



Parkland Pennings

April 2015

A Newsletter for Guiders published by Girl Guides of Canada - Parkland Area

COMMISSIONER'S RAMBLINGS (Notes from Nyna)

April already-how time flies. Trust that you have all had a great Easter and many of you have also had your "Spring Break" while others are waiting for theirs. What will spring bring for your unit? I do hope that you are planning many outdoor activities for the rest of the Guiding season. There will also be cookies, year-end advancements and camps- so many exciting adventures still to come.

Parkland Area has received many letters from girls who are planning to go to other camps this summer. This is such a great opportunity for each of you and as an Area we are pleased to help. We also have girls traveling Internationally and I want to congratulate them and those who helped them on taking the time to apply for these events. Thank you as well to the Guiders who are taking their girls on Independent trips this summer. Such great learning experiences for all girls.

Fall registration began April 1st. Do hope you are encouraging girls/families to register when it is appropriate for them to do so. Many Districts use the Spring registration for their communities to also let folks know about Girl Guides-thanks for this.

Please make sure you have purchased your tickets for our Annual Parkland Area Award's Banquet, May 5th in Olds at the Evergreen Centre (5237 -52 Street) hosted by Num Ti Jah District. The theme is Words in Action and we are asked to bring new children's books to be donated to a school. Deadline for tickets is April 20th. Let's make it a banner year for attendance!!!!

Many of you will have finished your meetings by the time our June Pennings comes out so I will take this opportunity to thank you for what you do for the Guiding community and to wish you a great summer of rest renewal and remembering to return in the fall.

Nyna Marr, Parkland Area Commissioner

Parkland Area Office News

iMIS has been having difficulties with updates, and there have been several days that it has been "out of order". Please do not wait until the last day to have paperwork entered, as there are too many technical glitches to guarantee entry.

Please check over all forms and Police Record Checks before handing them in to the office. Girl Guides of Canada does not accept Police Record Checks that are over one year old. All copies must be signed off by the District Commissioner that she has seen the original. Please make sure all forms are dated 2015. Any previous forms will be returned with a request to have them signed/dated again.

Please make sure to include iMIS numbers on all forms.

Please send the office information regarding unit start times in the fall ASAP! Registration is open for returning girls, and this information needs to be entered!

Image release forms (IR1) Each District commissioner and individual was sent an email including the IR1 form. This needs to be signed by each member of GGC, whether it is a yes or no. Please follow up on this, as Province has pushed for ALL members to have a signed Image Release form so pictures can be used for promotional materials.

Registration opens this spring with a three phase process. The first phase will be for girls returning to their current units, followed by any returning girls, including those moving up to another branch. The third phase will be open to both new and returning girls. Please encourage returning girls to register early so they are guaranteed a spot.

Phase	Description	Date Range
1	Girls returning to their units	April 2 - April 30
2	Any returning girls	May 1 - June 2
3	Any girl - new or returning	June 3 onwards

Regular office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:00am - 3:00pm

Phone: 403-343-1656 Fax: 403 343 1674 ggprklnd@telusplanet.net

Ang Jones, Administration Manager, Parkland Area

International

National Trip Selections:

Congratulations to the following girls on their national selections for this summer: all from Goldenfields District: Jordan Stadnyk - Sea of Cortez, Grace Jacyk - Our Chalet, Hailey Schmitke - Peru, Madison Ferran - MacDonald - Peru

Feedback Have you received any feedback from girls and guiders about the selection process? How about applying? How can we get more applications? Is there a reason they choose nationally vs provincially sponsored trips?

CANADIAN WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND Crests:

Will be arriving to Provincial office shortly, and can be ordered from them. There are still 2014 crests available too. Provincial office deals with pricing and shipping.

Feedback: Do you or your units participate in the Canadian World Friendship Fund Challenge? The only requirement is to raise \$5 member. What can we do to help you participate?

International Trip Planning Training:

International has paired up with Training to offer Guiders training modules by telephone that focus on the basics of leading an independent international trip, the paperwork and tips to get the trip off the ground and initial paperwork done. It's open to all Guiding members, watch ANYGuide News for dates. The training is about 1-1.5 hours long, has no limit for participants and we hope to hold it at least quarterly.

Guyana Twinning Project:

Enidd Isaac is the Twinning lead, she can be reached at twinning@albertagirlguides.com

- a) Lots of photos of Thinking Day and the Guiding Light, some are up on the provincial website.
- b) Website information is slow in coming, the primary form of interaction between Guiders and girls in Canada and Guyana is via Facebook, and the Facebook group is growing daily.
- c) Guyana Instant Meeting and Powerpoint available on the Provincial Website.
- d) National twinning crest available mid-May
- e) Our twinning committee is looking for typical games, crafts, recipes for Alberta, send into twinning email address for the girls in units in Guyana. All branches welcome.
- f) Only 24 units total in Guyana so 1-1 pairing of units is difficult and would be overwhelming, so twinning will be approached on a group basis, like scheduled Skype chats between units, Facebook, etc.
- g) Anyone enthusiastic about twinning, or have anything to offer, please contact Enidd

Colour Your World:

Shannon Robertson and Caroline Lobban are running Colour Your World this summer from July 27-August 2, 2015. It will be held at the Edmonton Guide House for third year Guides from anywhere in the province. The focus is on exploring our multicultural world, trying new international foods, exploring Edmonton, trying new international activities and ends with a visit to Heritage Days. Registration is available through ANYGuide News or the Provincial website. There's room for about 15-20 girls and it has never been full, so please encourage your girls to register!

Service Projects:

1. Send them to Sangam
 - a. Project is done, but units can still make friendship bracelets and use them to bridge with other units in Alberta Council. The Area International advisers can coordinate this. With the bracelets send a little note about your unit, and contact information.

- b. Use the bracelets as a pay it forward projects. Send a bunch to one unit and challenge them to make them for another.

2. Days for Girls

- a. A non-profit group that provides reusable sanitary pads for girls and women in developing countries. A lot of girls are unable to attend school or groups during their periods because of their lack of supplies. The project provides a variety of reusable pads, a drawstring bag and soap to girls who need them.
- b. Local chapters are popping up, with established groups in Calgary, Edmonton and Red Deer. It may be costly for supplies, and samples of work have to be provided before the group is approved. This might be better for a long-term project with older girls or Link/Trefoil.

Younger girls can assist established chapters in their production. Units in Calgary have assisted by collecting materials, cutting materials, tracing patterns, making bags, collecting donations of soap, and putting together the packages before they are sent off. It leaves the chapter members to do what they like the most- sew! This could be a one-time project or reoccurring depending on the participation of the local chapter.

Challenge Booklets:

We need your feedback on the International Challenges! We have the 5 Regions Challenge and the now-defunct Send Them to Sangam Challenge. We are looking to develop some new international challenges are looking for ideas.

Feedback: What do you like about the current International Challenges? Why do you use or not use them? What would you like to see in the future? Would you like to help develop one? Do you have any challenge ideas you'd like to share for us to develop the challenges? Would you or your girls want to participate in a crest design challenge for the next one? Please forward your feedback to me before August 1, 2015.

Submitted by: Caroline Lobban, Parkland Area International Adviser, current as of March 17, 2015

Membership

Heads up for next seasons' registration! April 1 sees returning girls to their unit able to on-line register. May 4 is for girls changing units, and June 1 registration is open to the general public. This is a good time to ask parents to also look at joining. Maybe have them fill out non-member forms and get Police Record Checks. It is always good to have extra hands to help out and easier if they already have their paperwork in iMIS.

All the best as you wind down your year and best of luck starting up in the fall.

Joanne Schatz, membership chair

Awards

Thank you to all members of Parkland Area for your awards submissions. They are being reviewed, and we look forward to presenting many of them at the Area Dinner.

Ina Rodenburg-Hart, Awards

Program

Happy Spring Everyone,

Plans for the Canada Cord /Chief Commissioner Ceremony are nicely underway. Thanks to all the leaders who promptly sent me the names of the girls earning the above awards.

With spring just around the corner please plan to take your girls outside there are lots of program and challenges that can be done outside.

If you haven't applied for the TD Tree Planting Grant just a reminder to do so soon, I think this is a wonderful challenge.

Hazel Ray, Parkland Area Program Adviser

Public Relations

Parkland Area is holding a photo contest! Please submit photos to Stephanie as soon as possible.

The contest starts today, and runs until April 22, 2015. The prizes will be:

1st = \$50 2nd = \$40 3rd = \$25 towards the Guide Store. Good luck!

The winners will be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

Please note that all pictures sent in may be used for Area promotional material. Please only send in pictures that include members who have signed the image release form, as these pictures will be distributed throughout our area.

YIG, Stephanie Haas, Parkland Area PR

Camping

GIRL OPPORTUNITIES

Ranger/TREX Survival Camp

WHEN: May 22 - 24, 2015

WHO: Rangers, TREX & Pathfinder

WHERE: Camp Sherbino, Sylvan Lake

Brownie Spring Camp - Creaking Bones

WHO: Brownie Units - leaders and girl - make sure you have ratio

WHEN: June 6 - 7, 2015

WHERE: Camp Sherbino, Sylvan Lake

Summer Guide Tent Camp –Mount Olympus and Beyond

WHO: Any girl who has completed her 2nd or 3rd year in Guides in the current 2014/2015 Guiding year. WHEN: July 19-25, 2015

WHERE: Camp Sherbino, Sylvan Lake - See Alberta Provincial web site for more information.

Color Your World 2015

WHO: Any girl who has completed her 3rd year in Guides in the current 2014-2015 Guiding year.

WHEN: July 26 - August 2, 2015

WHERE: Alberta Guide House in Edmonton - See Alberta Provincial web site for more information.

Provincial Backpacking camp

WHO: Any girl registered as a Pathfinder, Ranger or Trex in the current 2014/2015 Guiding year.

WHEN: July 19-25, 2015 WHERE: Calgary and Kananaskis Country - See Alberta Provincial web site for more information.

Provincial web site for more information.

Provincial Arts Camp

WHO: Any girl who has completed their 2nd or 3rd year in Guides & 1st or 2nd year of Pathfinders WHEN: August 9 - 15, 2015

WHERE: Tangletrees, Pigeon Lake - See Alberta Provincial web site for more information.

Summer Tent Camp for Pathfinders and Rangers-Water World

WHO: Any girl registered as a Pathfinder, Ranger or Trex in the current 2014/2015 Guiding year. WHEN: August 2-8, 2015

WHERE: Camp Woods, Sylvan Lake - See Alberta Provincial web site for more information.

ADULTS WITH GIRLS OPPORTUNITIES

GM 2016: Please check out the GM2016 for information - it has been recently updated and can be found at www.girlguides.ca/GM2016 Contact Chris Haydon

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

OAL Camp Skills Training for Guiders

WHO: All Guiders WHEN: June 6 - 7, 2015 WHERE: Camp Sherbino, Sylvan Lake - see the Alberta Girl Guide Website for more information

Canoeing Courses for Adults 2015

Intermediate Lake Canoe Tandem: This course enables you to take your girls canoeing. Cost \$50 + GST. There is a maximum of 10 participants per course. There are 2 weekends to choose from: June 6-7 OR June 20-21 Details and registration are on the Alberta Council website

Red Deer River Canoe Trip, May 15-18/15 This is a fun weekend trip for Guiders with previous canoeing experience who would like to learn more about canoe tripping. Cost \$110 + GST.

There will be a maximum of 10 participants. Details and registration are on the Alberta website

Safe Guide 2015 Telephone Training

We welcome you to register for SAFE GUIDE training by telephone. Complete this 90-minute training for the first time, or as a refresher in the comfort of your own home (and in your jammies!). All you need is a phone line (and a head set or speaker phone if you don't want to hold the phone to your ear for 90 minutes).

The cost of this training is currently being covered by GGC, Alberta Council. Upcoming dates are:
Tuesday March 31 Wednesday April 15 Thursday April 30 Monday May 11
All telephone trainings run from 7:30-9:00 pm Edmonton time. For more information please contact the Training Outreach Adviser, Pat McWilliams .

Area Camp Advisor - Kathy Cawthorpe

Training

Please contact any of the following. Trainers can come to your meeting to mentor or help.

Mary Hatcher	Golden Fields/Num-ti-jah
Nyna Marr	Golden Poplar
Rose Ward	Crimson Star
Kathy Watson	Westview / Kuusamo
Bev Witham	on leave of absence
Lorie Coghill	Diamond Willow
Hazel Snyder	Wolf Willow

Sincerely YIT, Hazel Snyder, Area Training Adviser

TRAINING TIDBITS

Are you taking advantage of one of the best "perks" of being a Guider? I'm referring, of course, to the many great opportunities to attend trainings that will give you lots of ideas for your program and lots of fun for you too! Guiding offers high quality training at a fraction of the cost you'd expect to pay anywhere else, and we throw in the fun and friendship free of charge and even a crest as a bonus. (Too bad if you missed TNT and Multifaceted 😞)

If you are recruiting new leaders for your units, it would be great for them to get some training this spring, so they don't have such a panic and information overload in the fall. Let your District Trainer know and perhaps we can do a module and Safe Guide in May or June or August.

FAQ: Question: What happens to evaluation forms after we fill them out at trainings? Answer: Evaluations are always reviewed by the training team after a training. Notes are made "for next time" to help in future planning. Your feedback is VERY important to help us improve our trainings. (re location, timing, content wishes, etc)

Question: What super value can be had for \$5.00? Answer: How about e-Learning? For just \$5.plus GST you can do trainings such as Safe Guide and the TEAM modules right in comfort of your home with your computer. You miss out on the fun of "face-to-face" activities but this option is available for Guiders who can't get to a training in person.

Question: What is O.A.L.? Who should take it? When and Where is it offered? Answer: The O.A.L. is the Outdoor Activity Leadership program. It is not just for people going camping, but for ALL Guiders who want to do fun activities in the out-of-doors. All of our surveys tell us that this is what girls love most about Guiding. There definitely are components for tent or residential campers, be they day camps or overnigheters, but sessions include outdoor activities and games, campfires, knotts as well as menu planning and camp life information . Please see the Parkland CA calendar for info re the next session coming in June. For the experienced camper and backpacker there are also sessions for you to check out in ANY Guide News and Blueprint.

Question: Is there any recognition after I receive all this training? Answer: Besides the satisfaction you get from learning and doing all that 'Great Stuff', all sessions you attend are entered into your iMIS record through Area/Prov. offices. Pins may be obtained when certain modules and OAL are completed. (See the TEAM outline)

In our Area, the District that has the greatest percentage of Guiders attend training of any sort, that helps them become a better Guider, is recognized with a perpetual Trophy inscribed with name of District and year,- presented at the Annual Dinner and Awards Night. As well, for the FIRST time, individual crests will be presented to each member of the winning District. Soooooo make sure your DC has your data into Bev Witham by April 15 of each Guiding year.

YIT Hazel Snyder, Area Training Adviser.

BINGO Dates

Each District is asked to provide two volunteers for the Kiwanis Bingo. This does not need to be a member of GGC, just someone willing to help out for the day!

May 2, 2015 Kuusamo, Wolf Willow, Golden Poplar

Oct 24, 2015 Goldenfields, Diamond Willow

Oct 31, 2015 Num Ti Jah, Crimson Star

Girl Guides of Canada - Parkland Area Council Area/District Event Registration Form

Send form with fee by date specified to: Girl Guides of Canada-Parkland Area Council
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Name of Event: _____ Date: _____

Individual Registration

Applicant's Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Number Street Town/City
Postal Code: _____ E-mail _____
Emergency Contact: _____ Phone _____
Guiding District: _____ UNIT: _____ Years in Guiding: _____
Health or _____
Dietary Restrictions: _____
Adult: Applicant's iMIS Number: _____
Girl: Applicant's iMIS Number: _____

Group Registration

Name of Unit: _____
Contact Guider for the Unit: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
Home Contact Person: _____ iMIS #: _____

Numbers Attending:

Sparks: _____ Brownies: _____ Guides: _____ Pathfinders: _____
Rangers: _____ Trex: _____ Guiders: _____ Other: _____

**Please attach a list of Guiders and/or Non-members attending event and their iMIS numbers.*

**Guiders are to bring health forms and Safe Guide paperwork to the event.*

**Please attach sheet listing allergies and dietary needs for unit if necessary.*

Special Instructions

Items/information requested from event organizer

Payment Method

Cheque (made payable to Girl Guides of Canada) Amount: \$ _____

Note: The Responsible Guider for the Event will notify you when your registration has been accepted. Additional information may be requested at that time.