

OB-PS Reception and Presentation



Betsy LaMacchia was our gracious hostess

We had a wonderful opportunity to spread the message of the Olave Baden-Powell Society at the 2008 National Council Session. (see more on page 2).

The suggestion was made while we were in Vancouver that we hold a reception at the National Convention in order to invite potential members to learn

more about our organization. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of John and Betsy LaMacchia, we had a wonderful evening together.

Charlotte Christ-Weber shared insight of OB-PS with potential members, introduced team members from the USA, and presented Debra Jean Finney with her membership pin and certificate.



OB-PS members Pat Martin and WAGGGS' Chief Executive Mary McPhail answer queries of Ruth Sanchez Way and Renée Meade.



Debra Jean Finney proudly wears her new OB-PS pin

- The OB-PS website is www.ob-ps.org.
- The World Thinking Day theme for 2009 is girls worldwide say **“stop the spread of AIDS, malaria and other diseases”**.



- Donations to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund are used to support girls' international travel and participation in training and other international events.
- We have 915 members internationally and 169 USA members.



25th Anniversary in Korea



Join us in Seoul, Korea for the 25th Anniversary meeting of the Olave Baden-Powell Society. Dates for our meeting are September 10-13, 2009. Download the Resource Packet from www.ob-ps.org/en/resources/documents/3187.



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Recap of National Convention



2008
NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSION
51ST CONVENTION
Girl Scouts Can Lead Anywhere



Charlotte introduces USA Board members and our USA coordinator at the History Gathering

The Olave Baden-Powell Society had a major presence at the 2008 National Council Session and 51st Convention held in Indianapolis.

Charlotte Christ-Weber spoke at the **History Gathering** which gave us a new group to introduce the Olave Baden-Powell Society.



Mary Lynn Myers shows her well-deserved Bronze Award—our congratulations to her

At the **Gathering of the Friends of the WAGGGS World Centers**, Charlotte and Sue were among those introduced. We were also invited to a dessert reception, hosted by Debra Nakatomi, the International Commissioner of Girl Scouts in the USA. Maureen Quinn, VP of Global Girl Scouting; Deborah Reyes, Chair of the World Foundation; and guests from WAGGGS were in attendance.



Sue Cunnold, Tom Roderick, and Marcy Keeler answer questions of convention attendees—and, hopefully, new members!

The surprise for the evening was when WAGGGS Board Chair, Margaret Treloar, presented the WAGGGS Bronze Award to Mary Lynn Myers for her tireless work for WAGGGS.



Halloween costumes—Girl Scout style



Welcome new members: Charmayne Platt (above) and Georgia March LaMacchia, granddaughter of Betsy LaMacchia.



Centenary

Make plans to attend the 2010 OB-PS meeting in Bath to celebrate the Centenary of Girl Guiding in the United Kingdom. May 13th-17th are the proposed dates. Plans include events at the Roman baths, the Guildhall, and the

Future meetings

Assembly Rooms. Tours are planned for before and after the event to Pax Lodge, Brownsea Island (where Scouting began), the Cotswold area, and Stratford on Avon.

Future locations proposed are 2011 in Australia and 2012 in the United States. Stay tuned for more information!



The Girl Scout Solar Cooker Fund



The Girl Scout Solar Cooker Fund estimates that about 55,000 families in 19 African countries are cooking with the sun as a direct result of workshops given by Girl Guides. There are also several hundred people in Papua New Guinea who have attended solar cooking demonstrations by Girl Guides in the 50 homeless camps in the Port Moresby area, and the Guides of Singapore and Malaysia have given many workshops, although the need is not so great in those countries. Although difficult to count actual numbers, we know that there are thousands more cooks who have learned the skill from their relatives and friends. It's pretty hard to hide a big, shiny cooker which must be used in full sun, and it certainly causes comment among one's neighbors.

Since the World Conference in Singapore in 1990, when I was given 5 minutes to promote the concept in a safe water work group, I have been able to train Guides, mostly adults, to become workshop presenters. Financing has come from many sources - much of it from Girl Scouts here in the USA, who send money or buy program materials I have developed. I have also had help from Solar Cookers International, source of most of the illustrations in the handbooks and posters. My Girl Scout Service Unit keeps the financial records and doles out grants as needed.

The procedures I follow vary from country to country, but basically, in a country suffering from a fuel shortage and lately

from a safe water shortage, I give a five-day train the trainer course, which includes practice teaching. The trainees commit to giving at least 10 all-day workshops in their first year. Rarely can a Guide Association provide funds to buy supplies to make the cookers or food to cook in the cookers; so soliciting funds is an ongoing effort. It costs about \$400 per course for these items, and I leave up to \$300 more to finance the first workshops the trainers give. If all goes well, the workshop participants will convince their friends and neighbors that the benefits of cooking with the sun will be sufficient to



Making a Solar Cooker in Lesotho

induce them to pay for their own supplies (total cost of about \$5).

In the last 3 years we have been promoting the pasteurization of water in the solar cooker. Safe water has been named the most pressing problem in the world by women in UN conferences, and pasteurizing in the cooker is very easy since the development by Solar Cookers International of a very simple device called a WAPI (WATER Pasteurizing Indicator). SCI sells them, but we teach people how to make them and we give samples to hundreds of people. Several thousand were made for us as part of a Gold Award project by Kelsey Minor of Oregon and a team

she recruited. They can be made out in the bush with simple tools like rocks and nails, and so far we have been able to send the polycarbonate tubing needed.

My daughter, a life-long Girl Scout and trainer since college, has agreed to start traveling for me, since my legs are growing old. But I plan to continue making arrangements and soliciting funds. She went with me to Tanzania two years ago and went with me to Lesotho in 2008, giving half of the trainer course. She is the consummate trainer - and spry enough to avoid falling into potholes. Her name is Meredy (Ender) Halen. Some of you may have met her at a GS Professional Staff conference or lately at a volunteer conference.

For readers who may have potential sources for the help needed, I have a CD PowerPoint show I can send. It contains several slide shows, including one in Spanish, documenting various projects Guides have started in several countries. If you can use it to recruit help or simply to educate viewers about the work of Girl Guides, send me \$3.00 to cover the cost, and I'll ship it to you.

I hope this stirs some of you to promote solar cooking - and even to try it yourself, if you have not yet done so.

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CONTACT ANNE LISE FOR ANY CHANGES OF EMAIL OR ADDRESS SO SHE CAN UPDATE YOUR RECORDS AT ANNELISE@WAGGGSWORLD.ORG

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Bonnie-Jean Clark Fetridge, one of the original creators and founders of the Olave Baden-Powell Society. She served as our first President from 1984-1996.

**OB-PS USA Team
 January 2008**

- Coordinator**—Sue Cunnold
- Council Presidents and Girl Scout Professionals**—Barbara Bonifas
- Advisor and Home Parties**—Hilda Roderick
- Alumnae Groups and Trefoil Guilds**—Lilian Walby
- Care and Concerns of Members**—Margie Bowyer
- Corporate Memberships**—Kris McCann
- Former and Current GSUSA Presidents and Board Members**—Ellie Ferdon
- Girl Scout Council Boards**—Mary Ellen Snow
- Honorary Memberships**—Adrienne King
- Male Memberships**—Tom Roderick
- Newsletter**—Marlene Logan
- Publicity**—Barbara Schliebe
- USA National Council Meeting, OB-PS Table**—Marcy Keeler, Lynn Wilbur

28 to Go!

Yes, the USA has been asked to bring in 28 new members in time for the 25th Silver Anniversary celebration in Korea. Can we do it? Yes, we can! You might recall that HRH Princess Benedikte has set our worldwide goal as 1,000 and we now number 915.

The good news for us is that in the USA the dollar to pound ratio is once again quite favorable. That is, today the total membership fee paid at one time would be \$8,566. It was only a few months ago that 6,000 pounds was the equivalent of \$12,000. Secondly, the Board has extended the installment plan of membership to six years, from

five. And thirdly, and most importantly, we have the best reason in the world to give.

Through OB-PS we are providing girls and young women all over the world an opportunity for developing leadership and life skills through self-development, challenge and adventure. Won't you tell your friends of this priceless opportunity to invest in the leaders of tomorrow? You did. Let's encourage 28 others to do so, too. How exciting and special it will be for new members to be presented at the Silver Jubilee in Seoul!

Sue Cunnold
 USA Coordinator



Charlotte Christ-Weber in Indianapolis for our National Council meeting



Charlotte introduces OB-PS Board members from the USA (Tom Roderick, Mary Ellen Snow & Elinor Ferdon), Mary McPhail, and Sue Cunnold at the OB-PS Reception at the Marriott Hotel