

As Girl Scout Leaders

Retirees, Childless Folks Seen Valuable

What do you picture when you hear the words "Girl Scout volunteer?" An athletic, outdoorsy mother of three who combines Girl Scout volunteer work with home-making?

Of course, that picture still fits many of the workers, but with more mothers entering the paid workforce, the Girl Scouts are beginning to look to other sources for their volunteers. The traditional image of the Girl Scout volunteer may be in for a major overhaul.

Betty Busacca, public information director for Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council, views the change as a positive one. "Why shouldn't healthy, young-at-heart retirees get involved with Scouting, for instance?" asks

Busacca. "We would certainly put their knowledge and experience to good use."

Busacca adds that the Girl Scouts would also like to recruit more young, single adults. "There are a lot of single people

out there who are looking for ways to make a contribution to their community. I can't think of a better way than Girl Scouting."

"Childless couples, too, could become involved in the program. Being a parent is certainly not a

prerequisite to being a positive influence in a young girl's life."

Another popular misconception is that the only volunteer position in the Girl Scouts is that of troop leader. While the Girl Scouts continue to have a need for troop leaders, the most desperate need right now is for people with administrative skills, says Busacca. Pines of Carolina has key positions for volunteers as service unit managers, council trainers, troop consultants, and troop organizers.

Pines of Carolina is one of seven Girl Scout councils in North Carolina. It costs over \$1 million just to keep one council running. The cost of equipment, camp maintenance and office supplies is astronomical, but the efforts of volunteer workers help keep some of the costs down.

Busacca observes that "the dollar value of hours provided by our volunteers would boggle the mind. 14 United Ways provide about 40% of the operations cost, but the rest must come from the community."

The Girl Scouts appear to be experts at customizing job opportunities to fit the volunteers' available time and expertise. Such customizing is necessary since the organization has now grown to include about 158,000 troops in the U.S. and its territories. This growth means that the Girl Scouts need more volunteers than ever, but as Busacca is quick to point out, the benefits work both ways:

"This kind of work can give a person a practical background for a paid job or other opportunity later...and in this council, volunteers can become policy makers as well as workers. But I think the biggest return on the investment of time is the personal satisfaction... knowing you've made a difference in these girls' lives."

The statewide number for Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council is 1-800-662-7579, from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays; and 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.



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Hoke Agricultural Extension News

by Willie Featherstone, Jr. County Extension Chairman

WEEDS IN WHEAT
Hoke County has planted approximately 5,000 acres of soft red winter wheat which will be harvested this May-June. Keeping fields free of the winter annual weeds such as mustard, vetch, wild garlic, wild onion, henbit, dock, and chickweed is essential.

With fewer weeds present, the wheat plant does not have to compete as strongly for nutrients and moisture. The 1982 North Carolina Agricultural Chemicals Manual recommends spraying 2,4-D (amine form) when grain is 4-8 inches tall or after tillering, but before 'jointing'. Spraying small grain too young or after jointing can result in reduced yields and uneven ripening. The higher rates of 2,4-D listed in the manual increase the risk of grain injury. For a copy of this manual send \$5.50 to: Division of Continuing Education, P.O. Box 5125, Raleigh, NC 27650, Attention Bruce Winston.

LEASING TOBACCO QUOTA?
The price of leased tobacco quota is determined through the competitive bidding of growers in a county for the poundage quota of others. Therefore, each grower needs to assess whether he can afford to lease additional quota. Two conditions which determine the maximum amount that a grower can pay for leased quota are:

- (1) expected price of tobacco,
 - (2) the added cost for producing leased poundage.
- Tobacco budget forms showing costs and returns estimates with efficient practices are available at your county Extension office so growers can develop their own estimates to meet individual farm conditions.

DATES TO REMEMBER
February 24 - 6:30 p.m. Tobacco Meeting. All growers and interested persons are invited to attend.
March 4 - 7:30 p.m. The Agricultural Extension Service and Hoke County Beekeepers Association are sponsoring a Workshop on "Cooking With Honey". The public is invited.
*Both meetings will be held in the T.B. Lester Building on South Magnolia Street in Raeford.