

PENN'S WOODS COUNCIL SHARES WITH OTHERS SO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY CAN BENEFIT FROM OUR SUCCESSES

The Girl Scout Cookie Sale is...
 * a valuable girl program experience
 * an important fund raiser for Girl Scouting
 * a great American tradition
 * an eagerly anticipated community event

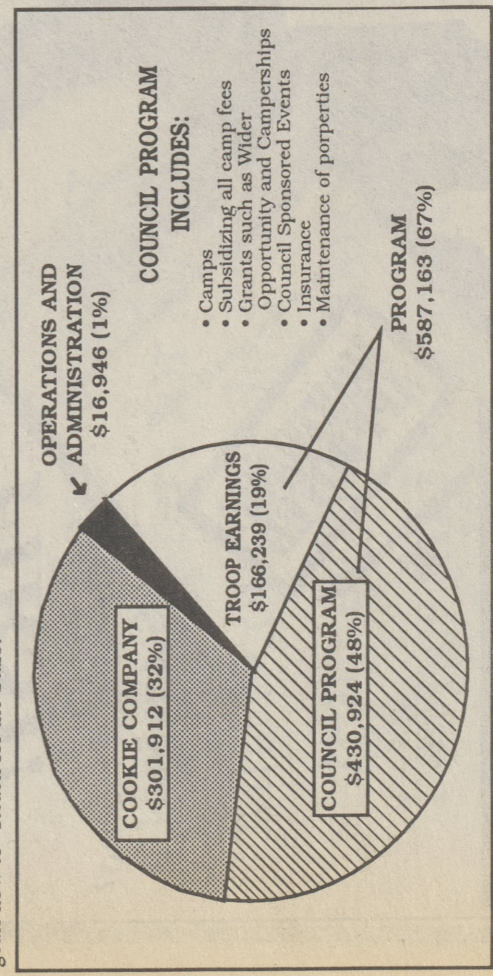
"REACH FOR THE STARS!" the theme chosen by ABC (America's Best Cookie Co.), reflects the opportunities available for personal growth and achievement that Girl Scouting provides to girls. No matter what her personal goal, the sale provides opportunities for each Girl Scout to "Reach for the Stars!" in her quest.

Together in 1995, girls, troops and Council worked diligently to increase cookie sales by a whopping 10% over last year's figures. Girls achieved personal goals, troops earned money to finance special service projects and trips and the Council was able to provide programs for girls, especially at our camp near Berwick, Camp Louise.

Girl Scouts earn their own way and we're all very proud of that fact. We also help others after the sale by distributing unsold cookies to community groups such as churches, day care centers and United Way agencies. Our commitment — "to help people at all times" is a promise we make to ourselves and everyone. We thank you for your support that makes all this possible.

We know, with the exciting changes in price, that this year's cookie sale will be the best ever! We're helping girls "Reach for the Stars!" with a super "Follow the Stars!" Training Game that mixes cookies sale and safety questions with sky facts. An over-sized poster featuring a bright shooting star doubles as a goal chart with peel-and-stick stars that personalize each girl's individual sale goal. Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts can use the durable plastic stencils to create thank you notes and posters while the older girls receive an inspiring poster with the sale's mascot, the Florida panther, on one side with a quote from American writer Brooke Medicine Eagle, and inspirational quotes from well-known accomplished women on the other. "Reaching for the Stars!" should be no obstacle. "An Income of Her Own" game will be available for Cadette and Senior Girl Scout troops to use. It gives girls a chance to experience what it's like to manage their own business.

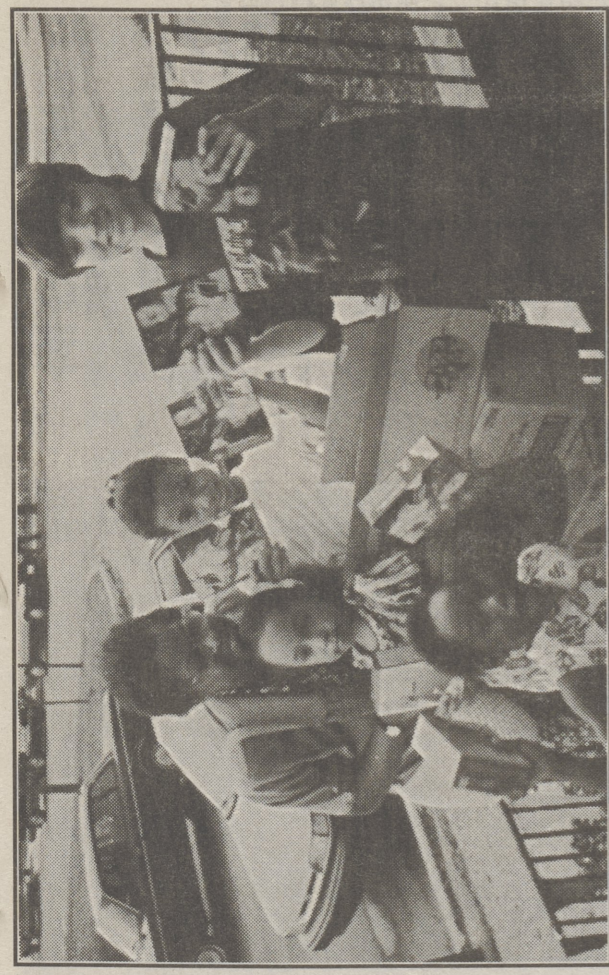
So get ready and start to reach, with America's Best Cookies remaining at \$2.50 a box, and troop earnings at .45 cents a box. Plan on attending training. Include program from the Volunteer Information Guide in your troop activities throughout the year. Most important, encourage your Girl Scouts to set goals now to "Reach for the Stars!"



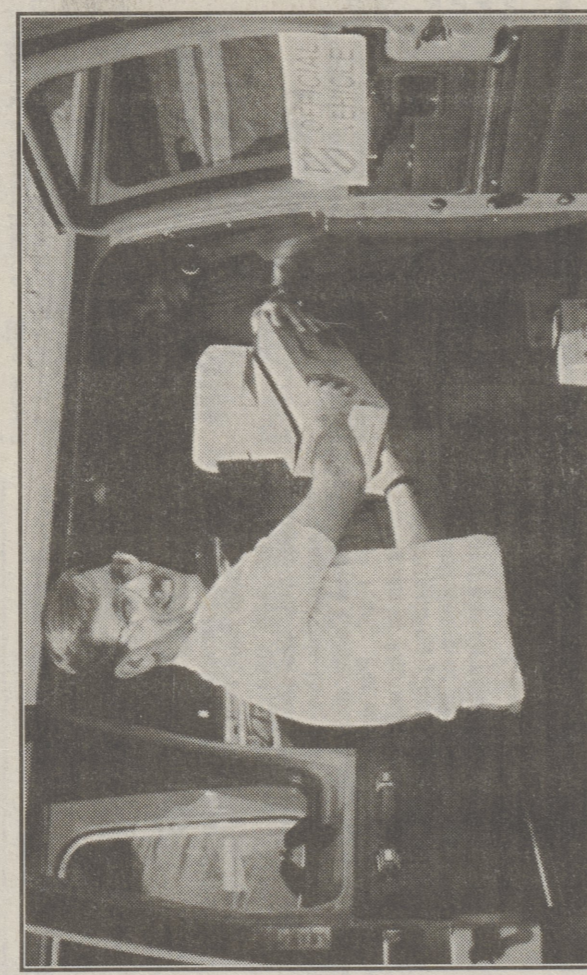
SPLINTERS: Vol. 14, No. 3
 September, 1995
 official publication of
 Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council, Inc.
 10 South Sherman Street
 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
 Telephone: (717) 829-2631

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SPLINTERS is published as a council service to keep the adult volunteers in Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council informed about current news, special services, opportunities, and events. It is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.
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Girl Scout Cookies helped the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Wilkes-Barre serve meals to 2000 children during Youth Development Week in July.



Major William Townsend and Custodian Joseph Kupchin from the Salvation Army in Wilkes-Barre are shown above unloading 55 cases of cookies from the Council for use at their shelter, Senior Citizen Center, camps and food pantry.

OPEN REGISTRATIONS PLANNED

Girls who have never had an opportunity to become Girl Scouts, are invited to come, with a parent or guardian, to one of the Open Registrations being held around the Council. These will be located in schools and churches that will offer easy access. Leaders will be on hand to answer questions and help locate a troop that will be convenient for the girls.

In the Wyoming Valley area, Open Registrations will be held on Monday, September 11, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the following locations:
 -Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council Office, 10 South Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre.
 -Middle School, Chester Street, Kingston
 -Main Street, Plymouth
 -Middle School, Conyngham Avenue, Dallas
 -Lake Noxen Elementary School, Harvey's Lake
 -Lehman Jackson Elementary School, Lehman Township
 -Ross Township Elementary School, Ross Township
 -Opinger Towers, Main St., Nanticoke
 On Wednesday, September 13, there will be an Open Registration at the Dana Street School, Forty Fort from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

There will be Open Registration on Tuesday, September 19 at Martin Mattei Middle School, New Street, Pittston from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
 Open Registrations are being planned in other areas of the Council. Please check your local newspapers, or call the Girl Scout Office phone numbers listed in your local phone books to find one near you. Girl Scouting is open to all girls from 5 to 17 years of age. It also welcomes adult volunteers who would like to work with the girls.
 It will be easy to sign your daughter up for a year of fun and adventure that will last a lifetime.

THERE'S A NEW PROGRAM CENTER IN OUR FUTURE

Well, the t's are crossed and it's done. The former Lucas Farm on Route 339 in Zion's Grove, Schuylkill County, now belongs to Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council. It is 86 acres of rolling fields, bordered by mixed Eastern hardwoods and evergreens. There is a small pond fed by mountain springs.

A bequest from former Judge George Edward Gangloff of Schuylkill County made the purchase possible. The bequest requested that it be used primarily to benefit girls from Schuylkill County. Hopefully, the Judge would be pleased with the beautiful site his thoughtfulness and generosity provided for the Girl Scouts.

Now our work begins. We must remove structures which we will not be using. We must apply for Department of Environmental Resources permits to provide drinking water and lavatory facilities before any day use can be permitted.

Our intent is to develop a Penn's Woods Program Center, conducive to the needs and desires of Leaders and girls. While the beginning work is being done we will be surveying members of our Council to gain their input as to just what kind of structures they believe we need for the Girl Scout experience.

Currently, our intent is not to reproduce a "Camp Louise", but rather facilities which have a broader appeal to all age levels. Ultimately, whatever we do, we will need the financial support of our membership and our communities. In turn, we will provide a facility that all will be proud of.

Participate whenever you have the opportunity, either by survey or public meeting, and help us to visualize what this facility should be.

SIX REASONS WHY GIRLS SHOULD BE GIRL SCOUTS

The world is such a busy place. Families don't have much time to spend together when both parents work. And yet, parents want their children to have good experiences, to help them grow into happy, productive, contributing adults. This means making choices for children's activities that add values to the mix of what they will do after school.

What's your daughter going to be doing after school this Fall? There is lots to choose from — soccer, cheerleading, dance class and GIRL SCOUTS! Don't skip over Girl Scouting when you talk to your daughter about what she'd like to do after school. Girl Scouting isn't just knot tying and fire building any more. Girl Scouting is so much more than that.

First, Girl Scouting is FUN: the games, the songs, the field trips, exploring the world around them, all add up to good times. Second, Girl Scouting helps build values. The ceremonies, the history of the Girl Scout movement, learning about the community, giving service, being part of patriotic events. Girl Scouts learn to respect those who have different backgrounds or religions when they get to know them as friends. Contemporary issues programs look at the things girls have to cope with as they grow up.

Third, Girl Scouting opens doors for girls when they visit new places, meet new people, observe new activities that might suggest different career options. Camping, outdoors helps girls to become aware of their environment. The Girl/Leader relationship offers girls a first adult friend who is a role-model and mentor.

Fourth, Girl Scouting offers a safe environment for girls to try new things: crafts, sports, computers, or whatever. The Girl Scout program stresses safety for all their activities, meeting places and travel.

Fifth, Girl Scouting helps girls to learn how to make good decisions and respect



After the July Board of Directors Meeting at Camp Louise, Board Members caravaned to the Lucas Farm in Mt. Zion, our new Program Center, to get their first look at the site. They enjoyed a picnic lunch in the shade of a 100+ year old pine tree and had a tour of the property. Shown above are some of the board members who were there that day. Left to right, they are Molly Gallagher Bronsberg, Carverton; Rev. Tom Cvammen, Hazleton; Sally Teller Lotlick, Kingston; Joan Evans, Wilkes-Barre; Winifred Adams, Berwick; Julia Frey, Summit Hill; and Sandy Campbell, President, Berwick.

SPLINTERS

Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council, Inc.
 10 South Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At a Girl Scout Camp Reunion, one woman said, "I haven't communicated with my Mother in over five years. This weekend has made me understand the value of what she gave me when she saw that I got to Girl Scout camp every summer. Now I realize just how valuable the experience was and how it molded me into a person with values. I'm going home and writing to my Mother to say 'thank you!'"

Seventy-five women and girls had gathered on the 75th anniversary of the Girl Scout camp I attended as a child and worked as a counselor in the decade of the 50's. The attendees ranged over eight decades.

The youngest to the oldest shared feelings and values — there was no generation gap. The group had one goal in common — preserving the experience for generations to come.

Another woman said "God only knows what I would be today if Girl Scout camp was not part of my life. I came from a broken home. I was mocked and teased in my school. My clothes were old and I didn't do well as a student. I lived for camp and always knew exactly how many days until I'd return. Here I was safe, my feelings were important and I was a friend to other girls. I could hold my head up high. Coming to Girl Scout camp was the most important thing in my life."

Women talked about stewardship, self-confidence, knowing themselves, contributing, sharing and most of all, valued friendships. As we stood in the Friendship Circle at the end of this inspirational program, called a "Scout's Own", the girls of the 90's taught us all a new, additional verse to an old favorite Girl Scout song, "Make New Friends". The new verse was:

A circle has no end
 That's how long I'll be your friend.
 Everyone there vowed to keep the Girl Scout experience alive and available for today's girls and tomorrow's girls. This vow now goes back to Seattle, Washington; Orlando, Florida; Winston/Salem, North Carolina; Warrington, Virginia; Leyland, Connecticut; Savannah, Georgia; Derry, New Hampshire; and Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton and Forty Fort, Pennsylvania among the 75 cities represented.

Women of value are important to every family, every business, and every community. We must keep this experience alive and available for every girl who chooses to be a member.

This is our goal! This is what Penn's Woods Council — volunteers and staff strive to give the girls. Isn't this what you want for your daughters?

Sally A. Jervis

support from eight United Ways, but not from any governmental sources. The product sales, cookies and candy, offer learning opportunities for the girls and opportunities for troops to finance more ambitious activities like a trip to a play or a museum or weekend camping. Girl Scouting tries to keep costs in bounds so that every girl who wants to participate can.

The Council has 6,329 girl members in 483 troops with 2,912 adult members.

PARENT'S ISSUE

September, 1995