

It's Girl Scout Cookie Time

It's that time of year again for one of America's favorite treats. Girl Scouts began taking orders for cookies Jan. 9 and will continue through March 14.

Get ready to savor all your favorites including, Thin Mints, Caramel deLites, Shortbread, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Thanks-A-Lot, Lemonades, Daisy Go Rounds and Peanut Butter Patties.

The price per box is \$3.50, and all of the proceeds generated from the Cookie Sale Program stay within the girls' local area and the 41-county council.

In 2009, Girl Scouts — North Carolina Coastal Pines (GS-NCCP) troops earned more than \$1.3 million in proceeds. That's an average of just more than \$1,000 per troop. Girl Scouts in central and eastern North Carolina hope to sell 2.6 million boxes of cookies in 2010.

The Buy 5 promotion is back allowing customers who pur-

chase five or more boxes of Girl Scout cookies in a single purchase to enter their name in a drawing to win a year's supply of free Girl Scout cookies from Girl Scouts — North Carolina Coastal Pines. Six winners will be selected and will be announced in May.

New this year: Girl Scout cookies can be ordered online. Girls can send e-mail messages to friends and family who can order cookies by replying to the e-mail message.

During the weekend of Super Bowl XLIV, Girl Scout cookies will be sold at thousands of cookie booths throughout 41 counties from Feb. 5-7.

If you did not have a Girl Scout visit your home or ask you via e-mail to purchase cookies, you can visit cookie booths outside of your local businesses on the weekends from Feb. 13 to March 14.

For the sixth consecutive year GS-NCCP will be participating in Operation Cookie Drop. Cus-

tomers can make donations through March 14. Those donations will be used to purchase cookies to ship overseas to military personnel at Camp Lejeune, Fort Bragg, Seymour Johnson AFB and the North Carolina branch of Give2TheTroops based in Greenville.

Since the program first started more than 221,000 boxes have been shipped to the troops.

For almost 100 years the Girl Scout Cookie Program has helped girls develop skills they will use throughout their lives. Through this annual activity, Girl Scouts ages 5-17 learn time and money management, how to set and achieve goals, the value of teamwork, how to build communication skills and customer service. These skills can even be listed on job and school applications and on resumes.

For information on how to purchase Girl Scout Cookies visit www.nccoastalpines.org.

