

1927 - 2007

Celebrating 80 years of Girl Guide Cookies in Saskatchewan



*Cookie Crest to Celebrate 80 Years of Girl Guide Cookies originating in Regina, Saskatchewan.
Purchase this crest at the Provincial Store. A Great Souvenir for the 2007 Cookie Campaigns!*



Dear Members of the Guiding family!

Girl Guide cookies are such an important part of our organization! Cookies are a source of fundraising, but they also provide a key public relations tool. When people buy cookies, they recognize that they are also supporting Girl Guides of Canada.

Cookie sales on a national level gross twenty million dollars annually. Profits from sales in Saskatchewan mainly benefit the units directly, but some profits also help the organization function at the Division, Area and Provincial levels. The more cookies we sell, the more we all benefit at every level.

Our cookies are instantly recognizable. 85% of Canadians have at least tried one once and 80% have bought at least one box during their lifetime. With 51% describing them as excellent and 39% as good, Girl Guides Classic Cream Cookies are the best-selling box of cookies in Canada. With this kind of track record, Girl Guide Cookies are a sure winner!

I want to thank each and every one of you for the efforts you make to sell cookies each year. This year, the 80th anniversary since cookies were first sold in Saskatchewan, we have increased our total cookie orders by more than 1000 cases. Congratulations to all of you for your great efforts and support of cookie sales! Together we are all winners!



Jo Szostak
Provincial Commissioner

A Trail of Cookie Crumbs

The house on the 1300 block of Robinson Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, pictured here has shared a history with Girl Guide Cookies since 1927. It was here that Christina Riepsamen, a Regina Guide Captain with Girl Guide Company #4, baked cookies to raise money for her unit to go camping. She wanted her girls to have the opportunity to travel and “see and recognize beauty everywhere”. While Christina and her unit baked and sold their cookies for 10 cents a dozen, today Girl Guides of Canada sell approximately 7 million boxes of cookies, baked at Dare Foods Limited, and sold at \$4.00 a box. The door of this house on Robinson Street still receives a knock from Girl Guides of all ages during the Spring Classic Crème Sandwich and the Fall Mint Cookie Campaigns, continuing the Cookie Tradition of 80 years.





The Cookie Story

Girl Guide Cookies originated in Regina, Saskatchewan

80 years ago, in 1927, the Newlands Own Girl Guide Company #4 of Regina, Saskatchewan wanted to go to camp. There were few cars in those days so they would have to take the train to Long Lake (Last Mountain Lake). The Guide Captain, Mrs. Christina Riepsamen, was trying to find ways for the girls, which included her daughter Henny, to earn their camp fee.

Mrs. Riepsamen was from Holland and everyone loved her baking. She got the idea of making cookies, putting one dozen in each bag and giving them to the girls to sell to their neighbours, family and friends for ten cents a bag. They sold so fast that Mrs. Riepsamen had trouble keeping up! This idea spread like wildfire and during the next few years selling cookies became the way that girls all over Canada were able to get to camp. National Headquarters began selling cookies in 1929. What started as a way to raise money has become one of Canada's longest standing traditions: **Girl Guide Cookies!**

The goal of our cookie sales has remained the same since 1927 – providing funds that support fun, exciting and adventurous Guiding activities for girls and women. Cookie sales are the largest source of funding for Girl Guides in Saskatchewan, and throughout each province in Canada.

One thing that has not changed is the dedication and support of our loyal cookie buyers. Having this successful fundraiser for all these years is a testament to the wonderful support of our girls and Guiders and all our supporters who have taken part in our cookie sales.

Girl Guide Cookies – The Fuel that makes Guiding Go!

Christina Riepsamen's 1927 Sugar Cookie Recipe

1 cup butter
3 eggs
2 tablespoons cream
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon vanilla

1 cup sugar
pinch of salt
1 teaspoon soda
½ teaspoon ground cardamom
3 or more cups flour to make a soft dough

Roll and cut with floured glass. Sprinkle with sugar, then bake (Moderate Oven 350 F for 10 – 12 minutes).

Printed for "80 Years of Girl Guide Cookies" that originated in Saskatchewan!



Christina Riepsamen Begins Girl Guide Cookie Tradition

In 1927 Hendrica Riepsamen wanted to go camping with her Girl Guide Company. They needed money for travel and food, so her mother, Christina (Chris), who was a Guide leader, baked cookies, bagged them, one dozen to a bag, and gave them to Hendrica (Henny) and other Guides to sell to Regina friends and neighbours for 10 cents a bag. This was the start of the tradition of Girl Guide cookies in Saskatchewan.

Chris and Hendrica became involved with Girl Guides because Chris wanted “her daughter to see and recognize beauty everywhere” and so camping became a big part of their lives. Chris was a Guider for 21 years; her daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughters were and are all associated with Girl Guides and Hendrica “is very proud of the way in which her mother always made sure there was enough money to take their Guide Company camping.”

Baking cookies was a natural for Chris. She “could create a gourmet meal on a very limited budget. Her wartime cook book is worn and stained”, and still used by her granddaughter. She baked Dutch cookies for special occasions and opened her home to Dutch airmen during the war and to the numerous Dutch war brides who came to Regina after WWII.



Henny and Christina Riepsamen



Christina Silzer (great-granddaughter of Mrs. Riepsamen, granddaughter of Mrs. Prockter, daughter of Julie Silzer), Hendrica (Henny) Prockter (daughter of Mrs. Riepsamen) and Julie Silzer (granddaughter of Mrs. Riepsamen, daughter of Hendrica Prockter). Photo taken May 1989.

Born in Holland in 1885, Chris came to Canada in 1912 with her husband, John. She was proud of her Dutch heritage and loved Canada. “Apart from difference in language, Canadians and Hollanders are much alike... but I feel that nowhere in the world have people greater opportunities than are offered here. It is a wonderful thing to live in Canada,” she said. When a Dutch friend praised Holland to the detriment of Canada, she finally annoyed Chris into snapping, “If you think Holland is so wonderful, go back there, I’m a Canadian.”

Chris’s community involvement gained her a reputation as someone “willing to undertake her share of work and... an efficient chairman.” Often she and her husband worked together, organizing projects.

Chris died in 1963, leaving her family a tradition of love for the outdoors and service to others. “What a legacy,” comments her granddaughter.

Printed from the 2002 Canadian Women’s Calendar “Her Story”.

Christina Riepsamen, A Vital and Valuable Community Worker

Christina, whose friends called her Chris, was born in Amsterdam, Holland on June 22, 1885. She died in Regina, Saskatchewan in April of 1963. She and her husband John and daughter Hendrica (Henny) arrived in Regina in 1915. While Christina's love of Holland never waned, her love of her adopted Canada was even greater. In an editorial, written at the time of her death in the Leader Post, it said: "Regina has lost a vital and valuable community worker." "Mrs. Riepsamen had that priceless trait, given to few women, of being able to 'mother' lonely young people far from their native lands and their own real mothers." During the period of time immediately following World War II, when Canadian servicemen were bringing home with them Dutch war brides, Christina was down at the Union Station to meet these girls as they came off the trains, hug them, and speak to them in their own language. The Riepsamen home was always open to these girls and their husbands as they were coached and scolded by Christina. Many of them became life-long friends.

Christina was active for over 50 years in the Regina community. She was a member of the Musical Club, the Women's Canadian Club, was a founding member of the Grace Haven Auxiliary when the Salvation Army opened the former Territorial Building on Dewdney Avenue to house young women. For 21 years Christina was involved with the Girl Guide movement as a leader and later as a member of the provincial executive and chair of the local association. It was while she was a Guide Leader that she began to bake cookies for the girls to sell in order to buy badges and enable the girls to go to camp. This was the beginning of the now famous Girl Guide Cookie, which, in Regina goes back to 1927.

Christina was a frequently requested speaker at various clubs around Regina. On one occasion, speaking to the Business and Professional Women's Club, she said: "I have told you the finest things about Holland, and now I must add that no land can compare to Canada. Not another country is so generous towards refugees and all who come."

Contributed By: Julie Silzer, Regina Guider, Christina Riepsamen's granddaughter.



Historical Cookie Dates



1927 - 2007

- 1927 Girl Guide Cookies originated in Regina, Saskatchewan, sold for 10 cents a dozen in a brown paper bag, baked by Christina Riepsamen, Guide Captain
- 1929 Girl Guides of Canada started selling Cookies
- 1930 Cookies made with fruits, nuts & spices
- 1941 Cookies not available during World War II & recipe was lost
- 1946 Vanilla crème cookie was introduced, as well as a maple cream & shortbread
- 1949 Barker-Bredin produced round cookies, embossed with a trefoil, for the province of Ontario & sold for 25 cents per box
- 1953 Sandwich-type cookie, vanilla & chocolate made its appearance with a package of 24 cookies selling for 35 cents
- 1955 New contract signed with Weston's & cookie price changed to 40 cents
- 1960 Contract entered with Christie Brown & Co. for the Manufacture & Delivery of a sugar-topped cookie. 50th Jubilee of Canadian Girl Guides
- 1963/65 A plain cookie was sold
- 1966 Famous chocolate & vanilla sandwich cookies returned/re-introduced
- 1967 Girl Guide CENTENNIAL cookie box was produced
- 1968 Cookie price increased to 50 cents
- 1970 60th Anniversary promoted on cookie box
- 1985 Cookie box promoted Girl Guides 75 Anniversary
- 1991 Every Canadian soldier was given a box upon arrival in Saudi Arabia
- 1992 Roberta Bondar, Canadian astronaut (former Girl Guide) carried our cookies into space
- 1993 First chocolatey mint cookie introduced in Ontario
- 1995 All provinces started selling the chocolatey mint cookie
- 2000 90th Anniversary of Girl Guides promoted on the cookie box
- 2003 New versions of the chocolate & vanilla sandwich cookies & the chocolatey mint cookie, baked by Dare Foods Limited
- 2007 80 years of Girl Guide Cookie Selling & it started in Saskatchewan!

Most information found on the Ontario Girl Guide Website

Saskatchewan Girl Guide Cookie History

1996, 97, 98 June Miller (Saskatoon) (Saskatoon Area) Product Marketing Adviser

1998 Position vacant so Fran Seidler, Saskatchewan Product Marketing looked after cookies

1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, Mary Lynne Golphy (Davidson) (Blue Vista Area)

2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 Alice Gaveronski, Sask. Cookie Adviser

REGINA – Cookie Representatives
 In 1984 Cookie Sales were re-introduced to the Regina Area.
 Rosalie de Jong, (1993, 94, 95, 96)
 Tara Buck (1996, 97, 98, 99)
 Alice Gaveronski (2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004)
 Tara Buck (2005, 2006, 2007)

Saskatchewan Cookie Area Advisers

Saskatchewan – Alice Gaveronski, Regina

Blue Vista – Shirley Parkinson, Unity

Carlton Trail – Janice Graessli, Punnichy

Cypress – Louise Gagnon, Moose Jaw

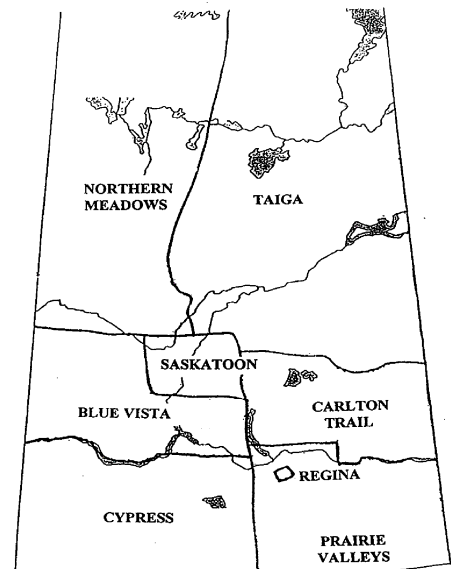
Northern Meadows – Jean Lawes, Cut Knife

Prairie Valleys – Marjorie Jackson, Regina

Regina – Tara Buck, Regina

Saskatoon – Kay Peters, Osler

Taiga – Elaine Scott, Melfort



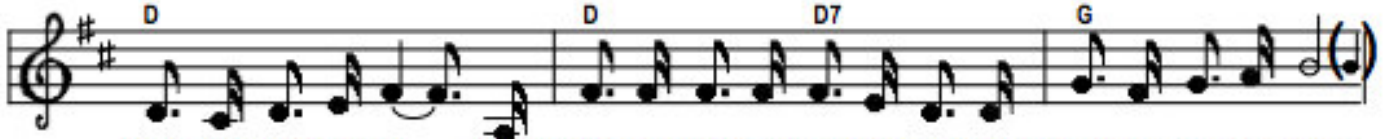


Girl Guide Cookies

Words and music by Dorothy Lind



1. O - ver eight - y years a - go when Guid - ing still was new, Girl Guides in Re - gi - na
2. Cook - ies help us buy the things that make our pro - grams run; go to camp or do some crafts -



knew just what to do. They made some home-made cook-ies, and they raised some mon - ey too;
make our Guid - ing fun. Cook - ies make it pos - si - ble to do the things we do; they



right here in Sas - kat - chew - an a great i - de - a grew!
help us with our Guid - ing, and they're real - ly yum - my too! **GIRL GUIDE COOK-IES!**

Chorus:



(Leader) Who likes choc - o - late? (Group) I like choc - o - late! (Leader) Who likes va - nil - la? (Group) I like van - il - la!



(Leader) Who likes choc'-late-y mint? (Group) I like choc'-late-y mint! (All) Cook - ies are the fuel that makes our Guid-ing GO!

Written to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of Girl Guide Cookies in Canada.

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Congratulations!

8,403 Cases for 2007 Spring Campaign

7,419 Cases for 2006 Spring Campaign

The "80 Boxes for 80 Years" Challenge created an increase of 984 cases!

Way to Go Saskatchewan Guiding Members!

"80 Boxes for 80 Years" Crest

This unique crest was designed for the "80 Boxes for 80 Years" Unit/Group Challenge. Each Guiding Member that registered for the Unit/Group Challenge and ordered 80 more boxes of the Spring Classic Cookies than their 2006 order, will receive this crest.



Saskatchewan Spring
Classic Sandwich Cookie Campaign



April to May

Saskatchewan Fall
Chocolatey Mint Cookie Campaign

October to December



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This booklet was produced in celebration of 80 Years of Girl Guide Cookies
originating in Saskatchewan!

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