

March, 2012



girl scouts 
in the heart
of pennsylvania

Be Connected

Monthly Newsletter for GSHPA Volunteers

Dear Volunteers,

Girl Scout Month, 2012 is finally here! We are thrilled about the 70 100th anniversary service unit events and projects that have already begun to roll out. The Girl Scout Show at the Lebanon Valley Mall this month alone is expected to draw 1,000 girls. A 100th anniversary roller-skating lock-in in East Stroudsburg in April is anticipating that at least 300 girls will be in attendance. And 1,000 girls intend to be at a multiple-service unit celebration in Wyoming Valley this July. These are just a few examples. (You can see a list of all of the service unit events on GSHPA's 100th Anniversary Web page.)

All we can say to the service units is, WAY TO GO for providing these fabulous celebration events for girls, and we'll see you at the Camporee this August 10-12!

We are also excited to share more information with you about ***Girl Scouts: Shaping a Century***—a PBS special presentation focused exclusively on Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania. Check out the [article below](#) for more information about the program and when you can see it in your area.

Finally, the time is now to reconnect our council with Girl Scout alumnae! Please send the link to our [100th Anniversary Web page](#) to anyone who wants to check

IN THIS ISSUE:

[Spring and Summer Volunteer Training Weekends](#)

Register today for these free volunteer training opportunities!

[GSHPA Spotlight](#)

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

[Forever Green Updates](#)

Check out the latest news for our Forever Green initiative!

[Spring Work Days](#)

Find out what you can do to help prepare our camps for Spring and Summer!

[Backpack Training Course](#)

Sign up for this training to be a part of our newest council-run outdoor program opportunity!

[Gold Award Spotlight](#)

See who's in the Gold Award Spotlight!

[Did you Know?](#)

Check out our 100th anniversary fact of the month!

[Plant a tree for the 100th](#)

Learn about our statewide tree planting initiative!

in and tell us their Girl Scout story.

Together we are using the 100th anniversary to shine a spotlight on the inspiring generations who built the Girl Scouts over the last century, and on the critical mission of inspiring today's girls and future girls to leadership.

Sincerely,

Kate Crowley Jane Ransom
Board Chair President & CEO

Outdoor Experience Themed Volunteer Training Available This Spring/Summer

Prepare for your troop's upcoming camping trip by participating in Camping 101, Outdoor Skills, First Aid/CPR and more this Spring and Summer. For a complete list of the trainings, [click here](#).

- April 21 - 22, 2012 at Camp Furnace Hills*
[Click here to register by April 12!](#)
- May 5 - 6, 2012 at Camp Louise*
[Click here to register by April 26!](#)
- May 5 - 6, 2012 at Camp Small Valley*
[Click here to register by April 26!](#)
- June 1 - 2, 2012 at Camp Golden Pond*
[Click here to register by May 24!](#)
- June 2 - 3, 2012 at Camp Archbald*
[Click here to register by May 24!](#)

**The five council-run volunteer training weekends are free to all participants and will only require a \$25 deposit for First Aid/CPR training that is refunded upon completion of the course.*

Air Dates Set for Girl Scouts 100th Anniversary Special on PBS

[Doodle 4 Google!](#)

Click here to learn how to help girls enter a contest to design Google's homepage for a day!

[\\$1,000 Scholarship Opportunity for Ambassador Girls](#)

Find out more here!

[Around the Council](#)

See what's happening throughout GSHPA

[GSUSA Updates](#)

Click here for some news on GSUSA 100th anniversary initiatives!

[Save the Date](#)

Mark your calendars with these important upcoming dates!



Pictured above is Judy Woodruff and the WITF crew during filming at Camp Furnace Hills

GSHPA is thrilled to announce to our volunteers that the production of our special presentation for the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting has wrapped up and air dates for the program have been set. ***Girl Scouts: Shaping a Century***—an hour-long PBS special focused exclusively on Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania will air on PBS stations across the state on the dates and times listed below:

- **WITF** (Harrisburg) March 22, 8 pm
- **WVIA** (Scranton/Wilkes-Barre) April 2, 7:30 pm
- **WPSU** (State College) April 5, 9 pm and April 8, 7 pm
- **WQLN** (Erie, PA), April 5, 9 pm

The noted national television journalist, Judy Woodruff—herself a First Class Girl Scout—is the presenter on this television program. “It has been a long road and many hours of work have gone into producing this historical account of Girl Scouting and what it has meant for girls throughout our council for the past 100 years and how it will continue to inspire future generations of today’s girls to become tomorrow’s leaders,” said Jane Ransom, GSHPA President and CEO.



Pictured here are Judy and the camera crew capturing a shot of girls cooking over the campfire.

Production for the special began in June, 2011 and included hours of filming at various Girl Scout locations and events throughout the state along with several interviews of prominent figures in our council, both past and present.

Be sure to tell your girls, your friends and all potential supporters of Girl Scouts to tune in to their local stations to learn more about Girl Scouts as we continue to celebrate our 100th anniversary. "We are very grateful to Ms. Woodruff and all who participated in the production to help make it a success," Ransom said. "We are very excited to share the finished product with all the members of our council and viewers across the state. Don't forget to tune in!"

Forever Green Updates New Date Set for Forever Green Day at the Movies



As you may remember, in January we asked all volunteers to encourage Junior, Senior, Cadette and Ambassador girls to attend the Forever Green Day at the Movies. Unfortunately, Mother Nature had other plans, and a snow storm forced us to postpone the event. But it's back on now and set for:

Saturday, April 21
10 am - Noon
Cumberland Valley High School

*Cost to attend is \$9 per person.

We're asking once again for you to tell your Junior, Cadette and Senior girls about this event where they can see a series of eight short films that illustrate challenges facing our planet and the work individuals and communities are doing to protect the places we love.

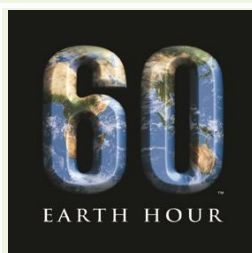
The stories are funny, heart-warming, and informative and they will surely remind Girl Scouts what it means to be responsible stewards of the Earth.

[Click here](#) and scroll down in "Forever Green Programs" box 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.

Power Down for Earth Hour



Earth Hour is an international event which brings attention to energy use across the world by asking everyone to power down lights, TVs and computers from **8:30 to 9:30 pm on March 31, 2012.**

GSHPA troops are encouraged to start now and go "Beyond the Hour." [Click here](#) and visit our Programs page for access to a list of great ideas and resources that can help you and your troops to spread the word about this environmental initiative.

2012 Spring Work Days at GSHPA Camps

Spring Work Days provide Service opportunities that help prepare our camps for Spring and Summer. Jobs to be done include, but are not limited to:

- Putting up tents and pavilion flies
- Putting Cots and Mattresses in tents
- Straightening wood piles and fire rings
- Splitting wood (adults) and stacking in wood sheds
- Setting up seasonal equipment
- Cleaning gutters, raking leaves and general clean up
- Cleaning and preparing units for spring camping and sleep away camp

Some details to note:

Saturday, April 14, 2012

Camp Small Valley
Camp Happy Valley
Camp Echo Trail
Camp Furnace Hills*

**Only Senior and Ambassador Age Levels may participate at Furnace Hills*

Saturday, April 21, 2012

Camp Louise
Camp Archbald

Each Work Day will be scheduled on Saturday for eight hours. Adult groups coming for partial days are welcome.

- Troops should report to the Camp Dining Hall at 8:30 am for morning assignments
- At lunch, afternoon assignments will be given
- Saturday lunch will be provided

Each camp will be closed for its work day weekend. Limited accommodations will be available for troops/groups participating in the workday. Participating troops will be able to camp for free, but must meet all training requirements and adult ratios in order to do so.

To participate in a Spring Work Day at Camps Happy Valley, Small Valley, Golden Pond, Louise and/or Archbald, please register by calling 1-800-692-7816 and ask to speak with a Registrar or sending an email to registrar@gshpa.org.

To participate in the Spring Work Day at Camp Furnace Hills, please contact Phyllis Doughty at doetea@dejazzd.com to receive a flyer and application.

To participate in a Spring Work Day at Camp Echo Trails, please contact Sharon Bleecher at shar18cea@aol.com to receive a flyer

Have a specific project in mind or questions about the jobs that are available at a specific camp? Please contact the specific camp ranger for that camp:

- Camp Small Valley – Steve Saltzburg, Ranger
717-362-9362 ssaltzburg@gshpa.org
- Camp Happy Valley – Cheryl Walburn, Ranger
717-597-2489 cwalburn@gshpa.org
- Camp Louise – Joe Trivelpiece, Ranger
570-759-8236
- Camp Furnace Hills – Mike Knechel, Ranger
717-733-8518 mknechel@gshpa.org
- Camp Echo Trail – Drew Rinker, Ranger
717-927-6143 drinker@gshpa.org
- Camp Archbald – Jonathan Gosnell, Ranger

570-289-5021 jgosnell@gshpa.org

Trainings Available for Volunteers to Lead Backpacking Programs This Spring

This Spring GSHPA is introducing our newest outdoor program – Backpacking! We will offer two introductory backpacking programs for girls in the Junior to Ambassador grade levels, and we are looking for volunteers to help lead these exciting new outdoor experience programs.

If you are passionate about the outdoors and camping with Girl Scouts, then we need you to sign up for this Wilderness Leadership Training and help us introduce this new council-run program to our girls.

The weekend-long training will be held on Friday, March 23 at 6 pm to Sunday, March 25 at 5 pm at Camp Small Valley in Halifax, PA, and workshops will include:

- Leave No Trace
- Backpacking meals
- Water filtration
- Clothing
- Packing a backpack and more

Upon completion of this training, participants will be equipped with the knowledge they need to lead independent Girl Scouts or a few members of a troop on backpacking trips.

GSHPA will provide tents, food and cooking equipment for all volunteers who attend the training weekend.

Anyone interested in participating should be able to carry a backpack weighing up to 35-40 lbs and hike a minimum of 3-5 miles.

Only volunteers who have completed Basic Outdoor Skills Training and are certified in First Aid and CPR are eligible for the backpacking training course.

To register for this Wilderness Leadership Training today, [click here](#).

For more information about the training or if you have

questions please contact GSHPA's Outdoor Program Manager, Kelly Benasutti at kbenasutti@gshpa.org.

Gold Award Spotlight

[Click here](#) to see who's in the spotlight this month.

Did you know?

Girl Scout Cookies® had their earliest beginnings in the kitchens and ovens of our girl members, with mothers volunteering as technical advisers and that the sale of cookies as a way to finance troop activities dates back to as early as 1917, just five years after Juliette Gordon Low started Girl Scouting in the United States. The earliest mention of a cookie sale found to date was that of the Mistletoe Troop in Muskogee, Oklahoma, which baked cookies and sold them in its high school cafeteria as a service project in December 1917. In the 1920s and 1930s, Girl Scouts in different parts of the country continued to bake their own simple sugar cookies with their mothers. These cookies were packaged in wax paper bags, sealed with a sticker, and sold door to door for 25 to 35 cents per dozen.

Celebrate the 100th by Planting a Tree

All three of the Pennsylvania Girl Scout councils are joining together in an effort to plant 10,000 trees during the weekend of May 19 & 20 in honor of the 100th Anniversary. Organized through our Service Units, girls from throughout our council will have an opportunity to identify a location for and plant Eastern Pines and Eastern Hemlocks throughout our 30-county footprint. Service units interested in participating should contact their Membership Associate for more information.

Encourage Girls to Participate in Doodle 4 Google

Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania have the opportunity to participate in Doodle 4 Google, a contest where students in the United States are invited to use their artistic talents to think big and redesign Google's homepage logo for millions to see. This year, students are asked to exercise their creative imaginations around the theme, "If I could travel in time, I'd visit..."

One lucky student artist will see their artwork appear on the Google homepage and take home some cool prizes—and as a special bonus, the winning artwork will appear on a limited edition of Crayola's iconic 64 box!

Encourage your girls to get creative and apply for Doodle 4 Google right away! There are exciting prizes, including the opportunity to win a \$30,000 college scholarship, and much more!

Completed entry forms must be received by March 23 and can be found [here](#) for download or regular mail.

Ambassador Girls are Eligible to apply for the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful \$1,000 Scholarship Opportunity

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is now accepting applications for the Sue Wiseman Scholarship, an annual \$1,000 scholarship that recognizes youth who have demonstrated leadership and shown exceptional commitment and dedication to improving their community. Encourage your Ambassador girls to apply today!

The Sue Wiseman Scholarship is open to Pennsylvania high school seniors who have initiated and carried out a personal project that addresses one of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's focus areas of Prevent It (recycling, community greening, education presentations/workshops, littering/illegal dumping deterrents), Clean It (illegal dump cleanups, Great American Cleanup, International Coastal Cleanup, graffiti abatement, invasive plant removal), or Keep It (murals, plantings/beautification, displays/outreach).

Applications are due May 1, 2012. For an application form call the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful office at 877-772-3673.

Around the Council

Girls

- Troop 30323 from Luzerne County in Service Unit 331, have been working hard on a Journey

Service project. So far they have collected and made animal blankets and toys. After working hard on their keys to success they set a time and day to go to the S.P.C.A. to give their donations. Also, they have been talking with those they know and members of the community about animal cruelty in hopes that education will help prevent it. They also visited the local S.P.C.A and got a tour of the facility, asked questions and learned more about supporting animals.

- Troop 40523 is collecting and donating 100 books to the Juniata County Library in honor of Girl Scouting's 100th Anniversary. This project is part of a series of activities area troops are completing to provide support to community organizations throughout the centennial year. A 100th anniversary Service Unit mini-grant from GSHPA has supported these activities.
- Fifteen girls participated for the first time in the after school Defy the Odds program at Schuylkill Haven Elementary on Tuesday, Feb. 7. Two girls were in the program last year and returned again this year. The girls worked on projects related to the *It's Your Story – Tell It!* Journey, opening with passport and very important person name tags, acting portfolios and travel cases, made Girl Scout Law bracelets, and lastly came together to brainstorm all kinds of great ideas for things they would like to do over the next seven weeks.
- More than 100 Girl Scouts from Service Unit 417 in Centre County participated in a troop organized World Thinking Day program earlier this month. Troop 41205, with help from several other troops, designed a fun-filled morning centered on the theme "We Can Save Our Planet." Activities included singing, crafts, games and a bake sale. Each troop selected an activity or craft and created a colorful display to represent their country of choice. Each Girl Scout also participated in the Take Action project by writing letters to support to our

service men and women serving overseas.

Volunteers

- With support from their Service Unit mini-grant, Pocono Service Unit (504) celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts on Saturday, Feb. 4th at the North Pocono Middle School. While Girl Scout songs played in the background, those in attendance were able to visit displays based on the decades of Girl Scouts. Everyone was able to sample cookies made from the original Girl Scout Cookie recipe and were able to view a power point of Girl Scout history. Pictured are the girls in Cadette troop 50502 along with Grace Mielczarek, Membership Associate and special guest, Jeanne Gordon, past Executive Director of Scranton Pocono Girl Scouts.
- On Saturday, February 11, adults from Service Unit 221 (North Hills, South Central Region) observed Thinking Day by sharing about their Girl Scouting memories and experiences from the past. The adult Scouts had stories, memorabilia, and crafts to share with the girls of all ages in attendance. Valerie Pritchett, news anchor from ABC27 in Harrisburg shared her experiences with the girls, including how much the cookie sales had taught her. The troops also heard greetings from First Lady Susan Corbett. In addition to the stations, there were uniforms from yesteryear available.
- Volunteers in the South Region have been busy finalizing their plans with their service units and troops/groups to participate in the upcoming South Region Girl Scout Week Blitz. The blitz will kick-off on Sunday, March 11 and end on Saturday, March 17. Each day during the blitz week, girls and adults will express their Girl Scout spirit and pride through different themed activities. The goal of the blitz week is to have as many of the 7,000+ girl members, 3,000+ adult members, 600+ troops and 24 service units in the south region working to increase our visibility in Lancaster, York and Adams Counties. The Blitz Toolkit, which is

designed to help volunteers/girls plan their participation, is attached to this e-mail message.

Take the ToGetHerThere Pledge

After nearly a year of frenzied preparation, GSUSA launched ToGetHerThere, the largest, boldest advocacy and fundraising cause campaign dedicated to girls' leadership in our nation's history. The launch took place at TimesCenter, the public event forum in the headquarters of the New York Times, on Tuesday, January 31, 2012. The near-capacity crowd included New York City dignitaries, representatives of the media, and the general public, along with GSUSA staff members, dozens of Girl Scouts from councils in and around New York City, and CEOs and other representatives of councils across the country.

"We are here," said GSUSA Chief Executive Officer Anna Maria Chávez, "to proclaim 2012 as the Year of the Girl and to renew the promise that the Girl Scout Movement has made to every girl, now for a full century. To all the girls in the audience, know that leadership is your birthright. We promise to help you discover opportunities to use your brilliance, your concern, and your compassion to make yourself a powerful leader—and our world a better place."

Following the keynote address, a panel, moderated by Deborah Roberts of ABC News, discussed the findings of a recent GSUSA-sponsored research report on girls and the barriers they see standing between themselves and positions of leadership. Panelists included GSUSA National President Connie Lindsey; Jean Chatzky, bestselling personal finance author and correspondent for the Today show; Michelle Kwan, US public diplomacy envoy and former Olympic figure-skating champion; Joanna Coles, editor-in-chief, Marie Claire; Linda Descano, president and COO, Women & Co., a division of Citi (and also a member of GSUSA's National Board of Directors); and Kristen Sanchez, deputy managing partner, markets & offerings, Deloitte LLP.

The next day, in Washington, more than 450 nonprofit leaders, key business and community stakeholders, congressional staffers, and more than 25 members of Congress joined with GSUSA in the Cannon Caucus Room in the Capitol Building for a bipartisan event to support ToGetHerThere and the cause of attaining

gender-balanced leadership in the United States. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), Representative Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Representative Donna Edwards (D-MD), Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), and Representative Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) spoke in support of Girl Scouts and ToGetHerThere. Click the link below to learn more.



GSUSA Set to Kick Off 100th Anniversary Year

On March 12, 2012, Girl Scouts of the USA representatives, along with VIP guests, will be opening NASDAQ with a message about girls' financial empowerment. The event will be streamed live over all Girl Scout web properties and live blogged. Photos will be fed to the Times Square jumbo-trons.

Later that day, Girl Scouts of the USA will co-host a press reception at 1 pm, announcing that the Empire State Building will go green for Girl Scouting. In attendance will be representatives of Girl Scouting and a very special guest!

Concurrently, on March 12, 2012, Anna Maria Chávez, CEO, Girl Scouts of the USA, will return to the home of Girl Scouting, Savannah, Georgia, to symbolically launch the next 100 years of Girl Scouting. Stay tuned for details.

Save the Date!

- **March 3, 2012** - from 11 am – 2 pm – Traveling Store at the York Service Center
- **March 5, 2012** – Regional Governance Meeting in Harrisburg

- **March 6, 2012** – Regional Governance Meeting in Montoursville
- **March 7, 2012** - Regional Governance Meeting in Scranton
- **March 8, 2012** – Regional Governance Meeting in York
- **March 10, 2012** from 11 am – 2 pm - Traveling Store at the Hazleton Service Center
- **March 12, 2012** – Girl Scout Birthday
- **March 13, 2012** – Regional Governance Meeting in State College Service Center
- **March 14, 2012** – Regional Governance Meeting via Webinar
- **March 24, 2012** from 11 am – 2 pm - Traveling Store at the Scranton Service Center
- **March 31, 2012** – Earth Hour
- **March 31, 2012** from 11 am – 2 pm - Traveling Store at the State College Service Center
- **April 14, 2012** from 11 am – 2 pm - Traveling Store at the Montoursville Service
- **April 21 - 22, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Furnace Hills
- **April 28, 2012** – 2012 GSHPA Annual Meeting (held via live webcast)
- **May 5 - 6, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Louise
- **May 5 - 6, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Small Valley
- **June 1 -2, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Golden Pond
- **June 2 - 3, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Archbald
- **June 9, 2012** – Girl Scouts Rock the Mall 100th Anniversary Sing-A-long
- **August 10 – 12, 2012** – 100th Anniversary Camporee at the York Expo Center