

Connect!

Volunteer e-Newsletter
Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland – Bluestem Region

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Volunteer Services

Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.

“...I will do my best...”

Almost every single area this year has NEW VOLUNTEERS! Isn't that amazing? I know most of you have already had potential volunteers fill out their application online and pay their registration fee, but if not, this is just a reminder. The quicker we get them registered and appointed, the quicker they can get started helping.

YES! If you have volunteers who need to take Leadership Essentials, I will be glad to come to your area and make that happen so long as you can promise me at least 5 attendees. If not, contact me and let's get you joined up with another group. I'll also be going over Intro to Troop Management at the beginning of each LE.. Sedan is a forward thinking service unit who wants to try some things over webcam – and Intro to Troop Management might be one of the things we try. If you'd like to give it a shot as well, let's do it!

[Contact me to share your ideas about new ways to provide learning opportunities for volunteers.](#)

*“... use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and*

be a sister to every Girl Scout.”

I'm looking for ideas! The less paper we use, the more we are using our resources wisely. The less gas we use in conducting our Girl Scout business, the more we are making the world a better place. The more ideas we share with each other, the more we are being a sister to every Girl Scout.

A few leaders have agreed to let me come film their meetings so new volunteers can see what a meeting looks like. Parsons & Independence might even let me film their girls singing GS songs so that we can share those with our sisters. If you or your troops have ideas about how we can better accomplish this part of our law in the Bluestem region, I'd be thrilled to hear them!

Remember! Potential volunteers can now complete the [application ONLINE!](#) Type the word “application” in the website search form, fill it in and hit send. So easy!

Sher Holloway

Volunteer/Membership Services Manager

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Membership Services

Girl Scout Shock & Awe!

“...make the world a better place,”

As I sat down to write this month's newsletter, I decided to take a little more space in this issue and tell **YOU** about something wonderful you've done for **ME**.

A few weeks ago I thought I might be about at the end of my rope. You know that old saying, “*when it rains, it pours,*” right? Well it felt like it had been raining specifically on my head every day for about a week. My sweet husband suffered another back injury, this one signaling the end of his ability to work as we know it. On top of that, it seemed like everything

I touched at work just kind of fell apart beneath me. I know that everyone reading this knows **exactly** how weeks like that feel. I swear, if I hadn't already eaten all the Thin Mints in my freezer I would have wound up at the hospital in full on Girl Scout cookie overdose mode.

But in just the same way I remind my son that nothing bad ever lasts for long, so it was for my dark cloud and believe it or not, I have only **YOU**, my Girl Scout volunteers to thank. Each of you in your different areas started contacting me telling me about your great ideas for Sign Up for Scouting – and without so much as a moment's hesitation – also let me know you already had everything under control. There were pizza parties, swimming parties, cook outs, crafts, school events, and the list goes on and on. I stood back and watched in absolute amazement as our Bluestem region rose up and soared.

“We need more registration forms!”

Every time I heard that from you guys, my heart was absolutely full and here's why...



If **YOU** didn't love what you do – if **YOU** didn't believe that what you're doing is making an absolute difference in the lives of our girls – **YOU** wouldn't have been as energized and excited as you were.

Because **YOU** believed, **I** believed. Because **YOU** were so positive and happy and supercharged, **I** felt positive and happy and supercharged. **Your perky attitudes are like wild fire!**

I rarely have occasion to see or work with girls, and that's OK because at the end of the day, I get the satisfaction of knowing I support those who do the real work. I still don't quite know what our final numbers are here in Bluestem, but whatever the count, I am grateful to you beyond measure for the enthusiasm and love you have of Girl Scouting and for sharing that with me.

I wish I could hug each of you – but you probably wouldn't want me to as I caught some nasty bug at school talks last week and might pass on my cooties!

THANK YOU!

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Program Services & Product Sales

Carol's Corner

Carol sends a big THANK YOU to everyone who attended the FOS training and is super excited to see how well we'll do this year!

Sept 11, 12 – Outdoor Skills training for volunteers. Elaine Hudson will be teaching this important course for all who want to take their girls camping. Cost is \$15. A list of items to bring with you can be obtained by [emailing Sher](#).

Sept 19 – Amazing evening at the Pumpkin Patch/Corn Maze - 5:30pm to 8:30p.m. at [Reichenberger Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze](#), on Peter Pan Road north of Wal-Mart. This fun-filled evening of family fun includes a meal of hot dogs, brats, chips, drinks; unlimited trips through the corn maze (bring flashlights for fun after dark); unlimited trips into the pumpkin patch; one medium pumpkin for each child to take home; S'mores around a campfire; hay slide; moonwalk inflatables; petting zoo and plenty of picture opportunities. \$15 per girl, \$10 per adult; \$10 per tagalong

Sept 20 – Song Workshop- Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors and volunteers- 2 to 4p.m. at Parsons Girl Scout Little House. Older girls and adults have many Girl Scout songs to learn. Be taught these songs by well-versed volunteers. Take these songs back to your own troop, as well as younger girl troops. Come join in the fun! \$5 per person

For questions regarding an existing program or to suggest an idea for a program, please contact [Carol Wehmeyer](#).

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News to Use & Ideas to Motivate

Helpful Web Resources

“... friendly and helpful,”

What are your FAVORITE web resources? [Send me an email](#) and share with other volunteers!

If you haven't seen pictures of our area meeting, [check 'em out](#)! We had a great time. It's

absolutely impossible to be in the same room with you guys and not have fun and laugh.

[Free Kid Crafts](#) – A fun way for girls to learn the Girl Scout promise.

The NEW Girl Scout blog - <http://blog.girlscouts.org>

[Scout Trax](#) – Helps you easily manage and keep track of girls’ badges, awards, bridging, etc –
FREE.



LMK - Keep Your Girls Safe Online

Let’s face it, IMing, texting and surfing the Web are a part of girls’ lives, so playing it safe online should be too. LMK (text speak for “let me know”) is a new online interactive Web site created in partnership with the Girl Scouts of the USA and Microsoft Windows. 20 Girl Scouts from all over the country were selected to participate, including two from Kansas, Jessica (from Wichita) and Elizabeth (from Colby). Each month a new online topic is discussed and the all-girl editorial board provides guidance about dangers such as cyberbullying, online predators and social network, Facebook, profile settings.

By visiting the Web site you can meet each of the Girl Scouts involved, create a profile and participate in the monthly topic.

Parent Web site: <http://letmeknow.girlscouts.org>

Teen Web-site: <http://lmk.girlscouts.org/>

Help spread the word to troop leaders, parents and girls about the Internet Safety Initiative!

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Contact Us

Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland

[Carol Wehmever](#) – Program Services/Product Sales Manager

Sher Holloway – Volunteer/Membership Services Manager

What's on your mind? If you have a question, comment, or idea you'd like to see covered in Connect, send an email to sholloway@kansasgirlscouts.org.

So that you'll always be sure to receive *Connect*, add sholloway@kansasgirlscouts.org to your email address book.

Are you on Facebook? Carol and I would love it if you'd send us a friend request. It's a great way to get to know each other better. [Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland now has a group on Facebook!](#) I love it because it opens volunteers and staff up to talking with and sharing with volunteers from other regions in our Council. That means new & exciting ideas and of course, lots of new friends.

[Friend Sher on Facebook](#)

[Friend Carol on Facebook](#)

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