

Girl Scouts of Connecticut

1-800-922-2770 www.gsofct.org

E-BLAST

October 30, 2009

Happy Halloween and Happy Birthday Juliette Gordon Low!

COUNCIL SHOPS

Trick or Treat with Girl Scouts!

"Pick a Pumpkin" and receive as much as 20% off any single item. Girls who come to the Hartford, North Haven, or Wilton shops in costume on October 31 will receive a goodie bag of great items! Join us and have a fun, safe time on Juliette's birthday!

Windbreaker Sale

Check out our exclusive GSOFCCT windbreaker jacket on sale for \$19. The jackets are durable, easy to care for, and a great place to display your Girl Scout pride with patches. All sizes are available while supplies last. Offer ends on October 31, 2009.

New Extended Shop Hours

The Bridgeport, Hartford, and Wilton Shops are now open until 6:30 p.m. every Thursday. Also, during the month of October, the Hartford and Wilton Shops are open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. For a complete listing of all shop hours and locations, please visit <http://shop.gsofct.org/store/go/contact-us/>.

MEMBERSHIP

Where is the E-Blast on the Website?

Looking for E-Blasts on the website? Click on the Members link in the top right-hand corner of the homepage and then click on Newsletters on the left-hand navigation panel. You may then choose from the four editions. Share this information with your volunteers so that they may also know what is happening in Girl Scouts of Connecticut!

Thank You!

Thank you Leaders and registrars for turning in all of your registrations, we appreciate the work you have done to get them in to us. Also, thank you in advance for getting your outstanding registrations in to us.

Celebrate Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday

Juliette Gordon Low's birthday is October 31! Click [here](#) to learn more about Girl Scouting's founder and for some ideas on how to celebrate.

PROGRAM

Things to Know

Program Book

If you still have not received our *Program Book* that contains valuable information about event opportunities for your Troops, please contact your Service Unit Manager for a copy. It is also posted [online](#) for your convenience.

College Scholarships:

Here are some scholarship opportunities for girls who plan to attend college.

- Thanks to a substantial grant from the National Science Foundation, Marist College is able to offer full tuition, room, and board scholarships to 12 incoming freshmen in September 2010. To be considered for a scholarship, a student must be a Computer Science or Information Technology and Systems major, academically talented, and in financial need. Details on eligibility criteria and instructions on how to apply can be found at <http://www.marist.edu/admission/nsfgrant/>.
- www.studio2b.org, the GSUSA website for older girls, has a searchable site for Girl Scout related scholarships. Visit http://www.studio2b.org/gossipyouneed/scholarship_form.asp for more information.
- As a reminder, in January, scholarship applications for the GSOFCCT Emily Chaison and Bea Okwu scholarships will be posted in the Resource and Form Library. Both of these scholarships as well as the CT Elks scholarship are open to girls who have earned the Gold Award.
- Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, the host for our Gold Award Reception this year, offers funding for their students who have earned the award.

Thinking About Starting a Journey?

Here are some helpful tips.

- Catch the girls' excitement and make their journey easier to understand by looking at the girl's book first. Once you're familiar with the types of activities and with the language used in the book, then take out the adult facilitator guide. It will be easier to understand the lingo and thoughts once you've read through the girl's book.
- Be creative and expand the journey. They are not meant to be used as a workbook, per say. For example, if you are learning about water, instead of discussing the topic at your meeting, why not take a trip to a program center and explore the wetlands or pond? Want to know what issues are relevant to your town? Make an appointment to visit a town employee, or ask them to visit your meeting. Instead of writing answers in a book, girls can act out or create an art show representing what they've learned.
- Let the girls take the lead. Use the conversation starters and tips in the adult guide. The girls help create the journey with their thoughts and ideas. Help them make the journey come alive by letting them take ownership.

Travel Troop #3 Reminder

Travel Troop #3 will be having a meeting on November 2, 7:30 p.m. at the Middletown Police Station. Prior to the general meeting there will be a new member orientation at 6:45 p.m. For more information, please contact Maureen Francescon at 860-301-6424 or francesconmoe@aol.com.

FIRST LEGO League – Start a Robotics Team in Your Troop or Community

A great way to prepare girls for a world of technology through cooperative and hands-on learning. A grant from Motorola supplies the robotics equipment and laptop; GSOFCT provides the support. For girls ages 9 – 14. For more information, see pages 33 and 34 of the [Program Book](#) or contact Elyn Savard at esavard@gsofct.org or 203-334-3145, x3018.

Girl Scouts Forever Green Projects – Be a Green Troop

Help save the earth by being a part of Girl Scouts of the USA's 100th Anniversary Community Action Project. Choose a project that will improve the environmental footprint of your school or community building, measure the impact, and submit your results. For more information, see page 59 of the [Program Book](#) or contact Elyn Savard at esavard@gsofct.org or 203-334-3145, x3018.

Program Events

Announcing New Girl Scouts of Connecticut Astronomy Clubs!

Eastern CT will hold its first Astronomy Club meeting on Friday, November 6, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Camp Laurel. Weather permitting, we'll be gazing at the stars, Jupiter (and its moons), and anything else we can find. If the weather is not favorable, we'll be hosting a virtual trip through our solar system featuring the latest in 3-D imagery of planets and major moons. We'll also be organizing for our next meeting. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Kim or Geoff McLean at geoff@mcleanresearch.com.

Northwestern CT will be holding monthly meetings at the Goshen Fairgrounds – watch for dates to be announced. For more information, please call the Waterbury Service Center at 203-591-1729 and leave a message for Andrea Hunley.

Southern CT will be holding monthly meetings out of the Discovery Museum and surrounding observatories – watch for dates to be announced.

New Dates Added! Safe Sitter; Suffield, [PE10162](#) and [PE10163](#)

Safe Sitter is a 6-hour program in which girls will learn babysitting as a business, child care essentials, choking child rescue, preventing problem behavior, injury management, and sitter safety. Classes can be arranged for your area and schedule!

Who:	Cadettes and Seniors
When:	November 10 (PE10162) and January 16 (PE10163), 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Fee:	\$40 for girls
Registration deadline:	November 7 (PE10162) and January 8 (PE10163)
Contact:	Gail Myers at gabbygail53@cox.net

Program Event Reminders

Healthy Living and S.T.E.M. Program Aide Core and Specialty Training: East Lyme, [PE10086](#) and [PE10150](#)

Come to a Program Aide overnight at camp to complete both your core and specialty training! Learn how to lead younger girls in Healthy Living (PE10086) or S.T.E.M. (PE10150) activities as well as some games and crafts for younger girls. Girls plan their own pinning ceremony before heading home on Sunday. We'll be sleeping inside the lodge, so please bring a sleeping bag, personal overnight gear, bag dinner, and a covered mug for beverages. Snacks, breakfast, and Program Aide pins will be provided.

Who: Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors
When: Saturday, November 14, 12:30 p.m. – Sunday, November 15, 12:30 p.m.
Where: Camp Pattagansett
Fee: \$25 per girl
Registration deadline: November 4
Contact: Linda Kalish at lkalish@gsofct.org

Girl Scouts Against Smoking: Stratford, [PI10014](#) and North Windham, [PI10013](#)

As we approach American Cancer Society's annual Great American Smokeout, GSOFCCT will be marking the event with our own program, Girl Scouts Against Smoking. Learn about health concerns associated with smoking by exploring myths, facts, interactive activities, and conducting an experiment. This program links to The Sign of the World, requirement 4.

Who: Juniors
When: November 16 (PI10014) and November 17 (PE10013), 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Where: United Methodist Church (PE10014) and North Windham Service Unit (PE10013)
Fee: \$6 for girls and \$2 for adults
Registration deadline: November 9
Contact: Cathy Monckton at cmonkton@gsofct.org

Still Time to Register!

As of the Monday prior to this E-Blast, there were spaces available in the following programs and there is still time to register! All registrations are processed through the Registration Department.

Please refer to the Program and Training Registration Area, <http://gsofct.org/eseries/scriptcontent/>, or the *Program Book*, <http://www.gsofct.org/pages/2009-2010ProgramBookandTrainingBook.php>, for more information.

Native American Cultural Unity Day: Stamford, [PE10077](#); B and J; Saturday, November 7, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; Stamford Government Center; \$9 for girls, \$2 for adults; registration deadline is November 1; contact Nancy Bajek at nbajek@gsofct.org.

Native American Cultural Unity Day: Stamford, [PE10078](#); C, S, and A; Saturday, November 7, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.; Stamford Government Center; \$9 for girls, \$2 for adults; registration deadline is November 1; contact Nancy Bajek at nbajek@gsofct.org.

Prints and Graphics: Quaker Hill, [PE10085](#); J; Saturday, November 14, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; Quaker Hill Baptist Church; \$5 for girls, \$2 for adults; registration deadline is October 30; contact Louise Plack at lplack@snet.net.

Outdoor Program

Hot Spot Near Laurel Program Center – R Farm, LLC

R Farm is a small family farm in Lebanon that has hosted the town's first corn maze since 2006. Fall is their favorite season and the farm is just around the corner from Camp Laurel! The 1850's renovated barn offers a great space for Girl Scout gatherings! Explore their website at www.r-farmct.com/home. The corn maze is open seven days a week through November. The day rate is \$6 per person. The night rate is \$9 per person. Be sure to reserve the Troop house at Laurel Program Center to make for a great Troop overnight experience!

Troop House of the Week – Laurel Program Center

The small, green Troop house at the Laurel Program Center in Lebanon is a favorite for Troops and Leaders. The Troop house has two bedrooms which accommodate about 20 people, a bathroom with a shower and a flush toilet, a main room useful for programming and dining, and a kitchen. This great winterized building for mid-sized Troops is also wheelchair accessible. Bring your Troop this autumn and tap maple trees for syrup! In the winter, they will want to sled down the great hill at the Program Center. And don't forget the Troop house in the summer, when girls will want to use the waterfront, archery equipment, and Challenge Playscape.

Did You Know?

Did you know that if you want to use a camp property for less than three hours, Monday through Thursday, that there is no fee? Please use form #5340, [Site Reservation Application for GSOFCCT Users](#), to reserve the Program Center.

Fireside Chats

There are a few opportunities left for Troops or girls and their families to explore our Program Centers and learn about summer camp. Mulled cider and snacks will be provided. Cost is \$2 per girl. Please contact Elizabeth Lee at 203-239-2922 x3429 or lee@gsofct.org.

Camp Timber Trails, PO10025: Sunday, November 8, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Camp Laurel, PO10028: Sunday, November 8, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Camp Merrie-Wood, PO10029: Monday, November 9, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Camp Pattagansett, PO10030: Tuesday, November 10, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Camp Candlewood, PO10031: Tuesday, November 10, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Camp An-Se-Ox, PO10033: Thursday, November 12, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Camp Aspetuck, PO10038: Monday, November 23, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Spring Camporees Reservation Deadline is Fast Approaching!

If a Camporee Chair would like to reserve a Program Center for the spring (April, May), he/she must submit the reservation application to the Registration Department by November 2. Program Center confirmations will be mailed or emailed in early December. Camporee Chairs will be using the Program Center Reservation Application for Camporees form when reserving Program Centers. Please check the website for this form and more guidelines for your upcoming Camporee. If you have questions, please email Candice Olson at colson@gsofct.org.

Program in the Community

Catholic Religious Awards

On Saturday, November 14, the Archdiocese of Hartford is hosting a Training Day for Catholic Girl Scout and Camp Fire adults as well as a Spiritual Retreat Day for girls working on their religious emblems. For more information and registration forms, please contact Shannon Perzan at 860-243-9465, x18, or sperzan@adh-ore.org.

Looking for Museum Overnights?

Look on page 74 of the *Program Book* for information about “Science After Dark” at The Children’s Museum in West Hartford. There are two dates coming up in November that include hands-on science exploration, scavenger hunts in the exhibit halls, wildlife workshops, and a digital planetarium show! Please email events@thechildrensmuseumct.org for more information.

Women Take Flight at the New England Air Museum

Interested in a mentoring program for girls who want to further explore careers in aviation and aerospace engineering? Soar over to Women Take Flight at the New England Air Museum on Sunday, November 8, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Don’t miss this opportunity for people of all ages to meet an extraordinary group of women pilots, authors, balloonists, engineers and re-enactors! Programs and presentations will be held throughout the day. For more information or to register, please visit www.neam.org. The fee is \$5.00 (patch included) for registrations received by November 1 or \$10 at the door. Directions will be included with letters of confirmation. Interested mentees, please leave your name with Caroline D’Otreppe at the event.

VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Leadership Essentials: Wilton, TR10026; Required for new volunteers but may also be taken by experienced volunteers; November 16; Wilton Service Center; \$5; registration deadline is November 9; contact Kathy Straka at 203-239-2922, x3358 or kstraka@gsofct.org.

New Event Date Added – Explore the Journeys

Leaders, learn how to utilize the new journeys to make the program an exciting experience for the girls. This course will be using the *It’s Your World – Change It!* journey series. Work with your own level of journey in this course. Fee is \$5 per person. For more information, please contact Kathy Straka at kstraka@gsofct.org or 203-239-2922, x3358.

Course #	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location	Deadline
TR10756A	Thursday	11/12	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	North Haven Service Center	11/5
TR10754A	Tuesday	11/17	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Torrington Service Center	11/17
TR10753A	Thursday	11/19	6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Fair Oaks School, Oakdale	11/12
TR10759A	Saturday	12/12	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Russell Library, 123 Broad St., Meeting Room 2, Middletown	12/4