



NEWS RELEASE

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A Family Tradition of Girl Scout Camp

August 21, 2009 (CAMP ARCHBALD, SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PA) - Family traditions are the glue that binds families together. It might be a favorite Thanksgiving recipe passed down through generations, or a must have bedtime story. But for Renee Captor of Syracuse, New York, the family tradition is a Girl Scout camp in the Endless Mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania.

Camp Archbald, located in Kingsley, Susquehanna County, is the second oldest Girl Scout camp in the country. Founded in 1920, it is now owned and operated by Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania. Archbald is one of 12 beautiful outdoor program facilities located within GSHPA's 30 counties.

Originally from the Scranton area, Captor spent summers from 1966 to 1975 at Archbald as a Girl Scout. "My summer highlight was always camp," said Captor. She even worked as a kitchen girl for part of the summer of '75. "My mom went there, my aunt went there. It was obvious I would go there."

Captor's mother spent summers at Archbald in 1943 and 1944. Her aunt was a camper there in the late 40's and 50's, eventually becoming a counselor. So when the time came to choose a camp for Captor's daughter Daliah, there really was no choice. Daliah was just six years old the first time she attended Archbald. And while some told Captor they thought she was too young for such overnight trips, the Girl Scouts knew otherwise and provided a safe home away from home for her.

Daliah loved her first experience at camp and has returned for the past eight years. This year, she got to experience the Susquehanna Canoe trip, a trip Captor took herself in 1974. "Camp created lifelong lessons in canoe and water safety, memories I passed down to my daughter. I still go out [on the water] with friends."

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Daliah has even recruited other New York Girl Scouts to attend Archbald and Captor says they're looking for a fourth generation of campers in their family, when Daliah has kids of her own. "We hope Camp Archbald keeps providing amazing summers for girls for another 89 years!"

An amazing summer just wrapped up at Camp Archbald for Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania. More than 660 campers participated in summer programs there. That's about a third of all campers at GSHPA's 12 properties.

"Camp is much more than eating s'mores and singing around the campfire, said GSHPA's Northeast Regional Director Rachel Miletto. "This summer, camp was a place where 2,020 Girl Scouts across the Council learned about themselves and the world around them, became more independent and gained self-confidence, and tried new things while expanding their horizons."

Captor hopes to expand the horizons of other Girl Scouts, by donating money specifically to Camp Archbald to help girls who need financial assistance to attend camp. She said if it helps one or two girls have experiences like she did, it's worth it.

Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania serves 27,000 girls in 30 counties in central and northeastern Pennsylvania. To learn more about our programs or to donate to camp, please visit www.gshpa.org.

Picture attached.

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August 8/13/09 Schoonie Lawn – Camp Archbald
(Left to right: Daliah Greenwald (camper 2002-date), Patricia Farrell
Captor (camper- 1943-1944), Renee Captor (camper 1966-1974, "kitchen girl"
1975).