



Gleanings



Alberta Council Trefoil Guilds Annual Newsletter Jan 2014 Edition

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Alberta Trefoil Guilds

Calgary – Claytons, Emonis Ake, Happy Campers, Kindred Spirits, Missing Links, North Star Nomads, Old Crows, Sunrise Girls, WestRockers, Y-Knots

Chinook – Chinookettes

Cypress Hills – Mad Hatters

Edmonton – 1st Edmonton, 2nd Edmonton, 3rd Purple Martins, 4th Edmonton, 5th Edmonton, 7th Edmonton, 50th Edmonton, Wild Tumbleweeds, Arrowhead Division, 1st Sherwood Park,

Michener – 1st Michener

Northwest Territories – 1st Fort Smith, 1st Yellowknife

Parkland – 1st-Wild Rosies, 2nd-Sounds Fun, 3rd-Silver Willow, 4th Parkland

Prairie Rose - Twilight Roses

Tamarac – BOGGS, STARS

Woodsmoke – Seasoned Woodsmokers

Also – 1st Canadian Internet Trefoil Guild

Excerpts from a letter to the local paper by Sheryl Paquette of 3rd Parkland, Silver Willow Guild, on the occasion of:

100th Anniversary of Girl Guides in Alberta

As a long time member of the organization, Girl Guides of Canada, I want to make your readers aware of what a great organization this continues to be for girls and women! We are celebrating our Centennial in Alberta in 2013 with many activities throughout this year. Just imagine what a long way we have come in those 100 years! From girls camping outdoors in long skirts 100 years ago, to now, kayaking a river, rappelling down a cliff or travelling the world today, we continue to provide challenges to our members. Girl Guides survive and thrive today, because we have changed with the times. Our organization certainly does prepare our girls and women to be the best they can be in a supportive atmosphere, and to contribute to society in many ways through service and leadership both locally and globally. Alberta is very fortunate to continue to have a dedicated group of volunteer women who share the goals of Guiding and provide fun adventuresome activities for all girls. They are an energetic, intelligent, caring, competent and fun bunch!

I think we all continue to be members of this great organization, because of the fun and growth we can still experience as an adult, and because of the difference we can see that Guiding makes in the potential of our girls.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCE

Thank you for all that you do to 'Keep the Spirit Alive'. I do hope everyone had a memorable Christmas and spent lots of time with family and friends. I know I did. Have you made many New Year resolutions; all which you intend to keep until December 31, 2014? My resolutions continue on the same vein as those in previous year's – to be better organized and meet all reporting deadlines well before the due date – so far I have had no deadlines so I guess that means I am on track.

2013 in review.

It was an exciting year for Guiding in Alberta – celebrating the 100th Anniversary, Guild members participated in many activities; 26 members attended the National Gathering in Regina, SK and 38 attended the Trefoil Roundup in Red Deer in June. The Life member luncheon and the Provincial AGM were also well attended.

Alberta Guide House had many projects completed:

- front entrance was upgraded and a monument commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Guiding in Alberta was unveiled in October
- the parking lot was expanded and repaved
- new mattresses, stove and refrigerator were purchased for the lower level
- the staff kitchen was upgraded on the second floor
- a security camera was installed at the front entrance.
- handicap button was installed at the front entrance and is working well

Upcoming Events

- Thinking Day February 22, 2014
- Alberta Girls' Parliament March 26-30, 2014
- OIL Adventure Camp Training April 5-6, 2014
- Camping Advisers Weekend April 25-27, 2014
- Color Your World International Camp July 27 - August 3, 2014
- Multi-Faceted, Adult training weekend, May 23-25
- AGM, dinner and changeover of Provincial Council, May 24
- Trefoil Roundup, June 7, 11:30-2:30, St. Leonard's Church, Red Deer

National Trefoil Guild Gathering - (2016) to mark on your calendars The National Trefoil Guild Gathering is a national event held every three years. It is an opportunity for Trefoil Guild Members from every Province to gather for friendship, learning and fun, to share to discuss the role and needs of Trefoil Guilds and Trefoil Guild Members. Newfoundland and Labrador have invited all Trefoil Guilds of Canada to the next National Trefoil Guild Gathering to be held at Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, from June 15-19th, 2016.

Guiding Mosaic 2016: Guiding Mosaic is a unique and exciting opportunity that is open to members of Girl Guides of Canada and to the 145 WAGGGS Member Organizations. To see pictures of Camp Woods and for ongoing camp updates please visit guidingmosaic.com. The next Guiding Mosaic 2016 will be held from July 9 – 17 at Camp Woods in Sylvan Lake, Alberta. Scenic Camp Woods offers an amazing waterfront with excellent opportunities for swimming and water activities, including canoeing, kayaking, and sailing. The surrounding area boasts many possibilities for offsite excursions to experience Canadian heritage. Guilds across the province may have an opportunity to assist at this event.

Awards: Suggestions from the Alberta Awards Committee:

Everyone likes to be appreciated! A kind word, a smile and a thank you go a long way toward making a volunteer feel her efforts have been recognized. If a volunteer feels that her contribution to the Organization is worthwhile, she is more likely to continue serving in some capacity. She is also more likely to talk her friends into coming along for the fun and friendship and to speak highly of Guiding to everyone she meets. The ongoing presentation of awards to Guiders, at all levels, is a vital way of formally recognizing their contributions to our girl Members.

All Members are encouraged to recognize Guiders/members by nominating them for an award. Commissioners, at all levels, are encouraged to promote awards through their councils. Awards may be applied for throughout the year and can be presented at any appropriate event. It is not necessary to wait to the end of a Guiding year or term to recognize achievement. Any Member may nominate a Member for an Award at any time.

PRC Exemptions

PRC exemptions and permanent exemptions are only for those women that are retiring from girl-related activities – meaning they no longer have one-on-one contact with girls and they hold no positions (i.e. president/treasurer).

Members who are only active as members of the Trefoil Guild or Link, or who are members-at-large, and do not plan and/or deliver activities for girls and/or adults, are not required to take Safe Guide training, although they are encouraged to do so. However, if they take on any of the roles or positions requiring Safe Guide training, it must be completed within **six months** of the start of the position or role.

When adult members (including Trefoil Guild, Link, members-at-Large, etc.) invite girls to participate in an activity or participate in adult-only activities assessed at the Red level of Safe Guide, full compliance with Safe Guide procedures is required.

2014 Thinking Day

Each year on February 22, girls and Guiders the world over participate in World Thinking Day, marking the joint birthdays of our founders, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell.

In the centre of the winter issue of the Winter 2014 issue of *Canadian Guider*, you'll find a special pull-out Friendship Flyer insert with activities focused on the 2014 World Thinking Day theme: *girls worldwide say . . . "education opens doors for all girls and boys."* With fun activities and dynamic discussions, this insert has been designed to help you to increase girls' awareness about the wider world, to promote cross-cultural understanding and to educate girls on global issues that will inspire them to learn more and to do more. The importance of giving girls a global perspective has never been greater. Our world is more connected than ever, so it is essential that we offer girls the tools they'll need to make sense of it all and to fulfill the Guiding Promise to "take action for a better world!"

Recognition of Guiders If you know of a Guider who is going above and beyond to build and keep Guiding vibrant in her community, email cdnguider@girlguides.ca. *Canadian Guider* is eager to publish profiles of these wonderful women!

Happy Thinking Day, everyone!

Carol Moeller, Deputy Provincial Commissioner

A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL TREFOIL ADVISER

Wow!! What a Centennial year it was.

As Sheryl Paquette so aptly wrote in her letter on the front cover,

“Alberta is very fortunate to continue to have a dedicated group of volunteer women who share the goals of Guiding and provide fun adventuresome activities for all girls. They are an energetic, intelligent, caring, competent and fun bunch!”

It is amazing to read about what we as Trefoil members give to Girl Guides and to our communities. We definitely do enjoy what we do, we have fun, and plan to continue to experience this wonderful world we call Guiding. This is where we grew up, where our friends are, and where our hearts and passions lie.

We the members of Trefoil Guilds in Alberta, Northwest and Yukon Territories are currently 290 members in 34 Guilds as of the most recent iMIS roster. A few inquiries have proven that there are some Guiders who have expressed interest in starting new Guilds and I look forward to hearing from them. This year I welcome the Sunrise Girls in the Calgary Area.

In recent months, it was time for Joyce Perrie to step down as our National Trefoil Specialist and we wish her all the best in her future Trefoil adventures. And now, we welcome Kay Dubie of Ontario who will fill this position. Kay, like many of us, has been involved in many positions within Girl Guides, and we look forward to working with her as we continue to develop our Trefoil needs across this great country.

Whatever it is you do, I trust you feel that being a member of Trefoil is satisfying and fulfilling, and that you continue to feel you are “KEEPING THE SPIRIT ALIVE!”.

Gail Armstrong

National Gathering Attendees – June 12-16, 2013, Regina, SK

We had a GREAT week!



BOGGS GUILD (Best of Girl Guide Sisters) - TAMARAC AREA

BOGGS; **Best of Girl Guide Sisters** began as “Best of Grove’s Guiding Sisters” in Spruce Grove AB; then expanded to include Stony Plain and surrounding rural area. We are recognized by our purple vests and purple aprons; we also wear red hat pins.

We meet at one of our Sisters’ home the first Tuesday of each month. Our time together begins with a blessing before enjoying a delicious pot luck meal. {Warm, delicious smells come from the kitchen on this cold, blustery evening as “chicken” dishes were the main focus of our meal.}

Fall is a busy time for BOGGS. We don our purple aprons (shared these with the STARS’ ladies) as volunteer helpers to serve refreshments for Tamarac Area Awards Day honoring the girls receiving awards.

A celebration of Linda’s 65th birthday and thoughts of our Sisters around the world was the focus for February. World Friendship Funds would be donated from our monthly book exchange. On February 3, 2013 Pat attended the Lieutenant Governor’s luncheon at Government House in Edmonton celebrating Alberta Girl Guides 100 anniversary.

May 11, 2013 celebration for Alberta Girl Guides 100th anniversary held at Servus Place in St. Albert was our primary focus for the spring of 2013. Several evenings saw us gathered with ladies from Tamarac Area Council and STARS Trefoil Guild to prepare “yarn dolls” kits; one of the stations at the rally. BOGGS ladies manned several stations and a member received the special award created for the 100th anniversary by Alberta Council. Elizabeth made a beautiful quilt that she donated to the 2013 Quilt swap.

Our June windup saw us visit the Multicultural Centre in Stony Plain for lunch. We were able to visit the display they had setup in honor of the Alberta 100th celebration.

One of the tray favors that we “created” for Westview Village Continuing Care Centre was a pretty paper butterfly.

“The art of being happy lies in extracting happiness in the little daily things: and counting your blessings for what you already have.”



Friends, Food and Fun is our specialty!

Respectfully submitted, Pat Klann

CHINOOKETTES - CHINOOK AREA

The Chinookettes have participated in National and Alberta Service projects, challenges and badges. Our group of ladies made forty-six Quilts and four 'Birthday Party in a Box'. We have completed the Operation Earth Action and completed Sangam, British and Go Green challenges. Many enjoyed the Alberta's 100th Anniversary Celebration in May, where fun was had by all.

March and April saw many attending the Area Camp Tea and the Area Banquet. Congratulations to all the ladies in Guiding who received awards at the banquet.

We are enjoying our correspondence with a Guild in England, great conversations and information about the world of Guiding in the UK.

The Chinookettes are excited to "**KEEP THE SPIRIT ALIVE**" in Chinook Area. The sisterhood of Guiding keeps us alive and enjoying each other's company. The Chinookettes as always remember our sisters who have left us this year... our condolences to family and friends who have lost loved ones.

Submitted by Margaret Arnold for the Chinookettes

1st YELLOWKNIFE GUILD - NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Most of our unit members are still actively Guiding with units so we don't have many Trefoil only events. The few of us who are "retired" have been focused on helping out where we can with District activities.

Thinking Day 2013 – We ran the nutrition station at the District Rally. The girls chose from many different fruits to make their own fruit salad. Some tried new fruits for the first time.

End of Year Guiders' Barbecue, July 2013 – We joined many other leaders from the District for a barbecue and potluck at Long Lake. Good fellowship and lots of yummy food.

Summer 2013 – We cooked hot dogs at the District Pool Party for about 25 girls and their families. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon on the deck at the pool, and once we finally got the grill going (with help from the pool attendant), it was a big success.

December 2013 – Several members attended the District's Mock tail and Games Christmas Party. There were delicious hors d'oeuvres and board games organized with the help of and including the Pathfinder girls. It was great fun to interact with these young ladies.

We hope that we can continue to participate in many District events and add our voices to the operation of the Yellowknife District.

Submitted by Barb Guay

1st EDMONTON – QU-TIPS GUILD – EDMONTON AREA

We started the year with a new name the QU-TIPS; thought a name change would be good for us. We will let you figure out why the new name.

We had a good year. We still managed to keep our membership but still looking for new members. We decided to hold our monthly meetings at Vi-Chans home as it is too hard to keep moving all the time.

Our activities this year have included sending slippers and comfy dolls to Valour House. These items are sent to the forces in the Middle East.

Kawanis Club hats&touques; Lap covers for a Cancer Clinic; Quilt for Ronald MacDonald House.

All in all we had a good year. Four members Vi, Joan, Olive and Bergith went to Regina Sask. for the gathering. We had a great time.

We still enjoy our group. We lost Clara McDonald, which was a great loss to our group, however we still continue to move on.

Respectfully submitted by, Joan Hawkins

MAD HATTER'S GUILD – CYPRESS HILLS AREA

Our first meeting after the summer break was October 8, 2013. This was my first meeting chairing Trefoil, as President.

It was decided that we would again decorate the Angel Tree at Saamis Memorial Funeral Chapel and Crematorium in late November. This is our third year decorating the tree and garland that graces the front foyer and sitting room with ceramic angels. These angels are hand crafted by local residents and are hung on the tree in memory of those individuals who died between November 1, 2012 and October 31, 2013. Beginning in December, family members are invited to come into the funeral home and select their angel off the tree. We usually have a turnout of about 8 ladies and last year we even had some Pathfinders show up to help out as well. We hang about 700 to 800 angels over the course of 2 - 2 ½ hours. The ladies have really enjoyed doing this over the past 3 years and we have a great time visiting.

In early December, three of us volunteered at the United Way Gift Wrap Booth from 10 to 1 pm. This was followed by lunch out at Montana's. Because it was during the day, some of the Trefoil members who work were not able to attend.

We did not have another meeting in December, due to members being busy with various other Christmas activities. Our next meeting will be on January 13, 2014. At this meeting we will decide what other types of activities the ladies want to participate in.

I am the new President of the Madhatters Trefoil Guild of Cypress Hills Area and look forward to working with and hearing about what other Guilds do at their meetings.

Thanks, Elaine Turner

2nd EDMONTON GUILD – EDMONTON AREA

Our guild now has eight members. We worked on a variety of service projects and challenges during 2013 beginning with a meeting on January 31st. Service year pins were presented to Ruth Balsler for 40 years and Pat Gillespie for 25 years. We celebrated Chinese New Year with a selection of traditional Chinese cuisine, provided for our lunch that day by Alice Mah.

In February each member made a donation of \$5.00 for CWFF and everyone received an Alberta CWFF Challenge crest for doing so. Steffie Fosbakken and Alice Mah attended a special tea with His Honour Donald S. Ethell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta in celebration of the Alberta Guiding Centennial. We assembled collections of birthday party goodies in two boxes, one each for a 6 year old girl and boy, for the Birthday Party in a Box challenge. The party kits were taken to the Northeast District Food Bank collection point during Hike for Plenty on March 9th.

In March and April there were some days of severe winter weather coinciding with our meeting days making it difficult for some members to attend so these were cancelled. We still achieved our set goals though, as a lot of work and preparation is done at home by very busy ladies.

We made a special pet quilt, suitable for a dog or cat, to give to the SPCA as a challenge for Alberta Guiding 100th Birthday celebrations. The quilt was presented to the Edmonton Humane Society on September 25th, where they were thrilled to receive it.

At the Edmonton Area Awards Dinner on May 14th we were presented with the Edmonton Area Team Award for 10 years of serving refreshments at the Girl's Awards Ceremony – a wonderful surprise for us all! On June 20th we celebrated our achievements with a yearend luncheon, a Chinese buffet, at the Elegant Court Restaurant, Manning Crossing in Edmonton.

Guiding year 2013-14 began for us on September 19th where we had a chance to socialize after the summer break, receive some information and take stock of supplies for Hope Mission and Kid's Kottage. We also talked about the Edmonton Area Girl's Awards Ceremony which was held at The Royal Alberta Museum on September 28th, just as we have for the past 10 years we were in attendance once more to set up and serve refreshments on that occasion.

Our meeting in October fell on Halloween, so the snacks we ate were themed to suit; spider web dip, pizza bread ribs and Witches finger cookies, but before this we got to work filling 12 Xmas bags for adults, and 12 Xmas stockings for children, with personal care products, candy canes and some fun items. These in addition to many other donations (see list) were taken to the Hope Mission Centre in Edmonton on November 12th in time for their Festive season preparations and the colder weather: items included were 9 quilts, 98 pairs socks, 70 toques, 26 pairs gloves, 15 pairs men's briefs, 3 scarves, 1 assorted box of supplies for Youth Shelter

Each of us will be bringing a variety of supplies to the November 21st meeting to re-stock for our 2014 Hope Mission donations. Our collection for Kids Kottage so far: 60 pairs underwear, 99 pairs of socks and 18 toothbrushes.

Two cases of Mint cookies were sent to the troops in October, one for Edmonton's Griesbach Base and one for Wainwright.

Pink Ribbon making for CBCF, knitting and quilt making are ongoing business throughout the year. December 19th is our Christmas Social and final meeting of 2013, a luncheon at Tony Roma's Restaurant.

Submitted by Hilary Whyte

WESTROCKERS GUILD – CALGARY AREA

This Guild is still having fun with one activity a month. We have welcomed one new member during this past year with another set to join us shortly. This year's main focus for many of our members was the Thinking Day Celebration at Knox United Church for the 100th Anniversary of Girl Guides here in Calgary. The first Guide meetings were held at this historic church. A lot of organizers spent a great deal of time on this event plus numerous volunteers on the day. All who participated had a very good time.

Several of our members also joined in the Anniversary campfire held at the base of the Calgary Tower on a gorgeous evening last June. The singing was wonderful and the flame on top of the tower was lit at 10 p.m.

We had the largest group ever attend the Wildflower Walk at Bow Valley Provincial Park led by Jack Whitworth – seventeen members including a few husbands. It was a lovely day and the flowers were extra special after all the rain. We hope to repeat this event again this year, weather permitting. A much smaller group attended Spruce Meadows which was celebrating the Queen's Jubilee but that was a fine outing too.

A smaller group went to the new Ralph Klein Park in August led by Rosalyn and Bill Schmidt. September, we had an organizing meeting and decided to help clean up the Girl Guide Office as a service project. It is in need of some TLC since the store shut down and it's so quiet. The first thing was to help at the Swap Meet and all types of craft and other supplies were free for the taking. This cleaned out a lot of stuff from cupboards.

November saw us at the Military Museum close to Remembrance Day but the weather was really bad and so a very small group arrived. Never mind it's an excellent place to tour and the lunches after our events are always welcome. The Christmas party this year was lunch at a restaurant.

New Year started with a cooking demonstration at Atco Gas, something new for us but worth repeating and the food afterwards was very good. There was also a visit to the Glenbow Museum, Lunchbox Theatre, a lesson in Tai Chi and a tour of Glenbow Ranch, a new Provincial Park, between Calgary and Cochrane. The group have put together numerous birthday boxes for the Food Bank and made birthday cards and provided gifts for Senior's Secret Service, a charity that brings cheer at Christmas and birthdays for lonely seniors. With the Alberta Trefoil Roundup at Red Deer thoroughly enjoyed by many of our members and the seven delegates attending the Trefoil Gathering in Regina in June having a great time, we look forward to next year's adventures.

We will be touring the Ukrainian Cultural Centre and St Vladimir's Church in October; having a campfire and cookout in November, weather permitting; a Christmas Party in December. This closes another fun filled year for the WestRockers.

Submitted by June Mrtin

EMONIS AKE - CALGARY AREA

The past year was again a fun year for Emonis Ake Trefoil Guild. We currently have 12 members and try to meet at least once a month.

In January, we held a games night – but ended up just visiting and having a relaxing evening. This is the second time we've tried this – maybe we should just schedule a “visiting night”!!

In February one of our members hosted a chocolate making evening. All who participated got to take home some delicious treats. In March, we filled a birthday boxes to meet the provincial challenge.

We held a movie night in April and watched most of *Les Miserables*. It was very long and many of us had to get up early the next day, so we didn't wait for the ending. April also saw us heading to the Calgary Zoo to visit the penguins. They are so cute and we thoroughly enjoyed their antics. We wandered around the zoo for a bit and then went to a local restaurant for lunch.

In May we headed to Chinook Honey near Okotoks for a tour and information about bees and how they make honey and mead. It was very interesting. Our annual windup BBQ was in June at the home of our member who lives in Vulcan.

We held our “other” annual BBQ in August – this one includes our husbands. This is a tradition we began several years ago. The men in our lives seem to like getting together and it gives them a chance to get to know the women who are so important in our lives.

The fall began with our planning meeting in September and an evening at a new Applebee's restaurant for supper in October. Several members visited the Telus Spark Science Centre in November. Our plans are to visit Heritage Park in December and wind up the year with a potluck and our annual Christmas ornament exchange.

Submitted by Jan McCaghren

PURPLE MARTINS GUILD – 3RD EDMONTON

As Alberta Guiding celebrate its 100th year anniversary, the Purple Martins are celebrating their 10th anniversary.

In October the annual luncheon was held, it was attended by past and current members of the guild including members from other Edmonton guilds. The gathering enjoyed the Power point presentation highlighting the last ten years.

Our year consisted of helping with Area projects e.g. May Rally, hosting the Area dinner, Breamer project, Hope Mission, and busily knitting squares to make afghans. Our social outings consisted of going to the Devin theatre, visiting the Winspear theatre and having a Xmas get together.

Our final event of the year was the Summer Solstice at Marguerite's “Tillicum” cabin. We all enjoyed the serene atmosphere of the country side, as we all partook of the food, friendship and reminisce about our Guiding experience - keeping the spirit alive.

Submitted by Mary Gerritsen



Back row: Marion Rex, Katie Johnston, Claudette Vague, Sherry Gurjar, Elizabeth Marsland, Marguerite Helps, Kathy Morris, Margaret Campbell, Carol Klapstein, Mae Hadley, Edna Dach
Sitting: Mary Gerritsen, Sheelagh McCourt, Ruth Strandberg, Ann Kendall, Carmel Fenniak



Back row: Sue Schroder, Mae Hadley, Katy Morris, Sherry Gurjar, Sheelagh Mc.Court, Carmel Fenniak
Front row: Ruth Strandberg, Carol Klapstein, Mary Gerritsen, Marguerite Helps, Ann Kendall

1ST WOOKSMOKE AREA GUILD - WOOKSMOKE AREA

LLOYDMINSTER TREFOIL REPORT

We have been very busy trying to get all our units up and running for the new year. There has been little time to do any trefoil events so far this year but we have plan to have supper at Marlene's house before she leaves for the winter and we will be attending the dinner theatre in the Legacy Center in November. We will also attend the Christmas craft and supper and party for all our Guiders in December.

Hopefully we will have all the units up and running on their own by the end of 2013.

PROVOST GUILD

In February we started on our Quilt Project, working hard, and have now completed it. And it looks pretty good to us. To celebrate we went out for supper.

March and April had us helping units with their four quilts. First with Pathfinders and Guides pressing and sewing squares together for two of the quilts; then we met with the sparks and brownies and helped them with pressing and sewing. They did a great job drawing on their squares. We did finish the quilts and they all look wonderful!

At the annual banquet we met with long time friends and had a great evening.

At camp, we cut the ribbon at the Opening Ceremony – Let the Games Begin!!

In May we travelled to Vermilion in the big yellow bus with our four units and celebrated Alberta's 100th Anniversary. At the rally we again had opportunity to meet up with old friends, and take part in many activities..

Our Nursing Home gals are still reading, so we have been exchanging books for them.

May, June and August: we did the rounds and many Bluebird houses were cleaned out and fronts attached. How many blue birds has Lois got!?? 510 hatched! What a beautiful country we live in.

Out on the Bluebird Trail, we cleaned out the houses, moved a few, and refreshed the numbers with white paint, all while enjoying the beautiful weather. How many Blue Birds banded this year?

386 . . .a wonderful year.

June asks: We also visited our display at the museum; we rearranged some items, and did some cleaning and dusting. It looks great once again.

September we went down memory lane...all the way back to 1990 "Our Trip Of A Lifetime"; Lil travelled from Bonnyville and met up with Lois and Lola. What a great two days of reminiscing. See our big smiles??

Trefoil around the Woodsmoke area is busy and having a great time.

Submitted by Barb Marling

NORTH STAR NOMADS GUILD – CALGARY AREA

It was another wonderful year and we have one potential new member “test-driving” our group. We are sure that she will find us a ton of fun!

The fall of 2012 started out with attending the Corn Maze in Lacombe as a group, it was a beautiful day and we had many chuckles. We volunteered with Samaritans Club at their semi-annual garage sale in September and April 2013.

2013 started with much excitement finalizing the plans for our Mexico trip. Five members of the group departed from Calgary (9 hours later than planned due to a power outage) February 17 to Mexico City and Ticalli and then onto Our Cabana to attend the “Butterfly Tour”. It was a fabulous session, the Monarch butterflies are spectacular, we spent Thinking Day in Taxco the “Silver City” and our 2 service projects were with 100 local Mexican Girl Guides (from ages 5 to 18) and with 80 Senior Citizens. We shared the game of Curling with the older girls thanks to a donation from the local Rocks n’ Rings program. We met new friends from New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Four very brave members of our group volunteered at the 100th Anniversary Celebration at Camp Jubilee on May 11 and spent many hours preparing the crafts for that event. We saw Big Boom Theory at Jubilations dinner theatre and attended the Alberta Guild Potluck lunch in Red Deer in June. One more of our group turned 50 this year so we had a weekend away at Baynes Lake to spoil her properly.

Majority of the group dragged our husbands out to help clean-up camp Jubilee after the floods of June 2013. Submitted by Joanne Deaver



Y KNOTS GUILD – CALGARY AREA

The Y-Knot Trefoil Guild has had another jam-packed Guiding year in 2013. We continue to participate in the Calgary Area events requiring Quartermasters and Kitchen Helpers. And we remain the site reps at our Camp Mockingbird co-ordinating the annual camp work party to prepare the site for the girl's camping and to keep an eye out for needed repairs.

We have a regular schedule of events that we participate in during the year. Some of these events are Nite Trek, Memorial Grove, Area Trainings for Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Guiders. This year we added Calgary Area 100th Birthday at Heritage Park, Thinking Day Celebration and Alberta Centennial Day Rally at Camp Jubilee. The ladies love to help with these events as they get to renew old acquaintances and make new friends in Guiding. We have managed to attend 4 District Guiding Camps during 2013 to help with the preparation and serving of food.



We are also proud to announce that another of our members received the Honorary Life Member award at the Annual Area Dinner. That makes 7 members in total for our Guild. In June, 6 of our members attended and enjoyed the National Trefoil Rally in Regina along with our own 'Lady BP' visiting some sights along the way: Moose Jaw Tunnels & Spa and Cypress Hills Park. Our sessions ranged from Basket making (for the non-crafter) to Geocaching, Bra Fitting, Saskatchewan History, Cross Stitch luggage tags, Managing Arthritis and Knitting - we are a very well rounded and informed group! Next gathering is in Newfoundland and we've already started to save our pennies.



Along with our Guiding events, we provide services other than hospitality to outside organizations. We help serve dinner at the Mustard Seed and drop off donations that our ladies collect during the year and we assist the McMan Youth Family & Community Services with gift wrapping for their youth Christmas party in December.

Even though we are a very busy Trefoil, we do manage to have some fun times. This year our winter getaway was a relaxing weekend at Moose Mountain in the foothills near Bragg Creek. We prepared scrumptious meals, did crafts, read, took long walks, and enjoyed the beautiful surroundings amid laughter and friendship.

We had our annual BBQ in June at a member's home in the Bearspaw area. Always lots of good food, laughter and good friends.



This fall we attended Jubilations Dinner Theatre, again we had good food, enjoyed a wonderful performance with special guests and plenty of laughs. We have decided that we need to add more of these types of outings into our busy schedule instead of meeting every month for just supper. Can't wait to see where or what we can come up with for next year. And to close off this year, we will have a Christmas get together with a gift exchange at a member's home.

Our year has been very busy and very productive. The members of this guild truly enjoy being involved in Guiding events and with the camaraderie they find with their fellow Guiding sisters. Guiding keeps us alive, connected, and moving.....and we are definitely 'Keeping the Spirit Alive'!



submitted by Anne McSavaney

SOUNDS FUN GUILD - 2ND PARKLAND AREA

Our Guild consists of nine (9) members from two separate towns (Airdrie and Delacour); and we alternate where we meet. Our evenings include a short meeting for hearing updates for guiding and taking care of business, then we plan and carry out challenges, and of course have treats and beverages.

2013 found us spending a lot of meetings working on quilts for the Provincial challenge. We managed to complete 9 full size quilts which were donated to the Community Links organization in Airdrie which provides help to families and individuals in need. We continue to do service projects to help girls and community organizations, which again included selling cookies, making thank you cards for the Meals on Wheels organization to give to the many people who offer support to this worthy cause, and supporting the CWFF

A few took time out to go to the Lieutenant Governors Reception, one member was in Mexico with an Alberta contingent celebrating Thinking Day at the World Centre, and still others attend the Calgary Thinking Day event. Our Life Members attended the provincial luncheon, some went to the Parkland Area Dinner in May, and of course the Trefoil Roundup was held June, in Red Deer.

Somewhere in there, we also managed to supply the items for 8 birthday boxes for the food bank, started the 4 season crest challenges, and had our June wind-up dinner at a fine Italian restaurant,

Three of us have completed a Life Story album – and the rest of us are working on our. Sometimes I think this is an never-ending challenge but those who have completed their books say they are glad they did it, making it a worthy legacy/memory book of their time in this great organization.

All in all we have definitely had fun, challenged ourselves, tried new activities and have greatly enjoyed each other's company.

Submitted by Gail Armstrong

STARS – TAMARAC AREA

January 2013 was the beginning of a new year and we started off with a meeting to plan our activities until June. We have just two business meetings a year for planning and catching up on whatever needs to be done.

In February we enjoyed a movie night to raise money for the CWFF. We each brought a movie based (a bit loosely for some of them) on the WAGGGS girls theme of the year, and then enthusiastically presented it to everyone. Each of us had \$5.00 in quarters and voted with our money on which film to watch. Our hostess for the evening provided popcorn and beverages and, since we chose a comedy, there were lots of laughs.

In March we made hundreds of yarn doll kits, to be used at the 100th year anniversary rally in May, with yarn donated by Guiders in Tamarac Area. A couple of weeks later we went to a dinner theatre matinee in Devon and saw a play called “This Must Be the Place”. The food was great and the play was hilarious.

April brought warm weather and all that winter trash started to appear as the snow melted. We participated in the “PITCH IN” campaign and cleaned up a park in St. Albert filling two green garbage bags. There are garbage cans handy so it was surprising the amount and variety of items we picked up.

On a beautiful day in May we volunteered our services at the Tamarac Area Rally celebrating “Alberta’s 100th Year Anniversary”. There is nothing quite so much fun as being out with the girls at an event like this. Later that month we had a visit from a Guider in a Trefoil Unit in England. When she planned her trip to Canada she contacted Provincial Office and asked if there was a Trefoil Unit in St. Albert she could meet with and we volunteered right away. We spent a couple of very pleasant hours talking about Trefoil in our respective countries and exchanged cookies and crests. They sure do things a lot differently in England! She has since sent us a package of English crests and we have sent some to her group.

On a warm June evening we went on an “Art Walk” in downtown St. Albert. It is something that the shops and restaurants do once a month in the spring and fall. They stay open and have snacks and beverages we can enjoy as we wander around looking at the paintings, statues and murals in the businesses, parks and open areas. Later that month we had a year-end barbeque. Good food, good friends, what could be better!

September brought another planning meeting and making Thanksgiving tray favours for the “50 Plus Club” in St. Albert. The girls units are just getting going this early in the fall so we were asked to do this service project. We made cute little paper pumpkins for each person.

In October we went to the Edmonton Corn Maze and only got lost a few times. Well actually it depended on which one of us was sure they knew which way to go just how often we were lost. We also worked with the BOGGS Trefoil Unit at the luncheon for the “Tamarac Area Awards Ceremony”.

November was games night and supporting the Barrhead Food Bank with their Christmas hampers.

Then it was December and we had a Christmas cookie exchange and made finger puppets for children who are in emergency over the Christmas season. We made over eighty, which is something considering some of our ladies are decidedly craft challenged, and the staff at the Sturgeon Hospital were very pleased. They even used some to decorate the Christmas tree.

Respectfully Submitted, Terri Bouvier



Corn Maze: (left to right) Jennifer Duggan, Betty Squance, Terri Bouvier, Roberta Fehr, Kathy Batty and Suzanne Adams



PITCH IN: Betty Squance and Kathy Batty



Meeting an English Trefoil Member: Standing (left to right) – Pat Lafleur and Terri Bouvier, Sitting (left to right) Kathy Batty, Elaine Diack (our visitor from England) and Betty Squance

SILVER WILLOW GUILD – 3RD PARKLAND AREA

While this has been a very busy Alberta Centennial year in Guiding, it has also been one of our Guilds most fulfilling years. As we celebrated the start of our year with a luncheon at a local restaurant, where members were surprised with a dessert made especially for them by the chef. It was his Girl Guide Cookie Cheesecake recipe that was just so rich and scrumptious!

Little did we know then, that our decision to make a few quilts to donate to local charities in celebration of Alberta's 100th year in Guiding would take on a life of it's own. We gathered for a quilting bee at Darlene Crawford's quilting studio and to our surprise, we had enough material from our collective stashes as well as donated materials, to make at least 10 quilts. Those members who were not sewers, were put to work cutting, and we had a great time. Our sewers took these projects home and finished them! And then the flood happened in Calgary, Canmore, High River and many other smaller communities! We decided to find a home for at least eight of the quilts in High River, five to Rowan House Women's Shelter, and three to a local church to distribute to families in need! Joan Amundsen and her daughter produced 30 more scrap quilts that were also sent to victims of the flood ravaged areas. Valerie made a lovely quilt from donated sample squares made over 20 years ago and gave it to a woman in a local nursing home. Fantastic work ladies!

We had also decided to make Birthday Boxes to be given out locally, to celebrate our Centennial. I have lost count, but I believe that at least 10 boxes have been donated to various programs like the Food Banks in Lacombe and Alix/Mirror, Ponoka, and to a young single mother's group. This is a project well worth continuing next year! What family would not appreciate receiving a box with all a child would want to celebrate a birthday? These boxes contained a cake mix, pan, candles, icing, party invitations, favours, decorations and a small gift for the child.

We began our year with nine registered members, and this Fall we welcomed another new member. We are growing Guiding! Many of us were able to attend the annual provincial Roundup in Red Deer and it is always a pleasure to hear what others are up to. Because our membership is from all over Parkland Area, it provided an opportunity to get together and I was able to present service pins to some for 30, 25, 20 and 14 years. We also wrote up the story of our Guild which is close to 10 years old now.

Our spring plans to walk a part of the Trans Canada Trail have not happened, in part because so many of our members have been so busy, quilting, making Birthday Boxes, helping out in flooded areas making lunches and mucking out homes. Some members are still Guide leaders with Trex, Brownies and Guides.

As well, our members have been travelling the globe, with trips to Costa Rica, Scotland, Kenya, Norway, Croatia, Slovenia, Italy and Austria to name a few. As well, some have been busy closer to home with trips to Winnipeg, Vancouver, Montreal and Edmonton and Saskatchewan. Carol attended the Provincial reception at Government House hosted by the Lieutenant Governor in recognition of Guiding in Alberta. Peggy has been busy supporting her families efforts, Team Canada Volleyball, and with environmental projects like tree planting and garbage cleanup. Joan has qualified to become one of the first Adult Trainers and Assessors for Adventure Camping in Alberta! Way to go Team!

We have a dynamic and growing group of women. This fall it was fantastic to gather at the Red Deer Museum to see the excellent display of Girl Guide memorabilia and to see and hear the story from the curator of how it all came together. Who knows what next year will bring?

The Silver Willow Trefoil Guild from Parkland Area have recently made the following donations of quilts as part of our Centennial Quilt Challenge:

Five quilts donated to Rowan House in High River, a women's emergency shelter, who had 13 staff affected by the flood and many clients who were in an outreach location. Three quilts donated to a church in High River who would see that they got to needy families; 30, yes 30! lap quilts made by Joan Amundsen and her daughter and sent to the flooded areas(they did not put crests on them); One more quilt is still in progress, and will be donated by year end.

We have a dynamic and growing group of women. This fall it was fantastic to gather at the Red Deer Museum to see the excellent display of Girl Guide memorabilia and to see and hear the story from the curator of how it all came together. Who knows what next year will bring?

Submitted by Sheryl Paquette



Silver Willow Guild



Sheryl Paquette and Dianna MacLeod,
Silver Willow Guild