

September 6, 2016

**Welcome back to school and troop!!** I hope you and your families enjoyed some outdoor summer fun and are ready to start up a new scouting year!

We've been working over the summer to provide fun programs for all of our scouts. I do apologize for the length of this email, but there is a lot of information to provide. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Welcome to our new leaders!! We will have a **new leader service unit training on September 12 at 7pm** in the Cranford Community Center. We look forward to seeing all new leaders there!

**Our First Leader Meeting will be on October 24 at 7:30pm** at the Cranford Community Center. We will celebrate the new scouting year and Juliette Gordon Low's birthday with an Investiture of New Leaders and Re Dedication of our returning leaders. We have lots of events and information to share with you. Can't wait to see everyone there!

Our first event of the year is the **Outdoor Frenzy--an outdoor skills event for scouts of all ages on September 17 from 2-4:30pm** at Hanson Park. We will celebrate revitalization after the event at Girl Scout Park with a flag retirement lead by Boy Scout, Chris Brown, who focused his Eagle Scout project on Girl Scout Park. Please join us for this fun event! See the attached flyer.

A **town-wide flag retirement ceremony** conducted by the VFW will take place in downtown Cranford on (this is separate from the flag retirement ceremony at the end of the Outdoor Frenzy) across from the Post Office. We would love to have lots of Girl Scouts participate and/or attend this ceremonial event. If you have a scout who is a bugler and would like to share their talent, please let us know. Any troop interested in attending or participating, please contact leader Lauren Ramsay at [laurenramsay@earthlink.net](mailto:laurenramsay@earthlink.net).

Leaders and their scouts--Are you concerned about the ever growing drug problem in New Jersey and the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs? Would you like to be part of the solution on educating the public? The Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse along with the Partnership for a Drug Free NJ and the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services created the **KNOCK OUT OPIATE ABUSE event for October 6, 2016**. Volunteers throughout New Jersey will blanket the state to provide a unified prevention message to prescribers and neighbors in their communities. If you would like to distribute information to doctor's offices, schools or your neighborhood as a service project, please **contact Ms. Maryanne Mason from the Cranford Municipal Alliance by September 15, 2016**. Contact info: [maryanne.mason12@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.mason12@gmail.com) or 908-276-7555. This is a great service opportunity.

**Columbus Day fun at Fire Me Up for scouts**--Have your troop come in and participate in a canvas painting in preparation for Halloween! Cost is \$25 for canvas painting, pizza and drink. **Register using this link:** <https://placefull.com/girl-scout-painting---pizza-party>.

**Leader Social on November 17 at 7pm at Fire Me Up.** Come enjoy time to share ideas with your fellow leaders while learning to glass fuse and enjoy some wine and snacks! See attached flyer for info. **Registration can be made by using the following link:** <https://placefull.com/cranford-gs-leaders-glass-night>.

**Tree ornament fun for troops.** See link for further information. [http://www.cranfordgirlscouts.com/Forms/FireMeUpGirl\\_scouts-ornaments2016.pdf](http://www.cranfordgirlscouts.com/Forms/FireMeUpGirl_scouts-ornaments2016.pdf).

**T-shirts are back! Bags available too. See the attached order form for details.**

**Service Unit patches available.** See link for further information and purchase <http://www.cranfordgirlscouts.com/Forms/cranfordgirlscoutspatch.pdf>.

Looking forward to sharing another fun and exciting year of scouting with you!

Yours in Scouting,  
Lisa Durant  
Volunteer Service Unit Manager  
Girl Scouts of Cranford (48)