

ASSOCIATION BEST PRACTICES

- *Realize that one size does not fit all! You can function on your own or pool resources.*
- *Have fun developing a unique dimension of Girl Scouting that will satisfy girls' and volunteers' needs.*
- *Maintain a TEAM of volunteers who share your excitement and responsibilities!!*

FUNCTIONS	MEETINGS	LEADERSHIP	BRIGHT IDEAS
Area Support	Area Meetings (Oct, Jan, Mar, May)	Area Managers, Service Unit Managers, Training and Program Managers, Chairs/Assistants	<i>Operational updates and suggestions, needs assessments, Inter-Association events (e.g. roundtables, training, leader retreats)</i>
Association Support (Program and Membership Recruitment)	Association Meetings (as needed)	Chairs/Assistant Chairs, Association planning team, Area Managers, Field Directors, REACH, Program Managers, Area Training Managers, etc.	<i>WHO, WHY, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, HOW Meet 'n Greet, roundtables, training, administrative conferences, Parent/daughter dances, girls night out, encampments, sock hops, square dances, sweetheart dance, spa day, bowling, theater and movies events, Girl Scout Birthday Party, Thinking Day, Safety Awareness Day, self-esteem and self-defense events, Mother/daughter scrapbooking, leader "chill in" (pampering) event for leaders, sports or theme park events, science day, lock ins, swim parties, ski weekends, talent shows, movie mornings, holiday tea, cookoffs, fashion show, family BYOP (bring your own picnic), Badge workshops, Brownie Pretzel Day, Camping Skills Day, Daisy Tea and Growing a Daisy event, Teddy Bear picnic, bridging events, Toastmistress event</i> <i>ALL of these could become recruitment activities by inviting a non-GS friend</i>
	Chairs' Mtgs	2 nd VP, Dep Exec Director	<i>For you to determine....</i>
Council Support	Annual Meeting (April) Committees Task Forces	Board Nominating Committee, Delegates/Delegates at Large	<i>Encourage nominations for Delegates at Large, Board members, committee/task force members, specialty panel members, Annual Meeting teller/aides, etc.</i>
Money Management	Association and Team Meetings		<i>Guidelines for Council reimbursement and fundraising activities/event</i>
Policy Influencing	Area Forums (~ 1 per year)	2 nd Vice President, Board, Delegates/Delegates at Large and interested members	<i>Encourage membership to participate in self-directed forums, open space, strategy cafes, panels, focus groups</i>
Product Sales	Association and Team Meetings Service Units	Product Sales Chairs, Local depots	<i>Booth sales</i>
Public Relations Community Visibility	Civic Meetings, Community events	Chair/Assistant Chair/Team, Press Rep	<i>Increased presence: Community Liaison Board, PTAs, Speakers' Bureau (e.g. Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, etc), parades, mall events, county fairs, volksmarch, fashion shows, newspaper articles, Association websites</i>

Recognitions	Recognition Events	Recognitions Chair, adult and teen members	<p><i>Special ceremonies, surprise breakfast, brunch, lunch or dinner, appreciation day/weekend events, Gold and Silver Awards, Silver Trefoil, and Graduating Teen Scouts (e.g. "Precious Metals")</i></p> <p><i>Gift ideas: flowers, gift cards, yard sign "thank you", any handmade item, etc.</i></p> <p><i>Check out clutter free gift ideas</i> http://www.flylady.net/pages/ClutterFreeGiftsO.asp <i>(replace the "O" with a "W" for women's gifts, "M" for men's gifts, "T" for teen's gifts, etc.)</i></p>
Service	Planning	Event Coordinator	<p><i>Collections of coats, eyeglasses, soup kitchens, books, towels, food (peanut butter/diapers), blankets, toiletries, shoes, school supplies, happy hats, quilts (e.g. Project Linus http://www.projectlinus.org/)</i></p>
Service Unit Support	Cluster Meetings (Sep, Nov, Feb, Apr) Association and Service Unit Meetings	Field Directors, Service Unit Managers, Leaders, Chair, Assistant Chair, Support Team	<p><i>Brainstorm possible support areas at Cluster and/or Area Meetings.</i></p> <p><i>Consultants/mentors/Green Angels, roundtables, meet and greets</i></p>
SHARE	SHARE Training, Special Events	SHARE Manager, SHARE Chairs, membership	<p><i>Fundraising events (bake sales, cake auctions, silent auctions, SU pancake breakfast for SHARE) or service for SHARE</i></p>
Teen Networking and Retention	Teen forums, blogs, virtual troops	Teen Advisor(s) and Teens, Association Chairs, etc.	<p><i>Teen driven events: group travel, overnight and weekend trips, night hikes, high adventure, career events (e.g. midnight exploration), "fore" girls event, mall madness, makeovers, surprise overnight kidnappings, college prep, leadership, public speaking and program planning skills training, mentoring,, Gold Award workshops, fundraising ideas, courses (babysitting, life guarding, first aid, CPR, etc.) program aide), Models: FOG, MCOGL, POGO, TOGA, TGIF, POPOGS</i></p> <p><i>Annual Meeting Meet 'n Greet.</i></p>
Teen Leadership Opportunities			<p><i>Secretary, Local Press rep, webmaster, camp, program, events, service project coordinators</i></p>
Training	Classes, Blitzes, Enrichment Seminars	Area Training Manager, Trainers	<p><i>Training blitzes</i></p> <p><i>Enrichment classes: leadership development, communication, team building, electrifying meetings, time management, stress management, developmental stages ages 5-18</i></p>