

GIRL SCOUTS OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

# Silver & Gold

Girl Scout Alumnae – G S A

December 2003

## Great Turnout for Women's Weekend

We had great fun gathering together for lots of crafts this year. We learned scrap booking, cemented glass mosaic coasters, stamped light switch panels, turned old sweatshirts into wearable art, more mosaics, wrapped rocks and bottles in wire and beads, made "itty bitty" books, squeezed paint to make window peel art, and much more. What wonderful teachers we had demonstrating a variety of crafts!

The Bazaar display was impressive and made lots of money for our Girl Scout Alumnae group. Thanks to those who donated items. The Work Project this year was cleaning and organizing the Little House Library. My, the things we found among the books and dust! And with different people volunteering to plan and organize each meal this year, we had a variety of yummy dishes. Thank you to all you chefs who took a meal.

We had a great turnout of women registered for this year's Women's Weekend. 25 registered on time, 25 registered within two weeks after the deadline, and 25 made things interesting by registering the two weeks before the event, for a total of 75 women initially registered! That's more than our usual 50 or so. Good job letting your friends know about our relaxation and crafting retreat! I hope to see all you new faces again next year.

Thanks to all those to made this event successful!  
~Rachel Gunn (formerly McMillan)  
Women's' Weekend '03 Chair



## Membership

With an inherited database of over 250 names, our list made it expensive to send anything out. We decided over the last couple of meetings that we needed to update this list. We tried last year to send out a flyer that women would return to let us know if they wanted to remain on the list or not, with little success. It was voted at the last meeting that only dues-paying members would remain on the mailing list. If you have received this newsletter in your post office mailbox, you are one of 70 women who are generously supporting us by paying your \$14 dues. If this came in your e-mail inbox, you can still pay dues to receive the Silver & Gold newsletter by snail mail if you want. Membership benefits have been initiated.

1. Members receive Silver and Gold Newsletters in their post office mail box instead of just by email.
2. Members receive a roster of current member's names, addresses and phone numbers.
3. Members receive a Girl Scout Alumnae membership pin.
4. And most exciting of all: members receive a \$10 discount for Women's Weekend (beginning 2004).

So join today. If you know someone who didn't get on the mailing list and wants to be a member, let them know that annual dues are just \$14.

Please make checks payable to:

### **Girl Scout Alumnae**

Send the check with your name, address, phone Number(s) and email to:  
Rachel Gunn

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS!**

**Please note Rachel's new contact information:**

Rachel Gunn  
150 Cedar Pointe Loop #406  
San Ramon CA 94583  
Phone: 925.833.9854  
E-mail address [Lady\\_bug7878@yahoo.com](mailto:Lady_bug7878@yahoo.com)

## **A Tribute to our GSA Chair** **Martha Bratton**

The statistics on Martha Bratton are impressive but only relate part of the whole person.

- 15 years as Girls Scout Leader from Daisy to Cadette and Senior troops.
- 12 years as Day Camp – Director, Administrator, Treasurer, Unit Leader.
- 10 years craft consultant for leaders in Dos Pueblos Girl Scout Association.
- 10 years workshop leader at Discoveree.
- 4 years workshop leader for Jubilee, GS of Tierra del Oro.
- 3 years workshop leader for Leap into Leadership.

Martha is currently serving as our Chair of Girl Scout Alumnae. She recently retired as Executive Secretary and finds she is busier than ever volunteering for more Girl Scout activities and events.

Although I have not been in her house, I understand that it looks like a craft shop. Recently, I was looking for paper to create those cute mini post-it books (which we learned to make at the last Women's Weekend). Martha just pulls out just what I needed out of the back of her van! Thank you Martha, I could not find what I wanted in either Michael's Craft or Joanne's Fabrics stores. If you have a craft, Martha probably knows how to make it and has taught it to some GS troop or group.

Martha has received numerous Girl Scout recognition awards including:

- **Outstanding Volunteer 1989**
- **Appreciation Pin 2001**
- **Honor Pin 2002**

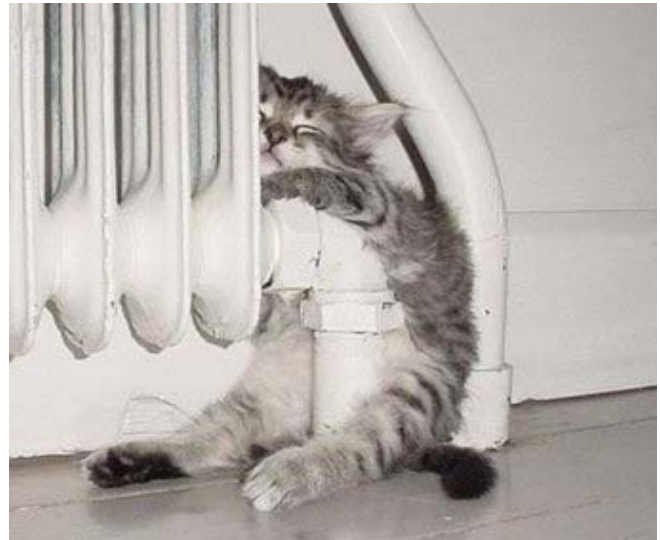
Martha is the type of person who has a hard time saying no, especially when it come to volunteering for Girl Scouts. Martha is a "do it" type person. If you ask her to do anything, she is on it right away. She has great ideas about improving GSA and has already implemented them – roster/brochure and GSA pins for dues paying members (look for them soon), pushed to get a GSA website, helped organize an up-to-date GSA database (working hard in partnership with Rachel McMillan Gunn).

You can be sure Martha will be demonstrating a craft or two at our next Women's Weekend '04. She usually

teaches at four separate workshops at Discoveree each year like glass etching, doll making, and recycled crafts.

We are very fortunate to have her take time out of her crafting to volunteer as our GSA Chair. Her enthusiasm and energy are seemingly limitless. Did you know that Martha's over 90 year old mother recently moved in with her? I understand that her mother loves crafts also. Her daughter, Melina, is our next year's Women's Weekend Chair. Martha also has a son, Tim and with his wife Heidi have sons Max, 6 years old and Owen, born last March.

**Martha, we salute you!**



### **Girl Scout Daughters**

Mary Ann Shaw's daughter, Vanessa, is living in Aptos and loving it. She just turned 20 so Mary Ann is done raising teenage children (unless you count the ones she works with). Vanessa is attending Cabrillo Jr. College. In Jan. she is going to Oaxaca Mexico with her Spanish teacher for a month to study Spanish. Sounds like a fun thing to me. 5 hrs a day of Spanish classes, live and eat with a local family and tour on the weekends.

Her other daughter, Amber, is graduating from nursing school in Dec. and will be able to pay her own bills!

## **HELP WANTED!** **GSA Historian**

Responsibilities include:

Preserving copies of the "Silver and Gold" newsletters and GSA overall history – collect and archive photos, records of trips, service projects, etc.

Contact:

Martha Bratton (510) 276-1223

## **Vision for GSA**

How do you see GSA? What do you want from the group? Where do you see it going? What are your expectations? Since our main meeting is during Women's Weekend in September, what do you want to see happening there?

Start thinking about your answers to these questions. We will be brainstorming at our February 1 meeting for possible answers. If you cannot attend this meeting (see flyer in this newsletter), contact either Martha Bratton or Carol McMillan



## **Get Connected to the Other GSA Alumnae Around the World**

A prototype website has been established for our organization as a direct result of your vote during the 2003 Women's Weekend event. The "URL" or website address is:

[www.gsasfbay.org](http://www.gsasfbay.org)

This is a great way to promote our organization and to get connected to other GSA Alumnae members from around the world. Funding to keep the website opened has been approved for a period of one year. To make this a rewarding experience for all, we are seeking your comments and suggestions for improvement. You may also submit articles (a favorite recipe, Girl Scout events that you are participating in, etc) for posting to the website. Any articles submitted will be reviewed for appropriateness beforehand.

Please send contributions to Millie Kwan-Lim, our web mistress, via e-mail at: [meow94403@yahoo.com](mailto:meow94403@yahoo.com) or you may also contact her at (650) 286-9762.

## **WW '03 Quotes!**

I am a first time attendee of WW '03---what a blast! I had such a fun time meeting a lot of women that I've known over the years in GS but never had much opportunity to get to "know" them. Also had an opportunity to meet lots of new people who aren't new to GS but new to WW like me. I particularly enjoyed sitting down at a table and making something while chit chatting the whole time. The only thing missing from this great experience was a sing along. maybe next year. I'll be there. Pamela Atkinson

Wonderful first time experience, I didn't know how welcoming and friendly and interesting as these ladies could be, of course we are Girl Scouts! (Catherine)

I enjoyed being able to participate in the work project and massage. (Carol N.)

Thanks so much for a very fun, relaxing weekend. I missed singing though!

It was great, my first time here and I'll be back! Thanks

There was so much to do. Can we have anymore fun? Probably not. I need more sleep than I did as a juvenile scout. I made some friends and deepened some relationships. I worked hard on my scrapbook. I love my family but I missed them a tiny bit. I hope I have a chance to come back.

## **KQED Update**

A number of women signed up at Women's Weekend to help with future KQED pledge drives. We have decided that once a year meets our needs. Last year a group of GSA members worked on Girl Scout's birthday in March and decided that is the best month to volunteer. Be prepared for a phone call or email with the date and time of the next session. If you would like to come to KQED in San Francisco, get fed a delicious dinner and dessert from a local restaurant, proudly advertise GSA by wearing our GSA t-shirts or sweatshirts, and have a really great time watching the backstage activities of TV, while answering the phone -- please call or email me to volunteer.

Carol McMillan  
GSA Vice Chair and KQED volunteer coordinator  
(510) 223-3052  
[mcmillan50@lycos.com](mailto:mcmillan50@lycos.com)

## **Discoveree**

Mary Anne Shaw is teaching those rocks again, they are so popular; Mary Anne said "I just don't understand why. I guess there is no wrong thing to do. Then I am also doing a memory wire necklace with pendant. Only 15 spaces in each class. Last time I tried to do 25 and it was too crazy."

Pamela Atkinson will be facilitating a workshop on Event and Activity Planning #107 in the first session. If you're the person who is running a camporee, jamboree, sock hop, badge workshop or even just doing a troop campout, then this is the workshop you should be attending.

Michelle Luster will teach Mosaics.

Jackie Brennan is co-leading in the Dutch Oven Basics and Advanced Dutch Oven Cooking workshops.

Anna Van Syckle is on the Discoveree Committee helping with Cadette Helpers.

Martha and Melina Bratton will be teaching multiple workshops,

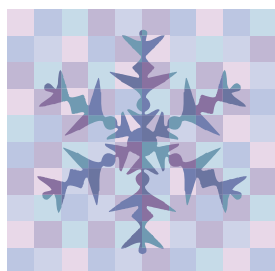
Other GSA members teaching workshops at Discoveree include:

Wendie Wu, Brena Bailey, Normandy Rolans, Marcia McGallian, Elizabeth Smith, Jeanette Bemis, Millie Bessire, Carol Shaini, Betty Tocchini, Theresa Northcutt, Becky Simpson, Sara Johnson, Nancy Deras, and Eva Watson.

## **GSA Nominating Committee**

Three to four members are needed on the nomination committee. This would entail very little time –usually a one-time meeting and it can even be managed with phone calls or email. As a committee you will ask current officers if they would like to continue in their positions and, if not, make calls to locate new replacements. If you are interested in getting more involved in GSA or in one of the officer positions, join the committee. Officers include Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Carol McMillan



## **Condensed Minutes** **GSA MEETING** **9/6/03 at CAMP BOTHIN**

GSA Chair, Martha Bratton and Vice Chair, Carol McMillan conducted the meeting to a record number of 75 participants at Women's Weekend 2003.

### **PRODUCT SALES:**

Helen Sitchler reported. We still have 80 copies of our song tape "Sing Lively" and she urged GSA members to promote their sale whenever possible.

### **GSA WEAR:**

Jeanette Bemis was voted permission to purchase up to \$500 worth of blue GSA t-shirts and sweatshirts.

### **KQED:**

Carol McMillan coordinated volunteers two times in the past year. She would like volunteers for next March.

### **WEBSITE:**

Millie Kwan Lim is working on the site Kim Weinstein and Jackie Brennan will assist her. GSA approved the cost of a site at a maximum of \$25 per month for one year.

### **GSA INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE:**

Martha Bratton is in charge. She has \$250 reserved for costs.

### **HERITAGE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Dorothy Brown reported on how the GSA donation was spent for last year. GSA members approved a donation amount of \$500 to the Heritage Committee for the continuation of the preservation work.

### **WOMEN'S WEEKEND:**

Due to problems with late registrations, next year there will be a \$10 late fee for registering after the deadline.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Current officers were re-elected.

Motions approved:

Memberships Pins in the amount of 100 will be ordered by Martha Bratton.

The time for our Summer meeting will be after lunch on Saturday at Women's Weekend (approved for future meetings).

### **BENEFITS OF GSA MEMBERSHIP:**

GSA Mailings, Informational brochure, Membership pins, a discount on women's weekend, and the fun we have together!

**NEXT GSA MEETING:** February 2004 – SEE FLYER INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING!

Thank you to our editor, Jackie Brennan, who was able to prepare this newsletter during this very busy holiday season.  
Happy 2004 to everyone.



### A NOTE FROM OUR GSA CHAIR

Now that I am officially retired, there are even less hours in the day! It's hard to believe that 2003 is almost over and I look back to see what we've done. Women's Weekend was a huge success, thanks to Rachel McMillan Gunn. Thanks to my daughter, Melina, who will be taking over this project for 2004. Our website is almost completed and our membership book will be finished soon. Our new membership pins have arrived and they look great.

My wish for all of you is happiness (a combination of laughter and love) and good health. This is a wonderful group and I am proud to serve as your chair.

I look forward to seeing from you in January at Discoveree, in February at our pot-luck luncheon, at a Girl Scout Event, and/or Women's Weekend 2004.

With warm wishes,

Martha



### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### INCOME -

Category	
<b>Song Tapes</b>	
Song Tapes - Direct	228.00
Song Tapes - Council	96.00
Stationary	0.00
GSA Wear	399.00
Pins	0.00
Membership Dues	948.66
Miscellaneous	179.00
WW 2003	
Registration	3,526.34
Food Sale	144.25
Bazaar	350.45
Jewelry Sale	60.00
Scholarship Donations	46.00
Bank Fees	177.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,154.70</b>

#### EXPENSES -

Category	
Postage	35.85
Meeting Expenses	182.23
Bank Fees	192.25
Miscellaneous	294.32
Donations	500.00
WW 2003	
Meals	1501.82
Flyers/ Mailings	354.98
Crafts	500.43
Massage	400.00
Website	64.90
GSA Wear	625.10
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,651.88</b>

#### **Overall Checkbook Activity**

Beginning Balance 01/01/03	\$ 5,680.79
Checks Paid Out	\$ 4,651.88
Deposits	\$ 6,154.70
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 7,183.61</b>
<b>Funding for Activity/ Event</b>	
Recruitment Brochure	(\$250.00)
Website 1yr (10 mns)	(\$255.05)
Budget - 2003	(\$295.50)
Required checking balance	(5000.00)
<b>Funds Available for Use</b>	<b>\$ 1,383.06</b>

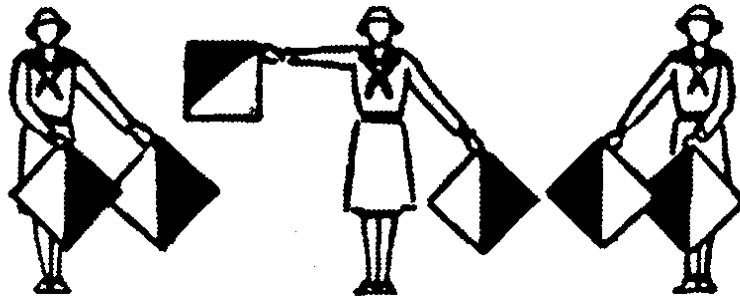
#### **Women's Weekend 2003**

Income	4,127.04
Expense	2,757.23
Net	1,369.81

### GSA Products

To order GSA wear, please contact  
Jeanette Bemis, PO Box 31426,  
San Francisco Ca 94131-0426, phone:  
415/587-7183.

For GSA songtapes/books and notecards,  
order from Helen Sitchler, 105 Hawthorn  
Way, San Rafael CA 94903, phone 415/479-  
4143.



# G S A

Semi-Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 1st  
12:00 noon to 3:00 pm

Girl Scout House, San Bruno  
Carlton Corners  
299 Carlton Avenue (off El Camino, off Taylor)  
San Bruno

Bring: Your favorite dish to share.



RSVP: Brena Bailey 650/571-8785  
[maybay@aol.com](mailto:maybay@aol.com) or

Michelle Luster 650/342-7875  
[michelleluster@yahoo.com](mailto:michelleluster@yahoo.com)

