

GIRL TALK

Spring 2021

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Randolph Troops 10221 and 10291 made Silver and Gold Puzzle piece Swaps (little items to exchange with friends, usually pinned on uniforms or hats). They sang songs, and talked about cookie program goals and dates.



Soar in the Outdoors: Camp Property Update Highlights

With the help and support of GSWNY’s donors, many investments have been made to enhance GSWNY’s beloved camp properties to provide high quality outdoor experiences for girls, adults, and the community. View just some of the projects below.

Camp Seven Hills:

- New Bat Houses & Door Funded By Great Escape
- Goats to Battle Invasive Species Naturally
- New Underground Waterlines
- Pool Repainted
- New Unit (Name coming soon!)
- Pine Hollow Stained



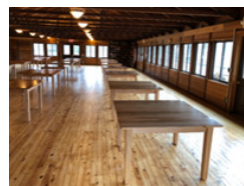
Camp Windy Meadows:

- Renovated Vanderburgh lodge
- New Butterfly Garden as part of a Girl Scout Gold Award Project
- History Display Cases



Camp Timbercrest:

- New Boiler and Water System
- New Target Range
- New Primitive Camping Spot
- New Floor in Bellinger Lodge
- New Outhouse



Camp Piperwood:

- New Challenge Wall
- New Splash Pad Waterline
- New Anne and Jennifer Kitchens
- New Dumpster Enclosure



CEO Remarks

Thank you to our wonderful donors and volunteers! You help to power amazing experiences for girls to pursue big ideas, and to build a lifetime of leadership.

I am so moved by your deep commitment to our girls – because of you, we are able to make a lasting impact in girls’ lives. We are so proud that through the pandemic and the challenges of the past year, Girl Scouts has continued to be able to provide opportunities for girls and volunteers to experience the sisterhood, connections and adventures of Girl Scouting.

Girl Scouts are leaders today and tomorrow, and with the onset of spring, girls are leading the way as innovative business leaders through their in-person, virtual, and drive-thru booths with the Cookie Program and girls will soon be experiencing “Endless Summer Adventures” with our summer camp programs.



Alison Wilcox,
CEO of GSWNY

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Whether it be troop camping, attending Service Unit camp-outs, Girl Scout summer camps or family and alternative camp programs - 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.

We know how important our program is for girls, and we need your help. Do you know a friend, colleague, or family member who may want to lead a troop or volunteer with Girl Scouts? If so, please have them contact us at gswny.org or call 1.888.837.6410 and make a difference in the life of a girl today. Thank you for your continued support of Girl Scouts.

-Alison Wilcox

Badge-in-a-Box

1,464 boxes have been purchased since the individual girl Badge-in-a-Box effort began in mid-August. Through Badge-in-a-Box girls can explore exciting badge activities at home like:

- **Daisy:** Cookie Express (Count it Up Leaf), Outdoor Art Maker
- **Brownie:** Cookie Express (Meet my Customer), Senses
- **Junior:** Cookie Express (Savvy Shopper), Independence
- **Cadette:** Special Agent
- **Senior:** Space Science
- **Ambassador:** Programming Robots
- **Cadette, Senior & Ambassador:** Think Like a Programmer Journey and Take Action Award
- **All Levels:** Democracy Badges (See page 4!)

Also exciting is the Girl Scout Journey, offered to help girls meet pre-requisites to earn the Girl Silver or Gold Awards.



Girl Scouts Who Make an Impact: Girl Scout Troop 60434 Defies Stereotypes

Girl Scout Troop 60434 of Webster earned their aMuse Journey by discussing common stereotypes. The troop learned they have a very independent and diverse group of girls with lots of different interests, many of which are contrary to traditional stereotypes. For their Take Action project, they decided to make a video to share some of their interests with younger girls to encourage them to follow their passions. After all... girls can do anything!

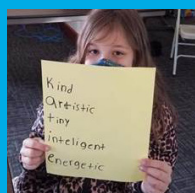


Community Partner Highlight: United Way of Southern Chautauqua County

UWSC supports the Girl Scout Leadership Experience



Troop 20262 of Falconer and surrounding areas at their socially distanced monthly meeting working on the Agent of Change Journey and Badge. They identified traits/skills that they possessed using their name as a guide. Katie proudly shares her results: **Kind, Artistic, Tiny, Intelligent, Energetic.**



Their Annual Cupcake Competition was successfully adapted to COVID-19 safety guidelines!

THANK YOU United Way of Southern Chautauqua!

Lifetime Member Challenge presented by Christine Kirwan

At the end of 2020, Christine Kirwan wanted to celebrate her 50th birthday and help her community of Girl Scout sisters at the same time. She decided to pose a challenge to GSWNY's Lifetime Members. Christine and GSWNY held a campaign aiming to provide 50 girls with Girl Scout Memberships.

Christine wrote a letter to our Lifetime Members asking for help: If they would help support 50 girl memberships, Christine herself would match that and provide membership costs for another 50 girls, totaling \$2,500 raised.

At the end of our two month challenge period, we had 79 Lifetime Members answer our Challenge! Christine and our Lifetime Members who participated raised a total of \$5,550! Together they provided memberships to 222 Girl Scouts across our Council.

A huge thank you to Christine Kirwan for her inspiring idea, and to our Lifetime Members who heard her call and helped our girls!



Highest Awards Highlight: Girl Scout Silver Awards

Check out these amazing Girl Scout Cadettes who flexed their leadership muscles by doing research and taking action on issues of their choice to earn the Girl Scout Silver Award.



Olivia F. of Franklinville Troop 10045 built a free library.



Jaeden and Jewel of Lockport Troop 70245 educated girls on "Drug Abuse Prevention."



Photo is pre-COVID

Madison and Johnica of Lancaster Troop 37102 educated the community on "How Dogs Senses Differ from our Own."



Anna W. also of Troop 37102 earned hers by packing one-gallon bags with one month of menstrual care supplies for those in need.

HOMETOWN HEROES PROJECT



The Girl Scout Cookie Program® is the largest girl-led business in the world.



Girl Scouts of Western New York (GSWNY) is undertaking our second cookie season in the midst of the pandemic. But tough times are no match for the resilience of our girls and the commitment of our community! That is why GSWNY is proud to introduce the Hometown Heroes Project – a chance for local businesses to help our girls reach their entrepreneurial goals AND thank local heroes and essential workers. Companies will have the opportunity to choose from four cookie Sponsorship levels and have the corresponding cookie donation delivered to heroes across WNY.

Your support of our girls is crucial during a time like this. To show our appreciation, we are offering a robust press kit for each Sponsorship level of the Hometown Heroes Project. Each kit is packed with ways to showcase your support of our girls and heroes - on your website, social media, and beyond. Most important of all, your donation represents your company's investment in our girls and their success! The greater your investment, the greater the impact you'll have for our girls and our Hometown Heroes.

We invite you to join in GSWNY's effort to make our corner of the world a little brighter.

- Toast-Yay Tier: \$5,000 = 1,000 packages**
- S'mores Tier: \$2,500 = 500 packages**
- Shortbread Tier: \$1,500 = 300 packages**
- Thin Mint Tier: \$500 = 100 packages**

For more info visit: bit.ly/gsheroes

To become a Hometown Heroes Sponsor, contact Tia Dabney, GSWNY Development Coordinator – Corporate Partnerships, at tia.dabney@gswny.org or 1-888-837-6410 x6078.

Another way to support your local troop in our 9-county council is with our nifty Girl Scout cookie finder app! Now through March 28, 2021, go to www.girlscoutcookies.com and enter your zip code to find a nearby cookie booth **OR** to have cookies shipped directly to you.



Camp: Experience Endless Summer Adventures with multiple in-person, virtual, and hybrid summer camp options to choose from. Girl Scout Camp is the place to be this summer. Financial aid is available to all WNY girls. Register today at gswny.org.

Democracy Badges & What Girls Have to Say



With our newly released Democracy Badges, Girl Scouts from Daisies to Ambassadors will be prepared to lead positive change in their communities and be the change-makers of the future. For a limited time during February, girls and troops were able to download the Democracy Badge booklets for free. With this support, girls learn about their federal, state, and local governments, including how their elected officials make decisions and how they—girls—can make a difference in their communities and the

country.

McKenna, Jazmyrn, Hannah, Aliceson, and Zaporah – Girl Scout Seniors in Troop 20029 of Jamestown ran a meeting for the Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes of their troop. They had a virtual meeting to brainstorm and work through fun ways for their sister Girl Scouts to experience and learn about democracy, women’s suffrage, debate, and voting.



What Girls Have To Say

Recently, a record number of women ran for public office with many firsts of women being elected –when asked, girls provided feedback on what this meant to them and here are just some of their amazing responses:

“It means that lots of girls can run for president!”

– Naima, Daisy Girl Scout of Amherst Virtual Troop

“I feel very proud of the women paving the way for our generation! It is so great to see more women and more diversity in our elected officials.”

– Zaporah, Senior Girl Scout of Jamestown Troop 20029

“It means that there is a future for me as a girl to be a part of something bigger. I know girls can be what we want to be but with talking to my mom I also know there are obstacles that come with choosing a job where mostly men work. I hope that times change by the time I am old enough to have a job and more women are working in higher positions.”

– Errynn, Brownie Girl Scout of Avon Troop 50105

“I can follow my dreams.” – Gia, Brownie Girl Scout of West Seneca Troop 30125

“It means that women are finally getting the power they deserve.”

– Isabella, Senior Girl Scout of East Rochester Troop 60871

Remember When



2017 Closing Campfire at Camp Timbercrest

Save the Dates

GSWNY Service Centers and Shops closed in observance of Memorial Day: May 31

2021 Gold Award Ceremony: June 5

Juneteenth: June 21

Check out gswny.org for details and modified business hours.



Olmsted Girl Scout Troop 30134 visited Tiffy Nature Preserve. They enjoyed a winter hike accompanied by deer, chickadees, nuthatches, and cardinals.



Girl Scouts participated in the Intermediate Winter Camping program at Camp Seven Hills Lakeside and camped overnight in the snow in a tent!



Our Buffalo office/shop has a new location!

girl scouts
of western new york

Batavia Service Center
NEW BATAVIA LOCATION
COMING SOON!

Buffalo Service Center
4433 Genesee Street, Suite 101
Buffalo, NY 14225

gswny.org
1.888.837.6410

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