



SUMMER CAMP!

With summer just around the corner, now is the time to register for an adventure at Girl Scout Camp! This year, girls can climb to new heights on a mobile rock wall, which will be traveling between day camps Cookie, Rocky Farm and Promising Acres. Girls attending Rocky Farm can also look forward to trying their hand at archery, and at Camp Hoffman, girls can play frisbee golf and enjoy splashing down a new waterslide.

At each of the four day camps, weekly themes include activities ranging from science experiments, to cooking, to arts and crafts. Girls in grades 4 and up can extend their camp experience to two weeks while learning outdoor living skills, like cutting wood, tying knots, building fires, and constructing a natural shelter.



HAVE QUESTIONS?

Call our camp registrars at (401) 331-4500/ (800) 331-0149 or visit www.gsri.org to see a copy of the Camp Brochure and for all of the registration information!

Join us for an Open House at all camps on June 2 from 2-4pm!

NEW PROGRAMS AT CAMP HOFFMAN!

REGISTER TODAY!
GENEROUS FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE.



www.gsri.org

FAIRIES & FIRELIGHT: Our youngest friends in grades 2 and 3 can frolic through camp activities like a fairy, including singing, dancing, playing games, swimming, eating s'mores, face painting, fairy crafts and more!

THE PIRATE LIFE: For mateys in grades 4 and 5, you can follow a map to buried treasure, go on a counselor hunt, and enjoy all that camp has to offer while keeping your eye out for pirates on Larkin Pond!

POP ROCKS: Scientists in grades 4 and 5, get creative as you mix your own creations and experiment with making products. Be prepared to get messy!

SUMMER GETAWAY: Relax during a luxurious week, where you'll create a spa experience for you and your friends on the shores of Larkin Pond. Your days will include manicures, pedicures, making bath salts, soaps and candles, and trying yoga. This program, for girls in grades 6 through 8, is so popular that more spaces have just been added – so register today!

SLINGS AND ARROWS: For our oldest campers in grades 9 through 12, get ready to work with your "district" as you learn survival skills, perfect your aim with a bow and arrow, and tackle the challenge course. By the end of the week, you'll be ready to rival Katniss in the Hunger Games!

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, May 2, 2013
Venus De Milo, Swansea, MA
Registration 5:30pm – 6pm
Meeting 6pm – 8pm

**GOLD AWARDS
LUNCHEON AND CEREMONY**
Saturday, June 1, 2013
Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Cranston, RI
Registration 11:30am – 12 noon
Luncheon and Ceremony 12 noon – 2pm

**CAMP OPEN HOUSE –
ALL CAMPS**
Sunday, June 2, 2013
2pm – 4pm



Senior Conference

26 years ago, Karen Pehrson started the first Senior Leadership Conference, in response to girls from her troop wanting a safe place to find answers to current issues. This year, more than 225 girls and 80 leaders from every New England state and several councils from New Jersey and New York gathered at Salve Regina University in Newport to “Investigate, Collaborate and Activate,” the theme of this year’s conference.

The conference featured three keynote speakers, Toby Shea, a social activist, Emily Pasnak-Lapchick, an end trafficking fellow at the U.S. Fund for UNICEF, and Priya Samant, founder of Earthfriendz. After Pasnak-Lapchick’s speech, girls who participated in the Conference Council were inspired to visually demonstrate the often under-estimated problem

- of human trafficking. During a moving closing ceremony on
- Sunday, girls held a ribbon chain they had created; it stretched
- around the perimeter of a large gym, with each piece of fabric
- representing one person in the United States who was entered
- into human trafficking from 9pm on Friday evening through
- 9am on Sunday while the conference was taking place.
- Between listening to keynote speakers and attending
- workshops, girls also had the opportunity to watch movies,
- make arts and crafts, dance, play volleyball and other games,
- go for a walk on the Cliff Walk, and enjoy live contemporary
- music performed by the band Elebenty.
- **Girls in grades 10 through 12 who would like to attend next**
- **year’s conference, March 7-9, 2014, can register for the**
- **conference starting in September 2013. Space is limited!**

COUNCIL SERVICE FEE

Girl Scouts of Rhode Island, Inc. (GSRI) is introducing a council service fee, effective with the 2014 membership year. This \$10 per girl fee will help generate funds dedicated to providing the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to girls in our council. **In other words, starting with the 2014 membership year, girls will pay a total annual fee of \$25 per girl.** Ten dollars of that fee will stay in our council; fifteen dollars will be sent to GSUSA for national membership dues.

Council service fees are new to Girl Scouting. Volunteer delegates (girls and adults) at the 2011 GSUSA National Council Session recognized the financial challenges confronting Girl Scout Councils in today’s economy and approved the concept. Affirming Girl Scouting’s powerful value to communities, these volunteer delegates created the council service fee to provide councils a new tool to assist with funding council programs and services for members.

Until now, all Girl Scouts (girls and adults) paid a \$12 annual membership fee directly to Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) to support national programs, girl research and training. Though collected locally, none of the annual membership fee stays at the council level. The GSUSA annual membership fee will increase from \$12 to \$15 for 2014 membership year.

After careful consideration, the decision was made to implement the council service fee in our council and provide an additional resource to help meet programming needs and offset the increasing cost of providing wide-ranging opportunities in our communities.

GIRL SCOUTS
52 WEEKS
\$25

Girl Scouts is still a bargain at \$25 compared to fees for other popular local activities:

GYMNASTICS
1X WEEK
\$72 per month

SOCCER
8 WEEKS
\$90

COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING
2X WEEK
\$80 per month

GSRI'S NEW BUILDING!

Anybody who takes I-95 on a regular basis has probably seen the future home of Girl Scouts of Rhode Island, located at 500 Greenwich Avenue. The building is highly visible and easy to get to, right off exit 12 (or 12A) in Warwick. For you Rhode Islanders, it's "the old Ski Market building." Designed by Kite Architects and engineered by E. W. Burman, the street level of the building will provide office space for the council's staff, as well as a bright, sunny new Girl Scout Shop. Estimated move in date for the staff is sometime in May. But it's the lower level that's really exciting: we'll be adding 10,000 square feet of space for the girls and volunteers in our council. We've secured a firm called Fund Consultants, Inc. that will help us create a vision for the programming and leadership opportunities that the lower level will allow. The firm has interviewed some of the top women leaders in our jurisdiction about what women leaders of tomorrow need. And a task force made up of staff, volunteers and board members is busy researching best practices from and getting inspired by other Girl Scout councils and youth-serving organizations. Can't wait to see the new "digs"? We'll be hosting a series of previews and opening events so that everybody can see our new home. Stay tuned!



The 2013 Cookie Sale



"What can a girl do?" was the theme of this year's sale. Girls can do anything when they put their minds to it and the Girl Scout Cookie Sale can teach them how! We started the year off with the cookie sale kick off with The Providence

Bruins on January 6th. Close to 700 Girl Scouts and their families were able to participate in lots of fun activities and enjoy an exciting hockey game!

Our Honorary Cookie Chair was Gina Raimondo, Rhode Island's General Treasurer. One of her top priorities is finding innovative ways to help Rhode Islanders better

manage their finances. She came to the warehouse to see our distribution operation, joined us on the Rhode



Show and invited girls to take orders at the State House. How cool is all that??

"Working with the Girl Scouts as the honorary cookie chair was so

much fun. I especially enjoyed each opportunity to meet and chat with the girls. Our conversations about how they were setting goals and working with each other were always interesting and thoughtful," said Raimondo.

Treasurer Raimondo was able to see first hand that by being a part of the Cookie Sale, girls are learning the 5 Key Skills—goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. These are all skills they'll use as they sell cookies and when they enter the world as an adult, too. We incorporated the five skills in our first ever "Bling your Booth Contest". Troops came up with some creative ways to promote the cookie sale, while learning about goal setting and financial literacy.

The 2013 Cookie Sale Community Service Project was the Gabrielle Dinsmore Heart and Hope Fund, a non-profit that raises money for children with heart defects and feeding disorders.

The Cookie Sale is helping girls take charge because it puts them in control of their success. And it's showing them that they have the power to be a leader.



K-5 INITIATIVE

Girl Scouts relies on committed adult volunteers. The time, energy and passion these volunteers give to Girl Scouting helps girls become the leaders of tomorrow. Girl Scouts has an urgent need for adult volunteers to lead new troops for girls in grades K-5. These troops would begin between now and June. There is a particular need in the areas of Providence, Fall River, Apple Valley/Johnston, and

Chariho. Each new troop leader will be assigned a coach for ongoing support. Adult volunteers are also needed to join leadership teams to work directly with girls, to be coaches to leadership teams, and to help with Girl Scout Cookie booth sales so girls can earn money for troop activities.

Contact: Jill Olson-Crowley at 401-331-4500 ext 1415 and visit www.gsri.org for more info.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



VOLUNTEER: **Karen King**

It's all about creating connections for GSRI volunteer Karen King, who has come a long way since she started as co-leader of her daughter's Brownie troop. "I was

too shy to speak in front of the group," she says. As the girls grew, so did her comfort level and skills, "My troop and I were on a leadership journey together," says Karen.

Even though the last two members of the troop graduated in 2012, Karen remains involved today by serving as the Service Unit Manager for North Kingstown and Jamestown, helping older girls prepare to participate in TREC, an annual competitive outdoor skills camping weekend, and assisting younger troops as they complete Journey activities. "Besides the fun of working with girls, I hope to create connections so they feel like a part of a larger group as they enter middle school," she says.

Karen celebrated the 100th Anniversary by volunteering to help organize the Waterfire event and a "Scouting Through Time" program. In 2012, she received the Kit Hammett Award and was invited to attend the GSUSA Act Now conference. As a result, she is now involved in introducing a pilot program to recruit more members in grades K-5, and is working with Volunteer Management Director Jill Olson-Crowley to reach out to volunteers. Karen was also accepted to the 2013 Leadership RI class.

As a result of Karen's efforts, the Girl Scouts of North Kingstown received the 2012 North Kingstown Spirit Day's "We Are Proud of You" award. Remaining humble, she says, "My accomplishments pale in comparison to the great work of our girls who put their heart and soul into making the world a better place."



BRONZE CROSS RECIPIENT: **Ashleigh C.** **Woonsocket Troop 360**

Ashleigh might seem like a typical Junior Girl Scout while reminiscing about a trip to Camp Hoffman and proudly showing

off a badge she sewed onto her vest by herself. But the actions she took on January 10 make her a hero.

Earlier that day, Ashleigh heard about a fire at an apartment building less than a mile from her house. Safety was on her mind when she woke up around 9pm that night, and realized there was a fire in her own apartment. Ashleigh started yelling loudly to wake up her Mom, Jessica. When they were both awake, Jessica urged Ashleigh to find a fire extinguisher and open a window. Knowing they didn't have a lot of time, and that air would help the fire spread more quickly, Ashleigh refused. Instead they both got out safely. "Usually when Ashleigh tells me 'no' I get mad at her, but in this case, it saved our lives," says Jessica.

In recognition of Ashleigh's courage, her Girl Scout leaders nominated her, and recently received the news that she was approved to receive a GSUSA Bronze Cross lifesaving award – presented when a girl has shown special heroism or has faced extraordinary risk of her own life to save another's life. "The fact that Ashleigh was able to remain calm, use her fire safety knowledge, act quickly, and get the family to safety, shows an incredible feat of courage," says her leader, Krystle Poirier.

Ashleigh's advice to others about fire safety is simple: "Stay calm, find help, and get out," she says. Plans are in the works to recognize her in a ceremony held in Woonsocket, with the Major and Fire Chief on hand to honor her bravery.



S'more News

SPRING 2013



See you at Camp
this summer!



Greetings from the CEO

Hooray! Even though spring is certainly taking its time to appear, we're already busy preparing for summer. This year we want to see our beautiful camps "bursting at the seams" with girls from all over our jurisdiction and beyond. Girls will see some fun new things at camp this summer: a new waterslide at Camp Hoffman, archery at Camp Rocky Farm, and a cool new traveling rock wall that will visit Camps Rocky Farm, Promising Acres and Cookie. We strongly believe that every girl who wants to attend summer camp, should attend summer camp. And, so we thank the many individuals and organizations who contribute to our Campership Appeal each year. If funds are tight, and we know they are for many, we encourage you to apply for financial assistance. Enjoying nature and building friendships is what Girl Scouting is all about. Don't miss this opportunity to have a summer to remember. Register for camp today!


Jean Ann McGrane, CEO



girl scouts

 of rhode island

 125 Charles Street

 Providence, RI 02904-2274

 www.gsri.org



S'more News

 SPRING 2013

GIRL SCOUTS OF RHODE ISLAND, INC.

 Including Attleboro, Bellingham, Blackstone, Fall River,

 Milville, North Attleborough, Plainville, Rehoboth,

 Seekonk, Somerset, Swansea, Westport, and

 Wrentham, MA and Pawcatuck, CT

Nonprofit

 Organization

 U.S. Postage

 PAID

 Providence, RI

 Permit No. 220



Frequently asked questions at the Canal House Shop!

*** LEADERS: WHAT DO I NEED FOR MY END OF YEAR TROOP?**

Each girl should receive the following items:

- Membership Star and age level colored disc
- All badges they have earned during the year
- A rainbow badge, if the girl did the age level Bridging activities from the Girl Guide
- Bridging Certificates are also available

*** WHERE DO I FIND THE REQUIREMENTS TO EARN THE MY PROMISE, MY FAITH AWARDS?**

This information is in the Girl Guide to Girl Scouting for your age level in the Handbook Section

*** WANT TO EARN THE SAFETY AWARD IN YOUR AGE LEVEL?**

This is in the Girl Guide to Girl Scouting for your age level in the Handbook Section



New Items at the Shop!

 Tote Bag, Car Magnet, Trefoil Earbuds, Trefoil Cell Phone Case, Body Art Kit, Quilted Cell Phone Case

STAY TUNED FOR SHOP HOURS AT OUR NEW LOCATION!

CANAL HOUSE SHOP

 125 Charles Street, Providence, RI

HOURS:

 Monday-Friday, 8am-5:30pm

 Saturday, 10am-2pm

FRIENDSHIP SHOP

 Camp Hoffman, W. Kingston, RI

HOURS:

 Wednesday & Saturday, 10am-2pm

Friendship Shop is closed in July and August

Major credit cards accepted. Free parking at both locations.

 (401) 331-4500 or (800) 331-0149 ext. 1201

We would like to thank our sponsors:



EW Burman