



PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN SYBAQUAY WAY 2007!

Celebrate good times! Join us Saturday, March 17, 1-5 P.M., for Sybaquay Way! This year's theme, "Celebrate Past, Present & Future" is an event showing where Girl Scouts and Sybaquay Council have been and where we are going! Help us celebrate our 50 years in Sybaquay Council and 95 years of Girl Scouting!

Everyone is invited! Held at the NIU Convocation Center, this expo-style event is open to the public—Girl Scouts are encouraged to attend with their friends and families. There are no registration fees or admission fees to attend or participate in Sybaquay Way. There is a parking fee (\$3 per car or \$10 per bus).

Sybaquay Way provides troops/groups and Juliettes with the opportunity to express themselves through stage presentations or booth demonstrations. Discuss with your troop/group what this milestone means and consider expressing yourself through songs, dance, skits or other acts on stage or through demonstrations or displays at a booth at Sybaquay Way. Maybe your troop/group will pick an activity that Girl Scouts use to do, are doing now, or what you think Girl Scouts will be doing 10, 20, or even 100 years from now! Stage presentations should be 5-7 minutes in length. We recommend that booth demonstrations be hands-on activities where visitors can participate.

To request a spot for a booth or reserve time for a stage presentation, call our celebration hotline, 847-741-5521, Ext. 128, or send an e-mail to <celebrate@gs-sybaquay.org>. Please indicate in your message if you will be participating in a presentation or booth, and include an adult's contact info (e-mail or mailing address, and daytime phone) and troop level/number.

Volunteers are also needed to make Sybaquay Way a success. If you would like to be involved with the planning, please contact Kay Flavin, director of program, at <kay@gs-sybaquay.org> or call 847-741-5521, Ext. 130. Adults, Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts are invited to be a part of the committee or sub-committees. There are also volunteer opportunities at Sybaquay Way for older Girl Scouts and adults—we are looking for approximately 25 adult volunteers (18 and older) to help staff the concession stands the day of the event.

This year's Sybaquay Way has the potential of being the biggest and best yet! Plan to participate and join the fun!

Don't miss out—Registration for council-sponsored programs happening February through May began January 2, 2007. Be sure to register now!



JANUARY 2007

Girl Scout Center and Council Shop Hours:

Monday	Noon–5 P.M. (Shop only Noon–8 P.M.)
Tuesday	9 A.M.–5 P.M.
Wednesday	9 A.M.–5 P.M.
Thursday	9 A.M.–5 P.M.
Friday	9 A.M.–5 P.M.

The Girl Scout Shop is also open the first Saturday of each month from 10 A.M.–1 P.M.

Should the first Saturday fall on a holiday weekend, the shop will be closed and will then be open the following Saturday.

Contacting the Girl Scout Center and Council Shop:

Phone: 847-741-5521
Fax: 847-741-5667
E-mail: info@gs-sybaquay.org
shop@gs-sybaquay.org
Website: www.gs-sybaquay.org

Girl Scout Express Hours:

Monday	9:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.
Tuesday	9:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.
Wednesday	9:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.
Thursday	9:30 A.M.–7 P.M.
Friday	9:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.
Saturday	9:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.
Sunday	Noon–4 P.M.

Contacting the Girl Scout Express:

Phone: 847-620-5043
Fax: 847-620-5044

The Girl Scout Express is located in the Ice House Mall at 200 Applebee Street, in Barrington. The Ice House Mall is north of Main Street, next to the Jewel Food Store. Hough (Route 59) and Main Street is the major intersection nearest the mall location. Call the Girl Scout Express for more specific directions.

Did you know—When you shop at the Council Shop or the Girl Scout Express, revenues are used to further the Girl Scout program for girls in Sybaquay Council!

Leader Highlights



These leaders are getting prepared for 2007 by making a stop in the Council Shop.

Above: Leaders Jennifer and Laura, of Sacajawea Service Unit, were asked about their New Year's resolutions while they shopped. They responded "to make it thru another year!"

Right: When asked about New Year's resolutions, Linda, a leader from Choctaw Service Unit, responded, "I don't make New Year's resolutions, but am constantly trying to better myself."



Left: Debbie, a leader from the Potowatomi Service Unit, resolves to try not to be so hard on herself, and hopes to better prioritize.

PROGRAM NEWS

Washington D.C. Trip—Information on this trip is currently being distributed at service unit meetings. There are two options for this trip:

- 3-days/2-nights, Friday, June 8 thru Sunday, June 10
- 4-days/3-nights, Thursday, June 7 thru Sunday, June 10

Cost varies by length of trip, tour and room accommodation options. For complete information, see the flier, check out Sybaquay Council's Web site (enter "Events" in the search feature) or contact Kay at Ext. 130.

Thank You—Thank you to the following troop/groups for donating Toys to the Elgin Community Toy Giveaway: Cheyenne Service Unit, Brownie GS Troop 55, Brownie GS Troop 672, Cadette GS Troop 1123, Brownie GS Troop 630, Junior GS Troop 118, Junior GS Troop 21, Girl Scouts - Sybaquay Council staff.

Site Reservations—Blanca Lopez is now in charge of taking reservations for Sybaquay's council-owned sites. To check availability please contact Blanca at 847-741-5521, Ext. 146 or e-mail <blanca@gs-sybaquay.org>.

Girl Scout Gold Award Banquet—The Gold Award Banquet is scheduled for April 25. The banquet will honor Girl Scouts who have earned their GS Gold Award (prior to March 16, 2007), graduating seniors and girls in their tenth year of Girl Scouts. Invitations will be mailed by the end of March. If you have girls currently in their tenth year of Girl Scouts, please contact Sarah, 847-741-5521, Ext. 123 or e-mail sarah@gs-sybaquay.org for an invitation and recognition certificate.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

Some February Holiday Observances—

- February 2, Groundhog's Day
- February 12, Lincoln's Birthday
- February 14, Valentine's Day
- February 17, Random Acts of Kindness Day
- February 19, President's Day
- February 20, Mardi Gras
- February 21, Ash Wednesday
- February 22, International World Thinking Day**
- February 22, Washington's Birthday
- February 29, Leap Day

February is also American Heart Month and Black History Month.

Let us know what your troop is doing for Thinking Day on February 22!

Girl Scout Sabbath/Sunday—Don't forget Girl Scout Sunday, March 11 and Girl Scout Sabbath, March 17! Check with your church or synogogue to see how your Girl Scouts can participate in the worship service. Girl Scout church bulletin inserts are available by request from the communications department at the Girl Scout Center. Call 847-741-5521, Ext. 115 or e-mail <vanessa@gs-sybaquay.org>.

Spotlight your Girls—Don't forget to take photos of your girls in action! Tell a story with your photo and get up close and personal. Send the photo to your local newspaper with a press release—if you'd prefer, Sybaquay's communications department can write the press release and send it out with your photo to local newspapers—we would need the troop number, the names of the girls in the photo (i.e., front row from left to right . . .), leader contact information and a description. ALWAYS make sure you have photo releases on all of the girls in your photo!

Our communications department is interested in your activities—contact Cindy Kocol at 847-741-5521, Ext. 139 or at cindy@gs-sybaquay.org with details. You might find your activities, or good deed or service project detailed in your local paper, on our new Web site or in one of Sybaquay's publications!

LET'S CLARIFY THIS

Get answers to questions that arise due to miscommunication and confusion about procedures, policies and guidelines. Send questions to the attention of the adult development department at the Girl Scout Center.

Involve your girls—In order to fulfill its mission of developing girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place, Girl Scouting is moving forward with a strengthened leadership experience, which is referred to as the Girl Scout Leadership Development Program. Through age-appropriate activities that are based on the Girl Scout Promise and Law, girls develop increased self-esteem and self-reliance.

They learn how to value themselves and others and to work together as a team.

What Can I Do?—You are the primary contact for our Girl Scouts. You are the individual who administers the Girl Scout program and helps to develop courage, confidence and character in your girls. You can help them develop their own leadership style by allowing them to plan for themselves. Let your girls choose the Try-Its, badges, interest project awards and other recognitions they wish to work on. Let them choose what the troop will do with the proceeds from the Girl Scout cookie sale—how many boxes does each girl need to sell in order to reach their goal? Even Brownie-age Girl Scouts can make decisions with your guidance. By the time they are Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts, the girls should be practically running the troop with you more as an advisor than as a leader.

Let Us Know!—So, if you're already practicing the girl-approach to leadership, let us know! We'd love to start an "Involve your girls" column and publish your troop's accomplishments! What has your troop or group done that is girl-planned and implemented? Your stories may help other Girl Scout leaders and advisors empower their own girls with leadership skills that will direct them to a positive future! Send your stories to Cindy Kocol, director of communications, at 847-741-5521, Ext. 139 or by e-mail at <cindy@gs-sybaquay.org>.

ADULT DEVELOPMENT

Highlight on Adult Recognition—This month's highlight is on two earned recognitions.

The Leadership Development Pin recognizes adult troop/group leaders, assistant troop/group leaders, or group coordinators who demonstrate competence, continuous improvement, and participate in trainings that will increase their skills in working with girls. The criteria and application for the Leadership Development Pin and leaves are in the adult recognition binder, available from the service unit managers. Submit to the Girl Scout Center your application, documented hours and description of how you have benefitted from the workshop/course. The application is reviewed by the director of adult development then a postcard is mailed, indicating that you are able to purchase your pin or green or gold leaves at the GS shop.

The second earned recognition is the President's Award. The President's Award recognizes the efforts of a geographic area team or program delivery team in moving their geographic area/service unit or audience toward the achievement of the council's goals during the membership year. The criteria and application for the President's Award can also be found in the adult recognition binder, available from the service unit managers. There are three criteria for selection that refer to deadlines from the previous membership year—all other criteria refer to the time of application. Members of the geographic team or program delivery team must submit an application for the award by February 28 to the Girl Scout Center to the attention of the Adult Recognition Committee. The application must include documentation of criteria and results. The Adult Recognition Committee reviews the application and letter of endorsement, and then recommends approval or denial to the council's Board of Directors. The contact person on the application will be notified as to the action taken regarding their request. A plaque with the service unit name is displayed at the Girl Scout Center. A certificate is also given to the service unit manager—presentation is made at the annual adult recognition dinner.

FUND DEVELOPMENT

Fashion Show & Tea—We are inviting all families to participate in this wonderful event. Invitations were mailed mid-December, one per household. Reservations can be made on line under Events. Just enter "Events" in the search feature. Deadline for ticket reservation is January 12, 2007. For more information, please contact MaryBeth Markwell, 847-741-5521, Ext. 112. Service units will have an opportunity to create a basket for the raffle at the fashion show & tea. Talk to your service unit today to enter your basket. We are also asking for any auction items. If you would like to donate, please contact us today for updated information.

Family Partnership—Family Partnership is off to a great start for the year. We would like every family to be a participant in this year's campaign. If you have any questions, or would like to get more involved with this program please contact MaryBeth Markwell, 847-741-5521, Ext. 112, or e-mail <marybeth@gs-sybaquay.org>.

Expo's—January thru April we are having booths at area

chambers of commerce community expo's. We are looking for troops/groups to volunteer for community service to help during 2-hour shifts at these events. If your troop/group is interested, please contact MaryBeth Markwell, 847-741-5521, Ext. 112, or send an e-mail to <marybeth@gs-sybaquay.org>. Let your troop show off what Girl Scouts has done for them.

COUNCIL UPDATES

Membership—As of January 5, 2007, we had 8,743 girls and 2,415 adults entered into our membership system for the new 2006–2007 membership year. Please understand that until your registration form is received by your service unit registrar, and turned in to the Girl Scout Center, you are not covered by Girl Scout insurance (girls and adults) or given access to the Leader Forum. Please send your forms A.S.A.P.

CALENDAR

Girl Scout Cookie Sale Begins	January 6
Sybaquay Council's Annual Meeting	January 27
<i>McHenry County College, Crystal Lake</i>	
Fashion Show and Tea	February 11
World Thinking Day	February 22
Make the World a Better Place week	March 11-17
Girl Scout Sunday	March 11
Girl Scout Sabbath	March 17
Sybaquay Way	March 17

Save the date—Mark your calendars and watch for more information on these upcoming events!

Adult Recognition Dinner	April 18, 2007
Girl Scout Gold Award Banquet	April 25, 2007
Golden Gala Dinner	June 23, 2007
Mary Ann Beebe Camp Tours	June 24, 2007



PATCHES AND T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE NOW!

Patches - \$1.50

T-shirt - \$10

Sizes: Youth S, M, L and Adult S-XXL

Adult Polos - \$25

Sizes: Adult S-XXXL

Colors: Gold, Carolina Blue, Royal Blue

Come in to either the Council Shop or the Girl Scout Express, or contact Becky at 847-741-5521, Ext. 138, or <becky@gs-sybaquay.org>.

SHOP TALK



Happy Anniversary!

This year is the 95th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, and the 50th anniversary of Girl Scouts - Sybaquay Council. Stop in to see our selection of anniversary items.

No time to visit the Council Shops? . . . Order by



Shop online on our Web site at <www.gs-sybaquay.org>.