

Girl Scouts of Connecticut Alumnae Newsletter



VOLUME I, ISSUE I
MARCH 2009

Girl Scout Alumnae All – Welcome to our first Girl Scouts of Connecticut Alumnae Association Newsletter. As we prepare the final touches, it is Girl Scout Week, and we are celebrating our 97th Girl Scout anniversary. We hope you'll find the information enclosed helpful; that you'll be marking your calendars with upcoming events; finding ways to help our girls increase their cookie sales; making plans to get involved, travel and attend one of our kick off gatherings; and know in your hearts that Girl Scouts has continued the traditions, resourcefulness and mission to provide what girls need to succeed.

Please, encourage others – family members and friends – to reconnect with the premier organization for girls, the one that helped you become the woman you are today, by joining Girl Scouts of Connecticut's Alumnae Association. Recruit by suggesting our website: www.gsofct.org; by being an alumnae association registration card carrier at all times, available at our service centers throughout the state; or by contacting Deirdre Houlihan DiCara, Director of Alumnae Relations at ddicara@gsofct.org or 1-860-482-4495, ext. 3617.

Yours in Girl Scouting,
Deirdre

Cookie Sale is in full swing and the girls need your help!

This cookie season has presented the girls with some unique challenges. With the downturn in the economy and a very cold winter, girls have had to work extra hard to reach their cookie goals. Please support the girls in their efforts. As you know, the Girl Scout Cookie Program provides important revenue that is used to offer quality programs for more than 46,000 girls in Connecticut. Funds also are used to provide support, training, and resources to over 20,000 Girl Scout Volunteers in our council.

If you, your friends or associates did not have the opportunity to order cookies, one can go to the GSOFACT website www.gsofct.org and click on Cookie Locator, or call 1-800-882-5561, or email cookies@gsofct.org and a troop will make a contact to place a cookie order. One can drop in at a local Service Center to purchase cookies. One can also go to CookieVote.com and click on Cookie Locator to find a cookie booth sale location in your area. What a great way to support Girl Scouts of Connecticut!

Eight delicious flavors to choose from: Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs, Trefoils, Do-Si-Dos, Sugar Free Chocolate Chips, Lemon Chalet Cremes and the new Latin inspired Dulce de Leche. Don't forget about Gift of Caring. This program allows customers to buy cookies that will be sent to our military personnel around the world. We have sold 70,000 boxes of cookies towards our goal but there is still demand for more. Girl Scout cookies not only taste good but remind the soldiers that we care. What a great way to support our troops!

Place your order today! Don't miss out! Any questions, call Jessica Carraro at 1-800-922-2770 ext. 3305.



Volunteer Camp Care Committee

Eighteen camp properties need caring adults who are ready to lend a hand. We are looking for people with all types of skills and talents to become members of the Camp Care Committee to help with the maintenance at all our camp facilities. If interested in volunteering contact Michele Velez at mvelez@gsofct.org or 1-800-922-2770 ext. 3329

Meeting of the Corporation—All Welcome!

Wednesday, April 15, 2009
7-9 pm

Crown Corporate Campus
472 Wheelers Farm Road, Milford, CT 06461

Celebrating year one of Girl Scouts of Connecticut, recognitions, strategic planning and future Council opportunities. Please RSVP to Pam Amodio at 1-800-922-2770 ext. 3226.

Join us for the Denim & Diamonds Gala Event

Friday, April 24, 2009 at the Italian Center of Stamford, 1620 Newfield Avenue, Stamford, CT 06905

Dinner, Dancing, Auction and Fun!

For more information, contact Renee Sivinski at 1-203-762-5557, ext. 3826, or email rsivinski@gsofct.org.

Alumnae/Volunteers—We need your help! We are creating a talent resource pool.

Please email ddicara@gsofct.org to add your name to the list. Please include: preference to service center location, schedule availability, jobs/skills you might share, and how you can be reached.

- office skills – data entry, filing, collating, envelope stuffing,...
- graphic design and print layout
- website assistance/input
- expertise in software to assist in setting up communication systems
- volunteering to assist a troop, or at a Council program, training or camp event
- volunteer with your town's service team
- be an Alumnae Ambassador – launch a speakers' community relations bureau – to promote Girl Scouting to civic groups
- assist at fund raising events, solicit auction items and sponsorships
- volunteer to serve on a council committee or organizing future events for the alumnae association
- share a hobby, special interest or an expertise with a troop or with adults
- donor cultivation – support the Fund Development team as they strive to meet the needs of Girl Scout members by identifying potential donors

Volunteer at summer camp!

Where you will discover the joy and rewards of working with children in the great outdoors!

When you volunteer at summer camp with Girl Scouts of Connecticut, you will receive training, share in the fun of summer camp and become a valued part of the camp staff.

Email Linda Bresky at lbresky@gsofct.org; or call 1-800-922-2770 ext. 3010 for more information.

Camp News

2009 Sumer Camp Brochures

There are three brochures this year:

- Resident Camps—Candlewood in New Fairfield, Laurel in Lebanon, and Timber Trails in Otis, MA.
- Western Connecticut Day Camps—An-Se-Ox in Oxford, Aspetuck in Weston, Candlewood in New Fairfield, Clatter Valley in New Milford, Katoya in Milford and Rocky Craig in Stamford.
- Middle and Eastern Connecticut Day Camps—Carlson in Bristol, Laurel in Lebanon, Merrie-Wood in Manchester, Murray in East Haven and Pattagansett in East Lyme.

Check them out online by going to www.gsofct.org; and clicking on the brochure on the home page and on the link for the brochure you wish to view. Many exciting programs are offered. Share the site with people you know.

Alumnae/Adult Girl Scout Bermuda Trip – Final Call! - This May 4-11, 2009

This fun-learning, seven-day trip to Messina House in Bermuda is a great chance to make new friends and reconnect within our own Council. Previous trips are well remembered by adults who have participated in this adventure. Many folks have returned several times. Messina House, a government-owned property serving youth groups, has been reserved for Monday, May 4 – 11. It is on the mainland with access to bus and ferry transportation. We have a compound building for cooking, eating, and recreation purposes, and dormitory-style sleeping arrangements. A sight-seeing itinerary is planned around leisure time. Don't worry, we do have flush toilets and hot showers! To register please contact Deirdre H. DiCara, 1-860-482-4495, ext. 3617, or ddicara@gsofct.org at the Torrington Service Center no later than April 13th for more information. She will answer questions and forward trip reservation paperwork. Plane ticket purchasing must be finalized. A group meeting will be scheduled in the near future for participants. This event is also listed in the [Program and Training Book](#) under TR9767.

Who: Girl Scout Alumnae and registered adult members of Girl Scouts of Connecticut have the opportunity to register for this Council-sponsored experience to Bermuda. Alumnae, if not currently registered, will need to officially "rejoin". We have a nice group of travelers excited about this travel opportunity.

When: Monday, May 4 – Monday, May 11, 2009

Cost: \$1,100 (basically all inclusive—credit cards accepted)

Contact: Deirdre H. DiCara at 1-860-482-4495, ext. 3617, or ddicara@gsofct.org

Alumnae “get togethers” scheduled – please come and bring other alumnae with you!

We have scheduled for your convenience five gatherings this spring to reconnect and to kick off Girl Scouts of Connecticut's Alumnae Association. Please plan to attend. It will be an opportunity to meet silver and gold Girl Scout friends, as well as plan future regional and statewide activities and projects. Please RSVP to ddicara@gsofct.org or by phoning 1-860-482-4495 ext. 3617. An attendance count is helpful for organizing refreshments and seating needs. P.S. Deirdre would appreciate volunteers who would assist with greeting, baking and food preparation.

Scheduled events:

- | | | |
|----------|--------|---|
| April 16 | 5-7 pm | Susan M. B. Perry Senior Housing
117 Spencer Hill Road
Winsted Health Center
Winsted, CT 06098 |
| April 19 | 2-4 pm | Camp Laurel
175B Club House Road
Lebanon, CT 06249 |
| April 26 | 2-4 pm | Camp Candlewood
29 Bogus Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812 |
| April 30 | 5-7 pm | Crown Corporate Campus
472 Wheelers Farm Road
Milford, CT 06461 |
| May 14 | 5-7 pm | Windsor Public Library
323 Broad Street
Windsor, CT 06095 |



Don't forget to order your cookies.



Girl Scouts of Connecticut
(800) 922-2770 www.gsofct.org



NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
WILTON, CT
PERMIT NO. 7

Council Administrative Office and Hartford Service Center

340 Washington Street, Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 522-0163

Bridgeport Service Center

87 Washington Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 334-3145

Middletown Service Center

27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 347-5768

New London Service Center

21 Montauk Avenue, New London, CT 06320
(860) 444-8195

North Haven Service Center

20 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473
(203) 239-2922

North Windham Service Center

4 Industrial Park, North Windham, CT 06256
(860) 423-5502

Torrington Service Center

The Atrium, 663 East Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790
(860) 482-4495

Waterbury Service Center, Suite 102

171 Grandview Avenue, Waterbury, CT 06708
(203) 757-1340

Wilton Service Center

529 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897
(203) 762-5557

Once a Girl Scout at heart, always a Girl Scout!

Uniting as Girl Scouts of Connecticut statewide gives us the opportunity to create an Alumnae Association that supports girls and women, recognizing that in Girl Scouting, one always has a friend. Membership to Girl Scouts of Connecticut's Alumnae Association may include former girl and adult members, as well as current adult Girl Scout members who choose to join.

The "Top Ten" Reasons to join Girl Scouts of Connecticut's Alumnae Association:

1. Once a Girl Scout at heart, always a Girl Scout!
2. The joy of the Girl Scout sisterhood
3. Strongest voice advocating girl issues in the State of Connecticut
4. Potential volunteers – operational and governance – mentors to girls
5. Financial support of the Girl Scout program
6. Special events to support the program
7. Social engagement for members – statewide steering committee/regional chapters – social, intellectual, professional, affinity/interest groups
8. Networking and travel opportunities – Girl Scouting is a safe place for girls and adults to flourish
9. Reconnection/Rediscovery
10. Respectful appreciation of multi-generations of Girl Scouts, and the wisdom, knowledge and expertise they can share with others

As Girl Scouts across the country know, our organization's 100th birthday will be celebrated in 2012. In Connecticut, we are gearing up now to create an Alumnae Association that will show our friends around the State of Connecticut and people across the USA that we support the Girl Scout program and recognize the impact it makes on a girl's life.

What Else Can You Do?

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. You can get involved at various levels:

- **Spread the Word**

Imagine the powerful image nationwide of 50 million alumnae standing up on behalf of girls. Reach out and tell your friends and family to register as Girl Scout Alumnae. All service centers have alumnae association cards that you can have handy to distribute, and/or go to our website www.gsofct.org. We ask that you share your email address for future communication.

- **Get involved**

If you choose, participate in alumnae and Girl Scout council social activities and opportunities. Volunteer. Network. Travel. Register as a Girl Scout, if you're not already. Become a lifetime member. Embrace our Girl Scout sisterhood!

- **Make a Donation**

Commit to a girl! Your support gives you an opportunity to honor a specific girl, to commemorate your own years in Girl Scouting or to celebrate a woman who was there for you when you were a girl. Check out www.gsofct.org to make a gift.

- **Share Your Story**

What is your fondest Girl Scout memory?

For more information, contact by email ddicara@gsofct.org or phone 1-860-482-4495 ext. 3617. Don't forget to share your email address!

As we all know, once a Girl Scout at heart, always a Girl Scout! Please, encourage others to join!!

Deirdre Houlihan DiCara, Director of Alumnae Relations,

Girl Scouts of Connecticut, Torrington Service Center, 663 East Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790

Please attend one of our kick off gatherings listed on the outside cover!

Special Request to All Alumnae

If possible, please forward your email address to ddicara@gsofct.org,

We hope to defray the expense of future mailings by emailing as frequently as possible. Thanks!

Mark Your Calendars

Please join us at one of the five Girl Scout Alumnae Events scheduled throughout Connecticut, listed on the cover of this newsletter.

It's time to reconnect! Time to get excited about Girl Scouting's 100th Anniversary. Brainstorming and fun planned!