

Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois



An E-Newsletter
for Volunteers



COMMUNICATIONS: Girl Scout Emissary Network

Does your girl love the spotlight? Would your Girl Scout or the girls in your troop love the spotlight? If so, they may want to consider applying to the Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois' Emissary Network! We will have two casting calls this summer for girls who may be interested in joining the Emissary Network.

The Emissary Network consists of Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors trained in public speaking and poise, on call for Girl Scout media and networking opportunities.

Families are vital to the Emissary Network! As a family member, you are responsible for transporting your Girl Scout to and from various events. Also, you would be helpful in making sure your girl has a somewhat flexible schedule to be on call for Girl Scouts, since we often receive media calls on short notice.

It's easy to apply for the Girl Scout Emissary Network! Simply attend the casting call in your area to gauge your girl's interest. If she wants to participate, she will fill out an application to be accepted in the Emissary Network. **NOTE:** A parent or guardian **must** attend the casting call along with each girl.

The West Casting Call/ Photo Session will be held Saturday, July 24, 1-3 P.M. at the Friendship Center, Camp McCormick, Stillman Valley, IL and the East Casting Call/ Photo Session will be held Saturday, August 7, 1-3 P.M. at Dean Lodge, Camp Dean, Big Rock, IL.

There is no fee to attend a casting call. However, registration is required. Reservations for each casting call are accepted online at www.girlscoutsni.org/event.html (click on the link to *Program Calendar and Online Registration*). Deadline for registration is July 19 (West) and August 2 (East). For more information, or to register over the phone or via e-mail, contact Ann-Marie Soderstrom, Emissary Network Coordinator, at 815-962-5591, Ext. 7172, or e-mail asoderstrom@girlscoutsni.org.

MEMBERSHIP: Jump Start Training for Service Team Members!

GSNI will get a jump start on the 2010/2011 membership year by offering training for the following Service Team positions: Service Unit Managers, Troop Coordinators, Program Consultants, Media Reps, Recognition Chairs, Event Coordinators and Service Unit Juliette Coordinators. The Volunteer Development and Membership Departments are busy putting together these training sessions as we come together to provide consistent training throughout GSNI. Please mark your calendars. East Side Training will be offered July 26 or July 29, at the Elgin Service Center. West Side Training will be offered July 29 or July 31, at the Sugar Grove Service Center. Invitations will be sent to all service team members!

Elgin Service Center, 12N124 Coombs Rd., Elgin, IL 60124
 Freeport Service Center, 5040 Business Rt. 20 W, Freeport, IL 61032
 Rockford Service Center, 2101 Auburn Street, Rockford, IL 61103
 Sugar Grove Service Center, 200 New Bond, Sugar Grove, IL 60554

847-741-5521
 815-235-8777 or 800-925-3327
 815-962-5591 or 800-242-5591
 630-897-1565

FUND DEVELOPMENT: Save the Date—Saturday, September 11, 2010

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the 6th Annual Thin Mint Sprint Event at Camp McCormick, Stillman Valley, IL. All Participants will earn this patch! Find out more about the Thin Mint Sprint on our website www.girlscoutsni.org. And don't forget to become a fan on Facebook, "Thin Mint Sprint Event—GSNI".



PROGRAM: Event Pathway—Red, White & Blue and Girl Scouts too!

Are you ready for the Fourth of July? Join us for a day of fun celebrating America and Girl Scouting (with a non-registered girl) Registered Girl Scouts - \$5 fee includes crafts, snack, and a fun patch. Non-registered girls can attend the event for \$17 (must complete the membership registration form on or by the day of event).

Girls will learn about many aspects of Girl Scouts, the American Flag, and why we celebrate the Fourth of July. Activities for the day include crafting Fourth of July decoration for their home, songs new and old, snacks with the theme, and fun facts about this great nation we live in.

For a registration form, contact Lisa Sandager at 815-235-8777, Ext. 7170, or e-mail lsandager@girlscoutsni.org.

PRODUCT SALES: Girl Scout Cookie Sale & Fall Product Sale Vendors

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE VENDOR

Since our merger last October, Girl Scout of Northern Illinois (GSNI) has investigated and evaluated many of our processes and ways of work. Our goal is to create an environment where we work more efficiently and bring resources together wisely to provide the best Girl Scout experience to everyone in our organization.

One of the areas identified as critical for unification was our annual Girl Scout Cookie Program. During the past cookie season, our council honored its legacy contracts and worked with both ABC and Little Brownie Bakers as providers. Moving forward to partner with one baker will help us to provide a consistency and flow throughout our council.

It was not easy for us to decide on one baker. Both have provided us with wonderful services and cookies in the past. To make this decision, we conducted a side-by-side comparison of everything each baker has to offer. A volunteer-staff team looked at how each baker would support our unique needs and challenges, meet our high expectations, and most importantly, keep the best interests of our girls as the focus of everything they provide to us. Through this intensive decision-making process, we ultimately selected Little Brownie Bakers as our baker for the next three years.

Little Brownie Bakers is committed to helping us explore our options for improving girl and troop incentives, along with the educational aspect of the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Girls will continue to have the opportunity to participate in fun and goal-oriented online activities, with the addition of a tie-in to Girl Scout badgework and journeys. Training support for volunteers will be a priority and a support team will provide technical assistance to troops using the Little Brownie Bakers online systems such as eBudde, Cookie Locator, Cookie Club and VIP eTraining.

Please be assured that even though the names may vary, the five "core cookies" that are the hallmarks of the national Girl Scout Cookie Program are similar to both bakers. Little Brownie Bakers is a well-known and respected division of Kellogg's, a company that makes great-tasting, high-quality foods, including Keebler, Pop-Tarts, Eggo, Cheez-It, Club, Nutri-Grain, Rice Krispies, All-Bran, Special K, Mini-Wheats, Chips Deluxe, Sandies, Morningstar Farms, Famous Amos, and Murray.

Additionally, Little Brownie Baker has been the licensed baker for Dairy Queen’s nationwide celebration of Girl Scouts for the past two summers. You can look forward to DQ blizzards with your favorite Girl Scout cookies this summer! For more information, you can check back later in June on our website at www.girlscoutsni.org.

One of our biggest challenges in last year’s Girl Scout cookie sale was having two prices within our council jurisdiction. Again, with streamlining systems and resources in mind, the price for Girl Scout cookie during the 2011 Girl Scout Cookie Program will be \$4 per box. Whenever there is a Girl Scout cookie price change, there are adjustments to girl and troop proceeds. We will be working with Little Brownie Bakers this summer to revise troop proceeds and girl incentives. As always, proceeds from the sale directly or indirectly benefit girls in the sixteen counties of our council’s jurisdiction.

In the months ahead, volunteers and families will receive more specific information about the 2011 council-wide, unified Girl Scout Cookie Program. Find out more about the baker on their website at www.littlebrowniebaker.com. We can’t wait to show you the impressive baker-supported materials developed to help girls *Discover, Connect, and Take Action!*

FALL PRODUCT SALE VENDOR

As with last year’s Girl Scout Cookie Program, our Fall Product Sale vendors were inconsistent across the council. Although we have had great relationships with both of our vendors, again our desire is to bring our ways of work together so that we may better utilize our resources. To that end, we have chosen Ashdon Farms and QSP as our Fall Product Sale vendors for GSNI’s “friends and family” nut, candy and magazine sale for 2010.

Ashdon Farms is dedicated to providing high-quality products and is equally committed to offering superior customer service. Their fun age-appropriate online games help girls learn facts specific to the year’s themed activities. You can take a look a last year’s themed program by visiting their website at www.ashdonfarms.com. Click on Girl Scouts, and then the “Unlock the Mystery” graphic in the center of the page.

Details around our 2010 Fall Product Sale will be coming out in August. We are excited to help troops kick off the new membership year with a unified sale where they can earn funds to help support the coming year’s activities.

JUNE 1 - SEPTEMBER 5	GSNI will be observing summer hours as follows:	
<u><i>Barrington Girl Scout Express</i></u>	<u><i>Service Centers</i></u>	
Sunday Closed	Saturday and Sunday Closed	
Mon., Tues, Wed.	9:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.	Mon.-Thurs 8:30 A.M.– 5 P.M.
Thursday	9:30 A.M.–7 P.M.	Friday 8:30 A.M.–1 P.M.
Friday and Saturday	9:30 A.M.–2:30 P.M.	
JULY 5	GSNI closed in observance of Independence Day	
SEPTEMBER 6	GSNI closed in observance of Labor Day	
SEPTEMBER 11	Thin Mint Sprint	