

# Connections

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM GIRL SCOUTS IN THE HEART OF PENNSYLVANIA

  
girl scouts  
in the heart  
of pennsylvania



## State Legislators Join Troop Pennsylvania to Generate Buzz About Our 100th Anniversary



*Pictured above are members of Troop Pennsylvania, an honorary Girl Scout Troop comprised of women in the PA state legislature to help generate excitement about the upcoming 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting.*

More than 35 women from the Pennsylvania state legislature gathered at the State Capitol in Harrisburg on Tuesday, October 18, to help Pennsylvania's three Girl Scout councils generate excitement about the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting by becoming honorary members of Troop Pennsylvania.

Senator Pat Vance and Representative Jennifer Mann served as honorary troop leaders during an Investiture Ceremony on the rotunda steps.

"Yesterday, today and tomorrow, Girl Scouts inspires girls to reach their full potential by transforming today's girls into tomorrow's leaders. I know from my own direct experience—and especially from Girl Scout camp!—that Girl Scouts challenges girls to step outside their comfort zone, explore the world, and expand their horizons," said Senator Vance during her opening remarks.

The purpose of creating Troop PA is to begin a partnership in honor of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts that links women members of the state legislature with Girl Scouts' mission of building girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

"With the Girl Scouts centennial year coming up, this is a great time to build our ties with the Girl Scouts, whose century-long experience and research in the business of leadership development for girls represents a wonderful resource as we go about the work of policy-making here in the state capitol," added Representative Mann.

First Lady Susan Corbett will serve as the Honorary Chair of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting in Pennsylvania.

"I know first-hand how Girl Scouting builds the confidence and leadership skills of girls," said the First Lady. "You see, as a former Girl Scout and troop leader, I've seen the magic of Girl Scouting in action."

"Girl Scouts have descended on the Capitol, on and off for decades, to express their concerns and ideas about issues that impact girls," said Jane Ransom, President and CEO of GSHPA. "As we turn the corner to the second century of Girl Scouting we hope to continue this tradition, as well as to serve as a resource for information and research as you, the members of Troop PA, partner with us to work on issues with significant impact on girls."

The partnership between Girl Scouts and the members of Troop PA will focus on four issues of particular interest: Promoting girls' physical, social and emotional health; Increasing girls involvement in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM); Girls and leadership; and Financial literacy.

"We are very excited about this partnership," Ransom added. "As we embark on our 100th year, the members of Troop Pennsylvania will serve as exemplary role models for Girl Scouts across this great state."

**P2** Giving gifts of stock to GSHPA! Donors get a tax deduction, GSHPA gets money for Girl Scout programs. It's a win-win situation.

**P3** Why re-investing in today's girls is so necessary as we approach the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting!

**P4** Mark your place in Girl Scout history by joining the 100 Grand Girl Scouts alumnae community!

# Giving Gifts of Stock to GSHPA

Gifts of securities afford a donor an attractive means of giving to Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania. The donor can receive a tax deduction for the market value of the securities, computed on the day of their transfer, while avoiding payment of capital gains tax on the stock's appreciated value. Donors of stock are encouraged to consult their brokers or advisors.

A gift of appreciated securities may be for you if...

- You're holding stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares that have increased in value.
- You want to make a gift that doesn't affect your liquidity or cash flow.
- You want to diversify your assets to increase your income without having to pay the capital gains taxes that would result from a sale.

How does it work?

- You transfer appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares you have owned more than one year to Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania.
- GSHPA sells your securities and uses the proceeds for its programs.
- You receive an immediate income tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of transfer, no matter what you originally paid for them.
- You pay no capital gains tax on the transfer when the stock is sold.
- Giving appreciated stock could be more beneficial than giving cash.



A \$5,000 **cash gift** and a gift of \$5,000 in **appreciated securities** both generate the same charitable deduction. **But if you use publicly-traded stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares** that you have held for a year or longer to make your gift, **you will receive an additional tax benefit:** The IRS allows you to make your transfer to Girl Scout in the Heart of Pennsylvania **without recognizing capital gains on the appreciation.** You can thus leverage a larger donation than you could make with cash – and receive a larger tax benefit – by “*buying low and giving high.*”

Your gift of stock is valued, for tax purposes, at the mean of the high and low on the date of transfer. Mutual funds are valued at the “net asset value.”

**If you and your advisors are transferring assets at the end of the year, it is especially important to note the following.**

- For stocks transferred through the U.S. Post Office, the gift date may be found in the postmark. (Stock certificates should be sent unsigned to GSUSA and/or Girl Scout council of your choice with an executed stock power mailed under separate cover on the same day.)
- Gifts delivered by UPS, Fedex, or any other delivery company are credited, by law, on the day received by GSUSA and/or Girl Scout council of your choice.

**Important Tip: Don't sell the stock first.** Even though you may give us the proceeds as a gift, the IRS will impose capital gains tax on your sale, wiping out the benefits of this arrangement.

For additional information contact Chuck Cunningham, Director, Fund Development at 1-800-692-7816, ext. 1050 or by email at [ccunningham@gshpa.org](mailto:ccunningham@gshpa.org).

# Leadership Update

Dear Friends,

For a century, Girl Scouts has inspired girls to take on all sorts of challenges to better themselves and our communities. As recently as September and October, dozens of Girl Scout troops in our council went to work in the areas of Central and Northeast Pennsylvania that were flooded by tropical storms, helping elderly people clean up their homes, collecting food for shelters, and distributing flood clean-up kits in their neighborhoods. These troops in action exemplified how Girl Scouts grows today's girls into tomorrow's leaders.

While our 2012 centennial year will be a time to reflect back on where we've been and how far we've come, it will also be a time to look to the future and recommit to investing in girls. We don't just believe that today's girls are tomorrow's leaders, we know they are and we are committed to providing them with the opportunities and experiences they need to achieve their goals and realize their dreams.

That is why we have launched a three-year \$5 million campaign to raise funds for annual needs, special 100th anniversary projects and capital improvements. These funds will go to support annual needs, such as assuring that economically

disadvantaged girls can participate in all aspects of Girl Scouting. They will also go to capital needs, such as improving our camps to carry on the distinctive outdoor traditions of the Girl Scouts. And they will help us celebrate the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts – with girls and alumnae – in ways that remind the community of the many ways Girl Scouts has and will continue to benefit them.

We are excited to tell you that we have already raised \$1,188,445 toward our \$5 million goal, including \$107,900 from our Board of Directors. We hope you will join us by investing in Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania as we embark on our second century as the premier leadership organization for girls.

Thank you for all that you do to help us carry out our mission as we work to inspire girls to reach their full potential.

Sincerely,

Kate Crowley  
Board Chair

Jane B. Ransom  
President/CEO



## Circle of Friends Members

By joining the Circle of Friends, individuals who make annual gifts totaling \$1,000 or more become a part of a select group of leadership donors who are deeply committed to helping today's girls become tomorrow's leaders. We thank the following members of the Circle of Friends for their generosity.

### *Bridge to the Future Society: Individuals who contribute an annual gift of \$2500 or more.*

- \* Catherine Bush
- \* Kate Crowley
- Marth Heist
- \* Bill and Sharon Hoffmann
- \* Heidi Nicholas
- \* Jane Ransom
- \* Natalie Smith

### *Golden Friends: Individuals who pledge to contribute \$1000 - \$2499 per year for 3 years.*

- \* Marion C. Alexander
- \* Eleanor Allen
- \* Joanne Bankos
- \* Mimi Barash Coppersmith
- \* Nancy A. Besch
- \* Karen Best
- \* Joy Dougherty
- \* Blake and Linda Gall
- \* Melinda Ghilardi
- \* Betsy Keefer
- \* Laura Muia
- \* Barbara Palmer
- \* Mary Jane Saras

### *Silver Sponsors: Individuals who contribute an annual gift of \$1000 - \$2499.*

- \* E. Lee Beard
- \* Janice Black
- \* Michael Breslin
- Charles Cunningham
- \* Linda Davis
- \* Amy DeShong
- Marion Dunlavy
- \* Virginia Goodrich
- \* Ann Goropoulos
- Robert and Melinda Inners
- \* Kyle Kauffman
- \* Susan Kreidler
- Bridget Montgomery
- \* DrueAnne Schreyer
- \* Karen Snider
- \* Dianne Steimling
- \* Mr. & Mrs. Paul Witt

*\*Denotes charter member of Circle of Friends*

  
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# 100Grand

The 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting is an exciting and invigorating time to be a part of our movement to empower today's girls to become tomorrow's leaders.

Mark your place in Girl Scout history! Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania is looking for anyone who was ever a member of Girl Scouts in her/his lifetime, anywhere in the world and now resides within our 30 county footprint. If you meet this criteria, we encourage you to celebrate our 100th Anniversary by registering with our Green Directory and joining our campaign to locate 100,000 Girl Scout alumnae by December 31, 2012! Sign up today and tell us your story at :

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/100GrandGirlScouts](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/100GrandGirlScouts)

