

Trailblazers: The Magic of Texlake



2018

September 21-23 at Camp Texlake
A Girl Scout Adult Enrichment Retreat

Trailblazers: Volunteer Adults exploring the trails of fun to guide Girl Scouts on having their own excellent adventures.

Come join Trailblazers: Magic of Texlake at Camp Texlake on September 21st-23rd! Learn some new skills and see how magic and the skills of magicians can be relevant and useful in your troop.

Trailblazers is an adult volunteer enrichment retreat weekend designed to encourage, enhance and enthuse Girl Scout adults with a transfusion of scouting spirit. It is a time to have some fun with other leaders, get motivated for the next year and come home with some inspirational ideas for your troop. It is open to registered Girl Scout adults (female & male) who may be leaders, co-leaders or other troop volunteers. Trailblazers will be alcohol free this year.

There are 2 options for enjoyment:

- Saturday only
- Weekend Fri-Sun

Schedule of Activities

Friday

- 5:00-8:30pm: Check-In at Camp Texlake Office
Dinner - bring your own
- 7:00-10:30pm: Activities at the Dining Hall
- 8:30pm: Campfire Sing-a-long Flora firepit
- 11:00pm: Quiet in Units

Saturday

- 7:45 am: Flag Ceremony
- 8:00-8:45am: Breakfast
- 7:30-8:45am: Sat Only Check-In
- 9am-11:45am: Workshops 1 & 2
- 12:00-1:15pm: Lunch
- 1:30-2:45: Optional Saturday Workshops
- 3:00-6:00pm: Workshops 3 & 4
- 6:15-7:30pm: Dinner & Investiture/Rededication
- 7:30-9:00pm: Party and Costume contest
- 9:15- ?pm: Annual Spoons Championship
- 9:15 -?pm: Sing-a-long in Starke
- 11:00pm: Quiet in units

Sunday

- 7:30-8:30am: Optional Early morning activity
- 8:00-8:45am: Breakfast
- 8:45-9:30am: Scouts Own / Singing Trees
- 9:30-10:15am: Unit Kapers, clean up
- 9:30-11:30am: Optional First Aid & CPR workshop
- 10:30-11:30am Turn in Evaluations

Friday Night Activities

Come join us in the dining hall for some fun and refreshing flavored waters. Do you know how to build a house out of cards? This is a great time to learn! We will also have snacks and board games, or you can bring your own favorites. Great chance to get to know people and relax and unwind. You will also get a chance to practice how to play the Spoons card game for Saturday night's Annual Spoons Championship Tournament or go to the Campfire and Sing-a-long.

Saturday Dinner

After Dinner stay and join in for a beautiful and moving Investiture/Rededication Ceremony. After a short break come back to the dining hall for a costume contest and party games! Practice up for Card Castles in the Sky - competition on Saturday night to see who can built the tallest and/or most elaborate playing card castle. The party will be followed by the Annual Spoons Championship. Following the activities in the dining hall there will be a sing-a-long in Starke.

SWAPS

Girl Scouts have a tradition of **SWAPS** - **S**pecial **W**hatchamacallits **A**ffectionately **P**inned **S**omewhere or **S**hared **W**ith **A** Pal - small, inexpensive crafts that you can produce in large quantities. They are a memento of a good time as well as a wonderful way to share something about where you are from and/or what you like to do. Every time you trade SWAPS, you're sharing yourself in a unique way as you make new friends. You don't have to spend a lot of money as best SWAPS are handcrafted. Check out this link for more info on SWAPS:

<http://www.girlscouts.org/program/basics/traditions/swaps/>

Starting at Saturday breakfast and going through the rest of the day, those who bring swaps can exchange them with others. Be sure to enter the SWAPS contest by 12 PM on Saturday! **Please do not include Glitter on your swaps. Texlake is a glitter-free environment.**

SWAPS Contest

Saturday morning before noon, enter your SWAP into our contest by stopping by the SWAP Contest Registration table in the Dining Hall. There are 4 contest categories:

- Most Creative
- Girl Scout theme
- Trash to Treasure (using recycled items)
- Magic Theme

Voting starts at 12:00pm thru 3:00pm.

Contest prizes will be awarded at Dinner.

Please remember: **NO GLITTER!**

Costume Contest

Try your hand at dressing up for your magical best, at the Trailblazers Costume Contest!

Categories will be as follows:

- Proud to be a Girl Scout
- Magical creatures
- Witches and wizards
- Famous magicians

Costumes may **NOT** include glitter!

Patch Exchange

There will be a patch exchange table set up in the Main Dining Hall. Feel free to trade your odds and ends for what looks interesting and useful to you.

Investiture/Rededication Ceremony

We come to Trailblazers because we bleed green (even if we didn't know yet!). Be sure to stick around after dinner Saturday to get a good green transfusion. You'll leave with love in your heart and tears in your eyes.

Workshops

There are a few workshops that continue thru 2 workshop sessions (lasting 2:45 hours). If you register for these, make sure to register in BOTH sessions:

- **Kayaks** - Session 1 & 2 (Maximum of 20)
- **Basic Carpentry**- Session 3 & 4 (Maximum of 15)
- **Let's Go 2** - Session 3 & 4
- **High Ropes** - Sessions 3 & 4 (Maximum of 15)

Archery and Guitar Quick Start - Offered twice: Session 1 or Session 3. You do NOT need to register for both.

Horseback riding - Offered twice: Session 1 or Session 2. You do NOT need to register for both. (Maximum of 8 per session)

Workshop 1 Choices

Kayaks (part 1 of 2) - (Texlake Staff) - "A boat is like a magic world, like a little island." - Architect Renzo Piano Explore Lake Travis on your own magic island kayak! This session may last over 2 hours due to 1 hour of kayaking plus travel time to and from beach. Workshop may be cancelled at the last minute due to weather/ water levels, resulting in free time. (Maximum of 20)

Archery - (Bill Houston) - Ever wonder how it feels to be Robin Hood? How easy is shooting a bow and arrow? This class will give you the basic steps to learning how each person can shoot effectively. Learn how to aim, stand, draw and pull. Simple, easy steps to targeted fun.

Horseback riding - **additional \$25 fee** (Texlake Staff) Horses don't need horns or wings for a magic all their own! Wear long pants and boots and ride the camp horses for a relaxing view of the camp. Weight limit of 200 lbs. Workshop may be cancelled at the last minute due to weather, resulting in free time. (Maximum of 8)

Carving - (Bill Keienburg) "Whatever are Runes; ancient magic symbols" with hidden meanings. Pack your favorite pocket knife and carve a magic symbol of Girl Scouting. There will be some extra carving tools available to use and the materials you need. We will visit about pocket knife use and safety along with some GS Pocket knife methods and history.

Kitchen Science - (Trange Le) All wizards need to learn the basics of kitchen magic. This class will concentrate on using basic chemistry to make edible potions and slime. Class is aimed to earn Kitchen Science badge.

Owls - Knowledge & Care (Jena Recer) - Wizards need to know how to care for their owls. This class explore unique information about different breeds of owls. You will receive an owl pellet to take with you to dissect later.

Guitar Quick Start - (Stacy Lieder) "Ah, music," Dumbledore said, wiping his eyes. "A magic beyond all we do here." Have you ever wanted to play guitar around a campfire but weren't sure where to start? Come learn basic music/guitar theory, basic chords for 90% of songs, special skills to get you playing MUCH faster, become proficient with 15 min practice sessions. Stacy has found a way to start playing MUCH quicker than traditional guitar lessons. Bring your guitar if you have one, otherwise she will have a couple extra on hand.

Cosmic Colors Pour Painting - (Karoline Gebert) Learn the magic of pour painting and other acrylic painting techniques. You don't have to be an artist, and it doesn't take magic, but it will look like both when you transform your canvas into a work of art.

The Enchanted Forest - Want to just hang out in the forest instead of taking a workshop? Select this option to have free time to explore Camp Texlake on your own or join other Trailblazers in the dining hall to share stories about your travels and take some selfies.

Workshop 2 Choices

Kayaks (Part 2 of 2) - Must take same selection for both workshops 1 & 2. (Maximum of 20)

Horseback riding - additional \$25 fee (Texlake Staff) Horses don't need horns or wings for a magic all their own! Wear long pants and boots and ride the camp horses for relaxing view of the camp. Weight limit of 200 lbs. Workshop may be cancelled at the last minute due to weather, resulting in free time. (Maximum of 8)

Dehydrating Food Expanded - (Laura Holst) Come have some fun learning the basics of food dehydration. Great for snacks, meal ideas, hiking, backpacking or just something new and different! Get some ideas for your next troop outing or badge ideas. We will explore fruit, oatmeal, soup, and beef jerkey. No experience or supplies needed. If you enjoyed this class last year come back again and learn even more.

Adding Magic to Campfires and other Occasions - (Jena Recer) Add magic to your campfire. Learn about fairy dust and how to make and use it so that your girls can make wishes on the campfire. Make fire starters that turn the flames blue and green. Other chemical magic will be revealed.

Team Building - (Stacy Lieder) Be it a frolic of fairies or a coven of witches, an epic adventure starts with a strong team. Would you like to have a better grasp on team building? This is the session for you! You will learn some hands-on team building activities that can be used with girls or adults. You will also learn how to facilitate and process these activities to get the outcome you desire. Finally, you will learn some key components to allow you to create your own team building activities to adapt existing activities to meet your specific needs.

Backpacking for Newbies - (Bill Houston) So what's the big deal about backpacking? Can I use a stick and a handkerchief to tote my stuff?

Demonstrations will cover the types of packs, equipment, and the most important requirement of all, The Leader Ability. This is a hands-on class where you will discuss and handle different types of equipment. Conversations about the best type for your girls, and the best type of trips to plan.

Sit-Upons - In Many Forms - (Maggie Fowler) This is a Girl Scout tradition that can take many forms. In this class you will learn how to make a portable rocking chair and other methods of seats for the girl on the go.

Games for Scouts - (Rusty McCrory & Gail Rankin) Discover some wonderful games to play with your troop from 2 Texlake legends.

Wands - (Bill Keienburg) A hiking stick becomes your magic wand or broomstick. Here is your help to cover the ground, cross streams, measure, keep your balance on the trail, record and tell your Girl Scout Story. There's magic too, all part of Girl Scout lore. Pack your whittling knife and craft your wand or {broom}stick. There will be some extra carving tools available to use and the materials you need.

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Saturday After Lunch Activities

Free Swim - Join your fellow mermaids for a Splash! in the pool. (1:00 pm - 4:00 pm)

Herbal Medicines - (Laura Hon) Basic Homeopathy for family and pets: Ever want to learn about safe, effective remedies to treat your family and pets in acute situations? Want to quickly treat a bee sting, food poisoning, or even a hangover? Come learn about homeopathy, one of the oldest and intriguing forms of healing,

used for centuries! We'll discuss popular Herbs grown in Central Texas and how to use them in the kitchen or your medicine cabinet! Practical applications and recipes will be covered in this workshop.

Hermione's Bag - (Kelly Higgins) Hermione's bag is a great resource for keeping your necessities close at hand. Come out to learn how to make these and take them back to teach to your girls. Fabric and yarn will be provided. No sewing required.

Backpacking for Those With Knowledge - (Bill Houston) Backpacking II - Beyond the Backpacking for newbies, we will also go into the basic Safety Wise requirements, and the trainings needed to explore different levels of program hikes. This is interactive, so bring your goods and your methods and see how we can expand the adventure, and learn from each other's best practices.

How to Lead Non-Traditional Troops Expanded - (Mary Bishop) Being a sister to every Girl Scout, helping all girls build courage, confidence and character, so they too can make the world a better place. How can we help girls who learn different from others, have more energy than us, live with grandparents, parents that are deployed or travel between the homes of their two parents? Come share your knowledge and learn from others what they find works, so we can support all our sisters. If you enjoyed this class last year come back again and learn even more.

Compass Skills - (Bill Keienburg) "Trust your Compass. It will give you a Safe Passage through mystic Lands." Compass Magic - seems like that, but is it? Learn how and why the Magic of the compass works. Learn to use and teach compass skills for finding your way. (Maximum of 10)

Hydrate - (Diana Hostettler) "If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water." - naturalist and philosopher Loren Eiseley. Are you

always telling your troop to HYDRATE? Learn a game that you can teach your troop that may help to convince them that you are not crazy and HYDRATE really is the call of the strong.

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Workshop 3 Choices

Let's Go! 2 - Food, Fire, Fun (1 of 2) - (Diana Hostettler) - 2:45 hours - This course trains volunteers to build fires, cook a simple one-pot lunch and cook on a stick. This is the 2nd training step on the required path to camping adventures with the girls. (Workshop lasts thru 2 sessions - 3 & 4) Prerequisite: Let's Go! 1 - Out & About

Basic Carpentry (1 of 2) - (Chris Franks) Wondering how you can teach your troop when you don't know the difference between a bolt and a screw? This class will prepare you to teach the Woodworking badge. You will leave with an item that you built. (Workshop lasts thru 2 sessions - 3 & 4) (Maximum of 15)

High Ropes Course (1 of 2) - **additional \$15 fee** (Texlake Staff) Walk on a telephone pole, walk on a wire. One thrill after another! (Workshop lasts thru 2 sessions - 3 & 4). Workshop may be subject to last minute cancellation due to weather, resulting in free time. (Maximum of 15)

Free swim - Come Splash! with your fellow mermaids in the Texlake pool. (1:00 pm - 4:00 pm)

Archery - (Bill Houston) Ever wonder how it feels to be Robin Hood? How easy is shooting a bow and Arrow? This class will give you the basic steps to learning how each person can shoot effectively. Learn how to aim, stand, draw and

pull. Simple easy steps to targeted fun.

New Leader Q&A - (Amanda Milani) You're a Girl Scout Leader - but now you feel like somebody dropped a house on you! Don't get your ruby slippers scuffed - come to a new leader Q&A, and before you know it, you'll have munchkins singing your praises!

Guitar Quick Start - (Stacy Lieder) "Ah, music," Dumbledore said, wiping his eyes. "A magic beyond all we do here." Have you ever wanted to play guitar around a campfire but weren't sure where to start? Come learn basic music/guitar theory, basic chords for 90% of songs, special skills to get you playing MUCH faster, become proficient with 15 min practice sessions. Stacy has found a way to start playing MUCH quicker than traditional guitar lessons. Bring your guitar if you have one, otherwise she will have a couple extra on hand.

Fairy Wings - (Katherine Devos) Ready to take flight through the Magical Forest of Texlake? Learn how to make simple fairy wings using wire hangers, tulle, yarn, elastic, and a little Pixie Dust. No special skills required.

Painting in a Group - (Laura Holst) –Think you're not an artist? In this class you will be talked through creating a special painting on canvas that could hang in Hogwarts.

Edible Concoctions - (Ann Blasdel) You don't need magic to make delicious home goods such as yogurt, granola, granola bars, peanut butter, ketchup, mayo, and other delights. Let this class teach you how to make some magical edible concoctions!

Map Skills - (Bill Keienburg) "May I see the Map, please? I have a nice collection of Maps." - Bilbo Baggins Map Magic is a rightful partner and a Magic Map is able to stand alone. Maps and real maps, symbols and colors show you on paper what you can see from the Feller Pavilion. (Maximum of 10)

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Workshop 4 Choices

Let's Go! 2 - Food, Fire, Fun (2 of 2) - 2nd half of workshop 3 session. (Must take same selection for both workshop 3 & 4 sessions.) Prerequisite: Let's Go! 1 Out & About

Basic Carpentry (2 of 2) - 2nd half of workshop 3 session. (Must take same selection for both workshop 3 & 4 sessions.) (Maximum of 15)

High Ropes Course (2 of 2) - 2nd half of workshop 3 session (must take same selection for both workshops 3 & 4 sessions) (Maximum of 15)

Useful Potions - (Karoline Gebert) Abracadabra a little of this and a little of that...magical results. Learn about non-edible potions that you can use in your troop including a magical cooling spray.

A Magical Journey to the Land of Common Sense and Safety - (Jessica McLane) You will learn to use Magic Beans, Healing Stones, and Green Toads to prevent and get yourself out of not so magical situations. We will go over the basics of preparedness and safety while on adventures with your girls. You will learn tricks and tips for hiking, camping, and cooking outdoors. Magic Beans will help you prepare, Healing Stones will help you when things go wrong, and Green Toads are the tools for emergencies. Learn some skills so you will be ready to take those girls anywhere. Jessica has over 19 years answering 911 calls and 7 years as a GS leader-come on a magical journey.

Optional Sunday Morning Activities

Talismans (SWAPS) - (Katherine Devos) - Learn all about these magical friendship starters. From simple to complex, SWAPS are a great way to make new friends at Girl Scout events. Learn tips, tricks, and techniques to make your own magical friendship Talismans.

Using Music Outside of a Camp Setting - (Stacy Lieder) Want to explore using music at meetings and outings but aren't sure how to do it? This class will help you learn:

- How music affects us.
- How group singing affects us.
 - Build group cohesion
 - Teach culture
 - Reinforce values
 - Help with time management
- Consideration for choosing songs.
 - Background music vs. foreground music
 - Subtle messages in songs
 - The role of banned songs

This training was presented at the 2017 ACA Regional Conference.

Labyrinths - (Amanda Milani) Is your baby crying hard as a babe can cry, and do you feel like all you ever do is fight dragons and run away from blast-ended skrewts? Learn the real (and calming) magic of labyrinths, and practice the art of creating your own miniature model of an ancient fidget device.

The Enchanted Forest - Want to just hang out in the forest instead of taking a workshop? Select this option to have free time to explore Camp Texlake on your own or join other Trailblazers in the dining hall to share stories about your travels and take some selfies.

Morning Walk with Bill - Greet the morning with an invigorating nature walk with one of Trailblazers' most loved Scouts - Bill Keienburg. 7:30-8:30am

First Aid/CPR certification - **additional \$25 fee** - CPR Resources will provide the certification training. Make payment on Trailblazer registration and council will send payment to CPR Resources. 9:30-11:30am

Scouts' Own Ceremony - SUNDAY MORNING
It's easy to want to get your kapers done so you can try your disappearing act on Sunday morning, but come to the Singing Trees right after breakfast Sunday and recall why Juliette said "...we will make our lives and the lives of the future girls happy, healthy and holy." It's not about religion; it's about joy and beauty. Scout's own is a time to put the memories of the event into a storage place in your heart. Rusty & Gail - 8:45-9:30 am.

Meals and Accommodations

Meals

Saturday only participants will be provided with lunch and dinner.

Weekend participants will be provided with Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner and Sunday Breakfast, along with Friday & Saturday night snacks.

Gluten-free or vegetarian options will be available at every meal.

Drinks will be water, lemonade, tea, coffee, milk and juice. Water coolers will be located in different areas. There are no sodas available at camp. You are welcome to bring your drinks.

Write your name on your drinks and store them either in the Flora & Fauna refrigerators or in personal coolers.

Luxurious or Traditional Accommodations

Weekend participants will have a choice of climate controlled units (A/C) - **Fauna**, **Flora** or **Suncrest**, or can choose to stay in **Starlight/Tanda** Treehouse units (electricity, but no A/C). Or, for a more traditional and usually quieter camp experience, campers may stay in **Driftwood Cove** or **Horseshoe Bend**.

All beds in all units have mattresses only, bring your own bedding.

Fauna & Flora are troop houses that have 12 rooms in each building; each room houses a maximum of 4 persons. Each room has 2 single beds and 1 bunk bed set. There are bathrooms with showers in each hallway. Each building is cooled with a central AC unit and workshops will be held in the community living areas.

Suncrest has 5 true cedar log cabins that have 6 sets of bunk beds in each cabin with a maximum of 12 persons/cabin. Each cabin has bathrooms with showers in the cabin. Cabins are cooled with window AC units and fans. **Males** will be housed in Suncrest E cabin.

Starlight & Tanda units have raised bunkhouse style cabins called Treehouses. Each cabin has 7 bunk beds (14 persons) with electricity and fans but no A/C. It is generally a quieter place to stay. Bathrooms with showers are located in a separate building between 2 cabins on the same raised platform.

Horseshoe Bend unit has screened cabins (like at state parks) with 5 beds in each cabin. There are 5 cabins in unit. No A/C or electricity in cabin. Bathroom/showers are in a separate building and it has electricity. Unit is in a quiet section of camp, some distance from the parking lot.

Driftwood Cove unit has traditional GS platform tents with 6 beds in each tent. There are 6 tents in unit. No A/C, electricity or window screens in tents. Bathroom/showers are in a separate building and it has electricity. Unit is in a quiet section of camp with more of an open nature feel which is a distance from parking lot.

Bunk Beds - Some campers will be asked to use top bunks of beds. There is a question on the registration form asking if you can physically use a top bunk bed if needed. If you have physical limitations or a medical issue that prevents you from using top bunks, please answer "no" to this question. It is up to roommates to honor your request. **Fauna & Flora** will require 1 person in each room to use the upper bunk. **Suncrest** may require up to 6 persons per cabin to use the upper bunk. **Starlight/Tanda** may require up to 7 persons per cabin to use upper bunk. **Driftwood Cove** and **Horseshoe Bend** do not have bunk beds.

Housing choices are not guaranteed and are based on overall registrations. All areas may not be used.

Registration and Fees

Saturday Only Fee - \$35 includes

- Saturday Lunch & Dinner
- 4 workshops
- Optional Saturday early afternoon workshop
- Trailblazer patch

Weekend fee - \$60 includes

- Four meals, two refreshment breaks
- No Friday dinner - you may bring something
- Lodging and showers
- 4 workshops & 3 optional workshops
- Trailblazer patch
- Friday evening activities
- Saturday evening party

Trailblazer t-shirts - \$15 additional fee T-shirts are being sold again this year. This year's shirt will be a magical design on a lavender shirt. This year, you can order more than 1 shirt and in different sizes. Shirts will not be available for purchase at Trailblazers so be sure to order your shirts as part of your Trailblazers registration. No shirt orders will be accepted after August 17th.

Registration Deadline - August 17th to order a shirt; without a shirt September 7th 2018

To register:

- Go online to the GSCTX website, click EVENTS and open the Events Calendar, scroll to September 21st and select TRAILBLAZERS.
- Deadline for refunds/cancellations is by Noon on September 7.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact either Glenda Hicks at glendah@gscctx.org or Max Burns at mmaxburns@aol.com