

Lone Star Service Unit Meeting

Thursday, October 13, 2011

There were 17 adults in attendance at tonight's meeting. The following troops were represented: 9700, 9702, 9709, 9711, 9728, 9732, 9733, 9737, 9738, 9758, 9759, 9760, and 9779. Also present were Amanda Gonzalez (our Membership Executive on staff with the Council), Terri Boone (our service unit's Product Sales Coordinator), Julie Andersen (one of our service unit's Camp Coordinators), and five girls scouts who would be giving presentations during the meeting.

I. Happy New Year! (And Lone Star bucks)

October officially marks the beginning of our new membership year in Girl Scouting.

Judy passed out Lone Star bucks for all in attendance. She also gave additional Lone Star bucks to Judy Kunkel and Terri Boone for their work in training our leaders and to Joel and Angel Tanguma for organizing and running the Bring-A-Friend rally at TM Middle School last month. Judy also passed out surveys for us to take back to our troops. The surveys will provide feedback on possible topics for our service unit's Summer Fun event..

II. Welcome New Leaders

We welcomed two new leaders to our service unit. Each will be assigned an ELF (Experienced Leader Friend) to help them get off to a great start:

Maggie Prejean (Daisy Troop 9737) Maggie's ELF's: Amy Ramirez and Joel and Angel Tanguma

Priscilla Garcia (Daisy Troop 9738) Priscilla's ELF: not yet determined

III. Troop presentations

Angel Tanguma and two girls from her Daisy Troop 9700 explained their "Birthdays in a Bag" service project. If you would like to donate cake mixes, icing, sprinkles, candles, streamers, goodie bags, banners, or balloons for them to pack up and deliver to Ronald McDonald house on Friday, October 28, please contact Angel at 696-0025 or angeltanguma@yahoo.com.

A couple of girls from Brownie Troop 9760 explained that they will be collecting small toiletry items for homeless people living here in Corpus Christi. They will be collecting items until November 3, and the toiletry bags will be distributed on November 6 in conjunction with meals and with the help of St. Andrews Episcopal Church. To help, please contact Linda Lopez (739-1665 or lclopez29@gmail.com) or April Guzman (876-6793 or guzman.fam06@gmail.com).

Kristen Kunkel of Senior Troop 9759 talked about her Girl Scout “Destinations” trips to Florida, California, and Boston. Each destination includes a service project component, and Kristen said that they are all a lot of fun. She passed around pictures and said that she continues to keep in contact with many of the people that she has met. “Destinations” are for individual Girl Scouts ages 11 and older and require an application. The deadline for submitting applications this year is November 16. There are also “Get Aways,” which are adventures designed for troops/groups to attend together. To find out more, go to www.girlscouts.org.

IV. Treasurer’s Report

Our balance at the beginning of the month was \$782.35. Two checks have been written for Summer Fun postage and for supplies for New Leader Training. Our new balance is \$744.40. We also plan to begin receiving a little bit of money once per quarter from the council because of their new efforts to raise donations from Girl Scout families (\$3 per girl and \$10 per family). The \$3 will be given to the girl’s service unit.

V. Report from the Council

Amanda discussed with us the SDR (Service Delivery Redesign) meeting coming up next Tuesday. She also briefly discussed Council recruiting ideas. Also, we have always been told that troops cannot raise funds during United Way blackout dates. United Way of the Coastal Bend, however, does not have any such blackout dates.

VI. Upcoming events

Dee Ordner of Cadette Troop 9711 talked to us about her troop’s plans to help our service unit celebrate simultaneously World Thinking Day and GSUSA’s 100th anniversary. They are looking at dates around March 3, but that day is not yet set in stone. On a separate note, Dee and Rachel Unterbrink have been discussing the possibility of a Service Unit camping trip at Camp Greenhill. They are looking at the weekend of November 19 (or maybe the first weekend of December), but that date is not yet set either. Once this date has been set, they will get a flyer out to us via email. Daisies would be required to attend with their own parents. Each troop would need to send in a troop trip application (found on www.gsgst.org), and outdoor training would be required. New troops without this training can pair up with an experienced troop.

Rachel Unterbrink’s troop is planning a Project Undercover Event/Fall Festival. This event should be happening very shortly, so be looking for a flyer in your e-mail inbox soon.

Our service unit will host an Investiture/Rededication Ceremony on Sunday, November 13 in the Community Room of Hilltop Community Center. Troops need to RSVP to Judy Kestner by November 1. Because the fire code limits us to 65

people, Judy needs you to estimate the total number of people who will attend (girls, parents, siblings, extended family, etc.)

Judy Kunkel talked about an event for older girls (Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors) being hosted by her Senior Troop 9759 on Sunday, November 6. The theme revolves around empowering girls and building self-confidence. Leaders of older girls should be looking for a flyer in their e-mail inbox soon.

There will be an SDR meeting on Tuesday, October 18. Our service unit needs four people to attend, and those four people will be Laura Lopez, Joel Tanguma, Judy Kestner, and _____. Please let Judy know if you are willing to fill this last spot.

VII. Training updates

Judy Kunkel asked us to check the council's calendar for upcoming training dates. Remember to register at least one week prior to your class. Registration forms can be found online.

There will be a Volunteer Conference at Camp Bayview this weekend. Dee Ordner and April Guzman will be attending and carpooling down there with others.

VIII. Fall Product Sales

Terri Boone reported that Fall Product Sales end this Saturday and that troop orders need to be entered online by Sunday. Detailed order reports and paper magazine orders then need to be brought to Terri. Products will arrive the first week of November.

Cookie Sale training will be held at 2:00 pm on Sunday, October 23 at United Methodist Church on Shoreline Drive. Terri asked if anyone (any troop) would be interested in hosting our service unit's cookie rally this year. One of our newest leaders, Maggie Prejean, said she would help Terri plan it.

IX. New Business

Please take the Summer Fun surveys to your troop. Please get results back to Judy Kestner before our next service unit meeting (November 17).

Judy pointed out that there is lots of information about a program called Forever Green on the GSGST website. She encouraged us to check out the website for fun ways to get involved in this "green" movement that also ties in with GSUSA's 100th anniversary celebration.

We reviewed the three proposals that we discussed last month that will be voted on at the National Convention on November 10-13.

X. Mark your Calendar

Please mark your calendars with the following dates:

OCTOBER

Shop: Limited supply of starter kits available for girls and adults.

Thu. 13 S.U. Meeting at Hilltop, 7:00 p.m. - *HAPPY NEW YEAR!*

50% off Journey keepsakes at the shop

Take a Journey 6 - 8 p.m.

Fr-Su 14-16 Volunteer Conference, Camp Bayview

Sat. 15 Fall Product Sales end

Sun. 16 Troops enter Fall Product orders on Nut-e

Tue. 18 Service Delivery Redesign mtg at CC Service Center, 5:30 p.m. - Judy, Joel, Dee, ??

Sat. 22 Fright Fest, Camp Green Hill

Leader Essentials/Level Training at Hilltop

Sun. 23 Cookie Training

Mon. 24 ALL Fall Product paperwork due to Terri

Mo-Fr 24-28 T-M Intersession

Thu. 27 Leader Essentials/Level Training at Hilltop, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sat. 29 Project Undercover

Mon. 31 J.G. Low birthday: pick a trefoil discount of 10-20% at the shop, refreshments

NOVEMBER

Shop: Limited supply of starter kits with 100 anniversary tote. Pre-holiday sale: 10% off gifts, patches

Tu-Fr 1 – 4 Fall Product delivery

Sat. 5 Outdoor Skills Spectacular, Camp Bayview (reg. due Oct. 21)

Sun. 6 First Aid/CPR, Bishop (reg. due Oct. 31)

Older girl event hosted by Troop 9759

Th-Su 10-13 National Girl Scout Convention, Houston

Sat. 12 Barnes and Noble Book Fair fundraiser for GSGST

Tue. 13 Investiture/Rededication at Hilltop, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thu. 17 S.U. Meeting at Hilltop, 7:00 p.m. - THIS IS THE 3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Gold and Silver workshop 5:30-8:00, CCSC

Fr-Su 18-21 Volunteer Conference at Camp Green Hill

We-Fr 23-25 Shop closed for Thanksgiving

Mon. 28 Leadership Essentials at Hilltop (?)

DECEMBER

Shop: Free gift wrapping all month

Thu. 1 Troops begin entering cookie orders

Sat. 3 Holiday in the Woods (Green Hill); Holiday Under the Palms (Bayview) (reg. due Nov. 18)

Mon. 5 Levels training at Hilltop (?)

Tue. 6 First Aid/CPR in Victoria

Thu. 8 New Leader Meeting at Hilltop, 6:00 - 6:45 p.m., Room A-4

8 S.U. Meeting/Christmas Party/Crafts Supply Swap at Hilltop, 7:00 - 8:15 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Amelia Swanson