

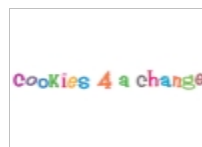


Leaders Notes February 2010

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Annual Meeting

The date is set for Saturday, March 13, 2010 at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Check out the homepage and click on Annual Meeting. The SWAP Meet is back!



Cookie Sales are underway! Booth Sales begin on Saturday, February 20th. and don't forget to sign up for a booth! Great ideas for your troop:

- Troop Business Cards with number to call for cookies!
- Bundle the cookies...wrap two or three together. Promote buying for birthday, get well, or thinking of you gifts!
- Decorate Car Windows with Cookie Info. Use during deliveries!

Questions regarding Product Sales, please contact Veronica Dittman, Director of Product Sales at 1-800-929-5229 or vdittman@gsgst.org.

Shop News:

Get Ready for Annual Meeting!

Leader Kits are available for \$66.00. Purchase the Navy Twin Set and your choice of scarf (excluding silk Legacy Scarf) and receive a *free* scarf slide of your choice. This is an \$87.00 value for \$66.00, a savings for \$21.00!

See below!

BASIC IN BAG FOR LEADERS



Heart2Heart Tuesday!

Pull a heart from the shop bowl and receive a discount! Discounts will vary from 10% to 30%!

From the Membership Department

Semi-annual management reports were due on January 10th, 2010, If you have not turned them in to your Membership Executive, please do so or mail them in as soon as possible. The form can be downloaded from our website. This is also one of the requirements for your Service Unit's Dollar Per Girl Incentive Program.

If you have any **new** girls, please make sure they are registered especially if they are participating in the cookie sale.

Annual Meeting will be held on March 13th, 2010 in Kingsville; Registration will be at 9:30am and the meeting at 10am. For those of you who have signed up as delegates, you will be receiving all the information in the mail. I encourage each service unit to participate and be well represented.

Spring and summer are right around the corner, which means lots of planning for end of year trips, bridging ceremonies, and day camps. Keep in mind that each leader must be trained and there are some activities that your troop will not be able to participate in if the troop leader does not have the proper training. If your area has several new troop leaders and there is not a scheduled NL Training on the calendar for that month, please call me. It may be possible to arrange training in your area.

We have a new addition to our Membership Staff at the Laredo Service Center. Please help me welcome Membership Executive, **Amanda Guerra** to Girl Scouts of Greater South Texas.

If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at 1-800-447-2688 ext. 108. Good luck to all with their cookie and booth sales and remember to encourage each girl to be the best she can be!

Sincerely,

Diana Trevino--Infante

Director of Membership



News From Your Volunteer Service Department

New Trainers-Facilitators

If you like to share your enthusiasm about Girl Scouting, the training department might be the place for you! We are still looking for Council Trainers and Specialty Level Trainers all over the Council. Contact Terry at 800-865-3069.

Training Registration

Leaders, please remember to fill out your Training Registration Form and send it to Terry Blevins at least 1 week before each session. It is very important that we have all the information on your form.

Bank Accounts

Cookie time is here and that means all troops participating in the sale will need a Troop Account. You will find that form on our website under the Volunteer - Forms tab. Please fill in all the blanks. Your correct information is very important in getting your account open in a timely manner. Having your bank contact person listed with the correct fax number at the bank will also help. If you place your e-mail address on the form, I will immediately inform you when the account is ready. Please remember that all signers must be registered Girl Scouts and have a Volunteer Application on file.

Adult Opportunities for Troop Camp Training

Troops wishing to Camp out, Sleep out or Cook-Out, must have a registered adult who is Troop Camp Trained. This is a great job for one of the fathers in the troop. Remember Leaders, you don't have to take all the classes, delegate!

Classes scheduled are:

January 23-24 in Laredo

January 29-30 in Victoria

March 26-27 in Bayview

You must pre-register for this class, no drop-ins.

Services provided by this Department:

- Setting up your Troop or Service Unit Bank Accounts
- All Adult Volunteer Records
- Adult Learning Opportunities
- Training Records
- Supervising Trainers & Facilitators
- Adult Recognition & banquets

Please call any time you have a question or need help in these areas.

Child Safety Seats

House Bill 61 now requires that any child younger than 8 years of age be restrained in an approved child passenger safety seat unless the child is taller than 4 feet, 9 inches in height. Even though tickets will not be given until June 1, 2010, we must obey this new law. Please remember this new rule when taking troop trips with the girls.

Terry Blevins

Director of Volunteer Services

104 West River

Victoria, TX 77901

tblevins@gsgst.org

800-865-3069

361-573-6451

361-579-0988 fax

Girl Scouts Forever Green: Community Action Project

October 2009
- June 2010!

Girl Scouts can change the world– and you can be a part of it!

Join Girl Scouts across Greater South Texas as we make a huge impact on the environment! Your girls can become advocates for greener schools and community areas- how they choose to do it is up to them. We encourage every troop and Juliette Girl Scout to be Forever Green by planning an environmental action project designed and led by girls to bring about sustainable change in their school or community!

Check out our Forever Green How-To guide for leaders with application form, information on environmental issues, and lots of tips on how to help girls plan and implement a Girl Scouts Forever Green community action project.

Go online to: <http://www.gsgst.org/comservice.htm>



Did you know? Each one of us throws away approximately **4.6 pounds** of waste per day!

That means each week you throw away enough trash to equal more than 60 boxes of

Thin Mints! Multiply that by the number of kids and adults at one school and that's a lot of Girl Scout cookies gone to waste! How can you and your girls reduce the amount of waste you produce each day?



Get Started Today!

Follow these simple steps to help your girls create lasting change in their school and community.

Discover. Any Girl Scout Troop or Juliette may create a Girl Scouts Forever Green community action project. This project can also be incorporated into a Girl Scout Bronze, Silver or Gold award project. Start by learning more about environmental issues such as Air Quality, Energy Conservation, Green Space, Waste Management or Water Quality in your school and community and determine how you can make an impact. *Check out the How-To guide for more info!*

Connect. Find out what can be done in your school or community that will make a difference that your troop/girl can achieve by **June 10, 2010**. Contact your local program manager for help connecting with community members, environmental experts and school officials.

Take Action. Help girls as they decide on a project and **apply** to be a Green Team! The project must be completed by June 10, 2010. (This deadline will not affect projects that are ongoing.)

Join us in this exciting nation-wide program!

A certificate will be available from GSUSA for all Girl Scouts who participate and complete a Forever Green take action project, and a patch will be available for purchase.



observe
& conserve