

THE LAMPLIGHTER

Spring 2013

Volume 36, Edition 2

Southern Vancouver Island Area

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Guides
du Canada

Girl Guides
of Canada



Hike for Hunger on the Peninsula

Read the story on page 5.

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The Lamplighter will be delivered three times a year to your inbox in full colour, or for those of you without an email, to your mailbox in a black and white version. It will be dedicated to promoting celebrations, special activities and accomplishments and disseminating non-time sensitive material to Guiding members in SVI. Send your submissions by email to svilamplighter@gmail.com or mail/fax to The Lamplighter, c/o Guide House by October 1st, February 1st and May 1st for inclusion in the Fall, Winter and Spring editions.

SVI Area Council 2012-13

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|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
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From the Commissioners' Desk...

Spring has sprung, the grass is ris, I wonder where the campfire is?

As our weather improves, our thoughts go to camping and outdoor opportunities for our units. This is what we wait out the long, wet winter for... the chance to pack our bedrolls and head for camp. How many of us have incredible memories of tenting under canvas, gathering wood, lighting a fire, creating a meal that made us salivate? Those meals always tasted better because we had cooked them ourselves after spending the day outside. Hiking, exploring, beach-combing, bird-watching - whatever your activities, it usually means good appetites at camp! Then, as evening settles in, we light our campfires and join in song as girls and women before us have done for over 100 years in this movement. For some girls, the camping that they do with Guiding is the first and perhaps the only time in their lives that they will pitch a tent and sleep outdoors. Lots of people nowadays think that camping consists of an RV with power, water and facilities. We know better, don't we girls! There is nothing like waking in the morning to the stillness of the camp, hearing the birds and nearby stream gurgling, smelling that first hint of bacon in the air, tasting the hot chocolate while watching the steam rising. Guiding offers the girls a chance to spend a weekend outdoors, with only fabric separating themselves from the elements. This is the closest to nature that most of them get in their lives. We need to ensure that as many girls as possible have this opportunity to be up-close and personal with nature. My family didn't camp, so without Guiding I would not have had these experiences. I remember fondly camping as a Girl Guide - that was one of the reasons that I joined Guiding as an adult and signed my children up. We share these experiences with girls worldwide - some of our SVI girls are travelling internationally this summer to experience camping in another country. Next summer we will welcome patrols from WAGGGS countries at SOAR who will pitch tents next to our girls and experience how wonderful it is to camp as Girl Guides. While in Mexico in 2010 for the Butterfly Session, Sheilagh and I met a Mexican Guider who had attended SOAR 2007. She was at Our Cabana with a large group of girls that had come for the day to celebrate the Centenary with us. The campfire shown here was held that evening with each group sharing songs around the campfire. It was a high point for many!



Help to create wonderful memories with your girls by getting out there, camping, cooking, hiking, singing and enjoying nature in SVI!

Sharon Doty, SVI Area Commissioner



Hats Off...

...To the marvelous crew that made Camp Skills happen this year: **Heather Brass, Suzanne Steffler, Jeannie Cosgrove, Sarah Van Nes, Erlene Amero, Glenda Larocque, Donna Cavan, Marilyn Maggiora, Jacky Stevens, Karalee Tremblay, Nadine McIntyre, Kim Collins, Sara Collins, Judy Macquarrie, Tabitha, Hannah, Emily** and **Samantha** of the 1st Victoria Rangers, **Brenda Lacharity, Ciarra, Hannah, Alanna, Monica** and **Lily** of the 18th Victoria Pathfinders (Raven District). Everyone had a great time in spite of the last hour of rain - just one more skill learned (how to handle a bit of the wet stuff!).

...To the Guiders from Woodwyn, Peninsula Shores and Bay to Bay Districts who hosted the Ivory Coast – Farm Fresh Fusion Annual Gathering of Members on April 26th – **Marilyn Maggiora, Sheena McCullough, Tamara Fraser, Deb Buckle, Cathy Schofield, Brenda Fraser,**

Jeannie Cosgrove and **Carol Gamey**. A shout out as well to the 1st **Colwood** and 4th **Bay to Bay Pathfinders** for their help with set-up and clean-up, to Peninsula Shores Guider **Liz Lamothe** for the delicious meal, to **Darlene** from the Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church for all her assistance and to **Sharon Doty** and **Sheilagh Finnegan** for being so organized and efficient. The business part of the meeting was short and sweet! It was a fun evening – great food and great company.

...To the wonderful **volunteers at the Saanich Historical Artifacts Society** who installed a sprinkler system for the 100th anniversary garden at Heritage Acres and have been keeping the garden irrigated on our behalf. Thanks go out as well to Woodwyn District Guider **Sharon Lohr** for the donation of so many plants from her own garden.



David Quinlan, Chairman of the SVI Guide House Committee between 2007 and 2009 and loving partner of former SVI Area Commissioner Marsha Richie passed away while on vacation in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico on February 8th. Memorial donations to purchase lifesaving medical equipment for the small medical clinic in Mexico that attended to David would be greatly appreciated. For more information please go to www.mem.com.

Hike for Hunger on the Peninsula

The annual Hike for Hunger was held in Sidney on Sunday, February 17th with about 45 girls, 20 adults (and one Beaver!) from Bay to Bay, Peninsula Shores and Woodwyn Districts in attendance. The food was loaded onto the Sidney Lions Food Bank van at the Mary Winspear Centre, then the group marched en mass carrying their Hike For Hunger and district banners to a newly upgraded 2,000 square building in Iroquois Park. Upon arrival the girls offloaded the van, weighed the goods and brought everything inside to be sorted. They were split into smaller groups according to age and given a tour of the facility by Sidney Lions Food Bank ad-

ministrator Bev Elder, who emphasized how essential this service is to the community, distributing \$410,000 in food each year to needy families. After a snack and a juice box the group posed for a photo then had time to play in the adjacent park. Over 500 lbs. of food was collected on the day, plus two grocery carts full of items collected at the Woodwyn District International Night. This event is a long-standing tradition on the peninsula, alternating between Sidney and Brentwood Bay and benefits a very worthy cause.

Submitted by Carol Gamey, Woodwyn District







SVI's Hilda Leighton Award Winners



Lynda Ireland, Provincial Commissioner Daphne MacGregor-Greer & Peggy Morfitt

The “Spirit of Hilda Leighton” SVI Award is a tribute to Guiders in SVI who reflect Hilda’s innovative, pioneering and dedicated spirit. The purpose is to honour and appreciate those Guiders who show the innovation, sense of pride, excitement and joy for Guiding that Hilda showed and brought to the Crystal Palace Rally, and maintained throughout her Guiding life.

The Spirit of Hilda Leighton SVI award was given to two deserving recipients at the Annual Gathering of Members on April 26th. The words read out that night are worth repeating.

Lynda Ireland

With your outstanding personality, 'hands on' approach and your constantly positive attitude, you make an excellent ambassador for the Girl Guides of Canada movement. Lynda Ireland, you are innovative, dedicated and a strong promoter of Guiding who gives completely to any task you are given. Area camps were well planned, fun and exciting. Remember the time capsule buried at Jubilee! Our many SOAR experiences, in Security, were made very memorable with the various themes and with you on the steering committee. As Area Commissioner, you 'Grew Guiding' by often recognizing and acknowledging the efforts of team members and you were always willing to pitch in on any activity. You coined the term for the SVI AGM to be an 'Annual Gathering of Members' for the Guiders to attend and have some fun. Your slide shows, set to Guiding music, were always uplifting and made Guiders feel connected. You expertly managed the challenging transition of moving SVI into an Area and District format through the dissolution of three strong Divisions. In your PR position, you brought Guiding into the community with the 'Great Cookie Debate' which involved local politicians. You showcased the many aspects of Guiding at the 100th Anniversary Party in the Park celebration.

With your strong work ethic, commitment to everything you do, and the success in the variety of roles you have undertaken, you truly represent the values of Guiding which makes you an excellent ambassador of the Girl Guides of Canada movement.

Peggy Morfitt

Peggy Morfitt, you are energetic, cheerful, enthusiastic and outgoing in everything that you do. Your passion for the Guiding movement is evident in your actions and conversations within and beyond Guiding, continually promoting how fun it is and what skills/programs are available to all ages. Always ready to tackle any project, you are known as the one that can "turn lemons into lemonade". Your contributions and projects in SVI have been many. "The Wash Station Project" and "Loonies for Lats" benefitted Milnes Landing. You initiated the involvement of Girl Guides in the "World Partnership Walk" and when Divisions had to be amalgamated, the "Emily Carr Carnival" was a successful event in unifying the girls and leaders in fun activities. Spirited and fun, you continually give your best and live by the Guiding Promise, Laws and beliefs.





1st Colwood Pathfinders held a fundraiser dinner at St. Mary's Church in Metchosin. It was a spaghetti dinner to raise money for our trip to London, Paris and Our Chalet in July and August.

We sold tickets for 40 people but were told there might be a couple more so we prepared for 50. Between 80 and 100 came so we had to scramble to feed them!



Colwood Pathfinders Host A Spaghetti Dinner



We pulled this off with the spontaneous help of many Sisters-in-Guiding. This was followed by a talent show with girls from Guiding units in the district including a volunteer piano concert by Alison Marshall and a belly dance by Pathfinder leader Sharleen Thompson.

Submitted by Sharleen Thompson, 1st Colwood Pathfinders, Straits District District





The Most Awesome Campfire Ever!

2nd Sangster Brownies spent the weekend of April 19th -21st at Milnes Landing's upper cabin. It started out as any amazing science camp would, with rocket launching and bridge building, and as it went on the girls tried all manner of experiments, learning about chemistry, physics, electricity and space. They bounced, fizzled, popped, exploded and spun until they were so worn out they could hardly stand. Little did we know the highlight was yet to come. This camp will have bragging rights for years to come as having 'The Most Awesome Campfire Ever'.

On our second night of camp, after a full day of experimenting, we set out as a group to sit around a lovely outdoor campfire. Our guest campfire leader needed a moment to get herself ready so she sent most of the owl leaders out with the girls to the campfire circle to wait for her arrival. While we were watching the fire and waiting for our guest, we were startled to see an owl swoop over our campfire not ten feet off the ground and into the branches of a nearby tree. We think it may have been a barred owl, although we could not be positive in the growing darkness. What we did know was just how special this moment was as we grew

quiet and watched in awe as it swooped from branch to branch around the clearing, moving from tree to ground and back to tree again for over ten minutes. It was hunting and stopping to eat, then hunting again and didn't seem to notice us at all. The girls were thrilled and thought this was a special owl show just for them. We should have known right then that the Brownie spirits were smiling on this campfire.

Just as the owl finally flew out of our view, the opposite side of the clearing lit up with a path of sparklers making a runway for the arrival of Commander Christie Hiphop. Our very own astronaut had arrived to talk with the girls! She was dressed in a shiny silver spacesuit and walked slowly as she circled our campfire and tried to determine where she was and how she got there. She asked the girls if it was safe to take off her helmet. They answered her questions about what planet she was on and what the air here is made of. Once she determined that it was safe, she removed her helmet and answered the buzzing space communicator strapped to her arm.

Mission Control in Florida was on the line to answer any questions the girls had about space travel. At one point someone asked about where the International Space Station was in orbit at that moment. Commander Hiphop told the Brownies that the ISS travels so quickly that it is hard to de-

termine where it is at any given time. The discussion moved on. A few minutes later, however, Mission Control indicated that she had checked her locator, and it appeared that the ISS should be right over Vancouver Island. At the same time, our own Chocolate Owl was stealthily checking the ISS locator app on her phone, and we realized that not only was the ISS over Vancouver Island, but at that

moment it should be right over

Victoria. The girls were pretty

thrilled to know that it

was up there, but they

were also a wee bit

disappointed that

it was so cloudy

at that point

that we couldn't

even see

the stars. I

assured them

that even if it

was a clear

night there

were many

reasons why

we still may not

be able to see the

ISS - it is a big sky,

our clearing was very

small, and we didn't

know in which direction to

look. The girls seemed to under-

stand and accept my explanation. We

were about to move on to some songs when sud-

denly I looked up and realized that the clouds were

beginning to drift apart and the stars were becom-

ing visible. At that moment the sky above our lit-



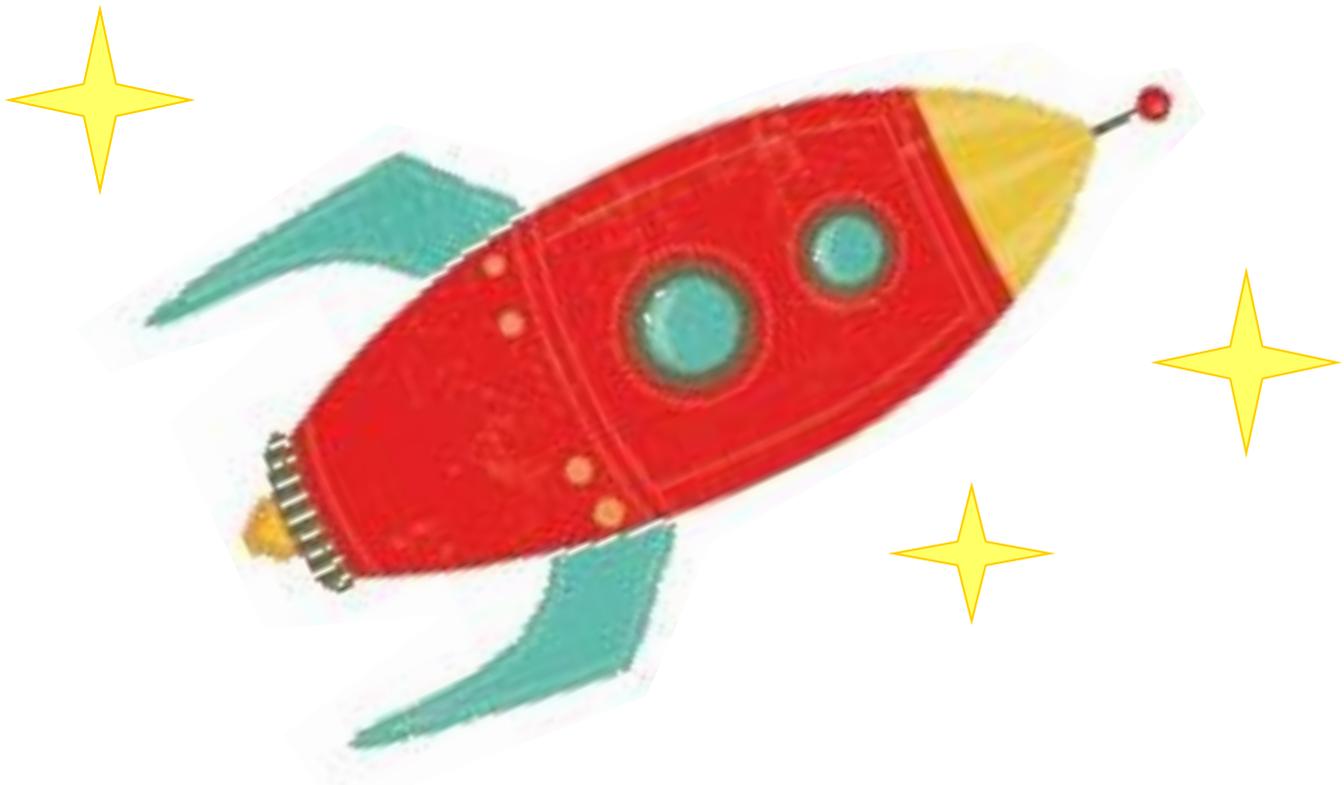
tle opening in the woods cleared and to our amazement a fast moving light appeared. There was no mistaking the fact that the ISS was moving quickly across our field of view! The girls and the owl leaders were thrilled beyond belief. We waved at the crew with our laser pointer and sang Commander Chris Hadfield's song, "Is Somebody Singing" as we watched the ISS pass overhead.

The Brownies were convinced that their owls somehow planned this flyover and they were equally amazed that they got an opportunity to speak with Mission Control. Commander Christie Hiphop finished her visit with the girls and we decided that Zulu Farewell would be a good closing song for the evening. As we sang, the girls went up to the fire one at a time with Commander Hiphop to toss Brownie fairy dust into the fire and make a wish. Just as the last Brownie made her wish Chocolate Owl checked her ISS locator app one more time to see how far the ISS

had traveled since our sighting. In a fitting end, it happened that the ISS was just passing over South Africa – Go Well and Safely ISS crew.

We finished our camp the following day with a Guides Own and asked all of the girls about their favourite camp moments. Many of them talked about the ISS flyover and having a real owl visit our campfire. No one, least of all the owls, can believe how amazing it was that we were able to 'plan' this for them. There was most certainly some Brownie magic at work this weekend in allowing us to have not only a great camp, but The Most Awesome Campfire Ever!

**Submitted by Happy Owl, Meaghan Playle
2nd Sangster Brownies**



My Favourite Activity in Girl Guides

Submitted as part of the Community Connections Challenge

If I had to pick just one it would have to be **when we went silk dancing**. Silk dancing is where you have a piece of silk hooked to the roof and then you fold it in half around your body and you can do tricks with it like your flying in the air. You are completely safe when you are doing this, even though you may not feel like it.



When we were there, the leaders and coaches taught us how to do many tricks. One of the tricks that we learned was the 'Frog'. In this trick, you swing on the silks hanging upside down. Another was the 'Vampire Bat' and in this one you

are in the silks in a cocoon position and you swing yourself upside down. My favorite was the one called the 'Buddha' where you start in a sitting position in the silk and in a fast motion, you swing your legs up and around the silk and you flip yourself upside down. This freaked me out but once I did it, I wanted to do it repeatedly.

I truly did have a great time there and the best part of it all was getting our leaders to do the activities as well. Trudine, you are never too old to do anything! lol. Sadly, the silk dancing studio closed down just after we went there. However, I am so happy that I got a chance to try it out - thanks to my leaders Julie (Duck) and Trudine (Wilson) for doing crazy activities like this. The teachers were very nice to us and I wish that there was another chance to go there but I am thankful that we did get to go and try out a new activity.

Thank you, Julie and Trudine for taking us to do silk dancing.

Submitted by Jasmine Bowers, 1st Colwood Girl Guides, Straits District

•••

Memories and More is the best event that has happened in Guiding. I liked it because it was the 100th year of Guiding and I felt it was really special to be there. The one part I didn't like about it was I had to sleep on the chairs. It was uncomfortable!

Submitted by Megan Robinson-Vincent, 1st Colwood Guides, Straits District

Teen Expo Attracts Potential Pathfinders & Guiders

At the first-ever Teen Expo, held at Pearkes Recreation Centre on April 27th, we had the opportunity to focus on ‘tweens and teens’, showing them first-hand what exciting activities Guiding brings to girls. Thanks to the Pathfinders, Rangers and Guiders who attracted attention by offering cookies to eat if the person could tie a reef knot or answer a “bear” question. Once drawn to the display, Guiding was promoted and girls were encouraged to check us out.

Teen Expo offered Guiding members a chance to practice talking to the public and recruiting members, something which is part of the Pathfinder and Ranger programs. Guiders compared notes and experiences and connected with partici-

pants and vendors, spreading the word about Guiding and finding out about other services available for teens in Victoria. A special door prize from Lush for GGC attendees was won by Julena Batinovic (1st Dunsmuir-Thunderbird Pathfinders) who also helped at our booth. Way to go Julena!

Next year we hope Pathfinders will earn some program requirements by helping to design the display, participating on Pinterest and pre-event online activities and helping at the event. Thanks to the organisers who supported us by giving us a double sized spot for our display.

Submitted by Colene Wood, SVI PR Liaison





Go Royals!

An estimated 300 Scouting and Guiding members and friends cheered during the Victoria Royals hockey game March 1st at the Save On Foods Memorial Centre. Spokane managed a 4-3 win but had to do it during overtime, making an exciting evening for Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders, Rangers and adult members of Girl Guides of Canada. Cookie sales were brisk during the intermissions and lucky-seat patrons received boxes of chocolatey mint cookies to help celebrate a fun event.

We appreciate the support of the Victoria Royals Hockey Club who provide this annual opportunity to promote Guiding and Scouting, and purchase the crests that are handed out to Guiding

and Scouting members in attendance. Awesome help from young members Charlotte, Tia and Cheyenne - thanks so much! Thanks to Carol Gamey and Colene Wood for providing the display and manning the information and cookie sales table. (They are hoping next year a few Guiders who are hockey fans will join them!)

Submitted by Colene Wood, SVI PR Liaison



WECS Come to Play

"You just blew my mind!" exclaimed a very excited Brownie when the number she had "secretly" picked from a card was revealed. And so began an evening of fun and learning.

In late March I received an email from SVI Area letting us know that a group called WECS (Women in Engineering and Computer Science) from the University of Victoria had developed an instant meeting for Brownies to introduce girls to those fields of science. I contacted Naomi Harrington to see if they would be interested in coming to visit the 18 members of John Muir Brownies in Sooke. We were delighted to hear that they would happily come to a meeting a few weeks later!

On April 2nd we were joined by five enthusiastic volunteers, Naomi, Petra Clemenston, Athabasca Witschi, Nazma Panjwani, and Laura MacLeod. Naomi and Petra started WECS in September of 2012 with the 'goal of recruiting, retaining and supporting women in the fields of Engineering and Computer Science. The Brownie outreach program is to help get young girls exposed to the subject'.

Once we had finished our circle songs the WECS took over. They asked the girls if any of them had heard of engineering or computer science jobs. Very few had, so they took a few minutes to explain and then asked each of the girls what kind of jobs they would like to have as grown-ups. They split the girls into groups and played a computer programming card game, using cards displaying male and female 'computer viruses' to make patterns and test the memory of their partners. The girls then partici-



pated in a tower-building competition using newspapers and tape. As the towers got taller and more precarious, the girls were taught lessons on building a strong base in order to support their giant structures.

The Brownies were completely engaged for the entire hour and a half and a number of parents emailed later that evening to say their girls couldn't stop talking about how much fun they had had. It was very rewarding watching both age groups interact and enjoy each other's company. We hope we can arrange another evening with them again next year. The meeting ended with the Brownies using the grand howl to thank their guests and sending each of them home with a box of cookies!

We're not sure who had more fun!

**Submitted by Robin Wark, 1st John Muir
Brownies, Harbours District**



Jennifer Blyth photo

Milestone Women teens

Victoria's women
through the decades

Elizabeth Kuroyedov

Sixteen-year-old Elizabeth Kuroyedov is graduating from Esquimalt High School's Challenge Program this June. Outside of school she spends time with mom Laura Walsh, dad Roman Kuroyedov and 14-year-old sister Mira. In addition to working part time at Thrifty Foods, Elizabeth enjoys Ukrainian character dance and ballroom dance as well as reading, running, yoga and tennis.

This summer, Elizabeth was one of only two Canadian representatives at the Chicago International Girls' World Forum.

Black Press: What do you like about being a woman?

Elizabeth Kuroyedov: I love being a woman for so many reasons! I love the satisfaction of breaking through glass ceilings, and showing others what I am capable of. I love finding hidden opportunities in the community like Girl Guiding events, or taking a Women's Studies class in high school.

BP: How do you find balance between work/friends/family/self?

EK: Sometime it is very hard to incorporate school, friends, family, and myself all in one day! I schedule everything I do in a notebook, and plan far in advance to make the most out of every day.

BP: One thing you would like to do better?

EK: The one thing I am trying to work on in my life is investing quality in my commitments, instead of quantity.

I find I spread myself too thin all the time, and in my Grade 12 year I really would like to make a lasting positive impact on the organizations that I care about the most.

BP: What does relaxation look like to you?

EK: A day in the forest! Nothing is more calming than being alone in the sunshine and fresh air, especially in Victoria where we are blessed with endless beaches and public parks.

BP: What is your most unforgettable experience?

EK: My most unforgettable experience is travelling to Chicago this July as one of two representatives of Canada. Through Girl Guides of Canada, I attended the Chicago International Girls' World Forum. Over 600 girls from around the world met for a week to discuss, learn, and share ideas about the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

I learned about how others are making the world a better place, and how I can be involved, and I made life-long friendships with girls from every imaginable culture!

First Stop Manitoba... The Travels of Guida the Mascot

It all started with a sock monkey. One of my former Guides, Pathfinder Sarah Phillion, is sewing sock monkeys as a fundraising project for her international trip this summer. I bought a blue one, dressed her in a Guide doll uniform and Guida the Mascot was born. Our unit, 2nd Woodwyn Guides, set out to take Guida on adventures. The first one was to camp in September. Then I took her to Calgary to the Western Regional Trainer's

Guida pulling broom at September camp



Chocolate tasting for Quebec Chocolate Challenge

Conference and after that she came with me on a personal trip to San Francisco.

While in Calgary I met a trainer from Pinawa, Manitoba and she put me in touch with the 1st Brokenhead GOTgo Guides in Beausejour. This unit was enthusiastic about doing an exchange and having Guida come for a visit. Woodwyn Guides prepared letters, information about places to visit in our community, traders, crests and some photos of Guida's adventures to that point. We

packaged all that, plus Guida (prepared like a good Guide with backpack and bedroll), into a box to be mailed at the post office during our tour for our Postal badge. Laurie, the postmaster, showed us how to use the tracking number to follow the package across the country. The Manitoba Guides were also doing the Postal badge and they tracked Guida's progress as well.

During her time in Manitoba, Guida met her counterpart, Gigi, their unit mascot. Together they went to an area science camp and a sleepover at the Manitoba Museum, were put on display at a Thinking Day tea and visited a local veterinarian. Pictures of these adventures, plus traders, crests, letters and community information were packed up with Guida and Gigi and mailed back across the country. The Manitoba girls had made both

**Guida greets a lemur
at Calgary zoo**



**Guida shows no fear
of the glass floor at
Calgary Tower**



**Guida and Gigi
hang out**

**Practicing
compass skills**



mascots fleecy camp blankets and softie hats to make their journey more comfortable. Tonya, the Manitoba Guider, told us “we brought her everywhere with us and told many people about this neat bridging activity”.

Since Gigi has been with us here in BC we have taken her to the Stelly’s climbing wall and to spring camp. Shortly we will say goodbye to Guida and send her back to Manitoba. We are wondering what Guida’s next adventure will be....might there be enough room in Sarah’s backpack so that Guida can visit Pax Lodge and Our Chalet this summer?? Stay tuned.



When will the s'mores be ready?

P.S. Sarah still has sock monkeys available for purchase. If interested please contact fraserbl@shaw.ca for more information.

Submitted by Brenda Fraser, 2nd Woodwyn Guides, Woodwyn District



Waiting for egg in nest to be cooked



This tent is very tidy!

Dressed for unit Halloween party





1st Sidney Guides Pioneer Day

The 1st Sidney Guides had a pioneer day one Saturday in March to earn the Heritage Home Skills interest badge. They started at 9 a.m. and worked hard throughout the day until 9 at night. They were given headscarves and dressed up in pioneer clothing too! We gave them each pennies so they could buy all the supplies needed during the day.

The girls went outside and collected eggs in the garden and came back in and milked a cow. With that milk they made butter. One of our Dads came in and taught the girls to make bread and another Dad was our photographer for the day. While we were in the kitchen, we broke into patrols and started making jam. The girls took turns stirring it on the stove top,





punching down bread and making scones for our lunch.

We had a full belly of wiener and beans with scones and our homemade butter and jam - so yummy!

Our afternoon was broken down into stations of rag doll making, quilting squares, candle making and hat craft weaving.

Each girl also went back into the kitchen to check on their bread. We made a big pot of soup to share, each patrol made an apple crisp and each girl made a zipper bag of ice cream.

Dinner time was a much needed sit-down with our fresh bread, butter, jam and soup. The apple crisp and ice cream were so good!

A lady from the Pioneer Society came out and gave us a graveyard tour at the Holy Trinity Church in North Saanich where we hold our meetings and talked about our local pioneers buried there! We finished our day with an indoor campfire sharing family artifacts and eating pioneer candy.

It was a very busy day and gave the girls a little peek into what happened in a day in the life of a pioneer girl!

Submitted by: Karalee Tremblay, Kerri Tuggle and Heather Carley, 1st Sidney Guides, Peninsula Shores District



... SVI Camping News ...



SVI Area Camp Properties

The spring 2013 camp cleanups were fairly successful, considering the weather!

On a rainy day, Milnes Landing Camp attracted 35 volunteers: 22 Adults and 13 children from the campsite committee and Brownie units and their families in Pacific Skies, Portage Inlet (not even a targeted district), Raven, Straits and Woodwyn Districts. Gravel was put in potholes, lots of sweeping was done, propane tanks were washed, and the inventory of indoor supplies was started.

Camp Jubilee's 31 volunteers from the campsite committee and a Pathfinder unit and their families from Raven District braved rain for the first half of the cleanup, enjoyed hotdogs prepared by the Purple Shores Trefoil Guild from Straits District at lunchtime, then were rewarded with some sunshine in the afternoon. A big pile of brush was burned, non-burnable debris was taken to the dump, canvas tents were brought back out from town to camp, the new Vitex tents were put back up on the now 95%

complete tent platforms, lots of gravel was moved from the old (now completely dismantled and levelled) tent pads to the new platform area, gutters were cleaned on all three dining shelters, outhouses were cleaned up for the approaching camping season and more.

Kingswood Camp's 18 volunteers were from the Kingswood Camp Committee, Sparks units and their families from Straits District and six camp neighbours. Some of the tasks completed included graveling potholes and the fire ring at the lodge, scraping and sanding the banister on the lodge (ready for painting), cleaning outside the caretaker's cottage (in preparation for painting), clipping vegetation along lane and parking lots, chopping wood for the Freeman King tent site, repairing the stairs by the lodge and removing some invasive plant species.

Thank you to all who attended! The prize for the district with the largest number of adults at the fall 2012 cleanups was Portage Inlet, and for the spring 2013 cleanups it is Raven District. They have



each earned the prize of a half day of outdoor camp use for their districts at one of the SVI Area Camp Sites during the summer.

Submitted by Teresa Howden, SVI Area Camp Properties Liaison



... SVI Camping News ...

Guiders Complete Outdoor Activity Leader Training

Congratulations to the Guiders who have taken trainings this year to improve their knowledge so they can give their girls a great camp experience.

The following SVI Guiders had previously taken OAL Basic, completed the OAL Residential training in January and were awarded a green OAL Training pin:

Karen Bill (Raven)

Rebecca Hof (Bay to Bay)

Colleen McQuade (SVI Area)

Rhiannon Oldford (Raven)

Karalee Tremblay (Peninsula Shores)

Kerri Tuggle (Peninsula Shores) and

Michelle Winsor (Pacific Skies).



The following SVI Guiders had previously taken OAL Basic, completed the OAL Tenting training in April and were awarded a yellow Enrichment Training pin:

Karen Bill (Raven)

Fiona Crisp (Bay to Bay)

Karalee Tremblay (Peninsula Shores)

Kerri Tuggle (Peninsula Shores)

**Sarah Van Nes (Chatham) and
Jill Wark (Harbours).**



Six up-island Guiders from Pacific Shores Area attended this same training which added greatly to the fun and exchange of ideas.

To complete the OAL designation, these Guiders will now put their training into practice and take girls to camp. Their pin tabs will soon have the addition of a gold OAL Go Camping pin.



The SVI Training Team encourages Guiders to think of training in your plans for the next Guiding year. The 2013–2014 training schedule will be out shortly.

Submitted by Brenda Fraser on behalf of the SVI Area Training Team



**Come out and join us for a Birthday
Celebration:
July 21, 1-3 p.m.**

Share your memories
Visit with past Guiders and girls
View our Archive display
Tour the camp
Games for the children
Birthday cake and Refreshments
Sing song

Please R.V.S.P. to kerrb@telus.net
or Barb K. at: 250-642-6445
by July 5th

Please note parking is limited so carpooling is encouraged.
Parking is available at the Milnes
Soccer Park across from the campground.
(Note: On site parking available for persons
with mobility issues only)

Straits District Visits Woodwynn Farms



On March 26th, 80 girls from Straits District spent the day at Woodwynn Farms in Central Saanich. We began our day with introductions to residents and staff, followed by a farm tour. As we walked all over the land, director Richard Leblanc explained how Woodwynn is a therapeutic community for the homeless, offering an opportunity to change peoples' lives with educational and work programs based on responsibility, dignity, independence and the principles of peer-to-peer help.

The girls were full of wonder, excitement and questions as we discovered an abandoned Canadian goose egg, met pigs Pepper and Molly, and witnessed an owl flying overhead inside the barn. After lunch and hot chocolate, everyone got right to work on their chores. Girls helped move bales of hay, filled bags with loose hay to prepare for sale, filled potholes in the driveway with gravel, and harvested daffodils to sell in the Farm Market. There was enough time to run and

play in the sunshine before we had to head home.

Our girls were complimented on their work ethic, teamwork skills, energy, and willingness to jump in, help out, and get a job done. Woodwynn Farms was thankful for our donation of foodstuffs, board games, and books; our girls were thrilled to support Woodwynn's goal of "creating homefulness" by spending the day working at the farm. Straits District will definitely be returning to Woodwynn Farms!

For more information about Woodwynn Farms, check them out online at: woodwynnfarms.org.

Submitted by Julie Neill, 1st Colwood Guides, Straits District



