



TG News

A Newsletter for Trefoil Guild Members

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Spring 2011

Greetings from the National Trefoil Guild Specialist



Spring is a very busy time for Guiding – it's when Units are planning outdoor activities and making preparations for camp. In this issue of *TG News* you'll read about the camping experience of the Vancouver Island Trefoil Guilds getting together at one of the local Girl Guide campsites each year in July. I have always been an avid camper as a Unit Guider and it is good to hear that we still enjoy the adventure. Camping never seems to lose its appeal.

Thinking of our 100th anniversary got me thinking about the years past and how Guiding has evolved. From that day in 1908 when Nesta Ashworth's brother lent her his copy of *Scouting For Boys*, to the march on the Crystal Palace, to the beginning of Guiding in Canada in 1910 we have not looked back.

I remember when I was a Guide in Nova Scotia, we went to a large rally at Acadia University in Wolfville. I remember we all took pennies and lined them up all across the gym floor. There was a lady there who seemed to be very important at the time and was very thankful for all the pennies that were brought. It was a few years later that I realized it was Lady Baden-Powell herself. It is a great memory even though I didn't realize the impact at the time. I know you all must have favourite memories of your Guiding years.

In the words of Agnes Baden-Powell in 1918, "Guiding for girls is simply a system of voluntary self-education in character, handicraft, and service for others." Let us do our part to *Keep The Spirit Alive*.

Joyce Perrie
National Trefoil Guild Specialist

Keep up to date with Guiding — check out our new blog girlguidescanblog.ca.





Keeping the spirit of Guiding alive through Membership

Are there women in your group who aren't Members of Girl Guides of Canada? Why not ask them to officially join? A recent survey of our non-members revealed that 96 per cent have a high level of satisfaction with their Guiding experience, but 55 per cent have never been approached about becoming a Member.

The non-members in your Guild have already shown an interest in Guiding and in most cases have a PRC on file. By officially joining GGC, they can take advantage of all the benefits of Membership such as access to events and trainings. (You can also mention one of our more affordable Membership options – our Member-at-Large Membership!)

When you help build our Membership base, you help keep Guiding strong.

Trefoil Guild: Your Membership counts!

Check out the table below to see just how strong our Trefoil Guilds are across Canada. The number of TG Members increased by almost 3 per cent last year.

Total Trefoil Guild Members	3,514
Holding <u>only</u> a Trefoil Activity	1,453
Holding a Trefoil Activity and Unit Guider Position	572
New TG Members in 2011	121

Province	Trefoil Guild Members	TG Members with Unit Guider positions
AB	255	47
BC	900	99
MB	131	11
NB	126	32
NF	195	22
NS	142	15
ON	1,542	334
PEI	28	2
QC	39	2
SK	151	8
Total	3,514	572

Soar into the future

2013 National Trefoil Guild Gathering in Regina

Plans for the 2013 National Trefoil Guild Gathering in Regina (June 12 -16) are well under way. The theme is Soar into the Future and the event will be held at the University of Regina, Wascana Campus. The registration fee is \$500, which includes accommodation, all meals, coffee breaks, tours, and sessions. Information about the

Gathering will be going out to the Provincial TG Advisers this December.

So, start saving, ladies – just 82 cents per day for the next 610 days, and you will have the registration fee!

Mary Lynne Golphy
Saskatchewan Trefoil Guilds

Join us at our next Gathering!

SOAR INTO THE FUTURE

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN JUNE 12-16, 2013



Provincial Reports

Newfoundland and Labrador

One of our main service projects this year came about because of an article in B.C.'s newsletter about a project undertaken by Tsawwassen District in B.C. to collect birthday party supplies for families in need. Sharon Guilford and the district shared their project list with us so our Guild could undertake a similar project.

Our project began in September and by our Christmas gathering, we had assembled 12 baskets. The baskets were mostly themed, such as dinosaurs, Toy Story, princesses, hockey, and Dora, and covered a variety of age groups. Our Members had a fabulous time picking out supplies at dollar stores and then assembling their baskets. The Food Sharing Association agreed to arrange the distribution of the baskets to the various

local food banks. Prior to distribution, the baskets were weighed at 127.5 lbs. and this amount was entered into the national website for the Eradicating Hunger and Poverty Challenge.

It is noted that the Food Sharing Association is now advertising for children's birthday party supplies and while unconfirmed, we do believe this is the result of our approach back in September. Obviously, a need has existed for this help and we are so proud to have helped with this identification. Rightly so, however, this project idea belongs to Tsawwassen District and for this, needy families on the east coast of our country, thank you. How fabulous it is when ideas from thousands of miles away can find their way to another location and can be shared! This is the network of the Guiding sisterhood!

Sharron Callahan
Fireside Friends Trefoil Guild
Newfoundland and Labrador



Saskatchewan

- The Taiga Adventure Guild held a winter camp at our Provincial Girl Guide Camp on Heritage Lake at the end of November. Christmas music played all weekend as we made Christmas pudding, angels, cards/gift tags, wreaths and beading. Time was spent outdoors trying out the new wood splitter the Trefoil purchased for the camp as well as snowshoeing and hiking.
- Prairie Spirit Trefoil Guild took in the musical Wizard of Oz in Saskatoon as their December outing.
- Five Regina Trefoil Adventure Guild Members attended the New Year's Levee at Government House.
- Guilds celebrated Thinking Day around the province. R&R Trefoil Guild in Regina hosted a Thinking

Day Tea at the Girl Guide Office.

- Regina Trefoil Guild raised funds for Pakistan aid from the sale of craft supplies at the Area Awards Banquet.
- Margaret Asquith-Morrey, who has been in Guiding 79 years, had the honour of opening the 1995 Time Capsule at the Regina Area 100th anniversary celebration in October.
- Saskatoon Trefoil Guilds assisted with registration at the Provincial Training held in January.

Mary Lynne Golphy
Saskatchewan Trefoil Guild(s)



Manitoba

Manitoba delegates attending the National Gathering in June 2010.



Back row: Jean Sorko, Diane McClellan, Connie Fillion. Front row: Effie Peiluck, Marjorie Doyle, Virginia Greening.

Alberta

Our Guild consists of 10 Members from two towns and we alternate our monthly meeting location. We always have a short meeting, which keeps us in touch with what's happening within Guiding around us. We also regularly challenge ourselves to do service projects, to learn or try something new, have some snacks and, most of all, have fun.

This of course includes selling cookies and donating the funds to girls who need help paying Membership fees, camp fees or for their uniform. We also hold a small draw at our meetings – adding tweekies to our annual CWFF donation.

In October we learned about stamping and made enough Halloween greeting cards for Meals on Wheels. In November, we completed our 100th Anniversary Challenge, creating a list of 100 activity suggestions that all Trefoil Guilds can use.

In December we had a tasty evening of sharing beverage and food ideas, with each of us bringing samples of our favourites. Earlier in the year, we created a geocache and hid our items. This spring we'll use our GPSs and search for our stash!

In January, we took up the Guiding on the Air/Thinking Day on the Air challenges. Last month we played some games, had a variety of snacks, and sampled "blender drinks" as researched by one of our Members. (Amazing what you can find on Google!)

Gail Armstrong,
2nd Parkland Area, Alberta 'Sounds Fun' Trefoil Guild

This year, our Guild Members have been kept busy with other Guiding volunteer work – in Sparks and Brownie Units and district work. But we were happy to help out with Thinking Day activities.

Pat Weber
Yellowknife Trefoil Guild

The 13 lovely ladies in the Twilight Roses Trefoil Guild have had a very interesting year. We had a fun Christmas Potluck meeting where we donated to the food bank, and a Thinking Day/World Centres meeting in February with coffee treats from around the world. We decided to be a member of Friends of the World Centres. Our next meeting will be lunch at the Saskatoon Farm just in time for spring. One of our Members, Evelyn Christensen, has been travelling to Costa

It is really great to see what can be done if you want to do it – through Guiding, we develop the strength and confidence it takes to do these remarkable adventures.

Rica with World Vision and Uganda with Crossroads to do a variety of volunteer work. One of our new Members, Robin Wenzil, gave a report of her travels with her Unit to Casa Loma in Toronto. It is really great to see what can be done if you want to do it. Through Guiding, we develop the strength and confidence it takes to do these remarkable adventures. One of our Members, Jacquie Schnider, became the International Director of Toastmasters, and I received the Honourary Lifetime Achievement Award in Guiding presented to me by my own daughter, Prairie Rose Area Commissioner Amy Wiens. Needless to say

it was a very proud moment for me and quite the tear jerker for us both.

Mary Larsen
Twilight Roses Trefoil Guild

I went to the New Zealand National Girl Guide Center in Christchurch a few days before the last earthquake. I

was able to meet briefly with the International Adviser there and do some shopping for myself and my daughter's Spark Unit. The New Zealand Girl Guides building was quite damaged after the quake. The Adviser there tells me that they will be hosting a large event next year and hope to see many Canadian girls and women in attendance. They were very close to the epicentre and close to the Cathedral Square. Going on their website, I read that all staff are safe.



Sheryl Paquette
Silver Willow Trefoil Guild

British Columbia

The Trefoil Guilds in BC are gearing up for Rendezvous 2011 to be held in Quesnel – the first time the event will be held in this part of the province.

Comox Valley & 1st Canadian Internet Trefoil Guilds:

Whether you are six or 86, camping can be fun. Once bitten by the camping bug



it never seems to leave, so every July Members from the Vancouver Island Trefoil Guilds get together at a local Girl Guide camp. Our theme, 100 years of Guiding, was enhanced throughout the camp with projects, activities and games. We built a timeline from 1910 to 2010 and added our own individual Guiding highlights with pictures and post-its. We learned a lot about each other and it led to many interesting and informative discussions.

Back in 1967, Lady Baden-Powell lit many candles at our National Heritage Camp and the original candle was given to Pip Rogers, a former B.C. Provincial Commissioner. She has used it numerous times including at the BC AGM in May 2010. A candle was brought from there to the 2010 National Trefoil Guild Gathering. I brought mine home and used it at camp to pass the flame on. I hope our campers will now pass the flame on to their Guild Members at home.

We provided a relaxed atmosphere at camp to facilitate impromptu discussions with Members who wanted to spend more time getting to know one another. Sleeping arrangements varied, so those who wanted to pitch their own tent could do so, others just slept under the stars while the remainder slept on bunks in the lodge. Visitors' day allowed even more Trefoil Guild Members to share in our fun. We also held a Heritage uniform parade complete with commentary by our Area archivist. I had the unexpected pleasure of chatting with a 94-year-old Member about her early days in Africa.

Guiding has been through numerous changes and challenges in 100 years, including having to go underground in some places during the war, as several of our older Members can attest to. But take a poll of our ladies and they will tell you, they are committed for life. We now carry on according to our abilities and we hope to be at camp next year.

Brouhton Strait Trefoil Guild AKA Wild Willnadozth Women Trefoil Guild

There is a new Trefoil Guild on Vancouver Island North – the Wild Willnadozth Women



en Trefoil Guild. Willnadozth is the name of our former Division and means Friends Together, a very appropriate name for our small group.

We are using *You Can Do It! The Merit Badge Handbook For Grown-up Girls* for our meeting themes.

March saw us “stretching ourselves” with yoga. For our June meeting we rented a cabin at beautiful Telegraph Cove where we could “dine in” with an Italian dinner and “know our best cellars”.

Of course a Guiding overnight wouldn't be the same if there wasn't a craft. A local business is hosting a bra decorating contest in honour of a long-time resident who recently lost her battle with breast cancer. Paula decided her bra looked much like a butterfly and it really did when she was finished with it!

Future meeting ideas include book reviews, travel lessons and learning to play pool - along with stories, laughter and wonderful food. What a great excuse, if indeed we needed one, to get together.

Legends Trefoil Guild



Alexa Loo (center) with some of our newest Guild Members.

Ten Members of our Guild along with an honorary member, Ann Lee, a Trefoil Adviser from South Australia, traveled to Kamloops in June to attend the National Gathering. Hats off to the planning committee for doing a magnificent job. It was the first time some of us attended such an event and we are looking forward to the next gathering in Regina.



Enthusiastic Guild Members along with other Guiding Members and their spouses joined together to

form a parade committee. They put together a fabulous float which won ribbons in all

three community parades.

A Guild member who climbed Kilimanjaro fell in love with the people in Tanzania, in particular the children at the Huruma orphanage. She wanted to help them and what started out as fundraising for solar ovens has evolved into desperately needed solar panels for electricity. After hearing Ann's story, Guild Members are assisting her with the costs of postage, in collecting items of clothing and much need school supplies.

A local girl and former Girl Guide, Olympic snowboarder Alexa Loo visited our Guild to share her experiences of competing in her home city on Cypress Mountain. She placed 12th in the Parallel Giant Slalom competition losing her round by 1/100th of a second! Alexa continues her enthusiasm for snowboarding through mentoring younger athletes.

JoAnn Fox
BC Trefoil Guild(s)



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