



FRONTIER NEWS

January 2012. Issue #5

In This Issue:

- A Note From the Founder
- New Badges
- Badge of the Month - All Badges
- Frontier Girls B-Day Party
- Pointers for Patriots
- Jamboree
- Tips and Treasures
- Make A Difference
- Girl of the Month
- Contest

Great thoughts speak only to the thoughtful mind, but great actions speak to all mankind.

Theodore Roosevelt

A Note From the Founder

Frontier Girls Turns 5

Five years ago this month, on January 19, Frontier Girls officially came into existence. What began as a simple, stand alone group, put together as an alternative to Girl Scouts, has now reached 30 states.

For those of you who don't know the history of how Frontier Girls came to be, I thought this would be a good time to share it. Growing up, I belonged to a fantastic Girl Scout troop run by my mom. Our troop was a multi-level group of eclectic girls who had little in common outside Girl Scouts, and yet we had one of the strongest troops in town. Thanks to my mom, seven of us earned our Gold Award, the highest award available in Girl Scouting.

I loved Girl Scouts so much that as soon as I turned 18, I became a camp counselor at one of their summer camps. When I was blessed with two daughters, I couldn't wait to become their Girl Scout leader and as soon as Katie, my oldest, started kindergarten in 2002, I opened my Girl Scout troop.

Like my mom, I had a hard time saying no to any child who wanted to join my troop and soon my troop spanned from Daisies to Juniors (grades K-5) with nearly 20 girls. In 2004 I had my first Cadette join (a 6th grader) and was introduced to the Girl Scout's Studio 2B program.

I was appalled. This was not Girl Scouts as I knew it. I started researching the National Girl Scout council and finally came to the conclusion that this was no longer an organization I felt comfortable supporting. At the end of the school year in 2005 I quit. The next year was spent trying to find an alternative. I tried opening an American Heritage Girls troop, but my co-leader at the time was Mormon and could not sign their statement of faith. How could I look her daughter in the eye and say, "Sweetie, you can still be in my troop, but your mom can't help anymore because she does not believe exactly what I do."

In the fall of 2006 I decided to open my own private troop and call ourselves Frontier Girls. My father had recently passed away, and since there was so much interest in my troop, I used the money he left me to hire a lawyer and set up a non-profit organization. The papers were officially filed on January 19, 2007.

The next year and a half were spent writing and creating the Frontier Girls program. My troop of 30 girls went through two uniform changes, countless badge and pin changes, requirement

changes and more, until we finally had a program we thought was ready to share. In the fall of 2008 we started opening troops in other states.

Unfortunately we soon learned how expensive it was to run a non-profit legally in a variety of states. By 2010 I had invested everything I was legally allowed to and we were still in debt over \$7000. The board voted to close the non-profit and sell me back the name and logo. As of September 1, 2010, Frontier Girls, Inc. became Frontier Girls Clubs and is now a privately owned business. With the freedom to invest more money into the program, 2011 was a fantastic year for Frontier Girls. We more than doubled in size and added 37 new troops.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have helped to build Frontier Girls and make it better for everyone involved. The girls and parents in my personal troop have always been the guinea pigs, testing each new element of Frontier Girls before it is added to the program. Without the patience of these wonderful people, none of this would have been possible.

Over the last several years, girls, parents, and leaders from around the country have submitted ideas and suggestions, written badges, and supported one and other to create a fantastic program that has something for everyone. While Frontier Girls may have been my brainchild, it is what it is today because of the love and dedication of our many members. Thank you.

New Badges Recently Released:

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

*Animals Around the World
Seasons**

*Meteor Crater, AZ
Tie Dye*

*Music Appreciation
Trees*

*Music History
Yoga*



Badge of the Month – All Badges!

In honor of Frontier Girls' 5th birthday, all of our badges are our "badge of the month" for the month of January. Through January 31, 2012 all Frontier Girls badges will be 10% off. If you know what badges you plan to earn this spring, this is a great time to pre-order and save a bit of money.

Throw a Frontier Girls Birthday Party

Many of our leaders have been busy putting together ideas for celebrating the 5th birthday of Frontier Girls on January 19.. Below are a few of their suggestions:

“Wear your uniform to school on Jan. 19 and make happy birthday posters to post in local shops.”

-Karen, Troop #144

“One of my girls suggested hanging a bunch of "5"s from the ceiling with balloons. Another wants to buy those Christmas crackers (the pull apart kind with toys inside). We'll get them cheap after Christmas.

We'll have red, white & blue food and learn a patriotic song. We'll make cards to send to "our" soldier.”

- Katie, Troop 159

“Beth's favorite service project is the one we do for the Girl Scout Birthday (March 12). She makes a "Birthday Party in a Bag". She fills a large gift bag with cake mix, candles, frosting, party favors, streamers, a party game, and a small gift, (such as coloring book and crayons, or a Barbie doll), etc. We attach a tag identifying the age range of the gift and then donate it to a local shelter or food bank. This can be done with a troop, too. I originally started doing this back in 1999 with my GS troop (30 Brownies), and would have the girls brainstorm what to put in the bag. Then I'd do the shopping, bring it to the next meeting, have the girls pack it, and we were done. You could assign each girl an item off your list to contribute, or take a shopping trip with them, too.”

- Suzanne, Pioneer Mom

“Learn patriotic songs and perform them for your local veterans at a VFW post, American Legion, or Veterans home. Make patriotic crafts, food, and décor to help get into the Frontier Girls spirit. You could even do a lasting community service project with the Frontier Girls name on it such as making bat houses for a local park, building a step for a water fountain so that smaller kids can reach it, or painting a mural.”

- Kerry, Troop #101

Pointers for Patriots

If you are part of a military family and are looking for something to do during the cold winter months, several major movie theater chains offer military discounts. Always check each company's website before visiting the theater as some simply require you to show military ID at the box office (Cinemark), while others require you to pre-purchase tickets on base (AMC).

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



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.

Tips and Treasures

Ideas and tips from our members

Badges You Never Thought Of

A few of our leaders got together and started a fun Facebook page called, "Badges They Never Thought of..." This is a closed group for adults only. If you are a die-hard Frontier Girl parent and would love a good laugh, you should check it out. Just a few of the eclectic badges that have been dreamed up are:

- Holiday Shopping at the Last Minute badge
- I Finally Managed to Set Up My Mother's Kindle badge
- Do as I Say, Not as I Do badge
- I Don't Need to Stop and Ask for Directions badge
- The "I've done this a thousand times" Badge, not to be confused with the "I can do this in my sleep" badge
- I Wonder What Happens if I Stick This in Here badge
- Whoosh, Right Over My Head, I Didn't Get it badge
- I'm Finally Going to Get to Bed Before Midnight Badge
- Yes, They Are All Mine badge
- **I'm a Few Fries Short of a Happy Meal badge**

Marigold Seeds

Izzy, a Pioneer in NC, wants to remind anyone who has dead marigold flowers in their yards that now is a fine time to pick them. They are very ugly right now but if you pinch them off and let them dry out you can make marigold paper, from shredded paper, to give as a spring gift to a friend. Elderly women who like to garden, would enjoy such a sweet gift. (Izzy plans to post pictures and info in January on the Pioneer Yahooogroup). If you pop open the base of the dead flower you will see a bunch of tiny slender, slivers that are black & white. Those are the seeds. Most times, there is a whole garden full of marigolds in every single dead flower. For fundraising - make cute little envelopes and package your seeds for spring to sell with other items.

Make a Difference

Have Seniors Teach Card Games – One of the hardest things in the world is not to feel needed anymore. A great service project during the cold January months when everyone is trapped indoors is to visit a retirement home and have the seniors teach your girls how to play card games. Most kids today do not know how to play games like gin rummy, hearts, or bridge. They may even learn to play marbles, or cats in the cradle. Bring along some homemade cookies or snacks to share and maybe even have a sing-a-long.

Say “Thank You” to your school custodians. Take digital pictures of them and make thank you posters to hang around your school.

Hold a Penny Project- Ask each girl to bring in 100 pennies from donations or loose change at home. At your meeting find out the following:

- How many pennies does it take to outline a child?
- How high is a stack of 100 pennies? Can you stack them without them falling over?
- How much does 100 pennies weigh?
- Find a penny with your birth year on it.
- What is the oldest penny in your pile?
- How many different types of pennies are in your pile?

When you are done playing with your pennies, donate the money to a local charity.

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

For the 5th birthday of Frontier Girls, it is only appropriate to have the Girl of the Month be someone who has been around since day one and is an integral part of Frontier Girls. Abby Olson joined Frontier Girls in the fall of 2006 as a 5th grade Dolphin before we had even decided to extend the program farther than our own small troop. Five years later she is now an Eagle and one of the most active girls in the program.

Abby took to the Frontier Girls program immediately and made it her goal to earn every badge we had. In the beginning, that was about 80 badges and I promised her a special award if she could do it at a single level. Before she could complete her goal, we had topped 100 badges and she complained that if I kept adding badges she would never be able to earn them all. Since I had no intention of ending our badge writing, we added the WOW! Award for any girl who could earn 100 badges at a single level. Abby, of course, was the first person to earn the award.

Abby is the busiest young lady I know. In addition to taking classes at the local college (at age 15!) she helps with a variety of kids programs such as Good News clubs, Awanas, VBS, and is even an assistant leader for Frontier Girls Troop #101 (she is in charge of songs, games, and flag ceremonies). She plays basketball, sings in choirs, and is also an accompanist for a choir in the next town over. Beginning in November of this year, Abby went to work for Frontier Girls as my shipping manager. If you have placed an order with Frontier Girls over the last two months, chances are that Abby not only packed it, but probably made the badges, cut the ribbons, and glued your tabs as well.

In typical Abby fashion, she has not stopped at earning badges, and has now taken the time to write several of her own. One of our most popular badges, the Chocolate Badge was one of Abby's first badge writing attempts. Now that she works for me part time, when the shipping is low she spends her time researching and writing badges. I quickly discovered that she is better, and faster, at it than I am. Her latest were the Trees badge, Costumes Around the World badge, and the Music History badge.

As Frontier Girls continues to grow, Abby will take on more and more responsibilities in the office. We now have a computer station set up for her and this spring she will help both with maintaining the new website we are building, as well as helping out with data entry. I am very grateful for Abby's enthusiasm and passion and glad to have her as a Frontier Girl.

Thanks Abby!

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

The winners of the December Poetry Contest are listed below. For the January Contest, submit a drawing of one of our level animals (penguin, otter, dolphin, butterfly, eagle, or Canadian goose). The winning entry from each level will receive \$5.

Penguin: No entry

Otter: My Cat Daisy, by Christina Monk Troop #151

Dolphin: Watch Me, Beth Vicoryosmanson, Pioneer

Butterfly: True Beauty, by Carmen Pearce, Butterfly, Troop #141 PA

Eagle: Camp Out, - Megan Lundquist, Eagle Troop 159

You can read all the submitted poems below

Winning Poems From December Contest

My Cat Daisy

by Christina Monk, Otter, Troop #151

My cat's name is Daisy
She's very fat and lazy
She runs around the block
Like a crazy little lady
When she comes home
She sits on her throne
And gives me a moan and a groan

Watch Me

Beth Vicoryosmanson, Dolphin level

I am amazing, I am autistic.
I can do anything, I can if I try.
I am a girl, I am a Frontier Girl, Brownie, TnT'er,
I can ride a horse, bodysurf, hit a homerun.
I am an artist, in many forms.
I can be anything I want to be.
Watch me.

True Beauty

by Carmen Pearce, Butterfly, Troop #141 PA

I'd rather have one loving friend
Than hundreds that adored.
Not better is a diamond bright
Than watching sea from shore.
Yet we still ask what could compare
To precious beauty rare;
'Tis babbling brooks and radiant skies
With velvet clouds that are passing by.
For diamonds can dim and friends can be lost
And we find these things will always have a cost.
But the sun will set at the end of each day
And the moon will shine while the children pray
And the rainbows in the sky will lie
After clouds retreat from a heavy cry.
White the stars creep out from the sun so shy
This is where true beauty lies.
So share this lesson if you can
With many hearts and many friends;
For the moon will rise and the sun descend
And the truest beauty will never end.

Camp Out

- Megan Lundquist, Eagle Troop 159

Bang! Bang! Stake the tent fly,
Watch the fire ring,
Stack the wood, get the water,
Roll, roll the sleeping bag -
Now it's time to sing!

Sticky, sticky marshmallow
Crunch, crunch cracker
Silky, silky chocolate
Mmmm-mmmmMake some!

March, march through the wood
Halt! I see some tracks!
Oh, is it a deer, a lion or a bear?
Quiet, quiet tiptoe out -
Don't step in the scat!

Growly, growly grizzly
Crash! Crash! cooler
Messy, messy mess tent
Thankful it wasn't ours!

Stuff, stuff the sleeping bag
It's time to pack it out
Put the food back in the tote
Sweep, sweep the tent floor clean -
I'm glad I'm a Frontier Girl scout

Runners Up

Puppies

Andrea Egge, 5 years old (Otter)

Puppies are fluffy
Puppies are furry
Puppies like to be pet
I like puppies

The Sparrow

By Lydia Fookes, Dolphin, Troop #101 CA

I go out in my back yard blue,
and see a dash of brown down by my shoe.
I look up in the sky so bright
and see a sparrow taking flight.
Following his path he leads,
to a nest among the trees.
There he meets his kids and wife
and hugs and kisses them good night.

"Love"

by Reagan Hauke, Dolphin, Troop #136

Love is your family and friends
close around you.

Love is hugging a friend you haven't
seen in a long time.

Love is letting something dear to you go.

Love is a batch of warm chocolate chip cookies
that your mother made.

Love is a smooch from your special sweetheart.

Love is caring for a pet.

Love is holding a precious child in your arms.

Love is having a little sister who looks up to you everyday.

Love is curling up every night with a teddy bear.

God has loved us from the very start. I believe we should all have love in our hearts.

Love gives life a spark, love is how I strive to live my life.

The Christmas Present

By Lauren Amen, Dolphin, Troop #101 CA

I see presents under the Christmas tree,
All of them are for me!
Then one day, I saw beneath the tree,
there was a present, for my whole family!
I checked it twice, and there was no from,
Then, it appeared and said Santa is going to come!
And I shouted, "Hurray!
Santa is going to come on Christmas day!"

A Christmas Poem

By Brianna Hill, Dolphin, Pioneer NY

Christmas to me is about Jesus's birth,
And friends, family and love.
It is NOT just about presents
And me, me, me or
Mine, mine, mine.

Jesus Loves Me

Kendra Egge, 9 years old (dolphin)

Jesus loves me
I know this for sure
For all my sins
He made a cure.
It says to me, in the Bible,
God's book of all books,
Jesus is Lord

and he looks
within me
if I will cry
out for him.
I will try
to be His servant
to do my best
for He is fervant.

Frontier Girls

BY: Emma Lager, Frontier Girl troupe 146, Dolphin

Friendly
Respectful
Obedient
Not mean
Teachers
Independent
Environmentally friendly
Reactive

Great
Intelligent
Resource wise
Loyalty
See needs and takes the lead

Mother

By: Seena Berryman, Dolphin Troop 122

Oh, Mother dear this poem
is true, roses are
red, violets are
blue, No one was
more helpful
than you!

Winter Break

Melina Obregón Dolphin in Troop #139

The snow starts to come in.
The trees are white.
The lights are all set up,
it is really a beautiful sight!
On Christmas Day the children are upset
because they did not get what they expected.

But their moms and dads say "Do not be upset - it is Christmas!"
And so all the people are enjoying their family, and you should too

Falling, Falling

By Lisbeth Petershagen, Butterfly, Troop #101 CA

Falling, falling
Falling, white
I play all day
I play all night
Falling, falling
Falling white
I make snow angels all the time
I make snoopy the snowman everyday
Melting, melting
Bye, Bye snoopy

A Night In The Mountains

by Rebecca Strub, Butterfly, Troop #109 TX

I love it at night
When the stars shine bright
And the moon is only half full.
Tree leaves are gleaming
Children are dreaming
And the air is smooth and tranquil.
An owl cries out in the distance
Across the mountain peaks
And out in the rocky cliffs
A mountain-lion shrieks.
The fog lifts
The moon settles
The sun rises
The stars fade
Night is gone, and a brand new day is made.

Kittens in the Cold

By Katrina Amen, Butterfly, Troop #101 CA

I look out my window all warm inside,
When all of a sudden, my mouth is gaped wide.
Two little kittens out there in the rain,
tossing and turning, looking like they're in pain.
But not from the fighting, that is just play,

but the coldness and icy end of the day.
Shivering and thankful, they are brought in,
"I want to keep them, I thought with a grin."
I asked my mom, and she said "They want to play,
Maybe we can keep them just for a day."
I looked in my arms, they were still there,
but like my mom implied, they were attacking my hair!
And that is how I got my kittens, out of the cold,
loving and playful, like I was told.

Jesus Saved Me

Makayla Egge 11 years old (Butterfly)

Jesus saved me once and for all.
His love I cherish once and for all.
He loved me once He loved us all.
His love I cherish once and for all.
His love will never stop once and for all.
He will never stop loving me once He loved us all.
I love him more everyday once and for all.
Jesus saved me once and for all!

SWAPS

Hannah Lundquist, Butterfly Troop 159

SWAPS are fun to make
SWAPS are cool to send
I'm happy when I get some
'cause now I've made a friend

All the SWAPS are different
All the SWAPS are great
I hope that I can get one
From each and every state!

SWAPS come in many colors
And lots of shapes and sizes
I love to trade my SWAPS with girls
To get some new surprises!

My Dreams

By Abby Olson, Eagle, Troop #101 CA

My dreams I give to you Lord,
Them I will not hoard,

My dreams, thoughts, and talents too,
I give them all to you.
What you do with them,
I'll count it as a gem.
A more than costly jewel,
Used just for you.
Should you take them all away,
I'll thank you Lord, for when they gave me pleasure every day.