



WHAT'S NEW IN GSSJC

Summer 2010

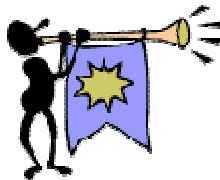
A newsletter for service unit administrators, volunteers and troop leaders Volume 8, Issue 6

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PLEASE NOTE:

**All GSSJC offices
 will be closed on
 Monday,
 July 5, 2010.**

Service Unit Planning for 2010-2011

It takes good planning to run a successful service unit, supporting the troops and girls in your community, and it helps to have tools to do the planning. The **Service Unit Plan of Action** packet and the **Administrative Planning Guide** for the 2010-2011 membership year are ready for service unit administrative teams to use as they make a plan for the new membership year. Both tools can be found on the Council Web site in the Leader Resources/SU Admin folder.

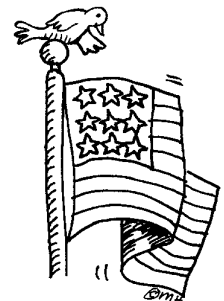


The Plan of Action packet is intended to give the administrative team topics for discussion and action steps to move the work of the service unit forward. To best utilize the staff-volunteer partnership that we have in GSSJC, service unit administrative teams should include their Membership Manager in the process. The Plan of Action is organized in such a way that it can be completed in two or more working sessions, not one extended meeting. The packet has been designed to take apart, allowing volunteers to complete the specific section for which they are responsible (for example, Administrative, Recruitment, Training, or Finance). One person should not be attempting to complete the entire packet. A planning session could be scheduled where each volunteer could report back with the planning accomplished. When the Plan of Action has been completed, make sure each team member has a copy as well as your Membership Manager.

The Administrative Planning Guide for 2010-2011 serves as a monthly calendar and checklist of typical items the service unit should address as the year progresses. It will help service units to stay on track for the year.

2010 Fall Open House

GSSJC's Fall Open House has been scheduled for **Saturday, September 11, 2010** from 10 am to 3 pm. The event will include hands-on activities for girls of all ages and their families via *girl-run* booths (outdoor and indoor) across the Houston Girl Scout Center/Program Place for Girls campus. Service units are invited to host a booth highlighting a specific level of Girl Scouts (i.e. Daisy, Brownie, Junior) with a display, information and a fun activity for girls. Plans are underway for many of GSSJC's special interest groups to participate, allowing girls to learn about the benefits of staying in Girl Scouts. Registration and re-registration opportunities will be available for troops and individuals. Volunteer information will be available about training, finding info on the GSSJC Web site, learning about the fall product sale opportunities, and much more. Girls and adults are encouraged to bring a friend and take a tour of the Goodykoontz Museum of Girl Scout History, and visit the Council shop or library. Save the date on your calendar and watch for more information in the August and September issues of "What's New in GSSJC."



Save These Dates

Wednesdays in June
'Wonderful Wednesdays' for Girl Scout Juniors

June 12
"Vocal Explosion"
Take Note Choir's day long of singing fun & auditions

June 12
Teen Advisor Training Event

July 10
Junior Leadership Training Event

July 24
Daisy/Brownie Leadership Training Event

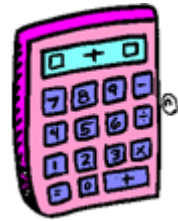
August 14
Focus on the Service Unit Team Training Event

September 11
GSSJC Open House Event

October 8-10
ETC Training Event

Troop Financials Reminder!

Troop funds belong to the girls. It is essential (and required) that every troop demonstrates good stewardship of these funds by reporting all sources of income and expenses on a yearly basis. As stated in the GSSJC Resource Guide and the Policies and Operational Procedures (GSSJC F-433), EVERY troop in Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council must turn in the following to their service unit treasurer (or designee) by May 15th (or the May service unit meeting):



- Troop Financial Report (Form GSSJC F-31), summary page only – not worksheets or receipts
- A copy of your most RECENT troop bank account statement

Service units should review and record which troops have submitted their financial report and turn them in to their Membership Manager by June 1.

Important Note: Troop leaders must retain a copy of the Troop Financial Report (GSSJC F-31), including the supporting detailed worksheets AND copies of all receipts in the troop records for 3 years.

Service Unit Administrator Appointments

Service units with administrators whose terms of office expire at the end of May 2010 should be completing the process of recommending volunteers for appointment to administrative positions so they will be in place to start on June 1. Keep in mind that service unit administrators are appointed by the Membership Coordinator or the Senior Membership Coordinator. Detailed guidelines are posted in the SU Admin folder in Leader Resources on the Council Web site under the title, "Service Unit Selection Process Overview." For assistance, contact your membership/area coordinator or membership manager.

Display Changes at the Goodykoontz Museum of Girl Scout History

The acrylic display cases at the Goodykoontz Museum of Girl Scout History will be changed in mid-June, to showcase a new selection of subjects and historical moments. Ready for viewing on June 15, the new displays will highlight Camp Casa Mare and the 'Big House', changes in the Girl Scout Promise and Law throughout the years, sewing and cooking badges from the 1960s, and girl activities from the 1930s inspired by an issue of American Girl magazine.



Missed the current selection of displays at the museum? Stop by during the first week of June before the displays are taken down in preparation for the new. Themed displays in the Goodykoontz Museum of Girl Scout History are planned, prepared and presented by the GSSJC History Committee on a regular basis.

Auditions for Take Note Choir

Auditions for GSSJC's Take Note Choir can be held when attending the Vocal Explosion event on June 12. A flyer with more information can be found on the April 2010 CIN. Be sure to indicate on the event registration form that an audition is requested. Joining the Take Note Choir at this time enables new members to be part of the choir that sings the national anthem at the August 1 Houston Astros Game at Minute Maid Park!





OUTSTANDING!

46 service units have met their membership goals for 2009-2010! Congratulations!

- Alief
- Angleton-Danbury
- Bay Breeze
- Bay Pals
- Bending Bayous
- Brooks Bayou
- Browndale
- Clear Springs
- Compass Rose
- Dairy
- Delta Skies
- Dogwood Blossoms
- Dogwood Hills
- Eastern Junction
- Enchanted Forest
- Friendswood
- Galveston
- Happy Trails
- Heather Meadows
- Hummingbird Way
- Klein Country
- Landsdale
- Las Brisas
- Magic Forest
- Meadowbrook
- Pearland.
- Prairie Rose
- Rainbow Stars
- River Rose
- Robin's Nest
- Santa Fe
- Silver Spur
- Spring Flowers
- Sundance
- Sunrise Ridge
- Sunshine
- Sunshine Meadows
- Tall Pines Hill
- Texas City-La Marque
- Texas Treasures
- Texas Stars
- Topnocs
- Westmoreland
- White Oak
- Whispering Trails
- W Brazos Bluebonnets

(registrations processed as of 4/30/10)

Girl and Adult Surveys

Girls, troop leaders, service unit administrators and volunteers from across the Council are encouraged to complete a Year End Survey for the 2009-2010 membership year.



Girls and adults can find easy access to the surveys from the home page of the Council's web site [www.gssjc.org]. Follow the links from 'GSSJC Surveys Online' to locate the Girls' Surveys (by level) as well as the Adult Volunteer & Leader Year End Survey. On average, volunteers took eight minutes to complete the survey last year – it doesn't take a long time to do!

The survey gives us information to understand and respond to the needs of the troops, service units and all volunteers. In addition, our surveys provide information which explains the value of Girl Scouting to United Way and other funders.

Please complete this year's survey and direct your girls to the appropriate girl level surveys. Paper copies of the surveys are available by calling the GSSJC Membership Department, 713-292-0300. Completed paper responses should be given to a Membership Manager or mailed to: GSSJC Membership, 3110 Southwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77098.

What is a Volunteer Worth?

Volunteers of Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council are priceless! We do our best to make volunteers feel appreciated with recognitions and messages of thanks.

The Independent Sector has recently released the updated value of volunteer time for 2009, which is \$20.85 per hour of service. The value of volunteer time is evaluated annually. The 2009 figure is up by .60 cents over the 2008 value of \$20.25. The value of volunteer time for the previous year is always announced the following March, after the statistics used to make the calculations have been received. For more information, go to http://www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time.

Feedback on 'What's New in GSSJC' Needed

We need your feedback. If you have something constructive to share, send an e-mail message to bjbonner@sjgs.org with the answers to the following questions:

- 1 As a service unit administrator or troop leader, does 'What's New in GSSJC' help you in any way? How?
- 2 What features are especially useful to you?
- 3 What parts are not helpful at all?
- 4 What information do you need to have on a monthly basis?
- 5 How often do you go to the CIN to read 'What's New in GSSJC' and the flyers?

Here's your opportunity to tell us what you think! We're listening!

Need Summer Activity and Recruitment Tips?

GSSJC's Web site is full of ideas if you know where to find them! Use the CIN Search function to locate "What's New" for 2009 and select the 6/1/09 posting to find the summer issue of 'What's New in GSSJC'. Great summer recruitment ideas can be found on page 2 and Summer Activity ideas on page 4. Have a great summer!

