



Plan an activity to celebrate Women's History Month

March is National Women's History Month. Here are a few activities that you may want to consider for your troop/group to honor the importance of women in history and their impact on today's world.

Want to do something local that gives back to the community? Peace quilts are created to honor people who have helped society. Design quilt squares to represent women in history who have contributed to society. Sew them together and donate the quilt to a women's or children's shelter in need. What a great way to honor the women of our past and help out those in our future!

Visit the Jane Addams Hull House Museum. Jane Addams was a woman who rallied for women's rights, helped to lead the peace movement and most famously, created socialized housing for the community and people of Chicago. Hull House Museum, located on the campus of Illinois University, is open to visitors to partake in the history behind Chicago housing.

Do you have girls in your troop/group that appreciate art? Celebrate Women's History Month by embracing new artworks by artist Chicago artist, Makeba Kedem-Dubose and her show entitled "Celebrating Women's History Month". You can even join her for a special artist's talk on Thursday, March 6 at the ARC Gallery in Chicago.

Plan to take advantage of special Women's Health History Month events at Loyola University in Chicago. This year's theme, "Global Women Striving for Peace" will expose you to a kick-off event for Women's History Month, a women's health fair, an international film festival and even a poetry slam!

For more information on these events and other Women's History Month opportunities, contact Shena at the Girl Scout Center, 847-741-5521, Ext. 7147. Don't forget to take pictures of your girls participating in these themed events and submit them to post on the Web site scrapbook. All girls in photos must be identified so they can be checked for photo releases.

NEW PHONE EXTENTIONS AT THE GIRL SCOUT CENTER!!

Extensions will now be 4 digits.

Previous extensions are now prefaced by 7. Also please be aware that the phone menu options have changed.

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
Web site: 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.

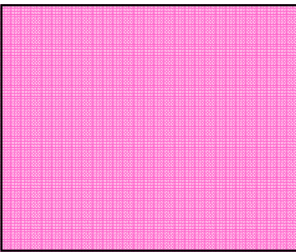
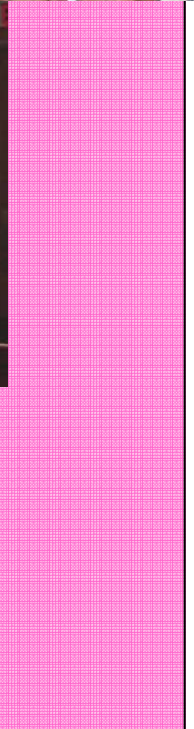
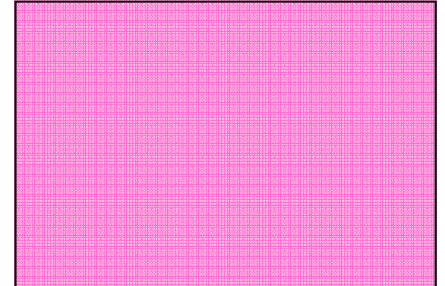
Contacting the Girl Scout Express:

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

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

Volunteers and Staff attend Sybaquay's Annual Meeting at Del Webb last month.



PROGRAM NEWS

2008 Summer Opportunities Brochure—

You should have received the Summer Opportunities brochure in your mailbox in by now. If not, you can check it out on our Web site. Registration for summer program begins February 25, 2008.

Just Added—

Lock-In at Prairie Stone Sports & Wellness Center

Activities will include swimming, rock climbing, games, movie and pizza party. Light breakfast will be served.

When: Saturday, March 15 –Sunday, March 16, 2008

Who: Girl Scouts ages 11-17

Time: Check-in 7 P.M., Check-out 6:30 A.M.

Fee: \$25 per girl; \$5 per adult

Location: Prairie Stone Sports & Wellness Center,
Hoffman Estates

Conflict Resolution Interest Project Workshop

When: Saturday, March 15, 2008

Who: Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts

Time: 9 A.M. to Noon

Fee: \$5 per participant

Location: Girl Scout Center, Elgin

TAKE ACTION during Prevent Animal Cruelty Month in

April—Give back to your community by volunteering at animal shelters during the month of April! Contact any of the following animal shelters, or check out one in your community, and set up times to volunteer. Walk dogs, play with cats . . . there are tons of things to lend a hand with so TAKE ACTION and help out your community!

If participating, we would love to hear from you! E-mail us at shena@gs-sybaquay.org and send a photo of you and/or your troop at the shelter. We will be displaying the photos at the Girl Scout Center.

Animal House Shelter, Inc.

13005 Emesti Rd., Huntley

847-961-5541

Saturday and Sunday Hours: 11 A.M. to 7 P.M.

www.animalhouseshelter.com

Any age can volunteer if accompanied by an adult. Age 16+ can volunteer without an adult.

Anderson Animal Shelter

1000 S. LaFox (Rt. 31), South Elgin

847-697-2880

Saturday and Sunday Hours: 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.

www.andersonanimalshelter.org

Age 16+ to volunteer.

Helping Paws

2500 Harding Lane, Woodstock

815-338-4400

Saturday and Sunday Hours: 12 to 4 P.M.

www.helpingpaws.net

Age 14+ to volunteer

Looking for a patch to recognize girls' participation in this "TAKE ACTION" activity? Visit the Girl Scout Shop or Girl Scout Express for a variety of community service/ Girl Scouts Love Pets fun patches. (Sew-on patches are \$1.25 per patch)

Girl Scout Silver Award Ceremony—The Girl Scout Silver Award Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May 10 at the Epworth United Methodist Church in Elgin. This event recognizes Girl Scouts who have earned their Girl Scout Silver Award between May 2007 and April 2008. The final paperwork must be submitted to the Girl Scout Center by April 30, 2008, in order to be recognized at this ceremony. Each Girl Scout Silver Award recipient is encouraged to bring a table top display of their project. Girls who earned the award as a troop may make one display. If you need further information please contact Pam Schnecke, 847-741-5521, Ext. 7140 or e-mail pam@gs-sybaquay.com.

Girl Scout Gold Award Banquet—The Girl Scout Gold Award Banquet is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4 at the Randall Oaks Golf Club. The banquet will honor Girl Scouts who have earned their Girl Scout Gold Award (prior to April 16, 2008), graduating seniors and girls in their tenth year of Girl Scouts. Invitations will be mailed by the end of April. If you have girls currently in their tenth year of Girl Scouts, please contact Chris Errera, 847-741-5521, Ext.7146 or e-mail chris@gs-sybaquay.org for an invitation and recognition certificate.

Girl Scout Day at the Capitol Wednesday, May 7, 2008—Girl Scouts and their families are invited to join

other Girl Scouts from around the state at the Illinois State Capitol in Springfield for a Girl Scout Rally. This statewide event allows Girl Scouts to meet local elected officials and to really see the impact of Girl Scouting through hundreds of Girl Scouts, troop leaders and council representatives who attend this event.

Included in this event is a ceremony to recognize Girl Scout Gold Award recipients at Attorney General Lisa Madigan's office. It is open to girls who have received their Girl Scout Gold Award since the 2006 Girl Scout Day at the Capitol.

Registration for this event ends March 14, 2008.

Troops or individuals interested in more information on this event can contact Kay at kay@gs-sybaquay.org or 847-741-5521, Ext. 7130.

Girl Scout Leadership Institutes—Girl Scouts of the USA has just announced four Girl Scout Leadership Institutes for 2008. These institutes offer girls rich leadership learning opportunities and will take place at the Edith Macy Conference Center in White Plains, New York. All travel and board expenses are paid by Girl Scout of the USA. If accepted into the program, girl's participation fee is \$100.

The institutes are: *Challenge and Change Leadership Institute*, June 26 –July 1, 2008; *College Bound Leadership Institute*, July 24 –July 29, 2008; *Get Down to Business Leadership Institute*, July 31 –August 5, 2008; *Global Climate Change Leadership Institute*. August 9 –August 14, 2008

For more information on these institutes, visit www.studio2b.org and go to the escape/destinations page. Enter the name of the institute in the search feature.

If interested in attending, download the application and reference forms from www.studio2b.org, complete them and send them to Kay Flavin at Girl Scouts – Sybaquay Council, 12N124 Coombs Road, Elgin, IL 60124. All paperwork—application and references—must be received a minimum of one week before the deadline listed on the STUDIO 2B site. This provides Sybaquay

Council with enough time to process and forward to Girl Scouts of the USA by the deadline provided.

2008 Girl Scout Leadership Institute (GSLI)—Formerly known as the Girl Congress, the Girl Scout Leadership Institute will help girls hone their leadership skills by interacting with peers and professionals. The theme of the Girl Scout Leadership Institute is Live HEALTHY, Lead HEALTHY. Healthy lifestyles will be a focus of the institute as girls discuss and practice the importance of physical fitness, proper nutrition, a positive attitude, and self-confidence.

Who: Open to all Girl Scouts who will be in grades 6-12 by October 29, 2008.

When: Wednesday, October 29 to Thursday, October 30, 2008

Where: Indianapolis, Indiana

Cost: The GSLI registration fee is \$125 per person (girl/adult). Registration fee includes dinner on Oct. 29 and lunch on Oct. 30. Participants are also responsible for travel, hotel and meal costs.

How to participate:

1. For girl or adult member of the Sybaquay Council team applications due April 15.
2. For member of troop/group team registration is currently being accepted and ends July 31, 2008 or when full.

For more information, contact Kay at the Girl Scout Center at Ext. 7130 or e-mail kay@gs-sybaquay.org.

Sponsor of the month—Kick-It with the Chicago Storm on Saturday, March 8, 2008. Before the game you can earn a special commemorative Chicago Storm patch after completing various skill, team building and strategic stations conducted by select Storm players. For more information see page 55 of *Sybaquay's Program Booklet*. To order tickets, visit www.chicagostorm.net, click on the Group Ticket Window button—login: GSSC; password:council.

NOTE: Each month we will use this space to highlight one of our Program Booklet sponsors. Information is provided by the sponsor and Sybaquay Council is not responsible for program content.

Change to Refund Policy—As stated on page 51 of the *Program Booklet*, “refunds will NOT be given to troops or individuals who cancel or fail to attend. A refund will be made ONLY if a participant cannot be placed in a program of her choice or if the program is cancelled.”

The following changes are being made to this procedure: Refunds will be considered only if the request is made prior to the event in writing (e-mails to kay@gs-sybaquay.org, fax to Kay at 847-741-5667, or, if time does not allow, a phone message followed up with a written letter. If sending an e-mail, make sure “Girl Scouts” appears in the message subject line.) Any refunds requested and approved will be subject to a minimum \$5 processing fee (per person). Refund requests will be reviewed at the end of each month and, if approved, refunds will be mailed mid-month. Refunds will be made to the person who made the original payment. So if a troop check was used to make the payment, the refund will be sent to the troop, not to the individual girl.

Please remember that often refunds are not possible due to supplies already purchased or, in the case of workshops conducted by outside resources, payment is

based on number registered not number attended.

When requesting a refund, include the following:

- Name and address of participant(s) registered for the event
- Name and date of workshop/event
- Reason for requesting refund
- Name of person requesting the refund with phone number

Incomplete requests will not be considered.

This policy is in effect for programs with registration beginning January 2, 2008, and beyond.

ADULT DEVELOPMENT

Just say “Thanks!”—Did you know that you or your daughter can nominate her Girl Scout leader for the Outstanding Leader Award? The Outstanding Leader Award recognizes troop leaders whose performance in working with the girls is so outstanding that it merits recognition. Letters of endorsement must be submitted to the Girl Scout Service Center by February 29 at 5 P.M. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jenny at jenny@gs-sybaquay.org or 847-741-5521, Ext. 7119.



Meet Sybaquay Council staff! This month's spotlight is on Sybaquay Council's membership directors and director of membership services.

Meet (left to right) Melissa Margason, membership director for Lake/Barrington Counties; Dana McFarlin, membership director for Kane/McHenry Counties; Cherie Jones, director of membership services; Christine Kelly, membership director for McHenry County; Kris Trusk, membership director for Cook/DuPage/Kane County; Shannan Krist, membership director for DeKalb/LaSalle/McHenry Counties.

Staff Spotlight

MEMBERSHIP

Membership—As of February 15, 2008, we have 8,673 girls and 2,387 adults entered into our membership system for the 2007–2008 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 certain Web site applications. Please send your forms A.S.A.P.

FYI

Web Site Updates—We are in the process of finishing up phase II of our Web site. Included in this phase is an update to our program event and adult training registration process. The section has a new look and new sorting and view capabilities. Additionally, users will be asked to sign up with a username and password (you will only have to set it up once). Once you've completed the online registration form, your payment will then be processed through PayPal.

The Girl2Girl section of our Web site is getting a face lift as well. Most of the items in Girl2Girl are being updated by our girls. Some of our Girl Scout Emissaries are already involved and we'd like to invite your girls to join us with their vision of the new Girl2Girl. If you're girls are interested in becoming a part of the direction of Girl2Girl, contact Cindy at cindy@gs-sybaquay.org or 847-741-5521, Ext. 7139. We have an exciting addition to our Girl2Girl section—a new social networking section called *OneGirl*—stay tuned for more info!

Girl Scout Sabbath/Sunday—Don't forget Girl Scout Sunday, March 9 and Girl Scout Sabbath, March 15! Check with your church or synagogue to see how your Girl Scouts can participate in the worship service. Girl Scout church bulletin inserts are available in English or Spanish by request from the communications department at the Girl Scout Center. Call 847-741-5521, Ext. 7115 or e-mail Vanessa@gs-sybaquay.org. Color inserts can also be downloaded from our Web site under Home/News/From GSUSA.

CALENDAR

Summer Program registration begins!	February 25
GS Cookie orders delivered to customers by	March 12
GS Week	March 9-15
GS Sunday	March 9
GS Birthday	March 12
GS Sabbath	March 15

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

Some Holiday Observances—Plans for your troop/group activities can be themed after some of these March observances: International Women's Day (March 8); St. Patrick's Day (March 17). Monthly observances for March include National Nutrition Month and National Women's History Month.

SHOP TALK

FEBRUARY SALE!

*All scrapbooking
Supplies are*

20% off

*Offer good at both locations
& online shop*

Girl Scouts - Sybaquay Council

