

Girl Scouts of Connecticut

1-800-922-2770 www.gsofct.org

E-BLAST

October 9, 2009

New London Service Center

The lease is expiring at the New London Service Center and, given the present state of the economy, the decision has been made not to renew it. Current New London Service Center staff members will be relocated to the North Windham and North Haven Service Centers, where they will provide you with the services and support you have come to depend on. Additionally, in an effort to continue to meet your needs locally, our staff is working with volunteers in the New London area to locate other facilities for use as meeting and training locations. GSOFCCT staff will work to ensure that members in the New London Service Center area receive the same services, if not more, in locations that are still convenient. You may continue to contact the staff in New London at this time for more information and assistance during this transition.

PRODUCT SALES

The QSP Program Has Begun!

October 1 marked the start of the QSP Program. Girls are busy contacting family and friends and asking them to support Girl Scouts by purchasing treats such as nuts, candy, and popcorn as well as ordering magazines. Don't forget about the online QSP Program which allows girls to invite families and friends to purchase magazines on our website at www.gsofct.org/pages/SupportProductSales2009.php. If you have any questions, please contact the Product Sales Team at productsales@gsofct.org.

Webster Online Payment Webinars

Webster online banking is a fast, easy, and efficient way for Troops to pay their QSP, Election Day Booth Sale, and Cookie Program bills to Council. Learn how to use the online payment system by logging on to an instructional webinar on October 14, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. or October 20, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Please contact jcarraro@gsofct.org to register for the webinar of your choice and obtain login information.

Cookie Program

Mark your calendars! The "Inspired by You" Cookie Program initial order taking begins January 8, 2010 and runs through February 5, 2010. Drive-thru cookie deliveries will be on March 6 and March 7, 2010. Booth sales will be held March 6, 2010 to April 3, 2010. If you have questions about the Cookie Program, please contact productsales@gsofct.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Money Earning Activity Black Out Dates

During QSP order taking from October 1 through October 23, additional Money Earning Activities (MEAs) will not be approved. Please plan your Troop/Group/Service Unit's activities accordingly. As a reminder, Troops/Groups who wish to hold an additional MEA must participate in QSP this fall, plan to participate in the 2010 Cookie Program, and submit this past membership year's financial statements.

Registration

Have you registered your Troop/Group yet? The 2009 – 2010 Membership Year began on October 1. Please get those registrations in now. All girls and adults participating in Girl Scout activities must be registered members.

Looking for Something to Celebrate?

Remember Juliette Gordon Low's birthday is October 31! Please see the entry under "Things to Know" below.

PROGRAM

Things to Know

Council Sponsored Trip Applications

Girls interested in taking part in the Council sponsored trips to Bermuda and England should submit their application and reference forms by October 30. Information on these trips can also be found on pages 36 – 37 of the Program Book. Please note this correction: the trip listed for Cadettes is for girls who are 14 and 15 years old at the time of the trip and the dates are July 28 – August 11, 2010. Adults interested in applying to chaperone the England trip should submit the reference forms and the adult trip application. All forms can be found in the Resource and Form Library on our website.

Senior and Ambassador – Leadership Institute Meeting

Help make this group strong through your participation! We'll be meeting Sunday, October 25 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the North Haven Service Center. Get involved with program, communications, advocacy, and more. Add your own ideas and make the group your own. If you can attend or are interested in being a part of the group but cannot attend, please contact Nan Bussmann at nbussmann@gsofct.org.

100 Years – What Will Our Girl Program Celebrations Look Like?

Join us on Sunday, October 25 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. as we begin planning for the 100th anniversary in 2012! Adults and interested Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors are welcome. Come discuss statewide service opportunities, patch programs, Camporees, and more. How do you envision this major anniversary? Let's make it happen! RSVP preferred to Nan Bussmann at nbussmann@gsofct.org.

The Children's Museum

Listed in the Community Partner section of the Program Book on pages 68 and 75, the Children's Museum offers many up to date opportunities for Girl Scouts. This year they are offering workshops for Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors geared towards the *It's Your Planet, Love It!* Journey series. On October 24, 2009 and January 23, 2010 the museum hosts Girl Scout days. Each girl in vest/sash will enter the museum for free, with each adult admission. As always, the museum offers age appropriate overnights; and special nights are set aside for Girl Scouts. See the Program Book for more details or email events@thechildrensmuseumct.org for info and reservations.

Honoring Juliette Low

October 31 is our founder's birthday. Honor her life by attending one of the following events:

- Celebrate Juliette Gordon Low is at Pattagansett on October 31. Daisies, Brownies and Juniors will celebrate with dance, creating desserts, and playing fun games. PE10025 runs from 9:30 a.m. - noon, and PE10026 runs from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. See page 42 of the Program Book.
- Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors can honor Juliette's life by getting up-to-date info at Bridgeport Hospital's *Healthy You, Healthy Me, a Breast Health Workshop* on October 17. So much has changed since Juliette was diagnosed with breast cancer, it's so important for girls to be informed! Girls are asked to help educate a loved one by bringing an adult female in their life. If Troop Advisors are attending Fall Fling, girls can still attend this program event as a part of a girl-adult pair. See page 47 of the Program Book for event PI10016.

Interested in Marine Biology?

Made possible by a grant from Lockheed Martin, Long Island Sound Sisters is an opportunity for 24 Girl Scout Seniors or Ambassadors to become involved in research projects with scientists at the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk. Projects include animal monitoring, a seal census study, horseshoe crab tagging, a freshwater mussel study, a biodiversity study, and more. The team will meet approximately twice per month beginning in the fall and continuing through the spring, with one of the studies running into the summer. This group will also plan an event for younger girls and create a water-themed program resource for GSOFACT. For more information, please contact Ellyn Savard at esavard@gsofct.org.

Program Events

October-Fest: Manchester, PE10079

Please join us for a fun day of seasonal crafts!

Who: Girl Scout Daisies and Brownies
When: Saturday, October 31, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Where: Camp Merrie-Wood
Fee: \$7 per girl, \$2 per adult
Registration deadline: October 16
Contact: Erica Mitchell at emitchell@gsofct.org

Science at Saint Joseph College: West Hartford, PE10103 and PE10104

Start your day off with hands-on science activities and a wacky science show!

Who: Girl Scout Brownies and Juniors
When: Saturday, November 14, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (PE10103, Brownies) and 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. (PE10104, Juniors)
Where: Saint Joseph College
Fee: \$8 per girl, \$3 per adult
Registration deadline: October 29
Contact: Erica Mitchell at emitchell@gsofct.org

Program Aide Core and Specialty Training

Come to a Program Aide overnight at a camp to complete both your core and specialty training and get your pin all in one weekend! Learn how to lead younger girls in Healthy Living or S.T.E.M. Please refer to page 52 of the Program Book.

Program Event Reminders**Healthy You, Healthy Me; a Breast Health Workshop: Bridgeport**

The workshop is presented by Dr. Mary Pronovost, breast surgeon at the Norma F. Pfriem Breast Care Center, and is intended for pairs of girls and female adults. Bring the woman you love and help her stay healthy!

Who: Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors
When: Saturday, October 17, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Where: DuPont Room, Bridgeport Hospital
Fee: \$2 per girl, \$2 per adult
Registration deadline: October 10
Contact: Kathy Matts at kwmatts@yahoo.com

Deadline Extension – Native American Cultural Unity Day: Stamford

Come together and explore the Native American Cultural Unity Patch program. Activities will include native stories, missed 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, 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

Solving the Science Puzzle: Litchfield, PE10133

Learn the science of weather through an interactive presentation by "The Science Guy," Keith Johnson. Then continue exploring science through a variety of hands-on activities.

Who: Brownies
When: Saturday, November 7, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Where: Wamogo High School
Fee: \$3 for adults, \$13 for girls
Registration deadline: October 24
Contact: Gay Roland at 860-567-5340 or program@gsofct.org

Program in the Community**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.

Outdoor Program**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.

Box Oven Cooking: Manchester; PO10027

Did you know you can bake cookies in a box? Learn a new type of outdoor cooking. Make your own box oven and cook a dessert.

Who: Juniors
When: Sunday, November 8, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Where: Camp Merrie-Wood
Fee: \$5 per girl, \$1 per adult
Contact: Elizabeth Lee at 203-239-2922, x3429, or lee@gsofct.org

Deadline Extension! Haunted Hike Registration: Milford

Things are getting spooky at the Katoya Program Center in Milford! Tour guides will escort groups through the trail of scary creatures and lead hikers past the pond creatures and through the graveyard to assorted buildings of fun and scare – all in good Halloween fun. Limited numbers of “I Survived the Haunted Hike” patches will be available at the hike for \$2 each. Please pre-register as it helps us plan for tricks and treats, but additional tickets may be purchased at the gate. The Haunted Hike’s registration deadline has been extended until October 21. Friday, October 23 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM and Saturday, October 24 from 4:00 – 5:30 and 6:30 – 8:30 PM. Cost is \$6 per participant.

Who: All registered Girl Scouts and adults
When: Friday, October 23, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, October 24, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Where: Katoya Program Center
Fee: \$6 per participant
Contact: Linda Bresky at 203-239-2922, x3010, or lbresky@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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Celebrate the Season: East Lyme, PO10096

Enjoy the warmth of the lodge and the company of others as you relax at Camp Pattagansett. A variety of seasonal crafts and activities will be available. Individual girls may register and must bring a completed Parent/Guardian Trip/Event Permission and Girl Health History (#5120) to the event in order to participate. Bring overnight gear appropriate for indoor lodge sleeping. Bring a bag dinner and a snack to share with other girls and Troops. Fee includes cold breakfast.

Who: Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors and Adults
When: Friday, December 4, 5:00 p.m. – Saturday, December 5, 9:00 a.m.
Where: Pattagansett Program Center
Fee: \$15 per participant
Registration deadline: November 20
Contact: Candice Olson at 203-239-2922, x3344, or colson@gsofct.org

VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**Leadership Essentials Online: TR10021**

Volunteers can now take Leadership Essentials on the computer, please see the course description below. You will be sent a PowerPoint presentation and a Word worksheet. You will need both the adult and girl Journey *It's Your World – Change It!* books for your level. Register for this class at <http://www.gsofct.org/eseries/scriptcontent/> and under the activities select “Non-Classroom Training.” Leadership Essentials Online is course TR10021. The course costs \$5. You will receive a \$5 store voucher upon completion. For more information, please contact Volunteer Development Services at 203-239-3922 or adultdev@gsofct.org.

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 or 203-239-2922, x3358

Course #	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location	Deadline
10005	Tuesday	10/20	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Hartford Service Center	10/13
10023	Tuesday	10/20	6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Suffield Ambulance Building, Suffield	10/13
10006	Monday	10/26	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Torrington Service Center	10/19
10007	Wednesday	10/28	1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	North Windham Service Center	10/21

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 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

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 or 203-239-2922, x3358

Course #	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location	Deadline
10703	Tuesday	10/27	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Torrington Service Center	10/20
10757A	Friday	10/30	6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Richmond Center New Milford	10/23

Brownie Ways and Days!

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
Fee: \$5
Contact: Kathy Straka at kstraka@gsofct.org or 203-239-2922, x3358

Course #	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location	Deadline
10721	Wednesday	11/4	3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	North Windham Service Center	10/28

Budgeting for Your Daisy/Brownie Troop

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
Fee: \$5
Contact: Kathy Straka at 203-239-2922, x3358, or Jane Bielefield at 800-922-2770, x3616, or jbielefield@gsofct.org

Course #	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location	Deadline
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10737	Tuesday	11/10	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Wilton Service Center	11/3
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Just Added - Out and About: Torrington, TR10430

Out and About prepares volunteers to take the girls out of doors. Topics include outdoor health, safety, progression in the outdoors, hiking guidelines, and indoor food preparation. Out and About training needs to be completed at least two months prior to a day trip to Council program centers or other outdoor sites, to participate in Service Unit camporees for the day, and/or to have simple overnights in a Program Center or community building with an automatic heating system and using indoor cooking only. Please note: this course does not include any outdoor cooking or fireplace cooking techniques.

Who: Adult volunteers
When: Tuesday, October 20, 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Where: Torrington Service Center
Fee: \$5
Registration deadline: October 13
Min/Max: 6/20
Contact: Jane Bielefield 800-922-2770, x3616, or jbielefield@gsfct.org

Trail III

This Challenge Course is designed for adults who have extensive camping experience but have not yet completed Camping Adventures. This advanced course applies to highly experienced adults who have training from another council or agency in camping (please provide an outline of that training), environmental education, or other extensive outdoor training experience, and who are looking to take their Troops camping. Trail III has a cost of \$20 per course for food and supplies. Please contact Jane Bielefield at 800-922-2770, x3616, or at jbielefield@gsfct.org if you have any questions.

TR10519: Carlson, Bristol – Saturday, October 17, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

TR10520: Pattagansett, East Lyme – Saturday – October 17, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

TR10518: Maria Pratt, Torrington – Saturday – October 24 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

TR10522: Carlson, Bristol – Saturday – November 7, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

First Aid and CPR courses: Just a reminder that Girl Scouts of Connecticut does not accept any courses taken over the internet. Participants must demonstrate their skills to an instructor in order for the course to be accepted by Girl Scouts of Connecticut.

COUNCIL SHOPS**Back To Troop Sales**

We are pleased to be a participating Girl Scout shop in GSUSA's 20% discount coupon offer, found in the GSUSA catalog sent to members in August. The offer applies toward the purchase of two or more regularly priced national girl or teen t-shirts. Offer ends on October 15, 2009.

Also, check out our exclusive GSOFCT 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.