



# Parkland Pennings

October 2015

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

## COMMISSIONER'S RAMBLINGS (Notes from Nyna)

Welcome back to another year of Guiding. Over the summer we have had Guiders and girls at several Provincial Camps: Mt. Olympus and Beyond, Colour Your World, Water World and Music Camp. What a summer for many.

Most units are underway with many girls, some returning and some brand new, to Guiding. This is also true of our Guiders. It is exciting to report that we have new units in Bashaw, Irricana and Coronation. On another note, we also have units that have closed.

Our Area Council Retreat at Rustler's Lodge near Sundre gave us a good start. We did business, training and got to know one another. We have had our second Area Council meeting this past week where we have learned of some of the changes that are going to take place in Girl Guides. We have two changes: Parkland Area's iMIS home will be moved to Edmonton but we will keep the office and Ang can run off reports and get any information you need. The other change as of June 2016 is that all positions except Unit Guiders will be a 3-year term. With this in mind, my term as your Area Commissioner will come to an end. I do not have a Deputy so am looking for someone who would be interested in working with me for the rest of this term and then becoming the next Area Commissioner. Please know that Parkland is a great Area to work in.

Thank you to all Guiders and Unit Assistants who have read the Integrated Accessibility Standards and signed off. If you haven't please do so as we are to be finished by November 6th. Please note that your Unit Assistants must have read the policy before January 15th or they will be cancelled. We also have some Guide members who have not marked their Image Release form. It is really important to keep everything done up. Subsidy requests for girls/rent must be in to the office by Thursday or to me ([emarr@shaw.ca](mailto:emarr@shaw.ca)) by Saturday, Oct. 31st noon as I will be emailing them to Province.

The Units going to Guiding Mosaic, 2016, have done their fundraising and most have things under control. Parkland Area is well represented. Girls and Guiders have been busy camping, selling cookies and doing program.

I would like to give a warm welcome to Denise Cruz who has accepted the important position of Goldenfields District Commissioner. I would personally like to thank Amanda LePage for her work with Goldenfields in 2014-15. It is a big district and takes much time and energy.

A note of thanks to our Administrative Manager, Angela (Ang) Moores Jones who I know helps many of you solve your problems.

Great things are happening in Parkland: The Crimson Star University has been a great hit in the past.

Please be sure you are attending it this year-Nov. 7th.

Please make sure you have signed up for the Art's Day on November 14. The south one is being held in Didsbury and the north in Bentley.

Have a great fall, Nyna Marr, Parkland Area Commissioner

## **Parkland Area International**

### **Upcoming International Trips:**

Due to Guiding Mosaic, there will only be two nationally sponsored trips:

1. Sangam - 12 girls, 3 Guiders - more information to follow
2. Flame Camp - England - 8 girls, 2 Guiders - more information to follow.

National is piloting an online application process, much like the current scholarship application. Applicants sign up with their iMIS number and the forms can be saved and reloaded before submission. References are emailed the link to do theirs.

If anyone would like me to pay them a visit to discuss these trips, or international applications please contact me and I will come to you. I can help individual applicants proofread and improve their paperwork, and I want everyone to succeed!

### **Challenges:**

All Provincial international events and challenges can be found at:

<http://albertagirlguides.com/International.html> and ordered through the Provincial Office. It's not too late to order the 2015 CWFF crests!

The Send Them to Sangam challenge is officially over, but units are welcome to participate and the Provincial International Adviser (via me) will exchange bracelets between units in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon. Ensure that you include some information about your unit, including some contact information if you participate.

### **5<sup>th</sup> World Centre:**

Welcome to KUSAFIRI! The name means "to journey" in Swahili, and was announced on October 2. It'll remain a travelling World Centre in Africa. Although events have been small, they have been extremely successful. I'm excited to watch this Centre grow.

### **World Thinking Day 2016:**

Theme is "Connect", which "invites you to explore and celebrate the meaningful connections that make our lives better, whether to the people closest to us, to a place we care about, or to a Girl Guide or Girl Scout friend on the other side of the world." The activity pack is available for download now at:

[www.worldthinkingday.org/](http://www.worldthinkingday.org/) and check out the Canadian Pathfinders and Rangers on the header graphic!

### **Questions?**

If you have any questions or need ideas (or even a visit) to help inject some international fun into your meetings, please contact me! I will travel (at no cost to the district or unit) and talk about whatever you'd like me to! I have presentations about WAGGGS and the World Centres, games, activities, crafts, and paperwork know-how!

**Caroline Lobban**      [guider.caroline@gmail.com](mailto:guider.caroline@gmail.com) or 403-392-3246

## Awards

Awards may be presented at any time of the year, but tend to be concentrated in the months preceding our awards dinner in May. A reminder that Provincial and National awards have a very long timeline for approval, and I urge nominators to get their paperwork in well ahead of time. December 1 is the next deadline, this means all the local approvals have also been signed off on the papers and that the paperwork is in Edmonton.

Email me if there are questions, contact [inhart@hotmail.com](mailto:inhart@hotmail.com)

## Camping

The next Camp in a Box will be **Trail Mix** - this will be a resource rather than a camp, is about activities when out and about with the units, will include trail mix recipes, maybe clothing, maybe crafts.

**Eating out recipe book** - lots of responses from guiders - has over 650 recipes, working with another guider to clean up duplicates, what should stay, what should go, working on formatting, cleaning and word smithing.

**Leave No Trace** - provincial event still in the works

**Winter Camp Training for Adults** - maybe Feb 2017

**Sep 16 - 18, 2016 - Hodge Podge** Deer Valley Meadows - more info to come

**June 3 - 5, 2016 - Guide Spring Training - Nite Prowl** Sherbino - more info to come

**June 3 - 5, 2016 Adult Camp Skills** Sherbino - more info to come

**Jun 11 & 12, 2016 - Canoe Course** - more info to come

**July 2017 - SOAR** - no other info at this time

### **Safe Guide Telephone Training**

Wed, Oct 14

Thu, Oct 29

Mon, Nov 9

Tue, Nov 17

To register online for this mandatory training, fill out and submit the form found at this link from the [ANY\\_GuideNews](#). A trainer will be in touch with you after you register to give you all the details. For more information please contact the Training Outreach Adviser, Pat McWilliams at [mcwilliams.patti@shaw.ca](mailto:mcwilliams.patti@shaw.ca) or via phone at 403-275-1525.

### **Sept 25 - 27, 2015 - Survivor Camp**

38 Rangers and Pathfinders attended. While the girls participated in some ice breaker games the leaders made pot cosy's for each team for the "backpackers answer" to Haybox Stew, which each patrol got to take with them.

The girls learned new camp skills (made Para cord bracelets, emergency pop can lanterns, survival spice kits and made their own wiener roasting stick and case.

They also learned and honed their Archery and Slingshot skills.

The wind also proved challenging for staff, but we did persevere.

Kathy Cawthorpe, Camping Adviser

## Program

Welcome back to another exciting Guiding year. As long as the weather stays nice - take your program outside.

A reminder to start talking to the Pathfinders and Rangers about Alberta Girls Parliament. AGP introduces the female youth to Parliamentary debate and how caucus works by attending party caucus meetings prior to each debate. They also learn how to debate and/or develop their arguments. Each year we see dramatic improvements in all the young women who attend throughout the event. A few comments from AGP 2015 *"It's a great friendship building event and everyone makes new friends"* *"It's educational in a really fun way"* *"AGP is amazing"* *"there are no words for the 5 days you spend in the AGP debate world, the saddest time is when you have to leave"*

Reminder please check out all the fun challenges either in your challenge booklet or on the web. My pick for this report is the Geoscience Challenge. The goal of this challenge is to introduce girls to the world of Geoscience and provide them with exposure to different elements in a fun and exciting environment. On the subject of challenges and crests just some fun info on how many challenge crests were sold from Jan-July I will only do the top 5. STEM challenge crests 1212, CSI challenge crests 966, AB-Arts Diamond crests 708, Geo Cache challenge crests 570, Polar challenge-All 440.

Hazel Ray, Parkland Area Program Adviser

## iMIS/Admin

All A5P's must include the unit they are to be placed in, as well as the unit iMIS number. Received date is to be filled out by the receiving office. Please write the cheque number beside payment enclosed, and check the appropriate box. Anything with a star below **MUST** be filled out before it is handed into the office.

Unit placed in: _____*	Unit iMIS# _____*	
Received Date: _____	Date Paid: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment enclosed *	<input type="checkbox"/> Subsidy \$ *	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial Payment \$ *

**Please** make sure iMIS numbers are on everything - emails, forms, certificates, and trainings.

Ang Jones, Parkland Area Administrative Manager ggprklnd@telusplanet.net 1 800 565 8111

## Cookies

Hi there! Everyone has received their cookies and are selling them as we speak. Our cookie sales for Parkland Area were 4553 cases ordered which is up from 4185 from last Fall. Great job! Diamond Willow has had a couple of new units start up this year. They are in need of cookies if anyone has any extra on hand.

Jessica McLeod, Parkland Area Cookie Adviser

## Training

If you don't know where you are going, you might end up someplace else! (Yogi Berra)

Fall Trainings have taken place and will continue into November to include safe Guide and refreshers, orientation, All About The Girl, and your Branch, plus Quickstart and Putting the Pieces together. Hopefully all New Guiders (over 45 so far!) were able to take advantage of the modules conveniently offered in the District locations closest to them. To earn your first TEAM pin, all you need is to complete three modules: Safe Guide, All About Your Branch, and Building Unit Guider Skills. For Guiders changing branches: All about the Girl/Programming, Quick Start and Putting the Pieces Together are required. Several Guiders have also completed Safe Guide via e-learning and also the telephone.

It was suggested that we alternate years with District and Area fall events. Also note the Provincial Google calendar for training events. We can take advantage of sessions that are offered by other areas as well.

Note: the new RECORDER for the Area training trophy is Kathy Watson k4kat@shaw.ca

**A.L.L. Girls Arts Day** - Theme - Canada - Nov 14, 2015 9:30 am - 3:30 pm cost: \$8 includes snacks, crest

1. North - Bentley Community Church (4630 - 53 Ave) Time: 9:30 - 3:30 pm Contact Hazel Snyder (harmonycamper@xplornet.ca) 403 783 4240
2. South - Olds United Church (4810 50 Street) Time: 9:30 - 3pm (Teddy Bears Picnic - Sparks) 9am - 3:30 pm all other branches Contact Mary Hatcher (mhatcher@telus.net) 403 507 1395

Units can choose to go to either location. All units need to come with ratio, SG2 and health forms. Girls should bring a favorite stuffy, bag lunch, water bottle, and inside shoes. Please use the Parkland Area Event form for registration.

**TnT Workshop** - an Area Affair: Let's Try New Things! February 5/6, 2016 at Deer Valley Meadows (near Alix, South of Hwy 11) Program to include a camping stream - Planning a winter camp, Packing a backpack; Music - for the singer and non-singer, how to teach your girls to plan Campfire; Meeting in a Box - Girls First, Leading Active Games; Enrichment modules - Event Planning, Building Strong Teams; International - How to apply for Adult events or Plan Independent Travel.

Please send requests ASAP as Program choices will be going out in November. Cost \$60

The training team was given an overview of "Girls First" by the National team for a better understanding of what has and is being done in programming for the girls. Pilot projects will be announced soon.

We have been asked to help our twinned sister country of Guyana with interesting activities to go along with their Guider trainings. Eg: generic board games, tools that could be adapted. Any ideas are welcome. They can be sent directly to Kathy Batty at Province.

### UPCOMING DATES

Nov 6 - 8: Adult Arts weekend - held every two years

November 14: ALL Girls Arts Day

November 17: Safe Guide by telephone - see AnyGuide News

November 28: Airdrie for new Sparks, Brownies and Guide leaders - contact Kathy Cawthorpe

January 15 - 17, 2016: Music is Fun, Edmonton Area Arts Weekend at Tangletrees

contact dnowocki@telusplanet.net fee \$130

February 5&6, 2016: TnT - an Area Affair at Deer Valley Meadows

March 11-13, 2016: Multi-Faceted in Red Deer. Contact Kathy Watson for requests of content

Please contact any of the following with requests, concerns, beefs and bouquets:

#### Parkland Area Training Committee

Kathy Cawthorpe	Goldenfileds	403 616 7582 cell	Kathy.cawthorpe@atcopipelines.com
		403 948 3990 home	
Mary Hatcher	Num Ti Jah	403 507 1395 cell	mhatcher@telus.net
		403 335 3095 home	
Nyna Marr	Golden Poplar	403 505 7862 cell	emarr@shaw.ca
		403 227 6257 home	
Rose Ward	Crimson Star	403 347 4624 cell	rose.ward@telus.net
Kathy Watson	Kuusamo	403 877 3281	k4kat@shaw.ca
Hazel Snyder	Diamond Willow	403 341 7683 cell	harmonycamper@xplornet.com
	Wolf Willow	403 783 4240 home	
Lorie Coghill	Westview	403 341 7683 cell	delkel@xplornet.com
Anna Robertson	Training Candidate	403 342 6889	annarobertson@platinum.ca
	OAL Adventure		

### Membership

I believe things are going well for most of the area!! We are all up and running for the 2015-2016 Guiding year. Please be sure that all the girls who are attending your meetings have been registered. For those units with low numbers think of having a 'bring a friend' night to encourage girls to join. Also any new leaders be sure get all their paperwork in order, get backcheck or PRC done and have Safe Guide done as soon as possible. It is so easy to delay getting things done as it seems that you have lots of time but then we end up in panic mode when we leave things too long.

At standing Committee we were told about units down south who for Thinking day have a Welcome to Sparks Package to new born baby girls born the week of Feb 22. In it they would put a Spark Doll, Pink baby items and even a gift certificate for a free membership for when the girl turns 5 and can join guiding.

This is something that we may want to consider either as an Area or as a District.

If you have any great stories of how you increased membership in your units please forward them to busymom1414@hotmail.com so we can share with other units in our area.

Happy Guiding 2015-2016 Joanne Schatz, Membership Advisor

### Public Relations

I ordered additional promotional items (bookmarks, magnets and pencils) for the Districts to be used as retention tools as well as handouts at community events. No tattoos were ordered as the price was astronomical. Each Area member will be receiving a car window cling to promote Guiding.

The trade show banners are being processed and will be ready for use in early November.

#### District Reports

**Crimson Star:** Very successful inaugural cookie drive-thru in Red Deer. A very entrepreneurial Guide created a cookie selling video and sent it out to her parent's coworkers and sold cookies at her mom's coffee shop and in her community. What a great Guiding ambassador! Many challenges are in the planning stage that will take girls out into the community. Miss Teen Canada will be visiting several units in the fall.

**Goldenfields:** A uniform buy and swap night was held in conjunction with a meet the leaders event. There was a booth at AirdrieFest (outdoor trade show). There will be a large contingent of girls at Sears Cookie

Days. A "design the banner" contest is running in the District. There is a very active facebook page [Goldenfields Girl Guides](#) and a twitter presence @GGC\_Airdrie. They've both been great tools to keep in touch with the community, and have had some success in answering questions and getting cookies out to where they're requested.

Westview: Registration night put on by the Parks & Rec Department. 3 ads were placed in the local paper - one as a Thank You for all the donors of our equipment trailer, a second for the donors that supported our District trip to Edmonton and a third in the welcome back to school flyer. We are also listed in the local phone book as an activity group. There have been several cookie events including a "cookie day", several drive-thru's and tables outside of stores.

NumTiJah: many units have community projects ongoing and cookie fundraising for GM and units

Yours in Guiding, Stephanie Haas  
Parkland Area PR Adviser

## Deputy Area Commissioner Position

NEEDED: Parkland Area Deputy Commissioner: Please contact Ang for the application form for this exciting position.

As Deputy Area Commissioner, you:

- assume responsibility for the Parkland Area Council in the absence of the Parkland Area Contact Commissioner
- carry out duties or assigned tasks detailed by the Contact Commissioner
- attend Parkland Area meetings and Retreat
- Participate in development programs by attending trainings and conferences provided by Guiding and other organizations at least every two years