



SILVER AND GOLD

Girl Scout Alumnae of San Francisco Bay Area

May 2005



Women's
Weekend

Save the date – **September 9-10 – 11,
Camp Bothin**

We're all looking forward to another great weekend –

Our theme this year will be ALOHA and we will have some great new things (crafts, service, food, ideas, networking, etc.). Karen Johnson will be handling our "crafts" so if there is anything special you'd like us to consider, please let her know.

Don't forget to start saving those "Previously Loved Treasures" for our bazaar. We also welcome new boutique items and homemade goodies (remember those great things from Diane?).

This year we are happy to report that Sandy Tebow and her "crew" will cook for us. If you have any ideas for special dishes, please send them to me and I'll forward them on. We want to make this weekend a special event for all.

The formal application for WW'05 is being enclosed with this newsletter. We will also put a copy on our website for those who are not members. The cost for the weekend will be \$50 with a \$10 discount for current GSA members.

We're all looking forward to a great weekend.

Martha Bratton
Women's Weekend Chair
510/276-1223
dpueblos@aol.com



Note From the chair . . .

My Mom has, once again, taken an interest in jigsaw puzzles. While growing up, I remember having a card table set up in our family room with a large jigsaw puzzle on top in various stages of completion. Family members would fit a few pieces together as they passed by. We took personal pride in finding those corners or borders and we all rejoiced when the frame was completed. The fill-in pieces always came last but each piece was valuable in order to finish the picture.

Girl Scout Alumnae is so much like a jigsaw puzzle. Everyone fits somewhere in the puzzle and plays a role in the part of finishing the picture. We have some important corner pieces and foundations laid down in GSA when we established various key committees: Membership, Fun, Service and Women's Weekend (WW).

A number of dynamic and energetic members have stepped up to organize these committees and lay the corner pieces to make our organization serviceable and fun.

Elizabeth Smith – as Membership Chair, collects the dues and ensures that people are entered into the database when they join GSA. Elizabeth has to share this information with others so they can receive discounts on WW and receive the member roster and GSA pin.

Becky Simpson – has fun coordinating the Fun Committee and encourages anyone with an activity (camping, hiking, traveling, sightseeing, book club, etc) to contact her. A number of ladies in her group like to travel so you will see details later in this newsletter.

Michelle Luster – has offered to chair the Service Committee. This group will be working closely with the Council staff to help organize events and projects like the Gold Award ceremony, Older Girl Reception, etc. Many of our ladies are involved in troops and know how important these events can be.

Martha Bratton – has bravely stepped up to chair Women's Weekend 2005. She has been working for months to make our annual weekend full of craft, relaxing, and fun activities for all. Martha also has done an outstanding job in putting our GSA Membership Directory

together (which sits right next to my phone for easy reference).

Millie Kwan-Lim is another key cornerstone in our organization, she is our Treasurer, who keeps us on budget and tells us if we have money for our projects. Her magic with the books is wonderful.

Normandie Ross-Rocans is now our Secretary, taking over for Beth Rose. This important position requires that Normandie, not only be present at the meetings but make sure what we say is reflected in her recorded notes.

Marcia McGallian – our newsletter editor. Without her, you would not be reading about all the events and activities of our group. Communication is the vital link to making our puzzle whole.

Georgia Mann has volunteered to be our Historian and is gathering pictures, stories and information to chronicle the history of GSA.

The key to a successful organization is breaking down the activities to be manageable in our over-loaded society. Take up a puzzle piece and join the big picture!

Call for Nominations!

At our general meeting in September we will be voting on new officers. Please take serious thought into volunteering for this wonderful group. Pick a partner and co-chair one position or decide to plan an activity or event for the group. Positions to consider:

Vice-Chair (to step up to Chair the following year)

Secretary

Treasurer

Historian

Women's Weekend Coordinator

There are also many supportive roles to consider: newsletter journalist/coordinator, WW committee member, Steering Committee member, Service Committee member, Fun Committee member.

Join and meet new people and have fun!

Submissions Wanted:

Hello from Karen (your craft coordinator at Women's Weekend for 2005). Submissions for the first annual W.W. Gallery of Ideas display are wanted. Is there something that you or your girls enjoyed making during the year that you could bring to WW for the Gallery of Ideas? Inspire us with a sample of something you did, put it on display and then take it home when you leave.

Instead of a *show and tell*, the Gallery of Ideas is a *bring and display*. I think it would be great to see a sampling of what you've been up to on the lovely shelves of our first Gallery of Ideas display. Also, look for an example of each project being offered in the craft workshops at WW '05.



If you have any requests for what you'd like to see offered at W.W. be sure to email me at hulahut@pacbell.net. Some of the craft classes at WW '05 that I'm looking forward to include professional presentations by Stamp'n Up, Creative Memories, and Lasting Impressions (brass template embossing) as well as workshops offered by fellow alumnae members such as wood burning, card making, tag art, altered books, and a van full of Martha's wonders. See you at Bothin!

Here's a workshop from Michelle Luster:

When you're going through that stack of mail at the end of a busy day, it's nice to see an envelope that's not pre-printed. Maybe you recognize the handwriting of a dear friend peeking through those bills and junk mail, and who doesn't love to receive a card or letter in the mail? This year at Women's Weekend, Michelle Luster will be doing a drop-in craft for folks who enjoy making and using postal stationery (that's right: it's *not* e-mail!).

Join us as we use different styles and textures of paper, card stock, and other decorative materials to create beautiful handmade notes and cards. You can make

these as gifts or just save them for yourself. Materials and directions/examples will be provided, but experts are welcome to bring their own supplies. We'll see you then!"



HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA



LOOKING FOR ALUMNAE WORKSHOP LEADERS! No need to be crafty....

HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA Sponsored by GSA

November 11, 12, 13, Bothin Youth Center, Marin

Come join us for a weekend of fun and memories....

This event will be for girls entering 6th grade on up. Girls will be able to make holiday gifts and goodies for their family and friends. We need support from our wonderful GSA members. We are looking for workshop leaders for Saturday -- (crafts, cards, cooking, baking, etc.) and Sunday (gift wrapping, etc.)

If you need further information or can volunteer to help, please e-mail:

carleenbutz@yahoo.com.

CALENDAR

MAY

22 Older Girl Reception – Snow Bldg
Oakland Zoo 1p-4p

JUNE

18 GS Alumnae Filoli Garden Trip

SEPTEMBER

9-11 GSA Women's Weekend – Camp
Bothin

NOVEMBER

11-12-13 Holiday Extravaganza – Camp



Bothin

Fun Committee Event

**Visit the Filoli Gardens.
June 18, 2005**

Filoli is a National Trust for Historic Preservation property near San Carlos. We will meet at 10 am at the visitor center for a self guided tour (or wander) through the magnificent garden and grand Georgian mansion. Following we will go to a local restaurant for lunch.

Transportation can be arranged from the Millbrae Bart station or from the Cal Train station at either Burlingame or San Carlos.

Please contact Becky Simpson if you plan to attend, so we can make reservations for lunch.

Call her at 650.348.6703 or email

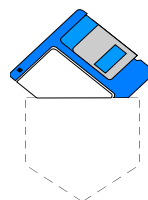
beckysimpson@hotmail.com

ALSO

Please call, email or write to me if you are interested in going to the **Cabana**. I will arrange a meeting and we will discuss when we would like to go and what all is involved.



DATA BASE AND MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR



My name is Elizabeth Smith, and I am your database and membership coordinator. My responsibilities include maintaining

our email listing as well as our registered member listing. Currently we have 69 registered GSA members and a total of 128 people who receive our email blasts.

If you have information that needs to be updated in our database, or are interested in becoming a GSA member, please read on. If you are a current GSA member and have updated information for our database, please email me the corrections to jewelz2@comcast.net. If you would like to become a member of GSA Alumnae, please download the form off our website <http://www.gsasfbay.org> and mail your forms and appropriate payment to:

GSA Membership
Girl Scout Alumnae
1722 Via Chorro
San Lorenzo, CA 94580
Attn: Elizabeth Smith

If you wish to no longer receive email blasts, please email me that information as well.

OLDER GIRL RECEPTION



For our GSA Members who are interested in volunteering with the Older Girl Reception, here is the info:

Date: Sunday, May 22, 2005 from 1-4pm

For Who: Graduating Seniors, Silver Award and Gold Award Recipients

Where: Snow Building at the Oakland Zoo



To volunteer, please contact Becky Hodges at beckyh@girlscoutsbayarea.org

Service Committee Update...

One of the first questions I get asked about GSA is, "What do you do?" For many of our members, the answer to that question is that we provide service and support to the goals of the Girl Scouts of the San Francisco Bay Area. The Service Committee was created at a

Steering Committee meeting in October 2004, and as the Chair of that group, I've been looking for service opportunities for our GSA members ever since that point in time.

Traditionally the Girl Scout Alumnae has assisted at the Older Girl Reception held by Council, by serving cake and punch to the girls and other attendees at the reception. An Older Girl Reception event is planned for this year on **Sunday, May 22nd** in the Snow Building at the Oakland Zoo. Any interested GSA member should contact Becky Hodges at the Council office at 800-447-4475.

In addition, Council's new executive leadership has asked GSA to help them change how they honor the girls who earn their Gold Award. Linda Bossinecker has provided GSA's Steering Committee with some specific info on what they're interested in doing for the 2006 Gold Award class. At our Mid-Year meeting, Jeanette Bemis agreed to head up the Service Committee's efforts toward this particular event, and will meet with Linda again in June to begin the planning process for this new and exciting event.

Another opportunity for GSA members was the Golden Gate Bridging event on May 14th, 2005. Thanks to those who helped along with other GSSFBA volunteers and staff with crafts, games, songs and logistics. Approximately 4500 girls from all over the United States have registered to attend, so this should be a great opportunity to provide some excellent support to the Council as well as getting the word out about GSA.

We'll be planning more great service projects in the future, including the Women's Weekend '05 project, so please stay tuned in the weeks to come. If you're interested in joining the Service Committee, or, if you have a project that we can do, please contact Michelle Luster at (650) 342-4920.

GSA WEAR



G S A

We set up a table at this year's Annual Council Meeting in Novato.

I made a deposit of \$374 from GSA products sold. This was for 6 packages of note cards (we

probably could have sold more), 2 song tapes and \$320 worth of GSA Wear.

A big thank you to Sherrie Wood who made a plug for the semaphore logo on our GSA wear after a semaphore demonstration.

We are now completely sold out of sweatshirts. We have had white, green and this last batch was blue. Do we want to choose another color? Christina Donna, who is our graphic designer, originally planned on black for second color but we went with green in keeping with the uniform. The navy was a hit but many of our members already have three sweatshirts so I'm thinking we don't need more right now.

Our new item, introduced at last women's weekend 2004 after several member requests, is our women's t-shirts with a scoop neck. We have them in all sizes up to and including 3X

We still have plenty of green polo shirts.

GSA Steering Committee Minutes

On March 5, 2005 the GSA Steering Committee held a meeting in Oakland at the historic Pardee House Museum in the coach house/stable. Linda Boessenecker from the San Francisco Bay Area Council joined us. She discussed the Council's vision, goals and



strategies and how GSA fits into it. There was discussion on current and projected trends, finances, area needs and partnering. The Council

would especially like the GSA to take the lead in sponsoring and developing a special recognition event for Gold Award winners in the Bay Area, that would be well-attended, well-publicized and fun for the girls and their families.

After Linda's presentation, the various sub-committee leaders presented reports and there was discussion about various issues and ideas. The highlights included:

service projects such as providing funding for historic preservation, funding the gold award winners event, and the sewing circle project of repairing and mending historic uniforms; a

proposed camping trip for late spring or early summer; a report on automatic calls and their cost; the offer of 1 year or 15 mos. free membership to all graduating Senior Girl Scouts and how to publicize that; the GSA recruiting brochure proposed layout; and Women's Weekend planning details.

Other items discussed before the adjournment included: having a shorter newsletter sent more frequently; the OK for GSA to have a table at the Annual meeting, where we could sell tapes and t-shirts; KQED not really needing us anymore.

After the meeting, the real fun began with a fantastic, private and complete tour of the Pardee House Museum by the resident manager/custodian. His son George Pardee, who inherited the house and raised his family there, followed in his father's footsteps, also becoming an eye doctor and mayor of Oakland. In 1902, he was elected Governor of California. The lovely grounds around the home have been restored and were filled with flowers in bloom and very This beautiful Italianate Victorian home, on its original site in downtown Oakland is a real treasure. It was willed with all its unusual collections (collected by Mrs. Helen Pardee and original furnishings intact, by the granddaughters of the original owner and builder, Enoch Pardee. Enoch was a well-known eye doctor who became mayor of Oakland. old trees.

A big thank you to Jeannette, a member of the California Historical Society, for arranging the tour and meeting place. After the tour, we walked a few blocks into downtown Oakland to a fabulous Chinese restaurant for dim sum. It was quite a memorable day.