



girl scouts  
in the heart  
of pennsylvania

Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania  
350 Hale Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17104  
800.692.7816  
www.gshpa.org | general@gshpa.org

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A Quarterly Newsletter from Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania WINTER 2014 EDITION

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## Girl Scouts aMAZE at Anti-Bullying Weekend Program

All 49 Girl Scouts raised their hands when they were asked if they have ever been bullied or called names at school during GSHPA's aMAZE Weekend. An anti-bullying overnight that took place on Saturday, Nov. 4-Sunday, Nov. 5 at Camp Small Valley in Halifax, PA, aMAZE Weekend is a GSHPA program specifically designed for girls in 6th-8th grade. "We are thrilled to be able to arm girls with skills and approaches for dealing with bullying whether they or another student is experiencing it," said Jane Ransom, GSHPA CEO.

*"My troop unanimously decided that it was important that they do the aMAZE Weekend due to the anti-bullying message and the fact that they were starting middle school this year."*

— Jistine Andrews,  
Girl Scout mom & Troop Leader  
of Lebanon

In the PSA workshop, the girls learned about bullying and how they can stop it. "60% of the time if you do anything to stop bullying it will stop," said McCracken as she shared facts and statistics with the girls about bullying as they scripted, acted, and filmed an anti-bullying PSA.

On the low ropes course, girls strengthened their communication and cooperation skills while the high ropes challenged girls to face their fears in a confidence

building trek 50 feet up in the air. "I'm afraid of heights and I feel a little uncomfortable about being up there, but I want to try," said Trinity of Troop 10534 in Carlisle. Trinity wasn't the only one who felt that way at the start of the weekend and who, by the time she completed the ropes course, learned that she is stronger and braver than ever she imagined.

"My troop unanimously decided that it was important that they do the aMAZE Weekend due to the anti-bullying message and the fact that they were starting middle school this year," said Girl Scout mom and leader, Jistine Andrews of Lebanon. Armed with greater knowledge about bullying and more self-confidence than ever, all 49 girls who attended left Camp Small Valley ready to stand up and take what they've learned from Girl Scouts into the real world.

GSHPA will offer a spring aMAZE Weekend program on May 17-18 at Camp Small Valley. Registration opens April 1.



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

For more details visit, [www.gshpa.org/camp/summercamp.html](http://www.gshpa.org/camp/summercamp.html)

## What is in a box of Girl Scout Cookies?

As Girl Scouts prep their Cookie Booths Feb. 14 - March 23, take a closer look at the boxes. They may just look like ordinary Girl Scout Cookies, but what is hidden inside are valuable business leadership skills and extraordinary life adventures (and of course cookies!)

The national Girl Scout Cookie Program is a \$790 million business that is led by girls who know that in order to be successful; they have to learn fundamental business skills.

By selling cookies, girls learn five valuable skills that they will utilize throughout their lives and make them more confident when making financial decisions.

1. Goal setting
2. Decision making
3. Money management
4. Business ethics
5. People skills

**FACT:** Did you know that girls who sell 1,500 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies are eligible to attend a full, action packed week at Girl Scout Summer Camp for FREE?

To further develop these skills, GSHPA hosted four cookie rallies (Daisies to Juniors) and one Cookie College (Cadettes to Ambassadors), which in total had over 450 girls participate in fun activities and lessons to kick off the 2014 Cookie Program.

Selling cookies is a fun experience for girls, but so are the rewards! Girl Scouts can budget their cookie earnings for incentives, trips and the all-time favorite summer camp! Ruth Brown, Leader of

Troop 10793 in Harrisburg, said that her girls use their cookie money to help pay for camp. Growing up in the city, her Girl Scouts never got to experience sitting around a campfire with friends. "It gives my girls a chance to earn an income and they feel empowered," said Ruth.

A box of cookies holds a world of adventure whether it is the simple pleasure of S'mores by the campfire, braving an adventure course 50 feet up in the air or riding a horse for the first time. When you open your favorite box of Girl Scout Cookies, know that you are opening up opportunities for girls.

To find cookies near you, visit [www.findcookiesnow.org](http://www.findcookiesnow.org) or download the Girl Scout Cookie App for iPhone or Android.

Thank you to our Cookie College sponsors M&T Bank, Glatfelter, The Phillips Group and York Traditions Bank.



## Leadership Update

Dear Supporters and Friends of GSHPA,

In 2011 Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania (GSHPA) set an ambitious goal to raise the funds needed to usher Girl Scouting into its second century in our region. We are excited to report that we have reached that goal - raising \$5 million as of December 31, 2013.

As we celebrated the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts in 2012 we knew that today's girls need the leadership experience provided by Girl Scouting now more than ever. The campaign monies raised will be invested in a variety of GSHPA's projects, programs and services. Following are just a few examples of what we have done so far with the funds raised:

- **Girl Scouts' flagship leadership development program** has opened the door for tens of thousands of central and north-eastern Pennsylvania girls to explore the world around them, discover their talents and interests, broaden their cultural understanding and build the confidence and self-esteem necessary to overcome the challenges they encounter.
- **Financial Assistance and Outreach for Girls in Need.** GSHPA has granted approximately \$650,000 to cover fees such as dues, program fees, books, camp, awards and uniforms to economically disadvantaged girls and has brought the lessons and activities of Girl Scouting to underprivileged and at-risk girls throughout the region.
- **Forever Green Initiative.** Our entire membership took part in a two-year initiative that increased environmental awareness,

decreased our carbon footprint and planted almost 4,000 trees in central and northeastern PA in honor of the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts.

- **Camping & Outdoor Experience.** GSHPA has launched new horseback riding, backpacking and canoeing programs, and has undertaken a five-year redevelopment of our camps, adding features such as high ropes, low ropes, climbing towers, zip lines, new stables, yurts and gaga courts at camps available to our entire membership.
- **Healthy Promise Initiative.** GSHPA began a Healthy Promise initiative to empower girls to take an active role in their health and wellness. A council-wide Million Mile Walk, webcast teen cooking classes, and an all day dance event are some of the programs involving girls in the initiative.

We want to offer our most profound thanks to the hundreds of donors who have invested in our region's girls. Thank you! All of us will benefit in the future as today's girls become the leaders of tomorrow.

Sincerely,

*Carolyn F. Warman* *Jane Ransom*

Carolyn Warman  
Board Chair

Jane Ransom  
President & CEO



**ABOVE, Left to Right: Alexa, Brandy Boswell** of West York, co-leader for Teen Battle Chef, **Catherine**, and Girl Scouts of the Heart of Pennsylvania's Program Manager **Lori McCracken** crack jokes as they cook during a live taping of Teen Battle Chef. **TOP LEFT: Catherine and Alexa**, from York prep ingredients for the second episode of Teen Battle Chef at York Kitchen in York.

The studio lights shone bright as video cameras pointed at two teen chefs as they prepped their kitchen stations at York-Kitchen in York and broadcasted Healthy Promises' Teen Battle Chef, a live cooking series to inspire a healthy lifestyle that is streamed instantly to Girl Scouts' wireless devices all across GSHPA's 30 counties.

The video chat, which had over 200 viewers over three episodes, teaches girls healthy meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner), kitchen hygiene, cooking techniques like chopping, and inspired girls to challenge their taste buds into trying new flavors like coconut milk and jalapeño.

Teen chefs, from Spoutwood Farms in Glenrock, incorporated all food groups into their recipes, which provided the Girl Scout viewers with a recipe for a delicious and healthy meal that the girls could easily make at home with their families. "The message comes from a younger influence and appeals to this generation," said GSHPA's Program Manager and video chat host Lori McCracken.

This innovative program goes beyond a traditional televised cooking show by providing an interactive chat function where viewers can participate in the show! As the live show is aired, girls have the opportunity

## Girl Scouts Going LIVE in 3..2..1..

### 2015 ROUNDUP REUNION



Schweitzer  
Mountain Resort in  
Sandpoint, Idaho

When: September  
13-18, 2015  
www.girlscout  
roundupreunion.com

"I'd never been anywhere but New York so this was a big adventure for me," said Flora Poulos, a central Pennsylvania Girl Scout of 65 years, as she reminisced about her once in a lifetime adventure when she traveled with her fellow senior troop for the Colorado Girl Scout Roundup in 1959. The Colorado Roundup might have been Flora Poulos' first adventure, but through Girl Scouts, she was able to travel all over the world including Kenya, London, India and Mexico.

Flash forward to present day. These same now adult Girl Scouts are still celebrating their Roundup Adventures by organizing Roundup Reunions using modern technology like email lists and a Facebook page to locate and connect with one another. The Roundup Reunions are for Girl Scouts that attended the original Roundups in Michigan in 1956, Colorado in 1959, Vermont in 1962 or Idaho in 1965.

10 Roundup alumnae from within our council footprint attended the most recent Roundup Reunion and are gearing up for what has been deemed the final Roundup Reunion in Sandpoint, Idaho in September 2015.

### Fork it Over

Everyone loves baseball and Girl Scout Cookies! Join us for a unique culinary event at the home field of the York Revolution on Tuesday, April 29 at Santander Stadium, in the White Rose Hall Skybox. This event will feature chefs from across York County competing for top honors with their most delicious Girl Scout Cookies-inspired recipes. Judging will be done by a variety of food editors and local and regional personalities.



It's going to be an exciting night at the York Revolution's home opener against the Lancaster Barnstormers, but there will be lots of excitement during our silent auction. Attendees will have the opportunity to bid on local entertainment packages, wonderful gift baskets, and one-of-a-kind items. They will enjoy two hours of great food, networking, the silent auction and of course...baseball! This is going to be a grand slam event, you don't want to miss.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, April 29 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** White Rose Hall-Santander Stadium, 5 Brooks Robinson Way in York

**COST:** \$40 per ticket from Feb. 24-April 4; \$50 per ticket from April 7-18  
Get your tickets today by registering at [www.gshpa.org](http://www.gshpa.org) or call 800.692.7816

\*Other light fare will be provided as well as a cash bar.

## 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 \$2,500 or more.**

- \*Catherine Bush
- \*Kate Crowley
- \*Amy DeShong
- \*E. Louise Hepschmidt
- \*Bill and Sharon Hoffmann
- Elizabeth Ingraham
- \*Heidi Nicholas
- \*Jane Ransom
- \*Natalie Smith

**Golden Friends: Individuals who pledge to contribute \$1,000 - \$2,499 per year for 3 years.**

- \*Marion C. Alexander
- Joanne Bankos
- Mimi Barash Coppersmith
- \*Nancy Besch
- \*Karen Best
- Michael Breslin
- \*Blake and Linda Gall
- \*Melinda Ghilardi
- \*Ann Hughes
- \*Betsy Keefer
- Thomas Klinger
- \*Susan Kreidler
- Veronica Longenecker
- \*Laura Muia
- Keith and Joan Mummert
- \*Barbara Palmer
- Linda and Neal Rhoads
- \*Karen Snider
- \*Dianne Steimling

**Silver Sponsors: Individuals who contribute an annual gift of \$1,000 - \$2,499.**

- Katherine Bishop
- Debra Bowman
- Thomas and June Brown
- \*Linda Davis
- Mary Dearden
- Galen and Nancy Dreibelbis
- Carol V. Freer
- \*Virginia Goodrich
- Bruce and Susan Heim
- Deb Hess
- Norman Hoffer
- Robert and Melinda Inners
- \*Kyle Kauffman
- Rocky and Dolly Lalvani
- Benetta Rapier
- Mary Root
- Donald and Alva Roseth
- \*Mary Jane Saras
- Karen Shustack
- \*Paul Witt
- Deborah Wortham

\*Denotes charter member of Circle of Friends



## Connecting More with the Girl Scout Experience

Connecting as many girls with Girl Scouts as possible has always been a top priority for our council. While the number of girls we serve has remained relatively consistent from year to year, we know that there are thousands of girls who every year decide that a commitment to Girl Scouts via a traditional, year-round troop experience is unrealistic given their other personal and family activities and commitments.

This spring, Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA is proud to introduce a new pathway by which girls in grades 2 - 5 can experience some of the fun, friendships and life-changing experiences that thousands of girls throughout central and northeastern PA enjoy every year.

Known as Girl Scout Teams and advertised through exclusive partnerships with local YMCAs, JCCs and

community rec centers to avoid confusion with our traditional troop experience, girls who join a Girl Scout Team will participate in a 6 - 8 week Journey experience at one of our community partner's facilities on pre-established dates/times and for an all-inclusive fee. The all-inclusive fee will include her very own copy of the Girl Scout Journey book, all of the badges/awards she'll earn, all of her supplies, a 2014 Girl Scout membership that gives her immediate access to council-wide Girl Scout events & activities, her very own Girl Scout t-shirt and either a Brownie or a Junior pin to remind her of her connection Girl Scouts around the world.

Designed to appeal the most to girls whose personal and/or family's schedules often prohibit their participation in a traditional, year-round Girl Scout troop experience

and to potential volunteers who are unable to dedicate the time and/or flexibility needed to facilitate a traditional troop experience, we are hopeful that this may be a future means by which we can serve more girls.

Pilot Girl Scout Teams for Brownies and Juniors will be introduced this Spring in 13 GSHPA communities as an effort to see if this truly is a program that appeals to the girls and prospective volunteers we are not currently engaging. Based on initial feedback from our community partners, we are eagerly anticipating a positive response!

**If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Girl Scout Teams, please send an email to [general@gshpa.org](mailto:general@gshpa.org) or call 717-233-1656.**