



SILVER and GOLD

Summer 2002



Treasurer's Report

Our checking account balance as of January 3, 2002 was \$4,998.78. Our large balance is due to three factors:

- Alumnae made no contributions to Council during 2001. We earmarked money for a fence at Camp Bothin, to be built in 2001; however, the project did not happen during 2001, so the Alumnae funding offer expired.
- Women's Weekend 2001 meal expenses were lower than expected.
- We had healthy sales of songtapes and sportswear during 2001, all profit since the production expenses were paid in previous years.

Submitted By Barbara McCormick

STEERING COMMITTEE TO MEET

Martha Bratton (our new Vice Chair) plans to have a "steering committee" meeting in the near future. The steering committee will develop items for the agenda for the next general membership meeting at Women's' Weekend. If you have concerns or ideas for the agenda, please contact Martha:

E-mail: GSASFBay@aol or

Martha Bratton
15868 Corte Ulisse,
San Lorenzo, CA 94580-2005

Report on Trip to GS Cabana

Fourteen GSA members visited the Girl Scout Cabana in Mexico this fall. Lesley Sklenicka, Helen Stichler, Sara Johnson, Rebecca Simpson, Priscilla Kennedy, Marion Moynihan, Marian Smith, Carolyn McGee, Mary Anne Shaw, Anne Morris, Lu Parish, Jorie Abbott, Andrea Ostling, and Pat Friedlander enjoyed a fabulous trip to Nuestra Cabana in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico.

While staying at the Cabana they met women from Scotland, England, Argentina, Mexico, Delaware and Oklahoma. For the first 4 days they stayed at the Girl Guide hostel, Ticalli, in Mexico City while they enjoyed sightseeing and some great dining.

A 2-hour bus trip took them to Cuernavaca for the next 8 nights for the special "Los dias de los Muertos" program. The highlights of the trip were the Day of the Dead celebrations. One evening they visited homes in Ocotlan where families had their beautifully decorated altars for their dead loved ones. The following day they visited the local cemetery to see the decorated graves that were covered with marigolds and candles. Spending a day at the market in Tepotzlan and a day in the silver city of Taxco were also highlights. On the final day they went to a school and home for girls who could not live with their families. Each council provided an activity to entertain the girls. It was amazing how much Spanish these Gringas learned in a week.

After the week at the cabana - some of the GSA members returned to the states while 9 others ended their vacation on the beach at Zihuatanejo.

Pat Friendlander said "The trip was wonderful and I know I had a great time."

Priscilla Kennedy stated that she "really feels more girls and their troops should be aware of this fabulous place for summer programs at Nuestra Cabana".

Big thanks go out to Priscilla Kennedy who was travel agent for the group. She was the one who set up the airline tickets and the extra nights after the Cabana in Zihuatanejo, on the beach in Playa Madera.

Submitted by Mary Anne Shaw, (with assistance of Priscilla Kennedy, and Pat Friedlander)

"A World of Understanding" Meets "Jamboree on the Air"

On October 20, 2001, 31 Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts and 9 adults from Dos Pueblos and Hayward/Castro Valley Girl Scout Associations of Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area completed an all day event that was sponsored by GSA. The event was called "A World of Understanding" Meets "Jamboree on the Air" and it promoted cultural understanding and awareness. It was held at the Hayward Girl Scout Cabin.

Activities were set up in 8 stations (4 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon). The great news is these Girl Scouts completed all of the requirements for the "World of Understanding" Interest Project while they participated in Jamboree on the Air (Double the fun!) Robert Brennan (AD6HF) headed the Ham Radio Station, which the girls evaluated as the activity that they liked most out of the entire day.

Activities included:

- Discovering how to use a Ham Radio, terminology used in Ham Radio communications, Morse Code and how it's used, pinning locations spoken to on a World Map.
- Planning for International Visitors that showed something that was truly "American" but also included the diverse cultures of the population of the United States. Learning to say key phrases in multiple languages.
- Learning about Women who have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
- Exploring Religions of the World, discovering how they differ and how they are similar. As the service portion of the day the girls developed a Chart that primary for loaning to other Girl Scout Troops who are investigating religions.
- Interviewing Joscelyn Lampman, Membership Development Director, Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area, about careers in Girl Scouting.
- Designing unique QSL Cards. (a special postcard that Ham Radio Operators send to each other)
- Interviewing other Girl Scouts who have gone on Wider Opportunities (Domestic and International Trips).
- Probing information about the Peace Corps.

Evaluations at the end of the day asked:

- 1) What did you like most? "Talking on the Ham Radio"
- 2) What did you like the Least? "snack"
- 3) What would you change? "snack"
- 4) If we told you tomorrow that we are doing another event and will set it up exactly like today but you will earn another badge, would you come?

A total of four said maybe, with additional comments "depends on date or depends on my schedule, etc" and 27 said YES, with additional comments "I loved this, I had so much fun, this was great, etc"

BIG THANKS go out to GSA members who helped with the event. Station Coordinators Anna Van Syckle, Pamela Williams, Karen Johnson, Snack donations Martha Bratton and Farris Horak who dropped in to see how the event was going.

Submitted by Jackie Brennan.

GSA meeting minutes for January 13, 2002 at Oakland Museum Café

- Jeanette Bemis, Chair called the meeting to order.
- Vice-Chair, Martha Bratton reported for Jackie Brennan that Jamboree on the Air was a success. She will contact Jackie to see if GSA needs to reimburse her for this event.
- Sherri Wood was ill and could not report on the KQED TV pledge night information with the possibility of GSA volunteering. Carol McMillan will contact Sherri for the information.
- Jeanette will put together the basket for the Council's Annual Auction with the items left from our bazaar at Women's Weekend.

New Business

- There was discussion about the problems we have in keeping the roster current.
- Three people volunteered to be on the phone committee to call members and update our list – Mary Anne Shaw, Marion Smith, and Ann Morris.
- Barbara McCormick, our Treasurer, gave her report. Our balance is \$4,998.78. This is her last term and she announced that we need a replacement she can train.
- Money earmarked for Bothin pool improvements will return to our General Fund since Council did not approve the project. Georgia Kopel was asked what other projects we could sponsor – Golf Tournament, Power Breakfast and Auction Baskets were suggested.
- Rachel McMillan volunteered to be Membership Chair. She will collect dues and report new names and addresses to Georgia Kopel at Council.
- MyFamily.com is hardly used by GSA members to chat and exchange ideas. It is a great way to communicate.
- Carol Horaitis is working with Council on the Silver and Gold Awards and Graduating Senior Scout ceremony being held at Mills College in June. She needs volunteers.
- Members brought coats and jackets in conjunction with Council sponsored "One Warm Coat" campaign. Helen Stichler volunteered to bring them to Ritter House in San Rafael.
- Jeanette announced that Connie Matsui, National President of GSUSA will speak at the recognition and auction dinner on April 20. the theme is "The Best of the West." Also, Nancy Berg, Executive Director of Girl Scout of San Francisco Bay Area will retire on March 31.
- Mary Anne Shaw suggested we make a quilt at Women's Weekend to either donate to a needy agency or have auctioned. She will design a flyer. The theme would be red, white and blue.
- GSA members who visited Our Cabana in October gave an informal report. Jeanette reported about the Senior Scouts she took in December.
- Meeting was adjourned.



Crafts Anyone?

Mary Anne Shaw would like to know what you would like to do and/or what you can teach. Please email her MABeads@aol.com with your suggestions and comments.



Q and A

Q: Will GSA be selling the entertainment books again? They seemed like a good fundraiser!

A: This was a good fundraiser, but someone needs to volunteer to coordinate it. If any one is interested they should contact Martha Bratton and ask for this to be added to the Steering Committee Meeting Agenda

Q: Where should we send our GSA dues?

A: Dues can be forwarded to:

Rachel McMillan
4439 Valley Ave. #F
Pleasanton, CA 94566

A SHORT NOTE

You may be interested to know that up here in Totem Council they are having a 90th birthday celebration by taking over part of I-90 for a Bridging on May 19, as the highway crosses over Lake Washington, followed by fun activities in the Seattle area...Greetings from the Northwest

Submitted by EK Butler



A Day In The Sun at Camp Cookieland (Newalla, Oklahoma)

We weren't in the kitchen, but we stirred up old memories and cooked up new fun at our gathering on Saturday, January 12. Following our Redlands Council GSA board meeting, eighteen Alumnae members enjoyed the unseasonably sunny day as we reacquainted ourselves with Camp Cookieland and participated in an afternoon of campfire cooking.

We shared tales of previous cookouts as we experimented with recipes that were either new or tried-and-true. Potluck fare included Chicken Under A Bucket, Chili Mac, Beef & Veggie Foil Packs, Egg Rolls, Gomer Pyle Fried Biscuits, BBQ Beef Bundles, Rock Salt Potatoes, Cherry Dump Cake, Peach Cobbler, Strawberry Gratin, and Crescent Rolls on a Stick with Pooh Butter -- yummmm!

The time just flew by as we reminisced, laughed, and learned new outdoor games. We were cleaned up and home by 6pm; a wonderful day -- I recommend trying a similar event with the SF Bay Alumnae! Leave me a message at the family.com website if you need any of the recipes.

Submitted by Diane Surtees/Edmond, OK

P.S. If you're wondering about the name of Camp Cookieland, the property was purchased 30+ years ago with proceeds from GS cookie sales.



ELECTION TIME

At Women's Weekend '01, we agreed that elections would be held at the Women's Weekend meeting from now on. At that time I agreed to form a nominating committee to draw up a list of names for the ballot. As it turns out we are only looking for a Treasurer.

We are fortunate to have Martha Bratton ready and willing to take over as Alumnae Chair. Helen Sitchler has agreed to serve another term as Secretary.

Barbara McCormick has done an outstanding job as Treasurer for the last few years but she is ready to hand the responsibilities over to someone else in September. She says there are no great accounting skills required; as a matter of fact she does not even use any accounting computer software. She is even willing to train the new person.

Treasurer's responsibilities:

- Balance bank statements and checkbook once a month
- Deposit money with Well's Fargo Bank
- Write out check for bills
- Keep an account of income and expenses – with statements provided for the group meetings twice a year

Access to free copying is helpful but not required. We need someone who will follow the Girl Scout Law: "I will do my best to be honest and fair ... and responsible for what I say and do." So, if you are interested in volunteering to fill the Treasurer's position, please contact:

Carol McMillan
949 Juanita Court
El Sobrante, CA 94803
(510) 223-3052
email: mcmillan50@lycos.com

WOMEN'S WEEKEND 2002

Brett Collins will be the Chair of Women's Weekend 2002. The following ladies have volunteered their time and talents:

- Martha Bratton - create flyer and mailing
- Sue Dunlap - chair the bazaar
- Mary Anne Shaw - recruit crafts women
- Becky Simpson - coordinate Quilt Project
- Wendy Wu - accept registrations
- Sharon Collins - organize cooking people
- Theresa and Phyllis - shop
- Jackie Brennan, Anna Van Syckle, and Millie Kwan-Lim cook Breakfast on Saturday morning.

The work project to be announced in March or April. As for cooking, the informal sign-up from the WW01 weekend has been misplaced, if you can volunteer to plan and cook one meal please contact Sharon Collins at 415 -566-5209

Volunteer cooks are needed for the following meals:

- Friday Dinner
- Saturday dinner
- Sunday brunch

The meeting will be held on Saturday evening this year, when everyone is there.

Submitted by Brett Collins

How to submit articles/content for the GSA Silver and Gold Newsletter

To send your information, questions, & photos:

Mail to : Jackie Brennan

14702 Midland Drive

San Leandro, CA 94578

Phone: (510) 614-8210

e-mail to GSMOM94121@YAHOO.COM

GSA HELP NEEDED SUNDAY JUNE 2

Carol Horaitis and Jeanette Bemis are asking for assistance at the Older Girl Reception (for graduating seniors, and Gold and Silver recipients). The event is going to be Sunday afternoon, June 2nd. She needs assistance serving food. This is an excellent time for Girl Scout Alumnae to be represented. Please contact Carol -- if you can help.

Carol Horaitis 415-584-8979