



COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

May 2011

LATEST NEWS

2011 Girl Scout Scholarship Winners!

Congratulations to the winners of 2011 higher education scholarships. Make sure you stay tuned to our web site for the announcement of our Girl Scout Leadership Institute Scholarship winners.

Our winners:

Allison Collins - Betty Jo Green Scholarship (\$500)
Audrey D'Antonio - Grace Rocha Scholarship (\$1,000)
Jillian Henry - Megan Churchman Scholarship (\$1,000)
Mattison Miertschin - Mary Wynn Hinkle Scholarship (\$1,000)
Chloe Pena - Grace Rocha Scholarship (\$500)

2011 Annual Meeting

Our Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest Annual Meeting took place on April 30, 2011 at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces, NM. The location was beautiful, a perfect setting to come together and hear about the councils successes, recognize outstanding



In This Month's Issue:

- 2011 Scholarship Winners
- 2011 Annual Meeting
- Alumnae Celebration
- 2011 Summer Camp
- Earlybird Registration
- Act Now! Training

volunteers, and share a couple of hours with Girl Scout friends. There were many powerful moments, including a presentation by Serina Pack, a Gold Award Recipient from Silver City. If you missed this event, Mark your calendar to attend next's year's Annual Meeting on May 5, 2012

Congratulations also go out to our volunteers who received the highest level volunteer recognitions.

Appreciation Pin

- Beth Curran, Midland, TX
- Bonnie Gipson, Alamogordo, NM
- Martha Johnson, Silver City, NM
- Tasha Riddle, Midland, TX

Honor Pin

- Krystan Tjarks, White Sands Missile Range, NM
- Misty Sadberry, Silver City, NM

Thanks Badge

- Chachi Hawkins, Alpine, TX
- Anne Mackey, Odessa, TX

Daffy Tabor Award

- Beulah Crabb, Odessa, TX

[Click here](#) to view photos from the Annual Meeting.

- Help Wanted!
- Be a Council Facilitator
- Volunteer Conference
- Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting
- Tell Us Your Story!
- GSDSW Birthday Club
- Photos From Around Council

Alumnae Celebration at Camp Pioneer

The Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest held an Alumnae Celebration on April 21, 2011 at Camp Pioneer in Sunland Park, NM. Alumnae from across Texas and New Mexico joined us for an informal party celebrating all of our amazing alumnae. We plan to hold many more of these events in the future!

2011 Summer Camp at Camp Mitre Peak

We are pleased to tell you that Camp Mitre Peak is intact and well. Wildfires are not threatening the area and the camp will be open for our 2011 resident camp and other camp activities.

We offer horseback riding, hiking, crafts, canoeing, rappelling, star gazing, archery, swimming lessons, backpacking, trips out of camp, outdoor cooking, and much more! Camp Mitre Peak is licensed by the Texas Department of State Health Services and is accredited by the American Camping Association.

For more information, [click here](#).

Earlybird Registration and Fun at Western Playland

Save time and energy later by taking part in earlybird registration today! Register before May 31 and girls will get their FREE Earlybird patch! [Click here](#) for more information.

Please join us for our Earlybird event at Western Playland! If you register by June 15th, you are eligible for \$12.00 discount tickets. After June 15th, the price will rise to \$15.00. You must be registered for 2012 to attend. Register today! [Click here](#) for more information on the event.

Act Now! Journey Training

Join us for a comprehensive training by a GSUSA Consultant on the Journey series. Learn how to use the Journeys to provide a quality Girl Scout Leadership Experience for girls in our council. We invite Service Unit Managers, trainers, and those who may be interested in becoming trainers to attend. This is a great opportunity to learn how to get the most out of the Girl Scout program.

The training will be in the El Paso Program Center on Tuesday, May 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mountain-time.

The training will be in the Odessa Program Center on Thursday, May 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central-time.

Help Wanted!

We need your help to make our Girl Scout program the best it can be for girls in our communities.

Share your expertise and knowledge of Girl Scouting. We need leadership volunteers in the following areas:

Volunteer Council Facilitators- We will provide training so you will be able to train leaders in your community. This is your opportunity to help ensure that the girls in your community have a quality Girl Scout experience by building strong leaders.

Troop Consultants- We are establishing a group of experienced troop leaders who are willing to support new leaders by providing phone consultations. New leaders need someone who can answer basic questions about running a Girl Scout troop. They may need help coming up with program ideas or service projects. Share what you know, become a consultant.

Service Unit Team Members- Many of our service units are looking for team members to support troop leaders in their areas. Training is always provided. This is your opportunity to share your experience and knowledge, and to utilize your leadership skills. Help us build stronger service units.

Event Organizers (especially for our 100th Anniversary celebrations)- These are short term projects with a big impact on the girls. You have so much to offer and we need your help.

Property Committee Volunteers- Be one of the volunteers who oversees, evaluates, and sets priorities for improvements to council properties to ensure that girls have safe places to participate in Girl Scout program.

Contact your [local council](#) and find out how you can help today!

Be a Volunteer Council Facilitator

Would you like to share your enthusiasm for Girl Scouting with others? Would you be willing to conduct leadership courses, outdoor education courses, or enrichment courses? If so, visit our website for an application to be considered for a council facilitator position.

To become a council facilitator you will participate in an eight-hour Facilitating Adult Learning class. Council facilitators teach at least 4 courses each year, maintain skills through practice and trainer enrichment activities, and represents GSDSW in facilitating courses throughout your area.

All council facilitators need to complete the *Volunteer Council Facilitator* application to Volunteer Services no later than June 6, 2011. Facilitating Adult Learning will be conducted on the following dates: Central Region: July 9th Carlsbad Office, East Region: July 16th – Odessa Office, West Region: July 23rd – El Paso Office.

Save the Date: Third Annual GSDSW Volunteer Conference

This year's Volunteer Conference will take place August 26th through the 28th at Camp Mitre Peak. Stay tuned to our web site for more information.

Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting

For a limited time, you may get a head start on the new year and preorder your Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting for 25% off the retail price!

[Click here](#) for more information.

Tell Us Your Story!

We'd love to hear from you.

Although we come from all over the nation, as alumnae we have the Girl Scout Leadership experience in common. We share great stories, lively songs, life-long friendships and a very special sense of community. We welcome you to share your stories about your Girl Scout experience for all to enjoy.

See below for Girl Scout Alumnae memories! Email mbaray@gdsdw.org or [click here](#) to share your own!

GSDSW Birthday Club

A girl's life can be forever changed through your commitment to invest in girls each and every year on your birthday. Donate a dollar for each year you are celebrating. It's that simple! Become a Birthday Club member... everyone can join... young or old! Members will receive a special Birthday Club patch.

[Click here](#) for more information!

Photos From Around the Council



Many of our central region Girl Scouts at the Volunteer and Girl Recognition Awards event in Carlsbad.



The American Red Cross and GSDSW in Odessa team up to distribute comfort kits to the needy.



Troop 14 out of Roswell made ten amazing blankets just like this one to send to families in need in Japan.

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