



THE PROMISE

June 2009

A Newsletter for Supporters of Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland

We Are One

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Inc. has brought together five legacy councils to serve a total of 68 counties across southern and central Missouri, southeastern Kansas, and northeastern Oklahoma. With a membership of approximately 26,000 girls and adults, we are excited to offer an unprecedented number of opportunities to discover, connect, and take action. Girls now have access to more programs, activities, volunteers, and campsites than ever before.

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is a girl-driven organization, dedicated to helping girls develop the courage, confidence and character that they need to thrive in today's ever-changing world.

Fast Facts

Counties Served:	68
Regional Service Centers:	5
Program Properties:	11

Jurisdiction Map



Mission Statement

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

True Stories of...

Courage

A Girl Scout Daisy saw her father deployed to Iraq this year, and her troop banded together in support. The girls set a goal of sending one box of cookies to each of the soldiers in her father's unit, and exceeded that goal by 110 boxes! The girls helped one of their own remain strong and brave during a scary time, and were able to send a little bit of home to some adults who also had to demonstrate courage this year.

Confidence

A Girl Scout Brownie who was not good at reading was apprehensive when her troop voted to read the Brownie Quest Journey book together. But over time, in the safety and support of her Girl Scout sisterhood, she grew more comfortable. Now, she not only has the confidence to read in front of the group, but she raises her hand to volunteer to read!

Character

A Girl Scout Ambassador originally from Cuernavaca, Mexico attended the Girl Scout Leadership Institute in Indianapolis. She says that she learned a lot from the experience, including "how to take care of myself emotionally, and physically [and] how to accept myself from the inside out, and be proud of who I am and what I've become." After returning from the trip, she declared: "It was an amazing and unforgettable experience that I will never forget, and I will take it with me wherever I go!! [...] I will use my experience as a Girl Scout, by being a leader in my community, and using my leadership skills to share and spread the word to all the girls in my community, so they can become leaders just like me someday!"

Dear Friends in Girl Scouting,

As chair of the Board of Directors, it's my privilege to represent Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland at events throughout our council jurisdiction.

During the past nine months, I've enjoyed many "wow moments" in our council. The first "wow moment" was October 1, 2008, when we came together to celebrate "Day One" of the new council. The second was when we received our charter from Girl Scouts of the USA. Having Naomi Lippin, our consultant from Girl Scouts of the USA, present the charter to us made the moment even more special.



Another "wow moment" occurred March 21 during our Inaugural Leadership Celebration in Branson when we heard guest speaker Jessica Kershner, now in her 17th year as a Girl Scout, describe what Girl Scouting had contributed to her life, and when we saw the tears of joy and surprise in the eyes of our volunteers who received a council award.

The Young Women of Distinction event April 25 in Jefferson City provided more "wow moments." Our 38 Girl Scout Gold Award recipients being honored that day were already making the world a better place through their community projects. Thanks to the generosity of long-time Girl Scout donor Harryette Campbell of Sikeston, Mo., they will be receiving a Girl Scout Lifetime Membership (as will all future Girl Scout Gold Award recipients in Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland).

"Wow moments" are made possible by supporters like Harryette Campbell and corporate sponsors like The Bank of Missouri, Jefferson Bank of Missouri, Elks Lodge # 409 in Springfield, Elks Lodge # 639 in Cape Girardeau, and Elks Lodge # 513 in Jefferson City. They are made possible by friends like you who believe in the mission and future of Girl Scouting.

Thank you for all you do for our girls!

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Tina Stillwell, Board Chair

Dear Girl Scout Friends,

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland has brought together five councils, each with its own regional and corporate strengths, but all with a rich legacy of building girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Throughout the historic process of becoming one strong council, our focus has remained on fulfilling that promise to girls.

We are committed to delivering a high-quality Girl Scout Leadership Experience, so that girls may find their own voices, speak up for themselves and speak out for others. Building leaders is a challenging responsibility in today's ever-changing world, but it's also an exciting opportunity to face the future with an open mind, every single day.



Girl Scouting is the nation's premier leadership development experience for girls. It's a wonderful tradition that has helped over 50 million women become who they are today. Take note:

- 82% of high-achieving alumnae believe that Girl Scouting influenced their success
- 64% of women listed in Who's Who of American Women are former Girl Scouts
- 68% of women in our current Congress were Girl Scouts
- 92% of female astronauts were Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts gain specific knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors through girl-led activities. They learn how to set and achieve goals, and establish values that endure. Community friends like you help strengthen the program that has borne some of the most successful women in the world.

Your gifts ensure the high level of excellence in resources offered by Girl Scout of the Missouri Heartland. You have made an investment in 20,000 girls--for who they are today, and for who they will become. Thank you for your continued support as we move forward to fulfill our promise to girls to help them follow their dreams for generations to come.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Jennifer M. Orban, CEO

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE)

It's a great time to be a Girl Scout! In addition to regional changes in name and jurisdiction this year, Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Inc. is excited to implement the new program model from Girl Scouts of the USA. Leadership development has always been at the heart of Girl Scouting, but the GSLE is a fresh and modern approach to what girls do, how they do it, and how they benefit.

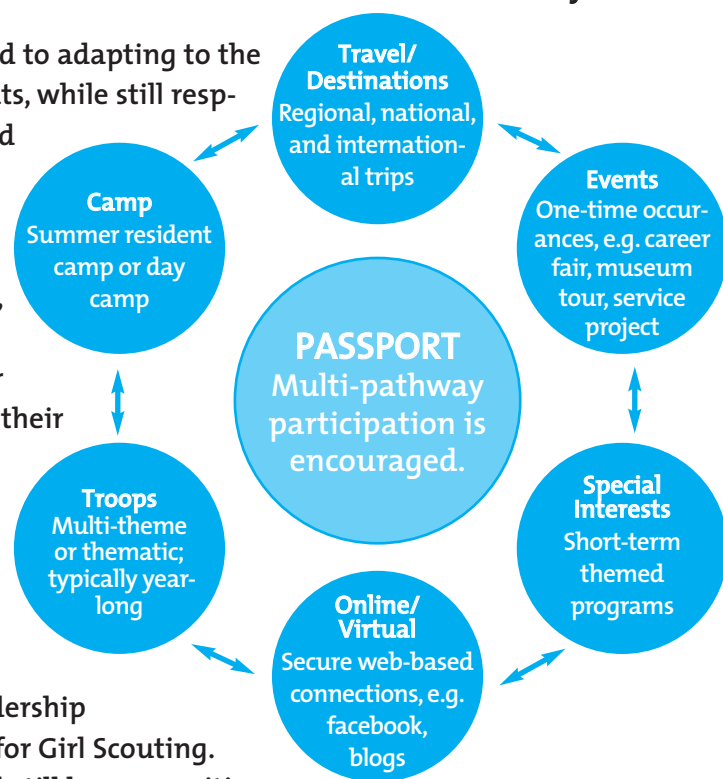
WHAT GIRLS DO (focus of Girl Scout activities)	HOW THEY DO IT (Girl Scout Processes)	HOW THEY BENEFIT (Outcomes)	SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES
DISCOVER themselves and their values, and use their knowledge and skills to explore the world.	GIRL-LED: Girls choose and direct their own activities. LEARNING-BY-DOING: Girls engage in hands-on activities. COOPERATIVE LEARNING: Girls work together as a team.	1. Girls develop a strong sense of self. 2. Girls develop positive values. 3. Girls gain practical life skills. 4. Girls seek challenges in the world. 5. Girls develop critical thinking.	
CONNECT with others, locally and globally, in a changing and increasingly diverse world.		1. Girls develop healthy relationships. 2. Girls promote cooperation and team-building. 3. Girls can resolve conflicts. 4. Girls advance diversity in a multicultural world. 5. Girls feel connected to their communities, locally & globally.	
TAKE ACTION to make the world a better place		1. Girls can identify community needs. 2. Girls are resourceful problem-solvers. 3. Girls advocate for themselves and others, locally & globally. 4. Girls educate and inspire others to act. 5. Girls feel empowered to make a difference in the world.	
		LONG-TERM OUTCOME: Girls lead with courage, confidence, and character to make the world a better place.	

The GSLE encourages girls to not only engage in traditional activities, contemporary discussions, and meaningful service projects, but also in the *process* of leadership. By combining fun and friendship with serious leadership development activities and projects, **Girl Scouting continues to build tomorrow's leaders today.**

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is fully committed to adapting to the needs and wants of the newest generation of Girl Scouts, while still respecting important traditions. This year, girls were offered more one-time programs than ever before, ranging from rappelling and ropes courses to etiquette and self-defense to engineering and star-gazing. Many troops completed the newest resource in Girl Scouting, the Journeys series themed *It's Your World: Change It!*, and were inspired to take action. Girl Scouts across our jurisdiction completed community service projects for their local schools and neighbors, as well as for friends and strangers as far away as India and Iraq.

Girl Scout Pathways

With so many different activities, commitments, and distractions available to girls today, the concept of Girl Scouting has evolved. In addition to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, GSUSA has defined six program pathways for Girl Scouting. Girls may participate in any or all of the pathways, and still have a positive and meaningful leadership experience.



Thirty-Eight Girls Earn Girl Scout Gold Award

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland was excited and honored to have thirty-eight girls earn the Girl Scout Gold Award this year. As the highest award in Girl Scouting, the Girl Scout Gold Award is a culmination of a girl's leadership experience in Girl Scouting. Of the eligible teenage Girl Scouts in the entire United States last year, only 5.4% completed a Girl Scout Gold Award project. Award completion requirements include seven steps and at least sixty-five hours of research, preparation, leadership, service, and evaluation. Each girl must identify a need in her community, locally or globally, and initiate a project that creates positive change and a lasting impact. The project is more than just community service; it encompasses organizational, leadership, and networking skills that girls will carry with them as they begin their college or career path.



Young Women of Distinction, Columbia

Some of this year's projects included "Juliette's Closet" a no-cost lending closet of formalwear, disaster kits for an entire school district and its classrooms, care packages for local shelters and family services offices, and special events for younger Girl Scouts, foreign tourists, and special services departments.

The Girl Scout Gold Awardees were honored at a *Young Women of Distinction* event on Saturday, April 25 in Columbia, MO. They were also recognized, along with thirty-seven Girl Scout Silver Awardees and 121 graduating seniors, at regional *All That Glitters* events in Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City, and Springfield in May.



2009 Girl Scout Gold Awardees

Brittanie Bescheinen	Troop 30801	Fatima High School
Rae Boeckmann	Troop 30801	Fatima High School
Mallory Brown	Troop 40023	Kennett High School
Elizabeth Brueckner	Troop 50085	St. Vincent De Paul High School
Ashley Cochran	Troop 10556	Belle High School
Janelle Cottrell	Troop 10556	Rolla High School
Allyson Counts	Troop 10065	Buffalo High School
Michele Dobbolare	Troop 50120	Perryville High School
Gretchen Elliott	Troop 10556	Rolla High School
Allison Ernst	Troop 50085	St. Vincent De Paul High School
Mercedes Frazier	Troop 20327	NW Arkansas Community College
Rebecca Fryer	Troop 10556	Rolla High School
Georgia Graham	Troop 10556	Rolla High School
Samantha Green	Troop 40167	Malden High School
Kayla Gunter	Troop 10227	Waynesville High School
Julie Hankinson	Juliette	Stockton High School
Calli Haslag	Troop 30801	Fatima High School
Brittany Hastings	Troop 50148	Jackson Senior High School
Alyssa Holland	Troop 10761	Kickapoo High School
LeAnna Jansen	Troop 30801	Fatima High School
Sara Jones	Troop 10065	Buffalo High School
Holly Jones	Troop 40023	Kennett High School
Amber Julian	Troop 50148	Jackson Senior High School
Leah King	Troop 40023	Kennett High School
Evan Martin	Troop 50120	Perryville High School
Candice McIntyre	Troop 40556	Rolla High School
Catherine Meyer	Troop 30542	Helias High School
Lauren Paller	Troop 30542	Helias High School
Megan Ragsdell	Troop 40171	Sikeston Senior High School
Kayln Rice	Troop 10065	Hickory County High School
Laurel Scales Jones	Troop 40023	Kennett High School
Katie Stephens	Troop 50148	Jackson Senior High School
Megan Sutterer	Troop 50085	St. Vincent De Paul High School
Alyssa Thoenen	Troop 30801	Fatima High School
Kelsey Turner	Troop 10065	Buffalo High School
Elayne Varvaro	Troop 30542	Hickman High School
Taylor Wake	Troop 40023	Kennett High School



All That Glitters Receptions, from top: Springfield, Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City

By The Numbers

So far, more than **15,000** girls, ages 5-17, in southern and central Missouri, southeast Kansas, and northeast Oklahoma have participated in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience this year.

Over **2,000** of those girls participated in our outreach programs for at-risk youth, including the *uniquely ME!* Girl Scout/Dove Self-Esteem Program. They learned about loving themselves, taking care of their bodies, and respecting their differences.

Thirty-eight girls earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouting, which focuses on each individual girl's personal journey through leadership skills, career exploration, self-improvement, and service.

More than **4,000** adults supported Girl Scouting as members of Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland. This included troop leaders, co-leaders, program volunteers, product program chairs, and service team members.

Sixteen extraordinary adult volunteers were honored with awards at Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland's Inaugural Leadership Celebration: A Promise to Our Girls for the Future.

Twenty-two girls participated in the Girl Scout Leadership Institute and attended the 2008 Girl Scouts of the USA National Convention in Indianapolis, IN. They attended sessions that empowered them to "live healthy, lead healthy," and heard keynote speeches by Su-Chin Pak, MTV host and *uniquely ME!* spokesperson, Geena Davis, actress and founder of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media, and Marie Wilson, founder of the White House Project and co-creator of Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day.

Girls were offered the choice of **145** camp programs at **four** different resident campsites for summer 2009.

Over **1,600** girls earned the opportunity for a free week at summer resident camp by meeting a 500-box goal during the 2009 Girl Scout Cookie Program.

More than **10,000** girls participated in the 2009 Girl Scout Cookie Program, learning business, financial, teamwork, and organizational skills and contributing to their self-sufficiency as Girl Scout members.

Fourteen older Girl Scouts completed Program Aide Training, learning the skills they needed to mentor the next generation of Girl Scouts at Girl Scout programs and events.

Girls had access to nearly **200** program opportunities to discover a stronger sense of self, connect with others in an increasingly diverse world, and take action to help make the world a better place!

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland Board of Directors

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Please include
Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland
in your estate plan!
Contact Chief Development Officer Laura
Hinkebein for more information
about planned giving.

Imagine a World...

Where girls are confident, secure, valued, and courageous.

Where expectations are high and possibilities are endless.

Where girls believe that being smart and being female are not mutually exclusive.

Where girls are supported and encouraged in taking steps to learn and grow.

Where girls are not afraid to take a stand and take action.

Where you have made a difference in the life of a girl.

Where girls are able to set their own goals, and achieve them without barriers.

Where girls know and protect their values with courage and confidence.

SAVE THE DATE!

15th Annual Girl Scout Golf Invitational

Fore! Network with clients and join your friends in a fun, relaxing day of golf! All proceeds from the 15th Annual Girl Scout Golf Invitational will help girls develop the courage, confidence and character that they need to thrive in today's ever-changing world.

Date: Monday, August 10

Location: Meadow Lake Acres Country Club

New Bloomfield, MO (near Jefferson City)

Time: 1:00 pm tee-off for 4-person scramble

Cost: \$125 per person (includes a round of golf at a premier course, shared cart use, lunch and dinner, beverages, goody bags, and prizes)

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Encourage any golfers you know to enjoy a day of fun in support of Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland! For more information, contact Laura Hinkebein or Renee Trout at 877-312-4764.

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