The position description & nomination form are available on the Council website. Self-nomination is permissible. You must be available October 7-10 (all day). Nomination forms are due to Council by Friday, December 31, 2004.

800 volunteers will be needed to work 4-hour shifts during the convention in a variety of ways. We hope to have specific information about this soon, but please keep this opportunity in mind. This is a fantastic way to meet other Scouts from all over the country, & to see first-hand just what goes on at the National Convention!

Service Unit Events planning

Beginning the next membership year (October 2005), any event coordinator must have taken the new Planning Beyond the Troop workshop. There should be a new edition of *Learning Opps* for Jan-March classes coming out soon. Check the Council website for the schedule of classes. If your troop will be hosting a Service Unit event next Scout year, at least one of the leaders must have either this training or the old Planning Service Unit Events training, or the event will not be approved by Council. Older girls should also take this training, since they should be the main planners of these events.

Council Surveys

There are two different surveys coming out from Council. The one in January is the Volunteer Advisory Committee survey, which was explained in a previous Dunwoody Data. The other, coming in March or April, is an Outcomes Measurement survey. These will be mailed at random to a number of adult members. If you receive one, please take the time to fill it out & return it. Your feedback is very important!