

Bridges

Fall 2012

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Troop 808 Treks to Europe

Troop 808 spent 10 days in London, with a day trip to Paris in June 2012. Eight girls and two adults made the trip, which they worked and saved toward for years. Each girl planned one day of activities which she led, and guided everyone through. They stayed at the London World Center, the Pax Lodge, and met people from all over!

Marie Wohl: It was the trip of a lifetime. I think earning my right to travel with an amazing group of girls by working hard to achieve our goals. It is something that only a handful of girls can do, and we did it!

Asha Lewis: The trip to Europe this past summer was a great experience for someone who was leaving the country for the first time. Both London and Paris were a good chill spot and tour spot for history.

Lilly Jones: I have gone to London many times, but the most memorable time definitely was the time I went with my fellow Girl Scouts. Nothing can compare to the experience you get by living with nine other people in a foreign country.

Leeann Howard: Traveling to London was an awesome experience. I got to go with my sister Girl Scouts.

Kayla Farmer: I really loved going to England. I never thought that I would actually be able to go overseas until now. Now that I've gone, it's changed my opinion on that. Until this summer, places like England and France were another world to me. I'd really love to go again sometime. Also now after going to England, I find that I love to shop more.

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what's happening around the council

The Moon and the Stars - Visual Astronomy Interest Group **JCSA**

Moon Girls and Lunatics
(2/15/13; 5/17/13)

Moon Girls will learn their way around the moon and understand what they see while **Lunatics** will work on advanced observing projects, moon phases, and eclipses.

Star Girls & Sirius (12/7/12; 1/11/13; 4/12/13)

Star Girls learn to use charts and maps to recognize constellations while **Sirius** students take it to the next level with a special project.

PA for Astronomy Programs **CSA**



Blaze a Trail (12/1/12; 1/12/13; 2/2/13; 4/13/13) **CSA**

Be a part of history at North Fork. Continue to map and build the trail system that Girl Scouts for generations will use. This is one legacy that will remain for years to come!

For a complete list of council sponsored activities and events, visit our website at girlscouts-gateway.org

She's a Scientist?!

This four-session series will introduce you to amazing local women who solve problems, explore ideas, improve people's lives, and break stereotypes. Come to the Cade Museum in Gainesville and see how cool a career in science can be at one, two or all four sessions!

JC

- 11/3/12:** Shirley Baker, Marine Biologist
- 12/1/12:** Roxana Weil, Toxicologist
- 1/12/13:** Helena Hagelin-Weaver, Chemical Engineer
- 2/16/13:** Rae Hafer, Water/Wastewater Engineer

Living History

Each year on a Saturday in spring, Girl Scout docents travel back in time to reenact life in 18th and 19th century St. Augustine.

Program Aide Training Weekend

(12/7-9/12; 1/18-20/13; 3/22-24/13; 5/31-6/2/13) **C**

This training weekend enables girls to explore their leadership through participation in hands-on activities, skill building, reflection in their new PA Leadership Journal and by hosting an event for Daisies or Brownies. LIA is a pre-requisite.

Daisy Fun Day (1/20/13; 6/2/13) **D**

Come to camp for a fun day of hiking, singing and more, planned just for you by newly trained Program Aides.



Medals of Honor

(12/2/12)

Save the date to celebrate the accomplishments of this year's Bronze, Silver and Gold Awardees!



Brownie Play Day

(12/9/12; 3/24/13) **B**

Befriend other Brownie Girl Scouts as you explore the outdoors, make a craft, play a game, and sing songs.

Enchanted Wonderland

(1/26/13 **DB**; 1/26-27/13 **J**)

Experience the magic that surrounds you at Seminole Springs. Learn a fairy dance, make fairy crafts and take a stroll on the trails looking for faces in the trees, waving leaves, fairy castles, gnomes and other magical, mystical creatures and characters.

PA for Enchanted Wonderland (1/25-27/13) **C**

Annual Meeting & Friendship Celebration

2/9/13 Trinity United Methodist Church, Gainesville

The 2013 Annual Meeting and Friendship Celebration will honor adult volunteers who have gone above and beyond the call of duty. This exciting event will take place at Trinity United Methodist Church, 4000 NW 53rd Ave. Gainesville from 9am until noon. The cost per person will be \$6 and includes a continental breakfast. Award recipients will attend at no charge. Registration opens in December.



Cookie Rally

Saturday, December 8, 2012

10 am - 3 pm

Jacksonville Fair Grounds

For Girl Scout Daisies,
Brownies & Juniors

Join us for the Cookie Rally event! The program will highlight the financial literacy educational opportunity that the cookie sale provides, allow girls to practice their techniques to assure they are confident, successful and safe and have fun! Please bring lunch.

Register by November 30 online at girlscouts-gateway.org or call (904) 384-4475

Event sponsored by:



AGS: All Girl Scouts, **A:** Ambassadors, **S:** Seniors, **C:** Cadettes, **J:** Juniors, **B:** Brownies, **D:** Daisies

Circle of Honor 2012



The following individuals support Girl Scouts of Gateway Council with gifts of \$1,000 or more annually.

Thank you for your support!

- Lisa Acheson-Luther
- David and Kay Ayers
- Michelle Bedoya Barnett
- Martha Barrett
- Lynette Beitz
- Karen Bowling
- Tricia Burley
- Dr. and Mrs. Randall Caton
- Susan Clark
- Barbara Coleman
- Sandy Cook
- Veronica Della Porta
- Charles H. and Wanda N. Denny
- Mary Dolan
- Dorothy S. Dorion
- Paul and Polly Doughty
- Kevin and Dawn Eggleston
- Mary Ruth Elfe *
- Phil and Barbara Emmer
- Jim Gilmore
- Barbara Goodman
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- Rob and Debbie Guild
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- Elizabeth Tate
- Julia W. Taylor
- Nancy B. Taylor
- Dr. Portia Taylor
- Mary Virginia Terry
- Sandra and Harold Tysver
- Jane M. Upton and Robert S. Campbell
- Delores Barr Weaver
- Beverly Williamson
- Carolyn Munro Wilson
- Barbara Wingo
- Jeff Womble
- Ron and Debi Wood
- Anonymous

* Deceased 7-11-12

cover story continued

Sarah Evans: This was my second time going with the Girl Scouts to London and Paris and both were completely different and amazing experiences. My favorite part of the trip was having high tea on the last day. We each got our tea pot that we chose from over 100 different teas then had 4 finger sandwiches, a scone and handmade jelly, and a dessert. The other thing I thought was memorable that actually happened on both trips was that we almost missed our flights and had to stay in London another day, oh darn.

Living in close quarters to other girls for an extended period of time is actually hard and can cause problems. Even though I have known these girls for many years and we've gone camping many times, this was a challenge. We got through it even though the road was full of potholes and bumps. The day that I had the honor of planning was the 12 hours we spent in Paris. Since I had gone before I knew what was special and was able to give the other girls a memorable trip. We took the Chunnel over and had breakfast by the Tour Eiffel then went on to walk up all 800 steps, up then down. During the day we had crepes and ice cream from the oldest shop in Paris, went to a carnival, and had dinner by the Arc de Triomphe.



WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

The tradition of honoring women in the community continues with the 2013 Women of Distinction luncheon. Taking place on April 11, 2013 at the Hyatt Riverfront in downtown Jacksonville, six women who exemplify the values of Girl Scouts and are role models for girls will be recognized and speak of their accomplishments in career and community service.

Jill Langford Dame, Estelle W. McKissick, Shannon Miller, Rita Perry, Cindy M. Sanborn, and Isabelle Owen Spence are the 2013 Women of Distinction! You're invited to support these women and Girl Scouts by attending or sponsor the event. This luncheon raises funds to provide the Girl Scout program to girls in North Florida. Please contact Gateway Council staff member Jennifer Simmons at 904-421-3487 or jsimmons@girlscouts-gateway.org for more information.



SAVE THE DATE!

Women of Distinction

Jacksonville
April 11, 2013

Women Who Make a Difference

Gainesville
May 10, 2013

WOMEN WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Over 360 guests celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts and the 2012 Women Who Make a Difference honorees in Gainesville. Ann Scott, Barbara Emmer, Chris Machen, and Susannah Peddie delivered poignant messages about the importance of leadership opportunities that each one of them experienced while in the Girl Scout program and the value of learning to give back to their community. "Juliette Gordon Low" made a special appearance too! Girl Scouts of Gateway Council thanks all of our sponsors, especially the major sponsors: Home Magazine-Living in the Heart of Florida, Dr. Pauline O. Lawrence, Gainesville Television Network, Publix Supermarkets Charities, and Shands Healthcare.

The 2013 event will be held May 10 at the Gainesville Hilton – mark your calendar and plan to join us as we celebrate our honorees: **Susan Crowley, Angela Terrell, Debby Knopf, Jennifer Costello and Susan Spain.** Contact Sandra Snyder at 866-868-6307 or ssnyder@girlscouts-gateway.org for more information.



Fall Product Sale

Has your family had an opportunity to participate in our Fall Product Sale? There are 14 delicious nut and candy items for sale and extraordinary deals on magazine subscriptions. All nut and candy items are only \$8 or less! A limited supply of nuts and candy will be available for purchase after the Thanksgiving Holidays.

Amazing magazine subscriptions are still available through a special website link just for Girl Scouts. The magazine prices are ridiculously lower than the newsstand prices and can be quickly ordered online.

If you'd like more information on the Fall Product Sale contact the Product Sales Team at 904-388-4653, 1-877-764-5237 or awalton@girlscouts-gateway.org.



Have you already placed an order?

Troops that have already submitted orders for the fall products are expected to pick up the nut and candy orders during the week of November 12. Please check with your troop or service unit volunteers for the actual date the products will arrive in your area. Troops will be expected to wrap up sales and make final payment for all products before December 7.



What can a girl do?

A WORLD OF GOOD

By participating in the annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale girls can do a world of good. In addition to developing the five key business and leadership skills the revenue generated from this program also create funds for "girl chosen" troop activities and projects, provide services and events for girls, maintain camps and develop quality training for our volunteers.

5 Skills for Girls

Mark your calendar for the start of the 2013 Girl Scout Cookie Sale

Troops will receive Cookie Sale information and materials in November and December. All troops should be signed up and ready to begin taking order in January 2013.

- December 8** Cookie Rally
- January 4** Girls begin taking orders
- February 19-24** Cookies are delivered to service units
- March 1** Cookie Booth Sales begin
- Week of March 4** Payment is due for all cookies ordered by Girl Scout families



It's all about girls, goals, games and...COOKIES! At the first ever National Girl Scout Cookie Sleepover, girls from across the country will join online to experience an exciting virtual event that will deliver a brand new kind of cookie fun and learning. The cookie finale will be in 3D!

Brought to you by Little Brownie Bakers, this 60-minute program will feature inspiring stories of girls doing a World of Good, powerful sales tips and fun games that will help girls have their best Cookie Sale ever. If girls plan a real sleepover to accompany the event, the fun can continue after the online program is over.

So, save the date and then visit www.littlebrownie.com for all the details and lots of quick, easy and fun, sleepover-themed ideas.

Give your girls a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the first ever National Girl Scout Cookie Sleepover.

cookies 4 a change

Troop 822 voted to donate 10% of their cookie earnings to the Food Pantry of Green Cove Springs. They contacted the Pantry, shopped for items on their wish list, got a local grocery store to match the funds, then donated the much needed items to the Pantry. The food they purchased will go to feed hungry children and families in Clay County.



Troop 671 provided 74 bags of dry dog and cat food to the Pet Meals on Wheels Program sponsored by Animal Care and Protective Services.



Troop 1351 provided 80 peanut butter and jelly and 10 soy butter and jelly sandwiches to the Trinity Rescue Mission.



Daisy Dad Fishing

May 12, 2012
North Fork Leadership Center



Girl Scout Gold Award Recipients

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest honor a Girl Scout can achieve. To earn this award, girls propose and complete an individual, girl-led project that makes a lasting difference in the local community, region, or beyond. Girls identify and investigate an issue, build a team, connect with a project advisor from the community, create a plan and take action. The Gold Award takes approximately 80 hours to complete.

These girls earned the Girl Scout Gold Award in 2012. They are being honored in December, along with recipients of the Girl Scout Bronze and Silver Awards, at a Medals of Honor Ceremony in Gainesville.



Louise Burton of Troop 888 in Atlantic Beach created an elementary school program including informational materials and a blog to promote

awareness of clean oceans and the dwindling sea turtle population. "I hoped to impact local children to take better care of their oceans."



Christina Grodell, of Troop 127 in Jacksonville, developed Moving America's Youth program to help combat childhood obesity at a local elementary school.

"I learned that young children do not always understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle. By teaching them, I gain a sense of responsibility and purpose."



Aliya Jenkins, a ZIP Girl Scout from Jacksonville, provided much needed repair and refurbishing to the Westside Soccer Club. She re-sodded

fields, painted, replaced damaged or missing equipment, and created a map of the fields so people could find their games easily. "Because of this project I have become more active in my community and have been able to see things from a different perspective."



Dana Ratcliffe, a Zip Girl Scout from Ponte Vedra Beach, designed a memorial garden in honor of our nation's veterans at the Auxiliary of the American Legion.

"I wanted to let local troops and veterans know that they are respected for their service and the community is grateful for them."



Joslyn Simmons, of Troop 143 in Jacksonville, hosted a Sports 4 Life event and obtained donated sports goods to encourage fitness and healthy

lifestyles to reduce childhood obesity. "I learned how to network and gain resources to accomplish the things I need."



Jessica Wells, of Troop 783 in Orange Park, educated local high schoolers about the dangers of eating disorders. "This issue is very important to me

and I do not want to see teenagers go through the experience of an eating disorder."

Stephanie Thompson Receives Girl Scouts Medal of Honor



Congratulations to Stephanie Thompson, Cadette from Troop 531 who received the Girl Scouts Medal of Honor – a national award bestowed on a Girl Scout who has saved another person's life. Stephanie successfully administered the Heimlich maneuver on her three year old cousin, Ashley, saving her from choking. She was awarded the medal at a private ceremony in Jacksonville, with troopmates, friends and family.

Danielle Wirsansky Real Life Drama Queen



GSGC Gold Award recipient Danielle Wirsansky was honored by the Department of Florida Veterans of Foreign Wars with their Ambassador Scout of the Year award! A graduate of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Danielle's Gold Award project was a one hour documentary titled "Through Their Eyes," featuring the remembrances of six World War II veterans, including her grandfather. She also wrote a play version of the documentary, titled "Son of a Gun," which garnered her the Critics' Choice Award in the District Thespian Festival. We expect great things from Danielle at Florida State University's Playwright Program.

Religious Recognitions in Girl Scouting

Girls of all grade levels can now earn the My Promise, My Faith pin developed by Girl Scouts of the USA. This pin, which girls can earn once a year, complements existing religious recognitions and allows all girls to further strengthen the connection between their faith and Girl Scouts. A girl earns the My Promise, My Faith pin by carefully examining the Girl Scout Law and directly tying it to tenets of her faith. Requirements for this pin are included in The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting for all levels.

Religious recognitions are created by national religious organizations/committees to encourage the spiritual growth of their youth members and reinforce many of the values integral to Girl Scouting. While My Promise, My Faith helps girls connect Girl Scouting with their faith, the religious recognitions programs help girls grow stronger in and learn more specifically about their faith. These girls from Gateway Council recently earned religious recognitions.



GOD AND ME AWARD

Katrina Bryant
Eliana Gallagher
Madalynn Mann
Erin O'Malley
Luvleigh Smith
Resli Ward
Edythe Zettler
Icel Zettler

GOD AND FAMILY AWARD

Sarah Alderman
Andrea Carruthers
Katie Ann Cianelli
Taylor Gipson
Angelina Hagstrum
Kyla Jackson
Jessie McDonald
Summer O'Dea
Olivia Piernik
Patrice Smith
Lexie Weaver

GOD AND LIFE AWARD

Abby Boyd
Sarah Evans

FOUR STAR RECIPIENT AWARD

Abby Boyd

Frank Spain Scholarship

Presented by Gainesville Kiwanis Club

The Frank Spain Scholarship is awarded to select Girl Scout Gold Award recipients who are accepted to the University of Florida. The 2012 Recipients of the Frank Spain Scholarship are:

Kaitlynn Loop
Hope Olexa
Michelle Lyman
Abby Wolz

"The Kiwanis Club of Gainesville is proud to offer the Frank Spain Scholarships to such talented and wonderful young women. We see them as the leaders of tomorrow."

Sheila Dickison
President, Kiwanis Club of Gainesville

In Memory of Anne Spain

Anne Laird Spain, aged 89, passed away October 6, 2012, at Oak Hammock in Gainesville, FL. A 2006 recipient of Girl Scouts of Gateway Council's Lifetime Achievement Award, Anne was a lifetime Girl Scout and active member of the Girl Scouts' Women Who Make a Difference steering committee since the event's inception in 1995. In the 1990's, shortly before her husband Frank passed away, the two of them established the Frank Spain Kiwanis scholarship.

Anne's outstanding commitment to Girl Scouts and philanthropy has been an inspiration to us. At her family's request, expressions of sympathy may be made to Girl Scouts of Gateway Council.

Costa Rica and Panama
(Summer 2012)

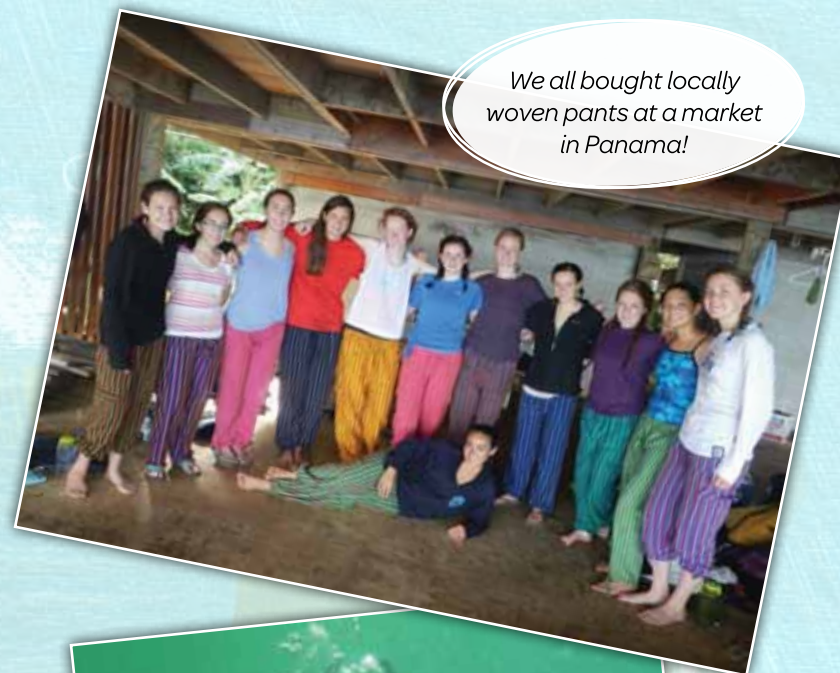
Camping in Florida can be fun, but this summer I wanted to go somewhere new and exciting. On the Girl Scout Destinations web page I discovered so many exciting trips to places all over the world that it was hard to choose just one. I chose a scuba trip to Costa Rica and Panama and had the time of my life. In just fourteen days, I not only made lifetime friends with ten other Girl Scouts from across the U.S. (some of them brought swaps!), but also I experienced many things I had never done before including scuba diving, wakeboarding, whitewater rafting, and zip lining in the rainforest.

Imagine waking up on an island in Panama with the ocean only a few feet away and taking a morning swim or shaking down a fresh mango from a tree. I never thought that I would buy pajama pants off the side of the road, spend a day sailing on a catamaran, or swim three miles from one island to another! Eating in Costa Rica and Panama was always something I looked forward to whether it was rice and beans for the 17th time that week (prepared in different ways) or chicken with a fried egg and mango juice.

Many Destinations trips involve an element of service and our service project was a visit to a local Panamanian schoolhouse. I expected to teach English, but I learned so much more that day from the children. In the end, I completed eleven dives and earned my NAUI scuba certification, learned a lot about myself, formed close bonds with the ten other girls, and made amazing new memories to last a lifetime.

Caroline Kapcio, Zip Girl Scout
12th Grade, Stanton College Prep

www.girlscouts.org/forgirls/travel/destinations/



We all bought locally woven pants at a market in Panama!



Invest in me. I will succeed.



Because **YOU** care about the world, **I will change it.**

Because **YOU** believe that one day every girl should become a woman of distinction, **I WILL.**

The world is limitless to me, because **I am a Girl Scout.**

And you make it possible.

Girl Scouts focuses on what I need to excel, exceed and lead in:

- Public Service
- Science and Technology
- Financial Literacy
- Healthy Living
- Environmental Advocacy

I need your support to become the first female president, the doctor that finds the cure for cancer, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Please consider making a financial investment in me today.

Your support will make a difference now, and for generations to come.

Invest Today!



There are many ways to invest in girls though Girl Scouting!

Give online at girlscouts-gateway.org/donate. Or, send a check to 1000 Shearer Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32205.

Does your company make matching gifts?

Let us know when you make your gift, and we'll apply for the match. Your gift might be doubled!

Do you like a gift that "keeps on giving"?

Give to the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council Endowment Fund. The principal of the gift will be invested, and the earned income used for Girl Scouts in North Florida for years to come!

We also accept gifts of stock or life insurance policies.

Have you remembered Girl Scouts in your will? It's easy. Our legal name is Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc.

For help or more information, contact Linda Hull at 904-421-3484 or lhull@girlscouts-gateway.org

More Than 200,000 Girl Scouts Rock The Mall!

Rock the Mall, hosted by the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital, was the largest gathering of Girl Scouts in history with over 200,000 Girl Scouts from around the world, their family and friends, as well as alumnae of all ages descending upon Downtown Washington, DC on the National Mall to celebrate girl power and commemorate the Girl Scouts 100th Anniversary with music and songs. Girl Scouts sang over 60 songs as they attempted to set a Guinness World Record for the largest sing-along. Guest song leaders and featured girl voices included: Capital Blend, an all-female a cappella group, The Voice finalist, Erin Willett, the teenage pop group, SAVVY and Girl Scout Songstress Ani Hesse, who led the more than 200,000 plus Girl Scouts in singing the official Rock the Mall song, "IGNITE!"



What a Gift Will Buy

Have you been searching for a meaningful gift that will directly impact a girl's program experience in Girl Scouts? What about a gift to fund program equipment; uniform components; membership dues; first aid supplies? Outdoor programs are always popular with girls, and having the equipment to run the programs safely and successfully is imperative. You can help by purchasing any of the items listed here.

- Girl Guide & Membership dues \$35
- Vest, insignia, patches \$30
- Membership dues for 2 girls \$24
- Archery target.....\$100
- Bow.....\$75
- Arrow \$35
- GPS for girl geo-caching program\$150
- Lifejacket for a girl.....\$40
- Sail for a boat.....\$200
- 5 CPR manikins.....\$500
- Two-way radios for camp.....\$190
- Telescope for astronomy.....\$300
- Lifeguard umbrella.....\$75
- (2) Throwable PFD.....\$35
- Ring bouy.....\$75
- Ski rope.....\$25
- English saddle.....\$600
- (12) Kickboards\$140
- Rescue tube.....\$40
- Volleyball set.....\$175
- Western saddle\$400
- (3) Days at resident camp for one girl \$195
- (1) Weekend camping trip \$55



Simply complete the form below and mail it with your check to:
 Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, 1000 Shearer Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32205,
 or donate online at girlscouts-gateway.org



* In the event that there are excess specified donations for a particular item, the Council may use the excess contributions to purchase a similar item where the need is greatest.

Your name: _____ Date: _____

Address, City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ for _____

Or, please charge my credit card. (Circle one): Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Account #: _____ Expires: _____ CSV code: _____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____



shout outs & kudos

GIRL SCOUTS ARE DOING GREAT THINGS ALL AROUND GATEWAY COUNCIL!

To feature your accomplishments here, email "Shout Outs" to communications@girlscouts-gateway.org or send to the communications department at the Jacksonville Service Center, 1000 Shearer Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32205.



Troop 612 from Riverside Presbyterian Day School gathered on Jacksonville Beach for a beach clean up. They even managed to "adopt" one of the lifeguard's dogs.



Troop 63 planted daisies at North Fork in honor of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting.



Troop 336 in Nassau County Service Unit held a Flag Ceremony at Camp Kateri. **Troop 336** also participated in Nassau Service Unit's World Thinking Day event. Nassau Service Unit adopted a portion of the beach to maintain in honor of Girl Scouts 100 birthday. Several Troops not only cleaned that area this weekend but, they camped in the youth camping area of Fort Clinch.



Troop 1210 collected canned goods at Faith Christian Center the week before the Super Bowl, for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring. They donated 156 food items to the Second Harvest Food Bank.



Troop 466 from Mandarin Meadows service unit went "All In" and participated in the Jaguar/ Texans football game – they had a great time watching Jaguar football!



Troop 306 celebrated 100 years of Girl Scouts with a candle lighting ceremony in Savannah.



Troop 1053 got to experience the Jacksonville Zoo at night during a Zoo lock-in for their end-of-year celebration.



Troop 672 invited St. Johns County School District expert, Leslie Shugard, to talk with them about anti-bullying. **Troop 672** also toured the Federal Reserve Bank in downtown Jacksonville over the summer, learning a lot about banking and money.



Troop 1577 organized a donation drive of dog & cat food, toys, newspapers, towels, leashes and other items for the St. Johns Animal Shelter.



Troop 1101 from Crossroads Creek REALLY likes to travel! They attended the Girl Scout weekend at the Nickelodeon Hotel in Orlando, made their first trip To the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace in Savannah, and two girls from the troop attended Girl Scouts Rock the Mall in Washington, DC as well!



Troop 1294 participated in the Coastal Cleanup. They netted about 300 pounds of trash including several tires!



Troop 1520 collected 167 boxes of Girl Scout cookies as "Gifts or Caring" for the St. Francis House homeless shelter and soup kitchen in Gainesville.



Troop 1533 displays the American flag received from CWY Paul Shavatt of Task Force Odin in Afghanistan. The girls sent care packages for the troops in Shavatt's group, and he sent them the flag for their flag ceremonies!



Troop 1058 from Julington Creek Elementary participated in a park cleanup. This year they're enjoying being Brownies!



Troop 1165 from Hickory Creek Elementary School, collected stuffed animals for the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Cuddly Care project. The girls presented more than 150 cuddly creatures to the officers for distribution to local shelters, adult care facilities and various locations where they can brighten someone's day.



Troop 665 went Horseback Riding at Diamond D Ranch. The girls received a lesson on grooming and a 1-hour trail ride. They also had a great time at the Whispering Pines Service Unit Campout at Kateri- For some of the girls, this was their first camping experience!



Troops from **Lake Butler** went to KISS 105.3 and WCJB Channel 20 News as part of their MEdia Journey over the summer. They got to see how the radio and TV stations work –including being guests in the studio while the noon news was being recorded live.



14 girls from **The Promise Academy** bridged from Daisies to Brownies, Brownies to Juniors, and Juniors to Cadettes.



shout outs & kudos



Troop 236 from Gainesville bridged from Juniors to Cadettes.



Troops 1848 and 1948 learned about plants, how to make plant presses, and to press and mount plant specimens. They demonstrated their new skills during the Earth Day event at the Florida Museum of Natural History.



Girls from **Troops 1012 and 171** in Sawamish Service Unit designed and painted a mural on the wall of an interview room at the Children's Advocacy Center.



Troop 1057 assisted Ana's Angels at a pet rescue and adoption day at the Mandarin Petco. The girls helped by walking, holding, and caring for the dogs and cats. They donated cash and supplies to help foster the animals.



Troop 1337 from St Johns, Florida attended a sleepover at Sea World Orlando and slept with the dolphins! The fun included a pizza dinner, continental breakfast and admission to the park the following day. There are other creatures to choose also - manatees, penguins, coral reefs, polar bears or beluga whales!



Troops at **Enterprise Learning Academy** joined with the Association of Women in Construction to build raised garden boxes for Burmese Refugees. The boxes were constructed by the girls and placed in the Jacksonville Public Garden.



Troop 383 of Orange Park used some of their Cookie Money to fund this day trip to Silver Springs - to learn about the Florida ecosystem - which fit right in with their WOW Journey.



Troops 348, 383, and 95 from Orange Park visited Savannah, GA; and the birthplace of our founder, Juliette Gordon Low.



Troop 58 from Jacksonville planted a vegetable and flower garden for Southside Middle School - they also worked with the Park Rangers of Manatee Springs to clean Clay Landing!



Troop 519 of Live Oak collected, filled, and delivered Easter baskets to the University of Florida pediatric oncology department at Shands.



Joslyn Simmons, a member of **Troop 143** in Jacksonville, was one of eight Girl Scout Gold Award recipients from across the nation selected to meet President Obama at the White House! Joslyn's story will be featured in an upcoming Girl Scouts Journey book!



Troop 909 enjoyed their biggest/best trip yet - visiting Washington DC for the 100 year celebration, visiting the National Air and Space Museum and Rocking the Mall with thousands of sister Girl Scouts! **Troop 909** also enjoyed their service unit campout at Seminole Springs, sharing the fun with a troop from St Augustine.



Troop 633 earned their New Cuisines badge! They cooked some amazing dishes, and had a lovely dinner party at their Court of Awards ceremony.



Brownie Troop 848 chose the staff at Wolfson's Children's Hospital as their Gift of Caring recipient for the 2012 cookie sale. The girls donated 58 boxes of cookies!



Troop 811 had a blast Exploring Planet X - an event they hosted for Okeweno service unit. Brownies enjoyed lots of otherworldly activities. The girls from **Troop 811** also participated in a roadside cleanup along highway 315C for Earth Day.



Diamond Jubilee Service Unit Coaches enjoyed a retreat to Cinnamon Beach!



Troop 619 in Mandarin Meadows Service Unit showed their love for a sister Girl Scout and her family, planting a Breast Cancer Awareness flower garden for the mother of one of the girls in the troop, a breast cancer patient.



Troop 127 made over 150 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and gave them to the Beaches Mission House at Jacksonville Beach.



Lem Turner Circle Church of Christ Cluster built a flower bed, planted a tree and flowers.



Troop 63 from Orange Park travelled to Disney World to "Bridge into the next Century."

shout outs & kudos



Florida's Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll, a former GSGC board member, made a visit to Fleming Island Elementary to surprise Junior Girl Scout Erica Carnegie. Erica had written a letter to Lt. Governor Carroll, telling her how much she admired her, and that maybe she, Erica, could be the next Lt. Governor or Governor of the State of Florida.



Troop 145 had a great time volunteering at the Ximenez-Fatio event!



Military personnel enjoyed the cookies and care packages sent to them by **Troop 315** from the Meadowlark Service Unit.



Troop 742 took a end trip to Epcot to participate in a Youth Education Series about water, after completing the Wonders of Water Journey and selling a ton of Girl Scout cookies!



These **Aquatic Weekend participants** have progressed through course levels and recently participated in a river trip on the Ocklawaha.



Troops 44 and 135 were "thinking pink" when they volunteered at Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.



Troop 1138 celebrated one member bridging to Adult, one to Ambassador, and one to Senior!



Daisy **Troop 238** from Baker Trails bridged to Brownie **Troop 214** during a day in the park.



Troop 1496 from Jacksonville Beach Elementary informed others about the culture, music, attire, and food of India during the Beaches Service Unit Thinking Day celebration at Jarboe Park.



Troop 848 helped Friends of Stockton (dads group) promote their clean-up day at Stockton Elementary. The girls planted a 50 gallon oak tree which will provide much needed shade in the years to come!



Troop 464 from Mandarin Meadows Service Unit delivered donated "Gift of Caring" cookies to the nurses at Hospice for all their hard work.



Norweaster Service Unit held its second annual Cupcake Contest during their Founder's Day Celebration. Six clusters created entries. **Simpson Cluster** took top honors this year, with their colorful display. Leftover cupcakes were donated to Hubbard House.



Congratulations to **Ida Hossaini of Junior Troop 637**, Bartram Springs Elementary Cluster, winner of the 100th Anniversary patch design contest. Her "Birthday Cake" theme was interpreted as a series of four individual patches, one for each celebration / occasion, which when displayed together created a layer cake with candles on top!



Troop 304 from Hawthorne showed excellent sales skills at their cookie booth!



Troop 1146 created nine bird feeders and five bird houses to adorn the grounds of the senior citizen community of Westminster Woods on Julington Creek. The troop also funded the project - from providing the materials to volunteering their time. They will be responsible for filling the feeders weekly for one year. In order to earn their Bronze award, each girl in the troop will have dedicated 20 plus service hours to this project.



Troop 1000 from Whispering Pines got certified in Kayak and Archery during Aquatics Weekend at Camp Kateri.



Round River Service Unit, St Matthews Cluster had a campout at Seminole Springs, completing 100 service hours. Daisy **Troop 133** cleared trails, Brownie **Troop 988** raked around platform tents and thier co-leader helped Ranger John vacuum them. Junior **Troop 596** painted the bathrooms at the lodge. All girls added handprints to the stall doors. Cadette **Troop 439** redecorated the cook's cabin with fresh paint, rearranged furniture, installed hooks and shelving, and decorated with new carpet, clock, curtains, and artwork.



Troop 129 volunteered at Dudley Farm Historic State Park for National Public Lands Day. The girls and their leaders helped remove overgrown vegetation from the Pause and Ponder Trail and placed markers identifying various plants and landmarks.



Troop 306 did a beach cleanup project in honor of those who lost their lives on September 11.



Troop 332 from Lake City enjoyed camping at North Fork!



girlscouts-gateway.org

Take Advantage of Corporate Matching Grants

Are you looking for a way to do even more with the time you spend serving girls? Let your employer know about your Girl Scouts volunteer hours, and they might match your time and effort with a gift to Gateway Council. Corporate gifts provide girls with the opportunity to attend resident camp for the first time, to participate in the equestrian program, travel with their troop to Savannah to visit the birthplace of Juliette Gordon Low, and so much more.

Companies including **Adobe Systems Incorporated, Allstate, Bank of America, Chase, CSX Corporation, J.C. Penney, and Nationwide Insurance** currently contribute to Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, thanks to the hours submitted by volunteers! Do you work for one of these companies? Contact your Human Resources department to find out how to apply for a volunteer matching grant. If your company is not listed here, please consider asking at work to see if your volunteer hours are eligible to be matched. Take advantage of this opportunity to donate without opening your wallet. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Hirshan at jhirshan@girlscouts-gateway.org or 904-421-3486.



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