

October 2009

In an effort to continually evaluate the effectiveness and usage of all of our properties, the decision was recently proposed by the Office Relocation Task Group and approved by the GSWCF Board of Directors to relocate the Ocala office to Camp Wildwood, effective at the end of 2009. Making decisions about our properties continues to be a major focus for the board. Prior to making these recommendations, this group considered the responses to a member survey regarding the location of our Main Service Center, along with feedback from town hall meetings in 2008 and forums at the 2009 annual meeting, and utilized maps showing the population trends and accessibility of all of our office sites in our eight county jurisdiction. Of course, the operating budget was also looked at as we continue to work in an economically challenging time.

Important Q & A

What dates should I be aware of with the move to Camp Wildwood?

There are two important dates you should be aware of with the move. Thursday, Dec. 17, 2009, will be the last day of official business at the Ocala office and store. The office and store at Camp Wildwood will officially open on Tuesday, January 5, 2010.

What will the Camp Wildwood office hours be?

The office hours will be the same as the Girl Scout Store hours at Camp Wildwood, effective Jan. 4, 2010:

Monday: closed

Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (with a half hour lunch)

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sunday – closed

How will I contact the Community Development Mangers (CDM) previously located in the Ocala office?

Membership (girls, volunteers, community) currently served out of the area by Julie Linhart, CDM serving Marion County, and Roni Francois, CDM serving Sumter, Citrus and Hernando counties can continue to use current contact information for both staff members. Telephone numbers and e-mail will remain the same 813-262-1798, rfrancois@gswcf.org (Roni Francois) and 813-262-1821, jlinhart@gswcf.org (Julie Linhart) moving forward as not to cause an interruption in service.

CDMs spend a majority of their time “in the field” serving our members’ needs; however, there will be working space available to meet with members at the Camp Wildwood office, upon request. Please contact Julie or Roni for further information.

What will happen to the store? What will the new store hours be?

The Girl Scout Store hours at Camp Wildwood, effective Jan. 4, 2010, will be:

Monday: closed

Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (with a half hour lunch)

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sunday – closed

GSWCF Retail Operations staff is working to ensure the store is available on the weekends when our camp properties are highly-utilized. “Shops-on-the-road” will continue to be available, please contact Kay Groth, kgroth@gswcf.org for more information.

What about the resource center for volunteers?

The Girl Scout Resource Center will also be moving to Camp Wildwood. In the resource center, you can find helpful tips, books, activities, totes and more to help you on your Girl Scout journey. For more information about the resource center hours, please contact Kay Groth, kgroth@gswcf.org

What other services will be offered out of the Camp Wildwood office?

Several services will transition to the Camp Wildwood office including the availability of room/meeting space upon request and the availability of video conferencing.

What if I need to pick up important materials or drop something off as a part of my role in Girl Scouting?

New services that will be available after the move to our membership are “drop-off sites.” There will be a minimum of two, centrally located “drop-sites” for volunteers to pick-up or drop off materials on request. For more information, please contact the CDM in your area.

Do you have questions that are not addressed above? If so, please send them to kwhitaker@gswcf.org and we will ensure they are answered in the following month’s edition of *GS Express*. To ensure you are signed up to receive *GS Express*, visit <http://www.gswcf.org/subscribe/subscribe.html>