

Arizona Girls State Independent



June 8, 2009 – Volume 3 - Issue 1 – Tucson, Arizona

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



Welcome to the 62nd Annual Arizona Girls State and congratulations on being selected as a delegate. Your leadership and academic skills earned you this once-in-a-life-time opportunity to represent your school, community and local American Legion Auxiliary Unit at this prestigious program.

As a member of the staff for the second year, I can say that we are all proud of you and will do everything in our power to ensure that you not only learn principals and purposes of Girls State, but also that you will make friends that may last you throughout your adult lives.

During your time here, you will be given the chance to make new friends, gain an understanding of our political processes and practice showing respect for our country's flag.

You can be sure that you will learn the fine points of city, county and state government procedures with an emphasis on political parties.

And speaking of political parties, as a member of either party, you will have many occasions to participate in debates, elections and meetings. Even for the shyest girl, this is a great way to get involved and experience government service without making a life-time commitment.

Girls State Sponsorship

Girls State is sponsored by The American Legion Auxiliary, the world's largest women's patriotic organization. Members of auxiliary units are dedicated to helping veterans as well as many other fine children and youth programs.

This annual program is sponsored in an effort to give girls just like you an opportunity from all over the country the experience in citizenship and government.

Learning new things

No two days will be the same at Girls State.....it will be early to rise and late to bed.....with an agenda chalked full of scheduled meetings, lectures and meals – you'll be glad you have that handy dandy Citizen Handbook to remind you of where you need to be on each day!

Two things that you can count on: gathering every morning and evening to show respect for our flag and country.

During your city gatherings, you'll be learning even a new vocabulary.....positions and jobs you've never heard of, much less ever wanted to be! There are mayors for each city, marshals and even clerks.....each and every position is important and I hope that you find one that truly inspires you and that you "go for it" when the time comes.

Along with interesting jobs to campaign for, you'll hear many interesting guest speakers who in some cases have previously either attended Girls or Boys State - yes, they've worn the same shoes you are currently walking in!

These speakers come to us as guests, and hopefully during their addresses, you'll show proper respect by carefully listening and taking away the information that they bring you.

Making your time fun

The first couple of days Girls State may seem overwhelming, but don't throw the towel-in ... there's plenty of fun to be had along with gaining political "know how". It's a great time to share your jokes and even your special talents. Hopefully, you'll walk away with memories that you can share with your daughters or maybe even granddaughters when it's time for them to apply for GS!

Talent abounds among us.....



Are you one of the chosen ones that can sing, dance or play an instrument?????? Well, if so, here's your chance to practice for this coming season of "American Idol" by participating in the Girls State annual talent contest.

Thursday night has been set aside for you to "strut your stuff", but no contest especially a talent show would be complete without an audition! Therefore, auditions will be held Tuesday night starting at 9:30pm in Room 121 (just off from the kitchen). Participants are asked to be 15 minutes early.

All talented citizens are encouraged and must attend auditions in order to participate, so stop by Mrs. Maklary's office on the main floor to sign-up.

For questions concerning the event, please see Miss Laughlin, Mimosa City Advisor, Rm 364 or Mrs. Hanson, Saguaro City Advisor, Rm 430.

Look who's back to Girls State

Kali Bills, 2008 GS Delegate and citizen of Palo Verde City.

This year, Kali is serving as Junior Counselor (JC) for Supai County and has her mind set on being a Speech Pathologist.

All citizens will be given an opportunity to apply for JC for the 2010 GS year. If it's something you'd like to do, be sure to complete the proper form (when your city advisor offers it to you) – it's a great way to not only give back to next year's Girl State event, but also to the girls who will attend!

Remember, be *kind* to your Girls State staff.....next year – *you* might be one of them!

Fa, La, La, La, La.....at the GS Glee Club

Interested citizens it's time to warm up those vocal cords, exercise your playing fingers or grab your music wand for the GS Glee Club which will host it's first meeting tomorrow in Room 121 (just off from the kitchen).

Individuals interested in directing or accompanying should plan to meet at 4pm, while singing participants meet at the same local, but at 4:45pm.

The results of lots of practice and late night practicing will culminate at the Magical Evening on Friday night – a special time that both the audience and members of the club will remember for a lifetime.

"The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not."

Thomas Jefferson

Arizona Girls State
Independent



is published daily by American Legion
Auxiliary Arizona Girls State Penny
Maklary, Director Jeri Strande, Editor

- 2009 Girls State Reporters
- Palo Verde
- Palo Verde
- Juniper
- Juniper
- Pinon
- Ocotillo
- Ocotillo
- Cholla
- Manzanita
- Saguaro
- Mesquite
- Sycamore



As a matter of honor and pride for our country, each GS day will begin by showing proper respect to “Ole Glory”and as part of that respect, we’ll begin each day the advancement of colors and the Pledge of Allegiance! Most of you are very familiar with the words, but just in case here’s a little reminder:

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Reciting the pledge everyday is a great way to remember that “freedom isn’t free” and there are many that came before us who gave it “their all”, in order for us to have that choice to recite it!

Does and Don'ts for GS

Don't forget your manners

Don't forget to take you handbook to ALL functions

Don't use cell phones during non-free times

Don't wait to the last minute to complete your assignments

Do wear your name tag on the right side collar

Do sign-out before leaving your assigned city

Do be respectful to the GS staff and citizens

Do pay attention during lectures

Do show appreciation of the privilege of attending GS

And lastly, do have a fun and memorable experience!

Comments from the editor.....

This is my first year to be given the opportunity to serve as Editor of the Arizona Girls State Independent. I look forward to working with the volunteer reports for each city together, I believe we can make this week’s newsletters outstanding!

As with all jobs in life, there are always rules that we must abide by:

- All material is subject to editing and approval.
- GS Director, Mrs. Maklary, or I approve all material.
- No ranting, raving or criticizing, bashing or name calling in any articles.
- No opinions – this is a newspaper.

- Be creative - have fun with it.
- Deadline for all articles is: **10pm every night.**
- If you have a problem with a story come see me – if I have a problem with any of your items, I’ll come see you!
- Your articles may come to me in any form **other than** email or verbal.
- Your first article is due on Tuesday night no later than **10pm.**
- Daily submissions are not a requirement, but you **must** submit at least three articles.
- If you have any problems concerning your job or articles, please see me in Room 510.



GS 2009 agenda in review.....

Crystal Trejo (l), GS 2008 Secretary of State, and Abby Well, (r) GS 2008 GS Governor, take a look at this year’s Citizen’s Handbook along with JC, Jesse Stapes.



Soups on.....

Gail Piggott (l), GS bank and store manager, and her helper, Becky Ruiz, help themselves to dinner the night before the arrival of the Girl State delegates. Preparing for the event takes lots of ground-work by all staff members.

GS successfully pulls off the 62nd Annual registration

For those delegates who had to stand in line for awhile, yesterday's registration may have seemed like an unorganized, confessed event, but trust me everything was under control according to Mrs. Penny Maklary, GS Director.

Mrs. Maklary, a 30-year-veteran of working and running Arizona Girls State indicated that even though the sign-in line was rather lengthy, and girls (plus family members) were wrapped along the entrance sidewalk, the event ran very smoothly and according to plan.

Along with her many years of experience, she has a team of volunteers who have been involved with the program up to 15 years, and they've in-processed a many-a-girl.



Knowledge is a beautiful thing.....

GS delegate (above) takes the first step in registration, signing for the most valuable handbook, an item that helps get her to the right place and at the right time!

Although the waiting in line may have seemed like an eternity, once the delegate made it through the main registration door, it was just a matter of issuing the handbook, getting their identification picture taken, room key issued, kisses and hugs from mom, dad, sister and brother, and then off to their assigned city and room.

Now is when the fun really started.....what to do with all those "things" they brought.....no problem with the snacks (most of them will be consumed by nightfall), it's all that other stuff! Not to worry, with a little assistance from their "suite mate", assigned JC and/or their city advisor everything will quickly find a home for the next 7 days.

With no time to waste, their first schedule city meeting is within a couple of hours of registration. There's lots of training, education and fun planned (and spontaneous) and within just a matter of hours new friends are made, while friends at home are anxiously awaiting the Graduates of the Arizona Girl State Class of 2009.

It's a new adventure and one that will not be forgotten soon!



It's a go.....

GS delegate (above) and mom have a positive parting after all the stress of registration. With hugs and kisses complete, the GS experience can begin!

NOTE TO ALL CITY MAYORS -
The week flies by fast, so
now is the time to:
**Remember to invite your
Governor
And
Secretary of State
to lunch or dinner.**