

# LEADER CONNECTIONS

Monthly Newsletter for Troop Leaders and Volunteers of Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama • OCTOBER 2009



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GSNCA Corporate Headquarters

### Birmingham Service Center

105 Heatherbrooke Park Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35242-8008  
T (205) 980-4750 or (800) 734-4541  
F (205) 980-4753



### Anniston Service Center

1619 Christine Avenue  
Anniston, AL 36207  
T (256) 237-2825 or (800) 677-2247  
F (256) 236-8508



### Florence Service Center

114 West Dr. Hicks Blvd., Suite 300  
Florence, AL 35630  
T (256) 764-0331 or (866) 225-0224  
F (256) 764-1125



### Gadsden Service Center

1507 Rainbow Drive, Suite 1  
Gadsden, AL 35901  
T (256) 543-8033 or (800) 243-1526  
F (256) 543-8438



### Huntsville Service Center

1515 Sparkman Drive NW  
Huntsville, AL 35816  
T (256) 883-1020 or (800) 410-8338  
F (256) 882-1750



### Tuscaloosa Service Center

4201 Rice Mine Road NE  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406  
T (205) 759-5421 or (800) 447-5755  
F (205) 758-1275



[www.girlscoutsnca.org](http://www.girlscoutsnca.org)



## COOKIES 4 A CHANGE!

This cookie season, Girl Scouts in North-Central Alabama will be inspiring change, and through the Girl Scout Cookie Sale Program, they will **take action** in their own neighborhoods and far beyond. Girls will **discover** how their sister Girl Scouts are making a difference right now by **connecting** with people in their communities. Take a look at some of the wonderful things troops in our area did last year through their participation in the Cookie Sale Program.

### Troop 31 – Birmingham

“Our troop donated half of their proceeds from their 2009 cookie sales to the Greater Birmingham Humane Society.”

—Ann Slattery, Troop Cookie Manager

### Troop 389 – Harvest

“Like so many other leaders, I love my troop! The girls vote on how to spend their cookie profits, and for the past two years, they bought boxes of Angel Food (\$300 worth each year) to be donated to the Downtown Rescue Mission.

“This year, the girls have decided to purchase 20 Build-a-Bear stuffed animals to be donated to the Huntsville Hospital Children’s Department. In addition, they plan to purchase \$300 worth of books for the Mt. Carmel Elementary School Library.”

—Adrienne McGriff, Troop Leader

### Troop 401 – Fort Payne

“Our girls and their parents work very hard to get out into the community and let folks know that it is cookie time! We decided a couple of years ago, to save our cookie profits so that when the girls are a little older (they are mostly 9-10 years old) and better able to take care of themselves on a long trip, we would do something sensational!

“We went camping last year, and are going again this year. We have been to concerts each year, have had guests help us with our try-its and badges, done numerous service projects, learned new things, and generally had fun being Girl Scouts!”

—Barbara Barone, Troop Leader

Inspired by U™

## 2010 COOKIE SALE PROGRAM

Troops are setting amazing goals and using their proceeds from the Cookie Sale Program to achieve those goals! The program is much more than a fundraiser—it’s a fun way for girls of all ages to earn the money that fuels their dreams. And it’s a powerful, hands-on, leadership and entrepreneurial program.

### Watch girls grow... and be inspired!

Girls will begin taking preorders on **December 18, 2009**. The sale will run through March 10, 2010.



Community Partner

## GIRL SCOUT DESTINATIONS

### Travel Adventures for Girls 11-17

Girl Scouts **destinations**, travel experiences that range from two days to three weeks for Cadettes and older, can whisk you to the far corners of the world where you will meet remarkable girls, develop leadership skills, gain confidence, and enjoy valuable learning opportunities. Read *Explore Your World* (found at [www.studio2b.org/destinations](http://www.studio2b.org/destinations)) and learn about all the fun and exciting experiences these Girl Scouts had on their destinations trips.

**destinations** fall into six categories: international, outdoors, science, people, apprenticeships, and getaways. These trips are facilitated by Girl Scouts of the USA and hosted by individual Girl Scout councils, GSUSA, and contracted organizations, such as Outward Bound, U.S. Space & Rocket Center, and Holbrook Global Field Expeditions.

### Applying for a destination?

Here are five steps that will change your Girl Scout life:

1. Log on to [www.studio2b.org/destinations](http://www.studio2b.org/destinations). Select your top four choices.
2. Download the application form and complete it. You'll need to fill out an application for each event you want to attend.
3. Print out two copies of the reference form and ask two people who know how awesome you are to fill them out. You can use the same letters of reference for all your applications.
4. Send your application to your local Girl Scout service center by the November 1, 2009, deadline. If you have questions, call or email Debbie LeBron at 1-800-447-5755 ext. 12, or [dlebron@girlscoutsna.org](mailto:dlebron@girlscoutsna.org).
5. You and your Council will receive notification of acceptance from the host council or event sponsor. Then go on your destination. Bon voyage!

Older girls in North-Central Alabama have been meeting this summer, and plans for one or two Council destinations in the U.S. are in the works. To learn more, a **destination Planning** meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2009, in Tuscaloosa (and other locations by interest). Or fill out a travel survey at [www.girlscoutsna.org/girls-only.php](http://www.girlscoutsna.org/girls-only.php).

### A PLACE WORTH GOING TO...

#### By Paige Mize

Adults, if you are feeling unprepared for a trip with 15 or so mischievous and daring girls, don't feel alone. Most Girl Scout leaders fret about all the unfortunate events that could happen, but usually don't. Safety is always the first concern and now being prepared is easier than ever.

Suite hotels make an adult easily accessible for each group of girls, and usually save the troop money. The Internet lets you (and parents) "see" many parts of the trip in advance. Google maps, GPS, and cell phones can help you if your assigned map reader gets mixed up. Cell phones let the girls (or parents) who get homesick, call each other. Chain restaurants help girls know what to expect when they order food.

Always pack your sense of humor to deal with the unexpected. You might find a great picnic spot while lost, rent a vacation house, or stay in a Yurt when no hotels are to be had. Girls can cope with smiling, using their manners, and taking a few small bites of an unfamiliar food. Identifying yourself as Girl Scouts when making the reservations will get you many free perks and discounts!

Every trip is a learning experience. Girls will enjoy managing their own monies, ordering for themselves in a restaurant and learning to pay the appropriate tip. You'll know the trips are a success when the girls say, "remember when we...?"



*Our Chalet in Switzerland*

#### GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTH-CENTRAL ALABAMA Camps

##### Camp Anderel

631 County Road 635  
Rogersville, AL 35652  
T (256) 883-1020 or (800) 410-8338

##### Camp Gertrude Coleman

4010 Camp Coleman Road  
Trussville, AL 35173  
T (205) 655-3782 or (866) 882-3572  
F (205) 655-5602

##### Camp Cottaquilla

2500 Cottaquilla Road  
Anniston, AL 36207  
T (256) 237-2825 or (800) 677-2247

##### Camp Tombigbee

6206 Ala. Hwy. 39  
Boligee, AL 35443  
Mt. Hebron  
T (205) 372-0546

##### Camp Trico

315 Trico Drive  
Guntersville, AL 35976  
T (256) 883-1020 or (800) 410-8338

##### Kanawahala Program Center (KPC)

831 Girl Scout Road  
Chelsea, AL 35043  
T (205) 678-8843 or (866) 457-4590  
F (205) 678-8679

### The Prudential Spirit of the Community Awards Program

The Prudential Spirit of the Community Awards Program is a national awards program that promotes volunteerism within the community. This honor comes with a cash prize, a trip to Washington and a chance to inspire other young people to get involved with volunteering. If you know a Girl Scout who has created a really special project that has made a difference in the community, or has gone above and beyond in volunteering in the community, please submit her for this award.



This past year, Girl Scout Olivia Cale, from Birmingham Troop 362, received this prestigious award for her volunteer work at the Birmingham Zoo. In addition to her 235 volunteer hours, she helped evacuate a zoo building in an emergency and worked at two major fundraising events.

For complete information on the award and how to apply, go to <http://spirit.prudential.com>. Please submit your application to Debbie LeBron at [dlebron@girlscoutsna.org](mailto:dlebron@girlscoutsna.org), no later than November 2, 2009.



## REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

For GSNCA staff to provide the quality of service you expect and deserve, we ask that everyone follow the registration procedures in the Program Planner.

- ▶ Fees must be paid **with** the registrations. No one is registered until the money is received. Faxing or emailing registrations without paying the fees will not hold spots.
- ▶ Registrations sent by fax or email **must** include credit card information. If you do not want to email or fax that information, you must mail your registration.
- ▶ Registration deadlines for Girl Programs and Outdoor Programs (Camps) are listed with the event descriptions in the Program Planner.
- ▶ Registration deadline for Girl Leadership/Awards Workshops and Adult Learning sessions is two weeks before the course date. Courses may be cancelled if not enough participants have registered by that date.
- ▶ Register as soon as possible, as many programs reach the maximum capacity.
- ▶ Registrations are not accepted by phone.

We are receiving a lot of registrations—which is great—however, we do not need two pieces of paper as it becomes confusing and is not environmentally friendly. Go Green and email or fax those registrations with your credit card information.

**NOTE: If you will be receiving a T-shirt as part of the program for which you are registering, please remember to tell us what size you'll need on the form.**

## MORE NEW GSNCA PATCHES

Girl Scouts in the North-Central Alabama area have the opportunity to earn Council-sponsored patches. The patches may be earned as a troop or as an individual and may be purchased through your Council Shops. Look for details and requirements on our Web site, [www.girlscoutsna.org](http://www.girlscoutsna.org), coming October 1.

### ADOPT A GRANDPARENT

The purpose of this patch program is to bridge the gap between different generations. It is designed to pair a Girl Scout with a senior friend to share talents and knowledge, explore the differences in generational attitudes, and increase awareness of the aging process. Girls can find senior friends at retirement facilities, senior associations, an elderly neighbor, a shut-in from church, or within their own families. This patch program may be earned by Brownies through Ambassadors.

### SCRAPBOOKING DIVAS

This patch program, for all grade levels, is designed to promote interest in the art and science of preserving photos and memories for future generations. Each girl will create her own scrapbook, learn about archival materials, techniques for making page layouts, using photographs, journaling, and much more.

### JULIETTE LOW

Through this patch program girls are encouraged to learn more about Juliette Low, the founder of Girl Scouting. Appropriate for all ages, girls will explore her history by creating a timeline of her life, how she started the first scouting program, and what her interests were as a girl.

### TROOP CAMPER

Earning this patch will help expand the world of troop camping for Brownie through Ambassador Girl Scouts. Girls will have the opportunity to visit each of the camps in the North-Central Alabama area for a day or overnight. They will increase their knowledge of camping skills, planning, health and safety, outdoor cooking, nature and ecology, and celebration of ceremony.

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### October Program Registration Deadline Reminders:

GIRL PROGRAMS	Program Date	Program Planner Page	Grade Level	Location	Registration Deadline
<b>Engineering Fun Day</b>	October 17	22	DBJ	Anniston, Huntsville	October 7
<b>Huntsville Museum of Art*</b>	October 17	23	DBJ	Huntsville	October 7
<b>Penny Power!</b>	October 17	23	DB	Winston County	October 7
<b>Engineering a Future</b>	October 24	23	SA	Birmingham	October 14
<b>World of Puppets, Dolls &amp; Plays</b>	October 24	23	DB	Gadsden	October 9
<b>Eco Event</b>	October 24	23	ALL	Birmingham	October 14
<b>Pottery &amp; Clay</b>	October 24	23	J	Gadsden	October 9
<b>Pumpkin Patch Day</b>	October 24	23	DB	Vance	October 15
<b>World's Fair</b>	October 24	23	D	Huntsville, Gadsden	October 14
<b>Mirror, Mirror – What Do I See?</b>	October 25	24	SA	Anniston, Florence	October 14
<b>Groovy Girls Birthday Party</b>	October 31	24	DB	Tuscaloosa, Huntsville, Anniston, Birmingham	October 21
<b>Art-Rageous</b>	October 31	24	B & up	Tuscaloosa	October 21
<b>Ocoee Whitewater Rafting Trip</b>	Oct. 31-Nov. 1	24	Ages 12 & up	Cleveland, TN	October 7
<b>Disney on Ice**</b>	November 5 & 7	24	ALL	Birmingham	October 23
<b>4th Alabama's Place in Space</b>	November 6-7	24	J & up	Huntsville	October 16
<b>Sounds of Music</b>	November 7	24	DB	Gadsden	October 23
<b>Growing Up Female</b>	November 7	24	3rd grade B, J	Demopolis	October 21
<b>World Neighbors</b>	November 7	25	J	Gadsden	October 23
<b>Daisy Day</b>	November 7	25	D	Anniston, Birmingham, Tuscaloosa	October 21
<b>Girl Talk at UAB</b>	November 7	25	3rd grade B, J	Birmingham	October 21
<b>Imagination Factory – Let's Pretend</b>	November 13	25	B	Gardendale	October 21
<b>Under the Stars</b>	Nov. 13-14	25	J	Birmingham	October 30
<b>Imagination Factory – Crazy Cartooning</b>	November 14	25	J	Gardendale	October 21
<b>Imagination Factory – Make 'Em Laugh</b>	November 14	25	J	Gardendale	October 21

#### \* PROGRAM REGISTRATION CHANGE

► **NOTE:** For the *Huntsville Museum of Art* program, scheduled October 17, participants will need to contact the museum directly to register. For more information, call (256) 535-4350 or (800) 786-9095, or email [info@hsvmuseum.org](mailto:info@hsvmuseum.org).

#### \*\* DISNEY ON ICE TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!

► Tickets are on sale **NOW through October 23** for the two shows, November 5 & 7, 2009, at Council Shops in Anniston, Birmingham, and Tuscaloosa Service Centers. Orders may also be mailed or faxed to any of these three locations. Visit [www.girlscoutsna.org/form-and-resources.php](http://www.girlscoutsna.org/form-and-resources.php) for details and order form.

**NEW GIRL PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES****UAB Scout Day***Thursday, October 1, 2009**Time:* 7 p.m.*Location:* Legion Field, Birmingham*Grade level:* ALL*Cost:* \$5 per ticket

UAB invites all Girl Scouts (with family and friends) to Scout Day 2009 at the home football game against Southern Miss. For ticket information, contact LaQuintis McKinstry at (205) 996-5993, or Alicia Vincent at (205) 934-6633.

**Public Relations Workshop***Sunday, November 15, 2009**Time:* 1:30-4:30 p.m.*Location:* Birmingham (TBA)*Grade level:* Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors*Min/max:* 10/30*Cost:* \$2 (includes badge)*Registration deadline:* November 5, 2009

Learn different aspects of public relations from real PR professionals. Earn the PR Interest Project Award while learning about media relations, writing for the media, careers, event planning, technology in PR, and developing a campaign.

OUTDOOR PROGRAMS	Program Date	Program Planner Page	Grade Level	Location	Registration Deadline
<b>Harvest Day for Troops</b>	October 17	37	Troops: DB	Camp Coleman	October 1
<b>Haunted Halloween Happening for Troops</b>	October 17	37	Troops: BJ	Camp Coleman	October 1
<b>Creepy Camp for Troops</b>	October 17	37	Troops: JC	Camp Coleman	October 1
<b>High Adventure for Juniors</b>	October 24	41	J	KPC	October 9
<b>High Adventure Interest Project</b>	October 24	41	CSA	KPC	October 9
<b>Juliette Low's Bloomin' Birthday Bash</b>	October 31	37	Troops: DBJ	Camp Coleman	October 16
<b>High Adventure Time</b>	November 7	38	BJ	Camp Cottaquilla	October 16
<b>A to Zink for Daisies &amp; Brownies</b>	November 7	41	DB	KPC	October 23
<b>A to Zink for Juniors</b>	November 7	41	J	KPC	October 23
<b>Any Day is a Horse Day</b>	November 11	38	JC	Camp Coleman	October 30
<b>Stargazing</b>	November 14	41	B (with adults)	KPC	October 30
<b>Scavenger Hunt</b>	November 14	35	ALL	Camp Anderel	October 28
<b>Fossils-A-Plenty</b>	November 14	45	ALL	Tuscaloosa *Location Change	October 16
<b>Catch a Falling Star</b>	November 14-15	42	J & up (with adults)	KPC	October 30

► **NOTE:** For the **Fossils-A-Plenty** program, scheduled November 14, the location has changed to the Museum of Natural History on the University of Alabama campus in Tuscaloosa. Participants are asked to meet in the lobby of the museum.

► **FALL FUN FAIR RESCHEDULED:** This event originally scheduled for September 19 & 20 at Camp Coleman will now be held **Saturday, October 10**, at 1-5 p.m. If you were registered to attend, please let us know if you will be able to attend on the NEW date. If you were NOT scheduled, but would like to attend, contact Tonya Sails at (205) 980-4750 ext. 128 to register as soon as possible.

GIRL LEADERSHIP/ AWARDS WORKSHOPS	Program Date	Program Planner Page	Grade Level	Location	Registration Deadline
<b>Gold Award Workshops</b>	October 17	57	SA	Gadsden	October 2
<b>ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES</b>					
	Program Date	Program Planner Page	Location		Registration Deadline
<b>Take Action – Leadership Essentials</b>	October 15	59-60	Birmingham		October 1
	October 17		Huntsville, Rainbow City		October 2
	October 18 <i>* Date Change</i>		Vinemont		October 2
	October 24		Hartselle, Winfield		October 9
	November 14		Carbon Hill, Rainsville, Tuscumbia, Tuscaloosa		October 30
<b>First Aid &amp; CPR</b>	October 17	60	Birmingham		October 2
	October 24		Calera, Hartselle		October 9
	November 7		Birmingham		October 23
	November 14		Scottsboro		October 30
<b>Basic Troop Camping – Council Property</b>	October 21	60	KPC		October 7
	October 24		Camp Trico		October 9
	November 14		Camp Anderel, Tuscaloosa		October 30
<b>Camping Adventures</b>	October 24-25	61	Camp Trico		October 9
<b>Advanced Outdoor Cooking</b>	October 24	61	Alexandria		October 9
<b>Basic Orienteering &amp; Knots</b>	November 14	61	Camp Anderel		October 30
<b>Songs &amp; Games</b>	October 25	62	Camp Anderel		October 9
<b>Troop Trip Planning</b>	November 10	62	Birmingham		October 27
	November 14		Tuscaloosa		October 30
<b>Day Camp Directors &amp; Business Managers</b>	November 7	62	Birmingham		October 23
	November 14		Huntsville		October 30

## BULLETIN BOARD

### COUNCIL SHOPS

Fall is the best time to shop for all your Girl Scouting needs! Don't miss our Groovy Girl Parties in October!

- ▶ **Groovy Girl Birthday Party** – Saturday, October 3, Demopolis, 10 a.m.-Noon  
(see Program Planner page 22 for details)
- ▶ **Groovy Girl Halloween Party** – Saturday, October 31, at the Anniston, Birmingham, Florence, Huntsville, and Tuscaloosa Service Centers, 10 a.m.-Noon (see Program Planner pages 22 & 24 for details)

### OCTOBER IS SAFETY MONTH!

#### Have your girls earned their Safety Awards?

Every girl can make a difference when it comes to safety. Working with a leader, Brownie Girl Scouts can make sure they are safe by becoming partners in safety. Girls learn about safety as they work toward the Safety Award. After completing the activities, they can wear the award on their uniform vest or sash.

This award, which also appears in *Safety-Wise*, has been adapted for the Web (visit [http://www.girlscouts.org/program/gs\\_central/insignia/online/safety/brownie\\_safety\\_award.asp](http://www.girlscouts.org/program/gs_central/insignia/online/safety/brownie_safety_award.asp)). The links after each activity go to pages helpful for completing it. Girls should visit Internet sites with an adult, then discuss what they've learned and how the sites relate to the activity.

