



Issue: 1 February 2010

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest-  
Southern New Mexico & West Texas

# Newsletter

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### It's Cookie Time!

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is a key part of a girl's experience in Girl Scouting. Much more than a way to raise money, the Cookie Program is a hands-on leadership and entrepreneurial opportunity. Girls learn, not from a book, but from real-life experiences. These are skills that last far beyond Cookie Season. Many successful businesswomen and community leaders say they got their start selling Girl Scout Cookies.

### Mark your Cookie Calendars

Cookie sales begin January 30th and continue through March 14th, 2010. Over 368 troops have registered to sell everyone's favorite cookies: Thin Mints, Shortbread, Caramel deLites, Peanut Butter Patties, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Thanks-A-Lot, Lemonades and Reduced Fat Daisy Go Rounds!



### Leap 2 Lead: Be the Change

This season's cookie activity theme is a call to action. It urges girls of all ages to leap into leadership as they participate in cookie activities. Leap 2 Lead reinforces the 15 transforming Leadership Outcomes of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and empowers girls to make the world a better place.

### Catch Goals

Set and track your personal cookie sales and learning goals on this fun web page. Make and print your own Goal Chart, and earn a Smart Cookie Certificate at the end of your cookie sale.

For more information on nutrition facts, selling tips, cookie recipes and more, visit ABC Bakers at [www.abcsmartcookies.com](http://www.abcsmartcookies.com).





# Save the Date

## 2010 Camp Mitre Peak Resident Camp

Sessions I & II 6/20 - 7/03  
Sessions III & IV 7/04 - 7/17

Camps are open to all girls ages 5-17.  
Call 1-800-594-5677 ext. 302 for more information and to register today.

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest's membership as of January 31, 2010 is 7,540 girls and 1,882 adults.

### RENOVATIONS AT CAMP MITRE PEAK & CAMP PIONEER

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest received a grant to update and make repairs to Camp Mitre Peak and Camp Pioneer. The funds will be used to replace windows at Camp Pioneer and construct an external water feature - Splash Pad - that will allow girls to cool off during the summer months. At Camp Mitre Peak, funds will allow for the replacement of the plumbing in the bathhouse and the "Rock", paving two roads and purchasing platform and wall tents. Construction on these projects will begin February 2010.

### CALL FOR COUNCIL DELEGATES FOR THE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

All registered Girl Scout adults and girls age 14 and above are encouraged to complete a Delegate Referral Form to be selected as a Council Delegate or Alternate for the annual meeting on May 1st. All forms can be found at [www.gsdsww.org](http://www.gsdsww.org). Deadline to submit referrals is February 15, 2010.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GIRLS

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest is offering scholarships for graduating seniors and to support girl participation in GSUSA Destinations. Girls meeting the requirements may submit an application for one or all scholarships. Forms can be found at [www.gsdsww.org](http://www.gsdsww.org). Deadline to apply is March 1, 2010.

### CALL FOR VOLUNTEER AWARD NOMINATIONS

Please nominate your peers, troop leaders, service unit team members or colleagues who make Girl Scouting outstanding for every girl in every community. We know you know someone who is an Outstanding Leader, Outstanding Volunteer or who should be honored with a special Council or GSUSA award. A list of all the awards and their requirements can be found at [www.gsdsww.org](http://www.gsdsww.org). The nomination form and endorsements are due to the council office by February 26, 2010.

### COMMUNICATIONS

We've launched our new website, [www.gsdsww.org](http://www.gsdsww.org), and continue to make additions to better serve you. In the coming months, you will see an online donation tool, a Girl Scout blog, and an e-news section. You will be able to sign up to receive all GSDSW publications via email!

## WE'RE NOW ON FACEBOOK!



You can also find our new Media section online. We want to hear what your troops are doing! Send us your stories and photographs so we can showcase them in GSDSW and community publications as well as other media outlets.

Need a press release? Let us know! Please contact [epennell@gsdsww.org](mailto:epennell@gsdsww.org) with any questions.

# Gift of Caring

## Take Action and show support... One Cookie Package at a Time

For many years, Girl Scouts across the country have used Girl Scout Cookies to show their appreciation for men and women in uniform.

For various reasons, some customers do not want to buy cookies for themselves, or they have only a limited need. With Gift of Caring, they have a chance to give to others while supporting Girl Scouting at the same time.

## Girl Scouts support Fort Bliss deployed soldiers

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest in partnership with Fort Bliss will continue to send donated Girl Scout cookies overseas to deployed soldiers. The Gift of Caring Service Project is a wonderful way to show our soldiers we are thinking of them. After all, Girl Scout cookies are not only tasty, but a great American tradition too!

## Recognizing Girls

Every girl that sells at least six boxes of cookies for the Gift of Caring Service Project will earn the Gift of Caring Patch!



## Cookie sales period is from January 30th to March 14th!

Girls simply ask their customers if they would like to make a donation of a few extra boxes of cookies for "Operation Cookies for Our Troops." You purchase the cookies, and Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest will deliver them to our Fort Bliss soldiers.

This project gives Girl Scouts and the community an opportunity to take action and show support to our soldiers.

Call the Cookie Hotline at (915) 566-1558 or our office at 1-800-895-7390 to place your order today!

# Volunteer Spotlight

## Beth Varghese

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest is fortunate to have so many exceptional volunteers sharing their time and talents with girls throughout our jurisdiction. Beth Varghese from Alamogordo, New Mexico, a busy mother of three, still finds time to mentor girls in her community through Girl Scouting. As a troop leader for both Daisies and Cadettes, she is guiding her girls in discovering who they are and who they can be. She also uses her five years of Girl Scout volunteer experience to benefit other Girl Scout volunteers by serving as a Troop Consultant and a Product Sales Manager for the Desert Mountain Service Unit. Beth always greets you with a smile and is willing to share her knowledge to make Girl Scouting the very best it can be for girls in her community. Kudos for all you do!

**QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? SUGGESTIONS?**

YOU CAN REACH US AT 1-800-895-7390.

DON'T FORGET TO VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.GSDSW.ORG](http://WWW.GSDSW.ORG).

### LEADERSHIP ESSENTIALS

ODESSA 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM / ROSWELL 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 CARLSBAD 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM / HOBBS 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 EL PASO 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM / LAS CRUCES 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 ALAMOGORDO 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM / DEMING 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 SILVER CITY 2/18 6 PM - 9 PM / LAS CRUCES 2/20 9 AM - 12 PM  
 MIDLAND 2/20 6 AM - 12 PM / MIDLAND 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 ROSWELL 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM / ARTESIA 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 HOBBS 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM / EL PASO 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 LAS CRUCES 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM / SILVER CITY 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 DEMING 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM / ALAMOGORDO 3/18 6 PM - 9 PM  
 EL PASO 3/20 9 AM - 12 PM / ODESSA 3/20 9 AM - 12 PM

### JOURNEYS (SET 1)

ARTESIA 2/17 6 PM - 7:30 PM / HOBBS 2/25 6 PM - 7:30 PM  
 ODESSA 2/26 6 PM - 7:30 PM / EL PASO 3/06 10 AM - 12 PM  
 EL PASO 3/06 2 PM - 4 PM

### FIRST AID/CPR

ODESSA 2/27 8 AM - 5 PM (SACK LUNCH NEEDED)

### CEREMONIES & TRADITIONS

EL PASO 2/23 6 PM - 8 PM / CARLSBAD 3/08 6 PM - 8 PM  
 LAS CRUCES 3/13 10 AM - 12 PM / MIDLAND 3/16 6 PM - 8 PM  
 ARTESIA 3/17 6 PM - 8 PM

### ZINK THE ZEBRA

ALAMOGORDO 2/08 6 PM - 7 PM

### CAMP CERTIFICATION TRAINING

CAMP PIONEER 3/27 8 AM - 5 PM

# DATES

## to remember

- January 30 Cookie Sales Begin
- February 15 Referrals for Council Delegates Due
- February 22 World Thinking Day
- February 26 Adult Recognition Nominations Due
- March 1 Scholarship Applications Due
- March 12 Girl Scouts Birthday - Happy 98th!
- March 14 Cookie Sales End
- March 26 Girl Recognition Event - Artesia, NM
- March 27 Adult Recognition Event - Artesia, NM
- April 10 Daisy Day - El Paso, TX
- April 22 Leader Appreciation Day
- April 23 Girl Recognition Event - Midland/Odessa, TX
- April 24 Adult Recognition Event - Midland/Odessa, TX
- May 1 Annual Meeting - Ruidoso, NM
- May 21 Girl Recognition Event - El Paso, TX/Las Cruces, NM
- May 22 Adult Recognition Event - El Paso, TX/Las Cruces, NM



Community Partner

