



  
**girl scouts**  
in the heart  
of pennsylvania

## Be Connected

### Monthly Newsletter for Girl Scout Volunteers

#### Dear Volunteers,

The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Girl Scouts is upon us. Buses are revving up for the Sing-Along in D.C. The GSHPA Camporee is being planned. Service Units are beginning to unroll their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary projects and events. And GSHPA's 100th Anniversary Steering Committee is working hard to meet a \$5 million campaign goal to strengthen programs, camps and opportunities for our girls.

All of our efforts will raise the visibility of Girl Scouting and assure that we will be around to inspire current and future generations of girls to leadership.

Currently, service units are hearing about this year's Friends & Family campaign from staff. Proceeds from this campaign will count toward our \$5 million 100th anniversary goal. More importantly, GSHPA has made a commitment to direct every penny raised from the Friends & Family campaign to financial aid to help girls in need register for and participate in Girl Scouts, as well as go to camp.

The 2012 Friends & Family campaign will make a difference that is specific and personal for thousands of girls and their families, as illustrated by this note we received two weeks ago:

*"I just wanted to send a note to express our thanks and appreciation to Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA and its benefactors, for sending our family help at this time, when*

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

##### [GSHPA Spotlight](#)

See who we're shining the spotlight on this month!

##### [Forever Green](#)

##### [Day at the Movies](#)

Bring your Cadettes, Seniors and ambassadors our for a fun and educational Film Fest!

##### [Did you Know](#)

Check out our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary fact of the month!

##### [Enrichment Weekend](#)

Click here for more information about this 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary-themed weekend in York County!

##### [Countdown to Sing-A-Long](#)

Learn about GSHPA's plans for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Sing-A-Long in Washington!

##### [TAC](#)

Dates have been announced for this Spring's first TACs!

##### [Around the Council](#)

See what's happening throughout GSHPA!

##### [Save the Date](#)

Mark your calendars with these important upcoming dates.

*we are financially struggling due to loss of work. Our daughter, Sarah, is five and a new Daisy who is able to stay and join the fun!"*

GSHPA spent nearly \$200,000 to support 4,588 girls with financial aid in 2011. Please help to make 2012 a great year for every girl who wants to be a part of Girl Scouts.

With gratitude,

**Kate Crowley   Jane Ransom**  
**Board Chair   President & CEO**

### **Cookie College/Rallies Go Council-Wide to Kick Off Cookie Season**



Nearly 1,800 Girl Scouts from across our council kicked off the Girl Scout Cookie season for the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Girl Scouting by attending the Cookie Rally and Cookie College events held in each of our five regions.

"This year we combined the Cookie Rallies and Cookie Colleges into full-day, council run events and held them at locations in each of our five regions to make it easier for girls from all counties in our service area to attend and kick off this year's cookie sale," said Jane Ransom, GSHPA President and CEO.

The results of expanding the event were very positive. The Cookie Rallies were attended by 1,175 girls in grades K- 5. They participated in a variety of fun activities and learned about customer service and marketing techniques that will help them make this year's cookie sale a success.

And a total of 587 girls in grades 6-12 attended Cookie College and graduated as newly minted Cookie Entrepreneur Officers, armed with the tools and skills they will need as they create their very own cookie businesses. The girls participated in interactive workshops focusing on goal setting, social media and creative marketing tactics.

"These events are a great way to kick off the cookie sale season and help girls get excited and learn about the importance of the cookie program, especially as we begin celebrating our 100th year of Girl Scouting," Ransom added.

Special thanks to our *Tagalong* sponsor



and to our *Samoa* sponsor

**Join GSHPA for a *Forever Green*  
Day at the Movies!**



**Saturday January 21**  
**10 am - Noon**  
**Cumberland Valley High School**  
**\*Cost to attend is \$9 per person.**

What if animals gave us tips on how to be eco-friendly?  
What if young people got awards for tackling environmental issues? How much could you help the environment if you cut down on your use of plastic and started biking to school?

All volunteers are asked to encourage Junior, Senior, Cadette and Ambassador girls to attend the Forever Green Day at the Movies to see a series of eight short films that illustrate not only the challenges facing our planet but the work individuals and communities are doing to protect the places we love. The stories are funny, heart-warming, and informative and they will surely remind Girl Scouts what it means to be responsible stewards of the Earth.

[Click here and scroll down to "Forever Green Programs" to see a preview of the day's feature presentation and to register to attend!](#)

\*A give-away for each attendee is included in the cost of the event. Lunch will not be provided.

### **Did you know?**

Be sure to read the GSHPA Volunteer Newsletter each month in 2012 for a great Girl Scout 100th anniversary fact that you can use to impress your girls and your friends and help them learn more about the rich history of Girl scouting. Check out our first 100th anniversary fact below:

Did you know that the first Girl Scout troop ever formed in our council's footprint was the named The Sunflower Troop and they held their first meeting in Harrisburg in 1917? Check out the photo below to see these Girl Scout pioneers who started the tradition of Girl Scouting in our council nearly 100 years ago!



*The original thirteen: Martha Goodyear Maurer, Elizabeth Murray Cottrell, Margaret Jacoby Peters, Esther Wheeler Holmes, Miriam Ulrich Egolf, Ann Murray Fox, Mary Bright Abbott, Grace Robinson Fickes, Nellie Ard Longstreth, Ehelyn McCloskey Palmer, Susan Moltz Cobb, Cordelia Morgan Switzer, Frances Caton.*

## **Volunteer to Volunteer**

Join fellow volunteers for a weekend full of enrichment and 100th anniversary celebration at Camp Echo Trail on January 27 – 29, 2012. Interested? [Click here!](#)

## **Countdown to 2012 Sing-A-Long Begins!**

GSHPA is pleased to offer transportation\* to and from the 2012 Girl Scouts Rock the Mall Sing-A-Long event on June 9, 2012 for \$45 per person. Transportation includes travel on board an air-conditioned coach bus to the Shady Grove Metro station in Rockville, MD and a metro pass to The Mall district in Washington, DC. Seating is limited and all adults must accompany a registered girl to participate. For more information, please click on the bus departure location listed below:

[York](#)

[Harrisburg](#)

[State College](#)

[Montoursville](#)

[Scranton](#)

[Hazleton](#)

[Please click here](#) to register for the actual event through the official Girl Scouts Rock the Mall website.

\*Those who register for GSHPA transportation must also register for the event directly through the Girl Scouts Rock the Mall website. Registering for GSHPA transportation

does not automatically register you and/or your girls for the event itself.

### **Troop Adventure Camp Time is Here Again!**

Attention all troop leaders - Interested in taking your troop camping but still haven't had time to complete the required training to do so? Wish you could provide your troop with an outdoor experience that will create the kinds of memories that will last a lifetime, but camping just isn't your cup of tea? No worries, we have the perfect win-win solution – Troop Adventure Camp (TAC)!

Based on feedback from past Troop Adventure Camps, we've tried to put together the kind of troop camping experience that even the most novice troop leader and her troop can enjoy. This year, TAC programs will once again be held throughout the council. TAC will be geared towards specific grade levels and will include themed activities on a number of dates at all seven of our camp properties. Troops will have the opportunity to participate in a pre planned schedule of activities. Essentially, troops will arrive the night before the program begins and stay in a lodge, cabin or tent unit. During the onsite registration process, troops will receive their schedule of events, meal times and miscellaneous information regarding camp. Troops may share a building with other troops as well as the scheduled activities.

Click on the dates listed below to register today for these TACs and watch for additional TAC dates in next month's volunteer newsletter:

#### **[Keep it Green](#)**

#### **[Camp Golden Pond in Petersburg, PA](#)**

Grades 4-5

\$22/girl

\$17/adult

March 30-31

#### **[More to Explore](#)**

#### **[Camp Happy Valley in Fairfield, PA](#)**

Grades 2-3

\$20/girl

\$15/adult

May 4-5

**Camp Guides are Coming Soon!**

Start checking your mailboxes for the 2012 GSHPA Summer Camp Guide. One camp guide will be mailed to each registered girl in our 30-county service area and will arrive by mid- February. The 2012 Summer Camp Guide is loaded with information about this year's summer camping season, and we're counting on our Volunteers to help get girls excited about Girl Scout Camp! The guide will also contain dates and times of Information Nights and Open Houses where Volunteers and parents can learn more about this year's camping experience. Be on the lookout for your Summer Camp Guide, and if you do not receive one by February 15, please email [camp@gshpa.org](mailto:camp@gshpa.org) to request a copy or go online at [www.gshpa.org](http://www.gshpa.org) to download an electronic copy.

### **Family Partnership**

The 2012 Family Partnership Campaign is fast approaching. Remember, this year Service Units will receive 10% of all funds that are raised by their unit and the remaining funds will be used for financial assistance for girls in need. Family Partnership runs from March 15 to May 31, 2012.

[Click here](#) to learn more. Please note for service units planning a letter campaign please contact Kimberly Clapper at [kclapper@gshpa.org](mailto:kclapper@gshpa.org) or 800.692.7816, ext. 1055 by February 1, 2012 so we have time to provide materials.

### **Around the Council**

#### **Girls**

- When the girls in troop 60116 from 626 Service Unit in Jersey Shore heard about the GSHPA's collection of Candy Bar Wrappers (for Forever Green initiative) they decided to go a step further and not only collect wrappers from their families, they also approached the principal at their school and asked him to make an announcement for everyone in the school to collect the wrappers. The principal agreed but felt the only way to be fair since more than one Girl Scout troop was located in the school they would have to share the collection with the other troops. The girls were happy to do so. They then asked their parents to do the same at their work places. Cathy Eisner, leader for the troop was so proud that the girls decided to do this all on their own and so far have



brought home several bags of candy wrappers. At the end of the collection, girls managed to have two 55 gallon bags full!

- On November 6th, Emily Creveling and Montana Drumheller received their Gold Award during a very emotional program where friends and family were in attendance. PA State Representative David Millard, Columbia County Commissioner David Kovach, and PA State Senator John Gordner were in attendance for the program. All spoke very highly of Girl Scouts and of the project that the girls completed. Senator Gordner spoke regarding the PA Honorary Troop that was inducted in Harrisburg and how wonderful it was for that to happen. Both girls are a part of the Bloomsburg service unit (303).
- Recently troop 61388 of Loyalsock was invited by Hillside Assisted Living to visit one of their newest residents—a woman who had been a Girl Scout many years ago and wanted to share her memories with the girls in the troop. The troop is planning on visiting her on a regular basis throughout the coming year for the 100th anniversary to discuss what Girl Scouts was like when she was a girl. They also plan on “adopted” her for Christmas. The leader is hoping this will be something the girls will be able to continue even after the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary is over.

### **Volunteers**

- 67 Daisy to Ambassadors girls and their leaders and helpers from Upper Dauphin County - participated in Service Unit 192's Forever Green Day held at Dauphin County Conservation District Office. The event was hosted by Troop 12339 with assistance by Kelly Wolf of Dauphin County Recycling Center. The girls joined in singing a song written about Forever Green, participated in stations about recycling and water pollution, the latter sponsored by the Penn State Cooperative Extension in Dauphin County. The girls also learned about Stream Teams - a way girls can help to improve the waters around their communities. Lastly the girls took a walk around the grounds with Mr. Gill to learn about Storm Water Management, learning how plants and trees are an important part of the storm water management plan. The day ended with



the girls receiving recycled water bottles and a pen made from recycled Styrofoam!

- On Friday, December 2, 84 girls and many adults of the Bloomsburg Service Unit went Christmas caroling along the main street of Bloomsburg. This yearly event is an exciting one for the Service Unit. Many businesses expect them to come every year and invite them into their stores where they often receive free tokens of appreciation (usually candy or cookies) for their festive singing. After caroling, the girls enjoy crafts and snacks at their local church.
- Volunteer Janice Musante, Troop Leader with Brownie Troop 71470 in SU711-Hempfield (Lancaster County) has been sending packages filled with amazing cards, beautiful pictures, and trinkets/toys generously donated by local Girl Scout Troops to her brother, Greg, who is stationed in Afghanistan. When Greg received the packages, he would place some of the cards for the soldiers under their Christmas Tree so they would find them when they returned from the field. He would also leave some of the cards with soldiers who were out in the field in remote areas when he did rescue missions. Greg stated that the soldiers are like little kids because they all swarm around him when a package arrives - they all HAVE to see what is inside and LOVE when they receive the cards. He has also given out the pictures and toys to the children (on the streets and in the Hospitals when he makes his rounds). He said even though there is such a big language barrier, the pictures and toys seem to say so much to them and bring a smile to their faces.

### **Save the Date!**

- **January 21, 2012** - *Forever Green* Day @ the Movies
- **March 12, 2012** – Girl Scout Birthday
- **March 31, 2012** – Earth Hour
- **April 21 - 22, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Furnace Hills
- **May 5 - 6, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Louise
- **May 5 - 6, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Small Valley
- **June 2 - 3, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at

Camp Archbald

- **June 1 - 2, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Golden Pond
- **June 9, 2012** – Girl Scouts Rock the Mall 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sing-Along
- **August 10 – 12, 2012** – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Camporee at the York Expo Center

Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania | 800.692.7816 | [www.gshpa.org](http://www.gshpa.org) | [general@gshpa.org](mailto:general@gshpa.org)