



In the Spring 2015 Issue Carolyn's Corner

Upcoming Events

What Does Guiding Mean to you?

Area Camp @ Birds Hill

Guiding Mosaic

Thinking Day

Badge Day

Aviation Museum Sleepover

OAL Training

What's up in our units?

Facebook

The BACKPATTER Carolyn's Corner

Girl Guides of Canada – We are Social! What a great tag line – and while I’m the first to admit I’m “old school” in a lot of ways, I’m excited about what social media can do - not just for connecting leaders and girls to resources, information and each other, but to promote Guiding throughout the community. We have our new Provincial Website, are on Facebook, GirlGuidesCANBlog, LinkedIN, Pinterest (love this one), Twitter (haven’t learned that yet), Flickr and YouTube! Instagram will connect Pathfinders, Rangers and other young adult members, to share photos of fun, friendship and adventure of Guiding.

I love checking our Area Facebook and seeing the great pictures and comments on unit activities and seeing how much fun the girls and Guiders are having – well done and keep them coming!

We’re social in other ways too – a community of volunteers committed to providing girls and women opportunities to experience new things, learn new skills, and make a difference. We are ‘sisters’, supporting, encouraging, and sharing in the fun, laughter and friendship that can be found in Guiding.

April 24th – 26th is the Provincial Annual Convention at Hecla! I hope to see many of you there for the Friday night activities, Saturday

training and interest sessions, and Sunday Guides’ Own – it will be an awesome weekend!

Sunday May 3rd is our Area Annual Meeting & Guider Appreciation Night, hosted by Pembina Valley District (Morden & Portage la Prairie) at the Portage PCU Centre - reception at 4:00 pm., dinner at 5:00 with Awards and a Pool Party to follow! Tickets are \$15.00 and available from your District Commissioner or Lori at the Area office. Let’s do some carpooling and get as many Guiders as possible out for the evening.

Area Council has been very fortunate to have had Joyce Riddell as our Cookie Advisor for a number of years. As this spring campaign is Joyce’s last before ending her term, Area will need a Cookie Advisor. Please consider volunteering for this important position on council.

So, finally... Spring is here and the last months of the Guiding year are fast approaching. While you are busy planning year end events, outings and camps – take a moment to have fun and enjoy this time with your girls.

Remember.....Guiding’s great because of you!

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

April 24 - April 26, 2015 - Provincial Annual Convention

Location: Hecla Island Lakeview Resort

The theme for this year is "Build Your Guiding Lighthouse". Join us as we go through a day of training, fun and friends! There will also be lots of opportunities to socialize and meet other Guiders from across the province.

Cost: \$85

May 2, 2015 - Youth Awards Day

Fort Garry Hotel Ballroom 1:30- 3:30pm

The Youth Awards Day is a day to recognize the Pathfinder and Rangers recipients of the Canada Cord, Chief Commissioner's Gold Award, Duke of Edinburgh and Provincial scholarships!

Application Deadline: April 3

May 3, 2015 - Area Annual

Area Annual Meeting & Guider Appreciation Night, hosted by Pembina Valley District (Morden & Portage la Prairie) at the Portage PCU Centre - reception at 4:00 pm., dinner at 4:00 with Awards and a Pool Party to follow! Tickets are \$15.00 and available from your District Commissioner or Lori at the Area office.

May 22 - 24, 2015 - OAL Residential and Adventure Camp Skills weekend

Location: Camp Cedarwood

Getting outside, enjoying nature, and challenging ourselves are some of the best parts of the Guiding experience and are a central part of the Girl Guide philosophy and program. The Outdoor Activity Leadership program is designed to empower Guiders to undertake meaningful outdoor activities with girls in a variety of settings.

Tent Camping Training: For Guiders who have completed residential camping training or have the skills and knowledge needed to take girls on a two night camp experience, and would like to expand their skills to a tent setting at an established site that has amenities such as toilets, running water and possibly cooking shelters.

Adventure Camping Training: Typically for Pathfinder, Ranger and Trex Guiders with prior tent camping experience wishing to develop skills, knowledge and capacity in adventure camping (backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, horse packing, winter camping, etc.). Please note that OAL Tenting is a prerequisite for this training.

June 6, 2015 - Tim Horton's Clean Up

We are once again please to be teaming up with Tim Hortons for the Annual Tim Hortons clean up. Please Contact Monika if you are interested in participating

Registration Deadline: Monday June 1st

August 16-23, 2015 - Loons, Lakes and Laughter Camp

Will happen at Caddy Lake Camp with the aim to prepare Girls/Guiders for Guiding Mosaic. Cost: \$275 per person (after Provincial subsidy).

July 9-17, 2016 - Guiding Mosaic

Will be held at Camp Wood, Sylvan Lake, Alberta Cost- \$1050.00 + GST + travel Core Staff pay \$525.00 +GST Canadian girls will need to be entering Pathfinders and up to Ranger age.

Girls can earn up to \$300 through cookie all-stars that can be applied to the GM registration fee.

Patrol of 8 girls and 2 adults. It is a catered event. Girls have to have 4 nights in tents and 2 must be consecutive nights. Applications hope to be available November 2014.

For more information about upcoming event please check the Provincial Website: <http://www.girlguides.ca/web/mb/>

Area Council

Area Commissioner:

Carolyn Titterton

District Commissioners:

Forest Park

Heather Burkowski

Sturgeon

Chelsey Kent

Sanford

Cordelia Yaworski

Northwest

VACANT

Pembina Trails

Michelle Charriere

Shannon Kitson

Area Treasurer:

Pat Gerow

Cookie Advisor:

Joyce Riddell

Area BackPatter

Holly Hunter

Area Facebook

Rebecca Earley

Area Camp Advisor

Cobie Romance

What Guiding Means To Me!

A few weeks ago, the leaders of the 157th Guides asked the girls to describe what they liked most about Guiding... And this is what the girls shared:

- love Girl Guides because you can be yourself, go camping, play fun games and go on trips! (Kayla)
- I love Girl Guides because you play lots of games and try to make the world better! (Jayde)
- I love Girl Guides because you get to do lots of arts and crafts! You get to help the environment! Play fun games like tag and many many more! You can go camping and camping is sooo fun! You also get cool badges! (Willow)
- I love Girl Guides because we learn about girl guides across the world and what they do and they learn and we learn from it.
- I love Girl Guides because you learn about making a nice change in the world!
- I love Girl Guides because you can go green and save the wild. Sell cookies to the old people and help them. You learn about how to spend your money wisely and learn to know the stuff you need to survive. And because you learn how to be nice and all the girls are your sister and you're never alone! (Marianne)

Submitted by Chelsey Kent

District Commissioner - Sturgeon



Guider: "why does this represent girl guides and Girl Scouts to you?"

Girl: "because there are lots of stars and each star represents girls in Guiding"

Area Camp



Prairie Valley Area

Spring Camp 2015

Please accept this as your unit's invitation
to join the Prairie Valley Area Camp.

June 5-7, 2015

at Birds Hill Provincial Park

Saturday night we will have an Area Campfire

Please RSVP to Cobie Romance at
cobiesdaisy@yahoo.ca or 204-802-4743 by May 5,
2015 with your unit and number of girls and
guiders attending.

Units are responsible for Ratio and Safe Guide.

Guiding Mosaic 2016 - The Great Canadian Adventure

Guiding Mosaic 2016 will take place in Sylvain Lake, Alberta Saturday, July 9th - Sunday, July 17th, 2016.

Core Crew positions are to be posted April 10th so keep an eye on the website and consider getting involved in what is sure to be a great camp! (<https://www.girlguides.ca/web/GM2016/>)



Thinking Day Roller Skating



On February 22 Girls and Guiders from across Prairie Valley Area gathered at Wheelies to connect with one another and have some fun rollerskating! A great time was had by all in attendance!

Thinking Day Campfire

Wednesday February 25, girls and Guiders from all branches gathered at the Convention Centre for a Provincial Campfire. This year, Thinking Day was celebrated as Province introduced WAGGGS Vision 2020 "Amigas de Mundo: Connect, Grow, Impact", and our new Twinning partner El Salvador.

Besides a presentation on this exciting new initiative, the girls and leaders were entertained with traditional folk dances from El Salvador. Thank you to Ballet Folklorico Raices De El Salvador!

Campfire isn't complete without songs and fun! The sing-a-long had some new songs and as always, some favourites of the girls. Many thanks go to Lori Baldwin and Area Rangers for leading the campfire!

Submitted by Carolyn Titterton
Prairie Valley Area Commissioner



Sparks Badge Day

Sparks Badge day was great! The girls did activities related to their Exploring and Experimenting badge!

One of the highlights of the day was the Dome of the Planetarium where the girls learned about constellations, the moon, sun, as well as stories or legends behind the constellation!

The girls made paper airplanes and flying comets, they made and played musical instruments, and they also worked with play-dough and got to make their own 'creations'.' Finally, a badge day would not be complete without some songs and games!

Submitted by Heidi Richardson

402 Sparks Unit Guider



Aviation Museum Sleepover

This year Area hosted its annual sleepover and this year it was at the Western Canada Aviation Museum. The event was held March 6-7 and March 7-8. Units from across the area came out for this event! It was great to see such a good turn out. The night included a flashlight tour of the hanger, making 'junk' airplanes, making paper airplanes, a delicious snack, and great time in the exhibit area. Speaking as a Spark Guider it was so great to see that the Girls not only left having learned a little bit about planes, about aviation history but that they seemed to have gained some confidence and leadership skills that they will carry with them through their Guiding lives

Submitted by: Holly Hunter
404 Sparks Unit Guider



OAL Adventure Training

One of my favourite things about Guiding is that even as an adult I am constantly presented with opportunities to learn and grow.

On March 14th Province hosted a series of OAL trainings. I went to the adventure camp option where I learned about planning trips, Safe Guide, how to use a compass, equipment and so much more.

I would encourage all Guiders, young and old, new and experienced to get out and take advantage of the great trainings available.

Submitted by: Holly Hunter
404 Sparks Unit Guider



Are you doing something interesting with your unit? We want to hear about it! Please send your submission to Holly Hunter hollyhunter@shaw.ca

Facebook

Prairie Valley Area has its very own Facebook page and we would love it if you would be our friend! This is a great venue for the exchange of ideas and to find out about what other units are up to. So far, we have some wonderful photo submissions, but we would love to see more. It would be great to see photos from each unit! We have such a diverse and exciting area, and it would be great to have the opportunity to see all of the wonderful things that are going on with our members. Guiders and Rangers are welcome to add us at:

[http://
www.facebook.com/
prairievalleyarea](http://www.facebook.com/prairievalleyarea)

What's Happening in Our Units!

