

August, 2012




girl scouts
in the heart
of pennsylvania

Be Connected

Monthly Newsletter for Girl Scout Volunteers

Dear GSHPA Volunteers,

Our council's troops and service units went all out to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting in the first half of 2012. An indicator of how much you have done to raise the profile of Girl Scouting with these celebrations is the growing heap of newspaper articles at our office, from news outlets throughout our 30 counties, about your events.

There is more celebrating to come! The PBS special presentation, *Girl Scouts: Shaping a Century*, highlighting girls and volunteers from throughout our council, will be rebroadcast soon on:

WVIA, August 19, 7:00 p.m.

WITF, August 26, 7:00 p.m.

WPSU, Oct. 04, 8:30 p.m.

GSHPA has special 100th anniversary celebrations coming up in Hershey, Wilkes-Barre and State College. The purpose is to raise money to advance our mission of turning today's girls into tomorrow's leaders. The events will feature special honorees and speakers, including Frances Hesselbein (former CEO of GSUSA and of our Penn Laurel legacy council), who is the keynote speaker at the Hershey event. Please see the links below for program information and registration.

Wednesday, September 5, 2012

Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA

[Click here to register for the Hershey event](#)

IN THIS ISSUE:

Our Commitment to Introducing More Girls to Girl Scouts in 2012-2013

Girl Scouts across the nation are being challenged to find new and innovative ways to connect more girls to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. GSHPA took a bold step to play a more aggressive role in preparing more of today's girls to become tomorrow's leaders.

Bridging to the Second Century Award

As the first century of Girl Scouting comes to a close, it's time to *Bridge to the Second Century* and we want to recognize Service Units who successfully lead the way!

Around the Council

Recognizing two Girl Scouts for their commitment to community service.

Girl Scout Honors

Meet the newest Girl Scout Gold Award Recipients, GSHPA CFO Gets Top Award, plus how you can recognize a Girl Scout volunteer in your community!

Volunteer Training

Saturday, September 8, 2012

Mohegan Sun Arena, Wilkes-Barre, PA

[Click here to register for the Wilkes-Barre event](#)

Thursday, October 11, 2012

Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA

Online registration coming soon!

But let's not get ahead of ourselves. We hope to see you at Kick-Off on Saturday, August 11 at Camp Small Valley. Our staff cannot wait to show you the new high ropes course and zip line at the camp. The Cadettes who had a chance to use it this summer have given it a huge thumbs up! We're also looking forward to sharing other plans for the year including a health initiative with council events in the north and south, and some exciting online elements.

Until then, we hope you have some time for rest and relaxation over the summer. The work you do to develop the self-confidence and leadership of girls is our most precious asset.

Sincerely,

Kate Crowley Jane Ransom
Board Chair President & CEO

Our Commitment to the ToGetHerThere Campaign

Girl Scout councils across the nation have been challenged to find new and innovative ways to connect more girls than ever to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience as part of the national campaign entitled ToGetHerThere. As volunteers, you see the benefits of Girl Scouts every time you interact with the girls in your troop, your service unit and your region. The reality is, however, that for every girl who is involved in Girl Scouts throughout our 30 counties today, there are at least 10 who are not.

Undaunted by this national challenge, Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania took a bold step this summer to expand our reach and play a more aggressive role in preparing more of today's girls to become tomorrow's leaders. This initial step focused on re-organizing and expanding our regional workforces to better support the Girl Scout experience we offer.

Once fully-functional, every Service Unit and volunteer

Weekends

Plan to attend one or more upcoming Volunteer Training Weekends.

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars!

2012-2013 SU Delegates

Congratulations and a big "thank you" to the individuals listed below who have been elected as GSHPA's 2012-2013 Service Unit Delegates. The GSHPA Service Unit Delegate serves as the primary communication link between the Girl Scout members in her/his service unit and GSHPA's Board of Directors. Delegates have the opportunity to influence governance decisions which benefit all girls in GSHPA's jurisdiction. We are asking that our Service Unit Managers ensure that their service unit is represented by electing delegates at your next meeting, if you have not already done so. For more information or to have questions addressed, contact your Membership Associate or Regional Director.

SU164 Sheila Kretzing

SU177 Cathy Hartwick

SU226 Sherry McMaster & Lorna Myers

SU303 Ronie-Lyn Alford & Nicole Hoke

SU641 Belinda Stefl

SU701 Diane Carpenter, Alice Horney, & Stephanie Smith

SU713 Sherry Miller & Michelle Ressler-Teter

SU715 Christy Foltz , Ashley Jenks, & Christine Jenks

SU833 Joy Grunden & Annette Wenrich

SU834 Kimberly Campbell

SU836 Ami Spriggs, Laurie Stopyra, & Jessica Whitmore

SU839 Jennifer Bruder & Patricia Mellors

will work directly with one staff member whose sole focus is on retention. That staff member will focus specifically on providing volunteers with the training, expectations, information, support and guidance they need to be able to offer an outstanding Girl Scout Leadership Experience that aligns with the national program portfolio and engages girls in a way that keeps them coming back year after year. In addition, every Service Unit and volunteer will work directly with another staff member whose sole focus is on recruiting new girls and volunteers through creative and innovative strategies and mission-driven partnerships.

While a solid staffing model is one key component of our council's expanded reach, the partnership between staff and volunteers will play a pivotal and fundamental role in how much of an impact we can truly have within the communities we serve. The coming year promises to be a great one. We thank you in advance for the key role that you will play and the impact you will have as a volunteer this year, one troop, one event, one trip, one activity, one overnight, one series, one day camp, and, more importantly, one girl at a time. When girls succeed, so does society. Together we can get her there! [Click here](#) to learn more about GSUSA led campaign to empower girls to reach their leadership potential.

We look forward to a year full of promise and opportunity and our work together. We are also extremely excited by a renewed sense pride that we have already begun to see throughout our council about being a part of a national commitment to connect more girls with something all of us hold so near and dear to our hearts – Girl Scouts – and the leadership skills that truly help make the world a better place.

Announcing "Bridging to the Second Century" Award

As founder of the Girl Scouts, Juliette Gordon Low built a bridge stretching from the beginning of the Twentieth Century to the dawn of the Twenty-First. Millions of girls have crossed that bridge to an era of increased opportunity for women.

Now there is a new bridge that we must build. It is the bridge to the second century of the Girl Scouts. Why? To assure that generations of future girls will have the opportunity to thrive because of the leadership experience that only Girl Scouts provides.

SU840 Lynn Bixler & Joan Miller

SU842 Ann Baker & Donna Freeze

In an effort to recognize service units who successfully lead the way into the next century, Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA is proud to introduce the "Bridging to the Second Century" award. This new monetary award will be bestowed upon the top two service units who best represent the criteria listed below at GSHPA's sixth annual meeting on April 27, 2013.

Award recipients must meet the following criteria:

- Increased the number of volunteers under the age of 35 in volunteer positions.
- Increased the number of girls and volunteers from racially and ethnically diverse communities within their service unit.
- Created a plan for continuing to increase the involvement of volunteers under age 35 and volunteers and girls from diverse communities in FY14.

The winning service units will be determined using percentage increases of volunteers 35 or under and of girls and volunteers from diverse communities between September 1, 2012 and March 31, 2013. In addition, service units must submit a plan for further increasing the numbers from these groups by March 31, 2013. (A submission form for Service Unit plans will be distributed to Service Unit Managers by February 1, 2013.)

The service unit awarded first place will receive \$500 and second place will receive \$250. Look for more information about this award in the coming months.

Around the Council

GSHPA would like to congratulate two Girl Scouts from Troop 10918 in Dauphin County for their commitment to community service.

Madison Fake received the Cadette Service to Girl Scouting Bar in May 2012 for volunteering more than 30 hours of her time to Girl Scouts. Madison served as a junior assistant leader for her younger sister's Girl Scout troop all year and helped the troop earn their Girl Scout Bronze Awards. Madison also volunteered



for camp activities and crafts at various events, and assisted the troop in making breakfast at the Ronald McDonald House, running bingo at a local nursing home and making favors for Meals on Wheels. Congratulations Madison!

(Pictured above left to right: Cathy Hartwick, Leader Girl Scout Troop 10918 and Madison Fake)

Girl Scouts who volunteer at 20 least hours to the Girl Scout organization can receive the Cadette Service to Girl Scouting bar.

Sabrina Herb earned her Cadette Community Service Bar in May 2012 for fulfilling more than 60 hours of community service for the Penbrook Leos, the teen branch of the Lions Club. She participated in many

events held by the Lions Club such as planting trees, manning rest stations at bike races, "Adopt a Highway" program, Juvenile Walk for Diabetes, helping with games at National Night Out and the Halloween Community party, as well as helping with dinners hosted by the Lions Club. Sabrina assisted with the Tri-County Association for the Blind's talent show and the clean up and replanting of a memorial garden at the borough's community Park. Sabrina was named "Teen Volunteer of the Year" at the Leo's third charter celebration. Sabrina and her troop also helped cook breakfasts for Ronald McDonald House, ran bingo at a local nursing home and made favors for Meals on Wheels. Congratulations Sabrina!

(Pictured left to right: Carolyn Cassell, Penbrook Lion/Leo Club, 14-T Leo Coordinator; Sabrina Herb and Cathy Hartwick, Leader Girl Scout Troop 10918)



Girl Scouts who earn the Cadette, Senior or Ambassador Community Service bar are making a difference in their communities and practicing the values of the Girl Scout Law. Both service awards are National Leadership Awards. For more information about them and other things you can do to make a difference in your community, please see the Girls Guide to Girl Scouting.

**Girl Scout
Honors
Gold Award
Recipients**

Congratulations to the newest recipients of the coveted Girl Scout Gold Award. On Saturday, June 23, 2012, 72 Girl

Scouts from the Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania (GSHPA) council joined the ranks of many honored young women by receiving their awards.



After months of hard work, all 72 recipients who earned the notable award between April 2011 and April 2012 were honored during an elegant luncheon at the

Wildwood Conference Center in Harrisburg, PA. The event included displays from numerous Girl Scout Gold Award projects and a keynote address by Darragh Friedman, former Gold Award recipient and one of 10 current National Young Women of Distinction recognized by Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

"This event serves as a great reminder of what Girl Scouts is all about," said Kate Crowley, GSHPA board chair. "This award stands for excellence and leadership. Today's girls are tomorrow's leaders and it is an honor for us to recognize those who have worked so hard to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award."

More than 30 girls attended the event along with family and friends. Also during the ceremony, 14 Girl Scouts who plan to attend institutes of higher education this fall received various 2012 GSHPA Scholarship Awards. To see photos from the event, visit our [Facebook page](#).

GSHPA CFO Gets Top Honors

Congratulations to GSHPA's Chief Financial Officer, Susan Kreidler! She received the 2012 CFO of the Year "Turnaround Specialist" Award on May 31, 2012 at a special event at York College.

Jane Ransom, President and CEO of GSHPA nominated Susan and judges chose her as the winner for her leadership and achievements within the council, as well as her contributions to the community.

"I am honored to have been selected for the CFO of the Year awards," said Susan. "Along with a great finance team, I have worked very hard to assist our board and executive staff in steering the organization in the right direction. It is especially meaningful during this year as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts."



(Pictured left to right: Joanne Bankos, 100th anniversary steering committee volunteer; Jennifer Bowermaster, GSHPA HR Director; Jane Ransom, GSHPA President and CEO; Susan Kreidler, GSHPA CFO; Dolly Lalvani, GSHPA Board member)

(Pictured left to right: Joanne Bankos, 100th anniversary steering committee volunteer; Jennifer Bowermaster, GSHPA HR Director; Jane Ransom, GSHPA President and CEO; Susan Kreidler, GSHPA CFO; Dolly Lalvani, GSHPA Board member)

"Susan's financial skills were manifest in bringing about so many improvements," Ransom added. "But her mission-driven approach was also invaluable. Susan believes in the mission of Girl Scouts – to build the courage, confidence and character of girls."

The CFO of the Year Awards is a unique local program to honor the unsung heroes of business – financial officers. The program celebrates their work, which is vital to the success and stability of businesses and organizations, as well as the region's overall economic growth.

New Volunteer Recognition Booklet

In Girl Scouting, "recognition" is how we show our volunteers we appreciate their service. We think appropriate recognition should be more than simply saying "thank you" at the end of the membership year, or when a particular service or task is accomplished.

Honoring adults publicly highlights Girl Scouting's vitality in the community. If you know a volunteer who should be recognized, [click here](#) to download our new Volunteer Recognitions Booklet.

Plan Now to Attend a Fall Volunteer Training Weekend!

Both new and returning volunteers are encouraged to

mark their calendars now and plan to attend one or more of the following free, council-sponsored volunteer training weekends:

- **September 27-29, 2012** – GSHPA Fall Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Small Valley
- **October 5-7, 2012** – GSHPA Fall Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Louise
- **October 13-14, 2012** – GSHPA Fall Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Echo Trail
- **October 26-28, 2012** – GSHPA Fall Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Golden Pond

All four weekends will include a nice mix of required trainings (including 1st Aid/CPR), volunteer development and networking, not to mention the opportunity to check out a GSHPA camp that you may not have previously visited. Look for a specific email about these weekends to arrive in your mailbox later this month.

Adult Volunteer Weekend 2012 at Camp Furnace Hills

In addition to the council-sponsored Volunteer Training Weekends, volunteers can also add the volunteer-led Adult Volunteer Weekend at Camp Furnace Hills in Denver, PA from September 21-23 to the list of training and networking opportunities that are available to both new and returning volunteers. The theme of this year's weekend will be Girl Scout Traditions: 100 Years of Inspiring Girls and Young Women.

This training weekend is open to all registered adult volunteers and will be jam-packed with workshops and activities for those of you who like to keep busy; however, you do not have to participate in all of them! If you want to relax and enjoy Camp Furnace Hills, work on your own crafts, play board games, socialize, etc., you are free to do so!

[Click here](#) for complete details and registration information for this training weekend.

Save the Date!

- **August 11, 2012** – Volunteer Kick-Off at Camp Small Valley
- **September 21-23, 2012** – Adult Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Furnace Hills

- **September 27-29, 2012** – GSHPA Fall Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Small Valley
- **October 5-7, 2012** – GSHPA Fall Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Louise
- **October 6, 2012** – Traveling Store visits the York Office
- **October 13, 2012** – Traveling Store visits the State College Office
- **October 13-14, 2012** - GSHPA Fall Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Echo Trail
- **October 15, 2012** – West Regional Governance Meeting at the State College office
- **October 16, 2012** – North Regional Governance Meeting at the Montoursville office
- **October 17, 2012** – Northeast Regional Governance Meeting at the Scranton office
- **October 18, 2012** – South Regional Governance Meeting at the York office
- **October 20, 2012** – Traveling Store visits the Scranton Office
- **October 23, 2012** – South Central Regional Governance Meeting at the Harrisburg office
- **October 24, 2012** - Council-wide Regional Governance Meeting via Webinar
- **October 26-28, 2012** – GSHPA Fall Volunteer Training Weekend at Camp Golden Pond
- **October 27, 2012** - Traveling Store visits the Montoursville office.