

girlsworld

SUMMER 2011 VOLUME 8, ISSUE 3

Leadership

There's no stopping a Girl Scout.



A MESSAGE from the board chair

Girl Scouts prides itself on being a movement that develops skills in young women that will empower them to become the leaders of tomorrow. The question is: What makes a leader? We often find ourselves talking about people at the top of the ladder—elected officials and corporate bigwigs—as the prototype. But I believe what makes a leader is more nuanced. I believe a leader is one who can motivate and challenge others to do more than they know they can do. A leader strives for excellence and team spirit, whether she is the CEO or the student who understands math a little bit better than everyone else, so she tutors her friends after class and everyone earns an A. A leader brings out the best in everyone around her. Put another way, a leader is a person who makes the world a better place. Sound familiar?

Girl Scouting helps girls and women by helping them expand beyond what they think they can do. Through camp, Girl Scouting brings out self-confidence as girls work together in groups in a safe environment away from home. Through service projects, such as the Girl Scout Gold Award, Girl Scouting brings out self-reliance as girls take on large issues and discover ways to solve them. Through *destinations*, Girl Scouting brings out sympathy and empathy as girls learn about other cultures and lifestyles. Through Girl Scout troop meetings and activities, girls learn teamwork. Girls will find that most of their lives will be spent working together in teams, whether at work or at home. This is why it is important for every young person to learn how to become a better leader. Life offers many challenges, which are really disguised opportunities to grow and succeed. Working with other girls, attending camps and participating in Girl Scout programs are wonderful ways to learn leadership skills and to share and care, all of which are critical whether one works alone, in the work place or with others in various work-related, social or other activities.

In the pages that follow, you will read how today's Girl Scouts are honing their leadership skills. Many are already making the world a better place.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Sheela Murthy, Esq., Board Chair, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland

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On the cover:

A Girl Scout at Camp Conowingo demonstrates the proper horse grooming techniques that she learned at camp. As part of the program Pony Tails, lessons on horse care and maintenance help to develop girls' understanding of the animal, which allows her to feel confident as a rider. This confidence is a key aspect of leadership.



Leading by Example

If you want to inspire others to action, sometimes you have to show them the way. Here are a few ways in which Girl Scouts have been inspiring others with their actions. If you know of a Girl Scout or a volunteer who has inspired you with their actions, we want to hear about it. E-mail us at girlsworld@gscm.org.

The Hair

The ladies of troop 4325 are sporting shorter do's this summer, but it's all in the name of a good cause. As a troop they joined the Locks of Love event at Immaculate Conception School. The Locks of Love Organization turns donated hair into beautiful wigs for children with cancer.

The Update

The Girl Scouts of troop 1181 have created an online newspaper for girls in their community. Their collaboration covers everything from fashion reports to the weather. You can check out their work at: <https://sites.google.com/site/theupdatetroop1181/>.

The Expedition

Troop 1415 made their debut camping trip at Bay Shore Campground near Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge. While their adventures included the traditional highlights—fire-building, tent pitching and lessons in safety—they also used the experience to discover more about the Bay area. They learned about the animal inhabitants that rely on the Chesapeake Bay for survival, and met with locals like Belcak Weather Station manager Steve Belcak, who taught them about the importance of the coastal community. The troop was so inspired by all these new discoveries, that they volunteered to clean up the shorelines along their campsite and wildlife refuge.

The Quest

Troops 4227, 188 and 2605 (Girl Scout Brownies, Cadettes and Daisies respectively) teamed up with Home Depot to landscape the areas surrounding Joppatowne Elementary School. The school's principal is thrilled with their results.

The Fun Run

After learning about the disastrous effect of the earthquake in Japan in class, Girl Scout fifth grader Hannah Marshall believed her school could take action. She went straight to the principal's office to find out what she needed to do in order to start a fundraiser in her school to raise money for disaster victims in Japan. She recruited friends, family, parents and teachers and organized a fun run to benefit the relief efforts. The fun run was held on April 6, 2011 at Lutherville Laboratory Elementary School.



Locks of Love: A volunteer chops the pony tail of a willing Girl Scout; Sarah Walsh of Troop 4325 holds bags of donated ponytails.

Honor and Service

Inspiring tomorrow's leaders today

Photos & story by: Seaman Brandon Bilderback

Controlled chaos best describes the scene as Girl Scout troop 2202 tears through the magazines and school supplies scattered about the classroom. The girls have been challenged by their troop leader, Sgt. 1st Class Meta D. Bailey, to construct a collage describing how they would introduce themselves a decade from now. The intent is for girls to think about their futures, and with her general grace, patience and a genuine interest, Bailey is making a lasting impact on their young lives.

Citizen Soldier

Bailey, the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of military justice at Fort Meade, reaches beyond her military service to give back to her community. "My dedication to community and service comes from my roots," said Bailey. "I had a wonderful childhood. My father was a deacon, with my mother quite active in the church as well."

Now a mother herself, she shares the same enthusiasm her parents did while raising her own two children. The majority of her time is spent at Brockbridge Elementary School in Laurel, volunteering as a tutor and Girl Scout troop leader for fifth grade girls. "One of the girls at the last meeting told me that when she gets older and has kids, she is going to tell them all about me," said Bailey. "That really touched me—to know I can influence someone in that way gives me strength."

A Community of Service

Bailey believes the best way to



communicate with children is to be on their level. "She's hands on," said Lt. Col. James A. Lewis, the staff judge advocate at Division East and Bailey's supervisor. "She gets down in the weeds and works magic with the kids."

Bailey understands the importance of selfless service to the community and helping mold today's youth into tomorrow's leaders. "If you have an empty bowl and the mission is to capture water, even if you only get a couple drops, it's more than was there before," Lewis said. "Those drops will be a benefit to someone."

Bailey volunteers her time simply to help children achieve a sense of self, a sense of community and an understanding that others may be less fortunate. She

hopes that in doing this they may realize the importance of giving back. "I feel like everyone has a gift," Bailey said. "It's solely up to the individual to figure out what that gift is and utilize it in a positive manner by sharing it with others."

Through Bailey's encouragement, and projects like the collage, the girls of troop 2202 have started to discover their own gifts. "I wanted the collage to help open a dialogue with the girls, for them to explore what the future holds and to realize what it is going to take to get there," Bailey said. After diligently working on their collages, the Girl Scouts presented them to Bailey and to each other.

"I want them to understand that they can have goals and most of all, to realize there is nothing wrong with having dreams."



**Because
of the Girl
Scout Cookie
program...**

You will learn::

- Goal setting
- Decision making
- Money management
- People skills
- Business ethics

THE SWEETEST THING

The Girl Scout Cookie Program

To help kick-off the Girl Scout Cookie program last year, troop 312 led a cookie rally at Camp Conowingo. More than 100 girls attended, sampling a dozen different stations that provided information about the Girl Scout Cookie program and sharpened the skills that will be needed for each girl to meet her personal cookie goal. One station (pictured) used a skit and role play to help girls build confidence in making a sale. Each station was run by girls, who sponsored the event as part of their Girl Scout Silver Award project. Their efforts helped play a part in making last year's cookie program so successful. If you or your troop are interested in holding a cookie rally, visit gscm.org for more info or contact Terry Mercer at tmercerc@gscm.org.

The Go Get ters

Girl Scouts are stepping up to make a difference. The girls featured here have turned their passions, interests and skills into projects poised to change a corner of the world. In each case, they became leaders in their school or community or in a community halfway around the globe.

Being a leader isn't just about making decisions—it's about inspiring people to action. Who inspires you? And what did they inspire you to do? Send your stories of inspiration and Girl Scout action to girlsworld@gscm.org.



▲ Troop 4162 used their Girl Scout Cookie program profits to purchase 10 square feet of oyster reef, 100 square feet of marsh grass and a bag of oyster shells through the 100/1,000 Restore Coastal Alabama Fund organization to help restore the lives of the coastal Alabama residents affected by the oil spill.

“If we recycle, we can use up less landfills and use the space to build houses.”

—Kailynn Swenson

Are you a go-getter who is poised to change the world like the girls featured on this page? Tell us how at girlsworld@gscm.org.

“It was important because the school ended up recycling more than they had in trash.”

—Lauren Keller



Troop 2013's school, Monsignor Slade Catholic School, recycled paper but not much else. Having learned about recycling during a trip to the local recycling center, they knew their school could do better. The troop wrote personal appeals to their principal, Mr. Jones, about the benefits of recycling. Then they created a proposal to help budget for items like containers to hold recycled goods. They then took their Girl Scout Cookie money and used it to fund the project. Inspired by their actions, Senator DeGrange and Councilman Jones each pitched in \$300 to help the project too. Just two weeks after leading a school-wide assembly to kick-off the recycling program, the girls saw improvements in their school. Trash waste diminished by 80% and the girls' project is thriving.

Roxanne and Aloise Diedrich love to play soccer, so for their Girl Scout Gold Award project, the girls worked with **Soccer Without Borders**, an organization that provides women and girls in developing nations with an opportunity to play soccer where they would normally not have the chance. The girls raised money to pay for clothing and equipment. They worked with companies like Dick's Sporting Goods to secure donations. Then they coordinated with Soccer Without Borders to ensure the supplies made it to their teams. Because of their efforts, the girls have helped to create an entire soccer league for women in Guatemala. If you would like to learn more about their project, including a video created by Roxanne and Aloise, please visit the gscm blog at blog.gscm.org.

“I learned that if you work together as a team, you can do a lot.”

—Hope Keller





Manic Monday

November 7, 2011
6 am - 6:30 am
@ Fells Point outside Jimmys

Are you the next Girl Scouts of Central Maryland TV star? Then join us as Girl Scouts of Central Maryland takes over WJZ's Manic Monday to serenade Baltimore and promote Stars & Stripes Week, a week dedicated to Operation US Mint (see page 11 for details). The whole family is invited to participate. Girls are encouraged to wear Girl Scout attire and make signs promoting Operation US Mint and Girl Scout cookies.

For more details contact Danita Terry, Director of Communications and Media Relations at dterry@gscm.org or 410.358.9711.



In the Kitchen with Chef Bryan

Chef Bryan Montz impressed us with his culinary skills at our first Green Carpet event when he served his light and creamy "Girl Scout Crepes," made with Samoas and All Abouts. The following year he created yummy "Thank You Berry Munch Delicious Tarts." A dedicated and loving Girl Scout dad, Chef Bryan of Montz Catering, continues to share his culinary expertise with the council. This summer he helped Baltimore City P.A.V.E. campers explore Science in the Kitchen as they made mouth-watering treats—he even found time to help serve delicious meals at Camp Conowingo.

If you've got a sweet—or savory—tooth, you can learn the chemistry of cooking while making something good to eat. Sign your troops up for one of Chef Montz's Science in the Kitchen activities, listed in GS411, or schedule it through our new Programs on Demand option. Either way, you're bound to cook up some fun.

A Good Turn Daily

Daily Record publisher, Suzanne Fischer-Huettner credits Girl Scouts for helping her develop some of the skills she uses every day as a leader in the newspaper industry.

In 112 years, the Daily Record has had exactly one female publisher and that is Suzanne Fischer-Huettner. The former Girl Scout has grown up to be an admired leader in the newspaper industry. Her memories of Girl Scouting are from her elementary school years: “I learned how to build a fire, cook outside, and of course, the excitement of earning patches. We

learned skills you might not use every day, but are good skills to have.” Looking back, she said, “Girl Scouts gives a lot of education, but in a fun, interactive way. Girl Scouts teaches girls to do things while working together and individually.” Suzanne added, “It also gives [girls] opportunities to speak in front of girls who are there to support them,” and that she says, “makes you more confident.”

As her daughter, Isobel, headed

off to camp for the first time this summer, Suzanne looked forward to the opportunities she would experience. She knows these Girl Scout experiences will help Isobel learn new skills and develop confidence. Suzanne said her daughter was drawn to Girl Scouts because she heard about Girl Scouts

doing community work overseas—and, she thought it would be a fun way to hang out with her friends. Suzanne was happy about that because she thinks it is important for girls to interact with all kinds of people, experience other cultures and be involved with the community.

“The world has less limits today,” Suzanne remarked. While that is a positive, she admits it also makes her concerned about girls growing up today. “Girls need to seriously think about the things they do now and how they can and will impact them later.” Her advice is to “look for opportunities to be involved and see what you can do to develop your skills, leadership abilities and confidence.” She emphasizes that “confidence can take you a long way and get you so much further.” She sees proof of this as she reviews applications for The Daily Record’s 20 In their Twenties award (an award for people who are successful by or before the age of 30) “Women who are former Girl Scouts are proud of it and what they’ve learned through Girl Scouting and they put it on their applications.”

A newspaper woman at heart, Suzanne’s final piece of advice for girls is to understand the importance of effectively communicating—verbally and in written form. “In order to be a professional you have to be able use good communications skills. Even with all this technology” she adds, “People can write words but they can’t create the story; stories help us figure out who we can be and who we want to become.”

Suzanne says:

These are the qualities of a good leader

1. Has a good education
2. Has a good work ethic
3. Can think beyond themselves
4. Helps people get into a positive mindset
5. Can lead other people to become leaders



What does a publisher do?

As a newspaper publisher, Suzanne helps make the Daily Record successful by getting businesses to advertise in the paper, by supporting Daily Record events and by encouraging people to subscribe as readers. She makes sure her staff can create great issues each week by training them in cutting-edge business and communication trends.



Fabulous Volunteer

Camp gives a girl experiences that a classroom setting or a troop meeting cannot.



Gail Edwards

Summer Camp's Superstar

For the past 15 summers Camp Conowingo has been a kind of “home away from home” for volunteer Gail Edwards who has served as co-director of the Harford Area Day Camp. She says she first began volunteering at the Harford Area Day Camp to spend time with her daughters because they all loved to camp. Even though her daughters are now grown, Gail continues to make Camp Conowingo her summer “home”—a home she shares with hundreds of local Girl Scouts who spend a week learning the value of being outdoors and new skills like orienteering, archery and cooking over an open fire—and most importantly trying things they couldn’t if they were still at home.

This year Gail elected to increase her camp directing activity by volunteering as Summer Resident Camp Director. Like many great Girl Scout volunteers, there was a need and Gail happily took on the task. The first few weeks brought the usual challenges—homesick girls, camp counselors working to establish their roles—and some unusual ones as well—sweltering 90+ heat waves and scary evening thunderstorms. But, like many of our experienced and committed volunteers, Gail’s can do spirit and love of camping prevailed. The reviews are that girls had a wonderful time and camp went well. Sounds like a great summertime experience for all. Thank you Gail Edwards for being a fabulous volunteer and for sharing your love of camp with all the girls who attended summer camp at Camp Conowingo!

Be a Part of History

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland is creating an historical anniversary book celebrating Girl Scouting in central Maryland. We still need photos from the ‘70s, ‘80s and 90s. This is your chance to literally be a part of the history book. Send your photos (digital or print) to: Danita Terry, Director of Communications, GSCM, 4806 Seton Drive, Baltimore, MD 21215 or dterry@gscm.org.



Pencilthisin

Keeping you current on **events & activities** happening around the council.

Go Online!

Visit gscm.org/events/calendar.html for more events.



Girl Scout Cookie Program

Pre-Orders start
September 12, 2011
Booth sales start
October 27, 2011

Did you know the Girl Scout Cookie program is the largest girl-run business in the world? Whether you're looking to learn entrepreneurial skills, collect boxes to donate to the military or help fund a troop trip abroad, do not miss this leadership building opportunity.

Visit the Cookie Program website at www.gscm.org.

[org/programs/productsales/cookies.html](http://gscm.org/programs/productsales/cookies.html)

Girl Scout Night at Camden Yards

September 17 at
7:05 pm

Bring the whole family and all your friends for a night out with the Orioles. Visit the Girl Scout SWAP Zone at OriolesREACH Community booth, collect the NEW 2011 Girl Scout Night at Camden Yards patch and have some great Bird land fun! Tickets are \$15 (lower reserve) & \$13 (upper

reserve).

To register and purchase tickets go to: gscm.org or mail payment to: GSCM Orioles Games, 333 W. Camden Street, Baltimore, MD 21201 ATTN: Elyse Rowan.

Tweet Up

October 17, 2011
at Seton Urban Program and STEM Center

Twitter and Facebook enthusiasts should join GSCM's *Tweet Up* (Twitter users meet-up). Come to the live event (there will be snacks, activities and a very special Girl Scout alum on hand) or join us in cyberspace.

Visit gscm.org for more details.

Stars and Stripes Week

November 7-14, 2011

During this week, we ask all Girl Scouts to show support for U.S. Military personnel by collecting donations of Girl Scout Cookies for soldiers. Get local businesses and veteran's organizations involved by setting up cookie booths at their locations or asking them to purchase cartons of cookies for military soldiers—active or retired.

For more information contact Terry Mercer at t Mercer@gscm.org or 410.358.9711.

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Ever looked at GS411 and thought, I'd really like to go to that program but it doesn't work for my schedule? We hear you! This year Girl Scouts of Central Maryland is offering programs on demand. Perfect for troops, groups and families, you pick the program and the date that works for your schedule. Easy! Visit gscm.org for more information.

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What Can A Cookie Do?

[more than you see]

Every year, millions of budding entrepreneurs just like you get their start through the Girl Scout Cookie Program.

In the Girl Scout Cookie Program You Can:

- Run your first business
- Earn more money than ever before for troop activities
- Learn about the ins and outs of business ethics
- Set goals and see them through
- ...and so much more!

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September 12

Booths open
October 27