



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Thomas Schaeffer
Communications Manager
1.800.692.7816
tschaeffer@gshpa.org

2011 Annual Meeting a Huge Success

April 30, 2011 (GSHPA Council Wide) Nearly 300 council delegates, volunteers and staff members met at satellite locations across our council's 30-county service area on Saturday, April 30, 2011, for the fourth annual Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania Annual Meeting. This year, for the first time, the annual meeting was facilitated via videoconferencing technology, which allowed more members from various areas throughout our council to attend the meeting without making a long drive to one central location.

Videoconference sites were set up in York, State College, Williamsport, Hazleton and Scranton, where attendees were able to see and hear presentations and updates as they were delivered by Council Administrators and also share the experience of fellow volunteers as they were honored and recognized for their achievements during the 2009-2010 Girl Scout Year.

The day began with a video greeting from Kathy Cloninger, CEO of Girl Scouts of the USA. The official meeting included a report from the Board Chair Kate Crowley on our strategic planning efforts, a financial summary by Paul Lewis, Board Treasurer, and electing of new officers, board members and national delegates to fill the vacancies of those whose terms were expiring and re-electing those nominated for second terms. President and CEO Jane Ransom also gave a progress report of the Council.

In her remarks, Board Chair Kate Crowley touched on the work of the past year and our excitement for the future, "I am optimistic about our future and what it holds. But to continue to be relevant, we must adapt and change while remaining true to our mission and the promise we all have vowed to uphold."

Crowley also thanked all the volunteers of the Council for their hard work. "Thank you for everything you do for Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania. I would like to close with a simple quote, 'Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.'" Thank you for doing more," said Crowley.

During the meeting several volunteers were elected to serve on the board of directors. The Members-at-Large were elected for a term ending in 2014: Marion Alexander, Janice Black, Laura Muia, Bonnie Burke, Sara Goulet, Veronica Longenecker, Kathleen McGinty, Robena Spangler, and Alexis Wilkinson.

The following people were elected to the Board Development Committee for a two year term ending in 2013: Cappy Bush, Sharon Hoffman, Bonnie Burke, Elizabeth Dellinger, Veronica Longenecker and Benetta Rapiet.

The following Board officers were also elected for a two-year term ending in 2013: Kate Crowley, Board Chair, Carolyn Warman, Vice Chair, Mindy Inners, Secretary and Paul Lewis, Treasurer.

After the election, GSHPA President and CEO Jane Ransom gave her remarks. Ransom gave updates on the Council's success over the past year and its commitment to continued success and the future of Girl Scouting. "Together, we are delivering on our mission to build the leadership and self-esteem of girls. The delegates here today represent thousands of adult volunteers who pour themselves into this mission and help us to continually improve our council," Ransom said.

Ransom also touched on other aspects that will help build a stronger commitment to the future including the Forever Green Initiative and the 100th Anniversary. –This is why we need to follow our plan of investing in the experiences that make girls grow in courage, confidence and character, and in the people who make it happen,|| said Ransom.

Ransom concluded her remarks by thanking everyone for their hard work this year, and sharing an announcement from the First Lady of Pennsylvania, Susan Corbett, who shared her enthusiasm about her agreement to serve as the Honorary Chair of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting for all three Pennsylvania councils.

After the official business meeting was concluded, the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony was held. Congratulations to all our volunteers who were recognized for their efforts in 2010. [Click here for a list of all volunteers who received recognitions.](#)

Many thanks to Members 1st Federal Credit Union for sponsoring the 2011 GSHPA Annual Meeting. This was their second year of supporting GSHPA's annual meeting.

