

GIRL TALK

Spring 2019

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Troop 60972 of Rochester learned brand new carpentry skills while earning their Woodworker Badge.



6th Annual STEM-A-Palooza

275 Girl Scouts explored hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activities with STEM role models at the 6th annual STEM-A-Palooza event sponsored by LAUNCHTech, Optimax, and Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences: University of Rochester. There was endless exploration for girls in computer coding, disassembling the inter-workings of computers, exploring the freezing properties of liquid nitrogen, creating the right chemical mix for the perfect slime, exploring the math skills needed for a career in banking, orange suturing to learn about fixing wounds, and more! 150 local, predominantly female volunteer professionals from various STEM careers facilitated the workstations for girls.



CEO Remarks

We had an amazing time at the 6th annual STEM-A-Palooza! Girls from daisy through ambassador levels had smiles from ear to ear as they discovered different aspects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in new and exciting ways through hands-on activities with local subject-matter-experts. We are moving at the speed of girls and there are many ways for girls, adults, and their families to get involved in Girl Scouts.



Alison Wilcox,
CEO of GSWNY, with
Girl Scout Rylee

The entire community is invited to register for the Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony on June 1, 2019 to celebrate the diligence and brilliance of 56 young women (18 more than last year) who will receive the esteemed Girl Scout Gold Award, the most prestigious award for girls. To earn the award, girls work to make the community and world a better place as they develop a sustainable solution to a societal problem. We are also proud of the 210 girls who earned the Bronze or Silver Award this year to date and we are excited for the hundreds of other projects in progress. The Bronze and Silver Awards are the highest awards that can be earned at either the Cadette or Junior level where girls team up with others to complete a service project that uses their collective special skills and interests to take action and make a difference in the world!

Continued on next page

Girl Scouts are leaders today and tomorrow, and with the onset of spring, girls will soon be living the Girl Scout Camp Life – whether it be troop camping, attending Service Unit camp-outs, or attending one of our Girl Scout summer camps. Guided by supportive adults and peers, Girl Scouts discover the wonders of nature, experience the thrill of adventure, and challenge themselves and one another to reach new heights. These experiences hone their outdoor and leadership skills, inspire them to take action to protect the environment, and reinforce friendships to last a lifetime. And did you know that girls are more likely to enjoy and stay in Girl Scouting when they have the opportunity to be outdoors? I personally encourage all girls to join us this summer and throughout the year for exciting girl-led outdoor and camp experiences.

Lastly, thank you to all of our volunteers, members, donors, staff, parents, and other Girl Scout friends who generously support us. Because of you, our girls are building a lifetime of leadership!

To register for camp, attend the Girl Scout Gold Award celebration, or to become involved with Girl Scouts visit gswny.org.

Community Partner Program Highlight: Girl Scouts go to Neuro School at University of Rochester



Girl Scouts learned about neurology, including brain functions such as visual, cognitive, and tactile perceptions. They also learned about college majors and careers in that field.



Troop 60687 of Churchville made PB&J sandwiches for Open Door Mission for the homeless in Rochester.

Girl Scouts Who Make An Impact by Rylee B., Senior Girl Scout In Troop 10193 from Randolph

In the past 10 years I have been in Girl Scouts our cookie sales have benefited many different areas of our community. I can list numerous areas in which we have used our funds for the betterment of the community. The most impactful ones I would like to highlight are the following:

Community Gardens: we helped fund our community garden behind our public library. We along with sister troops from the area gathered finances and built raised gardens. The gardens housed vegetable plants that produced vegetables that were free for the taking by those in need, free of charge. We also included a floral garden that honored one of our local Girl Scout leaders. Our funds contributed to the purchase of the raw materials to build the beds, the soil, and the plants.

Other service projects have focused on...

School Supplies: organized a drive as well as purchased classroom wish list items.

Rescue Pups and Animal Shelters: helped house and feed animals.

Blessing Bags: provided socks, toiletry items, and small snacks, and bagged them up for distribution for the men's shelter.

As you can see, the Girl Scout Cookie Program is so much more than one might think. It is allowing me to be a go-getter, an innovator, a risk taker, and most of all a leader. Thank you for your continued support of Girl Scouts.





2019 GIRL SCOUT
Gold Award
 CEREMONY

Sat., June 1, 2019: HYATT REGENCY ROCHESTER
 Tickets available at gswny.org



Girl Scouts collect sticks at Camp Timbercrest to make a campfire. Girl Scout Outdoor programs run year-round and Summer Camp runs July to August.

#GirlScoutCampLife

83% of Girl Scout camp alums say their first camp experience was at a Girl Scout camp.

"My daughter always comes home from a week of camp with a more gracious attitude and ready and willing to jump in and help."
 -Camp Timbercrest Parent

REGISTER YOUR GIRL FOR SUMMER CAMP!
FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE!
 SWIMMING · HIKING
 DAY CAMP · HORSEBACK RIDING
 ROPES COURSE · ARCHERY



Time to sign up for summer camp! gswny.org ♦ 1-888-837-6410

Juliette Gordon Low Planned Giving Society

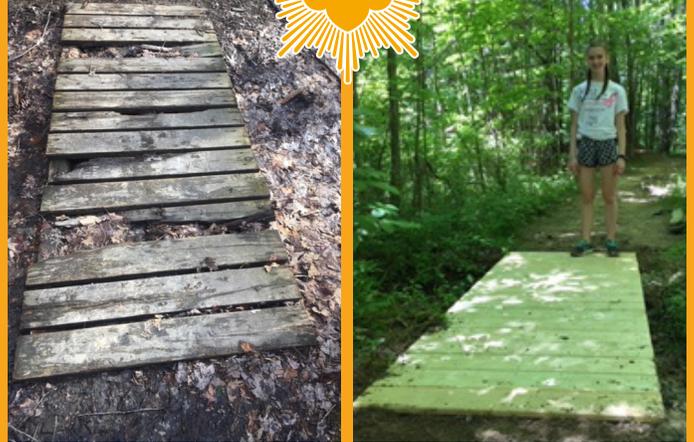
On May 10 and 11, GSWNY was joined by Dianne Belk, the Founding Chair of the Juliette Gordon Low Planned Giving Society. Alongside dedicated volunteers, she and her husband, Lawrence Calder, presented in Jamestown, Buffalo, and Rochester about the importance of Planned Giving and leaving a lasting legacy for future Girl Scouts in our community.

Dianne said, "When we realize our deep appreciation for Girl Scouts, the question isn't why would we leave a legacy gift to Girl Scouts, it was simply, why wouldn't we."

And with that realization, our Juliette Gordon Low Planned Giving Society grew by 16 members in just two days, giving the society a total of 51 members. Our council and our future girls are lucky that we have so many generous and selfless members within our Girl Scouts community. To those of you who have already committed a planned gift to GSWNY, we thank you.

You can read more about our Juliette Gordon Low Society Planned Giving Society at gswny.org.

If you are thinking about leaving a planned gift to Girl Scouts of Western New York, please contact Heather Reed at heather.reed@gswny.org or 716-935-6068.



Eliza's before and after bridge restoration project at Chestnut Ridge Park.

**Girl Scout Gold Award:
 Learn the Importance of
 Safe Hiking Trails with Eliza**

The Girl Scout Gold Award is recognized as one of the world's most prestigious youth achievements. A young woman who earns her Gold Award becomes a community leader by transforming an idea and vision for change into an actionable plan with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. Eliza is an Ambassador Girl Scout in Troop 31056 of Orchard Park and her Girl Scout Gold Award project is called Chestnut Ridge Park: Lower Loop Trail and Bridge Restoration. Her project focused on building and installing two new footbridges to replace broken bridges on the Lower Loop Trail in Chestnut Ridge Park in Orchard Park and restoring the trail area around the bridges. Eliza said "I chose this project because I use the park often. I enjoy running and hiking these trails and noticed the disrepair of the bridges and the impact to the trails and the forest. I wanted to improve the trails for all the people that enjoy the park and help minimize the environmental impact from the people going off-trail because of the broken bridges."



Troop 20292 of Forestville visited the Forestville Fire Hall to learn about fire safety.

**Just a few months from now,
our camps will come alive with
LAUGHTER & ADVENTURE!**

We need help to make this happen for **all** girls who want to attend camp. Financial Assistance to help families send their girl to camp continues to be a challenge. In the past four years, we have **seen an 80% increase** in families asking for assistance. We need your help now!

Please make a gift to the GSWNY Campership Fund today to help send more girls to camp this summer.

Average cost to send a girl to camp for a week:

*\$195 Day Camp
at Camp Piperwood*

*\$350 Resident Camp
at Camp Seven Hills or
Camp Timbercrest*

*The camp counselors
created some
awesome videos!*

*Follow the link below to
see what girls had to say
about Girl Scout camp!*

bit.ly/campinaction

gswny.org/donate

Remember When



Brownie Investiture Ceremony
LeRoy, NY - January 1960



Girl Scouts of Western New York Girl Advisory Board Investiture Ceremony

girl scouts 
of western new york

Batavia Service Center
5 Jackson Street
Batavia, NY 14020

Buffalo Service Center
3332 Walden Ave., Suite 106
Depew, NY 14043

Jamestown Service Center
2661 Horton Road
Jamestown, NY 14701

Lockport Service Center
5000 Cambria Road
Lockport, NY 14094

**Niagara Service Center
(Satellite Office)**
1522 Main St., Suite 307
Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Rochester Service Center
1000 Elmwood Ave., Door 9
Rochester, NY 14620

gswny.org
1.888.837.6410



Save the Dates

2018 Gold Award Ceremony: Sat., June 1, 2019
**GSWNY Service Centers and Shops closed for a
Staff Development Day:** Tue., Aug. 13, 2019

Check out the Program Guide at **gswny.org** for
details and more upcoming programs!