

## Join the Conversation!

### Council encourages adults to join Facebook community

Adult Girl Scouts have long shared stories, recommended various activities, and supported other Girl Scout volunteers with advice and assistance. This dialogue is now online as Girl Scouts Louisiana East (GSLE) is integrating social media, particularly Facebook, into the membership-based organization.

"The council created its own Facebook page to strengthen our relationship with adult members and to provide an online forum for talking about Girl Scouting," said Marianne Addy, vice president of communications at the Girl Scout council.

According to Addy, the council's involvement in social media is to encourage communication among volunteers. While updates about Girl Scout activities and events will occur on the council's Facebook page, it's the two-way dialogue that makes Facebook so appealing to Addy.

"The council website ([www.gsle.org](http://www.gsle.org)) and email newsletter provide a lot of information but a social network site encourages volunteers to post information as well."

The council's foray into social media is timely with recent figures from Nielsen showing that social networks and blogs have surpassed email in popularity, making member communities the front-running online communications tool worldwide.

Social media guidelines (based on the Girl Scout Law) for all GSLE adults – staff and volunteers – who represent the council can

—See Facebook on page 3

## Girl Scouts provides affordable option during tough economy

As more and more families are forced to reduce their expenses in this tough economy, they struggle with deciding which activities they can afford for their children. Dance, sports, and other extra-curricular activities can take a toll on shrinking pocketbooks. Girl Scouting, which has weathered multiple recessions as well as the Great Depression in its organization's 97-year history, is an affordable option for families stretched thin by a shrinking budget.

"Getting your daughter involved in Girl Scouting is one positive and affordable avenue families can take in providing their daughters with a variety of fun and age-appropriate activities," said Anita McField, director of volunteerism at Girl Scouts Louisiana East.

"Annual membership in Girl Scouts is only \$12, and some favorite activities include camping, travel, health and fitness, the arts, science and technology, community service, and much more." She said the council will not turn away any girl who cannot afford the

annual membership fee, and guides its local troops on becoming financially self-sufficient.

"Girl Scout troops are encouraged to participate in both the council's cookie and fall product sales, so the troop can fund any field trips and other activities the girls select, and not provide an additional financial burden to parents," said McField. While uniforms are encouraged, many troops opt for T-shirts and a sash or vest for placement of badges and pins.

—See Affordable on page 3

### Have you re-registered for the new Girl Scout membership year!

The new Girl Scout membership year began October 1, so make sure your troop has re-registered for a new year of fun and fabulous opportunities! Above Thibodaux Girl Scout Daisy Erin and co-leader Amanda Granier of Troop 478 take attendance at the troop's first meeting and troop birthday party.



## Fall luncheon to be held on Veterans Day

Girl Scout volunteers, alumna, and friends of Girl Scouting are invited to attend the council's fall fundraising luncheon on Wednesday, November 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Audubon Tea Room in New Orleans. Luncheon sponsors are Baptist Community Ministries, Capital One, Harrah's New Orleans, and Lake-lawn Metairie Funeral Home and Cemeteries.

With the luncheon on Veterans Day, the Girl Scouts have opted for a patriotic theme, with one guest speaker a Girl Scout alumna who recently served overseas in Iraq.

"Girl Scouts show their patriotism in many ways," said Cerise McClendon, Fund Development Associate who is coordinating the luncheon. "Whether it's by participating in flag retirement ceremonies or sending care packages to military personnel stationed overseas, our organization believes in finding ways to serve our country. Having the luncheon on Veterans Day allows us to honor

Americans who have given their lives in defense of our nation's freedom at the same time we meet to raise funds for Girl Scouts Louisiana East."

According to McClendon, table captains, who are those who host a table of their friends, are needed as well as additional sponsors. The luncheon is free to attend, but cash and pledges will be solicited.

For more information about becoming a table captain or to receive an invitation to the luncheon, call McClendon at (504) 733-8220 or (800) 644-7571, ext. 2222. The council's spring luncheon will be held in March 2010 in Baton Rouge.



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Summer Highlights

## From the CEO

Do you remember the first day of school when you had to write an essay about your summer vacation? If I were to write an essay today, I would have to say "What summer?" This has been a whirlwind year – as I write this it's fall, and the office is a buzz with new Girl Scouts, their parents, and troop leaders shopping for the uniform pieces and testing the waters of the new **Journey** books.



Jackie Alexander

As we begin the new Girl Scout membership year we've launched the second Journey in the series, titled "**It's Your Planet – Love it!**" As the Journey series continues, the girls will explore age-appropriate adventures to help them discover, connect, and take action as they understand and make decisions that will ultimately make their world a better place.

This amazing Journey's activities include outdoor adventures, hands-on science investigations and opportunities to "meet" prominent women and girls who are at work around the world on behalf of the environment. In every journey girls accept a challenge to take the lead in protecting the planet, and as girls journey through the challenges in the books, they earn Girl Scouting's new leadership and badges.

The Journey's focus on ecological stewardship is very timely! Many of you may not realize that Girl Scouts Louisiana East was selected one of 15 councils nationwide to pilot the *Girl Scouts Forever Green* Initiative! You'll find on our council website a link to the *Girl Scouts Forever Green* Community Action Project, with a project guide as well as ideas on how you can support this initiative as a troop, family and individually.

We just held the council's second annual *Extravaganza*, and if there were ever a moment I wondered why I love this organization and its mission, it's events like the *GSLE Extravaganza* that answer it for me every time. When you see a child discover something new, connect with others by getting information from the expert/authority, and then step fearlessly out and give it a try, it's an awesome sight.

Girls of all ages danced, sang, played volleyball, experienced the feel of a saddle (although it was not connected to the horse just yet!), explored camping and scuba equipment, and made new friends all in one afternoon. Send in your photos which we'll be sure to include in the next issue of *GSLE Connections*.

I'd like to end this column by saying, let's not forget the most important part of this "Journey," it is YOU: the leaders, and the parents. You teach and learn something new with the girls every day. I promise you if you take this Journey with your Girl Scout, you too will be fearless, your life will change in ways you never imagine, and in the end our world will be a better place.

## News Briefs

### Membership dues increase

The delegate body at the Girl Scout National Council Session in October 2008 approved a membership dues increase effective at the beginning of the 2010 membership year (which began October 1, 2009). As of October 1, 2009, the cost of membership increased to \$12 a year, an increase of \$2. The last increase in membership dues was five years ago in October 2004.

The annual \$12 Girl Scout membership fee is sent directly to the Girl Scout national headquarters in New York to cover the cost of insurance, program development, and other services of the national organization. This money is not retained by our council, and the fee does not help pay for the direct service girls receive.

### Troop numbers are now five digits

You may notice that in this issue, that each troop number is a five digit number beginning with 1 to 4. (We've included the old troop number in parentheses.) All troops in the council are now five digits long. Troop numbers were expanded to include their region number first, then their troop number. This was done since there were multiple troops operating with the same number after the realignment.

For example Troop 592 in New Orleans is now Troop 40592 since New Orleans is located in Region 4. Troop 53 in Baton Rouge for example would now be Troop 10053 since Baton Rouge is located in Region 1. The five digit number must be used on all paperwork including registrations, product sales etc. However, troops are not required to use all five numbers on their sash or vest, so existing uniforms with old troop numbers do not need to be re-done.

### Register for Silver & Gold Lagniappe Weekend for adult volunteers

Expand your leadership knowledge at GSLE's first Lagniappe Weekend held this year at Camp Whispering Pines, November 13-15. Volunteers will get to choose from a variety of exciting workshops and trainings, and you don't have to be Troop Camping-certified as food and lodging are provided. Workshop topics include archery, canoeing, songs and games, ceremonies, budgeting, SWAPS, high ropes, CWP habitat, astronomy, crafts, and incorporating Journeys into the existing badge books.

Cost for full weekend participants is \$35, and Saturday only participant's cost is \$25. Optional weekend T-shirts are available for \$10, but T-shirt orders must be received by October 30. Additional information and registration forms can be found at [www.gsle.org/training/lagniapweekend.asp](http://www.gsle.org/training/lagniapweekend.asp). Additional questions, contact Adult Development Director Matthew Chustz at (225) 927-88946, ext. 1224.

### Girl Scouts, In God We Trust license plates benefit Louisiana Girl Scouts

Show your Girl Scout pride by purchasing a personalized Louisiana "Girl Scout" license plate. Proceeds benefit Louisiana Girl Scouts.

A license plate whose proceeds are split evenly between the Louisiana Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and the Association of Retarded Citizens (ARC) is the "In God We Trust" license plate that was introduced by Louisiana State Representative (now State Senator) A.G. Crowe.

Costs may vary but can be calculated online at <http://omv.dps.state.la.us/> Typically a license plate for a private passenger vehicle would cost \$65.75 for two years. To contact the Special/Dealer License Plate Unit you may call (225) 925-6371 or the toll-free number 1-877-368-5463 for assistance.

### Girl Scouts are Forever Green

Girl Scouts Louisiana East has been selected to participate in a national community action project, *Girl Scouts Forever Green!* Long-time promoters and protectors of the environment, Girl Scouts envision being at the forefront of environmental sustainability, leading schools and communities in using resources wisely. A project guide is located on the council website at [www.gsle.org/resources/forevergreen.asp](http://www.gsle.org/resources/forevergreen.asp) Additionally, our national organization has asked troops to please post a description of each Community Action Project at the beginning of each project online at [www.girlscouts.org/forevergreen](http://www.girlscouts.org/forevergreen) and to return and post the results upon its completion.

### Stand Up to Bullying

Girl Scouts Louisiana East and Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf have joined forces to combat relational aggression and cyber bullying. Locally, the council will partner with the Jefferson Parish Public School System to develop anti-bullying clubs in

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# Camp Covington is calling you!

Did you know the 1940s movie star Dorothy Lamour was once a Girl Scout who earned her lifesaving award by swimming in the Bogue Falaya River at Camp Covington? Girl Scouting was a new and innovative program back in 1927 when the local Girl Scout council purchased the 23-acre site with help from the St. Tammany and greater New Orleans communities.

Surrounded by a pine/hardwood forest and bordered on the east by the sandy-bottomed, spring-fed Bogue Falaya River, Camp Covington is one of the oldest Girl Scout camps in the United States. In the early years, Girl Scouts traveled from Baton Rouge, New Orleans and elsewhere to camp at Covington. Its original cabins were each built by a different Covington community group who supplied the design, materials and labor for its construction.



Pooh's Corner.



Ranger Mike Heyd leads some Girl Scout Daisies during Daisy Day.

In August 2005, Camp Covington received extensive damage, with 90 percent of the trees downed and many damaged buildings, cabins, and other camp facilities beyond repair. With limited resources, the remaining buildings received only minimal roof repairs to stop further interior damage, while the grounds became bare once the fallen trees and debris were removed. The camp remained closed to campers for the next three years until additional funding could be obtained to begin the process of rebuilding Camp Covington.

In the last year, great strides have been made to bring Camp Covington back to life, primarily due to funding from the William Edwin Montan Charitable Trust managed by Capital One and The McClure Fund through the Greater New Orleans Foundation. Where 10 cabins once stood, Pooh's Corner now includes four cabins with new roofs, beds, mattresses, and two with porches. The latrine has been repaired with a new septic system to meet environmental requirements, and is now handicap accessible along with one of the cabins. The camping area includes a fire circle and a new grill. A new area was created for platform tent camping and now boasts 10 new platform tents, beds, and its own nearby latrine.



Girls say hello to the camp mascot, Richard the pig.

Over the years, the camp experienced few changes with a dining hall and a ranger's house as the only additional structures on the site. Then, in 1967, the first African American

Girl Scouts attended resident camp, and for the first time girls enjoyed a newly diverse world in the outdoors. In the late 1970s, when Girl Scout Brownies were allowed to camp in established campsites, Camp Covington became a favorite site for these young campers.

All that changed in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

new day use area complete with two covered areas with picnic tables and a grill. All of the remaining cabins received new foundations, including the dining hall which was repairable but received the most extensive damage. It now houses a new kitchen and appliances, a 12-foot porch with handicap accessible ramp, and a new bathroom which will be completed by 2010, all under a new roof.

Camp Covington now includes a ½ mile Frisbee golf course with 18 holes that offers glow in the dark Frisbees for night time adventures. An archery course is being carved out and will be ready for use by February 2010 with new equipment. A new hiking path around the camp's perimeter showcases the many exciting improvements to Camp Covington, including access to the Bogue Falaya River in two locations with a beach volleyball court and fire circle areas.

Power to the refrigerators has been restored and repairs to the damaged electrical wiring will be complete by February 2010, although plans are underway to seek funding to convert the entire camp to solar powered energy. Over the last three years, Girl Scouts have planted over 3,000 longleaf pine seedlings every Arbor Day to replace trees that were lost.

Can you hear the laughter of Girl Scouts wading in the shallow river? Does the crackle of the evening camp fire bring back memories of stories yet to be told? Camp Covington is waiting for you! Don't wait another day to plan your next troop camping trip to this treasured Girl Scout retreat.



The dining hall undergoes repairs.



Girls enjoy one of the new platform tents.

—Affordable... Continued from page 1

## Make a difference and volunteer

Since Girl Scouts is an organization that relies on volunteers, it's critical that each troop have a sufficient number of adults willing to help. McField stressed there are many ways to volunteer, in addition to serving as a troop leader or assistant leader.

Girl Scouts are presently recruiting adult volunteers and registering girls for newly forming troops. Free training and support is provided by council staff and local, experienced volunteers, and the annual membership fee of \$12 for adults and girls covers the cost of insurance, program development, and other services of the national organization. None of the \$12 is retained locally, which provides its services through contributions, grants, and other money-earning and funding activities.

—Facebook... Continued from page 1

be found at [www.gsle.org/news/socialmedia.asp](http://www.gsle.org/news/socialmedia.asp) along with a sample of the council's Facebook page for those unfamiliar with Facebook.

Adult members are also encouraged to visit [www.letmeknow.girlscouts.org](http://www.letmeknow.girlscouts.org) for guidance around online safety. There is a similar website for teen girls at [www.lmk.girlscouts.org](http://www.lmk.girlscouts.org). Girl Scouts under 13 are not allowed to use Facebook based on the age limits set by Facebook, and girls 13 and above must have parental permission for use of a social networking site based on the 2009 updates to the Girl Scouts of the USA publication *Safety-Wise*.

# Girl Scouts earn prestigious Gold Award

**G**irl Scouts Louisiana East congratulates its newest recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award, **Maris** of New Orleans East and **Sarah** of Mandeville. The Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in areas of leadership, community service, career planning and personal development. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, a girl must demonstrate her leadership ability by designing and implementing a plan of activities that includes completing five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. She is also responsible for creating and implementing a sustainable and ongoing community service project.

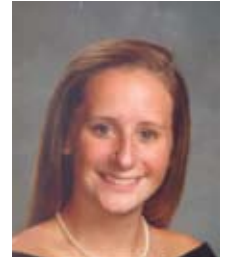


Maris

Maris, a member of Mariner Girl Scout Senior Troop 40592 (592), wanted her project to improve the community in which she lived, so she focused her efforts on providing trees to replace ones lost during Hurricane Katrina. As a student worker for Parkway Partners, a local non-profit organization working to preserve green spaces, Maris learned of the 80 – 90% loss of the tree canopy in eastern New Orleans. The organization's initiative, *Releaf New Orleans*, held special meaning to Maris whose neighborhood lost many trees as a result of the hurricane. She obtained 36 donated trees in three blooming varieties

and solicited neighbors and friends to help plant them throughout her neighborhood. Maris left Lusher Charter School this fall to complete her senior year at United World College of the Adriatic in Italy during a two-year program with future plans to pursue anthropology.

Sarah of Mandeville Troop 31224 (1224) earned her Girl Scout Gold Award with her project designed to preserve the environment at Northlake Nature Center which is frequently used for environmental nature programs, hiking, and other activities by local high schools and the public. During her years in Girl Scouts, Sarah learned the importance of "leaving no trace" when camping, and selected this project as a continuation of existing ecological education. "I feel this is an important issue and that we must preserve nature as much as possible for generations to come," said Sarah. A graduate of Fontainebleau High School, Sarah is now a lifetime member of Girl Scouts and a freshman at Louisiana State University majoring in secondary education mathematics. She plans to complete her master's degree before returning to the Northshore to teach in St. Tammany Parish.



Sarah

## Girl Scout Cadettes achieve Silver Award

Girl Scout Cadettes are creating change for themselves and their communities when they participate in a Girl Scout Silver Award project. The Girl Scout Silver Award is the highest award a registered Girl Scout Cadette can achieve. To earn the Silver Award, a Girl Scout Cadette completes a series of leadership challenges and a community service project which can be done individually or as a group.

Congratulations go to the newest Girl Scout Silver Award recipients! They are **Elizabeth, Kylie, Morgan, and Elaine** of Baton Rouge Troop 10566 (566); **Melissa, Gaia, Clare, Ashlee, and Leslie** of Slidell Troop 30063 (63); and **Meredith, Elaine, Abigail, Danielle, Morgan, Jacqueline, Caitlin, Amber, and Anna** of Mandeville Troop 30677 (677).

Members of Baton Rouge Troop 10566 contributed to their church community by assisting with vacation bible school at St. Thomas More Catholic Church. Each Girl Scout was responsible for facilitating one of the daily activities, helping the children with skits, songs, games, and crafts.



Members of Girl Scout Troop 10566 and friends teach a song with hand motions for the children at St. Thomas More's vacation bible school.

Members of Slidell Troop 30063 prepared presentations on healthy eating and building self-esteem for Girl Scout Brownies and Juniors. They led discussions on what it means to be healthy, how to eat a balance of foods according to the food group pyramid, the importance of being active, and correct food portions. The Girl Scouts also created pamphlets for the girls to take home to reinforce what they learned.

With a focus on green environmental awareness, members of Mandeville Troop 30677 developed their "Keep Mandeville Beautiful" community service project by creating recycling posters and a video which were displayed at Habitat for Humanity Restore where they volunteered during the summer. The Girl Scouts painted fire hydrants and picked up trash in their neighborhood and along a nearby highway. Their research into green business practices was also used to teach a local Cub Scout group about recycling awareness.



Elaine and Amber of Mandeville Troop 30677 paint fire hydrants as part of their Keep Mandeville Beautiful project.

### Annual Family Giving Campaign

#### We're off to a Great Start!

We're just a few weeks into our Annual Family Giving Campaign, and we're off to a great start. A big THANK YOU to all the early birds who are giving this fundraiser lots of momentum. The money you donate to the council funds a lot of **GIRL POWER**. Take a look at just a few of the many activities listed on page 8.

If you haven't made your donation yet, don't forget you can give online at [www.gsle.org](http://www.gsle.org). Look for the oversized **DONATE NOW** button. It couldn't be easier.

About 40% of our Annual Family Giving Campaign donors are Club 49 members.



**CLUB 49+**

#### You can be a Club 49er too!

Girl Scouts Louisiana East sends a hearty thank you to all of the volunteers who are giving their time to make this a strong

Annual Family Giving Campaign. It's not an easy task and we appreciate your efforts.

# Girl Scout Juniors earn Bronze Award

Please join us in congratulating the newest recipients of the Girl Scout Bronze Award, the highest award a Girl Scout Junior can achieve. Earning the Bronze Award exemplifies a Girl Scout's commitment to helping others, improving her community and world, and becoming the best she can be. Part of the award requirements is a community service project which can be done individually or in groups.

Bronze Award recipients include: **Donovan, Jalyn, Emily, Idalis, Corley, and Allison** of Gonzales Troop 10103 (103); **Marika, Rio, Griffin, Catherine, Taylor, Sadie, Kara, and Katie** of Baton Rouge Troop 10360 (360); **Arianna, Francesca, Casey, and Lauren** of Baton Rouge Troop 10559 (559); **Terez, Hannah, Olivia, Tessa, Molly, and Abigail** of Houma Troop 20372 (372); **Masha, Ashlyn, Morgan, Renee, Brittany, Baylee, Havan Vu, and Caraline** of Algiers Troop 40419 (419); and **Emma, Ciara, and Kayla** of Algiers Troop 41307 (1307).

Members of Gonzales Troop 10103 developed a project promoting preschool literacy. They solicited book donations and planned simple activities and nursery rhymes to coordinate with the storyline of some of the books, which they used with children at two local day care facilities.



Members of Gonzales Troop 10103 read to children at a local day care.



Baton Rouge Troop 10360 "The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig."

Providing a weekend of fun and friendship at the Bishop Ott Sweet Dreams Women & Children's Shelter was the goal of Baton Rouge Troop 10360 who made soft fleece pillows for the children as a sign of friendship, performed the play, "The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig" for children and their mothers, and helped them paint T-shirts and decorate flip-flops.

Members of Baton Rouge Troop 10559 chose to increase awareness for pet adoptions by working with Ascension Animal Advocates. Over the summer, the girls volunteered at a pet store adoption site by assisting with grooming, cleaning cages, walking dogs, and putting up signs. They learned about each animal and talked to people interested in adoption, sometimes

with the reward of seeing an animal adopted.

Members of Houma Troop 20372 completed a hurricane preparedness project with tips on what individuals can do to prepare for an evacuation, as well as what citizens can do to prevent coastal erosion and to promote coastal restoration. During the summer, the girls spent a day in Grand Isle picking up trash along the beach. They worked with a marine biologist who taught them about coastal erosion and showed them how to plant marsh grass along Lake Boudreaux to support coastal restoration efforts. They also planted hackberry and red mulberry tree seeds with plans to plant the seedlings next year in the Louisiana coastal marshes.

When Algiers Troop 40419 heard a Mosquito Control representative talk about the number of deaths in underdeveloped countries caused by mosquito spread diseases, they wanted to help. After learning about mosquitos and researching underdeveloped countries that suffered from malaria problems, they donated troop funds to purchase bednets which are distributed to pregnant women and children in Africa. In total, the troop donated \$500 which provided 100 nets to the people of Kanke, Nigeria. Clarke Mosquito was so impressed with the troop's efforts, it matched their donation with an additional 100 nets.

Members of Algiers Troop 41307 chose to mentor a Girl Scout Brownie troop by planning and facilitating activities to help them earn three Brownie Try-its. This project allowed the Junior troop to practice their leadership and team building skills.



Baton Rouge Troop 10559



Houma Troop 20372



Algiers Troop 40419 were honored by The Carter Center for their efforts to reduce deaths caused by Malaria in Nigeria.



Algiers Troop 41307

## Traditions in Girl Scouting

For almost 98 years, Girl Scouts have shared traditions rich in history. **Bridging** is an important transition in a Girl Scout's life. It's a defining moment when a girl becomes aware of her achievements and is ready for new adventures and responsibilities. Celebrating this change should be fun, personalized, and memorable for everyone involved. And most of all, it should be designed by the girls in true partnership with adults.

What's a **friendship circle**? It's a circle that represents the unbroken chain of friendship among Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world and is formed by Girl Scouts standing and clasping hands (before they reach for each other's hands, girls cross their right hand over their left). It's used at meetings, ceremonies, or any event where Girl Scouts choose to recognize their friendship! A **friendship squeeze** is a hand squeeze that travels around a friendship circle from one person to another after someone starts it.



Covington Girl Scout Daisies bridge to Girl Scout Brownies over the summer.



Thirty-eight Girl Scouts in Prairieville Service Unit 131 are ready for new adventures and responsibilities as they bridge from one level of Girl Scouts to the next.



Girl Scouts from various inner-city schools in New Orleans and Baton Rouge create a gigantic friendship circle while on a recent trip to Camp Marydale.



Girls join in a friendship circle at a Girl Scout Junior Lock-In in Baton Rouge.

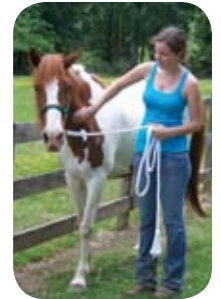


This Girl Scout Gold Award ceremony closes with a friendship circle among family, friends, and troop members.

# Resident Camp Memories!



## Camp Marydale



## Camp Whispering Pines



# Girl Scout Day Camps!

Seven day camps were held in 2009, thanks to the work of dedicated volunteers and Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors in their communities. The one-week, volunteer-led day camps were held in Slidell (Camp Camellia), Destrehan (River Parishes), New Orleans' West Bank – Algiers & west Jefferson Parish (Camp Crawfish), Houma (Days of Discovery), St. Bernard Parish (Down in 'Da Parish), Independence (Camp Tangi), and Denham Springs. If you are interested in volunteering at a day camp in your community next summer, please contact Donna Dupré at (225) 927-8946.



Girls enjoy one of the many pool days.



## Camp Crawfish



Campers test their creation in the "Egg Drop Survivor" test.



Girl Scout Daisies Olivia, Alyssa, and Emma delight in their craft goggles.



Girls enjoy a food game blindfolded.

At right, Girl Scout Cadette Melissa celebrates her group winning the broom spirit stick for the cleanest area!



## St. Bernard Down in Da Parish

These three Girl Scout Juniors participate in a scented rocks experiment in this crazy science-themed day camp.



## Days of Discovery

Water day!



## Camp Tangi



Making birdhouses.



Girls set up a compost pile at CWP as part of the day camp's "go green" theme.



## Happy Days in Baton Rouge



Girl Scouts enjoy the council's Happy Days tennis summer program at BREC Park.



Girl Scout Juniors discuss the Leave No Trace Behind program and how fast things biodegrade.



## River Parishes



The cast of the Camp Grenada skit.



## Camp Camellia

# Road Trip!

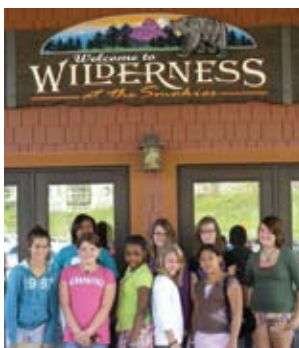
Girl Scouts once again enjoyed traveling as a troop to places like New York City and Florida, as well as visiting Girl Scout favorites such as Savannah, Georgia, Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low's birthplace. Take a look!



*New Orleans Girl Scout Troop Cadette Troop 40102 (102) traveled to New York City in June to see the Broadway show, *Wicked*, as well as famous New York landmarks, such as the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Harlem, Chinatown and Little Italy. The girls raised money through a school Father/Daughter Dance*



*and bake sales at a local outdoor art market to attend a workshop with the cast of *Wicked*.*



*Summer time for Girl Scout Cadettes in Pearl River Troop 30415 (415) meant a trip to Tennessee where the troop stayed at a hotel/waterpark in Sevierville.*



*Members of Prairieville Girl Scout Cadette Troop 10464 (464) swam with the dolphins and learned about marine mammal rescue at the Gulf World Marine Park in Panama City Beach, Florida. The event was an end-of-the-year trip funded from their cookie proceeds.*

*Girl Scout Juniors in Baton Rouge Troop 10559 (559) traveled to Memphis to donate cookies to St. Jude Hospital as part of the Gift of Caring service project.*



*Members of Thibodaux Girl Scout Senior Troop 20367 (367) traveled to Atlanta in June where they visited Stone Mountain, CNN Studio, World of Coca Cola, and Six Flags.*



*Mandeville Girl Scout Junior Troop 31031 (1031) traveled to Savannah, Georgia where they toured the home and birthplace of Juliette Low, the founder of the Girl Scouts and participated in a special pinning ceremony. The girls also enjoyed a trip to Tybee Island, a trolley tour of Savannah, the Ships of the Sea Museum, a ghost tour, and ice cream at Leopold's Ice Cream shop. Money earning activities to pay for the trip included their annual cookie sales and a yard sale.*

# Save the date for these fun fall/winter programs

- Myrtles Mystery** (Cad-Amb) – 10/31-11/1, Camp Marydale, St. Francisville
- LSU Volleyball & Mike the Tiger** (All) – 11/1, Baton Rouge
- Black Creek Canoe Trip** (Cad-Amb) – 11/6-8, Mississippi
- Fall Festival** (All) – 11/7, Camp Whispering Pines
- A Lark in the Park** (Br) – 11/7, St. Francisville
- Silver & Gold Lagniappe Weekend** – 11/13-15, Camp Whispering Pines, Independence
- Twilight Paddle** (Jr-Amb) – 11/14, Mandeville
- Flower Power** (Daisy) – 11/14, Baton Rouge
- Architecture Badge Day** (Jr) – 11/14, New Orleans
- Life in the Great Outdoors** (Jr) – 11/14, St. Francisville
- Girl Scout Day at Longue Vue** (All) – 11/14, New Orleans
- Cookie Management Training** – 11/14, Location TBA
- Roméo et Juliette A Night at the Opera** (Cad-Amb) – 11/18, New Orleans
- Older Girl Weekend** (Cad-Amb) – 11/20-22, Camp Marydale
- St. George Observatory Girl Scout Sleepover** (Br-Amb) – 11/21-22, Shriever
- FIRST LEGO Team Tournament** (Ages 9-14) – 11/21, New Orleans
- Art to Wear** (Jr) – 11/21, Baton Rouge
- Stress Less** (Jr) – 11/21, Baton Rouge
- Garden Tea Party at Oakley** (Daisy) – 11/21, St. Francisville
- Holiday Horse Rider Core Camp** (Jr) – 11/22-24, Camp Marydale
- Healthy You Workshop** (Cad-Amb) – 11/24, New Orleans
- Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Beach Sweep** (Br-Amb) – 11/28, Grand Isle
- Beyond the Red Carpet Movie Industry Workshop** (Ages 13-17) – 11/28, New Orleans
- Beginners Holiday Sewing Class** (Jr) – 12/5, Baton Rouge
- Bayou Rebirth Planting Day** (Ages 13-17) – 12/5, New Orleans
- Elmwood Cheerleading Academy Cheer & Pizza Night** (All) – 12/11, Harahan
- Silver Award Workshop** (Cad) – 12/12, Baton Rouge
- Gold Award Workshop** (Cad-Amb) – 12/12, Baton Rouge
- Girl Scout Shout Out/LSU Lady Tiger Basketball** (All) – 12/13, Baton Rouge
- Daddy Daughter Date Day/LSU Basketball** (All) – 12/19, Baton Rouge
- Program Aide Core Training** (Cad-Amb) – 12/19, New Orleans & 1/16, Baton Rouge
- Event Planning Specialization Training** (Cad-Amb) – 12/19, New Orleans
- New Orleans Bowl** (All) – 12/20, New Orleans
- U.S.S. KIDD Overnight** (Age 6 & up) – 1/2-3, Baton Rouge
- Yoga & Pilates** (Cad-Amb) – 1/9, Baton Rouge
- New Orleans Boat Show – First Mate Scouting Patch Program** (All) – 1/9-10, New Orleans
- Night Crawlers** (Cad-Amb) – 1/9-10, Baton Rouge

Program registration information is included in *Program Power* (the troop/group planning calendar) and also available on the Council's website at [www.gslsle.org](http://www.gslsle.org).



*Camping out on Zephyrs Field is fun for this Metairie troop! At left, some of the girls meet New Orleans Zephyrs mascot Boudreaux.*

# Troop Highlights!



Mandeville Girl Scout Brownies in Troop 30453 (453) celebrate the ending of their two years together with a trip to a nearby water park.



Girl Scout Junior Troop 31195 (1195) from Mandeville becomes the first Girl Scout troop to attend the Light Keeper's Overnight Program, an educational program of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum. Activities included a guided boat tour and ride on an educational research vessel, churning butter and tasting the final product, privately touring the Maritime Museum, watching a movie and making a quilt, shown at left.



Some members of Junior Troop 20783 (783) in Thibodaux learn the art of pizza making (and eating) during a trip to Papa John's Pizza. Above right, members of Metairie Girl Scout Brownie Troop 40035 (35) use some of their cookie sale proceeds for a "Back to School" pizza party.



Girl Scout Juniors in Prairieville Troop 10040 (40) welcome a new member and kick off the new Girl Scout year with an Ice Cream Sundae Meet and Greet.



Madison, Erica, Hayley and Ava of Girl Scout Junior Troop 40106 (106) hold a bake sale to earn money for a troop camping trip.



Prairieville Girl Scout Daisy Troop 10221 (221) meets with an officer in the local Sheriff's department to learn about being "Courageous and Strong" in all types of situations.



Girl Scout Brownies in Troop 20767 (767) from Cut Off tour a local alligator farm.



Metairie Girl Scout Brownie Troop 40219 takes a hike during an August camping trip to CWP.



Members of Girl Scout Brownie Troop 10080 (80) of Baton Rouge earn a pottery patch.



Prairieville Girl Scout Cadette Troop 10262 (262) members attend a summer art camp where they learn about modern artists and then create their own original art work inspired by the artists they studied.

New Orleans East Girl Scouts are all smiles before participating in a flag ceremony at their school's open house.



Metairie Junior Troop 40106 (106) provide an American flag for a flag pole and plant a memorial garden for their deceased St. Christopher pastor, Father Ken Harney, at his grave site in Mississippi.



Above, Covington Girl Scout Juniors in Troop 30151 (151) tour St. Tammany Parish Hospital, while at right, the troop donates two cases of cookies to local firefighters.



Members of Central Area Girl Scout Troop 10010 (10) tour the Central Crossroads Animal Clinic as part of a pet badge requirement.



Girl Scouts in New Orleans Troop 40359 (359) enjoy a pottery painting activity at Café Au Clay.



Girl Scouts serve as a Color Guard for St. Francis Xavier's Open House in Metairie.

# More Troop Highlights!



Members of Covington Girl Scout Daisy Troop 31419 (1419) earn their Respect Myself and Others petal at a Mom and Me tea party. Below, Ava and Haley.



Girl Scouts in Baton Rouge Valleydale Service Unit 111 dress in vintage Girl Scout uniforms at a service unit tea.



Girl Scout Daisy Troop 31174 (1174) of Mandeville holds an end of the school year party.

Denham Springs Girl Scout Troop 10051 (51) spent the money they earned from cookie sales to take themselves to Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park for a wonderful weekend of camping, swimming, crafts, and gem mining.



Gonzales Girl Scout Service Unit 132 holds a Me & My Guy Challenge at Cabela's in Gonzales with teams participating in four activities: tent raising (guys blindfolded, girls giving instructions), fly reel casting, metal detecting and a scavenger hunt.



Above, members of Covington Girl Scout Brownie Troop 31401 (1401) kick off their summer vacation with a blueberry picking adventure at Blue Harvest Farms.



Members of St. Clement's "new" Junior Troop 41263 (1263) following their bridging ceremony.



Girl Scout Junior Troop 31299 (1299) of Ponchatoula enjoys a weekend trip to Jellystone.



Members of Denham Springs Junior Troop 10051 (51) practice bandaging each other as they work on their First Aid Badge.



Members of St. Clement's "new" Junior Troop 41263 (1263) in Metairie enjoy an end of the year swim party.



Baton Rouge Girl Scout Brownie Troop 10093 (93) visits the Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center in Baton Rouge.



Girl Scouts in Troop 31109 (1109) used their cookie money to have a fabulous Spa/Diva Animal Land party at Jump A Roo!

Girl Scouts from Zachary enjoy a "Rockin' Lock-In" organized by Junior Troop 10215 (215) where Brownies earned their Sound Of Music Try IT. At right, girls learn about Sliding Air using straws.



Members of Gonzales Girl Scout Junior Troop 10842 (842) and Cadette Troop 10962 (962) attend a BodyWorks program sponsored by St. Elizabeth Hospital where the girls and their moms learned how to improve eating and activity habits.



Members of Algiers Troop 41307 (1307) climb inside an ambulance where they're shown how the EKG machine works.



Members of Pearl River Girl Scout Brownie Troop 31294 (1294) participate in BREC Zoo's overnight program.

Baton Rouge Girl Scout Junior Troop 10422 (422) overnights at the zoo.



# Friends of Girl Scouting

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### Thank you for your support!

## In Memoriam

Former Girl Scouts' *Every Girl, Everywhere Society* member **Ernestine Ellender** of Houma passed away in August at age 92.

A native of Terrebonne Parish, Ellender, who was an active volunteer in various community organizations, was named the Houma Daily Courier's Most Useful Citizen in 1999, recognized as epitomizing "the true spirit of volunteerism, having given and still giving her time and talents with no desire for recognition."

Girl Scout supporter and former Girl Scout council board secretary **Joseph Miller** passed away in September in Colorado at age 85. Miller, a retired LSU professor, was a dedicated volunteer and tireless fundraiser for the Girl Scout Council of Southeast Louisiana up until the time he and his wife Betty moved to Georgetown, Texas in 2000.

A Thanks Badge recipient, Miller volunteered in various capacities including as board member-at-large, and as a member of the finance, executive, and fund development committees. A World War II veteran who participated in the D-Day invasion of Normandy, Miller had many interesting life experiences including a perilous trip to Kenya in 1958 during the Mau Mau uprising.

Miller was a charter member of the council's Juliette Gordon Low Heritage Society.

*Our thoughts and prayers are with each family during this time of grief.*



Betty and Joseph Miller.

## Girl Scouts in the News

### Girls

Girl Scout Gold Award recipient **Maris**, of Mariner Girl Scout Senior Troop 40592 (592) was selected as a WWL-TV *Quiet Hero* in August. She along with her mother and troop leader were interviewed about her Girl Scout Gold Award project which was part of Parkway Partners' *Relief New Orleans* initiative.

*Maris with WWL-TV anchor Sally-Ann Roberts.*



### Adults

Former board president **Betty Lauricella** of New Orleans and husband Hank were honored by their alumna mater, the University of Tennessee with the naming of The Lauricella Center for Letter Winners in Neyland Stadium. The Lauricellas were recognized for their achievements as students during the early 1950s and for their ongoing support and generosity.

Girl Scout Troop leader **Sharon Murry** of Metairie was named Volunteer of the Year by the Jefferson Parish School Board. She was recognized for her volunteer work at Bridgedale Elementary School as a troop leader for Girl Scout Brownie Troop 40216 (216) and troop leader for Junior Troop 40237 (237).

*Know of a girl or adult Girl Scout who has been recognized in the community? Information may be sent to the Communications Department, Girl Scouts Louisiana East, P.O. Box 10800, New Orleans, LA 70181-0800 for possible inclusion in Girl Scouts in the News.*

—More News... Continued from page 2

targeted elementary, middle, and high schools, with plans to roll out in additional school districts.

The council's Program department is in the process of completing a Relational Aggression Patch Program for use by Girl Scout troops. Please join us during National Bullying Awareness Week, November 15 -21, as together we "Stand Up to Bullying."

## Join the Girl Scouts Advocacy Network

There are now nearly 10,000 members of the Girl Scouts Advocacy Network, the first ever Girl Scouts grassroots network. To join, simply register at [www.girlscouts4girls.org](http://www.girlscouts4girls.org) and become part of a collective voice in the Girl Scout movement that responds to policy issues that impact girls and Girl Scouts.

## Michelle Obama becomes Honorary GSUSA National President

Following a tradition that started 80 years ago, First Lady Michelle Obama has agreed to serve as the Honorary National President of Girl Scouts of the USA. Girl Scouts plan to work with the First Lady on areas of mutual concern, such as healthy living, public service and leadership.

Girl Scouts Louisiana East serves the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana. It is funded by voluntary philanthropic contributions, the cookie and fall product sales, fees for services, and the United Way in selected parishes.



## The Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

## The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:

- To serve God and my country,
- To help people at all times,
- And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

## The Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be

- honest and fair,
  - friendly and helpful,
  - considerate and caring,
  - courageous and strong, and
  - responsible for what I say and do,
- and to
- respect myself and others,
  - respect authority,
  - use resources wisely,
  - make the world a better place, and
  - be a sister to every Girl Scout.

## 2010 Cookie Sale is “Inspired by U”

This Cookie Season beginning January 15, Girl Scouts across southeast Louisiana will be inspiring change, discovering what matters most, connecting with people in their community and using the power of Girl Scout Cookies to take action and make the world a better place. With the theme “*Inspired by U*,” cookie season fun has never been easier with cookie activity kits created for every age level. Packed with fun and inspiring activities that build essential skills, the kits are based on the latest GSUSA leadership research and are developmentally appropriate for the age. They can be downloaded from the council website.

Girl Scouts will begin taking cookie orders on Friday, January 15. Cookies will be delivered beginning February 26 and will be sold at various booth locations throughout the 23 parishes served by the council until March 14. Service Unit Cookie Manager Training (not troop level) is Saturday, November 14, location to be announced.

Cookies are \$3.50 per box upon delivery, and are preservative-free, kosher, with zero trans

fat per serving. This year, Little Brownie Bakers, the Council’s official baker for the 2010 Cookie sale program activity, added a new cookie, *Thank U Berry Munch*, whose real premium cranberries provide a delightful tartness to these hearty cookies sweetened with creamy white fudge chips. And it wouldn’t be Girl Scout Cookie time without your old favorites like *Thin Mints*, *Samoas*, *Trefoils*, *Tagalongs*, *Do-Si-Dos*, as well as relative newcomers, the *Lemon Chalet Cremes* and *Dulce de Leche* cookies.

All cookie sale proceeds remain within the local Girl Scout council, a portion of which goes to Girl Scout troops to fund troop activities and to the council to fund recruitment and training of adult volunteers, repair and maintain camp properties, and support Council-wide initiatives.

One way to support the Girl Scout Cookie sale is by participating in its *Gift of Caring* community service project in which girls encourage customers to buy cookies for donation to a non-profit organization selected by the troop.

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Juliette Gordon Low

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