



Hello! We are a mixed troop of mostly Americans living in Atyrau, Kazakhstan, at the mouth of the Ural River, at the north end of the Caspian Sea, on the border of Europe and Asia. We are USA Girl Scouts Troop 5, and Boy Scouts of America Cub Scout Pack 5. We have 8 girls and 3 boys in our group and attend a relatively new (4 1/2 year old) American School.

There are big oilfields nearby and fishing and harvesting caviar are also important here. It freezes and thaws here a lot in the fall and spring, so it's often muddy. There are not very many trees here but there is grass. This postcard is a picture of some local Kazakhs ice fishing in December on the Ural River, near our neighborhood. There is also a pedestrian bridge in the photo that we sometime use to walk to a different part of town. The national language is Kazakh, but most people in our area speak Russian. In Kazakhstan, the camel herders live in round houses called "yurts", but we live in regular houses and apartments as do most Kazakhs.

Happy Thinking Day to Guides and Scouts everywhere!