

In our small community of 8,000, we have about 160 registered Girl Scouts. This will be my eleventh year as a volunteer here. These are some of the SU Events we've had:

Fall - pumpkin patch visit, complete with pick-your-own pumpkin, run through the cornfield maze, hayrides and a bonfire to cook hotdogs and s'mores and sing around

Any season - craft fairs, where each troop (usually parents, though older girls, too) is responsible for manning a table where girls come to do a specific seasonal craft. Each troop provides the manpower and the supplies. Tables are set up in stations and every 10 minutes or so, a whistle is blown and girls go to the next table on their list. We've tried giving each girl a unique schedule so they can mingle with lots of other girls.

Winter holiday - caroling usually done in conjunction with the arrival of Santa Claus to town (he rides in on a fire truck - coordinated by the Chamber of Commerce). Have also obtained the list of shut-ins around town (from the meals-on-wheels folks) and sung at their homes and delivered homeade treats (cookies, brownies, fudge, whatever they can eat if they're on a specific diet).

Any season - father/daughter events are number one in our service unit. We've done: ice cream socials, sock-hops, box dinners, and even tried a softball game once

Any season - mother/daughter events such as teas and fashion shows

Any season - rollerskating party (we rent out the entire rink for all our girls and their families) and bowling (must reserve lanes based on previous sign-ups)

Late summer - back-to-school pool party, when we rent the community pool and invite girls (still registered and their friends who are considering joining) and their families. We provide snacks and pay the admission for all registered girls. Families and friends pay \$1.00 and our SU subsidizes the balance of the admission.

Thinking Day - lots of ideas have been tried, but our most successful ones involve each troop representing a particular country in WAGGGS. Sometimes they present a game and/or song. Each troop sets up a display table with items or info on their country. We've even had snacks and beverages prepared by each troop from their country. Some years the event is only for the girls, some year it includes families.