

# Girl Scouts of Connecticut

1-800-922-2770 [www.gsofct.org](http://www.gsofct.org)

# E-BLAST

October 23, 2009

## COUNCIL SHOPS

### Trick or Treat with Girl Scouts!

"Pick a Pumpkin" and receive as much as 20% off any single item. Girls who come to the Hartford, North Haven, or Wilton shops in costume on October 31 will receive a goodie bag of great items! Join us and have a fun, safe time on Juliette's birthday!

### Windbreaker Sale

Check out our exclusive GSOFACT windbreaker jacket on sale for \$19. The jackets are durable, easy to care for, and a great place to display your Girl Scout pride with patches. All sizes are available while supplies last. Offer ends on October 31, 2009.

### New Extended Shop Hours

The Bridgeport, Hartford, and Wilton Shops are now open until 6:30 p.m. every Thursday. Also, during the month of October, the Hartford and Wilton Shops are open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. For a complete listing of all shop hours and locations, please visit <http://shop.gsofct.org/store/go/contact-us/>.

## PRODUCT SALES

### The QSP Program is Winding Down

Order taking ended on October 23. Please check with each girl to see if she has any additional orders. A reminder to Troop QSP managers – all QSP orders should be entered into nut-E by 11:59 p.m. on October 28. If you have any questions, please contact the Product Sales Team at [productsales@gsofct.org](mailto:productsales@gsofct.org).

### Election Day Booth Sales

If your troop has registered for an Election Day Booth Sale you should have received a confirmation letter or email with your pickup location details. If you believe you have signed up for an Election Day Booth Sale and you have not received a confirmation, please contact Jessica Carraro at [jcarraro@gsofct.org](mailto:jcarraro@gsofct.org).

## PROGRAM

### Things to Know

#### Program Event Etiquette

Please remember to call the Registration Department to inquire about openings for program events. Please do not call the program facilitators listed in the Program Book for this information. You may call the facilitator if you have questions about special needs, attire, and other event details. Also, when at an event, please ask if the facilitator would like your help and ask your girls to remember the Girl Scout Law and be respectful to other Troops and the facilitators. Thank you!

#### Program Event Reminders

##### **Deadline Extension – Native American Cultural Unity Day: Stamford**

Come together and explore the Native American Cultural Unity Patch program. Activities will include native stores, mixed media crafts, and games. We'll explore history and traditional daily life. Patch and snack included. Please note that this description is a revised version of what is in the *Program Book*.

**Who:** Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors  
**When:** Saturday, November 7  
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (PE10077, Brownies and Juniors)  
1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (PE10078, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors)  
**Where:** Stamford Government Center  
**Fee:** \$2 for adults, \$9 for girls  
**Registration deadline:** November 1  
**Contact:** Nancy Bajek at 203-239-2922, x3369, or [nbajek@gsofct.org](mailto:nbajek@gsofct.org)

**destinations**

Learn about *destinations* trips for Girl Scouts ages 11 – 18 which are sponsored by Girl Scout councils and other organizations. Check <http://www.studio2b.org/escape/> to see what destinations await you. Our meetings will cover funding, timelines, and application forms.

**PE10032;** Darien United Methodist Church; Sunday, November 1, 2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

**PE10035;** New London Service Center; Monday, November 2, 5:45 – 6:30 p.m.

**Who:** Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors, and adults

**Fee:** \$1

**Contact:** Debbie Braun at [dbraun@gsofct.org](mailto:dbraun@gsofct.org)

**Nuestra Voz Latina: Bridgeport, PI10030A**

A self-esteem event for girls and adult females. The event is a collaboration between GSOFC and the Latina A.R.M.Y. (Accomplished Role Models Motivating Young Latinas). The registration form may be found under "Nuestra Voz Latina" in the Resource and Form Library at <http://www.gsofct.org/membership/form-library.php>.

**Who:** Girls in grades 6 – 12 and their moms or female caregivers

**When:** Saturday, November 7; 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Where:** Central High School, Bridgeport

**Fee:** \$5

**Registration deadline:** October 21

**Contact:** Cathy Monckton at [cmonckton@gsofct.org](mailto:cmonckton@gsofct.org) or Deb Sabia at [dsabia@gsofct.org](mailto:dsabia@gsofct.org)

**Girl Scouts Against Smoking: Stratford, PI10014 and North Windham, PI10013**

Learn about health concerns associated with smoking by exploring myths, facts, interactive activities, and conducting an experiment.

**Who:** Girl Scout Juniors

**When:** 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.; Monday, November 16 (Stratford) or Tuesday, November 17 (North Windham)

**Where:** United Methodist Church, Stratford, or the North Windham Service Center

**Fee:** \$6 per girl, \$2 per adult

**Registration deadline:** November 9

**Contact:** Cathy Monckton at [cmonckton@gsofct.org](mailto:cmonckton@gsofct.org)

**Still Time to Register!**

As of the Monday prior to this E-blast, there were spaces available in the following programs and there is still time to register! All registrations are processed through the Registration Department.

Please refer to the Program and Training Registration Area, <http://gsofct.org/eseries/scriptcontent/>, or the *Program Book*, <http://www.gsofct.org/pages/2009-2010ProgramBookandTrainingBook.php>, for more information.

**Solving the Science Puzzle: Litchfield, PE10133;** B; Saturday, November 7, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; Wamogo High School; \$3 for adults, \$13 for girls; register by October 24; contact Gay Roland at 860-567-5340 or [program@gsofct.org](mailto:program@gsofct.org).

**Science at Saint Joseph College: West Hartford, PE10103 and PE10104;** B and J; Saturday, November 14, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (PE10103, Brownies) and 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. (PE10104, Juniors); Saint Joseph College; \$8 per girl, \$3 per adult; register by October 29; contact Erica Mitchell at [emitchell@gsofct.org](mailto:emitchell@gsofct.org)

**Outdoor Program****Terrific Turkeys**

Wild turkeys – what do they eat, why do we need them, how big are they? Girls will learn about turkey anatomy, listen to turkey calls, and play a game called Transform a Turkey. All Daisies and Brownies are welcomed.

**Camp Merribrite, PO10022:** Tuesday, November 3, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Camp Katoya, PO10024:** Wednesday, November 4, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Camp An-Se-Ox, PO10025:** Thursday, November 5, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Camp Laurel, PO10032:** Wednesday, November 11, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Camp Candlewood, PO10034:** Thursday, November 12, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Fee:** \$6 per girl, \$2 per adult

**Contact:** Lin Walsh at [cwalsh@gsofct.org](mailto:cwalsh@gsofct.org)

### Enviroscape

Do you want to share the importance of protecting our watershed with others? Learn how to use the Enviroscape and use your skills to complete leadership and service hours by providing Enviroscape education.

**Camp Pattagansett, PO10035:** Tuesday, November 17, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Wilton Service Center, PO10036:** Wednesday, November 18, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Camp Maria Pratt, PO10037:** Thursday, November 19, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Fee:** \$6 per girl, \$2 per adult

**Contact:** Lin Walsh at [cwalsh@gsofct.org](mailto:cwalsh@gsofct.org)

### Fireside Chats

Do you have questions about summer camp? Did you want to make a reservation early and save a few dollars? Sit by the fireside and have your questions answered. Mulled cider and snacks provided. Come with your Troop or with your family. The cost is \$2 per girl. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Lee at 203-239-2922, x3429, or [lee@gsofct.org](mailto:lee@gsofct.org).

**Camp Carlson, PO10021:** Monday, November 2, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Camp Katoya, PO10023:** Tuesday, November 3, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Camp Laurel, PO10028:** Sunday, November 8, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**Camp Merrie-Wood, PO10029:** Monday, November 9, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Camp Pattagansett, PO10030:** Tuesday, November 10, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Camp Candlewood, PO10031:** Tuesday, November 10, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

**Camp An-Se-Ox, PO10033:** Thursday, November 12, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Camp Aspetuck, PO10038:** Monday, November 23, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Camp Timber Trails, PO10025:** Sunday, November 8, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Just added!

**Fee:** \$2.00 per girl

**Contact:** Elizabeth Lee at 203-239-2922 x3429 or [lee@gsofct.org](mailto:lee@gsofct.org)

### Did you Know?

Did you know that if you want to use a camp property for less than three hours, Monday through Thursday, that there is no fee? That's right! All Girl Scout members can use camp property for activities such as Troop meetings, nature hikes, and exploration. The three-hour reservation includes set-up and clean-up time. Make sure to obtain appropriate adult training requirements when participating in activities at Program Center (camp) properties. Please use form #5340, Site Reservation Application for GSOFACT Users, to reserve a Program Center property.

### Camper Council

It is your camp, we need your input! Join the Camper Council and help make decisions that impact summer camp programs. Help us plan all camp events, make suggestions for camp crafts and games, plan the theme days for camp, and pick out items for the trading post. Meetings will be held monthly – October, November, January, February, March, and April. All girls and parents who attend at least three meetings will earn a Camper Council pin. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Lee at 203-239-2922, x3429, or [lee@gsofct.org](mailto:lee@gsofct.org).

### Join the New Letterboxing and Geocaching Club!

Come join other Girl Scout adult volunteers and girl members once a month to hike at different Program Centers and learn more about letterboxing and geocaching. Come once, twice, or month after month. Sign up with your friends and make new friends at the same time! Beginners on up to advanced hikers are welcome to join. Our first meeting will be at An-Se-Ox Program Center on Sunday, November 8 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. At the first meeting, we'll discuss the purpose and goals of the club, hike through a letterboxing course, and learn about geocaching. Choose a stamp and notebook at the meeting or bring your own. GPS units will be provided. You must be a registered Girl Scout to participate and there is no fee. To sign up, please email Candice Olson at [colson@gsofct.org](mailto:colson@gsofct.org).

### Spring Camporees Reservation Deadline is Fast Approaching!

If a Camporee Chair would like to reserve a Program Center for the spring (April, May), he/she must submit the reservation application to the Registration Department by November 2. Program Center confirmations will be mailed or emailed in early December. Camporee Chairs will be using the Program Center Reservation Application for Camporees form when reserving Program Centers. Please check the website for this form and more guidelines for your upcoming Camporee. If you have questions, please email Candice Olson at [colson@gsofct.org](mailto:colson@gsofct.org).

### **Food Service Certification for Camporees**

Are you in need of a food service certified person for your Camporee? If you are going to be using one of the five commercial kitchens, then you need a food service certification. Here is an easy way to get what you need in a hurry at a great low price! Take the new ServSafe *Starters* Employee Online Training at [www.servsafe.com/starters/](http://www.servsafe.com/starters/). The ServSafe *Starters* training and assessment program is a complete solution that delivers consistent food safety training to employees. ServSafe *Starters* covers five key areas: Basic Food Safety, Personal Hygiene, Cross-Contamination and Allergens, Time and Temperature, and Cleaning and Sanitation. The online course costs just \$15! To preview a demonstration of this online course click <http://www.servsafe.com/Starters/EmployeeDemo/Main.html?lang=en>.

### **Program in the Community**

#### **Women Take Flight at the New England Air Museum**

Interested in a mentoring program for girls who want to further explore careers in aviation and aerospace engineering? Soar over to Women Take Flight at the New England Air Museum on Sunday, November 8, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Don't miss this opportunity for people of all ages to meet an extraordinary group of women pilots, authors, balloonists, engineers and re-enactors! Programs and presentations will be held throughout the day. For more information or to register, please visit [www.neam.org](http://www.neam.org). The fee is \$5.00 (patch included) for registrations received by November 1 or \$10 at the door. Directions will be included with letters of confirmation. Interested mentees, please leave your name with Caroline D'Otreppe at the event.

#### **Catholic Religious Awards**

On Saturday, November 14, the Archdiocese of Hartford is hosting a Training Day for Catholic Girl Scout and Camp Fire adults as well as a Spiritual Retreat Day for girls working on their religious emblems. For more information and registration forms, please contact Shannon Perzan at 860-243-9465, x18, or [sperzan@adh-ore.org](mailto:sperzan@adh-ore.org).

#### **Looking for Museum Overnights?**

Look on page 74 of the Program Book for information on the Mystic Aquarium and Maritime Aquarium overnights. Contact Becky Hirsh at 860-572-5955, x158, for Mystic Aquarium and Lisa Slinsky at 203-852-0700, x2225, for Maritime Aquarium.

## **VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

### **Launching GSUSA Orientation – October 26**

Girl Scouts of Connecticut is pleased to launch GSUSA's Online Orientation for new volunteers. This online volunteer orientation (both English and Spanish versions) will be the first close-up view of the Girl Scout organization for all new volunteers. It is designed to introduce new volunteers to Girl Scouting and the many rewarding opportunities that Girl Scouting offers girls and adults. Prospective volunteers will be given access to the course by their Service Unit Manager or Membership Marketing Manager after they have completed their GSUSA Volunteer Application. The GSUSA Online Orientation takes 30 – 45 minutes to complete. Volunteers will need to use a computer that has the following components and settings:

- Flash 8 or 9 player,
- sound (audio) card,
- speakers – head set is optional,
- disabled pop-up blocker,
- and high-speed internet connection.

Volunteers will be walked through an interactive course and will need to complete a Learning Log to receive credit for this course. Taking this course does not appoint anyone as a volunteer for Girl Scouts of Connecticut. All prospective volunteers will still need to complete the application process which includes a successful background screening and reference check. Upon completion of the application process, a volunteer's next step in the training path will be the GSOFCT Orientation.

This course is for new volunteers, however, if you are a current volunteer and wish to take the course please contact your Membership and Marketing Manager for access. Please note that GSOFCT is working on a CD-Rom version of this course for volunteers who are not able to access computers. If you have any questions, please contact your Membership and Marketing Manager or Volunteer Development Services.

**Amazing Daisy Days!**

Give the youngest girls a special start to Girl Scouting. Review the new Daisy program, Girl Scout Ways, Daisy petals, awards, ceremonies and "garden parties." Learn to create take action projects, and community service projects for the youngest Girl Scouts. Engage parents in the Girl Scout Daisy experience. Retain girls and adults for the next level of Girl Scouts.

**Who:** Daisy Leaders  
**Fee:** \$5  
**Contact:** Kathy Straka at [kstraka@gsofct.org](mailto:kstraka@gsofct.org) or 203-239-2922, x3358

Course #	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location	Deadline
10704	Wednesday	11/4	6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	North Windham Service Center	10/28
10705	Friday	11/13	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Hartford Service Center	11/6

**Fall Leadership Essentials Classroom Courses**

This course will introduce volunteers to the new Girl Scout Leadership Experience Model and provide information on how to facilitate Girl Scout Troop/Group meetings and activities that are girl-led, promote cooperative learning, and encourage learning by doing. Volunteers partake in a hands-on exploration of the new Journey materials and receive guidance in using existing program materials and badge books to reflect the three keys to leadership – Discover, Connect, and Take Action. Leadership Essentials is required for new volunteers but may also be taken by existing volunteers who work with Troops/Groups. Leadership Essentials needs to be completed within three months of starting your Troop/Group and taking Girl Scouts of Connecticut orientation.

**Who:** New Leaders and those wishing to learn about the new Journeys  
**Fee:** \$5  
**Contact:** Kathy Straka at [kstraka@gsofct.org](mailto:kstraka@gsofct.org) or 203-239-2922, x3358

Course #	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location	Deadline
10008	Wednesday	11/4	12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	North Windham Service Center South Windsor	10/28
10018	Thursday	11/5	6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Rockville Bank 1645 Ellington Road	10/29
10009	Thursday	11/12	6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Hartford Service Center	11/5
10026	Monday	11/16	7:00 – 10:00 p.m.	Wilton Service Center	11/9
10010	Tuesday	11/17	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Waterbury Service Center	11/10
10011	Wednesday	11/18	6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	North Windham Service Center Ansonia	11/11
10024	Friday	11/20	6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Christ Church 56 South Cliff Street	11/13

**Explore the Journeys**

Learn how to utilize the new journeys to make the program an exciting experience for the girls. This course will be using the *It's Your World – Change It!* journey series. Work with your own level of journey in this course.

**Who:** All Leaders  
**Fee:** \$5  
**Contact:** Kathy Straka at [kstraka@gsofct.org](mailto:kstraka@gsofct.org) or 203-239-2922, x3358

Course #	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location	Deadline
10755A	Thursday	11/5	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Waterbury Service Center	10/30
10756A	Thursday	11/12	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	North Haven Service Center	11/5
10754A	Tuesday	11/17	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Torrington Service Center	11/17
10753A	Thursday	11/19	6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Fair Oaks School, Oakdale	11/12

**Brownie Ways and Days!: North Windham, 10721**

Creativity for the Brownie years including Girl Scout Ways for grades 2 and 3, special Girl Scout Brownie ceremonies, and songs. Create the best meetings. Learn the progression for that first overnight adventure. Become familiar with the "Brownie Quest." Prepare the girls and adults for the next Girl Scout grade level.

**Who:** Brownie Leaders  
**When:** Wednesday, November 4, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
**Where:** North Windham Service Center  
**Fee:** \$5  
**Register by:** October 28  
**Contact:** Kathy Straka at [kstraka@gsofct.org](mailto:kstraka@gsofct.org) or 203-239-2922, x3358

**Budgeting for Your Daisy/Brownie Troop: Wilton, 10737**

From Daisy to Brownie, learn to budget for your Troop activities throughout the year. Open a checking account, retain receipts for allowable expenses, and plan for the end of year financial report from the start. Set the Troop dues, ask for parent co-pays for events, and apply for financial aid for girls and adult volunteers. Plan for Troop expenses for refreshments, events, patches, pins, and required adult training. Use Product Sale money wisely.

**Who:** Daisy and Brownie Leaders  
**When:** Tuesday, November 10, 1:30 – 3:30pm  
**Where:** Wilton Service Center  
**Fee:** \$5  
**Register by:** November 3  
**Contact:** Kathy Straka at 203-239-2922, x3358, or Jane Bielefield at 800-922-2770, x3616, or [jbielefield@gsofct.org](mailto:jbielefield@gsofct.org)