



The Source for Ohio's Heartland Council Realignment Updates

Girl Scout **Connect**

ISSUE II

MAY 30, 2008

Council Information

Girl Scouts-
Heart of Ohio Council
Yvette Livers, CEO
740-454-8563
www.gsheart.org

Girl Scouts of Heritage
Trails Council
Mary Ann Forbes, CEO
800-433-1290
www.girlscoutshtrails.org

Girl Scouts-
Seal of Ohio Council
Tammy Wharton, CEO
800-621-7042
www.sealofohio.org

CRC Committee

Mary Ann Forbes
Co-Chair - Heritage Trails

Chrystal Rardin
Co-Chair - Heart of Ohio

Kay Hines
Heritage Trails

Jamie Jarvis
Heritage Trails

Yvette Livers
Heart of Ohio

Demetria Mitchell
Seal of Ohio



Greetings!

Welcome to Issue 2 of Ohio's Heartland Realignment Newsletter! We hope you will find this month's eNewsletter informative and interesting. As one would expect this is a busy time of the year for Girl Scouting and subcommittee members are working overtime moving the realignment process forward. The summer camping season is just around the corner and offers yet another venue to "share our message".

COMMUNICATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Web Site

The communications subcommittee has been busy with a number of projects. The new Ohio's Heartland website that will be used to share realignment news and information with you is moving along nicely and should be up and running within 30 days. The domain name will be finalized by the next eNewsletter and we will share it with you then. In the meantime, we believe it will be a fantastic tool for use by all stakeholders.

Paula Olson
Heart of Ohio

Suzy Swanson
Seal of Ohio

Tammy Wharton
Seal of Ohio

Camp Information

Several members have been busy designing a camp post card that will be distributed to campers and their families at registration and is expected to increase awareness about realignment. After a few revisions it is ready to go into production, so be on the look out as it is colorful and loaded with information. In addition, camp staff are being trained to share information and answer questions about realignment, and are developing ways to help forge important relationships between girls from other councils. Also, AEP has generously donated display boards which will be used to highlight activities, information and pictures relating to realignment and will be placed at each of the three council camps and, later, at various council events to generate interest and share information.

Media Coverage & Contact

On May 20th a news release was sent to the media outlets in our three council area sharing the news of the date of realignment, January 1, 2009; the name, Girls Scouts of Ohio's Heartland; and the location of the headquarters, Columbus.

Throughout the remaining months of realignment, and perhaps beyond, there may be times when staff, board members or volunteers are contacted by the media for comment. If that should happen, rather than commenting yourself, please refer them to your council's public relations manager, whose contact information is listed below:

Heart of Ohio
Becky McCallister
740-454-8536

Heritage Trails
Jennifer Gatchall
419-522-0391

Seal of Ohio
Shawna Gibbs
614-340-8830

FUND DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The fund development subcommittee continues to meet and proceed with its work related to resource development for the new council. The committee has reviewed organizational funding for all three councils and compiled a funding request calendar for Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland. They have also recommended a staffing structure for the department, compared gift acceptance policies, and started a draft of recommended new policies for Ohio's Heartland. In addition, the committee has reviewed money earning activities and made recommendations to the service delivery committee for inclusion in the volunteer procedure handbook. We hope to have the majority of our tasks completed by the end of August and are working closely with other subcommittees in order to coordinate our recommendations.

GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

The governance subcommittee is charged with developing Bylaws for the new council, a complex process that requires a good deal of research, thought and discussion. The work is moving along swiftly and a Bylaws rough draft is projected by July.

TRANSITIONAL NOMINATING SUBCOMMITTEE

The transitional nominating subcommittee is in the process of developing application forms for board of directors, board girl members, and board development (formerly known as nominating) committee. The qualifications for those positions were approved by the Council Realignment Committee (CRC) and will be the guide as we develop a single-slate-ballot for mid-October.

During the next two months subcommittee members will be approaching present board and nominating committee members of the three councils to evaluate their respective position in the Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland. The girl board member must be a high school student with a means of transportation allowing her to attend the required board meetings.

Anyone who is interested or would like to recommend a qualified person for any of the above named positions, please contact Chrystal Rardin at mcrardin@erc.net or 740.397.6366 or your council's CEO or board chair. Each prospective nominee will receive a packet which includes an information sheet which will need to be completed. Although all nominees can expect an interview, an interview does not guarantee an appointment to any of these volunteer positions.

HUMAN RESOURCE SUBCOMMITTEE

The HR subcommittee had a lengthy list of tasks to complete including preparing the Human Resources Guidebook for use in the new council, which is expected to be complete and ready for review.

OTHER NEWS

Though some groups from the three councils have had the opportunity of working together over recent months, the three council CEO's have arranged for all staff to gather on June 13th for a three council staff retreat. They'll spend the day together in discussions and activity that will help them get to know each other and give staff members the terrific opportunity to finally put a face to the voice on the other end of the telephone line.