

Meeting Recap

Eagan Service Unit Leader/Volunteer Meeting

Thursday, September 8, 2011

- **Fourth of July Parade** The Eagan Girl Scouts won a Salute Award for Top Youth Entry in the parade. Thanks to all who helped to make the parade entry possible and who participated in the parade!
- **Eagan Service Unit Team Members** These positions are open - School Coordinators for Oak Ridge, Thomas Lake and Woodland; Service Unit Cookie Program Coordinators (2-3 are needed); Family Fundraising Coordinator; River Valleys Council Delegates – girls and adults; and a 6th grade or older troop to provide additional coverage for childcare during the leader/volunteers meetings this year. Talk to your troop families, other leaders, and others who may be interested in volunteering for these short-term and longer-term positions and let Doreen Gloede (dgloede@comcast.net) know if you're interested! Specific position descriptions and training at no charge are available, and people currently or recently in the roles are happy to answer questions and help people feel comfortable in the positions. Service Unit Team Member contact info available at www.eagangirlscouts.org/index_files/contact.htm
- **Did You Know Council Info** Kris Parker (kristine.parker@girlscoutsrv.org)
 - The discount coupon for the *Girls Guide to Girl Scouting* for those who participated in Early Bird Registration will be mailed to one leader in each troop to be applied to the purchase of the new resource book. Preorders are being taken online at www.girlscoutsrv.org/shop and the books are expected at the shop by October 1.
 - ALL registered adult volunteers must complete a confidential background check online or by mail as soon as possible. Details, FAQs and procedures can be found at www.girlscoutsrv.org/volunteer/how_to_become_a_volunteer/application_process
 - Troop bank account records need to be updated with any new authorized signers on your troop account (troop leaders, troop cookie managers, troop treasurer). If you've had changes, please visit Wells Fargo as soon as possible to make necessary changes and ensure the safety of the troop's funds and accuracy of your troop's financial records. The form and other troop finance information is available at www.eagangirlscouts.org/index_files/links.htm
 - Hold onto your troop bank account deposit books from cookie sales last year- you'll need them for 2011 Fall Product sales and 2012 Cookie Program sales.
 - Check the River Valleys website www.gsrv100.org for many upcoming events in connection with the Centennial Celebration – Girl Scouts 100th Anniversary!
- **Silver Award Project - Book Drive** Megan Lough and Kendall Bradley, Senior Girl Scouts, (tammylough@comcast.net) are collecting plastic, cloth and board books for at-risk children birth-age 3 in connection with Lifetrack Resources. Books may be new or gently used and can be dropped off in collection boxes at Wescott Library (through September), Peace Church (2180 Glory Dr, Eagan), Service Unit Leader/Volunteer Meetings on October 13 and November 10, and at the girls' homes. Their goal is to collect 500 books! www.eagangirlscouts.org/docs_pdfs/book%20drive%20flyer.pdf
- **Fall Product Sale** will be held October 8-27. Girls will be selling magazines and food products. Online training for Fall Product Program Troop Coordinators and additional information for troops and families is available at www.eagangirlscouts.org/index_files/cookies.htm. Contact Rich Brown (ksegorbrown@msn.com) with questions and to pick up your troop packet. Earn some start-off funds or supplement existing troop funds for the upcoming year!

- **Service Unit Events** Visit www.eagangirlscouts.org/index_files/events.htm for details and registration.
 - **Fast Start Training** is for new volunteers and volunteers who want a refresher. If you need the training and were unable to attend the session on September 19, please contact Cathy Mohs at cathym28@comcast.net or 651-454-1754. Fast Start training is required for at least one troop leader, but is recommended for all volunteers. Training guidelines for volunteers can be found at www.eagangirlscouts.org/index_files/volunteer.htm
 - **First Aid/CPR/AED Training** will be held October 1, 9:30 am-3:00 pm at Saints Martha & Mary Episcopal Church. Cost is \$35 and the First Aid and CPR certifications are good for 2 years. Troops must have a first aid certified adult when meeting outside of your usual meeting place. www.eagangirlscouts.org/docs_pdfs/CPR%20AED%20FA%20training%202011.pdf
 - **Sunday in the Park** Come for a fun evening of SWAPS, songs and a bonfire at Blackhawk Park picnic pavilion on Oct 16 from 6:30-9:00 pm. Bring lots of pre-made SWAPS, tons of ideas can be found on the internet. Click www.eagangirlscouts.org/docs_pdfs/SWAPping%20Etiquette.pdf for SWAPS etiquette. www.eagangirlscouts.org/docs_pdfs/SUNDAY%20IN%20THE%20PARK.pdf
 - **Under the Big Top Carnival** November 18 at Dakota Hills Middle School. E-mail your troop's top 3 choices for games or activity booths to Doreen Gloede (dgloede@comcast.net) by October 19. (flyer will be posted on website soon and watch for email).
 - **Babysitting Clinic** for girls ages 11-15, planned for Thursday Oct 20 and/or Thursday Nov 3. Cost will be \$50. (flyer will be posted on website soon and watch for email).
 - **Community Service Opportunities** Many things are in the planning stages for the year, including Operation Christmas Child, Feed My Starving Children, Bundles of Love, and park clean-ups. For up to date info, visit www.eagangirlscouts.org/index_files/service.htm
 - **DCTC Soccer Ball Helpers** Girls fifth grade and older are needed to help at DCTC Blue Knights men's and women's soccer games as ball helpers on the field during games now through Oct 19. Free game tickets, t-shirt and snacks and meet requirements for Junior Badges and Interest Project Patches. www.eagangirlscouts.org/docs_pdfs/DCTC%20soccer%20helpers.pdf
 - **Spring Friends of the Wescott Library Book Sale** Oct 12-16. Girl Scouts can help by soliciting books for the sale. There will be an Eagan service unit Girl Scout competition between troops to see which troop can gather the most items for the book sale and prizes will be awarded and girls' achievements will be publicized. Donations must be brought to the library by Oct 4. There are opportunities for girls 14 years and older to volunteer to help during the book sale - contact booksale@fwlonline.com. www.eagangirlscouts.org/docs_pdfs/Library%20spring%20book%20drive.pdf
 - **Cheerful Givers and Kids 'N Kinship Birthday Bag Blitz** October 22 from 1-2 pm at Thomson Reuters, 610 Opperman Drive, Eagan – to participate you must register by October 8 at <http://birthdaybagblitz.eventbrite.com> Help is also needed ahead of time cutting 2000 ribbons – contact karen@cheerfulgivers.org. Eagan GS are collecting small boxes of crayons (8-12 count) to help fill the bags so bring them to the October 13 Service Unit Leader/Volunteer Meeting or contact Geri Dodge (gbdstmr@yahoo.com) to drop off crayons through October 15. www.eagangirlscouts.org/docs_pdfs/bday%20bag%20blitz.pdf

Next Leader/Volunteer Meeting is Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 7:00 pm. Celebrate your dedication and commitment to Girl Scouts - Investiture and Rededication Ceremony for New and Returning Adult Volunteers

Information, Upcoming Events and Opportunities - follow Safety-Wise and Activity Checkpoint guidelines (Safety-Wise is available online at www.girlscoutsrv.org/forms_resources/health_and_safety/safety-wise).

- **Volunteer Essentials**, which is replacing the Council Reference Guide, is now available to volunteers online. Volunteer Essentials is published by GSUSA and is often thought of as an encyclopedia to Girl Scout volunteering. This resource contains pertinent information specific to River Valleys and information about Girl Scout basics, volunteer tips, activity resources and traditions, safety, and ideas for engaging girls. Visit www.girlscoutsrv.org/forms_resources/general_information/volunteer_essentials_2011-2012.
- **Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting and Skill-Building Badge Activity Sets** The second components of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and the supplement to the Journeys program are expected to arrive at River Valleys' council shops Oct 1. These are the new badge books for all age levels. For info on these new resources, visit www.girlscoutsrv.org/activities_for_girls/girls_guide_to_girl_scouting.
- **Donations to River Valleys Double in September** As Girl Scout members, volunteers, and supporters, you are our biggest cheerleaders and we need you to get loud. An anonymous benefactor has issued a friendly challenge: Donate to River Valleys before September 30 and they will match total contributions up to \$20,000. Visit www.girlscoutsrv.org/donate. Thank you for supporting Girl Scouts!
- **Girl Scout Day at Tweite's Corn Maze**, Byron, MN, Sept 24, 10 am-5 pm. Participate in River Valleys' Girl Scout Day at the 100th Anniversary-themed corn maze featuring the Girl Scout signature trefoil design and family-focused activities, discounted admission of \$8/person. The maze will be open to the public from Oct 1-23, everyday from 10 am-5:30 pm. Cost is \$9/person on weekends and MEA and \$6/person on weekdays. Visit www.girlscoutsrv.org/100th_anniversary/events/girl_scout_day_at_tweites_corn_maze.
- **Fox 9 Girls and Science Event** Sat, Oct 15, 10 am-4 pm at Science Museum of MN. Get inspired by science – hands on experiments, leading science and technology experts on hand including many females involved in science related careers. For more information (details still being finalized) and discount admission tickets, visit www.myfoxtwincities.com/generic/community/girls_and_science/girls_and_science_2011.
- **Centennial Celebration** Learn about the exciting upcoming 100th Anniversary events, including the Great Girl Gathering @ MOA in March 2012. Updates will be given at monthly service unit leader/volunteer meetings. Check for the latest info on all the festivities at www.girlscoutsrv.org/100th_anniversary/events.
- **Adult Volunteer Awards** River Valleys recognizes volunteers that provide exemplary service that goes “above and beyond” and service units whose accomplishments are moving toward River Valleys' goals and objectives. Nomination forms for adult volunteer awards at the council or service unit level are accepted various times from Nov 1-May 15. Identify and recognize those volunteers who have provided outstanding service by nominating your peers such as troop volunteers, service unit volunteers, event coordinators. For information about the various awards, visit www.girlscoutsrv.org/volunteer/recognition.
- **Special Interest Volunteers** River Valleys has an established list of special interest volunteers. These volunteers are great for assisting with events, special projects and other activities. Browse the list of skills available at www.girlscoutsrv.org/asset/b7xduw/Special_Volunteers-Skills.xls (Excel file).
- **Two Property Deals Close** Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys closed the sale of the 6.5-acre Munsell Addition on June 30 and of a 40-acre parcel at Camp Rolling Ridges on July 13. The net proceeds from these sales will be placed in a designated endowment to support River Valleys' camps and properties.
- **Activities, Classes and Places to Visit** Check out this great website for opportunities for your troop and family <http://gocitykids.parentsconnect.com/region/minneapolis-st-paul-mn-usa>.