

August 5, 2016

Greetings Leaders!

I hope you are well and enjoying a wonderful summer! We are busy planning many activities for the coming year. In doing so, we would like some feedback from you to assist in not just planning this coming year, but future ones as well. Please take a moment to complete an interest survey by following this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/97NYFDH>. Thank you for your feedback!

I'm looking forward to welcoming our new leaders to the service unit at a **New Leader SU Workshop on September 12 at 7:00pm** at the Community Center. I look forward to welcoming all leaders back at our **First Service Unit meeting on October 24 at 7:30pm** in the Community Center. There will be information on upcoming events and fall product sale (nuts and candy) to share with you and we will have an investiture for our new leaders and a re-dedication for our returning leaders.

Leader meeting dates for the year are: September 12 (New Leaders only), October 24, November 17 (Leader Social at Fire Me Up), December 12, January 9, February 13(SU Training Event), March 13, April 20 SU Leader Appreciation event, May 8 (Awards Night), June 5 (TBD). Please mark these dates on your calendar!

Below are some important updates as we begin our new scouting year:

END OF THE YEAR TROOP PAPERWORK OVERDUE- Email **TROOP TREASURER REPORT** (https://www.gshnj.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gshnj/documents/troop/Troop-Group_Financial_Report_2016_with-instructions2.pdf) to Treasurer, Cessy Peralta, asap. (cessy.peralta@gmail.com). We only have 40% of reports back!!

GS REGISTRATION- Girl Scout Registration/ GSHNJ Registration is due before September 30. Remember leaders may re-register any currently registered members through www.gshnj.org under Ebiz once you attain family approval/payment. Once October 1st hits however, the parents must register themselves and their girls on their own. Cost is \$30 for Girls and \$15 for adults. *Reminder...girls may not attend any meetings after September 30 if they are not registered!*

OUTDOOR SKILL WORKSHOP- first event of the year! And always a fun one! A great way to start your troop activities! Save the date-- September 17 from 2-4:30pmat Hanson Park. Registration form attached.

TOWNSHIP FLAG CEREMONY-Troops are still needed to conduct the flag ceremonies at the township meetings on Tuesday's at 8 p.m. (troop should be there by 7:45 p.m.) We have many openings; please sign your troop up to lead the flag ceremony by using this link <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0449a9ab28a31-township>. Need some guidance? There is a flag ceremony guide on our website

<http://www.cranfordgirlscouts.com/Forms/FlagCommands.pdf> . Want an older scout to assist your troop with learning how? Let us know.

CHAIR NEEDED- we are looking for a chair for the religious awards and for a troop to assist with the Scholarship breakfast. If you can help, please contact me.

SERVICE UNIT PATCH-Our service unit now has its own patch! Great to wear on the back of the vest/sash to identify where your troop is from. Great to use as SWAPS with other troops too! See flyer to purchase for your troop.

STEM PATCH- Have your girls been working on STEM activities over the summer? Bet they have and they don't even know it! Please share the attached flyer with your troop members; they can earn a free patch through our sister council GSCSNJ. Time sensitive-completion by August 31.

Upcoming events with flyers to come: Columbus day Canvas painting for scouts, Cranford Dramatic Club Children's Show, Religious Awards, Tshirt and bag sale, etc.

Any questions, please feel free to contact me!

Yours in Scouting,
Lisa Durant
Volunteer Service Unit Manager
GS of Cranford