



Join us on our new Facebook page to stay connected with other parents, volunteers, girls, alumnae and council staff! By liking GSHPA on Facebook, you and your daughter will have access to information about council-wide events, photos, sales and deals at our council store and so much more.

To plug into the GSHPA network, visit our page at www.facebook.com/gshpa.

GSHPA is Now on Facebook!

A big part of Girl Scouts is making sure that every girl can participate in Girl Scouts regardless of her ability to pay. In order to make this truly happen, GSHPA provides approximately \$175,000 in financial assistance to girls all across our council. This money is available not only for assistance with membership dues, but also for other elements of the Girl Scout Experience, including uniform components, books, trips, Sleep Away Camp and much more. Our goal is to help every girl registered get as much as she can out of her participation in Girl Scouting. To access the financial assistance applications, please log onto our web site at www.gshpa.org, click on the "Forms" tab and scroll down to the "Financial/Record Keeping" section.

All applications will be processed in the order they are received. Please allow anywhere from four to six weeks for processing. If you have any questions about Financial Assistance, please call 1-800-692-7816 and ask for Allison Boga.

Financial Assistance is Available to All Girls

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Planning is underway for several events throughout our 30-county service area that your daughter can be a part of and help us as we come together to mark this momentous occasion in our rich history and to get ready for the next century of Girl Scouting. Our celebration will culminate in a council-wide Camporee and Extravaganza, which will be held from August 10-12, 2012. Stay tuned for more details about all the great things our council has planned to make this year one she'll never forget! Until then, take a sneak peek at our 100th Anniversary Web page by logging onto www.gshpa.org and clicking the 100th Anniversary link on our home page for all of the latest information throughout the year on 100th Anniversary news, events and celebrations!

By participating in Girl Scouting this year, your daughter will become a part of history! All Girl Scouts registered this year will become the proud leaders who launch the next century of Girl Scouting as we celebrate our 100th Anniversary.

Join Us As We Celebrate 100 Years of Girl Scouting



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First Year of New Sleep Away Camp Model a Huge Success

In 2011, Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania (GSHPA) announced some changes to our Sleep-Away Camp experience. The new camp model was designed to give girls who attend camp a more customized camping experience, by allowing them to be more involved with the scheduling and selecting of the types of activities they wanted to participate in while they were at camp. The feedback from attendees and their parents has been overwhelmingly positive!

Marisa Seubert was especially impressed with this year's Sleep Away Camp experience. Her daughter Annelise, a Brownie, attended Camp Furnace Hills in June. When Annelise returned home, Marisa just had to tell GSHPA how happy she was that her daughter had so much fun. "Just wanted to send a BIG thank you to you and your staff and counselors for a wonderful week at Furnace Hills," she wrote. "My daughter Annelise came home with so many fun stories and adventures!!"

Annelise told her mom that she had the time of her life and that she would have stayed longer if she could. "So, thank you again for organizing such a wonderful experience," Marisa added, "enjoy the rest of the summer and we will be back at Furnace Hills in summer 2012!"

"Most of the feedback we've received has been very positive," said Kelly Benasutti, GSHPA Outdoor Program Manager. "This model helps us to make the week at camp more of a girl-led experience by giving girls more control over what they get to do while they're there," she added.

This summer, more than 800 girls from our council attended a week of Sleep Away Camp at either Camp Furnace Hills in Lancaster County or Camp Archbald in Susquehanna County. "We were pleased with our attendance this year and are already busy planning next year's camp experience and hope that even more campers will join us during summer 2012, as we celebrate the 100th year of Girl Scouting," said Benasutti.

Watch your mailboxes this winter for the 2012 Summer Camp Guide, which will be filled with opportunities for your daughter to join in the time-honored Girl Scout tradition of experiencing the outdoors and making new friends at camp.



Annelise loved her experience so much, she asked to get a photo with her counselors from the Deer Run Cabin at Camp Furnace Hills to take home and put in her scrapbook.

Pledge to be Forever Green

How would you like to help your daughter get excited about the environment and learn what she can do to become aware of her impact on our planet's resources? This year, GSHPA has adopted the *Forever Green* theme as the signature programming initiative for our centennial year – which means that many of the council-wide programs we offer for girls will be focused on increasing their environmental awareness.

"There are a number of ways parents can get involved in *Forever Green* programs," said Lori McCracken, GSHPA Program Coordinator. "Parents can help their daughters complete the EcoFootprint Challenge and talk about changes they can make to reduce the energy consumption in their households. They can also help their daughters collect candy wrappers for our fall recycling project or observe 'Earth Hour' on March 31, 2011 by turning off the lights, shutting off the television, and spending quality time together," she added.

To join in on our council's goal of reducing our ecological footprint by 10%, take a moment to sit down with your daughter and log onto www.gshpa.org. Once there, click on the signature programming link under the "volunteers" tab. Here you will learn more about the *Forever Green* initiative and how you can take the first step by helping your daughter take the *Forever Green* pledge and complete the Ecological Footprint Challenge.

By participating, your daughter will become eligible to receive the 2011-2012 *Forever Green* patch and she can also receive rockers by participating in future activities! Patches are available at the GSHPA online store.

