



THE PROMISE

July 2010

A Newsletter for Supporters of Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland

Girl Scout Pathways



The girls in Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland had a busy year, discovering a stronger sense of self, connecting with others in an increasingly-diverse world, and taking action to

make that world a better place. Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland was excited to see girls actively participate in all six program pathways that the Girl Scout Leadership Experience offers:



Troops: Nearly 1,500 Girl Scout troops met regularly to complete hands-on activities, engage in teamwork, and complete service projects.

Camp: More than 700 girls are registered for summer camp experiences - occurring right now!

Travel: Nine girls traveled to Savannah, Ga. to visit the birthplace of Girl Scouting. In addition, many girls traveled with their fellow Girl Scouts to places like St. Louis, Topeka, and Chicago!

Events: Girls participated in more than 200 program event opportunities this year - archery, theater workshops, sports clinics, and more.

Series: Girls participated in short-term troop experiences and multi-meeting programs like *Uniquely ME!* and the Girl Scout journeys.

Online: More girls than ever before registered for Girl Scouts' online safety pledge and completed online activities for the Girl Scout product programs. Plus, our Facebook and Twitter pages garnered more fans and followers every month!

Trefoil Tea Fundraiser

Attendees at the first Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland's Trefoil Tea fundraiser were awed at the



spectacular view of the skyline from the Tower Club, nestled in the heart of downtown Springfield. They enjoyed a three-course meal of

savories and sweets on tables adorned with china, linens and fresh flowers. Tunes were played on the baby grand piano while a professional photographer took photos. The event was a wonderful relaxing time spent visiting with friends and family. Special thanks to our corporate sponsor, The Bank of Missouri - Springfield, Kappa Delta Sorority and the tea committee, Jane Earnhart, Chair, Lindsey Godfrey and Rose Boswell. Thank you to all for their support of Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland. Next year's tea is scheduled for April 30, 2011, again at the Tower Club in Springfield, Mo.



"I have been provided with many opportunities to grow, even when I did not know it. For as long as I can remember my troop has always given service whenever and wherever needed. This has helped me grow as a caring and compassionate person."

-Girl Scout Senior, GSMH

Dear Girl Scout Donor,

Great things are happening because YOU support the Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland! Do you know that YOU made it possible to provide leadership development, confidence-building, and teamwork opportunities for girls all year long? Here's just a partial list of what you have helped make possible:



- By the time you receive this newsletter, summer camp will be in full force. Girls chose activities like horseback riding, canoeing, hiking, photography, astronomy, water sports, and more. The friends they make and the skills they learn will last throughout their lives.
- A group of our Girl Scouts visited the birthplace of the founder of the Girl Scouts, Juliette Gordon Low, in Savannah, Georgia this summer. Travel is ranked as one of the things that girls love to do best - it's fun, but we know that it's also a valuable learning experience.
- Speaking of travel, many troops have plans to use the summer to participate in lots of fun, new opportunities. This is due in large part to the funds they earned by their participation in the Girl Scout Cookie Program. What a valuable lesson for their future: that you must earn your way in life.
- Service to others is an integral part of being a Girl Scout, and girls this year really came through to help their local and global communities. They sent cookies to military troops, collected canned goods for food pantries, donated money and supplies to help sick children, helped purchase playground equipment for their school, and much more.
- Two girls will travel to Goddard Space Camp in Maryland this summer to learn valuable aeronautical skills. When they return, they will set up a program to train other girls in the valuable skills they learned at Space Camp.

The list goes on and on but I think it's evident that Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is living up to its

mission of building girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Thank you for your support in making these and countless other opportunities available for girls.

Please contact me if you have any questions about your gift and the impact it is making. Thank you for your commitment to girls.

Sincerely,

Laura Hinkebein, Chief Development Officer
Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Inc.
877-312-4764 x1117



"I can help the organization fulfill its mission by volunteering. By being an example and good role model to the girls. By showing them examples of courage, confidence, and character. By being there for them when they need someone. The entire promise inspires me."

-New Girl Scout Volunteer, GSMH

2010 Young Women of Distinction

Congratulations to the thirty-four girls who have earned the Girl Scout Gold Award this year! Girls took action in a wide variety of ways. Their projects ranged from workshops on topics such as leadership, fitness, and faith to restoring local parks, emergency shelters, and homeless shelters. Fewer than 5 percent of all Girl Scouts nationwide earn the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award annually. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, each girl must complete extensive leadership requirements, including thirty hours in a leadership role and forty hours of career exploration. Girls must also complete at least sixty-five hours of research, preparation, service, and evaluation for a project that serves a need in their community, locally or globally.

Thanks to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge #639 in Cape Girardeau and #513 in Jefferson City for purchasing the Gold and Silver Award pins. Thanks also to The Bank of Missouri - Cape Girardeau for their sponsorship of the *Young Women of Distinction* event honoring the awardees and their families. Twenty-five individual donors also honored the recipients of this prestigious award by sponsoring the luncheon for the girls and their families.

A special friend of Girl Scouts, Harryette Campbell of Sikeston, Mo., once again gave every graduating senior



ior Girl Scout who earned her Gold Award a gift of a Lifetime Membership. Harryette was able to attend this year's ceremony

and the girls and their families were quite touched that she would honor their accomplishment in this grand way. Harryette said, "I never did anything that made me feel so good."

On behalf of Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, congratulations to the honorees and thank you to the sponsors of the Young Women of Distinction event. Their commitment to helping promote leadership development to girls in our communities is sincerely appreciated.

**Thank you to our donors for the
2010 Young Women of Distinction event!**

Young Women of Distinction Corporate Sponsors

The Bank of Missouri - Cape Girardeau
BPOE Lodge #639 - Cape Girardeau
BPOE Lodge #513 - Jefferson City

Individual Sponsors

John and Rebecca Cook
Mary Daly
Mary Kay Day
Larry and Linda Dillman
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Wendy Kurka Rust
Patricia Sanders
Denise Stewart
Tina Stillwell
Mike and Terri Tomlin
Debra Ann Tracy
Susan Plagmann Voros
Anonymous Donor

save the date!

Young Women of Distinction
honoring Girl Scout Gold awardees

June 4, 2011
Location TBA

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Financial Literacy

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland has an exciting collaboration with Commerce Bank in Springfield, Mo. In December 2010, a group of women from Commerce Bank will provide the financial literacy program *Making Cents in the City* to all Girl Scout age levels.



Research shows that 90% of women will, at some point in their lives, be financially responsible for themselves. This statistic illustrates the importance of financial literacy education, and Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is pleased to be a part of providing that for girls -- starting at an early age and continuing throughout the formative years of their lives.

In addition to financial literacy and education, Girl Scouts who participate in this program will be exposed to strong female role models and to more non-traditional careers for women. Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is grateful to Commerce Bank for its commitment to financial literacy - and for this exciting opportunity for our girls!

Basket Auction a Success!



Girl Scout troops, service units, and individuals donated "baskets" for a silent auction that was held at the 2010 Annual Meeting. The "baskets" included coolers of summer fun items, pet beds filled with treats for you and your pet, stress relief baskets, and more. The bidding especially heated up over a beautiful Girl Scout quilt with matching pillows! GSMH is very appreciative of those that donated baskets as well as

those that bid generously. Funds from the auction will be used for the financial assistance program to allow more girls to participate in Girl Scouting.

United Ways & United Funds



During times of economic trouble, when critical needs come to the forefront, tough decisions for funding dollars have to be made. United Ways and United Funds understand the importance of youth development programs and their continued support of these programs is a tribute to their holistic approach to serving their communities. Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland appreciates this pro-active position and forward-thinking philosophy.

Through the contributions of community members and businesses to their local United Ways and United Funds, almost 17,000 girls are provided an enhanced Girl Scout Leadership Experience. United Ways and United Funds help to provide partial financial assistance for membership dues, leadership development programs and summer camp fees for girls who cannot afford to pay for these opportunities. Funding also helps provide volunteer training on leadership development, First Aid/CPR, and outdoor and camping skills. It offsets the cost of background checks, which are free of charge to volunteers. Because of this support, girls are guaranteed a safe environment to develop their leadership skills and to just have fun.

The value of partnerships with United Ways and United Funds is more than just monetary; these organizations provide a wealth of knowledge, resources, and community-building among partner agencies. They rally the community together to ensure that the people who need help, services and resources are supported.

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland is proud of its long-standing partnerships with United Ways and United Funds. Together, we have provided thousands of girls the opportunity to develop courage, confidence and character, who go out to make the world a better place!

Property Update

At the June 2010 Board of Directors meeting, a proposal from the council property committee regarding our council service centers was approved. The proposal, which the committee spent more than a year researching and planning, includes selling the Joplin Service Center and leasing a satellite office building in Joplin that will house staff, a retail shop and allow members to drop off paperwork. Additionally, operations for the Cape Girardeau and Dexter service areas will be consolidated. Both the Cape Girardeau and Dexter service centers will be sold and an office building in the Cape Girardeau vicinity will be leased or purchased. It will house staff, a retail shop and also allow members to drop off paperwork.

These decisions were not made lightly. The committee worked on this for 14 months, and both the property committee members and the members of the board of directors understand the emotional aspects of these decisions. Volunteers, parents and girls will continue to have the full support of council services with programs, trainings, assigned membership staff, and council-sponsored programs in these areas. The GSMH Web site will also continue to provide access to the forms, applications, and shop items that volunteers, girls and parents may need.

For a more detailed statement about these changes, please visit www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org (go to "Visitors" > "About Missouri Heartland" . "Property Info." Because there are so many factors to consider - including length of time the properties are on the market, and the purchase or lease of sights that are visible, adequately-sized and safe - an exact timeline is not known. More updates will be posted on our Web site as information is obtained. If you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please email gscouts@girlscoutsmoheartland.org.

"My parents [of the girls] have often told me that they can see a change in their daughters since they have joined Girl Scouts and I can, too."
-Returning Girl Scout Volunteer, GSMH

visit us online!

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland's Web site is www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org.

Be sure to update any old council bookmarks or links to www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org to ensure that you have access to the latest news and updates. We hope you'll visit us often to see all the great things that girls are doing!

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Goddard Space Camp

NASA and Girl Scouts of the USA are committed to inspiring young women to pursue careers in science, technology and mathematics (STEM). In fact, did you know that 11 of the 22 female astronauts at NASA are lifetime Girl Scouts?

Thanks to the generous funding provided by NASA ROSES (Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences), Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland will send two Girl Scout Cadettes and a volunteer to Goddard Space Camp in July 2010. We are very excited about this opportunity for these two girls and for the STEM programming it will bring to girls across our council.

Participants at the camp will complete hands-on activities, including "make and take" projects delivered by Goddard Space Camp scientists, as well as lab tours, Web search assignments, and question and answer sessions. In addition to the astronomy content, the girls will also be trained on how to establish and run a Girl Scout astronomy club, use the robotic telescope, connect with and use the NASA education infrastructure, promote careers in space and STEM fields, and design a thematic workshop with NASA content!



SPOTLIGHT ON...

Girl Scouts Forever Green

During the 2009-2010 Membership Year, Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland has been one of only 36 councils nationwide to participate in a pilot of the *Girl Scouts Forever Green* community action initiative. In 2011, all Girl Scouts nationwide will harness the power of the Movement to engage in a nationwide signature project, making a significant impact on the environment. Girl Scouts will be at the forefront of environmental sustainability, leading schools and communities in using resources wisely.

Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland received funding from Girl Scouts of the USA for its Girl Scouts Forever Green Capstone event in April 2010. More than 200 girls gathered at four program centers - Mintahama, Finbrooke, Latonka and Silver Meadows - for a Girl Scouts Forever Green *Take Action Day*. Projects completed to help beautify the program centers included: Cleaning flower beds, planting vegetable gardens, building recycle bins, painting rain barrels, planting flowers, mulching, and raking trails. The goal for the event was to give a total of 100 hours of service, but our girls gave more than 400 hours!



"Girl Scouts ... helps me learn more about me and how to take care of me. The way it is exciting is I get to see things that I have never seen before. The way it is fun is I get to go every week and do stuff that I never have before."

-Girl Scout Junior, GSMH

Just a Little More...

As a supporter of the Girl Scouts, you have shown that you believe in our mission to build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Our goal is to create a society in which every girl has the opportunity to achieve her leadership potential.

However, to do that is very expensive and more funds are needed. Although you may have already made a donation this year, please consider making a second donation to help make wonderful opportunities available to girls and for supporting the Girl Scout Movement. Thank you for your commitment to girls.

Honorariums and Memorials

Weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations - all are special milestones. If you are looking for a special way to honor someone, make a donation to Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland. Donations can also be made in the form of a memorial. Just send your donation to any service center and let us know the name of the person(s) you would like us to notify that a gift has been made to the Girl Scouts and the honoree's name. The amount of the donation is not mentioned.

Planned Gifts

Do you feel it is important for your assets to benefit others and align with the values you select to perpetuate? Making a gift of cash, stocks, real estate, or life insurance to the Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland allows you to create a legacy that reflects your values.

The beauty of this is that you can help yourself too - especially if you give appreciated assets. There are a

variety of options to consider. Planned gifts may include cash gifts and certificates of deposit, stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares. Other types of planned gifts include life insurance policies, will bequests, collectibles, real estate, and both Charitable Remainder Trusts and Charitable Lead Trusts. The important thing is finding an option that is right for you.

Girl Scouts have the potential to shape our world and make important decisions that will affect us all. Your gift will help ensure that the Girl Scout Mission continues to be fulfilled and that girls will continue to learn and grow through our leadership programs.

If you have included GSMH in your estate plan, please contact Chief Development Officer Laura Hinkebein toll-free at 877-312-4764 x1137 or via email at lhinkebein@girlscoutsmoheartland.org so you may become a member of the GSMH Legacy Circle, the council's planned giving society.



Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland Golf Invitational



The Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Inc. will hold its annual Girl Scout Golf Invitational on Monday, August 9 at the Meadow Lake Acres Country Club in New Bloomfield, MO. Cost is \$125 per person and includes:

- 18 holes of golf on one of mid-Missouri's premier private golf courses
- Shared golf cart
- Range use prior to the tournament
- Luncheon, beverages, and dinner
- Prizes
- Awards ceremony after play

Corporate sponsors include Hawthorn Bank, Central Bank/Central Trust & Investment Company, the Miller Family Foundation, Inc., and N.H. Scheppers Distributing. Additional sponsorships are still available, including corporate, hole, and meals.

Network with business associates or join your friends in a fun, relaxing day of golf! And best of all, proceeds from the golf tournament will support the Girl Scout Leadership Experience for girls in our area. For more information, contact Resource Development Manager Renee Trout at 877-312-4764 x1418 or rtrout@girlscoutsmoheartland.org.

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"Girl Scouting gives my daughter the opportunity to learn and do things at a reasonable price-things we might not otherwise be able to afford."

-Parent of Girl Scout, GSMH

A new look for Girl Scouts!

As we approach the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting in the USA (March 2012), Girl Scouts across the country are uniting to share the new Girl Scout Leadership Experience with as many people as possible. It's no secret to those already involved in Girl Scouts that we are the premier leadership development organization for girls in the country, but we want to make sure that *everyone* knows it.

We are not "cute little girls" or "cookies, camping, and crafts." We are "discovering a strong sense of self, connecting with others in an increasingly diverse world, and taking action to make the world a better place." We already reflect that from the inside, with girls who embody great service and strong leadership.

Now, we're reflecting it from the outside, too, with an updated servicemark (logo) and brand campaign that matches our fresh, contemporary program model and that will help our communities know that we are serious about connecting with and serving the needs of today's girls.



GSMH WISH LIST

- Archery equipment
- Golf cart or "mule"
- Canopies (pop-up style)
- Large upright refrigerator
- Carpet-cleaning or new carpet at service venters
- Backhoe
- Tractor
- Lawn tractor
- Truck
- Van
- Canoe paddles
- Dutch ovens
- Life jackets
- Horse tack
- Office & craft supplies

Please contact the Resource Development Department if you can help!

Want to
Go Green?
Email trout@girlscoutsmohheartland.org
to opt for an e-newsletter
or Website download.

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Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Inc.

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