

# Connections

girl scouts  
louisiana east

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## Girl Scouts selected to participate in Girl Scout Leadership Institute

Four Girl Scouts from southeast Louisiana have been selected to participate in the 2011 Girl Scout Leadership Institute (GSLI) in Houston, TX, November 9-13. They are **Meryl Hahne**, 15, New Orleans; **Emma Johnson**, 14, Baton Rouge; **Amber Monlezun**, 14, Covington; and **Ekuase Ogunbor**, 17, Destrehan.

The Girl Scout Leadership Institute brings together girls who are recognized as leaders in their councils to connect and take action on matters that touch the future for girls and for the Girl Scout Movement. The event runs concurrently with the Girl Scouts 2011 National Council Session/52nd Convention.

This year's theme – **Leadership and Innovation, the Next 100 Years** – will stimulate the girls to think big. Focus areas include: Global Connections; Innovation in Marketing; Innovation in Business; Innovation in Technology and Science; and Leadership; and attendees will also play a leading role in launching the Girl Scouts 100th Anniversary Take Action project, **Girl Scouts Forever Green**.



GSLI participants Meryl, Amber, Ekuase, Emma.

## Help us celebrate 100 Years!

Girl Scouting is turning 100 in 2012, but the celebration has already begun, as our council, Girl Scouts Louisiana East, our parent organization Girl Scouts of the USA, and our sister councils across the country make plans for the second century of Girl Scouting. We'll only turn 100 once, so let's celebrate BIG!

Bookmark [www.gsle.org/100](http://www.gsle.org/100) or look for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary icon on the council website for more details and new activities as they're added to our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary calendar of events.

are especially encouraged to come Saturday, November 5, and bring a non-perishable food item to benefit the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank and its member agencies. Cajun Country Corn Maze will donate \$1 to the council for every Maze attendee for that entire weekend, so bring the whole family and be a part of our 100th anniversary kick-off! The fee to participate is \$8 + one non-perishable food item for ages 12 and older, \$6 + one food item for ages 4 – 11, and free for ages 3 and under. All maze participants

– See 100 Years on page 3

**Cajun Country Corn Maze**, on Highway 16 in Pine Grove, has designed this year's corn maze to look like the Girl Scout 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo! While the Maze is open now through November 27 with fun activities for everyone, Girl Scouts



## Girl Scouts overhauls badges to strengthen leadership skills in girls

Girl Scouts of the USA is rolling out an all-new collection of badges aimed at giving girls the skills they need to succeed.

Girls can still earn popular long-time badges such as Cook, Naturalist, and Athlete – topics as relevant today as they were in 1912 – but now they also have badges such as Product Designer, Digital Movie Maker, Customer Loyalty, and even the Science of Happiness. And new "Make Your Own" badges at every level give girls the opportunity to explore any interest they choose.

"Girls told us they want more challenge, and we've responded with substantive, focused, fun new badge offerings that will prepare girls for lifelong success," said Kathy Cloninger, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts of the USA. "What we need today are more adult volunteers to help girls bring these leadership experiences to life."

Badges now come in categories: Legacy, Financial Literacy, Cookie Business, Skill-

Building, and Make Your Own. There are also awards such as a new pin called My Promise, My Faith, which helps a girl celebrate what her faith and the Girl Scout Law have in common. The new badge portfolio, called *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*, also complements GSUSA's National Leadership Journeys, which help girls explore how to be leaders in their own lives and in the world around them as they take on projects to prevent bullying, protect the environment, and more.

The Girl Scout organization has transformed itself in recent years to focus on leadership development for girls in the 21st century, and the new badge offerings reflect that transformation. "The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting builds the critical thinking, creativity, and entrepreneurship that the next generation of leaders will need to make the world a better place," said Cloninger.

## What's Inside

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## Update from the CEO

*Celebrate Good Times, Come On!* There's a buzz at council headquarters as well as at the regional office that is catching. It is the excitement of a new membership year and the start of the celebration of Girl Scouts 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2012. Not many organizations get to celebrate a Centennial so we are pulling out all the stops!



Jackie Alexander

Our founder Juliette Gordon Low said in a letter written in 1925, "I realize that each year it (Girl Scouting) has changed and grown until I know that, a decade from now, what I might say of it would seem like an echo of what has been instead of what is."

She was so right, as we look back at the 18 girls who first met on March 12, 1912 in Savannah, Georgia to form the first Girl Scout troop, and then forward to today and the over 2.4 million current Girl Scouts.

We will start our latest "Journey" this November 8 in Houston, Texas as we head to the Girl Scouts 52<sup>nd</sup> National Convention, which includes the 2011 National Council Session and the Girl Scout Leadership Institute. Girl Scout alumna and news anchor Katie Couric will kick off the National Convention and a year-long party commemorating our Centennial.

We are excited to be sending four girls to the Girl Scout Leadership Institute (see page 1) to represent the voices of girls in southeast Louisiana. This year's theme is, "Leadership and Innovation, the Next 100 years," and is sure to motivate our girls as they share in an experience they will never forget. Not only will they and other Girl Scouts from around the world focus on global connections, innovation in marketing, business, technology, science, and leadership, but they'll participate in the opening and closing of the Convention and help launch the *Girl Scouts Forever Green* 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Take Action Project.

Individually you may not be at the Convention, but you can still harness the energy, enthusiasm, and anticipation as we locally launch into our own year-long celebration, including many of the scheduled events mentioned in this issue of *Connections*, found on our website at [www.gsle.org/100](http://www.gsle.org/100) or in *Program Pathways* (beginning on page 18). We'd like every girl in southeast Louisiana to have the opportunity to participate on many levels, experiencing the wonders of being a member of such a phenomenal organization.

While this may be "The Year of the Girl" (and more on that in the *Winter Connections*), I want to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers. We are who we are because of you... Your dedication and service to this organization and our girls are what makes Girl Scouts Louisiana East the success it is. On behalf of the Board of Directors, the staff, and the girls of Girl Scouts Louisiana East, a heartfelt **THANK YOU!**

## Girl Scouts hold girl bullying seminar

Over 125 Girl Scout volunteers, parents, teachers, and other professionals participated in the council's *Girl Bullying – Awareness to Action* seminar last June in New Orleans. Funded in part by the **Louisiana Children's Trust Fund**, the seminar brought in experts on relational aggression (female bullying) and cyber bullying to help raise awareness of this growing problem, and provide the steps to prevent and stop bullying from occurring in the troop, school, and community.

Allan Beane, PhD., an internationally recognized expert, speaker, and author of *The Bully Free Program*, spoke on the nature of bullying, the rationale for preventing it, along with warning signs. Other speakers included: Kristine Rose Grant, a licensed marriage and family therapist from California, whose *Be Friendship Focused (BFF)* group process inspires children to gain personal awareness, compassion, and positive coping mechanisms to carry them through various social challenges encountered in middle school and beyond; Shenita Sumlin, from the Volunteers of America's Louisiana PROMISE/Parent Information & Resource Centers; and Debra Rieder and Lisa Gibbs, founders of *Beecuz You Matter*, an annual camp for girls in St. Charles Parish with year-long programming available.



Dr. Allan Beane

### On-the-Spot Responding

Participants received a wallet-size card for On-the-Spot Responding from The Bully Free Program. For additional free resources, visit [www.bullyfree.com](http://www.bullyfree.com).

- S – Stop and Take Control. (Step 1)
- C – Confront the Bully or Bullies. (Step 2)
- A – Apply Emotional Support for Victim. (Step 3)
- T – Teachable Moment for Bystanders. (Step 4)
- C – Consequences Applied. (Step 5)
- A – Area Supervised – if necessary remain in the area. (Step 6)
- S – Safety (Protection) Plan for Victim. (Step 7)
- A – Approved Paperwork Completed and Parents Contacted, if necessary. (Step 8)

### Girls learn about girl bullying at MLK Charter School

Girls participating in the Girl Scout program at the Dr. King Charter School in New Orleans' lower Ninth Ward, learned steps for handling girl bullying, thanks to funding from the **Joe W. and Dorothy Dorsett Brown Foundation**.



Above, some of the girls pose with Outreach Director Dianne Rose, after completing a survey, and at left, program presenter Kyla Muse and younger girls show off a Girl Scout bag they each received following completion of the program.

### Girl Scout alumna and news anchor Sally-Ann Roberts selected as mistress of ceremonies for Girl Scout fall luncheon

As the Girl Scout organization nears its century mark, Girl Scouts are recognizing the 50 million Girl Scout alumnae its movement has produced, including local WWL-TV morning news anchor Sally-Ann Roberts who will serve as mistress of ceremonies at the Girl Scouts Louisiana East's fall luncheon. The council's annual fall fundraising luncheon is set for Thursday, November 3, from 12 to 1 p.m. at the Audubon Tea Room in New Orleans with a meet and greet at 11:30 a.m. Luncheon sponsors include **Entergy, Lakelawn Metairie Funeral Home and Cemeteries, Little Brownie Bakers, Total Graphics, and Valero St. Charles Refinery.**

Girl Scout alumnae, volunteers, and friends of Girl Scouting are invited to the luncheon which should provide the perfect opportunity to re-connect with Girl Scouting, and hear what Girl Scouts are currently doing in the greater New Orleans community. The luncheon is free to attend, but donations will be solicited. To RSVP, contact Cerise McClendon at (504) 733-8220, ext. 2222, or register online at [www.gsle.org](http://www.gsle.org).



-100 years... Continued from page 1

must bring a non-perishable food item to receive the special Girl Scout admission rate. All attendees will come away with a Maze patch. The Maze website is [www.cajuncountrycorn.com](http://www.cajuncountrycorn.com)

Girl Scouts will have the opportunity to share artistically what it means to be a Girl Scout today, or reflect on our 100 years of Girl Scouting by participating in the council's **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Art Contest**, in partnership with the Ogden Museum of Southern Art. Age categories are 5-8, 9-12, and 13-17, and the top 10 winning artwork in each category will be displayed at the Ogden Museum at an exhibition, reception and awards ceremony on Thursday, January 5, 2012. Deadline to participate is December 1, and entry forms and requirements can be downloaded at [www.gsle.org/100/calendar.asp#art](http://www.gsle.org/100/calendar.asp#art)

**Girl Scouts Louisiana East's Centennial Extravaganza & Carnival** will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2012 at the Lamar Dixon Expo Center in Gonzales! Families and troops are invited to enjoy a carnival of rides, games, and other hands-on activities including learning about Girl Scouting across the years, with interactive exhibits, skits, and demonstrations showcasing Girl Scouting and its achievements from the birth of Girl Scouting in 1912 to present day.

Also part of the extravaganza will be World Thinking Day activities where girls will experience first hand the international sisterhood of Girl Scouting and what membership in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is all about!

We're still working on the price, but tickets will be approximately \$8 per person for the Extravaganza if bought in advance, \$10 per person at the door. Carnival riding bracelet for unlimited riding will cost a separate fee of about \$7 per person, in advance or at the door. Further discounts are available for troops or service unit members who help to develop the interactive historic exhibits or the World Thinking Day displays/activities.

### Champagne, S'mores & All That Jazz

Let the party begin! Join us on Saturday, January 14, 2012, to kick-off Girl Scouts 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year with *Champagne, S'mores & All That Jazz* at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capital Center. You won't want to miss this exciting night of fabulous food, cocktails, and dancing to the sounds of a jazz band. Call your friends and make plans now to begin the New Year with a party you'll be talking about all year long! Tickets are \$50 per person and go on sale November 1. Cocktail Attire.

### Our Girls Our Future luncheon

Girl Scout volunteers, alumnae, and friends of Girl Scouting are invited to attend the council's spring fundraising luncheon on Thursday, March 15, from 12 to 1 p.m. (meet and greet at 11:30 a.m.) at the Lod Cook Alumni Center in Baton Rouge. Corporate sponsors, as well as table captains who host a table of their friends at the luncheon, are needed. The actual luncheon itself is free to attend, but donations will be solicited.

For more information, contact Cathy Pottschmidt at (225) 927-8946, ext. 1238 or [cpottschmidt@gsle.org](mailto:cpottschmidt@gsle.org).

## Donate \$100 and receive our commemorative Girl Scout 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary pin!

Individuals who donate a minimum of \$100 will receive this commemorative lapel pin, which was designed specifically for Girl Scouts Louisiana East \$100+

donors, and will only be available during the 2012 membership year (10/1/11-9/30/12). Individuals who donate a minimum of \$25 will receive a car window decal.



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Supporter  
of  
Girl Scouts!**  
[gsle.org](http://gsle.org)

### Rhapsody in Green gala

What's a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration without a gala?! Please join us for *Rhapsody in Green, A Night of Glitz and Glamour* on Saturday, June 23, 2012, from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. The evening will entail live music, dancing, a silent auction, food, cocktails and much more!

Sponsors to date include **Whitney Bank**, but additional gala and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary sponsors are needed, and we are also looking for volunteers to serve on a committee to solicit silent auction items, work the event, secure sponsorships, and help sell tickets/tables for this exciting event. If you are interested please contact Cerise McClendon at (504) 733-8220, ext. 2222 or [cmclendon@gsle.org](mailto:cmclendon@gsle.org).

### Calling all Girl Scout Alumnae!

The council's 100th Anniversary Media Sponsor, **Clear Channel Radio Baton Rouge**, will be assisting the council in finding former Girl Scouts to join in the celebration. Have a great story to tell on the radio about your experience in Girl Scouting? Contact Cathy Pottschmidt at 225-927-8946, ext. 1238 or [cpottschmidt@gsle.org](mailto:cpottschmidt@gsle.org).

100

## Where do you want to go to celebrate Girl Scouting's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary?

# girl scouts 1912-2012

Girl Scout councils across the country are planning some great events in celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Like the council's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/GSLECouncil](http://www.facebook.com/GSLECouncil) for updates. Just a few events include:

**Bridging in the Next Century, May 25-27, 2012** – Join Girl Scouts and alumnae for a special ceremony on May 26 at Epcot at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. Opportunities to participate in Disney Youth Education Series Programs are also available. Information: [www.disneyurl.com/GirlScouts100](http://www.disneyurl.com/GirlScouts100)

**Girl Scouts Rock the Mall, June 9, 2012** – Be a part of this 100th Anniversary Sing-Along as Girl Scouts from across the country gather at the National Mall in Washington D.C. for a sing-along. Crowds could reach 250,000 at this national event sponsored by the Girl Scouts of the Nation's Capital and Girl Scouts of the USA. Information: [www.gscnc.org/singalong.html](http://www.gscnc.org/singalong.html)

**Southern Sing-A-Long, June 9, 2012** – The Southern Sing-A-Long, held in Ballard Park in Tupelo, MS, is part of the North Mississippi Green Festival, hosted by Girl Scouts Heart of the South and FREE to everyone. Registration opens in January for those who want to order an event patch. Information: [www.girlscoutshs.org](http://www.girlscoutshs.org)

**Centennial Camporee, June 25-30, 2012** – Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia has formed a partnership with the Georgia Garrison Training Center at Fort Stewart to host a National Camporee! Enjoy a range of educational experiences and skill-building activities for girls. Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors may attend the full program. Daisies and Brownies may attend for the day on June 29. Information: [www.gshg.org](http://www.gshg.org)





# Girl Scout Gold Award recipients honored at Governor's Mansion

The annual Girl Scout Gold Award Reception and Pinning Ceremony was held this summer at the Governor's Mansion where ten Girl Scout Ambassadors were honored for earning this prestigious award. The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador can earn, and is received by only a few select Girl Scouts nationwide. Joined by family members and council representatives, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients for 2010-2011 are **Savanna** and **Kate** of Des Allemands, **Jennifer** of Mandeville, **Emily** of Greenwell Springs, **LeAnna**, **Katheryn**, and **Rachel** of Slidell, **Theresa** of Covington, and **Meghan** of Denham Springs. **Rachel** of Slidell was unable to attend.

The reception offered parents, staff, and special guests the opportunity to view displays of each girl's Gold Award project in the dining room and foyer while enjoying refreshments.



2010-2011 Girl Scout Gold Award recipients are, seated, left to right, Katheryn, LeAnna, Rachel, Jennifer; standing, Theresa, Emily, Savanna, Kate, Meghan. Not present: Rachel.

Vice President of Communications and Development Marianne Addy opened the ceremony with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Girl Scout Promise, welcoming honorees and their families along with special guests Karen Profita, President/CEO of Capital Area United Way, Col. Clay C LeGrande Jr. and Lt. Col.

Paul McKeough of the General Troy H Middleton Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars.

"We are delighted to honor these exceptional young women for their outstanding accomplishments in earning the Girl Scout Gold Award," said Addy. "Their passion to make a difference and perseverance in completing this two-year process

is an example of their character and leadership abilities."

According to Addy, the requirements for the Gold Award involve the completion of a combination of interest projects, leadership, career exploration, culminating in a Gold Award service project requiring at least 80 hours of work by each Girl Scout.

Addy was followed by congratulatory remarks made by CEO Jackie Alexander and Council Board Chair Jacquelyn Daniels. In her remarks Alexander described the accomplishments of Gold Award recipients as impressive and unique, noting their courage to pursue difficult tasks and the confidence needed to complete them. Daniels reminded the girls of the opportunities in Girl Scouts that prepared them for leadership in their future, and encouraged them to remain active in Girl Scouts as an adult.

Guest speaker Karen Profita, President/CEO of Capital Area United Way shared that her first public speaking opportunity was as a Girl Scout. She compared the accomplishments of Gold Award recipients who take ownership of their projects to affect change in their community, to adult citizens who take ownership of community problems and work together to make a difference, noting the importance of Girl Scouts to prepare for this responsibility as adults.

Program Specialist Kevin Shipp introduced each Gold Award recipient individually, along with the title of her project, as she was pinned by her mother or troop leader.



Guests and speakers attending the Girl Scout Gold Award ceremony included, seated, left to right, Col. Clay C LeGrande Jr., and Lt. Col. Paul McKeough of the Military Order of the World Wars; and standing, VP Communications & Development Marianne Addy, Capital Area United Way President/CEO Karen Profita, Program Specialist Kevin Shipp, Board Chair Jacquelyn Daniels, and CEO Jackie Alexander.



## Girl Scout Silver Award Highlights

Earning the Girl Scout Silver Award, the highest award for a Girl Scout Cadette, is an outstanding achievement and a strong indicator of a girl's commitment to improving herself and her community. Please join us in congratulating these award recipients!

**Meagan** and **Cara** of Mandeville Troop 31258 sought to encourage younger children to read outside of school by holding an event at their local library. Participants enjoyed various activities and received a bookmark and a free book to start their own library at home. Project advisor was **Kimberly Yahn**.

Girl Scouts believe in being "green" whenever possible. In an effort to reduce the amount of trash being thrown away and ending up in landfills, **Melanie** of Mandeville Troop 31258 convinced her church community to change from using paper towels to hand towels that could be washed and re-used. Project advisor was **Marilyn Malone**.

**Chloe**, **Haleigh**, and **Samantha** of Prairieville Troop 10310, focused their efforts on wildlife preservation at Camp Marydale and the need to educate campers about the camp's native birds. They built bird houses for purple martins, tree swallows and red-headed woodpeckers and

*It's a team effort to install the Purple Martin bird house near Camp Marydale's canoeing area.*

created laminate posters so campers could learn more about the birds. Project advisors were **Kimberly Schwartz** and **Nicole Guerin**.

Others looked to support an organization within their local community. After visiting the St. Tammany Humane Society, **Cara** of Mandeville Troop 30422 decided she could best assist their shelter's adoption program by building durable scratching posts for their cats. Project advisor was **Barbara Cousins**.

**Victoria** of Kenner Troop 40865 helped Hope Lodge by making dinner and providing entertainment for the cancer patients and their families. Project advisor was **Susan Adam**.





# Girl Scout Bronze Award Highlights

Girl Scouts across the council have been hard at work completing their Girl Scout Bronze Award projects, a pre-requisite for earning the Girl Scout Bronze Award, the highest award for Girl Scout Juniors. Please join us in congratulating these Girl Scouts for their commitment to helping others, improving their community, and becoming the best they can be.

## Helping our animal friends

With their love for animals, **Katherine, Imogen, Jacey, Joelyn, Maggie, Angele, Emily, Claire,** and **Katelyn** of Schriever Troop 20522 assisted the no-kill My Heart's Desire Animal Shelter by walking dogs, cleaning cages, and making pet beds and survival kits to be given out as the animals were adopted. Project advisor was **Jeanette Dugas.**

**Margaux, Caroline,** and **Noelle** of Thibodaux Troop 20783 held a pet supply drive for HOPE for Animals and the Terrebonne Animal Shelter, in addition to washing shelter dogs, collecting Mardi Gras beads for HOPE for Animals, and other volunteer activities. Project advisor was **Catherine Diebold.**

**Aimee, Shelley, Rhiannon, Sara, Summer,** and **Cameron** of Denham Springs Troop 10046 developed a presentation on pet safety, disaster preparedness, and pet first aid which they presented at the Blessing of the Pets at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and to their peers at the council's Swing into Spring event at Camp Marydale. Project advisor was **Susan Hazleton.**

## Assisting the elderly, needy, or infirm

With a deep love and appreciation for senior citizens, Prairieville Troop 10040 members **Avery, Claire, Benay, Bailey, Calie,** and **Susannah** created a garden and sitting area for the residents at Magnolia Assisted Living in Gonzales along with painting a glider swing and providing landscape maintenance and enhancements to existing flowerbeds. Project advisor was **Kim Bourgeois.**

Under the guidance of project advisor **Bethany Gex,** Girl Scouts **McKenzie, Kaylee, Alexandra, AnnaClaire, AnnaGrace, Megan, Bailey, Abigail, Emily, Ashton, Elizabeth,** and **Abby**



Prairieville Troop 10040

of Mandeville Troop 30577 selected the Pontchartrain Health Care Centre where they played bingo and made crafts with the residents of the nursing home.

**Katelyn, Karah, Emily, Maddy, Bailey, Katelyn,** and **Ashley** of Covington Troop 32021 "adopted" Village in the Oaks, a local nursing home where the girls planned and hosted many events including a Veteran's Day program, gardening, caroling, making holiday cards, and playing bingo. Project advisor was **Debbie Melancon.**

**Bridget, Celeste, Endia, Elenora, Madison, Jade, Gabriella, Bailey, Chloe, Emily, Julia, Eve, Jamie, Mandy, Madison,** and **Macey** of Kenner Troop 40865 made dinner and provided entertainment for the cancer patients staying at Hope Lodge while undergoing treatment. Project advisor was **Susan Adam.**



Covington Troop 32021

Ponchatoula Troop 30678 members **Cassie, Emily, Faith, Kristen,** and **Savannah** chose to help needy families during the holiday season by holding a toy drive and Santa Claus photo op. Project advisor was Troop Leader **Stacey Lofton.**

**Elexus** of Baton Rouge Troop 10520 wanted to show how "One could make a difference" by holding a clothing drive for the Battered Women's Shelter. Her project advisor was **Regina Thomas.**

## Educating Others

**Alyssa** of Baton Rouge Troop 10420 taught a troop of Girl Scout Brownies the importance of safety, helping the troop members earn the *Safety Sense Try-It*. Her project advisor was **Linda Wilson.**

**Ainsley, Grace, Sophie, Gayla, Jewel, Camille, Claire, Nekita, Elizabeth,** and **Elizabeth** of Baton Rouge Troop 10478 planned a Safety Day event for the Berean Home School at the First Christian Church in Baton Rouge. They created information booths and demonstration areas on personal safety, fire, hurricane, bicycle safety, and first aid, with representatives from the Red Cross, local fire department, and the states' climatology department in attendance. **Angela Pitts** was project advisor.



Baton Rouge Troop 10478

Prairieville Troop 10251

members **Brittany, Georgia, Shardae, Lindsey, Nona, Savannah,** and **Lindsey** planned and led a day of activities to help Girl Scout Daisies and Brownies fulfill requirements for bridging to the next Girl Scout level. The Girl Scouts attending the event earned three badges which included *Healthy Eating, Sports/Games* and *Art to Wear*. Project advisor was **Kristi Oxford.**



Prairieville Troop 10251

**Erynn** of Baton Rouge Troop 10520 wanted to create awareness of alopecia areata, which she was diagnosed with as a toddler. After researching the topic, she presented it to others at a church health fair. Her advisor was **Regina Thomas.**

## Rallying for Cookies

**Alexandra, Cassidy, Cheyenne, Staci, Mallory, Cassidy, Ayriahna,** and **Kailie** of Ponchatoula Troop 31265 organized their service unit's cookie rally, leading various activities for the younger girls. Project advisor was **Rachell Cowell.**

Members in five Junior troops in Gonzales Service Unit 132 got together to plan and lead their service unit's cookie rally. They included: **Caitlin, Maggie, Estephanie, Andrea, Jordan,** and **Raven** of Troop 10103; **Miranda Brown, Alexandra, Danielle,** and **Carmille** of Troop 10340; **Maria, Taylor, Alexas,** and **Bailey** of Troop 10348; **Brianna** and **Kiera** of Troop 10422, and **Aliesha, Delaney,** and **Amber** of Troop 10506. Project advisors were **Michelle, Brenda, Charlene, Ashla,** and **Julie.**

## Helping schools or other youth facilities

Hammond Troop 30505 organized a book drive to help expand the library at Hammond Westside Primary. Members included **Chloe, Hanna, Samantha, Camille, Abby, Jessica, Sharon, Jordan, Kayla,** and **Rachel**, and project advisor was **Leslie Moon**.



Hammond Troop 30505

**Shantrice, Mary, Victoria, Kaitlynn, Rachel, Zeplynn,** and **Laura** of Metairie Troop 40361 spruced up the Cuccia Youth Center, by cleaning the carpets, general cleaning, and painting the walls. Project advisor was **Gloria St. Pierre**.

## Improving camp

To help reduce the mosquito population at Camp Marydale, **Sara, Annabelle, Erina, Bailey, Julia, Catherine, Jordyn, Emma, Carolyn, Lily** of Baton Rouge Troop 10038 decided to build bat houses which they assembled, painted and installed in the trees at Marydale. Project advisor was **Anne Milneck**.



Baton Rouge Troop 10038

## Help us promote Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award Projects ...while they're in progress

Are any members of your troop currently working on a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award project? Help to ensure its success by letting the council's Communications department know what you are doing prior to the event, delivery of the finished product etc. We'd like to help promote your project, and/or have a photographer come to the event for greater visibility of your award project. A photo of an activity or event occurring is always more newsworthy than after the fact. Just send an email to Marianne Addy at [maddy@gsls.org](mailto:maddy@gsls.org) or call her at 800-644-7571, ext. 2226, to let her know what's going on. We're here to help spread the word!

## Community Service



Girls sign and say thanks on picnic table undersides.

Girl Scouts attending the Days of Discovery Day Camp purchased, assembled and then painted two picnic tables for donation to Wurzlów Farms, who allows the Girl Scouts use of their property for many events, including camp.



Members of Brownie Troop 10398 of Port Allen clean up around the River Center in downtown Baton Rouge.

Destrehan Girl Scout Junior Troop 20024 helps out at St. Charles Parish's Trash Bash.



## Meet Santa at Council's Fall Craft Fair!

On Saturday, November 26 (the Saturday after Thanksgiving), Girl Scouts Louisiana East is holding its first Fall Craft Fair at the council headquarters, 841 S. Clearview Pkwy., Jefferson, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. With over 35 vendors, this is sure to be a great event. Sip and Paint will be there helping you paint masterpieces, and DJ Vince will be around for the second half of the day. You will even be able to take pictures with Santa from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., have your face painted, eat a funnel cake, and so much more. **Sew 2 grow, My Fleur De Tee, LLC, Monzon's New Orleans Charms and Jewelry, Ladybug Creations, JBJ Creations, LLC, Cake Face Soaps, Bottle Cap Jewelry, Yum Designs, Designs by Jenn, H Hair Pretties, Eat My Cake, Purpleberry Bowtique, Lucky Nola, Craf-D Lady, Scentsy,** and **Pampered Chef** are just a few of the vendors that are participating. So come on out and pass a good time!

## Tour the Teddy Bear House for Christmas

With over 10,000 teddy bears on display, and 100 percent of all pre-sale tickets benefiting Girl Scouts, the Teddy Bear House in New Orleans is the perfect place for your troop to celebrate Christmas! Located at 1525 Duffosat St. in New Orleans (directly behind the Latter Library on St. Charles Ave.), the Teddy Bear House will be open for one-hour tours.



Tour Dates and Times: Sunday, December 11 (1 to 8 p.m.), Monday, December 12 (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.), Tuesday, December 13 (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.), Wednesday, December 14 (11 a.m. to 2 p.m.), Thursday, December 15 (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.), Friday, December 16 (11 a.m. to 8 p.m.), Saturday, December 17 (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.), and Sunday, December 18 (1 to 6 p.m.)

Tickets can be purchased directly from the New Orleans Council Shop and Reception or by calling Carrie Thomas at 504-733-8220, ext. 2245. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 for children. Children three and under are free. Groups of 15 or more: \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Pre-sale tickets are encouraged. Troops, families, and individuals are all welcome to attend on all dates. Once you purchase your ticket, you may attend on any date/time.

We are looking for 15 volunteers, adults or older girl troops, to conduct tours of the house on Saturday, December 17 and Sunday, December 18. Tour guides should arrive at 10:15 a.m. on Saturday and 12:15 p.m. on Sunday and volunteers can sign up for 3 hour time slots. Please contact Carrie if interested in this community service/volunteer opportunity.

Girl Scout troops of Covington participate in the Keep Mandeville Beautiful Beach Sweep.



# Resident Camp Highlights...



## Camp Marydale



## Camp Whispering Pines



## ...and Beginners Camp at Camp Covington



# Girl Scout Day Camps!

Eight day or twilight camps were held in 2011, thanks to the work of dedicated volunteers and Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors in their communities. The one-week, volunteer-led day camps were held in Covington/Mandeville (Camp Sunshine and Camp Moonbeam), Slidell (Camp Camellia), Houma (Days of Discovery), St. Bernard Parish (Down in 'Da Parish), Patterson/Morgan City (Camp on Da Bayou), Independence (Camp Tangi), and Belle Chasse (Camp Crawfish). If you are interested in volunteering at a day camp in your community next summer, please contact your Membership Executive.



## Days of Discovery



Having a splash!



Teamwork exercises are fun.



The winner of the Songbird spirit stick!



Members of this Daisy unit make their unit flag.



Josie

Richard the pig, Camp Covington's mascot, gets groomed.



## Camp Camellia



Learning to zumba!



Girls create a backdrop for a theatrical performance.

## Camp Sunshine



Campers at Moonbeam hike up the river to the waterfall and swimming hole!



Weaving placemats.



Playing Minute to Win it!

## Camp Moonbeam



Hula hooping fun!

## Down in Da Parish



Representatives from the Coast Guard teach campers proper flag etiquette.



With Girl Sports the day camp theme, these Daisies make sport shaped cookies and slushies.



Girls in Motion at Camp on Da Bayou!

## Camp on Da Bayou



Cadette Devan checks out the fire truck!

## More Day Camps...



Retiring the American Flag.

## Camp Tangi

Challenging the high ropes!



Girls perform a song for the camp.

## Camp Crawfish



## Camp Covington adds archery equipment to activities

Thanks to a \$5,000 grant received from the **Easton Foundation**, Camp Covington now has archery equipment available for Girl Scouts camping or spending the day at camp. The Easton Foundations' aim is to keep archery a viable part of the sporting culture in communities across the United States.



A member of Algiers Troop 40803 practices hitting the targets.



## Troop Highlights



Over Memorial Day weekend, Girl Scout Cadette Troop 31031 from Mandeville went on a five-day troop trip to San Antonio, Texas where they attended a service at the San Antonio de Valero Mission, went to the top of the Tower of the Americas, enjoyed the Schlitterbahn Waterpark, Sea World, the Alamo and a boat tour at the Riverwalk.



Girl Scouts enjoy a spa day, full of pampering and fun.



Members of Metairie Cadette Troop 40957 and Senior Troop 40130 traveled to New York City in July where they spent a week sightseeing, including seeing Mary Poppins on Broadway, and a tour of the national headquarters of Girl Scouts of the USA. Above, the troop poses with national GSUSA CEO Kathy Cloninger.



New Orleans Girl Scouts recite the Girl Scout Promise during a bridging ceremony.



Members of St Pius X Cadette Troop 40821 of New Orleans cool off following their Back to School organizational meeting. Below, members dress up for the annual Girl Scout Tea and Fashion show at Longue Vue House and Gardens.



# Girl Scouts have a BLAST in NASA program

Nearly 100 Girl Scout Juniors and Cadettes from across the council traveled to Slidell in June to participate in a NASA-sponsored educational program. Girls built, then launched their very own rockets, built lunar rovers out of balloons, water bottles, straws, and tape, and designed their own mission patch as they learned the history of space exploration.



*Wintana from New Orleans Troop 40824 starts to make her lunar model.*



*Girl Scout Juniors Heaven and Maggie from Troop 40824 pose with their lunar model.*

## Making a lunar model!



## Double the power...



## Get Set!



*Amy McDowell, an education specialist with NASA in Alabama, helps a participant prepare her rocket for launch.*

## Making a rocket!



*Madalin of Luling Troop 21346.*



## Designing a patch!



*Walker/Watson Girl Scout Troop 10410 show their rockets before launch.*



## Lift off!



## Annual Family Giving Campaign

### We're off to a Great Start!

We're just a couple of months or so into our 2012 Annual Family Giving Campaign, and we're off to a great start with about 15% of our goal met. A big THANK YOU to all the early birds who are giving this fundraiser lots of momentum.

Congratulations to **Service Unit 260 Galliano/Cut Off, Service Unit 442 New Orleans Uptown/Central City, and Service Unit 428 St. Bernard/Arabi**, who exceeded their goal and earned their choice between a Service Unit Encampment at Camp Whispering Pines or Camp Covington or 10% back in donor dollars to be used at the shop. What Service Unit will be next? Will it be **Service Unit 401 Metairie** with 54% of their goal met or **Service Unit 217 St. John Parish** with 53% of their goal met? Many Service Units have Family Campaign events coming up, such as Father/Daughter Dances, Halloween Parties, Fish Frys, Family Picnics, and Variety Shows. Make sure to check out the Service Unit Leader Board to see which Unit in each region is in the lead, which can be found at [http://www.gsle.org/fordonors/waystogive\\_sugc.asp#leaderboard](http://www.gsle.org/fordonors/waystogive_sugc.asp#leaderboard).

No one believes in the potential of a girl more than her family. It is her family who invests in her every day, through guidance, sharing of values, and the moral, physical, and financial support necessary to ensure she grows into a confident, courageous woman. If you haven't made your donation yet, don't forget you can give online at [www.gsle.org](http://www.gsle.org). Look for the oversized DONATE NOW button. It couldn't be easier.

Girl Scouts Louisiana East sends a warm thank you to all of the volunteers who are giving their time to make this a strong Annual Family Giving Campaign. It's not an easy task and we appreciate your efforts.



## Leisure Learning Weekends

Calling all adult Girl Scouts! All Girl Scout adult volunteers registered for the current Girl Scout membership year are invited to participate in any or all of these great learning opportunities. Whether you are a volunteer looking to brush up on skills, or a Girl Scout Alumna who wants to reconnect with camp and make friends, you won't want to miss either of these exciting weekends: November 18 - 20 at Camp Whispering Pines or April 27-29 at Camp Marydale. Links to session and registration information can be found at [www.gsle.org/learning/leisurelearning.asp](http://www.gsle.org/learning/leisurelearning.asp)



Games aren't just for the girls!

## Friends of Girl Scouting

### Donors\* from 5/16/11 to 9/30/11

Marianne D. Addy  
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Wal-Mart Foundation  
Coleman Webb  
Judith R. Yochum  
**\*\$50 and up**

## Girl Scouts in the News

### Adults

Girl Scouts were very much represented among the 2011 Volunteer Activists being honored by the St. Elizabeth's Guild at their annual luncheon in New Orleans.



Judge Melvin and Margie Loud Zeno.

St. Elizabeth's Guild has supported the children of the Archdiocese for almost 40 years. Former board president of the legacy Girl Scout Council of Southeast Louisiana, **Margie Loud Zeno**, former board development committee member **Barbara Turner Windhorst**, former Girl Scout leader **Pat Paternostro**, and Girl Scout alumna **Sally-Ann Roberts**, are four of the 10 who were honored.

Know of a girl or adult Girl Scout who has been recognized in the community? Information may be sent to the Communications Department, Girl Scouts Louisiana East, P.O. Box 10800, New Orleans, LA 70181-0800 for possible inclusion in *Girl Scouts in the News*.

## In Memoriam

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Girl Scout **Savannah Robinson**, age 14, of Slidell, who died in August. She had been a Girl Scout for nine years. Her mother, Angele McKnight, is a long time Girl Scout leader as well. May her family and friends find some peace during this time of grief.

### Pony Up! Sponsors

Lake Rickabear Day Camp - Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey (sponsoring Scout, ending 9/30/11)  
St. Charles Parish Girl Scout Service Unit 216 (sponsoring Apache, ending 7/15/12.)

### Gift in Kind

Baton Rouge Printing  
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### Molding Girls, Making Leaders Society

Jacqueline Alexander  
Peggy T. Armstrong  
Mary Jane and John Becker  
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Martha J. Long  
Pat Mackey  
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Laurence "Laurie" Neeb  
Marguerite Redwine

**Thank you for your support!**

# Connections

Girl Scouts Louisiana East serves the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana. It is funded by voluntary philanthropic contributions, the cookie and fall product sales, fees for services, and the United Way in selected parishes.



## The Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

## The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:  
To serve God and my country,  
To help people at all times,  
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

## The Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be  
honest and fair,  
friendly and helpful,  
considerate and caring,  
courageous and strong, and  
responsible for what I say and do,  
and to  
respect myself and others,  
respect authority,  
use resources wisely,  
make the world a better place, and  
be a sister to every Girl Scout.



## January 20 – March 18 sale dates

As Girl Scouting prepares to turn 100, we are very excited to usher in a new era of the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Our cookie baker is providing new tools and marketing strategies that result in more girls, more customers, and more cookies, making the world a better place.

This year's theme of **What Can a Cookie Do – More than You See** encourages girls to use their cookie money to lead Take Action projects that have more impact than ever before. These are sustainable projects that will benefit the community long after Cookie Season is over.

Girl Scouts will begin taking cookie orders on Friday, January 20. Cookies are \$3.50 per box upon delivery, and are preservative-free, kosher, with zero trans fat

per serving. Cookies will be sold at various booth locations throughout the 23 parishes served by the council March 2 – 18. Both a mobile app and an online Cookie Locator to booth locations will be available during the sale. Service Unit Cookie Manager Training (not troop level) is Saturday, November 12, at the First Community Antioch Baptist Church in Gramercy.

## Become a "smart cookie"

and learn financial literacy through a fun and interactive all day session on Saturday, January 7, at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond. Girl Scout Junior – Ambassador participants will earn some of Girl Scouts NEW Financial Literacy and Cookie Business Badges. Fee is \$5 per girl which covers materials, theme t-shirt, and lunch. Smart Cookie U is underwritten by a grant from the **Credit Union of Baton Rouge Foundation**, and administered through the Baton Rouge Area Foundation. Deadline to register is December 2.



## Help Us Celebrate 100 years of Girl Scouting!



at [www.gsle.org](http://www.gsle.org)

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