

# Girl Scouts® Dakota Horizons

Northwest District

Volume 4, Issue 4

## Support the Girl Scout Program with the Family Partnership Campaign

Giving to the Girl Scouts of Dakota Horizons is a great way to invest in your daughter's future!

- Donate to Girl Scouts of Dakota Horizons and receive a Family Support patch
- Earn a chevron to add to the patch by continuing to donate annually. Add the WOW factor with a donation of \$50 or more

Girl Scouting is a Family Partnership. As in any partnership we need to work together to accomplish our goals. Supporting your daughter as a Girl Scout is important. To affirm that vital relationship, Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons will recognize financial contributions given by each family. The family name will be published in our newsletters and a participation patch will be awarded to your daughter/s.



**Your family can make a difference:**  
***Your donation supports local Girl Scouts with 20% going directly to your daughter's troop***

### Purses with a Purpose

### Adult and Girl Recognition Ceremony

"Purses with a Purpose" is a special fundraising event that will be held annually throughout Girl Scouts—Dakota Horizons. The event will include both a silent auction and live auction, where unique designer and hand-crafted purses will be sold to the highest bidder.

April 12 Purse with a Purpose, Grand Forks

May 3 Purses with a Purpose, Sioux Falls

May 3 Purses with a Purpose, Fargo

Tickets for the events are \$10 at the door, or they can be purchased in advance beginning April 1, 2008 at the Grand Forks, Fargo, or Sioux Falls Girl Scout Offices.

**Northwest District -- April 12, 2008**

Northwest District Girl and Adult Recognition Event  
10:30 – 1 pm  
International Inn  
Minot, ND



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## Girl Scout Leader Appreciation Day - April 22, 2008

Everyone likes to be appreciated for doing a good job. Recognition activities need not be formal, public or expensive. The following is a list of informal recognition ideas that are inexpensive or no cost and can be utilized to recognize Girl Scout leaders or volunteers in your area.

1. Write a news article for the local newspaper, highlighting a Girl Scout volunteer's contribution or impact.
2. Write a news article for the Girl Scout newsletter.
3. Send a thank-you note.
4. Smile.
5. Say "thank-you" during a meeting or gathering.
6. Have a soft drink party.
7. Give a pat-on-the-back.
8. Share the success or impact of one Girl Scout volunteer with others at a meeting or gathering.

9. Have a "Girl Scout Volunteer of the Month" award.
10. Reimburse gas money for troop activities.
11. Nominate a Girl Scout volunteer for a council award.
12. Send peppermint candies with the message "You're worth a mint!"
13. Recognize community service activities.
14. Surprise a Girl Scout volunteer with a cake.
15. Send flowers.
16. Encourage troop parents/girls to send thank-you notes.
17. Plan an organizational outing (picnic, theater, ball game, family day, pool party, etc.)
18. Praise in public - especially in front of family and friends.
19. Plant a tree or flowerbed in a Girl Scout volunteer's name.

20. Send spices with a note: "You're the spice of life!"
21. Provide snacks at meetings or events.
22. Send balloons.
23. Send candy.
24. Send cookies.
25. Give calendars, notepads, pens, or pencils.

## Girl Scouts—Dakota Horizons Summer Camps



**SUMMER CAMP 2008**

**Girl Scouts-Dakota Horizons**

Are you making plans to attend summer camp with the Girl Scouts?

We are looking forward to spending time with your Daisy's, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes and Seniors.

By now you should have received a summer program guide, which lists all the fun things that are going on in the council.

Older girls can attend S.T.E.M. camp at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD or resident camp in Aberdeen, SD.

There are many horse camps to attend as well as tons of fun Service

Unit camps. Get out and enjoy the fresh air.

Dakota Certificates will be handed out soon and these can be used for trips, programs, camps or they can be spent in the Girl Scout shop.

Have you registered for the upcoming girl and adult tea?

It promises to be a fun filled and busy day. Hope to see you there!

## District Corner

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### Shop Talk



Check out the new items for Leader Appreciation Day on April 22. Remember your leaders with something special from the Girl Scout Shop!



GSUSA recently sent a huge price markdown list to our shop staff. Stop by and check out some of these sale items before they are gone. There is a huge inventory of fun patches marked down to \$.50 and \$.25 and these are only available while supplies last.



Court of Award events are just around the corner. Get your orders in now so we can be sure to have all of your items in stock. Thank you very much for your support of the Girl Scout Shops!

### Time to Play ...Games

#### PEOPLE KNOT

All the girls stand in a circle, each putting in first their left hand, and grasping that of someone else's, then doing the same with the right, making sure that they are holding two different people's hands. Challenge them to undo themselves into a circle. If you have more than about 10, split them into 2 groups, but there does need to be an even number, which occasionally means that you have to get involved too!

## DEATH BY CHOCOLATE???

## What A Way To Go!

On Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup> the Northwest District celebrated its 11<sup>th</sup> annual Death By Chocolate. A perennial favorite, this wildly popular event was again held at the Best Western Ramkota Lodge in Bismarck, featuring some of the area's best chefs facing off in head-to-head competition to see who could create the most original and best tasting desserts.

This year's big winner would definitely be the approximately 250 people in attendance as the chefs took their games to the "next" level in hopes of convincing a celebrity in attendance. This year, unlike past years, saw the addition of a celebrity

to the judging panel. Chef Susan Notter, of Food Network fame, and one of the top pastry chefs in America, flew in from Birmingham, Alabama to offer her expertise for the evening. As part of the event, Chef Notter not only was one of the judges for the competition, but also spent an afternoon teaching the art of pastry making to 7 of the area's most involved and active young ladies. Ms. Notter also created out of chocolate, an incredible sculpture that showcased her remarkable skill.

Also as part of the evening, a silent and live auction was held. Both auctions showed the support that Girl Scouting has in the area, as 35 do-

nors from Bismarck and Minot offered up items to be auctioned off to support the efforts of the young women in our area. The keynote piece of the auction though, was the work of chocolate art created by Chef Notter.

Also accentuating the local level of support of Girl Scouts was the many businesses and sponsors that supported the event financially. We offer a huge amount of gratitude and a big thank you to these philanthropists, for without their support this enjoyable evening would not be possible.

# Council Wide Summer Horse Camps



**Aberdeen:**  
Spurs Therapeutic Riding Center (38815 130<sup>th</sup> St)

## **Beginners Jr Horse Camp:**

June 16 (event #5530) or June 17, 2008 (event #5531), from 9:00AM-4:00PM! The Min/Max is 3/5 and the cost is \$48.00!

Special Notes: Please bring your own sack lunch!

**Advanced Jr Horse Camp:** June 23 (event #5532) or June 24, 2008 (event #5533), from 9:00AM-4:00PM! The Min/Max is 3/5 and the cost is \$48.00!

Special Notes: Please bring your own sack lunch!

**11-17 Horse Camp:** June 19-20, 2008 (event #5534), from 9:00AM on the 19<sup>th</sup> to 4:00PM on the 20<sup>th</sup>! The Min/Max is 3/5 and the cost is \$115.00!

Special Notes: Girls will be spending the night at the TDAF cabin at RLYC, so please bring Sleeping bag & pillow, change of clothes, personal hygiene items & PJ's! Transportation to and from the cabin & all meals will be provided!

**Registration Deadline for all Aberdeen Horse Camps: June 2, 2008!**

**Huron:** Hope Therapeutic Ranch (20774 396<sup>th</sup> Ave)

**Beginners Jr Horse Camp:** August 11, 2008 (event #5535), from 9:00AM-4:00PM! The Min/Max is 3/6 and the cost is \$48.00!

Special Notes: Please bring your own sack lunch!

**Advanced Jr Horse Camp:** August 12, 2008 (event #5536), from 9:00AM-4:00PM! The Min/Max is 3/6 and the cost is \$48.00!

Special Notes: Please bring your own sack lunch!

**Registration Deadline for all Huron Horse Camps: July 21, 2008!**

**Ft. Pierre:** Dakota Horse Stars Therapeutic Riding Center (29958 SD HWY 1806)

**Beginners Jr Horse Camp:** August 4, 2008 (event #5537), from 9:00AM-4:00PM! The Min/Max is 5/10 and the cost is \$54.00! **Registration Deadline: July 14, 2008!**

Special Notes: Lunch is provided on site!

**Advanced Jr Horse Camp:** August 5, 2008 (event #5538), from 9:00AM-4:00PM! The Min/Max is 5/8 and the cost is \$54.00! **Registration Deadline: July 14, 2008!**

Special Notes: Lunch is provided on site!

**11-17 Horse camp:** July 16-17, 2008 (event #5539), from 9:00AM on the 16<sup>th</sup>- 3:00PM on the 17<sup>th</sup>! The Min/Max is 5/8 and the cost is \$118.00! **Registration Deadline: June 16, 2008!**

Special Notes: Girls will be spending the night on site in tents, so please bring your own tent, sleeping bag & pillow, change of clothes, personal hygiene items & PJ's! All meals will be provided on site!

**See page 2 of flyer for the general details concerning all the camps!**

## **All Beginners Jr Horse Camps:**

Girls will receive personal instruction on general knowledge, safety, riding, tack, care and feeding of horses from certified instructors. Weather permitting; the girls will ride the horses. The girls will earn the Junior Badge "Horse Fan."

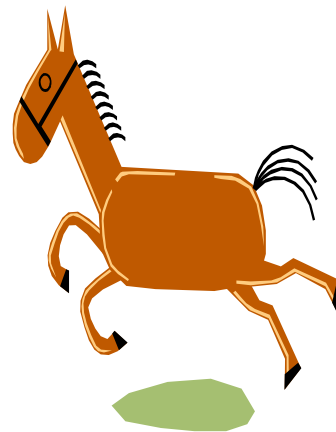
## **All Advanced Jr Horse Camps:**

This camp is for girls who have some experience in riding and want to advance their skill level under the supervision of certified instructors. Weather permitting; the girls will ride the horses. The girls will earn the Junior Badge "Horse Rider."

**Both 11-17 Horse Camps:** Girls will receive personal instruction on general knowledge, safety, riding, tack, care and feeding of horses from certified instructors. Weather permitting; the girls will ride the horses both days. The girls will earn the IP "Horse Sense."

**General instructions for all horse camps:** Bring: water bottle, sunscreen, & insect repellent. Also dress for the weather; **long pants and closed-toed and closed-heel shoes and socks are mandatory.**

**Please use general camp registration form (found in the summer program brochure) to register for these camps. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pam Haug at 605-226-1641, 800-513-1641, or email [phaug@gsdakotahorizons.org](mailto:phaug@gsdakotahorizons.org).**



### GSUSA Age Levels Changing to Grade Levels

To meet the social and developmental needs of girls, it became necessary to differentiate groups by grade level, thereby requiring a realignment of membership age groups and the addition of a new identifying name. The new official names and corresponding grades are:

- Daisies, Grades K-1
- Brownies, Grades 2-3
- Juniors, Grades 4-5
- Cadettes, Grades 6-8
- Seniors, Grades 9-10
- Ambassadors, Grades 11-12

Girls have expressed that it's important to be with other girls their age, and currently, they get bored by too much repetition. As one 13-year old Girl Scout wrote in, "It makes us more comfortable to be with the same age group as ourselves." GSUSA research found that girls learn best and have the most fun when they are with the right developmental/social grouping.

It is suggested that groups attempt to get on to the new age level system as soon as possible. Work with the Membership Specialist in your area to determine what will work best for your group.

For example: a troop of Daisies may elect to bridge to Brownies for 2008-09 and stay there through grade 3, then bridge to Juniors for 2011-12.

#### Transitioning to the New Age Levels

It will take time to transition all troops to these new grade groups. Troops and groups will not be required to align with the new groups right away.

### Transforming Leadership - News from GSUSA

#### **News from GSUSA about the New Girl Scout Leadership Experience**

GSUSA is launching the New Girl Scout Leadership Experience in 2009, designed to support our continued efforts to provide the premier leadership experience for girls.

The program model focuses on three keys to leadership:

**Discover** – activities engage girls in exploring their world and their values

**Connect** – activities engage girls in teaming up and relating with others

**Take Action** – activities engage girls in making a difference

And three processes of program delivery:

- Girl Driven**
- Learning by Doing**
- Cooperative Learning**

The leadership model ensures that everyone speaks in one, powerful national voice about the benefits of Girl Scouts to girls: leadership development. It provides the design for what girls do in Girl Scouting, illustrates how adult support strengthens girls' experiences, and defines and displays all of the elements that must be in place to positively impact girls' lives.

In April, selected GSDH staff members will attend spring conferences to learn more about the components of the new model and program materials. After the conferences a plan will be developed to deliver this informa-

tion to all staff members and volunteers.

This is an exciting time to be involved in Girl Scouting! We will share information as we learn more.

#### **Motivational Message of the Month:**

"Coming together is a beginning, Keeping together is progress, Working together is SUCCESS!"

Henry Ford

# Girl Scouts Bridging Guidelines and Suggestions

## Why did the Girl Scout Cross the Bridge?

### ...To Get to the Next Level.

A bridge crosses a gap and makes it easy to get from one side to another; so it is in Girl Scouting. Through a process called “bridging,” girls who move from one program age level to another have something to help ease that jump.

Bridging is an important transition in a Girl Scout's life. It's a defining moment when a girl becomes aware of her achievements and is ready for new adventures and responsibilities. Bridging activities prepare troop members for the next Girl Scout age-level and ease the transition into different age-level resources.

After the troop has had a taste of what lies ahead for them in Girl Scouts, it holds a ceremony to mark the transition. Celebrating this change should be fun, personalized and memorable for everyone involved. And most of all, it should be designed by the girls in true partnership with adults. GSUSA provides guidelines and ideas about bridging activities. For more information, contact your Membership Specialist.

### Daisies

There are four steps to the bridging process from Daisies to Brownies. The activities should be carried out in just a few meetings. Through visiting with Brownies, doing activities from the Brownie handbook, and doing projects with Brownies, Daisies gain an awareness of the fun and learning yet to come. Step four is to include the Daisies in the bridging ceremony. When Daisies Bridge, those who participated in the special activities receive the

Rainbow Bridge to Brownie Girl Scout Award; all new Brownies receive the Girl Scout Pin. More information is available on pages 62-64 of the Daisy Leader Guide.

### Brownies



Every Brownie receives her wings at the end of her Brownie Girl Scout years, to signify “flying up” to Juniors. Some girls will also choose to earn their Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts rainbow award. There are six steps to earning the award. Information can be found on pages 136-137 of the Brownie Handbook. Activities include:

1. Find out about Junior Girl Scouting.
2. Doing a Junior Girl Scout activity.
3. Doing something with a Junior Girl Scout troop.
4. Sharing what you learn about Junior Scouts with Brownie or Daisy Girl Scouts.
5. Planning and doing a summer Girl Scout activity. (This can be done after receiving the award if the Bridging ceremony is in the spring.)

Helping to plan your own fly-up ceremony.

### Juniors

Girls can begin bridging to Cadettes in

their last year of Juniors. The rainbow bar award (Bridge to Cadette Girl Scouts) can be earned by any Junior intending to continue as a Cadette. Activities include:

1. Finding out about Cadette Girl Scouts by looking through the Cadette Handbook and picking three activities that interest you.
2. Finding out about council-sponsored opportunities for Cadette Girl Scouts and participating in an event.
3. Do one of the activities you picked in Step One.
4. Participating in a service project or a camping trip with a Cadette.
5. Doing something with a Cadette.

Assist in the planning of your bridging ceremony and making it meaningful and unique for you and the other Girl Scouts bridging with you.

### Bridging Ceremonies

Bridging ceremonies usually take place at the beginning or end of the Girl Scout year and can have three parts:

1. Opening: guests are welcomed and the tone is set.
2. Main Section: the ceremony is explained and the girls celebrate moving from one level to the next level.
3. Closing: girls can participate in friendship circles and thank their guests.

Each of the ceremony's parts offers plenty of room for the girls' creativity and individuality. And whether the ceremony includes an actual bridge or a symbolic one, or if it includes props like candles, flowers, or flags, it should always focus on paying tribute to the girls as they move forward.

Elements of the ceremony can vary but should include a purpose, a mood and atmosphere (serious, humorous, or reflective), characters (who will participate? Each roll is important), setting (when and where), and theme (reflected in the invitations, way the message is portrayed, decorations).

During the main part of the ceremony, the leader can call each girl forward individually by name to receive her pins and award. Then, the girl can cross the "bridge" and be greeted by a girl from the next level sharing in the Girl Scout handshake.

### **Bridge ideas:**

Girls can join a circle or horseshoe made up of girls in the next age level.

Girls can cross over a stage area or over a bridge constructed with movable steps.

Create a "bridge," by overturning a folding card table so the legs face up. Attach streamers from the floor to one leg, across to the opposite leg, and back to the ground. Repeat on the other side to form the "sides" of the bridge.

Create a "stream" with "stepping stones" for younger girls, paint a blue stream and several stepping stones on a large, flat piece of cardboard. Label the stepping stone with past troop activities, parts of the Girl Scout Law or the girls' personal thoughts about joining the next level of Girl Scouting.

Girls can pass under a "rainbow" of colored streamers or balloons. Each color symbolizes a different aspect of Girl Scouting

In the opening and closing, include readings, skits, songs and a friendship circle. Bridging ceremonies can also be included as a part of your Court of Awards ceremonies. For more ideas or scripts, contact Amanda Schultz or your Membership Specialist.

## **Cookie Timeline Information:**

**April 8-11** – Cookie Delivery to Delivery Stations

**April 11-20** – Girl Cookie Delivery and Collect Money

**April 20** – **LAST day to delivery cookies and collect money**

**April 22** – Girls' money due to Troop leader

**April 25** – Troop leaders finalize paperwork and make deposit – turn in paperwork to CSC in your community.

**April 28** – **Cookie system locked**

**April 30** – Last day for leaders to bring paperwork to CSC

**May 2** – **All paperwork due to Council offices from CSC**

**May 20-23** – Girl recognitions and Dakota Certificates delivered to CSC

**May 23-25** – Troops pick up Dakota Certificates & Recognitions from CSC

## Northwest District

1421 S. 12th Street  
Bismarck, ND 58504

T 701.223.4525 or  
800.326.4745  
F 701.223.7840



Girl Scouts is the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls – all girls – where, in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. The Girl Scouts—Dakota Horizons Council serves more than 11,100 girls and 4,100 adults in North and South Dakota, 13 counties in Minnesota and one Iowa county.

## Craft Corner - Swirl Postcard



Based on the age-old principle that oil and water don't mix, this marbled paper is one of those projects that looks like a 20-step Martha Stewart process, but is actually easy enough for a child to do.

\*Parents may want to be available to help younger children with the paint.

### WHAT YOU NEED

Old Tupperware container, or foil or plastic take-out container from your recycling bin (big enough to place a card in)  
Water  
Small plastic eyedroppers  
Two or more colors of enamel paint (the kind used for models)  
Toothpicks or sticks  
A pack of white watercolor postcards or index cards

### DIRECTIONS

1. Fill your container halfway with water.
2. Using an eyedropper, add a few drops of paint in different colors to the water. Swirl the colors with a toothpick or stick.
3. Drop a blank card into the water. After a second or two, carefully lift the card straight up and set it aside to dry on newspaper or paper towels. Let dry completely. If the card curls, place it beneath a heavy book for a couple of days to flatten the edges.

Tip: You may want to clear the water between card dips by dragging a toothpick through the water.