



Gleanings



Alberta Council Trefoil Guilds Annual Newsletter January 2015 Edition

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Alberta Trefoil Guilds

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

Chinook – Chinookettes

Cypress Hills – Mad Hatters

Edmonton – 1st Edmonton, 2nd Edmonton, The 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 – Wild Rosies, Sounds Fun, Silver Willows, 4th Parkland

Prairie Rose - Twilight Roses

Tamarac – BOGGS, STARS

Woodsmoke – Seasoned Woodsmokers

Also – 1st Canadian Internet Trefoil Guild



Mad Hatters, Medicine Hat:
Standing L-R Row: Gwyn Devonshire, Grace Sanderson, Barb Hamblin, Sabrina Kelm, and Sheila Donais
Kneeling in Front L-R: Bev Waege, Joyce Braumberger, Val Westers, Rebecca Arndt, and Elaine Turner



Twilight Roses, Prairie Rose Area
Bottom left to right: Robin Wenzel, Donna Thomas, Jacquie Schnider
Middle: Dona Wheaton, Danni Borud and Evelyn Good
Back: Bonny LaBine, Barb Milligan, Mary Larsen, Sue Still

A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Hello! And thank you for all that you do to 'Keep the Spirit Alive'. Hopefully 2014 was a great year for you and you have many great things on the calendar for 2015.

There are currently 310 members in 33 Guilds as of the most recent iMIS roster, that is, of course, if everyone who wants to be counted as a Guild member has paid their annual membership fees. A few Guiders have expressed interest in starting new Guilds so I do hope they follow through and report to our Adviser, Gail Armstrong.

2014 in review: It was a year of change for Guiding in Alberta as we said farewell to Margaret Utgoff who had been the 18th Provincial Commissioner of Alberta Council for the past five years and welcomed the new Provincial Commissioner Beverly Simpson Headon and her deputies Tracy Burton and myself Glenda Metro. We also saw the retirement of our Administrative Manager Fennie Fraser who was replaced by Darlene Ackroyd.

Alberta Guide House replaced all the furnaces and hot water tanks this past summer so we are set for a while with that. We continue to be busy with bookings for meetings and sleepovers for our members. Recently the City of Edmonton has informed us of a long term sewer project that will involve the closing of 107 Street in front of the office for approximately the next four to five years. This will impact the parking available as the street parking is gone for a distance around the building.

Upcoming Events

- Thinking Day **February 22, 2015**
- Alberta Council AGM – May 2, 2015
- Annual Trefoil Round-Up – June 6, 2015

Upcoming Events (2016) to mark on your calendars

National Trefoil Guild Gathering: 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 experiences and opinions, and 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: the Gathering will be held at Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, NFLD 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. The next Guiding Mosaic 2016 will be held from July 9 – 17 at Camp Woods in Sylvan Lake, Alberta. 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.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, Continued

News from National

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.

National Photo Contest Coming soon! Watch for details in *Guidepost* and *Canadian Guider* Magazine on how to enter the 2015 photo contest.

National Service Project - Girl Guides of Canada's National Service Project (NSP) offers members an opportunity to provide service to their communities and impact their world together. GGC's fourth-annual NSP, Words in Action, will focus on United Nations Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 2 - Achieve Universal Primary Education through the theme of "Literacy". Inspired by the 3rd Yellowknife Girl Guides, the title "Words in Action" embodies the spirit of service by putting girls in action, promoting the importance of literacy, increasing access to books across Canada, and more. This will be done through service activities such as hosting a book drive in their community, hosting a book exchange during a unit meeting, volunteering to read at a library, and more.

2015 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. World Thinking Day is all about connections; with each other, our sisters in Guiding, and with our Guiding roots. To highlight these important connections we are celebrating World Thinking Day 2015 with a focus on the themes of Diversity and Inclusivity. Diversity and inclusivity are essential to working together effectively; they are central to any great partnership. Our WTD Friendship Flyer is designed to help explore these issues with your unit in a fun and educational way! The Friendship Flyer also includes some exciting information about the new Twinning 2020 initiative, which is all about making connections and partnerships with our Guiding sisters.

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!

Glenda Metro
Deputy Provincial Commissioner

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PROVINCIAL TREFOIL ADVISOR

Hello everyone,

Once again it has been an interesting year in our world of Trefoil Guilds in Alberta! I always enjoy seeing pictures and hearing about the many service projects and activities we help with in our Districts and Areas and Local Communities.

Selling Cookies

Creating various cards, blankets, mittens, etc for all those in need

Entertaining and working within the neighborhoods

Sometimes touring the exceptional 'Sites to See' around the province

And having coffee, and of course other beverages, with the many other things we do.
and, Much, Much more!

As mentioned by Glenda Metro, we will soon hear from the Newfoundland Trefoil Guilds about the opportunity we will have to visit their province in June 2016. As soon as I hear, I will forward the applications and information giving everyone plenty of time to consider if they would like to attend.

Our own Alberta Trefoil Round-up will be held on June 6th in Red Deer once again,

June 6, 2015, 11:30 – 2:30, bring dishes, your favorite pot luck dish, stories to tell, your smile!!

St. Leonards on the Hill, Anglican Church

4241 44 Street, Red Deer, AB T4N 1H3 (403) 346-6769

I'll send out a reminder closer to the date of the event.

So, again, I thank everyone for all they do within their Guild.

We really do have a lot of fun as we help where we can with those around us.



Gail Armstrong

Provincial Trefoil Adviser

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2nd Parkland Area Trefoil Guild –
Margrete Lambden, Henny Smit-Nielsen,
Phyllis Teske, Lesley Trussler,
Kathy Cawthorpe, Lori Stafford,
Gail Armstrong and Margaret Hunt

STARS – TAMARAC AREA

Our new year started out well with a planning meeting at The Tea Place and welcoming Suzanne Adams to our guild. She was presented with her Trefoil Guild Pin and we all renewed our promise together.

February was a bit frosty (no surprise there) but we were warm and cozy eating popcorn and watching a movie in Julie's entertainment room. Each of us brought a movie based (again rather loosely for some) on the WAGGGS theme for 2014. We each had \$5.00 in quarters and piled them on the movies we wanted to watch. The biggest pile won and the money went to the CWFF.

March didn't bring spring flowers this year but we stayed warm visiting a Brownie Unit. A great time was had by all, although it's easy to forget just how much energy Brownies have! The ladies taught the girls the waltz, a song and helped them make beaver masks. Our Guild has some really talented ladies, which is good because it makes up for those of us who are useless with singing, dancing and crafts!

In April we each donated to the Chinook Area "Buy a Bunk Campaign" to help them rebuild Camp Okeekun. The name means "where friends meet" and I hope we all get a chance to visit one day and see the camp Chinook Area has as a place for girls and women in Guiding to learn new skills and make lifelong memories.

April brought us to Lois Hole Provincial Park on the edge of St. Albert. Spring still hadn't quite sprung, and it was a bit windy, but we saw wildlife in the water, on the land and in the air. It is quite lovely there with a boardwalk trail for us to walk on, benches to sit on and enjoy the view and signs with information to read about what we are looking at. We saw otters swimming and diving in the water and I had the feeling they were keeping an eye on us. Or maybe it was the ducks; they seemed to be everywhere too....



Near Big Lake in Lois Hole Provincial Park

(Front left to right) Kathy Batty, Jennifer Duggan, Roberta Fehr, Suzanne Adams

(Back left to right) Terri Bouvier, Fran Peacock

In May we went to "Old Downtown" St. Albert and did some geocaching. Kathy had found four caches for us to look for and, manned with our phones and the geocaching app, we went hunting. Some were definitely easier to find than others! They ranged from pushing our way into an overgrown treed area to the public library. Who knew geocaches came in books?

June brought us to Roberta's house for a BBQ and Bunnock tournament. We each contributed to the feast and there was everything from salads to veggies to burgers to desserts. After dinner Roberta presented us with our Tamarac Area Service Crests. There is one large rectangular crest that says "Tamarac Area – Community Service Recognition" with smaller triangular crests in four colours; purple for International, green for Environment, yellow for Neighbourhood and red for Holiday.

STARS Guild Continued,

Each of us received the large crest and, depending on what we had participated in throughout the year, the smaller coloured ones. Then we went outside and played Bunnock, which consists of two teams lined up facing each other a distance apart with a line of what looks like large white bones standing in from of them. The idea is to take turns throwing a black bone at the opposing team's line. The first team to knock down all the opposition's bones is the winner. This sounds much easier to do than it actually is. Especially when you play on grass and the black bone bounces over the white one if it lands in front of it. We had a lot of bouncing bones before a winner was declared.

In August we met at Terri's to plan the STARS ten year celebration. That's right; STARS is ten years old and we decided to have a Garden Party with lots of food and fun. We sent out invitations and hoped for a nice day. Since we were going to be busy in September, we made the tray favours for the 50 Plus Club's Thanksgiving dinner as well. There was a bit of complaining from the non-crafty among us but we managed to make 45 autumn themed tray favours which the club was very pleased to receive.

Also in August STARS provided lunch for the Tamarac Area Meeting. Julie did a wonderful job of arranging what food we were each responsible for, getting everything there and running the show at Guide House on the Saturday of the meeting. It was a job well done!

The day of our Garden Party finally arrived and the weather was perfect. We met at Julie's lovely home and got everything ready. There were twenty six ladies in attendance including Tamarac Area Life Members, STARS alumnus, members of BOGGS Trefoil Guild and interested Guiders from the area. We got to know each other, played games, had a campfire in the back yard and, of course, ate birthday cake. It was great fun and eleven ladies decided to join us. There were several who left Guiding years ago and have had to do the whole Membership Process, which has been a bit of an eye opener as to how much Guiding has changed. Once everyone is through the paperwork we will have more than doubled our numbers, which, quite frankly, is amazing.



(Back to front) Terri Bouvier, Julie Perras, Kathy Batty



The Birthday Cake



Some of the attendees in Julie's back yard for campfire

(Left to right) Johanna Lawson, Michelle Slade, Betty Squance, Janet Allcock, Pat Klann, Mary Alice Arial, Cauleen Farrants.

STARS Guild Continued,

October brought us back to The Tea Place for a planning meeting to decide what we were going to do for the next two months. We began by welcoming our new members and gave Angie De Hann, Patti Walker, Michelle Slade, Sharon Tees and Janet Allcock their Trefoil pins with all of us saying the promise together. There was lots of discussion about what to do now and in the next year. One thing for sure, we will be busy!

Coming up on November 28 we are going to Stony Plain for the Tri-Community Festival of Trees and the "Diamonds and Ice" fashion show and dinner. It is the major fundraiser for both the Tri-Community and Health and Wellness Foundation and the Multicultural Heritage Centre. You can't beat that; food, fashion, a wonderful evening out with friends and supporting worthy causes.

On December 14 we will be helping "We Care" feed the homeless. We will be meeting at a parking lot in Edmonton, helping them set up, handing out lunches and doing whatever else we can help with. We will each be bringing bagged lunches as well as gently used weather appropriate clothing and/or hygiene products.

It's been a busy year, full of fun, friendship and new experiences. I imagine next year will be too!
Terri Bouvier, President

BOGGS - TAMARAC AREA

BOGGS – Best of Girl Guides 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.

The first Tuesday of each month at one of our Sisters' homes we gather together. Our time together begins with a blessing before enjoying a delicious pot luck meal.

Fall is a busy time for BOGGS. We don our purple aprons (shared these with STARS' ladies) as volunteer helpers to serve refreshments for Tamarac Area Awards Day honoring the girls receiving awards. Helping Spruce Grove District with their annual Strawberry Tea/craft sale is another of our girl activities; lots of pie cutting, ice cream scooping, coffee urn filling and socializing. "Make new friends and keep the old".

Creating "tray favors" for Westview Village residents is another of our projects. The holidays currently remembered are: Canada Day/Summer, Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving/Fall and Valentines' Day. What Team Work!

Decorating for Christmas is another project we enjoy with the resident's helping the job is completed quickly with hot chocolate and Christmas Carols to follow.

Brunches with the East of Sixty Production in Devon are our "social outings", these take place in the fall and March. A yummy smorgasbord and a very lively "live" performance are the order of the day.

Our good times and sad times are "archived" in a scrapbook.

Friends, Food and Fun is our specialty.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Klann, BOGGS Guild President and Elizabeth Rushton, Secretary

TWILIGHT ROSES GUILD – PRAIRIE ROSE AREA

Hello to all of our trefoil friends!

We have had an interesting year this year so I would love to tell everybody about it! We were invited to attend the Thinking Day Festivities at the Guide Office in Calgary which quite a few of our members were able to attend. They report a great time and good food. It is always wonderful to be able to share our special times with other members in guiding.

We had invited the 'Sounds Like Fun Trefoil Guild' so that Gail Armstrong could share her Australian Trip with us. We shared a delicious meal and then we were off to Australia! Wow! What a great job Gail did. She came complete with several albums and souvenirs. Her descriptions of everything was phenomenal. I know that personally I felt that I had gone there as well! Thank you Gail!

The Trefoil Round-up in June was attended by a few of our members with a great time reported. Our summer was very quiet with most of us busy with family activities etc. In September we had a wonderful picnic at the Kinsmen Park in Strathmore. What a glorious fall day! The weather was beautiful, the food as always was delicious. We had our meeting in a very relaxing atmosphere. Aw it was lovely!

A couple of our members were able to join the fun with the 'Ghost Tour' in Calgary where they walked around special areas in Kensington to view the 'eerie sights'. Quite interesting!

We had a lovely lunch and meeting November 1st at the home of Evelyn Good, where we also enjoyed the company of two ladies that shared their crafts. We planned our year out with many activities selected. Our members come from a large area from Drumheller to High River and everything in between, so we are hoping to visit these special places through the following year. Our service project will be to make a personal bag for the ladies who are at the woman's crisis shelter in Strathmore containing items which will enhance their self-esteem. Our visitors at the meeting showed us a variety of ways to make these bags so we could get various ideas to make each one special. Thank you ladies! We will be bringing these bags to our Christmas meeting so we can share them in time for the holiday season.

Hope that everybody will have an exciting year ahead filled with a variety of adventures and sharing opportunities.



Your Friends Twilight Roses Trefoil Guild

Front- Donna Thomas

Middle row

Dona Wheaton, Bonny LaBine, Jacquie Schnider

Back row

Robin Wenzel, Mary Larsen, Evelyn Good

WESTROCKERS - CALGARY AREA

West Rockers have enjoyed lots of tours this past year to very interesting places in and around Calgary. In October 2013 we toured St Vladimirs, the Ukrainian Church in northeast Calgary, the staff were so enthusiastic about both the church, and the small museum attached to it, that made our visit memorable. In April we toured the Chinese Cultural Centre in downtown Calgary and again we had a very enthusiastic guide. In May we drove north to Pasu Farm to see the lambs and their llama protector plus look around the farm's gift shop. In July we drove south to Black Diamond and toured the greenhouses and the small town main street with it's gift shops and galleries. The walkers amongst us met for a walk by the Glenmore Reservoir near Heritage Park one day in May and afterwards joined others for a nice lunch at the Park Railway Cafe. Several members participated in what has become an annual event, a Wildflower Walk to Bow Valley Provincial Park. Lunch Box Theatre is another regular event for us and was enjoyed by some members in November.

All our outings have lunch attached to them with lots of time for socializing. WestRockers enjoy getting together monthly and will continue with this format. A couple of new members have been welcomed recently.

Service is a good part of who we are and some of our members have been most active in sprucing up the aging Guide Centre. What a difference a bit of TLC makes. Several members helped again with the Swap Meet - you bring craft and other unwanted supplies to the Guide Centre and then come down and take more supplies to clutter your home! No money changes hands, it's fun!

A Thinking Day Ceremony has become an Annual Tradition for us and we invite other Trefoils to join us for this special time. We follow WAGGGS themes, which this year was "Education for All" A collection is made for the Thinking Day Fund.

We have helped the charity, Senior's Secret Service, several times and the crafty ones amongst us enjoy making birthday cards for their clients. These are seniors who never have a visitor or a gift and this organization gives them gifts and cards for birthdays and for Christmas each year. There are 3,000 names on their list which makes one ponder as a senior who enjoys lots of friends and family. At Christmas, WestRockers got together for a Christmas lunch and spent a couple of hours making lovely cards, 110 in all, which were most appreciated.

Many members attended the annual Round-Up in Red Deer in early summer, and enjoyed meeting old friends.

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A FRIEND

A friend is like a golden gift that makes the whole day brighter,

A friend can give a little lift that makes a burden lighter

Life is full of lovely things but best of all of these;

The happiness that friends can bring, The gold of memories.

1st YELLOWKNIFE GUILD – NWT AREA

Yellowknife Trefoil Guild #1 has had another relatively quiet year. Most of our ladies are busy running units so usually Pat Weber and I help out when necessary with special events.

On Thinking Day, the District held a Rally at the DND gym in the Multiplex. There was an excellent turnout of girls and leaders and we enjoyed games, skits and crafts followed by juice and a Thinking Day cake (see attached pictures).



A Territorial Camp was held at Camp Dechinta during the week of Canada Day. The leaders and girls came to Yellowknife to participate in the Canada Day parade. The Trefoil duo (Pat & Barb) went to the pool in the afternoon to help supervise while the leaders took a break for a shower (there is no running water at Camp Dechinta so you know how good that felt for them). The girls had a great time in the pool and shared a lot of their camping stories with us.

One of Trefoil members and a valued member of Guiding, both in the North and across Canada, retired this summer. Deleigh Rausch and her husband, Brent, are in transition to their new retirement home in Alberta. Their daughters held a farewell gathering for them in late July. We will surely miss Deleigh as she has been a driving force for Guiding here since the late 1980's.

The Yellowknife District is undergoing many changes this year. Trefoil will continue to “lend a Hand”.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Guay

EMONIS AKE GUILD – 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 planned an outdoor wiener and marshmallow roast complete with stargazing. But, it was very cold and cloudy, so we stayed indoors and made S'mores in the toaster oven.

In February we made Thinking Day cards using the Iris Paper Folding method for our Guild Twins in England. The cards didn't get sent off in time for Thinking Day – but the thought was there. The Guild in England, the Blackwater Valley Guild in Berkshire, sent us a formal twinning certificate. Since we don't have that in Canada, we created one and had the Calgary Area Commissioner and Calgary International Adviser sign it.

March saw us enjoying a meal in a restaurant. We made Easter Eggs in April using the Pysanka method.

In May, we enjoyed a potluck and spent the evening planning our camp for later in the month. Five of our members camped at Stan's Cabin, Camp Jubilee on the last weekend in May. One other member joined them for the day on Saturday and we visited shops in Bragg Creek and Cochrane before returning to camp for supper.

Our annual windup BBQ was in June at the home of one of our members.

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 the White Spot restaurant for supper in October.

Our plans are to hold a craft night in November and wind up the year with a potluck and our annual Christmas ornament exchange in December.

Submitted by Jan McCaghren, President

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ABC's of Friendship

Accepts you as you are; Believes in "you"; Calls you just to say "HI"
Doesn't give up on you; Envisions the whole of you (even the unfinished parts);
Forgives your mistakes; Gives unconditionally; Helps you; Invites you over; Just because;
Keeps you close at heart; Loves you for who you are; Makes a difference in your life;
Never judges; Offers support; Picks you up; Quiets your fears; Raises your spirits
Says nice things about you; Tells you the truth when you need to hear it; Understands you;
Values you; Walks beside you; Yells when you won't listen, and Zaps you back to reality!

(Thanks to Coshana Fairhurst who posted this reading to the Guide Mailing List!

MAD HATTER'S GUILD – CYPRESS HILLS AREA

Our first meeting of the New Year was held at Perkins Restaurant. We discussed a number of things including: Information from Area regarding Canada Cord, Area Banquet, Thinking Day, Camp Clean-up, and Area Rally. We also discussed some activities we would like to do including; Master School of Hair Design, Gwyn Devonshire's Home, Butterfly House, and Tongue on the Post Folk Festival.

Six of us met for lunch at the Patio Café on January 23 for the Tongue on the Post Music Festival. Over great food and a good visit with those attending we were able to hear the duo "Leaving Aphelion", who were very good.

A Motion was made to change signing officers of the Trefoil Bank account. This change has been made.

Our February meeting was also held at Perkins Restaurant. We discussed some possible projects we would like to work on including; another quilt which we would raffle off, and writing a history of guiding in the Cypress Hills Area.

Five of us met at First Assembly of God Church on February 13, to decorate the room at the church for the Canada Cord Ceremony.

For Thinking Day on February 22, nine of us met at the Paradise Valley Par 3 Golf Course for lunch. We raised \$51.00 toward CWFF. This was a very last minute activity and we did invite the Leaders from the Area and were delighted to have one of them show up. We are hoping to do this again next year.

A Motion was made to donate some funds to the new Trex Unit, which is starting up in Cypress Hills Area.

Our March 11 meeting was held at Gwyn Devonshire's home where she treated six of us to her salt-water hot tub, sauna, exercise equipment, foot massages and reflexology. It was a wonderful evening.

Our April meeting was a farewell supper for Lois Meyer. Lois had been part of the Mad Hatters Trefoil group for about five years and moved to BC at the end of April to be closer to her family. We are all going to miss her very much.

Some of the Trefoil members attended the Area Banquet in April.

Grasslands District who organized this years Area Rally had asked for the assistance of the Trefoil ladies and a couple of us were able to attend. One of the ladies was in charge of the puzzle station where the children put together various forms of puzzles with the dinosaur theme. The other was put in charge of the fossil print cookies. These were made from the original Girl Guide sugar cookie recipe. The girls got to cut out cookies and using plastic toy reptiles put some prints in the cookies. The cookies were baked and everyone enjoyed eating the very delicious cookies.

Our May meeting was coffee at our local coffee meeting place and some discussion was held about the June windup meeting. A pleasant evening of Guiding was had by all.

Our June meeting was a Bring a Friend Pot-Luck BBQ. We had a very good turn out with lots of delicious food. Some of the Trefoil ladies managed to convince some of the former Girl Guide members to attend. One of the ladies had recently been in Europe and entertained us with details of her trip. It was a wonderful evening.

Our September meeting was held at our usual place, Perkins Restaurant. We only had a few ladies present as quite a few of them were away or had other commitments. Everyone for the most part had a good summer and looking forward to a new Guiding year.

October found us at the historical Medalta Potteries. Every Thursday Medalta Potteries has a market and food vendors, as well as local entertainment. Again we had a very small number of ladies, but the food was good, the vendors interesting, and while the music was good, the building acoustically was not built for loud music and conversation. The general consensus was, although a wonderful idea and a great place to go, just not for a meeting or visiting. A couple of the ladies were able to donate their time to assist the leaders with the Nike Hawk event, which was a great success.

November had us decorating the Angel Tree at Saamis Memorial Funeral Chapel and Crematorium. The Angel Tree is a twenty year tradition for the funeral home however, this is only the fourth year the Madhatters Trefoil Guild has volunteered their time for this great project. Each year the ladies look forward to hanging 600-800 very small ceramic angels on the tree and garland in the funeral home. The angels are then available for families in the Medicine Hat and District who lost a loved one to pick up and take home. This really is a great service project; because it is only one angel per deceased, family and friends often purchase additional angels, this money is then donated to the Santa Claus Fund. As one of the ladies said, this is what Guiding is all about; giving back, donating your time and talents for a great cause.



Members of the Mad Hatters Guild:

Standing L-R Row: Gwyn Devonshire, Grace Sanderson, Barb Hamblin, Sabrina Kelm, and Sheila Donais

Kneeling in Front L-R: Bev Waage, Joyce Braumberger, Val Westers, Rebecca Arndt, and Elaine Turner

December has us meeting for an early Christmas supper at Twist Wine and Tapas, a fine dining restaurant and wine bistro independent and locally owned by two sisters. Maybe we can recruit them into guiding!

Among the several ideas, projects, and activities that we are working on for 2015 includes making another denim quilt to raffle off. The money raised will more than likely be used to provide transportation funding for girls attending camps, i.e. Guiding Mosaic 2016. Looking forward to an exciting 2015. On behalf of all our Trefoil ladies we wish all our Sisters in Guiding a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Everyone seems to be enjoying the activities and our participation has been good. We're all looking forward to more fun gatherings.

SOUNDS FUN GUILD - 2ND PARKLAND AREA

The Sounds Fun Guild once again had a great year, alternating our meeting's between Delacour and Airdrie.

We have enjoyed hot toddy's, finding and sharing recipes. Gail presented us all with special cards made for each of us honoring our years of service. We are selling cookies to assist with the cost of girls going to camp (especially GM16 being held here in our Area.) Then we challenge ourselves to activities in the Rangers' Challenge booklet which of course makes us think back to our varied with the outdoors.

In May we try to attend the Area Dinner where we enjoy the company of many other guiders and Life members within the Area. And in June we try to treat ourselves to the company of our friends with a dinner out or a Bar-B-Que at one of our homes.

In the fall we gather again to share stories of our summer happenings, and plan for our monthly meetings. We held a successful evening of wandering around 'Kensington' in Calgary hearing the history and Ghost stories of the buildings in the area.

We annually make greeting cards and placemats for Meals on Wheels. We generally amaze ourselves with our creativity, and end the year with a 'tree ornament' exchange along with our best of Christmas treats.

Here is a picture of us taken when we completed the Guiding Lights challenge for the Guyana Twinning projects. It's fun to ask ourselves questions about Guiding that really make us think!! And we actually did pretty well ☺ Some of our members are absent on this day so we MIGHT have to do the challenge all over again.



From Left to Right:

Phyllis Teske , Gail Armstrong,
Margaret Hunt, Lori Stafford
and Kathy Cawthorpe.

We really do enjoy the challenges, enjoying each other's company, and the friendships we've gained from being an active member of our Guild. We hope you're having the same experience.

NORTH STAR NOMADS GUILD – CALGARY AREA

Our year started off quietly and in April we spent a beautiful spring weekend in Columbia Lake. We worked on various crafts from campfire blankets to baby quilts, we went bowling and made a work of art with wax crayons and a hair dryer.

We enjoyed Rosebud theatre's presentation of Diary of Anne Frank and began volunteering at Neighborlink. A ranger unit in our District travelled to Australia this summer so we helped wherever we could with their fundraising. We also enjoyed Storybook Theatre's version of Shrek the Musical and a lovely lunch at Pasu farms to see the baby lambs.

A few of our members participated in a tour of Chinatown, which was very interesting. This was primarily in preparation for our 3rd Annual Amazing Race that we hosted September 20, 2014. We had 2 teams of Rangers and 3 teams of Pathfinders that took 4 to 5 hours to complete the race from NW Calgary to Chinatown, to the Jubilee, the University of Calgary and back, all via Calgary transit.

At Halloween we learned to paint a picture of Witch's boots and finished off our year putting together our shoe boxes and volunteering at Operation Christmas Child. Best wishes to everyone for a wonderful 2015!



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**I Believe.....
That my best friends and I
can do anything or nothing
and have the best time.**

CHINOOKETTES GUILD – PRAIRIE ROSE AREA

We started the year off by working to finish our Yukon Challenge and had a fun time with Eco Charades. We made switch covers from silver metal that was Bev's great idea. Many different designs were made and then taken home and put on.

Our February meeting was a Valentine's inspired Pot Luck get together. As we were going to start on our Chocolate Challenge we were to keep track of how much chocolate we consumed until our March meeting. This was going to be a fun challenge to participate in.

March was our chocolate and more chocolate for those who were able to attend our Pot Luck meeting. There was even a chocolate bar tasting contest. We collected \$5.00 contributions for CWFF from the members' in attendance. We received correspondence from the Blackwater Guild in England with a special invitation to Westminster Abbey just for Trefoil members. They also sent us a quiz and our Florrie was the unofficial quiz champ! They also sent us a Happy Thinking Day. Tickets for the Annual Camp Tea were handed out to members.

April saw our member Jo-Lynn giving birth to a little boy on April 1st! Congratulations to her and family. Many of us were at our Area Appreciation Banquet. This was a great time! We also had our regular Pot Luck get together which brought again much chocolate as some were still finishing off this part. We have learned much about the chocolate we eat and how it's made. Did you know that the Chocolate Chip Muffin from Tim Horton's has 16 chocolate chips? April also saw us out for our Spring Dinner at Georgio's. It might seem like we eat alot – its true and its fun!



(Left to right-Bev McKillop, Audrey Simmonds, Cheryl Ali, Doreen Gyorkos, Judi Kopp and Ciska Peterson) (Area Appreciation Banquet)



(From left to right-Florrie Gillett, Doreen Gyorkos, Donna Bareham, Kathy Ludwig, Cheryl Ali and Bev McKillop) (Spring Dinner Meeting)

We had our monthly Pot Luck in May which proved to be a wonderful meal. We received mail from our UK friends which was read out. Orders for Mint Cookies were taken. Chocolate pudding paintings were shared by two members. We had our Spring Dinner out at a restaurant and a good time was had by those in attendance.

We had our June Pot Luck meeting at the Club House. Audrey reported that our three shrubs are doing very well. We are waiting to see when we can transplant these out at the Memory Garden at our beloved Camp Okeekun. As a service project we took up knitting and crocheting bears for SOAR 2014. This proved to be a fun project and we were happy to find someone to take them out for us. June also saw us electing a new President – Audrey Simmonds, Treasurer – Cheryl Ali, and Recording Secretary – Donna Bareham. Congratulations girls.

July saw us get together and bag each of our bears for transportation to SOAR!

September we were out at our Camp Okeekun. Of course we had our Pot Luck and what interesting foods we had – Soup, devilled eggs, Tube Steaks (hot dogs) and great little bunwiches. Work was started on our Saskatchewan Challenge. Tye dyed items were done from natural dyes that the girls had made. We also hide four Geo-Caches around the camp.



(L-R – Audrey Simmonds, Cheryl Ali and Bev McKillop)(Tye dying at September meeting)

October saw our meeting moved to the Area Office. We discussed ordering more cookies to sell in the spring. Registration fees were paid and donations were also made. Donations for the CWFF were also collected from the members that were there.

Our November Pot Luck Meeting will have a Scottish Theme as we will be working on our 'World Goes Tartan' Badge. We will also be making small gifts and Christmas Cards for our shut-ins and for our guiding sisters in England and Australia. Besides our regular pot luck well will be having our Fall Luncheon at a restaurant.

On December 10th we will be having our Christmas Dinner out at a restaurant and along with this comes our 'useless to you gift exchange'.

When our members 'go home' we donate to the Provincial Scholarship Fund in their name.

Gone Home this year: Nancy Rutt and Megan Owen

"Keeping the Spirit Alive" in Chinook Area is a goal that we work hard to keep.
It is the sisterhood of guiding that we love and it keeps us going.

Submitted by Audrey Simmonds & Donna Bareham

Y KNOTS GUILD – CALGARY AREA

As a Trefoil Guild in Calgary Area our yearly Guiding commitments seem to remain the same however, it is our other functions that make each Guiding year better and better. We do our regular schedule of providing hospitality/cooking service at events for Calgary Area such as Nite Trek, Memorial Grove, and Guide Skill Days along with several District run camps for Blackfoot, Prairie Mosaic and Three Sisters from Banff. This year we have added Acadia Community Camp and Horizon District Guider Reunion. We also have our service projects at the Mustard Seed serving a meal and McMahan Family Services gift wrapping for their annual Christmas Client Dinner. To this we have added knitting blankets, toques and booties for the Premie Baby Ward at the South Calgary Health Campus.



For our entertainment we went to Aspen Crossing in June for a buffet lunch in the train dining car with a leisurely stroll through the nursery, store and miniature railway display. In November we attended the Iron Wood Stage and Grill for lunch and listened to the music of the Big Bands. In the summer, we have our annual BBQ at a member's house. It is a potluck for us with burgers and all the fixings. We have now



associated our Guild with a UK Trefoil Guild and become pen pals with them. It will be interesting to hear all about these ladies and learn how they spend their Guiding year.

Our biggest adventure this year came in March with our Western Caribbean cruise on the Royal Caribbean Cruise line out of New Orleans. Seven of our Guild members spent an enjoyable 8 days cruising in warm sunshine with 3 more days sightseeing in New Orleans. Our total group was 14 which included husbands, neighbours, friends, daughter and mother.



At the Calgary Area Dinner this year, some of our members were presented with awards at various levels with our Guild receiving a Team Award for their efforts for getting Camp Mockingbird ready for the annual campers.

Having said that, I am sad to say that this Guiding year was our final camp cleanup at Camp Mockingbird. Instead of doing a weekend cleanup, we decided to spread it over 3 week days. Our Guild had signed up to do 5 years and our time was over. It was hard to make the call but the ladies realize that they are not getting younger and that younger is what is needed to do the tasks. We hope Calgary Area will be able to find another group who will take over the task and care for the camp like the ladies of the Y-Knot Trefoil Guild. We will still be there to help volunteer as needed.



Four of our Trefoil ladies attended Soar BC2014 as core members. They had a great time and came back with a lot of stories.

We will end our Guiding year with our annual Christmas party and gift exchange with 2 new members of our Guild, now totaling 18 members.

This will be my final report as President of the Y-Knots Trefoil Guild. I have passed the baton onto to Doris McDowell as President and Freda Osborne as Secretary. Both these ladies have years of experience and will bring more excitement, commitment and entertainment to the Guild. I have truly enjoyed working with the lovely ladies of the Y-Knots Trefoil Guild as their President and I am sure I will have as much fun working side by side with them as a member.

Yours in Guiding, Anne McSavaney

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PURPLE MARTINS GUILD – 3RD EDMONTON



Back row: Janet Nichols, Edna Dach, Sue Schroder, Mae Hadley, Marie Sommer, Margaret Utgoff, Marion Rex, Laurie Robertson, Karen MacDonald, Claudette Vague, Pauling McLaughlin
Sitting: Margaret Campbell, Sheelagh McCourt, Mary Gerritsen, Ruth Strandberg, Carmel Fenniak

PURPLE MARTINS GUILD – 3RD EDMONTON

Our Guild has 27 members of which many become snowbirds when the snow flies, the rest of us have a busy year. In January the members braved the cold weather and visited the Ice Sculptures (Ice on Whyte) followed by a luncheon at Cafe Bicyclette.

In February we made a donation to CWFF. On St. Patrick's day we met at Carmel's place and enjoyed Irish fare. In March we attended the live theater in Devon where we enjoyed a gourmet meal and a live comedy show ("There's a Burglar in my Bed").

In April we had a walk at the Hodgenson Pond and after met at a member's place and enjoyed coffee and dessert.

In May we were hostesses at the annual Area Dinner. Two of our members received the Medal of Distinguished Service for Edmonton Area, another member received the Medal of Merit and Karen Mac Donald received her Honorary Life Membership.

Instead of attending the Roundup in Red Deer the members attended a memorial service for the husband of a long term Guider. In June to celebrate Summer Solstice we visited the Devonian Gardens followed by a Potluck supper at a member's home.

In September we had a meeting to plan our activities for the coming year. We also assisted at the Girls Award presentation.

In October the Guilds from Edmonton Area were invited to attend our October Luncheon, 26 members were present and we enjoyed the great variety of food presented for our potluck luncheon followed by a singsong. One of our members of the first Trefoil (Margaret Grove) was present and we sang her an early happy birthday, she is 99 ½ years young.

At the close of this year we will have a Christmas get together with an exchange of gifts at a member's home.

During the year we helped out with Area projects such as Hope Mission. In May we collected sun screen lotion and other personal items. In November we packaged 200 bags of Christmas candy and decorated 200 lunch bags for Hope Mission. On a monthly basis we donated items to WINGS (Women In Need Growing Stronger). We assembled four (Birthday in a Box) boxes for the Food Bank. This year we decided to gather items for YESS (Youth Emergency Safety Shelter).

The year has been challenging but fulfilling with the continuation of friendship and common goals in keeping the Spirit Alive.

Submitted by Mary Gerritsen

SILVER WILLOW GUILD – 3RD PARKLAND AREA

After a very slow start to our year, our Trefoil ladies finally managed to get together this fall for a lovely day. We met for lunch in Blackfalds at After The Grind (highly recommend this café run by a youth charity) and then hiked along the Trans Canada Trail towards Red Deer. The day was perfect for walking and the fall colours were glorious. Of course we used our time to catch up and to share some ideas for further activities!



Val Redston hosted us at her lovely country home that overlooks the TCT and the Blindman River. We walked back to Blackfalds and visited the new Abbey Center Complex where they have the only indoor section of the Trans Canada Trail in Canada. We enjoyed the company of a former guider in Lacombe, who plans to join our group.

This fall we also held a spur of the moment activity from Lacombe! Sometimes that works best for us. We hopped a free ride on a new trial transportation service between Lacombe, Blackfalds and Red Deer on the Bolt bus and enjoyed the touring. It is a great and affordable way to shop, get to work, or college and to connect these three communities.



Two of our members will be attending the orientation this week for the “Come to Dinner” program at Ronald McDonald House in Red Deer. We plan to host a dinner there for families in December. Some of us will be attending The Festival of Trees in Red Deer in support of Red Deer Regional Hospital for the surgical suite on maternity. Some of our members also make quilts for various charitable organizations and events.

We stay connected mainly by e-mail, but also by occasional visits and outings between members. We are loosely connected with the activities happening in our district, as some members are still active with units.

Unfortunately, this year, no one was available to attend the Provincial Roundup in Red Deer, the first time in many years.

Submitted by: Sheryl Paquette

