



Girl Scouts®

CORPS

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Girl Scout Corps Update

The Girl Scout Corps has had an exciting time this past fall, with fifteen programs up and running in apartment complex's, after school programs and partnerships with other youth organizations.

We have continued the development of service learning opportunities with colleges, as well as the development of partnerships. Several programs and volunteers have been highlighted in this newsletter for you to share in their experience volunteering with the Girl Scout Corps.

Take a moment to consider what you have to offer the girls being served through the Girl Scout Corps. The Girl Scout Corps is a path to volunteer long or short term. There are many opportunities waiting for you, as well as an older girl scout troop. For additional information please contact Toni Aclaro, 800-447-4475 ext. 114 or email taclaro@girlscoutsnorcal.org!



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Deidra Alexander Girl Scout Corps Volunteer

I am a student at San Francisco State and volunteered through their Community Involvement program. My opportunity was so wonderful with Girl Scouts. I actually learned a lot of great information during the troop meetings and on a field trip. I learned about many of the great species that live in our bay. While working on my task I realized the powerful impact and instant respect the Girl Scouts have in the community. This experience has made me feel empowered and confident. I know one day I will start my own troop. The council staff were so wonderful, helpful and kind during the four months I volunteered. I would recommend this volunteering opportunity to everyone.



“ Do not follow the path may lead. Go instead where there is not path and leave a trail.”

“Nothing is wasted that makes a memory.”



Message from Michelle McCormick

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This is the time of year that many people make resolutions for the New Year. They have a grand plan to change something about themselves—do more of this, do less of that. They are inspired by a fresh new calendar going up on the wall ... and the thought of swimsuit season only being 20 weeks away! Wouldn't it be great if we could get more and more people thinking about volunteering as their New Year's resolution?!

If your list is anything like mine, it includes things to do to stay healthy and happy. Working with a group of girls who really need your time and attention can be a huge boost to your health and your happiness.

Keeping up with active girls who want to go places and experience new things will certainly keep you in shape.

And when a room full of girls burst into laughter, you know you really are experiencing the best kind of medicine for anything that ails you.

Some time ago, a great list of things to do to live a happy life was passed on to me. All of the actions on the list are also what it takes to be a great Girl Scout volunteer.

**Think Deeply ... Speak Gently
Love Much ... Laugh A Lot
Work Hard ... Give Freely
And Be Kind**

Being a role model to a group of young girls, taking girls on a new adventure outside their community,

and strong women really isn't as hard as some of the items on your resolutions list.

Committing to just a few hours a week to change the world, through changing the life of just one girl, should really be at the top of the list for everyone.



*Michelle McCormick
Chief Program & Membership Officer
Girl Scouts of Northern California*



**“Nothing can be
done without hope or
confidence.”
- Helen Keller**

This Month in GIRL SCOUT History

February 1914

The trefoil design for the membership badge (pin) is patented.

February 1919

Jane Deeter Rippin becomes National Director.

February 1927

The first Thinking Day is celebrated. In 1926, the mutual birthday of Sir Robert and Olave Baden-Powell was designated a day of celebration in which Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world think of each other, circling the globe with a chain of thoughts of international friendship and world peace.

February 1956

Our Cabana, in Mexico, the third WAGGGS world center and the first world center in the Western Hemisphere is dedicated by the World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell.

February 1965

The Brownie Girl Scout Handbook is published in Spanish. It is also translated into Japanese and produced by the U.S. Army Ryukyu Islands for the use of the Ryukyu Islands Girl Scouts.

February 1980

In *Praise of America*, a Girl Scout exhibition of American decorative arts, opens at the National Gallery



The Season of Giving ~ Crossroads Service Unit

The Girl Scouts of Crossroads Service Unit spent the day Saturday, December 5th, sponsoring a holiday party for girls in our Outreach Programs in Richmond.

The partnership between the Creekside Service Unit and the Girl Scout Corps was born. The Girl Scout troops took the program on with full gusto. Troops stepped forward and adopted all forty-three families, providing each child with two gifts off their wish list. Troops also adopted a family and provided \$20 grocery gift cards for a holiday meal. All the items were dropped off and accounted for by Fiona Parken, whose front room looked like Santa's workshop as the piles grew during the end of November. Crossroads Service Unit agreed to cover all the expenses of the holiday party for all the families to attend at no cost, as well as socks filled with candy for each child.

Individual volunteers took on different aspects of the party. Two girls from Troop 30986, Olivia Brown and Sophia Thompson, eighth graders at



Mrs. Claus

Hart Middle School, stepped forward and organized all the crafts and activities. These activities included fleece pillows, fleece scarves, photos with Mrs. Claus, bookmarkers, candy cane crafts, frame making and refreshments. McKenna Pryn, an eighth grader at Pleasanton Middle School, agreed to coordinate the collection of food and preparation of food baskets for every family. She

collected over 740 items which were beautifully arranged in colorful baskets for each family. These three girls acquired leadership hours towards their Silver Award project. Cindy Williams, a parent from Troop 30986, made arrangements for the donation of backpacks and school supplies for every child. Sarah Williams, a Senior Girl Scout, donated fleece blankets, which were made as part of her ongoing Gold Award project.

Seventeen older girls from two troops - Troop 30986 (Pleasanton) and Troop 32869 (Dublin) and many adults arrived in the city of Richmond and volunteered their time to ensure "The Season of Giving" was special for some very happy families.



Holiday Gifts, Craft Activities, Backpacks & School Supplies





Words from our Leaders, the Heart of Girl Scout CORPS

Janelle Rose

Council Outreach Director

Working with volunteers in the outreach division is a rewarding experience. The outreach goal is to give girls a Girl Scout opportunity who would not have the experience due to lack of volunteers in their area. Working with volunteers allow open doors to every girl everywhere. For outreach girls, having volunteers means endless opportunities and life changing experiences. The volunteers in at-risk neighborhoods are giving girls a positive role model, as well as enriching their lives. The outreach groups in the Richmond area worked on "Green by Nature" this fall an environmental program through Girl Scouts.

Nicole Jones

Council Outreach Director

Outreach is the smiles on the faces and the laughter from the girls who are having fun participating in our programs—especially in a time when most of the centers are closing down and after school programs are going away. I enjoy when I walk into the room and I see their eyes light up, knowing that it is Girl Scout time and they are

Eden House Troop 37078



ready and thirsty for us! "Oh here comes Ms. Nikki" or "It's Girl Scout time." I enjoy knowing that I and my Corps volunteers are making a difference in the lives of these girls. The opportunity to help cultivate a thirsty, eager mind and heart is

Amanda Brice

Girl Scout Corps Volunteer

I have been working with Girl Scouts since my senior year of college at Sonoma State University. The girls have taught me so much about the leader I have become, patience, how to calm the excitement of a rainy day and what effective teamwork looks like. My touching moment was when one of my girls, after a field trip to the Jelly Belly Factory, told me this was the "Best Day of My Life!", then proceeded to share with me her worst. The programs that our group completed this year were Science Sleuth, Sew Simple, Girl Scouting in the USA and House on Mango Street Patch Program. We are currently working on the Junior Journey pathway, "Get Moving". I will absolutely continue volunteering for the Girl Scout Corps. I love what I'm doing! Pictured is Troop 16012 on their field trip.



Jeanell Ingram

Girl Scout Corps Volunteer

I Love Being A Girl Scout

I love being a Girl Scout
It is so much fun
There's nothing better
Under the sun
I love being a Girl Scout
All day long
We laugh, joke, play
And learn new songs
I love being a Girl Scout
It's so cool
I was a Girl Scout
Since grade school
I'll be a Girl Scout
All my life
I was a Girl Scout before
I was a wife
I love being a Girl Scout
And you would too
There's just so many
Things to do
I love being a Girl Scout
Cookies, earning badges
Getting dressed in my uniform
Knee socks and sashes
I love being a Girl Scout
As you can tell
Or you might think it's corny
But you know what? "Oh well!"
I love being a Girl Scout
That's all I can say
I'll be a Girl Scout
Any old day!
I love being a Girl Scout
There is nothing neater
I was a Girl Scout
Now I'm a Girl Scout Leader!

... "I am too cool for school, but I'm never too cool for Girl Scouts"
~Adriana 7th Grade



Upcoming Programs Looking For Volunteers

Cragmont Elementary Berkeley

This is an after school program running 3:30-4:30 pm on Friday, February 19th, Friday, March 19th, and a field trip on Friday, March 26th, from 3:30-5:30 pm. The Art of Nature program is being delivered at this site. The program includes learning how the green movement applies to everyone, across cultural and economic lines through nature photography and creative reuse. Some of the fun activities will be making art projects with beans and nature prints from recycled materials.

Spring Break San Francisco

San Francisco Spring Break Green by Nature Day Camp will be from March 29th-April 2nd. This program will be serving K-6th grade, completing a boat building program. Day camp time will be 7:30 am to 5pm.

Spring Break South San Jose

9th. Serving girls K-4th grade as they experience a different adventure each day! With science day, make-believe day, camp skills day and fun with friends scrapbooking, there is something for everyone!

After School Program Fairfield

A self-esteem program on Wednesdays for 2nd & 3rd graders 1:00-2:00 pm and 4th & 5th graders 2:15-3:15 pm. We have all the supplies to run the program so come out and assist!

Girls Go Tech Oakland & Fairfax

Power It Up!

March 29th from 8:30-4:30 pm at the Council Office in Oakland. Girls 4th-8th grade will learn what it takes to be electrifying with this one-day workshop.

Spring into Technology

April 12th-April 16th from 8:30-4:30 each day. Join us for one or all five days at Camp Bothin in Fairfax. Girls K thru 8th grade will be exploring astronomy, design, sustainable building and electricity at this day camp.

Green Design Workshop

April 24th from 8:30-4:30 pm at the council office in Oakland. Girl 4th thru 8th grade will connect with other designers to design, build and even certify their own sustainable doll house.

Design Workshop

May 28th from 8:30-4:30 pm at the Council Office in Oakland. Girls 4th thru 8th grade will discover what designing and engineering are really like. The girls will prototype their own toy!

Note!

After School Program Menlo Park

Girl Scout program is being served at the Menlo Park Boys and Girls Club. They meet every Tuesday 4:30-5:30 pm with 27 girls from 2nd thru 5th grade. We have a volunteer looking for assistance with this program.

The Green by Nature program is

John Muir Elementary San Francisco

For information about these or other Council opportunities, please contact
Toni Aclaro
800-447-4475 ext. 114
or email
taclaro@girlscoutsnorcal.org

Parker Elementary School Oakland

An after school program on Fridays from 2:30-4:00 pm. Serving girls in 4th and 5th with the "Girls Go Tech" program.

Franklin Rec Center Oakland

and times!

How many lives are touched by one act of kindness?