



# Farthest North Girl Scout Council

# Annual Report 2016



On my honor, I will try: To serve God and my country, To help people at all times, And to live by the Girl Scout Law. I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and respectful, and to respect myself, make myself and others strong, and respect for what I say and do, and to use resources wisely, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.



Created by  
Bethany Y.



## President and Executive Director Letter

Dear Friends in Girl Scouting,

The leadership of the Farthest North Girl Scout Council celebrates with our members the most successful year for the council in its history. Council revenue and grants topped more than \$600,000 for the first time ever; membership surpassed previous yearend totals in the first four months; and enthusiasm for joining this dynamic organization was visible in all meetings, trainings and council programs. The more than 25 years combined experience between the Executive Director and Board Chair have helped this council thrive in challenging times within the Girl Scout movement. The Farthest North Council board of directors stands ready to support its members and defend its charter as we did in rejecting the merger into a statewide council in 2009. Our sincerest thanks for your support.

Notable in 2016 was the growth in membership, adding 28 new troops in the fall, 5 were in rural communities. Revenue soared as the Nut Sale grew by 24%, Cookie Sale increased 12% and Shop Sales experienced a 19% jump. Grant income totaled \$78,000 for the roof replacement at the Service Center, the bridge at Chena Hot Springs Road property and energy efficiency upgrades to the Service Center. The year ended with a surplus to advance our capital needs in the future. The Women of Distinction event celebrated its 20th year, with a 7% rise in funding. Finally, the top award of Best Youth Organization was awarded to our float in the Golden Days Parade again this year.

Thank you to all our volunteers for your service and for the honor granted to us to serve this wonderful organization.

Sincerest regards,

*Russ Sharpton, President*      *Suellen Nelles, Executive Director*

## Farthest North Council History

The Farthest North Girl Scout Council serves the largest geographical area of any of the Girl Scout Councils in the United States, serving communities from the 63rd parallel north of the Alaska range, which is more than 350,000 square miles. FNGSC, formerly called the Fairbanks Girl Scout Council, was started in 1925 by a handful of girls in Fairbanks headed by Jessie Bloom. Girl Scouting expanded to rural Alaska in 1945 with the establishment of the first troop in Nome. By 1947 the Fairbanks Girl Scout Council became a member of the National Council of Girl Scouts. Camp Clegg at Harding Lake was acquired in 1949 and became the Council's summer camp. A troop was organized in Fort Yukon in 1949 and another in Point Barrow in 1950.

In 1952, the Farthest North Girl Scout Council was formed and incorporated with 400 girls and 90 adults. The following year the first full-time executive director was hired. By 1957 there were 100 troops with more than 1,000 girls, which is approximately the size of the membership today.

The Service Center located at College Road and the Old Steese Highway was purchased and refurbished in 1993 to better serve the growing membership. Renovations performed in 2008/2009 have added value for generations to come. In 2014, the troop camping property on Chena Hot Spring Road broke ground and will offer outdoor adventures to girls by the summer of 2017.

  
girl scouts  
farthest north council



## Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.



## Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:  
To serve God and my country,  
To help people at all times,  
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

## Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be  
honest and fair,  
friendly and helpful,  
considerate and caring,  
courageous and strong, and  
responsible for what I say and do,  
and to  
respect myself and others,  
respect authority,  
use resources wisely,  
make the world a better place, and  
be a sister to every Girl Scout.

# Farthest North Girl Scout Council At A Glance



## 2016 Girl Membership

Great North Star SU	238
Aurora SU	207
Four-Get-Me-Not SU	253
Barrow	23
Fort Greely	2
Healy	26
Nome	47
Juliettes	11

Total 807

## 2016 Annual Awards

### Volunteer of Excellence

Kaylin Hart  
Phoebe Bredlie  
Kathy Page

Not Pictured:  
Joyce Lamers  
Barbie Howard



**Thanks Badge**  
Theresa Parent  
Accepted by Molly Parent  
Nancy Dreydoppel  
Accepted by Jenna Dreydoppel



### Cookie Sale Giant Daisy Belle Winner

Kaeda Reamer - Troop 107



### Service Unit Managers

Kathy Page, Shawna Holman, Marsha Vincent



## Volunteer Leadership

### Aurora Service Unit

Manager—Kathy Page  
Treasurers—Phoebe Bredlie  
Secretary—Brenda Roberson  
Events Coordinator—Gretchen Nolan  
Product Sales Manager—Colleen Sullivan

### Great North Star Service Unit

Managers—Shawna Holman  
Treasurer—Anna-Mariah Kelly  
Secretary—Ellen Cruse  
Events Coordinators—Patty Ona-Groves  
Product Sales Manager—Anna-Mariah Kelly

### Four-Get-Me-Not Service Unit

Managers—Marsha Vincent  
Treasurer—Kristi Ledgett  
Secretary—Nancy Dreydoppel  
Product Sales Manager—Sarah Ledgett

**First Aid/CPR**—Theresa Parent, Karen Taylor  
**Outdoor Training**—Ritchie Musick, Karen Brauser

### Leadership Development Pin

Kathy Page - 25 hours  
Anna Mariah Kelly - 25 hours, not pictured



### Years of Service

Patty Ona-Groves - 5 Years  
Anna Mariah Kelly - 20 Years, not pictured



## 2016 Program Highlights



- 81 Daisies & Brownies and 58 Juniors & Older attended the 2016 Cookie Palooza party in January at the Girl Scout Council BP Room.
- 101 Girl Scouts and 79 Guys came to the Me & My Guy Snowflake Ball.
- Through their outstanding cookie sales, 18 girls earned membership to the 600 Club. 11 girls attended the 600 Club Award Ceremony.
- For Spring Break Girl Scout activities 28 girls came to the office to help celebrate the Girl Scout birthday, 17 girls became Certified Babysitters at a course offered by the Council, and 25 Daisies & Brownies along with 20 Juniors and older came to our first Vintage Badge Party where they earned the Milliner badge from the 1920 Girl Scout Handbook.
- 22 Brownies & 45 Juniors and older attended the Energy Badge event hosted by the Farthest North Girl Scout Council and Alaska Resource Education.
- 15 girls came to the first ever Camp Rally where they roasted mini s'mores and enjoyed several other camp activities.
- 1 Girl Scout completed her Gold Award and was awarded at the 2016 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Women of Distinction event.
- 12 girls came to the 600 Club Globe Trotter Event at the Carlson Center.
- The Council hosted Mini BOW for the first time and 55 girls along with 15 adults camped out for 3 days, had an amazing time learning outdoor skills in the wilderness, located in the Chena Flood Control Project private property.
- 105 submissions were entered into the 2016 Tanana Valley State Fair Girl Scout exhibit, with our new superintendent Alison Turner.
- 15 girls helped with the decorations and rode on the Girl Scout Golden Days Parade Float in July. For the fifth year in a row, they won the 'Best Youth Organization Float' award.
- 72 registered Girl Scouts and 63 Non-Girl Scouts and their families came to the Dinosaur Recruitment Party at the Pioneer Park Civic Center in late August.
- 48 girls, including several from our rural troops, showed their pride on Girl Scout Spirit Day in September.
- 21 Girl Scouts raced canoes in the annual Freeze-Up Canoe Race, hosted by the Kiwanis Club and Host Lions of Fairbanks.
- 89 very excited Girl Scouts attended the 2016 Nut Rally, held in the very full Girl Scout Council BP Room.
- 156 Girl Scouts and their families came to the Outer Space On-Time Party, held at the Pioneer Park Civic Center.
- 15 Girl Scouts along with several Leaders and parents attended the Gold Award and Girl Scout Travel Information Sessions.
- 75 girls participated in Founder's Day celebrations at the Girl Scout office.
- 65 girls and their families participated in the Founder's Day Nature Scavenger Hunt at Creamer's Field.
- 9 Troop Leaders came out to the Mt. Aurora Lodge for a super fun Leader Retreat including a wine tasting, gourmet meals, paint party, sleepover and leader development workshops.
- 38 Brownies & 42 Juniors and older came to the final Natural Resource Badge Event to earn the Forestry Badge, completing the badge series.
- 21 girls entered baked goods into the annual Holiday Pie Bake. 40 girls and their families stopped by the Girl Scout Council office to taste and vote on their favorite holiday baked good.

## 2016 Camp Jessie Bloom & Camp Dexter

- In 2016, Camp Jessie Bloom hosted 90 Girl Scouts who enjoyed a variety of outdoor activities, making new friends and reconnecting with old ones, and worked hard on earning the new outdoor art badges. They got out hiking, canoeing, and swimming. These girls attended all of our exciting camps, from our two-night Ladybug Camp to the week-long Summit Camp. This long-standing tradition of attending Girl Scout camp is a highlight to many of our Girl Scout's years.
- Camp Dexter is hosted in Nome, Alaska. 12 Juniors, and 16 Cadettes enjoyed outdoor adventures at Camp Dexter. Beyond the traditional camp activities, girls also had fun earning the new outdoor art badges, swimming, canoeing, nature walks and cookouts are the fire.

# Council Highlights



- 807** Girls registered to become a part of the Girl Scout movement
- 98** Girl members were from rural communities, representing 12%
- 290** Adult volunteers registered who made a difference in girls' lives
- 90** Girls attended Camp Jessie Bloom at Lost Lake
- 19** Girls became members of the 600 Club
- 213** boxes per girl sold on average
- 134,000** Packages of cookies were sold
- 1** Girl earned their Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouting



## ~ 2016 Women of Distinction ~

Women of Distinction celebrated the 20th annual event with BP honoring three extraordinary women. The evening featured Honorary Chair First Lady Donna Walker wishing the honorees well, emcee Marilyn Romano and introducing storyteller Niesje Steinkruger wowing the crowd with the life stories of three exceptional women. Last minute arrival of surprise guest, Senator Lisa Muskowski.



**Left to Right: Sen. Lisa Murkowski, Honoree Bonnie Johnson, First Lady Donna Walker, Honoree Jennifer Jolis, Honoree Corlis Taylor**

**1997**

Martha Harrell  
Brenda Holden  
Effie Kokrine  
Ann Secrest

**1998**

Rev. Shellie Brown  
Poldine Carlo  
Grace Berg Schaible  
Sue Wilken

**1999**

Vallie Byrdsong  
Deborah Honea Ruth Lister  
Rev. Mable Rasmussen

**2000**

Virgie King Christine Smith  
Coleen Turner June Ulz

**2001**

Annie Bartley Erma Belz  
Ruth Burnett June Rogers

**2002**

Susan Acquistapace  
Nancy White-Carlstrom  
Edna Wilder-Cryan  
Emily Kemak

**2003**

Nancy Cook Gloria Fernandez  
Dorothy Jones Ginger Stock

**2004**

Jyotsna "Jo" Heckman  
Kyong Hollen Susan Rainey  
Chelsea Walker

**2005**

Barbara Hall Chris Hayes  
Jo Ryman Scott  
Althea St. Martin

**2006**

Marilyn Romano Theresa Reed  
Patty Kastelic  
Rosalind Kan

**2007**

Samantha Kirstein  
Ann Shortt Henrine Gray  
Niesje Steinkruger

**2008**

Carol Brice  
Annie Keep-Barnes  
Cheryl Kilgore Lorena Hegdal

**2009**

Pat Cook Mary Ann Nickles  
Lottie Fleeks Bonnie Roberts

**2010**

Karen Parr Wendy Redman  
Jennifer Schmidt  
Barbara Schuhmann

**2011**

Mary Binkley Shirley Lee  
Peggy Pollen Jeri Wigdahl

**2012**

Bernice Joseph Shelby Nelson  
Karen Perdue

**2013**

Sue Hull Connie Parks-Karl  
Patty Mongold

**2014**

Mary Jane Fate Jane Kauvar  
Sue White

**2015**

Sherry Modrow Ana Richards  
Lorna Shaw

# 2016 Council Operations

## Statement of Support For year ending Dec. 31, 2016\*

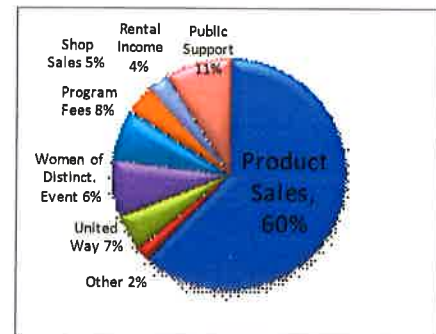
<b>Public Support and Revenue</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Contributions	\$27,252	\$30,634
Grants	35,737	0
United Way	24,454	34,448
Product Sales	329,635	287,328
Special Fundraising Events (Net)	32,208	29,210
Program Fees	42,425	31,455
Investment Income	1,749	2,658
Rental Income	23,860	23,560
Council Shop	25,523	19,814
Net Assets released from restrictions	28,174	32,342
<b>Total Public Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$557,866</b>	<b>\$491,449</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Program Services	\$487,943	\$382,138
Management and General	48,568	40,748
Fundraising	21,355	16,388
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$557,866</b>	<b>\$439,274</b>
<b>Excess (Deficit) of Public Support and Revenue over Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 7,615</b>	<b>\$52,175</b>

\*Unaudited numbers

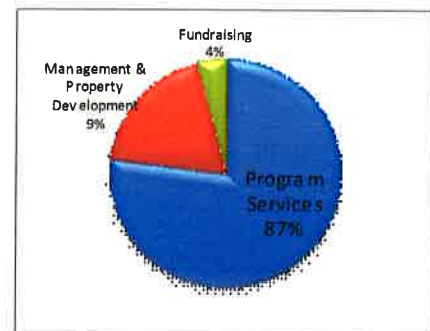
Farthest North Girl Scout Council's operating budget includes:

- Volunteer training
- Resources & Equipment
- Travel to Rural Alaska
- Services of Trained Professional Staff
- Volunteer Resources & Mailings
- Public Relations
- Girl Scout Store Services
- Council-Wide Activities & Programs
- Financial Assistance to Girls and Troops
- Insurance, Legal & Audit Fees
- Camp Equipment
- Maintenance & Repair of Service Center and Camp Dexter
- Office Equipment & Supplies
- Utilities & Phone Service

### Income



### Expenses



### Financial Highlights:

Cookie Sale – NET increase of \$35,000 (\$293,000 total sales), 12% increase.

Nut Sale revenue increased by 24%.

Received a grant from Rasmuson Foundation for \$25,000 supplement cost of roof replacement to the Service Center.

Received a grant from Rasmuson Foundation for \$13,000 and \$30,000 grant from USFW to build the bridge at our CHSR property.

Saved more than \$7,500 for the Capital Reserve Fund.

Retail sales in shop increased by 19%, (\$7,500 NET increase), and fall uniform sales were the best ever.

Women of Distinction 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event raised revenues by 6½%, \$31,000 NET.

# Contributor's List

## Clubs and Organizations

Rotary Club of Fairbanks  
United Way of the Tanana Valley

## Businesses

Advance Printing  
Alaska Airlines  
Alaska Children's Trust  
Alaska Coffee Roasters  
Alaska Communications  
Alaska Railroad  
Alaska Raw Fur Co.  
Animal House Veterinary Clinic  
April Logan  
BP  
Banks Alehouse  
Beaver Sports  
Bettisworth North  
Chena Hot Springs Resort  
Clean Buns  
Cold Spot Feeds  
ConocoPhillips  
Country Kitchen  
Cribs, Cradles & Things  
Doyon, Limited  
Elements Salon  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner  
Fairbanks Westmark Hotel  
Florcraft CarpetOne  
Four-Get-Me-Not Service Unit  
Fred Meyer/ Kroger Rewards  
Frontier Outfitters  
Girl Scout Troop 249  
Great Alaska Bowl Company  
Great North Star Service Unit  
Gulliver's Books  
Harmony Wood  
Holm Town Nursery  
Holy Dog Pet Boarding  
HooDoo Brewery  
Hotlicks Ice Cream  
If Only  
KATN Channel 2  
KFXF Fox Channel 7  
KTVF Channel 11  
KYSC  
Lavelle's Bistro  
Lunch Café & Eatery

Mediactive  
Marshall Arts  
McCafferty's  
Mt. McKinley Bank  
North Pole Coffee Roasting  
North Star Golf Club  
Petro Star Inc.  
Princess Lodge  
REI Outfitters  
Rain Proof Roofing  
Richards, Johnson & Granberry  
Seattle Seahawks  
Stan Stevens Tours  
Street Sounds  
TVTV Channel 13  
Taylor's Gold-n-Stones  
Team Cutters  
The Cookie Jar Restaurant  
The Turtle Club  
Water Wagon  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Yoga on Tap/HooDoo Brewery

## Individuals

Janet Ames  
Tonya Aris  
James Binkley  
Francis & Linda Boisseau  
Carol Brice  
Bill Brophy  
Joan Buchanan  
Susan Carothers  
Mary Ann Cerney  
Cathy & Warren Cummings  
Kathy Dohner  
Lottie Fleeks  
Gail Galleher  
Heather Gappert  
Gayle Garrigues  
Gretchen Gordon  
SL Gordon  
Kathleen Griffin  
Jennifer Gul  
Susan Larkins-Hall  
Nancy Hanson  
Ella Jelinek  
Terry Johnson

Connie Parks-Karl  
Cheryl Kilgore  
Vicki Lewis  
Serena Lin  
Barbara Matthews  
Rosalie L'Ecuyer  
Karen & Willi Lundquist  
Phillip Moore  
Suellen Nelles  
Claudia & Jeff Pierson  
Pamela Pilon  
Piscoya Family  
Margaret Soden  
Dawn Stephenson  
Corlis Taylor  
Kelly Thrun  
Chelsea & Gary Walker  
Rosalie White  
Sue White  
Gary & Sue Wilken  
Gordon Williams

## Foundations/Trusts

Amazon Smiles Foundation  
Hospital Foundation  
Marion Weeks Foundation  
Rasmuson Foundation  
William Stroecker Foundation  
USFW Service Foundation  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Ellen Whitcher Estate  
Jennine Williamson & John Fitzgerald Fund



Thanks for your support of Girl Scouting!

# Farthest North Girl Scout Council

## Board Accomplishments

- Approved and monitored the annual budget
- Approved adult recognition awards
- Hired auditor after taking to bid & monitored audit
- Conducted successful Annual Meeting in April
- Conducted an evaluation of the council Executive Director
- Adopted the 2017 Budget
- Accomplished a successful 20th Anniversary Women of Distinction event
- Addressed a jurisdictional clarification review
- Approved funds for roof replacement at the Service Center
- Added additional money to employee health savings account
- Financed an investigation into GSUSA membership dues increase
- Approved legal action against GSUSA to dispute membership dues increase

## FNGSC Staff

**Suellen Nelles**  
Executive Director

**Leah Hill**  
Director of Operations

**SeeJoy Yeung**  
Membership Services Specialist

**Jessica Krier**  
Receptionist / Shop Manager



## Board of Directors

**Russ Sharpton**  
President

**Gayle Garrigues**  
Vice President

**Karen Lundquist**  
Secretary

**Margaret Soden**  
Treasurer

### Members At-Large:

**Chris Anderson**  
**Margarete Hernandez**  
**Deb Hollingsworth**  
**Jen Imus**  
**Sarah Ledgett**  
**Claudia Pierson**  
**Courtney Roberts**  
**Shannon Vargas**  
**Sue White**



Farthest North Girl Scout Council  
431 Old Steese Hwy, Ste 100  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
P: 907-456-4782  
800-478-4782  
F: 907-452-2320



Web Address:  
[www.fairbanksgirlscouts.org](http://www.fairbanksgirlscouts.org)