



FRONTIER NEWS

November 2011, Issue #3

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You cannot dream yourself into a character; you must hammer and forge yourself one.

Henry David Thoreau

A Note From the Founder

Frontier Girls is going through quite a growth spurt this year. As a result, my website is just not keeping up. Please be patient while we design a new site that will be easier to navigate, shop, and hopefully will display in all browsers instead of just a few. This project will probably take several months, so in the meantime, if you have any problems with the current website, such as broken links, missing information, or unreadable navigation bars, please let me know. If I can't fix it quickly, I can at least email you what you are looking for.

While my website might need a little help, our Yahoo groups are really starting to take off. The leader group has been especially helpful as new troops get started. Check out the files section, if you haven't already, to see all kinds of great forms and resources that the leaders have been uploading. The links section is also filling up with great ideas for everything from service project ideas to crafts. With the number of Girl Scout leaders recently switching to Frontier Girls, we also have new leaders with many, many years of scouting experience jumping in with great ideas. Thanks to everyone who has been willing to share.

Kerry Cordy

New Badges Recently Released:

Check out the latest badges that have been uploaded to the website:

ABC	Advanced Sewing	California Missions
Care Bears	Dinosaurs	Disney
Dogs	Honor	Insects (specific)
Jelly Belly	Jewelry Making	Literary Heroines
Massage	Ocean	Office Worker
Water	Gingerbread	



Leader/Daughter Jamboree

June 24-27
Cordy's Pond
17040 Austin Lane
Cottonwood, CA 96022
Cost \$100 per person

Calling all leaders and their daughters. Come join us for a weekend of camping fun while we share ideas and projects for improving our troop experience. We will be doing crafts, fire building, outdoor cooking, canoeing, swimming, hiking and more.

All meals are included. Tents will be provided and we will be camping outdoors. If you prefer to stay at a hotel, you may, but the nearest hotel is 30 minutes away in either Anderson or Red Bluff, CA, and will be at your own expense.

A registration form is included at the end of this newsletter. Registrations **MUST** be received by April 30, 2011. Cancellations after April 30 will only be refunded 50% as supplies other than food will be purchased at this time.

Flight information:

If you fly into Redding, CA the flight will be more expensive, but we can provide transportation from the airport to Cordy's Pond. If you fly into Sacramento, CA the flight will be cheaper, but you will need to either rent a car or take the shuttle.

Badge of the Month - Water



This month in honor of our Girl of the Month, Zoe Swafford, and the beginning of the rain and snow season, we are offering the Water Badge from Discover Science and Technology as the November Badge of the month. The requirements can be found online in the members only section. To log in, use the following:

user name: firstlast (girl member's first and last name)

password: member

Below are a few activity suggestions you may enjoy while working on the Water Badge:

- Take a field trip to a local Dam, river, lake or ocean.

- Take a virtual field trip to the Spokane Aquifer at <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/kids/vfte/>
- Visit the EPA's website at <http://water.epa.gov/learn/kids/drinkingwater/gamesandactivities.cfm> for fun interactive games and activities that teach about water
- Visit the Ground Water Foundation's website and have your girls create their own water filtration systems. <http://www.groundwater.org/kc/activity7.html> This activity is fun, easy and educational.
- Find out how much water is on our planet:

Materials Needed

Five gallon bucket
 Three clear jars (one labeled freshwater, one groundwater, and one for rivers and lakes.)
 Tablespoon
 Eye Dropper
 Blue food coloring (optional: helps to see the water in the jars)

Fill the five gallon bucket with water. This represents all the water on earth including the oceans, lakes, rivers, ponds, groundwater, clouds, ice caps, etc.

Using the tablespoon, transfer 25 tablespoons to the jar labeled freshwater. Of all the water available on our planet, this is all the freshwater we have. The water remaining in the five gallon bucket represents all the salt water on the earth.

Next, transfer 8 tablespoons of water from the freshwater jar to the groundwater jar. Groundwater is all water located in the ground.

Finally, transfer 1/10 of a tablespoon (about 25 drops from the eyedropper) from the fresh water jar and place it in the rivers and lakes jar.

What now remains in the fresh water jar represents the water in our atmosphere and clouds (rain, snow, etc.) as well as the water that is frozen in our polar ice caps and glaciers.

Look at the water in each container. How important do you think it is to protect the small bit of water that we can actually use and drink that is located in the groundwater and lakes and rivers?

Tips and Treasures

Ideas and tips from our members

On the Leader Yahoo group, in the files section one of our leaders uploaded a great spreadsheet to track the life skills completed by the girls in your troop. Suggestions for working on these skills included using games like Simon Says (Simon Says tie your shoe), or sending home a challenge each week for the girls to complete so that they will have each skill finished by the time they advance to a new level.

Make homemade soap as either gift items for Christmas or as a fundraiser. Izzy uploaded complete instruction along with photos to our Pioneer Yahoo group. Cookie mixes in a jar are also great this time of year.

Adele shared instructions for making Christmas snow globes:

"My troop will be making snow globes this Christmas. We have 17 kids in our troop ages 3-15 so this is a great project cause the little ones can do it and the older ones will enjoy it also. We are going a christmas exchange everyone will get a "secret santa". So they will have to make a snow globe for their secret santa and we will exchange them the same day. So no one will go home with the globe they made, but one that was made for them. I thought since we are a new group this will help the kids get to know each other and feel more like a family.

What you will need

Baby food jar (or small jam jar)

Baby oil

Glitter

Small toy (I went to the craft store and picked up miniature snowmen, presents, christmas trees, penguins) one that will fit in the jar

Water

Hot glue gun

Ribbon

Construction paper

Steps

1. Have the children pick out the item they would like to put in their snow globe.
2. Take off lid and put hot glue in the center of the inside of the lid and place the toy on top of the glue.
3. While the glue is drying fill the jar with half water/half baby oil make sure you don't fill it all the way up to the top so it doesn't spill out with you place the toy and lid on
4. Put in a teaspoon of glitter
5. Check and make sure the toy is glue securely on the inside of the lid. If it is then add glue to the inside ring of the lid so it seals well and screw on the lid.
6. Turn over so the jar sits on its lid and SHAKE! The oil helps the glitter fall slowly to the bottom
7. You can trace the lids and cut out circles to glue on the top and hot glue ribbon around the jar lids edge to hide the fact it is a baby food jar lol"

If you have a favorite craft, activity, organizational or record keeping tip, or any other tip or treasure you wish to share with other members, please email it to kerry@frontiergirls.com with the subject line, "Tips and Treasures".

Pointers for Patriots

If you plan to attend fly anywhere for the holidays or to the Leader/Daughter Jamboree next summer in CA, make sure to check into military discounts on your flights. The following site: <http://www.milvetstravel.net/sd.html> has links to a variety of travel discounts available for military families.

If you have a military pointer to share, please email them to Kerry@frontiergirls.com with the subject line NEWSLETTER.

Make a Difference

Community Service Ideas for November

- November is military family appreciation month. Find a military family in your community to support by bringing them dinner, raking their leaves, mowing their lawn, or even babysitting their kids.
- Have a Canned Food Scavenger Hunt. Make a list of canned food items and split your troop into teams. In one hour, see which team can not only gather the most canned foods, in their neighborhood, but also who can check off the most items from your canned food scavenger hunt list. Donate all items to your local food bank at the end of the game.
- Visit a veterans home and sing patriotic songs to them and bring them cards.

If you have a community service project to share, please email them to Kerry@frontiergirls.com with the subject line NEWSLETTER.



Girl of the Month

Zoe Swafford -Dolphin, Rhode Island

Zoe is a Dolphin in Rhode Island who is both a Girl Scout as well as a Frontier Girl. As part of the WOW (Wonders of Water) Journey with Girl Scouts, she and her mom created a fantastic website all about water called "Don't Waste Water, We Need It!" (<http://dontwastewaterweneedit.weebly.com/>)

I was so impressed with the way she presented the information she learned, that I asked if I could use the site as a basis to write a water badge for Frontier Girls. Zoe did me one better and offered to write the badge herself. With the help of her mom and other leaders in her troop, she took what she learned in Girl Scouts as well as the extra information she discovered on her own, and wrote our new Water Badge. You can check out the requirements in Discover Science and Technology.

Zoe is a great example of what a Frontier Girl should be. She went above and beyond what was required in either Girl Scouts or Frontier Girls, and created materials to share what she has learned with others. Frontier Girls would not be the program it is if our members did not step up and share what they create with the rest of our membership. Thank you Zoe for giving us a wonderful new resource.

If you have a girl you think should be featured in Girl of the Month, send her story to kerry@frontiergirls.com with the subject line, "Girl of the Month".



Contest

For our November Contest, send us your favorite Thanksgiving recipe. All recipes will be posted, and the best submitted from each level will win \$5.

The winners of our Essay Contest from September/October are:

Penguin: No entry
Otter: Lilly Nolan
Dolphin: No entry
Butterfly: Katrina Amen
Eagle: No entry

You can read the winning essay's at the end of this newsletter

First Annual Christmas SWAPS Event - Reminder

Adele from Troop #154 in CO has posted a database on the Leader Yahooogroup for any troops who wish to participate in a Christmas SWAPS event. SWAPS are **S**pecial **W**hatchamacallits

Affectionately **P**inned **S**omewhere. They are small items attached with safety pins that the girls can swap with one and other to mark a special occasion or make a new friend. Each SWAP should be homemade and should tell something about the givers or their troop. SWAPS should not be expensive and can be pinned to a lanyard, totebag, jacket, etc.



If your troop would like to participate, please post your troop number and the number of girls in your troop no later than Nov. 15 on the database. Then check back after November 15 and make enough SWAPS for each of the girls in the other participating troops. I will send each troop the addresses of the others participating so that you can mail off your SWAPS. Please make sure all SWAPS are in the mail by Dec. 7 to ensure the girls get them before Christmas.

If you need ideas on how to make a SWAP, pictures have been uploaded to the Yahoo group album and you can also check out some great ideas from Making Friends at <http://www.makingfriends.com/swaps.htm>.

Winning Essays From September/October

Lilly Nolan - Otter, Troop #154, Colorado

I like being a Frontier Girl because I just love to be one, and I like to see my friends, and all the other girls. I like to do the crafts. That's what I like about Frontier Girls.

Katrina Amen - Butterfly, Troop #101, California

Frontier Girls is a great and super fun program! I like how you can earn badges for almost anything, and if there isn't one, you can create it! It teaches girls how to do interesting crafts, which I really like doing. Also, I really like the fun songs. Some of them I sing with some of the girls in my troop when we aren't at Frontier Girls at the time! I like working on the badges as a troop because it is fun working with other friends. I like trying new things that I normally wouldn't try on my own, learning important life skills, and learning things I would have never learned before. For instance, I would probably have never learned how much field space an alpaca needs if I hadn't earned the Alpaca Badge, or know what a parsnip or turnip tastes like cooked in maple syrup and butter without earning Vegetable Badge. I really enjoy Frontier Girls and I hope other girls who are in it like it too.