

April, 2012




girl scouts
in the heart
of pennsylvania

Be Connected

Monthly Newsletter for GSHPA Volunteers

Dear Volunteers,

March was an amazing 100th anniversary month! Service Units unrolled wonderful, celebratory events—parades, parties, style shows and museum displays. Pennsylvania’s First Lady put Girl Scouts in the spotlight. Our council’s Inspiring Generations fundraising campaign picked up steam. And GSHPA was featured on a PBS special, which aired in the Harrisburg, State College and Scranton/Wilkes-Barre areas.

As we celebrate Girl Scout friendships, values, traditions and leaders during our 100th birthday, the Girl Scout Research Institute has given us something else really big to celebrate. Their new study, *Girl Scouting Works: The Alumnae Impact Study*, presents data showing that women who were Girl Scouts as children display significantly more positive life outcomes than non-Girl Scout alumnae. The success indicators include:

- **Perceptions of self.** Of Girl Scout alumnae, 63% consider themselves competent and capable, compared to 55% of non-alumnae.
- **Volunteerism and community work.** Of Girl Scout alumnae who are mothers, 66% have been a mentor/volunteer in their

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child's youth organization, compared to 48% of non-alumnae mothers.

- **Civic engagement.** Of Girl Scout alumnae, 77% vote regularly, compared to 63% of non-alumnae.
- **Education.** Of Girl Scout alumnae, 38% have attained college degrees, compared to 28% of non-alumnae.
- **Income/socioeconomic status.** Girl Scout alumnae report a significantly higher household income (\$51,700) than non-alumnae (\$42,200).

If you ask us, these are some attention-getting numbers. We need to talk about them with parents who are wavering about encouraging their daughters to stay in Girl Scouts. We need to point to them when selling Girl Scout cookies. We need to underscore them with United Ways and local funders.

And finally, we need to thank you, because these numbers speak volumes about the value of your volunteer work with the Girl Scouts.

In celebration,

Kate Crowley	Jane Ransom
Board Chair	President & CEO

GSHPA's 100th Anniversary Camporee Update

August 10 – 12, 2012 will be here before we know it which means it's time to start planning your troop's trip to the York Expo Center in York, PA for a once-in-a-lifetime experience at the GSHPA 100th Anniversary Camporee! Registered GSHPA girl members may attend Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday along with a parent/guardian and/or her troop. Registration will open at 9 am on Monday, April 23. Cost to attend is \$10/person for Friday, \$25/person for Saturday/Sunday or \$35/person for the whole weekend (includes Friday, Saturday & Sunday). Every girl who attends any part of the weekend will receive a special GSHPA 100th Anniversary Commemorative Patch. Overnight accommodations will be limited to those who

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See who's in the Gold Award Spotlight!

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See how your girls can benefit by re-registering early!

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Click here to learn more about the switch!

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Mark your calendars with these important upcoming dates!

bring their own tents and tent space will be available for \$20/tent/night*.

Saturday's activities include a mix of scheduled and all-day activities that girls can choose to participate in as they wish. Food will be available to purchase for an additional fee or attendees are welcome to bring their own (no open flames, please).

**Each tent will be assigned a 12' x 12' space. Limit one tent per space regardless of tent's per person capacity.*

Here's a sneak peek at what the weekend will include:

Friday, August 10, 2012

4 pm	Check-In Begins
6 – 7:30 pm	Dinner***
8 – 10 pm	Movies & Popcorn

Enjoy a low-key evening of 100th Anniversary-themed & Forever Green-themed movies including the Golden Eaglet featuring our founder, Juliette Gordon Low while munching on some popcorn.

****Food is not included in the registration or tent fee, attendees are responsible for providing their own dinner*

Saturday, August 11, 2012

7 am - 10 am	Breakfast
8 am	Check-In Begins
10 am – 11 am	100 th Anniversary Camporee Kick-off
11 am – 5 pm	Variety of Girl Do-As-You-Please Activities** including, but not limited to:
S.W.A.P.S.	Giant Bubbles

Girl Scouts Through the Decades Displays	Stomp Rockets
Recycled Art Display	Local Farmer's Market
Council Store	Forever Green Juice Pouch Collection
York Dance Arts instruction	Hybrid Car Display
Face Painting	Meteorology Expert
Animal Presenter	Leave No Trace
Inflatables	Cooperative, Team & Environmental Games
Honorary Ribbon Display	Low Challenge Course
GaGa	Climbing Wall
Juliette Gordon Low Wide Game	Orienteering
Zumba	Geocaching
Environmentally Themed Puppet Show	Knot Tying
Powder Puff Derby Contest	Scavenger Hunt
Rain Tent	Outdoor Crafts
Water Critters	Solar Ovens
<i>**Activity List may change between now and August, 2012. A full schedule will be included within your registration confirmation packet</i>	
11 am – 1 pm	Lunch***
11:30 am – 5:30 pm	Council-Wide Single Elimination Kickball Tournament

5 – 7 pm	Dinner***
7 – 8:30 pm	Kicking Daisies' Live Concert
8:30 – 10 pm	More Evening Entertainment

****Food is not included in the registration or tent fee, but attendees are encouraged to bring their own food and/or plan to purchase food from the concession stands located at the York Expo Center*

Sunday, August 12, 2012

7 – 9 am	Breakfast***
9 – 10 am	Closing Ceremony
10 am – 2 pm	Check-Out

****Food is not included in the registration or tent fee, but attendees are encouraged to bring their own food and/or plan to purchase food from the concession stands located at the York Expo Center*

Celebrating 100 Years Girl Scout Style

As you all know, March 12, 2012, marked the official beginning of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts. Though we know there are many 100th Anniversary celebrations planned throughout the year, we saw an explosion of grassroots events and celebrations that were held on or around March 12 to celebrate Girl Scout Week all across our council.

From historical displays to teas, town square celebrations and even a Girl Scout Blitz Week, our volunteers worked to generate a great buzz of energy and excitement for the official kick-off of our centennial year. Below are just a few examples and photos of how Girl Scouts from across our 30-county footprint helped to raise awareness in their communities about this momentous occasion:

100th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon

Leaders from Pennsylvania's three Girl Scout councils gathered at the Governor's Residence to kick off Girl Scouts' Centennial Celebration

throughout the state. The luncheon was attended by members of each council and also by members of the Pennsylvania Girl Scouts 100th Anniversary Honorary Committee which was headed by Pennsylvania First Lady Susan Corbett.



Pictured above is Pennsylvania First Lady Susan Corbett with the girls from troops 10840 and 10795 at the Governor's Residence.

Northeast Region

Girl Scouts in the Northeast Region Celebrated the 100th Anniversary at a sleepover event in the Steamtown Mall. The Scranton Times Tribune came out to cover the event. [Click here to read more.](#)



Photo credit: Jim Lockwood / staff photo Girl Scouts from Moscow, PA participate in a Girl Scout Sleepover event at the Mall at Steamtown.

Check out this display of old uniforms, handbooks and memorabilia at the Osterhout Free Library in Wilkes-Barre. Susan Yeager put this display from some of the uniforms and handbooks that she has collected. The oldest uniform in the collection was a gift to her mother at age 14 in 1929. Her

mom is now 96 years young!



South Central Region

The Carlisle Service Unit celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting at the Old Courthouse Square in Carlisle and the Carlisle Sentinel covered the event. [Click here to read more.](#)

Tall Trees Service Unit out of Camp Hill, PA hosted an event that featured Juliette Gordon Low and learned about her personal life and the history of Girl Scouts. They also arranged for a display to be set up at Fredricksen Library in Enola featuring Girl Scout Uniforms and other memorabilia from years gone by.



Pictured above are a few girls from SU 156 (Enola, PA) Troop 10635 pose with Juliette Gordon Low.

South Region

With the help of Volunteers from throughout the South Region, members of the GSHPA Staff implemented a Girl Scout Blitz Week. Volunteers visited local businesses, community centers, churches and anywhere else they could think of to help spread the word about Girl Scouts and the results were very positive. Below is a photo from just one of the many local businesses that helped us celebrate our 100th birthday.



The Rolling Hills Service Unit (SU707) turned the town of Lititz Girl Scout green. The Girl Scouts participated in the town's *2nd Friday* celebration. As you entered the square, you couldn't help but notice the large Girl Scout birthday cake - a great place to have your photo taken. The main streets were lined with luminaries that were made by girls in many troops. Girls from Senior Troop 70010 designed a scavenger hunt and placed the answers on store windows in downtown Lititz. Troops signed up and sang Girl Scout songs at two different locations all evening. Aaron's Books was giving tastes of the original Campfire Stew to customers. They also highlighted Girl Scout books, provided a memory book for folks to write down their favorite Girl Scout memory, and gave a 10% discount on purchases for Girl Scouts. Some stores displayed vintage Girl Scout uniforms and memorabilia in their windows. Elizabeth Sandkuhler, dressed as Juliette Gordon Low, held three different story times for children. The Service Unit provided free hot chocolate and s'mores for the public. Children could participate in games and even get their faces painted. Check out the photo of the giant Girl Scout birthday cake below:



North Region

Several new baby girls in our North Region were invited to be Girl Scouts more quickly than usual this year. Five Senior and Ambassador girls helped make 60 March Baby Bags to be given to several hospitals located throughout the region. The bags were distributed to any baby girl born the week of March 12, 2012 in honor of the 100th Anniversary.

The bags included a few gifts and a certificate for them to join Girl Scouts in our council when they turn five for free for their first year. See photo below:



Girls, parents and leaders from Northumberland, Columbia, Schuylkill, Union, Snyder, Lycoming and Sullivan counties, gathered at the Campus Theatre in Lewisburg, PA for a pajama party and movie night to Celebrate the 100th Anniversary. A reporter from the Milton Standard Journal came to cover the event. [Click here to read more.](#)



Girl Scouts from troop 1095 from Lewisburg were some of the dozens of troops celebrating its 100th anniversary at the Campus Theatre. Photo by Tammy Burke/Standard Journal.

West Region

Birthday celebrations were conducted by Service Units across the West Region with candlelight ceremonies, appearances by Juliette Gordon Low, and lots of birthday cake. Each of the 15 troops from Service Unit 432 in Huntingdon County donated 100 items to other service organizations at their 100th Anniversary ceremony. The troops donated 100 cans of soup to the food bank, 100 books to the library, 100 bags of clothing to

Goodwill, 100 boxes of cereal to another food bank, 100 boxes of GS cookies and snack cakes to a nursing home, 100 coloring books and crayons to the pediatric wing at the hospital, distributing 100 door hangers on emergency preparedness, 100 items for the humane society. After the ceremony, the members of Service Unit formed a flashlight trefoil to commemorate the occasion as a ladder truck from the local fire department provided the perfect vantage point for a photographer to get an overhead shot. See photo below:



100th Anniversary Essay Contest Results Are In!

In November, 2011 we asked all Cadette Senior and Ambassador Girls in our council to participate in the 100th Anniversary Inspiring Generations Essay Contest. Each participant was asked to submit a typed essay describing how Girl Scouts has inspired them and how it has helped them to become the girls they are today.

Thank you to all the girls who submitted your essays and shared your Girl Scout Experience with us! The essays have been reviewed and the winners have been selected.

Listed below are the winners from each grade level. Just click on each girl's name to read her winning Essay!

- [Anna Tartline, Cadette, Mechanicsburg](#)
- [Shannon Carlson, Senior, State College](#)
- [Rebecca Sausser, Ambassador, Schuylkill Haven](#)

Congratulations to Anna, Shannon and Rebecca and thanks again to all the girls who participated!

Workshop on Girl Scouts and Diversity in the 21st Century

The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. has been an organization that has valued diversity from its founding to the present. Where has that value brought us and what is its significance for the second century of Girl Scouting? Lonna Malmshiemer, professor of American Studies, First Class Girl Scout and member of Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania, has offered to provide a 3-part workshop on diversity. Topics will include: Race, Ethnicity, Class and Gender.

These topics are relevant for an organization serving all girls to consider as we begin our second century and as the demographics of women and girls in Pennsylvania shift. This is a completely optional opportunity for interested adult volunteers and staff members. Please let us know if you would like to participate by completing the brief questionnaire here:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GSHPA_Diversity.

2012 Cookie Program Wraps Up

March 31 marked the end of another cookie program and thanks to the efforts of all our volunteers, this year's Cookie Sale was an overwhelming success. With your help, hard work and dedication, our girls reached and surpassed all the council's goals for this year's sale.

The 2012 cookie program was a special one as it marked the continued success of one of Girl Scouts' most time-honored traditions during our 100th birthday. The introduction of a special new 100th Anniversary cookie and several new processes and initiatives didn't stop our volunteers from making this year's program one of the most successful our council has had in years! Thank you for all your hard work and countless hours of helping our girls set up cookie booths, filling orders and making runs to the cookie cupboards and cookie swaps.

Stay tuned to next month's edition of the Volunteer Newsletter for more details and highlights from this year's cookie program.

GSHPA is Kicking Off Our New Backpacking Program

Backpacking: The Greenhorn Level is our beginner level backpacking program and it is open to all girls in grades 4 - 12.

If you know any girls who love the outdoors and are interested in hiking with just some friends, a backpack and Mother Nature, then this is a great program for them!

The Greenhorn Level program is the perfect course for girls who are just getting started with the backpacking experience. Girls who sign up for this course will learn about:

- Necessary backpacking equipment
- How to pack a backpack
- Leave No Trace practices and much more

The best part is they get to experience all that while hiking 2-5 miles on remote locations of GSHPA property and enjoying the company of their fellow Girl Scouts!

Backpacking: The Greenhorn Level is open to troops or individual girls interested in learning more about the backpacking experience.

Upon completion of the Greenhorn Level program girls will be eligible for the next backpacking level program, where they will get to go off site and explore new, more advanced backpacking trails.

Greenhorn Level courses will be offered from Friday evening at 6 pm through Sunday Afternoon at 4 pm at the following dates and locations:

- April 27, 2012 - Camp Small Valley, Halifax, PA [Click here to register.](#)
- May 18, 2012, Camp Archbald, Kingsley, PA [Click here to register.](#)

For more information, call 1-800-692-7816 or email camp@gshpa.org.

Encourage Girls to Enter the “I Want to Rock The Mall” YouTube Contest

All Girls in grades K – 12 are eligible to enter the “I Want to Rock The Mall” YouTube Contest. The object of the contest is for girls to create an original song, which describes what it is like to be a Girl Scout. Then girls must record themselves singing the song and submit a video to YouTube as their entry. The winning entry will receive a free trip to Washington DC to attend the Girl Scouts Rock the Mall: 100th Anniversary Sing-Along and a chance to perform on stage at the event.

[Click here](#) for more information, rules and details on how to enter.

Did you know?

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, Girl Scouts across the country operated bicycle courier services, collected scrap metal and grew victory gardens to help with the nation’s war efforts.

Gold Award Spotlight

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

New Incentives for Early Bird Registration!

This spring kicks off our efforts to encourage as many current girl and adult members as possible to re-register for next Girl Scout year. Based on a number of requests and variety of feedback, we are also pleased to reintroduce the Early Bird patch as an incentive and thank you! **Every girl who returns a membership form complete with either payment or a financial assistance form will receive an Early Bird patch.**

As an extra incentive, **every troop that re-registers 75% or more of the girls on their current roster by June 30, 2012 will be entered into a drawing. The randomly selected troop will be granted free admission to the 100th Anniversary GSHPA Camporee at the York Expo Center in York, PA on Saturday, August 11,**

2012 and the opportunity to meet the members of Kicking Daisies who will be performing that evening.

This incentive will cover the \$25 per person Saturday admission fee for every re-registered girl along with as many as three adult chaperones. It will not cover overnight accommodations or food. The winning troop will be announced on July 6, 2012 and will be refunded the \$25 per person fee if they have already paid for Saturday admission to the Camporee prior to this announcement.

Making the Switch to Personify

A transition to a more robust membership software package that will help make membership information, data tracking, financial reporting, program and adult learning registration easier for our members, volunteers and staff is already well-underway this month. Currently being used by more than 100 Girl Scout councils across the country, Personify is the GSUSA recommended membership software package. Once fully-functional, girls and adults will be able to become members online and volunteers will spend less time shuffling administrative paperwork and more time working with girls! Stay tuned for more updates as the transition continues.

Save the Date!

- **April 14, 2012** – Spring Work Day at Camp Small Valley, Camp Echo Trail & Camp Furnace Hills
- **April 14, 2012 from 11 am – 2 pm** – Traveling Store at the Montoursville Service
- **April 21, 2012** – Spring Work Day at Camp Louise & Camp Archbald
- **April 21 - 22, 2012** – Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Furnace Hills
- **April 23, 2012** – Registration for 100th Anniversary GSHPA Camporee Opens at 9:00 am
- **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 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
100th Anniversary Sing-A-long
- **June 23, 2012** – GSHPA Gold Award
Luncheon at the C. Ted Lick Wildwood
Conference located on the Harrisburg
campus of HACC
- **July 31, 2012** – Troop/Group Finance
Reports Due
- **August 10 – 12, 2012** – 100th Anniversary
Camporee at the York Expo Center