Council’s Own Patch Program

WNY White House Connection

Junior Girl Scouts (grades 4-5):
Complete 6 requirements, including numbers 1 - 3

Cadette/Senior/Ambassadors Girl Scouts (grades 6-12):
Complete 7 requirements, including numbers 1 - 3

The patch is designed to enhance the awareness of Buffalo’s presidential history. The patch is available for purchase in our GSWNY shops or online at gswny.org/shop

1. Learn about U.S. presidents with connections to Western New York: President Abraham Lincoln, Millard Fillmore, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, and Theodore Roosevelt. Research one important event from each president’s administration and share what you learn with your troop.

2. Who was Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood? What was her connection to Western New York; Washington, DC; and to the White House?

3. Visit one of the following historical sites in person or virtually: The Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site (on Delaware Avenue) trsite.org or The Millard Fillmore House (in East Aurora) aurorahistoricalsociety.com/pages/millard-fillmore-presidential-site

4. Read the story of Abraham Lincoln and Grace Bedell of Westfield, NY. If you met the U.S. president, what advice would you give them?

5. Write a story, song, and poem or create a picture or diorama about an incident that happened to Millard Fillmore, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, or Theodore Roosevelt while they were in Buffalo.

6. Create the front page of a newspaper describing a significant event in Buffalo history that involved Millard Fillmore, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, or Theodore Roosevelt.

7. What fashions did women wear during Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood’s time? What would she have worn to court? Create a Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood paper doll with at least two outfits.

8. Find out who Walter Washington was and what his connections were to our Nation’s Capital and to a city in Western New York.

9. Create a campaign poster to support your candidate. Imagine campaigning for Millard Fillmore, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, or Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood.

10. Create a travel guide to at least four historical sites in Western New York relating to Millard Fillmore, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, and Theodore Roosevelt (including those sites no longer standing). Be sure to include a map.

11. Read the biography of Millard Fillmore, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, or Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood. Share what you learn with your troop.

Additional Resources:
- Millard Fillmore Presidential Site | Aurora Historical Society
- Abraham Lincoln meets Grace Bedell
- Abraham Lincoln's Letter to Grace Bedell
- Belva Lockwood | National Archives