

GIRL SCOUT WORDS OF THANKS & APPRECIATION & INSPIRATION

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THE SMILE IN ONE GIRL'S EYES

Sometimes I get discouraged,
My time is not my own.
If I'm not going somewhere.
I'm always on the phone.
Reminding someone's mother,
Of a stray permission slip.
Whose loss would cause disaster,
To our upcoming field trip.
I'm dashing out to get supplies,
(I think I'm going daft!)
Whose idea was this ?
Can we really do this craft?
And then there are the cookies-
On the chairs and on the floor.
My home has twice as many,
As the local grocery store.
Even when I'm sitting still,
my brain is overheating.
Searching for a game or song,
to liven up the meeting.
Just when I am exhausted,
Too tired to move again.
A small eruption at the door-
The girls are coming in!
I draw a breath on wonder,
and ask myself "oh why?"
Then I'm almost toppled,
by a bear hug, just knee high.
The room is full of laughter,
and suddenly I see.
That I really cannot think,
of a better place to be.
Yes, I'm a Girl Scout Leader,
and I guess that's no surprise.
And everything I do is worth,
the smile in one girl's eyes.

MY GIRL SCOUT PIN

My Girl Scout Pin is a little thing that is to say, in size.
But it holds a wealth of many things tucked within its sides.
To me it means honor, trustworthy and true -
For my neighbor there is nothing I would not do.
It means I am a friend to all that I know,
Courteous and cheerful wherever I go.
To be useful and help others I what I like to do.
Being kind to animals should be included, too.
“Do a good turn daily” is my aim.
Our law and God’s are almost the same.
That is what my Girl Scout pin means to me.
If everyone would follow the Girl Scout way,
Wouldn’t we have a wonderful U.S.A.?

GOLDEN PIN

This golden pin with its three parts.
Reminds me of the Promise we hold in our hearts.
And as the years go quickly by,
Girl Scout sing and dream and form deep ties.
Comradeship we cherish, memories we keep
For Girl Scout friendship are strong and deep,
In serving others, let me see -
The world becomes a better place to be.
So come with me as Girl Scouts sing their song
To the friends all around us we belong.
In friendship true, we will be kin.
All those who wear this golden pin.

Lois Piehn

THE CANDLE

There was a child standing outside, alone.
She was absorbed into the wall surrounding her.
By chance someone saw her there, saw her need,
And stopped to light her candle...
...And she, in candlelight...glows.

There was a child without confidence.
She was afraid to try, worried about rejection.
Someone lit her candle with a smile,
A nodding of praise for her efforts...
...And she, in candlelight...glows.

There was a child who couldn't be still.
She bounced and bubbled and never came to a rest.
Someone filled her eyes with awe, and she saw
A gift of light, and emotions quieted her soul...
...And she, in candlelight...glows.

There was a child searching for meaning.
Looking for direction that made sense to her.
Someone lit a candle to help her find a way,
With a Promise, a song and a prayer...
...And she, in candlelight...glows.

There was a child seeing a need in the world.
She didn't know what to do that would help.
Someone showed her a little light, flickering.
She lit the candles of others...
...And she, in candlelight...glows.

50 WAYS TO LOVE YOUR LEADERS!

1. Send a card
2. Have a surprise party
3. Take her out to dinner.
4. Bring dinner to her.
5. Fill out a troop memory book with each girl's picture, address, favorite things, etc.
6. Make a booklet of thank you pictures.
7. Make a plaque.
8. Commission a crafts person to make a paper cutting or calligraphy of "Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver, and the other is gold."
9. Call her and say, "thanks."
10. Offer an evening of free babysitting...and don't take "no" for an answer.
11. Take her to a movie, play, concert, etc.
12. Give her a plant.
13. Send flowers.
14. Nominate her for "Outstanding Leader." It may not be too late for this year, or
plan ahead for next year
15. Write a letter to a newspaper in praise of her.
16. Give her a gift certificate.
17. Give her a magazine subscription.
18. Give her a free haircut/hair styling.
19. Give her a free colors reading.
20. Ask your school for display space to recognize all your leaders and troops.
21. Send a bottle of wine.
22. Hire a cleaning service to clean her house.
23. Have a picnic...and don't let her do any work!
24. Instead of asking, "What can I do to help?" think of something specific like a cooking
class, macramé lessons, etc. for the troop.
25. Give her gag gifts for fun and follow up with something nice.
26. Check the Girl Scout shop or the catalog for "Thank You for Being our Leader"
plaques, "Thanks a Million" pens,
27. Give her a Girl Scout mug and a bag of gourmet coffee.
28. Write a poem.
29. Write a song.
30. Make a quilt.
31. Do a cross-stitch.
32. Tell her now that you'll do cookies again next year!

33. Make an audio or videotape of all the girls singing and/or each one saying thank you in
her own special way.
34. Plan a surprise breakfast
35. Ask her husband what she really wants or needs.
36. Weed her garden or mow her yard while she's at a troop activity.
37. Recruit a string quartet or any other arrangement of young musicians and go
serenade
her. Don't forget the tape recorder...and the camera!
38. Watch and listen for newspaper and radio "Good Neighbor or Volunteer"
recognitions.
39. Give her a "shower" of luxury bath items or gourmet foods.
40. Have a skywriter write, "thank you" over her house.
41. Have a special delivery of balloons sent.
42. Put a sign outside her door, "Our leader lives here. Thank you, (fill in name)
43. Trace each girls hand and reproduce it with appliqué or liquid embroidery or
fabric
crayons on an apron or sweatshirt or tote bag.
44. Decorate a mess kit just for her with cheap nail polish in various shades or
with
permanent markers
45. Rent a queen's robe and hire a limo. Crown her "Queen for a Day" and
give her flowers and a scepter. Take her out to dinner and videotape it.
46. Have a pizza and a videotape delivered to her house
47. Compose a recipe book with contributions from all the girls in their own
words and
pictures-and give it to her with samples.
48. Make a collage of troop pictures or a videotape.
49. Call a disc jockey and dedicate "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" to her and
tape it. Insist
on bringing a radio to the troop meeting if you can get the dedication played
then.
Tape it anyway.
50. Use you imagination

NEVERENDING GIRL SCOUT GIFT

"This Gift is very special, one you can never see. I'll tell you why it's special, the contents hold the key. You never can unwrap it. Please leave the ribbon tied. Just hold this gift close to your heart. It's filled with Girl Scout pride."

THYME, THE SPICE OF LIFE

Time marches on, I've been told this is true,
So many commitments - will they ever be through?
Get the kids off to school, do the shopping and cook;
Their jobs, their committees, they could write a book!
They'd include all the shortcuts they take every day,
To make sure that Guiding/Scouting fits in on the way.
Because, as you know, it entails quite a lot:
Make a fire, work on badges, bring treats, tie a knot.
Their work could go on until midnight or more,
But they really won't mind, it's the girls they adore.
So in order to keep them in step at that pace,
We've bottled spare thyme for them - just in case!
Enjoy your thyme in Girl Guides/Scouts!
[Note: this poem is designed to go with a small gift jar or bottle of thyme]

CREED FOR THE VOLUNTEER LEADER

To foster creativity rather than conformity
to guide rather than goad
to clarify rather than confuse
to support rather than supplant
to respect rather than judge
to motivate rather than captivate
to listen rather than tell
to encourage rather than discourage
to link rather than divide
to innovate rather than imitate
to free rather than limit
to make independent rather than dependent.
--Dr. Eva Schindler-Rainman

SCOUTING IS A CANDLE

Scouting is a candle - that will light you on your way
It's trying on your honor and helping every day.
Exploring worlds around you and looking wider still
Pitching tents out in the woods and hiking up a hill.
Guitars and voices blended - under God's majestic sky
Loving those around you - friendships that never die.
The meaning in a moment - in a smile or in a tear
Makes you a little taller in each new Scouting year.
A promise to your God and to your country too
Makes you a part of your world,
and your world a part of you.
It's something that you carry wherever you may go
A secret deep inside you that only Scouts would know.
But it's the kind of secret that you want the world to know.
You can't hide all the happiness, you can't hide all the glow.
A candle glows together - it shines externally.
Make it shine on everyone - That's the way the world should be.

VOLUNTEER WORK

I don't receive a check each week,
or monthly, this is true.
But knowing I am helping out-get paid???
Of course I do!
The warm Hellos, The sad Good Byes
The hugs and kisses too,
you ask, "Do I get benefits?"
Oh yes - of course I do!
If you could know the joy I feel,
The warm glow in my heart,
You wouldn't ask if I get paid.
You'd have known it from the start.
So let me share a little love,
One hour at a time.
And maybe someone else like me,
Will pass it down the line.

EVERY GIRL BRINGS A GIFT

One girl brings intelligence- the challenge of her sparkling mind keeps me continually learning.

One girl brings laughter- the challenge of her ready wit keeps me from taking myself too seriously.

One girl brings simplicity- the challenge of her unquestioning acceptance keeps me honest.

One girl brings skepticism- the challenge of her "show me" attitude keeps me from ever trying to bluff my way through something.

One girl brings curiosity- the challenge of her continuing questions keeps me on my toes.

One girl brings kindness- the challenge of her radiating warmth keeps me from forgetting the importance of hugs.

One girl brings super activity- the challenge of her boundless energy keeps me moving and free from laziness.

Every girl brings with her a precious gift. Grant that I may always look for, and nurture, that precious gift in every girls.

Written by Helen Keech, Division Commissioner for Opeongo Division, Ontario

THE NUMBERS

We Girl Scout volunteers are repeatedly asked about "the numbers".

How many new Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, and Senior Girl Scouts have we recruited?

How many new troops have we formed?

How many hours of service have we performed?

How many badges have our girls earned?

How many leaders and other adult volunteers have we retained?

How many girls have earned their Bronze, Silver, Gold Award?

The answer should be... ONE

It only takes

ONE girl to bridge to the next age level, or

ONE girl to become a Girl Scout, with the help of

ONE adult volunteer. That

ONE Girl Scout helps her community

ONE good deed at a time, and builds her nation with every

ONE hour volunteer service. She will be awarded

ONE badge every time she completes

ONE, and she will have had

ONE special Court of Awards for every

ONE Bronze and Silver she earns. With all this, she could be the

ONE in her community who earns her Gold Award
ONE very memorable year.

So...When you get bogged down by the numbers, remember the ONE reason we are all here. And no matter how many girl and adult members we have added, how many volunteer hours we put in, how many badges and awards get earned, all of this gets done ONE girl and ONE adult at a time.

YOU NEVER KNOW

By Helen L. Marshall

You never know when someone
May catch a dream from you
You never know when a little word
Or something you may do
May open up the windows
Of a mind that seals a light
The way you love, may not matter at all
But you never know it might.
And just in case it could be
That another's life, through you
Might possibly change for the better
With a broader and brighter view
It seems it might be worth a try
At pointing the way to the right
Of course it many not matter at all,
But then again, it might

WHAT ARE VOLUNTEERS?

Volunteers are like Fords...

They have better ideas.

Volunteers are like Coke...

They are the real thing.

Volunteer are like Pepsi...

They've got a lot to give.

Volunteer are like VO5 Hairspray...

They hold in all kinds of weather.

Volunteers are like Dial...

They care more.

Volunteers are like Hallmark...

They care enough to give their very best.

Volunteers are like Standard Oil...

You expect more and you get it.

But most of all, they are like Frosted Flakes...

THEY'RE GRRRRREAT!

SURVIVAL KIT FOR LEADERS

"It's that time again to pause and reflect
And look at the year in retrospect.
A problem or two arose here and there
Not one went unconquered because you care.
You gave your best to the world of Girl Scouts,
Our "promise" upheld without any doubts.
But maybe, just maybe, you grew rather weary.
And wondered if you could remain bright and cherry.
If so...open this packet, it's a small compensation
For damages done, use without reservation.
The Band-Aid you use to heal the small hurt
If someone to you got a little bit curt.
The match you then strike up, this friendship renew,
Touch the match to the candle, let more light shine through.
And why the rubber band, you're ready to ask,
Flexibility and giving it means, for each task.
Next, a small paper clip is in this bag, too.
"Together" it keeps it all for you.
The candy... you guessed it... is to sweeten your day
"Cause we know you'll keep sharing your love through May"
Whether leader, team member or one who consults,
You are ever concerned to get best results.
With thanks, many thanks, our troop (service unit/council) bursts with pride,
The button we popped is contained inside.
Now keep or use this survival kit, small,
And we hope to see you back in the fall!
Thank you for being a leader!!
(put bandaaid, match, candle, rubberband, candy, button & paperclip in a small package and present with this poem)

MORE IDEAS

SWEET & SOUR CANDY - To help you accept and appreciate the differences in others.

A STICK OF GUM - To remind you to stick with it, To remind you to "chews" the right thing

A CHOCOLATE KISS - To remind you that someone loves you.

A TOOTSIE ROLL - To remind you not bite off more than you can chew.

SMARTIES - To remind you that you are smart.

STARBURST - To give you a burst of energy on the days you don't have any

MOUNDS - For the mounds of information you learn

A PAPER CLIP - To help keep things together when they seem to be getting

out of control. To hold all the loose ends together

PENCIL - For the next time somebody says "get the lead out"

BALLOON - To remind you not to blow up

CRAYON - To color your day bright and cheerful

A TISSUE - To wipe away a tear-- your own or someone else's.

A CANDY KISS - To say "I love you" in a sweet way.

ERASER - To remind you that everyday you can start with a clean slate.

Everyone makes mistakes and it is OK

A POEM - To share the beauty of words.

A PENNY - So that you will never have to say, "I'm broke."

A MARBLE - In case someone says "You've lost all your marbles!" or replace those we all lose from time to time

EYES (googly ones) - To help you see the good in others

PACKET OF SEEDS - To remind you that you are always growing!

NUTS - It is OK to be a little nutty and have fun

CONFETTI - To celebrate your joys of life.

QUARTER - If you need a friend, call me

SPOON - (plastic) - Sometimes you have to stir things up a bit.

PIECE OF STRING or ROPE - For when you reach the end of your rope - this will keep you going a bit longer. To tie things together when everything falls apart.

TEA BAG - Take a few minutes to yourself and relax.

BATTERY - To give you that extra charge to keep going & going & going.

STICKY TAPE - Thanks for "sticking" to it

BAND-AID - For healing hurt feelings, yours and someone else's.

CANDLE - To remind you to share your light with others. To remind you there is a light at the end of the tunnel. To light the way when you can't seem to find the right path

HAPPY FACE - Smiling not only increases your face value, it is contagious.

RUBBER BAND - A reminder to stay flexible or To help you stretch yourself to new limits.

COTTON BALL - For the rough roads, seek the cushioned support of your family and friends.

LIFESAVERS - To remind you of the many times others need help and we need theirs. To grab hold of when you get that sinking feeling

SANDPAPER - To help you file away the rough spots of the year

A MATCH - To help you through the darkness of uncertainty.

A RECIPE - To make when you want to do something special for someone.

A NOTE CARD - To send a long-overdue greeting to a friend or a relative or to someone who is lonely.

WASHER - To wash away your troubles

CUP - For when yours is overflowing

AN ERASER - To erase any mistakes or misunderstandings that are troubling you.

A SMALL SMOOTH STONE - To remind you that rough times help refine and polish...use for smoother tomorrows.

A SMALL SQUARE OF SHELF GRIP MATERIAL - To remind you to get a grip on things! When you think you're slippin' Use this to get grippin'!! To use when you think you are losing your grip!

PAGE REINFORCEMENTS - to reinforce the value of scouting for all ages

SAFETY PIN - to remind you of checking procedures and policies outlined in Safety Wise to insure safe programming

BUTTON - to help you "keep your shirt on" when you become impatient. To remind you to "button your lips" to keep from saying mean things about others or talking when it's not appropriate

POST IT NOTES - to jot down the many things you need to remember

SPONGE - to help you soak up the knowledge around you, when your brain is too full to hold more

HERBAL TEA - so you can take time occasionally to sit back and just sip a cup of tea--you deserve it!!

TISSUE - to remind you to dry someone's tears or perhaps your own, so you can see the tears of others

TOOTHPICK - to remind you to "pick out" the good qualities of everyone including you

HUGS & KISSES - to remind you that someone cares

GOLD THREAD - to remind you that friendship is the golden thread that ties together the hearts of everyone

MINT - to remind you that you are worth a MINT to Girl Scouting and to me"

LIGHT BULB - You always have great ideas

PUZZLE PIECE - You make everything fit together or without you things wouldn't be complete

A HEART - Because you always have a heart

KEY - Because you were the key to our success

MARBLE - For a marbelous job

ASPIRIN - When all else fails, take two!

SURVIVAL KIT FOR LEADERS DAUGHTERS

Bumble Bee - Thanks for always "bee-ing" there to help

Egg - Because you're a good egg, not cracking under pressure (surprise inside)

Candle - Because you're the light of my life

Hugs & Kisses - to remind you that you're appreciated

Starburst - to give you a burst of energy on the days you have a lot to carry home from meetings

Gum - to remind you to stick with Girl Scouts

Penny - to remind you that you're valuable and special to me

Smiley Stickers - to remind you that we both need to stick together and help each other, and because smiling is good for you, improves your outlook and your outward look to others.

Heart Pin - to remind you that I LOVE YOU

Confetti - to celebrate your joys, which I will always share with you and remind you that you're the joy of Girl Scouts for me.

Pen & Paper - what you have to share with me is important...even if you need to write it down

Basket - because you carried more than your share into and out of meetings and events

Balloon - to lift your spirits when it's tough sharing mom with everyone else

FOR EGGspecially GOOD LEADERS

Leader Goody Bag with Chocolate Eggs and Jelly Beans with poem attached

Sometimes being a Leader

isn't all it's cracked up to be . . .

We may end up feeling a little scrambled;

We may end up feeling completely fried;

But if you take a look,

You'll see something sweet inside.

Remember that you're egg-straordinary,

Egg-stra special and egg-citing, too.

Your Troop should be very thankful

That they have a Leader like you!

THE OLD GIRL SCOUT LEADER

The old Girl Scout leader had lived longer in the service unit than any of the others. She was so old that her patch jacket was filled - even on the sleeves, her mess kit was dented, her sleeping bag was flat and she had a special room in her house just for her Girl Scout supplies.

She was wise, for she had seen three generations of Girl Scouts roar through the schools and she had seen other leaders break their mainsprings, lose their buttons and miss too many service unit meetings. But Girl Scout magic is strange and wonderful, and the wise old leader wanted to share that magic with others!

"What is a REAL Girl Scout leader?" asked the new Brownie leader one day. "Does it mean being the best camper or selling the most cookies or planning the best craft project? Does it mean wearing my uniform? Does it mean marching in parades?"

"A REAL Girl Scout leader is more than cookies, crafts, camping, uniforms and parades," said the wise old leader. "Leadership is something that you work at every day. It's relationships that you build with girls and their families. But you feel like a REAL leader when you come to realize that the girls in your troop love you, not just for meetings and good times, but they REALLY love you. And you come to love them, too. Then you know in your heart the joy of Girl Scout leadership."

"Does it hurt? Will it take lots of time?" asked the new leader. "Sometimes," said the wise old leader. "Being a Girl Scout leader is a big commitment. You listen to the girls and try things that may seem new and strange to you. You attend training, fill out forms, meet deadlines, and challenge the weather for field trips, campouts and cookie sales. You help girls to learn how to make decisions and be responsible - and it's not always clear that you're going to succeed!"

"Generally, by the time you feel like you're a REAL leader, your hairdo doesn't matter quite so much as comfortable shoes; your friends keep asking you how you can think about taking 17 girls to the city; and you've shed a proud tear over the first event the girls planned and carried out by themselves - never mind the spilled punch or the candle that fell out of the ceremony log and nearly started a fire. These things don't matter because once you know you're a Girl Scout leader, you know you're making a difference in the world."

WHAT IS A GIRL?

She is the person who is going to carry on what you have started in the world. She is going to sit where you are sitting, and when you are gone, attend to those things you think are so important.

She is going to take over your committees, your home and school, your bridge club, your sewing circle, your coffee meetings.

You can adopt all the policies you please, but how they are carried out in her age, will depend on her.

She is going to marry your son and she is going to rock the cradle of your grandchild.

She is going to share in the control of your village, your town, your nation.

She is going to have a voice in your schools, your Scout activities, your churches, your universities and corporations.

She is going to be in charge of your woods, your forests, nature parks and wildlife reserves, and all your natural resources.

How she pursues a full and rewarding life depends on the direction she is following now.

Her individual search for happiness will be determined by the set of values she is amassing now.

All your work is going to be judged, praised and condemned by her. Her future is in your hands, but your reputation and your life in your old age are in her hands.

So it is as well to pay some attention and to give her some of your hands
NOW !

RECRUITMENT POEM - GREEN ANGEL EPIC

Parent: My daughter's just turned seven, She'd like to join your ranks

Trainer: Oh good, We need new leaders, Parent: I have no time but thanks

Trainer: I'm sure you'll like it fine Parent: I said I have no time.

Trainer: The training starts on Monday, Sign on the dotted line.

Parent: My daughter's just turned nine. She'd like to fly up now.

Trainer: The Leader's Guide will tell you, The where, the when, the how.

Parent: I'm really rather beat, I'd like to take a rest.

Trainer: You don't know what you're saying, the next three years are the best.

Parent: My daughter thinks it's time, Some camping she should do

Trainer: Well, Girl Scout camp is just the place, We'll go along with you.

Parent: I cannot sleep on cots, It hurts my back and head.

Trainer: You really needn't worry, You'll never get to bed!

Parent: My daughter tells me now, that day camp is the thing.

Trainer: We need a dance director, and someone who can sing.

Parent: I cannot dance a step, I cannot sing a song.

Trainer: Well ten days in our day camp, We'll prove to you you're wrong.

Parent: My daughter is now 12, I've really had it now.

I've hiked and camped and cooked outdoors, you name it--I know how.

Trainer: But can you really say, You haven't had some fun?

Do come and learn about Cadettes, Your work has just begun.

Parent: My daughter is fifteen now, As leader, I am through.

Trainer: You can't stop now when, Seniors need advisors just like you.

Parent: I have another girl, Now she is seven, too.

Trainer: Well, aren't you glad you're so well trained, You know just what to do.

Parent: Oh, yes, indeed I know, I'm quitting Scouts today.

Trainer: But surely you have learned by now, you never get away.

Trainer: And then the sad occasion comes. (S)he ends her (his) worldly care.

"Welcome," says St. Peter, "Your troop is over there"

THE LEADER'S DAUGHTER

You find one like me in every troop,
I'm supposed to be the best in the group!
You see me there, the leader's daughter,
I always do just what I ought to.
I always smile, I have no choice,
When others are loud, What did I do
To have to share my mom with you?
Daisies and Brownies was new and fun,
I'd brag and say, "My mom's the one
who makes the plans and carries out
The fun there is to be a Girl Scout.
In Junior Girl Scouts, I'd speak out,
But still I wouldn't scream or shout.
You see, it didn't change a thing-
Cause Mom still told me what to bring!
In Cadette Girl Scouts, I raised my hand,
I want to quit, please understand,
The problem is Mom doesn't see
That it's no longer fun for me.
I'm always the first and must set up!
I'm last to leave and must clean up!
The rest go home, but I'm still there,
Loading up and straightening each chair!
It's time to be a Senior Girl Scout,
Mom's not going, she's training leader scouts
She understands, says it's okay,
That I can quit and have my way,
But I'm no quitter, I think I'll stay.
I'll earn my Gold, and then someday,
I'll have a daughter, sometime or other,
And I'll be a leader just like my mother.

Written by :Adria Day, Cadette G.S., Troop26, Marigold Service Unit

LEADER'S DAUGHTER 2

The leader shows her daughter she really does care.
Her daughter may not see it but someday she'll say
"Mom how did you do it back in those days?"
"You worked and did housework, you cooked and you sewed,
you led us in meetings, planned field trips, and more."
Someday she'll see it and know she is loved
because you did all this and still found time to be Mom.
By: Sheila McSwain

GIRL SCOUT VITAMIN PILLS

Use jelly beans or M&Ms in a small canister or jar
Blue - Kills infection caused by patience worn thin
Yellow - Relieves pain caused by changes in plans
Green - Take with caution, they fill you with good
Brown - Gives energy to get you on meetings on time
Orange - Increases digestion of good ideas
Red - Take as needed - puts pizzazz in your day

RX FOR A GOOD LEADER

RED for stamina to keep up
PURPLE reduces tension caused by low patience
YELLOW to keep you awake during meetings
GREEN for inspiration and new ideas
ORANGE to increase hours of the day
WARNING!!
If taken all at once you might become SERVICE UNIT MANAGER

RED - KILLS INFECTION CAUSED BY PATIENCE WORN THIN
YELLOW - INCREASES DIGESTION - TO GIVE YOU NEW IDEAS
GREEN - GIVES YOU ENERGY TO KEEP UP WITH THE GIRLS
ORANGE - RELIEVE TENSION - SAY NO MORE
BLUE - TAKE WHEN DEALING WITH DIFFICULT PARENTS
BROWN - FOR PAIN RELIEF FROM ALL OF THE ABOVE
TAKE AS NEEDED -REFILLS ALWAYS WELCOME

Blue ~ Kills infection caused by patience worn thin.
Yellow ~ Relives pain caused by change in plans
Green ~ Take with caution: They fill you with good.

Brown ~ Gives energy to get to meetings on time.

Orange ~ Increases digestion of good ideas.

Red ~ Take as needed puts pizzazz in day.

Use labels and put into film canisters!!

1. On computer label: Girl Scout Vitamins (M&M's)

Blue - Kills infection caused by patience worn thin

Yellow - Relieves pain caused by changes in plans

Green - Take with Caution they fill you with good.

Brown - Gives energy to get to meetings on time.

Orange - Increases digestion of good ideas

Red - Take as needed -- puts pizzazz in day!

CANDY BAR AWARDS

(Name), we present you with Life Savers. The reason behind this is because you are usually the first one to finish projects and the first one to volunteer to help clean up. You have been a great help in Brownie girl scouts, and a real Life Saver.

(Name), we present you with a Symphony bar because you have been our songleader all year. You have a very strong and sweet voice. We appreciate your willingness to lead us in songs and teach us Taps. Thank you. We all sound more like a Symphony when we sing now.

(Name), we present you with a "bit-o-honey" bar. You are always so sweet, kind and quiet. You never complain and always do what is asked. You bring a little bit of honey into everyone's day.

(Name), for you, we chose Nutrageous. This is a good thing. You keep us smiling and your giggles and laughter is contagious. You find the humor in everything. You are a little nutty and outrageous and you help keep the atmosphere light and cheerful

OTHER CANDY IDEAS

Hugs and Kisses -- the affectionate one

Caramello -- sweet and easy-going

Kit Kat -- our "give me a break" award. For the girl who asks every meeting, "What are we making today?"

Jolly Rancher -- great camper, positive attitude

Dove -- peacemaker

Slo Poke -- always the last one done

Starburst -- our budding actress

Skittles -- "rainbow" of colorful, creative ideas

100 Grand -- to pay for all the cookies that you worked so hard to sell

Butterfinger -- crafter (the smooth way she uses her hands)

Symphony -- song leader

Peanut m&m's -- small, sweet, and a little nutty

M&Ms Someone with lots of "Ms" (model, Melissa, March birthday, etc.)

Snickers Nutty, "nuts" about Boy Bands

Skittles Rainbow of creative ideas, great ideas, colors of clothing

Starburst Budding actress, star of every show

Lifesavers First to finish and help others

Bit-O-Honey Sweet, kind, never complaining

Nutrageous Contageous laughter, always smiling and giggling, keeps atmosphere light and cheerful.

100 Grand Pay for extra-hard work, pay to parent volunteers
Nestles "Treasures" - a treasure to have in the troop
Whatchamacallit - forgets the names of things
Whoppers - best story telling
Smarties - Smart ideas
Mounds - earned mounds of badges
Candy egg - a good egg
Bonkers - a little crazy
Mars (or milky way) - out of this world ideas
Gummy Bears - loveable
Good & Plenty - has plenty of ideas
Almond Joy - a joy to be around
Babe Ruth - sports nut
Bit-o-honey - someone very sweet
Krackle - cracks you up
Laffy taffy - always laughing
Mr (Miss) Goodbar - Good citizen/friendship
Nestles Crunch - can always count on in a crunch
Ouch bubble gum - always getting hurt (biggest boo-boo of the year)
Skor - athletes
Teddy Grahams - huggable
Spree - celebrate being the newest in the troop
Sweet tarts - someone sweet
Carefree gum - Easy going and carefree
3 musketeers - always with the group or for the 3 that always stick together
Animal Crackers - love of animals
Candy bracelet watch - for always being late

CANDY BAR PRESENTATION BOARD

Here's what the girls in my cadette troop came up with to do for the other leaders. I brought in a bunch of candy bars (some miniature size) and they came up with the following story. We made one for each leader. There are 3 of them. Then we taped the candy bars to a piece of poster board (then taped it all to a piece of cardboard to make it sturdier). The words were typed out and glued on. The candy bars were used in place of the words that I wrote in cap letters. We used little black pieces of tape to cover up parts of the words on the candy bars that we did not want to show. Of course, feel free use any candy bars you like.

Dear (name),

LOOK how KOOL (cover up the word Aid) you've made us. We can't PAY (cover up Day) you a 100 GRAND or send you down 5TH AVENUE but we can always make you feel GOOD(cover up plenty). We know we've gone PSYCHO (cover up pop) every NOW AND LATER and even fallen to PIECES (cover Reeses) and landed on our WHATCHAMACALLITS. But LOOK how far we've come on this ROCKY ROAD of FUN(cover dip) Girl Scouting. We were on a ROLL (cover Tootsie) with our Silver Projects. Sometimes our singing didn't sound like a SYMPHONY and MOUNDS of times we've fallen on our BUNS (a gummy hamburger), but S'MORE times than not, we've had a SHOCKING (cover tarts) good time. Even though we are teens, we appreciate you not turning us into DORKS and AIRHEADS. We are NERDY enough without any extra CRUNCH(cover Nestles).

Love always,
the RUNTS

PS SHE (cover HER and Y in the Hershey bar) is the best FIREBALL (cover atomic) of a leader!

CERTIFICATE OF THE RIGHT TO PLAY

By this certificate know ye that THE BEARER IS A LIFETIME MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING IN THE SOCIETY OF CHILDLIKE GROWNUPS AND IS HEREBY ENTITLED TO walk in the rain, jump in mud puddles, collect rainbows, smell flowers, blow bubbles, stop along the way, build sandcastles, watch the moon and stars come out, say hello to everyone, go barefoot, go on adventures, sing in the shower, have a merry heart, read children's books, act silly, take bubble baths, get new sneakers, hold hands & hug & kiss, dance, fly kites, laugh out loud and cry out loud, wander around, wonder about stuff, feel scared & sad & mad & happy, give up worry & guilt & shame, stay innocent, say yes and no and the magic words, ask lots of questions, ride bicycles, draw and paint and color, see things differently, fall down and get up again, talk with animals, look at the sky, trust the universe, stay up late, climb trees, take naps, do nothing, daydream, play with toys, play under the covers, have pillow fights, learn new stuff, get excited about everything, be a clown, enjoy having a body, listen to music, find out how things work, make up new rules, tell stories, save the world, make friends and do anything that brings more happiness, celebration, relaxation, communication, health, love, joy, creativity, pleasure, abundance, grace, self-esteem, courage, balance, spontaneity, passion, peace, beauty, and life energy to all humans and beings of this planet.

FURTHERMORE, the above named member is officially authorized to frequent amusement parks, beaches, meadows, mountaintops, swimming pools, forests, playgrounds, picnic areas, summer areas, summer camps, birthday parties, circuses, bakeries, ice cream parlors, theaters, aquariums, zoos, museums, planetariums, toys stores, festivals and other places where children of all ages gather to play AND is encouraged to always remember the motto of THE SOCIETY OF CHILDLIKE GROWNUPS: IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO HAVE A HAPPY CHILDHOOD AND MAKE SURE THAT OTHERS DO TOO.

115 VOLUNTEER/GIRL FUN AWARDS

1. A real cut up - Mount a plastic knife or pair of scissors or a cookie cutter
2. You're a real Squirt! (Squirt gun)
3. Had a ball - a ball any size, any kind
4. Good Egg Award - for the person who has been a good sport about helping - Egg
5. Kept us in stitches - A needle and thread
6. Tee-rific - A golf tee or tea bag
7. Marbleous job - A bunch of marbles
8. Comedian Award...you crack us up!!! (attach to a box of Cracker Jacks)
9. Stick To It Award...you chose to stay with it! (attach to a pack of gum)
10. A real card - Mount a playing card
11. Happy Camper Award.....You have a bubbly personality!! (Jar of Bubbles)
12. You charged us up - A battery
13. N'ice Job - A box of N'ice cough drops
14. Berry good job - For the person who did a "Berry good Job" (a wax or plastic berry-- any kind)
15. Banana Award - for the person with great appeal (a wax or plastic banana)
16. Heartfelt thanks - Large heart cut from felt
17. Helping hand award - For those who was willing to help ("Sponge" Hand)
18. Lifesaver Award - for the person who assisted with a problem - roll of lifesavers
19. Bright Idea award - For those who had a bright idea (a light bulb - I used dimensional paints to paint a happy face on the light bulb, too)
20. Rose to the occasion - an artificial rose
21. "World Class" job award - (Miniature Globe on a key chain)
22. Brenda - The coveted "Diamond Pin" (dime-on-pin) -- glued a dime to a safety pin!
23. Light Bulb= always has great ideas.
24. Book Worm = can find book on any subject imaginable
25. Music Note= has a song for all occasions
26. Computer= spends countless hours searching for new ideas online
27. Pencil= always has one (or needs to borrow one) at leader meetings
28. Puzzle Piece=makes everything fit together
29. Spider= will kill any bug on behalf of any girl
30. Red Cross= most active First-Aider
31. Tent=will camp anywhere, anytime
32. "Egg"cellent job / idea / etc award For those who did an excellent job
33. "Egg"cellent or "Egg"cellent Print words on hardboiled eggs like for Easter

34. A real card Mount a playing card
35. A real cut up Mount a plastic knife or pair of scissors or a cookie
36. Added a spark 4th of July sparkler
37. Bag of Trix award Trix cereal in a bag
38. Banana Award for the person with great appeal (a wax or plastic banana mounted on a piece of wood)
39. Berry good job For the person who did a "Berry good Job" (a wax or plastic berry
(any kind) mounted to a piece of wood)
40. Best foot forward 12" ruler or a sock with the toe cut off
41. Big heart award - For those who always seem to have one (heart shaped craft material
of any kind then decorated)
42. Bleeding Green Award for Leader with most daughters in GS
43. Bonafide award for the person who needs an award! (a dog bone mounted)
44. Bounce Award for troop leaders to bounce back next year and soften their hearts -
sheet of bounce fabric softener
45. Bright Idea award - For those who had a bright idea (a light bulb mounted to a piece
of wood)
46. Bright idea Award for person with good ideas - light bulb sprayed gold
47. Cheerleader award Mount a stiff wire through a box of Cheer laundry soap and add
pom poms to the wire
48. Cone Award Mount an ice cream cone for the person who can lick any job
49. Cookie Coordinator Award (or any position award) - cookie patch on a "plaque"
50. Corniest An ear or can of corn
51. Covered the topic A plastic lid
52. Dinner Award for appreciation dinner organizer - wooden spoon
53. Do-re-me Award For your song leader Mount a note or cleft
54. Enlightening Award A candle or small light on a piece of wood
55. Expanded our knowledge Elastic band or large rubber band
56. Fan-tastic A fan (use your imagination)
57. First Aid Award for Leader with most troops - bottle of aspirin
58. Football Award A small football to the person who always is willing to tackle a job
59. For those with a stake in the Scouts future A tent stake
60. Give out a "rais-in" pay a pyramid of raisins glued to a backing
61. Giving an eye-opening performance Box of tooth picks

62. Go Getter Award inflated balloon full of 'hot air' for the "Go power for the go getter"
63. Gold Kiss award for those who REALLY deserve a kiss (gold foil)
64. Golden Knot Award for the person who has tied it all together - knot sprayed gold
65. Good Egg Award for the person who has been a good sport about helping
66. Had a ball Mount a ball any size, any kind
67. Hat's off award For someone we take our hats off to (an old hat mounted on a piece of wood)
68. Heads up award For the person who is heads above the rest (a plastic head mounted above a piece of wood using a piece of wire to keep the head above the wood)
69. Heartfelt thanks Large heart cut from felt
70. Helping hand award - For those who was willing to help (trace a hand on construction paper mounted to a piece of cardboard H
71. Helping Hand Award for person who always helps - Stuffed glove on dowel
72. Hornblower Award For those who never (or always) blow their own horn. Mount a plastic bicycle horn
73. Hung in there Anything hanging from something (try to get a picture of the person)
74. Its "bean" wonderful Mount up a lima or other large bean
75. Kept us in stitches A needle and thread
76. Key to Success For those who were key to making it happen
77. Kiss award for those who deserve a kiss (a Hersey's kiss - silver foil)
78. Knocked yourself out award Mount a small hammer or mini bat
79. Life saver award for that person who saved you (a Lifesaver on a string)
80. Lifesaver Award for the person who assisted with a problem - roll of lifesavers
81. Marbleous job A bunch of marbles
82. Measure up award Your performance sets the standard (a ruler)
83. Megaphone Award For those who are soft spoken but get the job done
84. Most Noteworthy A notepad, use a match book and glue some paper to the inside
85. N'ice Job A box of N'ice cough drops
86. Nuts about the job award for the person who had to be nuts (2 or 3 peanuts glued to a piece of wood)

87. Nuttiest A bag of nuts
88. Old Fossil Award for oldest leader or person in GS the longest
89. On the Ball Award for the energetic person who has it all together - styrofoam ball
with pipe cleaner Girl Scout on top
90. Order of the bear For those that bear up under pressure (a plastic bear with a tire gauge)
91. Order of The Level amount a small level for the person who is one bubble short of plumb
92. Order of the nut For one who has to be a little nuts (a walnut on a string or ribbon)
93. Order of the spare marble For the person who's lost 'em (a marble glued to wood)
94. Our eyes are on you For the leader who sets the example (button eyes on a large U)
95. Pig Award For the Big HAMS
96. Plunged right in award Small sink plunger
97. Purple Heart Award for the person injured in the line of duty - purple heart pillow
98. Really tacky award Mounted thumb tacks
99. Record breaker of any kind a mounted broken record
100. Right foot award For those who got us off on the right foot (Trace a RIGHT foot -
-use caution some may not know left from right)
101. Right-on target A target pasted to cardboard with "writing" on it
102. Ringy Dingy Award Mount a plastic phone or two cans on a string This is for those who are your phone call addicts.
103. Rose to the occasion an artificial or ribbon rose
104. Scout spirit award For those who show spirit (Make a ghost from a ball & rag with the scout sign on it)
105. Shell of a good job Large mounted seashell
106. Shining Example A small flashlight
107. Soggy Shoe Award old scrungey shoe for the new hiker who wore loafers
108. You take the Cake - Small Cake
109. You're an Angel - Angel Food Cake
110. You Devil - Devil's Food Cake
111. Out of a Jam Award - jar of jam
112. Go Nuts Without You - Can of nuts

113. You suit us to a Tea - Tea Bags

114. Souper Trooper - Can of Soup

115. Wet Sponge Award - New Leader to soak up info

A GIRL SCOUT LEADER IS SOMEONE WHO

Tries to listen to 10 little girls' conversations all at the same time.

Wakes up in the middle of the night worrying about the girls who weren't at the last meeting.

Calls 5 mothers about the one galosh that was left at the meeting place.

Finds that cookies, Kool-Aid, and kind words will help solve most any girl's problems.

Attends hours of training and how-to sessions only to discover that the meaning of Girl

Scouts is at the bottom of her own heart.

Remembers to bring insect repellent.

Says "Yes, I'll do it!" when it should be "No, no, a thousand times no!"

Gets a warning ticket from the State Patrol with a station wagon full of very quiet girls.

Is a friend to the friendless and a foe only to big brothers who throw rocks.

Breathes deeply of the wonderful silence after they all go home but looks forward to the

meeting next week.

Sings "Kookaburra" in the shower.

Knows that the secret of eternal youth is not at the cosmetic counter but in meeting with it

every week.

Gives and gives and gives and gets: sticky kisses, shy hugs, sly winks, and not much later,

wedding invitations and baby announcements.

A GIRL SCOUT LEADER IS SOMEONE WHO IS VERY SPECIAL!

A HUSBAND'S LAMENT

Bingo and "Another World" my wife can do without.
But I'm stuck with something just as bad since she got in Girl Scouts.
From September until June, it's meetings all the time;
She then starts getting ready, 'cause Camp is next in line.
Girl Scouts have lots of meetings to pass away a night,
And just to pass away a day, they all go on a hike.
Then when there are no camps or hikes or meetings to attend,
The troop all gets together for an overnight sleep-in.
Sometimes I'll say unto my wife, "Let's go out for a while."
I know exactly what she'll say when I see her smile --
"Sorry, but I've got no time to be a gadabout,
'Cause me and Blanche and Helen have a meeting for Girl Scouts."
Then when they have a meeting and meal time comes around,
God knows what I'll get to eat -- I may not get it down.
It's cooked in such a hurry, it just doesn't turn out right;
She's always got the same excuse -- "There's a Girl Scout meeting tonight."
In June she rolls her sleeping bag and then she packs her kit;
She picks up little crafts collected for the camping trip.
She says, "Twill soon be over now, 'cause camping is the end."
But I know that come September, it will all start up again.
Sometimes I grumble with her and say, "It's gone too far.
Half the time you're not at home and I don't know where you are."
She just says, "It's my decision when I come in or go out --
You can grumble all you like; I'm going to Girl Scouts."
She goes to all the things they have no matter what I say;
I guess that she'll be in Girl Scouts until her dying day.
Now if she goes before me and I am left to mourn,
I'll send her like she's used to going --
IN HER GIRL SCOUT UNIFORM!

WHEN THINGS LOOK BAD

When little girls' antics try your soul,
When parents' foibles take their toll,
When campouts never see the sun,
When the telephone makes you turn and run,
When no one shows for the event you planned,
When the food for the camp is full of sand,
When the flashlight falls into the pit,
When the director says, "I have to quit.",
When the thought of forms just makes you cry,
When your husband looks in the kitchen and sighs,
When you wish you had never heard of Girl Scouts,
When all you want is O-U-T OUT - -
REMEMBER.....

When a Daisy jumped up and down with glee
When her name was called for the singing tree,
When a Brownie shyly gave you a flower,
When a Junior came down the rappelling tower,
When a Cadette nervously led her first station,
When a girl's first date caused a sensation,
When a Senior stood up tall and proud
To receive her Gold before the crowd,
Remember these, and hold on tight,
And keep our trefoil in your sight,
On your honor, be strong and true -
Remember, they're all counting on you!

GIRL SCOUTING SHOULD BE FUN. HERE IS A LITTLE REMINDER:

L--Laugh--remember to laugh at yourself and situations, keep it lite.
E--Enthusiastic--be happy, pleasant, and have a sense of humor.
A--Active--be involved and aware of what's going on in your troop.
D--Democratic--get input from parents and girls, "the GIRL is first in Girl Scouting".
E--Encouraging--let parents and girls know that they are needed and appreciated.
R--Respectful--of parents, girls and other volunteers; we are the example.

THE NORWEGIAN LEGEND OF THE FRIENDSHIP KNOT

Present story with a gift of a friendship knot

There once lived, in Norway, facing the North Sea, a fisherman and his daughter. The child was lonely. All day, and long into the evening, her father was on the water, fishing. Her mother had died when she was only five years old. She was alone so much of the time. To help her idle away the lonely hours, her father taught her the art of knotting, lacing and braiding, and she spent many a happy hour doing this work. Her favorite knot was one her father called the Knot of Friendship. It fascinated her because it looked so much like a four-leaf clover which she had read about, and which was supposed to bring much luck to a person who found one. She was fascinated also because she could not understand what friendship was. Her father could not explain "friendship". He could not relate it to a person, place or thing.

He could say only that a friend was "good", "kind", "sincere", and so on. These things she understood. When the child was eleven years old, the sea claimed the life of her father and she was sent into the city to live with an elderly distant relative. The woman did not understand the needs of a young child, and once again she was lonely and afraid. Across the street from the house in which she lived was a small park, and each week the child watched a group of young people gather there. They all looked so happy and there was so much laughter and singing. She decided that the next week she would go and sit on the bench and be there when the girls arrived. . . so the very next week she was sitting on the bench when the group came down the walk. She watched and listened and found it was a group of Girl Guides, and they were working with a map and compass. All seemed unaware that she was even around. In her deep interest in what was going on, she didn't see the tall blond girl leave the group and come to her bench. Only when the girl said, "Come join us and be our friend", did she become conscious that she was there. There was the magic word "friendship".

Now, perhaps she would learn what it meant. Time passed. The child did join the group, and did become their friend. One lovely evening during a campfire ceremony, the child presented to each member of the group a light blue rope necktie, and in one end of each she had carefully made her knot of friendship as her token of love and friendship. She finally understood the word "friend".

THE CIRCLE OF GIRL SCOUTING

Girl Scouting is a circle,
One that never ends.
A circle of laughter
and a circle of friends.
From Brownies to Juniors,
From beanies to greens
From little girl smiles
To bigger girl dreams.
As the growing continues,
She becomes a Cadette
Her knowledge grows,
Her goals become set.
As the years fly by,
Her mind and body grow,
She is now a Senior
Less to learn: more to know.
Here you might think,
The circle ends,
But in actuality,
It begins again.
Because a Senior gave
Her love and lost her heart,
To the little Daisies,
She helped to start.
The circle continues
Through the little ones,
Through their laughter
And their fun.
Girl Scouting is a circle
Full of love and strife.
Girl Scouting is a circle,
A circle of life.
by Daphne Spiers

SISTERHOOD

Blazing fire, lend your light
Like the brilliant stars of night.
Point the way our path is going
While we follow, ever knowing
What we owe to those who dared.
Be Prepared, Be Prepared.
Logs burn, flames rise,
Hearts glow, trouble dies;
Each for all and all for each,
Happiness within our reach;
Joined together by the Good
Of World-Wide Guiding Sisterhood.

GIRL SCOUT GARDEN

First plant five rows of peas:
Patience
Promptness
Preparation
Perseverance
Purity

Next plant three rows of squash:
Squash gossip
Squash destructive criticism
Squash indifference

Then plant five rows of lettuce:
Let-us be faithful to duty
Let-us be unselfish
Let-us be loyal
Let-us be true to obligations
Let-us show love to one another

And no garden is complete without turnips:
Turn-up for important meetings
Turn-up with a smile
Turn-up with good ideas
Turn-up with determination to make everything good and worthwhile.
Plant this garden and watch YOURSELF grow.

ANYWAY

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered;

-Forgive them anyway

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;

-Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;

-Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;

-Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight:

-Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;

-Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;

-Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;

-Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, It is between you and God;

It was never between you and them anyway.

Mother Teresa

ANGEL IN GREEN

Having left mortal earth I passed through Heaven's gate
And while anxiously awaiting the outcome of my fate
I walked amongst the angels all robed in purest white
Whereupon I saw one figure that cast a greenish light.

She sat upon a misty cloud, a harp held to her breast,
In a flowing, blowing gown of green, unlike all the rest;
I asked what great deed she'd done to earn the special hue
That gave her color where others had none, or maybe just a few.

She said, "On earth I sought no fame, fortune was not my goal
I shunned the power of politics and worked without a toll;
I spent time with children, helping them to grow
For as you reap in life, so must you learn to sow."

"You see," she said, "the dividend while growing up I'd share
I repaid where many others were too self involved to care;
Girl Scouting was my choice of roads to follow in my quest
For among the girls I found a love deeper than the rest."

"A teacher was I, my work was hard, I had no diploma or pay
But where family and institutions failed I helped them find the way;
The lessons I taught were obscure and difficult to see
For they didn't have names like spelling or math or geometry."

"They were lessons in life delivered through guided experience
And they taught such things as character, spirit, and confidence;
Though on earth my life was blessed, it's even more so today
For when I look down I see my work as my girls show others the way."

"On earth Girl Scouting taught me to leave things better than before
And the same applies to that mortal place where life never was a bore
Now having lived by that Girl Scout rule in every earthly endeavor
I have become an Angel in Green and shall be a Girl Scout forever."

ORDER OF THE GREEN KNIGHT

His suits aren't made of armored steel
They're cotton, silk or tweed.
He makes his charge with credit card
Not on a snow-white steed.

His lance is just a ball-point pen,
No heralds cry his might,
And yet this Girl Scout dad is
A Modern day great knight.

He aids young damsels in distress,
A helping hand he lends.
He's asked to do a hundred things
For Daughter and her friends.

He loads his car, Unloads his car,
Drives all around the town,
Plays errand boy and baby nurse,
Builds things and tears them down.

At busy times, he doesn't dine,
just eats a TV dinner,
The tied up phone is not his own --
In patience he's a winner.

This father gives his time,
And though he might complain,
That he is being pushed around,
He loves it just the same.

So, Girl Scouts raise the symbolic sword,
With touch both deft and light,
Tap these faithful shoulders and
Dub this man "Green Knight".

ODE TO A GIRL SCOUT LEADER

Our dishes went unwashed today,
We didn't make the bed;
We took God's hand and went with Him
to Girl Scouts instead.
Oh, yes, we went adventuring,
The girls, and you and I,
Exploring all the great outdoors,
Beneath the summer sky.
That our houses were neglected,
That we didn't sweep the stair,
In twenty years no one on earth
Will know or even care.
But that we helped some little girl
From child to adulthood grow,
In twenty years the whole wide world
Will look, and see, and know!

ODE TO A GIRL SCOUT LEADER'S FAMILY

Even though there are stacks of dirty dishes, laundry and an unmade bed, She's off again to yet another Girl Scout meeting instead. She has plenty of time to buy great snacks and food for all the troop, While here we wait, forced to survive on nothing but bread and soup.

Ah yes, they have grand adventures in the great outdoors 'neath the rain filled sky. Yet all we hear are tales of woe as sleeping bags and troop gear take several days to dry. We'll be on our own to clean and cook, since before an outing the phone rings off the hook..

"What time do we leave? Where do we meet? Are we still going if it rains?"
"Don't they read permission slips or newsletters?" the Girl Scout spouse exclaims! Yes, their houses are neglected --- the Board of Health could shut them down. To many a leader's husband, the mere mention of Girl Scouts could bring a frown.

She says that in 20 years- no one on earth will know or care, For it man's existence is from dust to dust- you'll find one on our unswept stair! Being a part of leader's family brings with it a unique lifestyle. We pray at least a few young girls will nurture and grow to make all of THIS worthwhile!

INVENTORY

Today I stood in my doorway
And watched my Scout troop leave,
And I pondered then the question --
Of the kind of a leader I want to be.

I'd want them to follow my every move
In building a cook-out fire,
But how would I feel if they followed my lead
In venting wrath at injured pride?

They do right well to keep in mind
The lessons I've taught on bearing a flag
But oh, how sorry I'd be to find
That their tongue should ever idly wag!

I really feel good when their voices ring
With joy at singing the songs I've taught,
But could I feel good at my conscience's sting
If they ever knew evil things I've taught?

Yes, today I stood and watched them go
And today I could only pray
For guidance and wisdom to help me show
These girls of mine the better way.

Today I was given a lesson to learn
And a charge to hold in trust

For Girl Scouting won't stop with badges we earn
But challenges me to become what I must.

I'm challenged to love when loving is hard --
To forgive when it's bitter to do.
I'm challenged at all times to be on guard
That my actions and words will be true.

But I'm glad that this is my challenge
For I know beyond any doubts
That I'm better by far than ever I'd be
Without that troop of Girl Scouts.

EVERYBODY KNOWS

You can't be all things to all people.

You can't do all things at once.

You can't do all things equally well.

You can't do all things better than everyone else.

Your humanity is showing just like everyone else's.

SO...

You have to find out who you are, and be that.

You have to decide what comes first, and do that.

You have to discover your strengths, and use them.

You have to learn not to compete with others,

Because no one else is in the contest of "being you."

THEN...

You will have learned to accept your own uniqueness.

You will have learned to set priorities and make decisions.

You will have learned to live with your limitations.

You will have learned to give yourself the respect that is due,

And you'll be a most vital mortal.

DARE TO BELIEVE...

That you are a wonderful, unique person.

That you are a once-in-all-history event.

That it's more than a right, it's your duty, to be who you are.

That life is not a problem to solve, but a gift to cherish.

And you'll be able to stay one up on what used to get you down.

RECIPE FOR A GIRL SCOUT TROOP

(Put us all together, and we'll take it to the top!)

1. Girl Scouts come in all colors, from all races around the world. Every Girl Scout is a sister no matter where she is from, no matter the language she speaks, no matter the color of her skin. God loves variety, and Girl Scouts are the colors of the rainbow.

((M & M CANDIES)

2. We have a promise and a law. On our honor, we try to do our best to be fair and square. (CHEX CEREAL)

3. Some of us are tall, and some of us are small. When we get together, size doesn't matter at all. (PRETZEL THINS AND MINI MARSHMALLOWS)

4. Sometimes we are nutty. We love to joke and play. We'd love to put a Girl Scout smile into everyone's day. (NUTS)

5. Sometimes we are quiet and thoughtful. We have special gifts of love and caring to give in service to those who need our help. (BUTTERFLY CRACKERS)

6. When we get together, we seem to make circles. We may sit in circles, play circle games, make a Friendship Circle. You could say that we are well-rounded. (CHEERIOS)

7. When we are busy planning a project, or doing a craft, we pop around until we're done. (POPCORN)

8. Girl Scouts respect all living things. The earth is our home, and we want to keep it safe for everyone. (GOLDFISH CRACKERS OR ANIMAL CRACKERS)

9. Girl Scouts are "chips off the old block". Girl Scouting began in 1912. Since then we all have been part of an old tradition, and are proud to be part of the future.

(BANANA CHIPS)

10. We get a kick out of wearing our uniforms, learning new things, helping others, and being together with our friends. (KIX CEREAL)

11. Young Girl Scouts may be hard to resist because they are fresh, sweet and new. But the older scout may be more fun, because she has more experience than

you! (RAISINS)

WHAT SHE BROUGHT HOME FROM GIRL SCOUTS TODAY

by Laura Hollenzer

Perhaps when she came home today you asked, "What did you do at Girl Scouts?"

When she replied, "Nothing but play", you were filled with doubts!

The weeks went by, you asked again, still she had no craft to show.

Then you began to wonder, why didn't they glue or sew?

For after all, it's dues each week, and driving here and there.

The uniform, permission slips, and cookie sale to share!

Ah... but she brought home much better things, that no glue or craft could make.

If only to lend a helping hand, when needed for someone's sake.

You see, although we think of Girl Scouting now, it really isn't "today"!

It's the Girl Scouting for tomorrow, and to help them explore a new way.

It's the caring, sharing, learning, growing, the Golden Rule is our thumb.
For she'll be the one with the helping hand, in the future years to come.

So, when she comes home the next time please, you can rest with a brand new
start.

For the craft that she brought home today, is molded in her heart.

BECAUSE YOU SAID YES.

. . .a young girl will feel the pride of being someone special as she carefully puts
on her uniform for the very first time

. . . a girl can move to a new town and have "instant friendships" with girls she
might never have met

. . . parents will experience that special pride when they listen to their daughter
say the Girl Scout Promise for the first time

. . .bright eyes will become a little brighter with excitement as the kindling
finally catches on the first campfire

. . .nervous giggles will emit from tents as girls try to fall asleep their first night
of camp

. . .the community, and the world will be richer because a girl has learned the
importance of caring for her environment, and the warm feeling that comes
from giving service to someone less fortunate than herself

. . .a parent will find a gold trefoil carefully tucked away in a drawer as their
daughter packs to leave home for her first adventures as a young adult

. . .a young women will contact Girl Scouts one day and say "I had so much fun
when I was a Girl Scout, I'd like to try being a leader"

AND THE CIRCLE WILL CONTINUE BECAUSE YOU SAID 'YES'

WHY I'M A LEADER

I'm not a Girl Scout leader for the easy hours, high pay, parents' gratitude, power or prestige. I'm a Leader because I want the world for your Daughter and mine- A world she can share and help shape: a world of love and laughter where she can show compassion.

I want to help her learn to finish anything she starts and do it well and to guide her to know her worth with a deeper understanding of herself. I want to help shape women who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.

I want them to be the best they can be - whether as career women or as homemakers, wives and mothers who are the hearts of the family. In giving of my time and myself I reap rewards far beyond what I give. I receive a better world for my children and future generations.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I care.

WHY I AM A LEADER 2

I'm not a Scouting leader for the easy hours, high pay, parents' gratitude, power or prestige. I'm a leader because I want the world for your child and mine - a world they can share and help shape; a world of love and laughter, where they can show compassion.

I want them to look at the stars, a sunrise, a sunset, the work and world of mankind - and feel its beauty inside of themselves. I want to help them learn to finish anything they start and do it well, and to guide them to know their worth with a deeper understanding of themselves.

I want to help shape adults who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others. I want them to be the best they can be. I'm giving of myself and my time. I reap rewards far beyond what I give. I receive for my children, your children, and future children a better world.

How much is a Scout leader paid, I hear you ask; my wage consists of smiles and laughter, observing a child's growing self confidence and the look of personal triumph on the face of a child who has achieved more than they thought they could.

Anyone who can teach me or show me a better way to do this job, anyone who gives of their time to help me become a better leader, and anyone who by action

or deed makes the Scouting program come alive will forever have my undying gratitude.

I am a Scouting Leader because I care.

BECAUSE THE GIRL

by Mimi Murray, National Operational Volunteer, GSUSA

Because the girl has a need, We have an obligation.

Because the girl has a choice, We must be her better choice.

Because the girl has high expectations, We must excel.

Because the girl wants to explore, We must be her guide.

Because the girl wants to belong, We must open our arms.

Because the girl is searching for direction, We must be her compass

Because the girl encounters times of turmoil, We must be her safe haven.

Because the girl is tomorrow's woman, We must care today.

Because of the girl... We exist.

TEN LITTLE VOLUNTEERS

Ten little volunteers came to Girl Scouts all the time, One fell out with the director and then there were nine.

Nine little volunteers stayed up late, One overslept and then there were eight.

Eight little volunteers on their way to heaven, One took the low road and then there were seven.

Seven little volunteers chirping like chicks, One didn't like the singing, and then there were six.

Six little volunteers seemed very much alive, One took a vacation and then there were five.

Five little volunteers asking for more, One took a rest for awhile, and then there

were four.

Four little volunteers busy as a bee, One got her feelings hurt, and then there were three.

Three little volunteers couldn't decide what to do, One couldn't have her way and then there were two.

Two little volunteers each recruited one more, Now don't you see, two and two make four.

Four little volunteers worked early and late, Each brought one, and now there were eight.

Eight little volunteers, if they double as before, In just seven weeks, we'd have a thousand twenty-four.

In this little jingle there is a lesson true...You belong either to the building or the wrecking crew.

A PENNY AND THE GIRL SCOUT STORY

"Lincoln symbolizes the ideal we have towards our country as Girl Scouts. The inscription, 'In God We Trust' reminds us of a Supreme Being.

The Lincoln Memorial symbolizes what we are working towards as Girl Scouts... building strong citizens, thus forming a strong structure.

The three steps represent the three parts of the Girl Scout promise.

The ten columns remind us of the Girl Scout Law. The Promise and the Law support Girl Scouting.

The open door symbolizes our open hearts to all.

The Latin 'E. Pluribus Unim' reminds us that while there are many of us here, we are all united in Girl Scouting.

This penny symbolizes the many rewards we receive during our lifetime.

Rewards not in money or gifts, but in a smile of a friend, a handshake of a new friend and the knowledge and pride gained in doing the best you can in reaching your life's goal. Keep this penny...every once in a while look at it and remember what it means."

THE LITTLE GREEN HEN, (A FABLE)

Once upon a time there was a Little Green Hen that had a Girl Scout Troop. She had an Assistant Leader and a lot of mothers with this troop. One day, the Little Green Hen found she needed a Badge Manager for her troop. She asked Susie's mother, but Susie's mother said, "No, I am far too busy with the PTA." She asked Janie's mother, but Janie's mother said, "No, I'm far too busy with my bridge club." She asked Kathy's mother, but Kathy's mother said, "No, I'm working so we can buy a color TV." "All right" said the Little Green Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy handling the badge records at several meetings that they never did finish their Christmas Service Project.

Then one day, the Little Green Hen found she needed a Cookie Manager for her troop. She asked Susie's mother, but Susie's mother said, "No, I'm far too busy with my church circle." She asked Janie's mother, but Janie's mother said, "No, I'm busy redecorating just now." She asked Kathy's mother, the Kathy's mother said, "No, I'm working so we can buy a snowmobile." "All right" said the Little Green Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy handling the Cookie Sale that they didn't finish planning for their overnight at spring vacation and so it had to be canceled.

Then one day, the Little Green Hen found she needed a Finance Manager. She asked Susie's mother, but Susie's mother said, "No, I'm busy working on the school referendum." She asked Janie's mother, but Janie's mother said, "No, we're going to Spain." She asked Kathy's mother, but Kathy's mother said, "No, I'm working to buy a motorboat for the summer." "All right" said the Little Red Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy making finance calls that she couldn't keep up with the badge records, and so they had to cancel the Court of Awards.

Then it came time to re-register the troop. Susie's mother said, "I don't think the Little Green Hen is a very good leader." And Janie's mother said, "I don't think Janie will stay in Girl Scouts because they didn't finish their Christmas project, they didn't go on their overnight, and Janie didn't get her badges." And Kathy's mother said, "I don't think Kathy will stay in Girl Scouts because they didn't go on their overnight, and Kathy didn't get her badges."

And the Little Green Hen said, "I won't take the Girl Scout troop for another year because I can't do it all myself." And she didn't!

HANDLING CRITICISM

1. Listen to it.
2. Evaluate from it.
3. Learn from it.
4. Respond to it.
5. Forget it.
6. Keep on serving

AND THEN SOME

These Three Little Words Are The Secret To Success
They Are The Difference Between Average People And Top People In Most
Organizations

The Top People Always Do What Is Expected And Then Some
They Are Thoughtful Of Others, They Are Considerate And Kind And Then
Some
They Meet Their Obligations And Responsibilities Fairly And Squarely And
Then Some
They Are Good Friends And Helpful Neighbors And Then Some
They Can Be Counted On In An Emergency And Then Some
I Am Thankful For People Like This For They Make The World More Livable
Their Spirit Is Summed Up In These Three Little Words And Then Some

SCOUTING DESTINY

You may someday mould destiny. For it is within your power to become the most influential person in the life of a child. And every child is a potential atom bomb in human history. A citizen like yourself might have been the leader of a youth group in which an undersized unhappy Austrian lad by the name of Adolph might have found a joyous boyhood, full of the ideals of brotherhood, goodwill, and kindness. And the world would have been different.

Perhaps your involvement with a child will avert a world tragedy and you will be among the most important individuals who ever lived. Children are the makers of history, the builders of tomorrow. If you can have some part in guiding them up the trails to adulthood, on to the high road of noble character and constructive citizenship, you may prove to be the most influential person in their lives, the most important person in your community.

A hundred years from now it will not matter what your bank account was, the sort of house you lived in, or the kind of car you drove. But the world may be different, because you were important in the life of a child.

(Inspired by the words of Forest E. Witcraft -1894-1967)

IF I HAD MY CHILD TO RAISE OVER AGAIN|

By Diane Loomans

If I had my child to raise all over again,
I'd finger-paint more and point the finger less.
I'd do less correcting and more connecting.
I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.
I would care to know less and know to care more.
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.
I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.
I'd run through more fields and gaze at more stars.
I'd do more hugging and less tugging.
I would be firm less often, and affirm much more.
I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.
I'd teach less about the love of power,
and more about the power of love

REAL DEFINITIONS OF GIRL SCOUT TERMS

Troop Committee:

- Family Appeal Chairman - Calls parents to tell them the leader needs money to send in.
- Cookie Chairman - Parent with a garage and a pick up truck or van.
- Emergency Contact - Parent who is always home except when you need them.
- Telephone Chairman - Calls to tell parents what was in the note sent home.
- Transportation Chairman - Parent with station wagon or van.

Types of Troop Government:

- Brownie Ring - Circle of chairs that girls run around.
- Town Meeting - Chairs all face the same way but girls don't.
- Patrol System - Small groups of chairs - girls all in the bathroom.

Girl Scout Glossary:

- Badge - A small, round patch on a girl's sash that she can't remember what she did to get.
- Bridging - A ceremony in which girl is given her honorable discharge from the troop.
- Brownie - Short girl in brown dress which is either 2 sizes too big or 1 size too small.
- Buddy System - Pairing of girls which guarantees they will never be in the same place at the same time.
- Cadette - Tall girl who would rather be caught dead than seen in uniform.
- Candelighting - Ceremony in which a Girl Scout demonstrates that she cannot light a match.
- Color Guard - Group of Girl Scouts tripping over each other while banging flag poles into door jambs.
- Court of Awards - Ceremony parents attend to make sure their daughter got more badges than the neighbor's daughter.
- Court of Honor - Mythical part of the patrol system.
- Daisy - Very short girl with blue smock covering all food, paint, and grubby hand stains on regular clothes.
- Fly-Up - Brownie ceremony similar to Bridging ceremony, but girls are booted out of the nest as well.
- Friendship Circle - Girls standing in circle trying to out-squeeze each other's hands.
- Girl Scout Sign - Girl holding up 3 fingers so she has something to look at while saying her promise.
- Girl Scout Week - A week on the calendar, sometime in March, that overstressed leaders can't seem to think of anything special to do to celebrate it.

- Investiture - Ceremony in which girl forgets her promise after practicing it at least 25 times that afternoon.
- Junior - Medium size girl dressed in green with sash falling off shoulder.
- Juliette Low's Birthday - Usually called Halloween because that's more "fun".
- Kaper - Fancy name to trick the girls into cleaning the latrine.
- Kaper Chart - Poster board announcing, for all to see, who gets to clean the latrine.
- Motto - Be Prepared, but any experienced leader actually knows it's Be Flexible.
- Neighborhood/Service Unit - A geographical subdivision of a council with a fancy name to confuse new leaders as to where they belong.
- Patrol - Group of 6 - 8 girls who used to be best friends.
- Quiet Sign - Hand signal invented by leader with laryngitis.
- Ranger - Man in charge of scout camp -- can see gum wrapper under a tent 50 yards away.
- Scout's Own - A ceremony where no-one contributes anything and everyone wonders what is coming next.
- Service Team - Group of adults that muddles along trying to convince everyone else they are great administrators.
- Sit-Upon - A mat or pad, usually somewhere else when you really need it.
- Thinking Day - Special Guiding and Scouting day when leaders worldwide wonder why they are spending more than an hour a week on somebody else's girls.
- Troop - Large group of girls dedicated to making leader insane.
- Try-It - Triangular piece of colored cloth on a girl's sash/vest that shows she's been showing up to meetings.
- WAGGGS - What leaders do with their index fingers to girls that are misbehaving.

Four Program Goals For Girls:

1. To Develop to Her Full Individual Potential.

Translation: You are a very small cog in a very big machine.

2. To Relate to Others With Increasing Understanding, Skill, and Respect.

Translation: You scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours.

3. To Develop Values to Guide Her Actions and to Provide the Foundation for Sound Decision-making.

Translation: Never Miss a Meeting or a Deadline

4. To Contribute to the Improvement of Society Through the Use of Her Abilities and Leadership Skills, Working in Cooperation With Others.
Translation: Sell Cookies and collect for Family Appeal.

TEN YEARS IN GIRL SCOUTS

When you were very, very young
I'll bet your Mom said, "Come along,
There is a place that you can go
Where there's new friends to get to know."

You'll make some crafts and play some games,
and soon you'll know all of their names.
You'll circle round and sing a song
and maybe make a sit-upon.

Brownies was great and as time passed
You wanted the fun to last and last.
So up to Juniors you flew one day
And for several years you stayed that way.

You gave some service here and there,
Showed your community that you cared.
Earned some badges for your sash
And sold those cookies for some cash.

Now it was time to become a teen.
You bridged to a blue vest from your green.
A Cadette Girl Scout you've become
And now it gets really fun.

You help with Brownies at Day Camp.
You pitch your tents although it's damp.
The patches that you're earning now
Seem somewhat harder somehow.

But you work long and you work hard.
The next stop is the Silver Award.
And along the way you plan some trips
And read the news for travel tips.

Next up, you're Seniors, still in blue,
And YOU'VE decided what you'll do.
More service and leadership are your goals.
(Still roasting marshmallows on the coals!)

Your opportunities are so great
For trips, for camps (and an occasional date!)
Now Mom stands back with a great big smile
'Cause she knows you're in it for the long mile.

She often times, may hear you say,
"I'll get my Gold Award one day!"
Ruth Thornberg "Owl" 5/20/00

EVERYTHING I NEED TO KNOW, I LEARNED FROM BEING A GIRL SCOUT LEADER

1. Green is always an appropriate fashion statement.
2. There is no such thing as trash, only future craft supplies.
3. Sleeping under the stars is invigorating to the soul.
4. You can survive in the wilderness with a flashlight and a pocketknife.
5. Girl Scout cookies have no fat and no calories.
6. Walk softly and carry a copy of *Safetywise*.
7. Always travel with a buddy.
8. Don't cry over spilled paint and don't sweat the small stuff.
9. Girls like to be seen and heard.
10. No song is too silly to sing and nobody sings off key.
11. Working on a team is much easier than working alone.
12. Plans gone awry can lead to the very best times.
13. That responsibility, opportunity, hard work and success are all related.
14. Girls really can rub two sticks together to make a fire.
15. You can learn something from the tiniest Girl Scout.
16. Good friends are like silver and gold.
17. There is no substitute for advance preparation.
18. There is no such thing as failure, only a change in plans.
19. You are never too old to try new things.
20. Leadership is a two way street.
21. Sharing knowledge is truly a path to immortality.
22. Never let petty politics keep you from your mission.
23. Patience really is a virtue.
24. If a Girl Scout Leader can't do it, nobody can.
25. A girl's smile is worth a thousand words.
26. If they are leading or succeeding, they probably were a Girl Scout.

Kathy Little 2001

CALCULATOR TAPE DEMO

You need an 8-10 foot long piece of adding machine or calculator tape.

Mark off the tape in ten year increments with 0 at the left end and 100 at the right. Use large numbers so parents can see from the audience. Roll the tape back up, so that the 100 is in the center of the roll.

For the presentation you will need two helpers to hold the tape in front of you so you can point at various points on the tape. Start out saying: "With the current advances in medical technology its very likely that your daughter will live about 100 years."

(Have your helpers unroll the tape in front of you, so the whole time line is visible.)

"Here's a time line of her life. If you're 35 now, statistically, you'll likely live until you're 75 or so, when your daughter will be about 50."(Rip the tape off at the 1/2 way point and hand the end to your helper. Let the other half fall to the floor -- very important dramatic effect).

"This represents the years you and your daughter will have together in her lifetime. And she's probably about 6 or 7 now."

(Rip of the tape slightly below 10 and let that piece fall to the floor. Hand the end to your helper).

"So here's the time you have left together."

"How old do you suppose your daughter will be when she goes away to college (or you decide its time for her to be out on her own)? 18 - 20?"

(Rip off the tape someplace in this vicinity. Let that chunk fall to the floor. Hand the end to your helper).

"This is the amount of time you have left with her at home."

"When she's about 13 - middle school age - her friends start to become a much bigger, maybe the major, influence in her life."

(If you can -assuming you have/had a teenager - make a comment about how you know this from experience.)

(Rip off the tape someplace in this vicinity. Let that chunk fall to the floor. Hand the end to your helper).

(Take the very short piece of tape from your helpers and hold in it front of you, and thank your helpers.)

"This is the time you have left to be the major shaping force in your daughter's life. You can show her how important she is to you by becoming involved in Girl Scouting with her. Girl Scouts is a remarkable opportunity for you and your daughter to share a great variety of fun, exciting and positive experiences.

Experiences that give you the opportunity to help her grow into an adult that you'll be proud to point to and say: "That's my daughter -she's a good person."

(Go on to talk about volunteer opportunities in your council/service unit and how parents can participate in them.)

GIRL SCOUT LEADER'S DESIDERATA

Go placidly amid the noise and excitement of your meeting,
And remember that this is one sign of good Scouting.
As far as possible without surrender,
Be on good terms with all your fellow leaders.
Plan your programs carefully and cheerfully;
And listen to others, even the youngest Daisy Scout;
She will give you many moments of Joy.

Avoid loud and aggressive gatherings of Leaders,
Except when you're part of one.
If you compare your troop with others, do not become vain or bitter;
For success can only be judged by the smiles on their faces.
Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.
Keep in mind the Aim of the movement,
However hard to understand at times,
It is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution with your troop funds;
For a Girl Scout works hard for her money.
But let this not blind you to what Girl Scouting is all about.
Baden-Powell wrote it himself; Camping and the Outdoors.
Be yourself. especially, have fun. Neither burn out too soon;
For in the face of all aridity and disenchantment
Those girls are depending on you.

Take kindly the counsel of your Service Team,
They will help you all that they can.
Nurture strength of spirit in case of a failure
But do not blame yourself... you have done your best,
And what you think of as failure may be super fun to your Girl Scouts.
Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.
You are the most important person in Scouting;

We need more adults like yourself
To help the youth of this world.
And whether or not it is clear to you,
You are molding the future of this country.
Therefore, be at peace with God,
Whatever you conceive Him to be,

And whatever your labors and aspirations,
In the noisy confusion of your meeting
Keep peace with yourself.
With all its hard work and sometimes frustration,
It is still a wonderful movement.
Be cheerful and strive for good Scouting ...
Author Unknown

WE ARE ONLY LEADERS

We are not experts. We're your next door neighbors. We're not perfect, we are just parents like you.

We don't have any more spare time or energy than you do, we all work full time and juggle our families and our schedules and try to keep it all together as best we can. The only difference between us is that we believe in what Girl Scouting has to offer. So much so, that we contribute our time, our miles, and our talents to help our girls and your girls grow in Scouting.

We complete authorization forms, budgets, and registrations, and fill our homes with boxes of paperwork that you will never see. We are required to take many hours of training as well as attend various meetings so that we can meet our greatest challenge- providing a variety of programs which meet the needs and interests of very individual girls. We try to involve parents who want us to understand that they don't have the time to drive on outings or help at meetings. We rejoice at the generosity of others.

Sometimes we find ourselves going in to many directions, we run out of steam. We have memory lapses. Communication lines break down. Time slips by. But that doesn't mean we don't care. So many evenings we spend on the phone, seeking advice and support from other leaders when disappointments or problems occur. "How do I keep my girl's attention?" "What are your ideas for the ceremony?" "How do you work with girls in different grades?"

Our dining tables are covered with bits of rope, menus, trip permits, craft supplies, paper work and badges for each and every girl in the troop. A couple of them won't show up, and don't think to call and let us know. Sometimes we feel unappreciated. Yet, these girls can fill us with pride at their determination and accomplishments. Their smiles light up a room; and when they say "Thank You", it makes it all worth it.

We help these girls build relationships. Some struggle more than others. Considerate, loyal, helpful, friendly... is encouraged by the Girl Scout Promise and Law. And sometimes we too must learn these lessons over and over again with the girls. But we are willing to keep learning. Please be patient if we appear distracted or frustrated or overwhelmed at times. Forgive us if we are not the kind of Leader you would be if you had the time. Instead, provide us with encouragement or offer your help. Keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

We are, after all, only mentors...role models...leaders. Volunteers who have taken an oath to give these girls, your girls, the most precious gift we have to

offer- the gift of time.

GIRL SCOUT LEADER A-Z

- (A)ccepts you as you are
- (B)elieves in "you"
- (C)alls you just to say "HI"
- (D)oesn't give up ! ! ! on you
- (E)nvisions the whole of you (even the unfinished parts)
- (F)orgives your mistakes
- (G)ives unconditionally
- (H)elps you
- (I)nvites you over
- (J)ust wants to "be" with you
- (K)eeps you close at heart
- (L)oves you for who you are
- (M)akes a difference in your life
- (N)ever Judges
- (O)ffers support
- (P)icks you up
- (Q)uiets your fears
- (R)aises your spirits
- (S)ays nice things about you

(T)ells you the truth when you need to hear it
(U)nderstands you
(V)alues you
(W)alks beside you
(X)-plains thing you don't understand
(Y)ells when you won't listen and
(Z)aps you back to reality

THANK YOU

For every step taken on a wet and rocky trail,
For every reminder note you didn't forget to mail.
For every skinned knee you attended,
For every broken heart you mended.
For every burnt camping meal you ate,
For every late parent on which you had to wait.
For every tearful disappointment you heard,
For every time you could've...but didn't say a word.
For every ounce of laughter to a little girl you brought,
For every midnight giggle your tired ears have caught!
For every tear you've shed as they've grown up through the years.
For every one of your Girl Scouts, now full of confidence, not fears.
For every song you've sung,
For every song you'll sing...
Thank you...Girl Scout leader...simply put...for everything!!!

GIRL SCOUT'S PRAYER

Lord, help us to be good Girl Scouts
Ones whom the world can trust,
Help us respect our neighbor's rights
And never be unjust.

Help us as Americans
To be worthy of the flag we bear.
Then help us as real Girl Scouts
To be proud of the uniform we wear.

Help us keep our Promise, Lord,
In thought and word and deed,
And help us all to live the Law
That is in the Girl Scout creed.

Teach us to love our neighbors, Lord,
And then to serve them, too,
Help our actions count, dear Lord,
In everything we do.

Give us strength to carry on
And do our part each day,
Make a place in this world for us
And help us fill it, we pray.

Make us what we ought to be
And in Thy footsteps fall,
Help us to live for others,
O Great Leader of us all.

INVOCATION FOR GIRL SCOUTS

Dear Lord, guide us Girl Scouts today,
In all our work and all our play,
Help us to see where we may serve,
In some new place, in some new way.

Before our searching eyes unfold,
New beauties which are seldom told.
Help us live the Promise taken,
Code for scouts both young and old.

Give us strength - our job to do,
And courage, too, to see it through
Help us to live the Promise taken
As we dedicate ourselves anew.

SAME OLD ME

When I was in my younger days,
I weighed a few pounds less,
I needn't hold my tummy in to wear a belted dress.
But now that I am older,
I've set my body free;
There's comfort of elastic
Where once my waist would be.
Inventor of those high-heeled shoes
My feet have not forgiven;
I have to wear a nine now,
But used to wear a seven.
And how about those pantyhose--
They're sized by weight, you see,
So how come when I put them on
The crotch is at my knees?
I need to wear these glasses
As the prints were getting smaller;
And it wasn't very long ago
I know that I was taller.
Though my hair has turned to gray
and my skin no longer fits,
On the inside, I'm the same old me,
Just the outside's changed a bit.

I'VE LEARNED

I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life.

I've learned that making a "living" is not the same thing as making a "life."

I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back.

I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone.

People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.

I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

WHAT COUNTS

Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted

Albert Einstein

WHAT MAKES LIFE 100%

IF

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

EQUALS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

THEN,

H+A+R+D+W+O+R+K

8 +1+18+4+23+15+18+11= 98% ONLY

K+N+O+W+L+E+D+G+E

11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5=96% ONLY

BUT,

A+T+T+I+T+U+D+E

1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5=100%

50 REASONS FOR BEING A GIRL SCOUT LEADER

As a Girl Scout Leader you will.....

1. Stay young by serving the young.
2. Share fun times with your daughter.
3. Meet other great leaders.
4. Make and eat s'mores.
5. Expand your own skills and talents.
6. Create memories.
7. Promote positive values in youth.
8. March in parades.
9. Get to know your daughter's friends.
10. Encourage girls to "Be Their Best."
11. Get lots of help.
12. Make a difference in others.
13. Dabble in a wide variety of subjects.
14. Sleep in museums.
15. Develop positive self esteem in girls and women.
16. Extend the sisterhood of Girl Scouting to all girls.
17. Grow by trying new things.
18. Make new friends.
19. Go horseback riding.
20. Help girls become well-rounded individuals.
21. Model leadership and initiative.
22. Get to know your daughter's friends' parents.
23. Make a contribution to your community.
24. Improve your resume.
25. Go beyond your own limitations.
26. Build wonderful memories.
27. Learn about other cultures.
28. Offer girls a haven away from the stress' and demands of every day life.
29. Try new things and go new places at a discount.
30. Network with other adults with similar interests.
31. Guide girls into adulthood in a positive manner.
32. Learn new skills.
33. Live life to the fullest.
34. Become known in your school as an active parent.
35. Experience the joy of a child's admiration.
36. Let your daughter see you in a new light.
37. Brush up on your organizational skills.
38. Teach girls life skills such as goal setting and budgeting.
39. Never miss out on girl scout cookies.

40. Enjoy the adventure of seeing a girl try something new.
41. Get to know your daughter's better.
42. Teach girls good values that will stay with them the rest of their lives.
43. Contribute to the well being of the girls in your neighborhood.
44. Sing around a campfire.
45. Give back to scouting what was given to you as a girl/boy scout.
46. Offer opportunities to the girls that they might not otherwise have.
47. Help girls become self sufficient.
48. Explore and encourage diversity in your community.
49. Make an impact on other's lives.
50. HAVE FUN!!

SCOUTING VALUES

America is returning to the values that scouting never left!

VOLUNTEER TIME

Volunteers don't necessarily have the time, they just have the heart.

GIRL SCOUT LEADER'S PROMISE

I will do my best:

To be honest about my girls' abilities and fair to their talents

To be friendly and helpful because my girls deserve the best

To be considerate and caring even when things don't work out

To be courageous and strong because my girls need me

To be responsible for what I say and do because others are depending on me

And to,

To respect myself and others, after all, I am a Girl Scout Leader

To respect authority, even the girls

To use resources wisely by not wasting the potential in each girl I work with

To make this world a better place by sharing my best, and not sharing when necessary

To be a sister to every Girl Scout and care for each Girl Scout as family.

EACH LIFE AFFECTS ANOTHER

We may not always realize

That everything we do,

Affects not only our lives

But touches others, too!

For a little bit of thoughtfulness

That shows someone you care,

Creates a ray of sunshine

For both of you to share.

Yes, every time you offer

Someone a helping hand...

Everytime you show a friend

You care and understand...

Everytime you have

A kind and gently word to give...

You help someone find beauty

In this precious life we live.

For happiness brings happiness
And loving ways bring love;
And giving is the treasure
That contentment is made of.

Amanda Bradley

13 RULES OF LEADERSHIP

1. It ain't as bad as you think it is. It will look better in the morning.
2. Get mad, then get over it.
3. Avoid having your ego so close to your position that, when your position falls, your ego goes with it.
4. It can be done!
5. Be careful what you choose. You may get it.
6. Don't let adverse facts stand in the way of a good decision.
7. You can't make someone else's choices. You shouldn't let someone else make yours.
8. Check small things.
9. Share credit.
10. Remain calm. Be kind.
11. Have a vision. Be demanding.
12. Don't take counsel of your fears or nay Sayers.
13. Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier.

Colin Powell

SELLING COOKIES

The leaders of tomorrow are selling Girl Scout cookies today!

CHOICES

Choose to love, rather than hate
Choose to smile, rather than frown
Choose to build up, rather than tear down
Choose to persevere, rather than quit
Choose to praise, rather than criticize
Choose to heal, rather than wound
Choose to give, rather than take
Choose to reach out, rather than push away
Choose to encourage, rather than discourage
Choose to do a positive kindness, rather than retaliate
Choose to forgive, rather than be bitter
Choose to pray, rather than worry.

VOLUNTEER PAY

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless!

LIFE IS AN ADVENTURE

Life is a daring adventure or nothing. To keep our faces toward change and behave like free spirits in the presence of fate is strength undefeatable.

Helen Keller

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Name the five wealthiest people in the world.

Name the last five Heismann trophy winners.

Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.

Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer prize.

Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

Name the last half dozen Academy Awards winners for best actor/actress.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday.

These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields.

But, the applause dies, awards tarnish, achievements are forgotten.

Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.

Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.

Name five people you enjoy spending time with.

Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.

Easier?

The lesson.....

The people who make a difference in your life are NOT the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards.

They are the ones who care.

SEVEN STEPS TO STAGNATION

1. We've never done it that way.
2. We're not ready for that yet.
3. We're doing all right without it.
4. We tried it once, and it didn't work out.
5. It costs too much.
6. That's not our responsibility.
7. It won't work.

ACTION

When you reach a point of clarity and sanity in your life you:

Fix - what is fixable

Make possible - what is possible

Accept what is

And learn to live with the rest.

Susan C. Sommerfield

THE TIME YOU HAVE SPENT

The time you have spent as a volunteer,

Be it half a lifetime or just a year.

Will have it's effect on such far reaching ways,

It can never be measured in hours or days.

But we want to say thank you for doing your part,

For giving your hand and giving your heart.

Thanks for the smiles when you wanted to weep,

For the camping trips when you couldn't sleep.

For car pools and nosebags and sit upons,

For lighting the way to the outdoor johns.

For running and phoning and meeting and waiting,

For hiking and swimming and rollerskating.

But thanks more than ever for years yet to come,

When someone remembers the job that you've done.

And memories brighten a young womens face,

In some other time and some other place.

WILL TO WIN

If you have the will to win,

you have achieved half your success;

if you don't,

you have achieved half your failure.

David Ambrose

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR PARENTS

Thou shalt:

1. Strive to understand the true purpose of Girl Scouting.
2. Endeavor to get thy daughter to and from meetings on time.
3. Recognize that a troop succeeds through team effort.
4. Having accepted a troop task, see it through to the end.
5. Set a good example at all times.
6. Be enthusiastic and cheerful.
7. Not regard the leader as a baby sitter.
8. Bring troop problems to the leader first.
9. Strive to do thy part willingly.
10. Be aware that Girl Scouting is for ALL girls.

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

An out-of-Towner drove his car into a ditch in a desolated area. Luckily, a local Girl Scout Leader came to help with her big strong horse named Buddy. She hitched Buddy up to the car and yelled, "Pull, Nellie, pull!" Buddy didn't move. Then the Girl Scout Leader hollered, "Pull, Buster, pull!" Buddy didn't respond. Once more the Girl Scout Leader commanded, "Pull, Coco, pull!" Nothing.

Then the Girl Scout Leader nonchalantly said, "Pull, Buddy, pull!" And the horse easily dragged the car out of the ditch. The motorist was most appreciative and very curious. He asked the Girl Scout Leader why she called her horse by the wrong name three times. The Girl Scout Leader said, "Oh, Buddy is blind, and if he thought he was the only one pulling, he wouldn't even try!"

MAY YOU HAVE

Enough happiness to keep you sweet,
Enough trails to keep you strong,
Enough sorrow to keep you human,
Enough hope to keep you happy,
Enough failure to keep you humble,
Enough friends to give you comfort,
Enough wealth to meet your needs,
Enough enthusiasm to look forward,
Enough faith to banish depression,

Enough determination to make each day
Better than yesterday

BROWNIES

B Brownies together we all want to be,
R Ready for learning in grades, one, two, and three.
O Our time spent together is time that we share,
W While helping our friends and showing we care.
N New things to do and new friends to greet,
I Interests to share and people to meet.
E Each new discovery can open a door,
S So watch us keep going and growing some more.

CADETTE

C stands for challenges, cheerfulness and care.
A means you're always anxious to share.
D means developing the talents God gave.
E is for eagerness and excitement you crave.
T means be thrifty, be thankful, stand tall.
T means be truthful and trustworthy above all.

E stands for every little thing that you do.

But more than all these, to thine own self be true.

TAKE TIME

Take time to live; It's one secret of success.

Take time to think; It is the source of power.

Take time to play; It is the secret of youth.

Take time to read; It is the foundation of knowledge.

Take time for friendship; It is the source of happiness.

Take time to laugh; It helps to lift life's load.

Take time to dream; It hitches the soul to the stars.

Take time for God; It's life's only lasting investment

BLESSED ARE THE GIRL SCOUTS

Blessed are the Girl Scouts who are taught to see beauty in all things around them...

For their world will be a place of grace and wonder

Blessed are the Girl who are led with patience and understanding

For they will learn the strength of endurance and gift of tolerance

Blessed are the Girl Scouts who are provided with a home

where family members dwell in harmony and close communion.

For they shall become the peacemakers of the world,

Blessed are the Girl Scouts who are guided by those with faith in a loving God...

For they will find Him early and will walk with Him through life.

Blessed are the Girl Scouts who are loved and know that they are loved

For they shall sow seeds of love in the world and reap joy for themselves and others.

THE HAND I SOUGHT

With outstretched arms I stood today,
To touch a hand not far away.
Yes, far in miles but close in thought,
The hand of a sister Guide I sought.

And she in turn reached out to me,
With sister Guides far o'er the sea,
And she and they and you and I,
Together a friendship know shall tie.

For though we may not speak the same,
Together we all share one aim.
We all believe, as well we should,
In our Girl Guide/Girl Scout sisterhood.

And so today we set aside
That every Scout and Every Guide,
Might think of sisters o'er the sea,
Sisters to you and sisters to me.

That we might stop and realize
A fact we often do not prize,
That with Girl Guides from every land,
We form one mighty friendship band.

With outstretched arms I stood today,
With sister Guides I kneeled to pray,
And touched in prayer and heart and thought
The hand of a sister Guide I sought.

Marjorie Sullivan

WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,
When the funds are low, and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is strange with its twists and turns,
As everyone of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about,
When we might have won had we stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow,
You may succeed with another blow.

Success is failure turned inside out,
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far,
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit,
It's when things seem worse that you must not quit.

THE GIRL SCOUT LITANY

The Honor of a Girl Scout is to be trusted.
 It knows no guide.
The Loyalty of a Girl Scout is changeless.
 It enables the weak.
The Duty of a Girl Scout is service.
 It bears burdens for others.
The Friendship of a Girl Scout is universal.
 It offers sisterhood to all.
The Courtesy of a Girl Scout is unfailing
 It makes bright the walks of life.
The Gentleness of a Girl Scout protects all creatures.
 It suffers no cruelty.
The Obedience of a Girl Scout is instant
 It knows no rebellion.
The Presence of a Girl Scout is cheerful.
 It dispels all gloom.
The Hand of a Girl Scout is clean.

It does not waste.
The Mind of Girl Scout is clean.
It thinks no evil.
The Word of a Girl Scout is pure.
It utters no shame.
The Deeds of a Girl Scout are noble.
For her motive is unselfish.

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN

If you think you're beaten, you are,
If you think you dare not, you don't.
If you'd like to win, but think you can't,
It's almost for sure, you won't.

If you think you're losing, you've lost.
For out in the world we find -
Success begins with a person's will,
It's all in the state of mind.

If you think you're outclassed, you are,
You've got to think high to rise.
You have to stay with it,
In order to win the prize.

Life's battles don't always go,
To the one with the better plan.
For more often than not, you will win,
If only you think you can.

DISCOVERY

Today I smiled and all at once
Things didn't look so bad
Today I shared with someone else
A bit of hope I had

Today I sang a little song
And felt my heart grow light
And walked a happy little mile
Without a cloud in sight

Today I worked with what I had
And longed for nothing more
And what seemed like only weeds
Were flowers at my door

Today I loved a little more
Complained a little less
And in the giving of myself
Forgot my weariness

THE PATH OF GIRL SCOUTING

At five, and all ready for fun,
A Daisy Girl Scout, just waiting to run.
As a Daisy, she is starting to grow.
She's doing things and always on the go.

At six, a little girl is all ready to be
A Brownie Girl Scout, a bright penny to see.
As a Brownie, her life is just chock-full of fun.
She's busy and eager - forever on the run.

How to plan - what to do about most anything,
Comes from ideas shared in the Brownie Ring.
She learns how to grow with the Brownie Try-Its.
As she explores the world, bit by bit.

Toward growing in heart, the foundation was laid
On the day by the pool where her promise was made
'Til the day she was ready without any doubt
To take the next step - to become a Junior Girl Scout.

By the Promise and law she now strives to live.
A little more of herself she's learning to give.
The patrol system, and so much more to learn,
A new world of proficiency badges to earn.

During the years of Juniors, you grow and grow
In so many ways and soon you will know
That you now are ready to take the next step -
To cross a new bridge and become a Cadette.

As a Cadette, she starts journey,
Exploring the world, its wonders to see.
Careers to choose, decision to make,
Choices of opportunities she can take.

She goes about her merry way,
Her Silver received, she awaits the day,
When across the bridge she once again goes,
As upward to Seniors she continues to grow.

A Senior Scout, as leader she trains,
To share with others what she has gained
She strives to decide which path she will take,
Will it be scouting, college, or a job she will take?

And then across the bridge she will go,
With a wealth of information,
That she'll need to know
As off to the world of Adult Scouting she goes.

As an adult, she'll have the chance,
To give back what she took without a second glance,
She'll return to the younger Scouts that she will meet,
The love, understanding, trust, and respect,
That as a child she deemed a treat.

Patricia L. Feickert

LEADER RESOLUTION

I shall study my girls so that I may understand them.
I shall like my girls so that I can help them.
I shall learn - for they have much to teach me
I shall laugh - for youth grows comfortable with laughter.
I shall give myself freely - yet I shall take so that they acquire the habit of giving.
I shall be a friend - for a friend is needed.
I shall lead - yet I shall beware of pushing.
I shall listen - for a listener prevents combustion.
I shall warn them when my experience warrants it.
I shall commend when actions merit it.
I shall not overlook mistakes - yet I shall not blame them.
Lastly - I shall try to be that which I hope they think I am

Mary Lanigan, a Canadian Girl Guide Leader

LIVING ANGELS

There is a group of living angels,
Who give and give each year
These incredibly gifted people
Are known as volunteers.

Some ask "Why do you do it?"
"You mean it doesn't pay a dime?"
"Why, you'd have to be crazy
To give away all that time!"

But volunteers know without a doubt
That kids need to know we care
So If for no other reason
They come--and give--and share.

For the living angels
Practice what they believe
They know its' always better
To give -- than it is to receive.

-- Piney Jordan

CHAIN OF FRIENDSHIP

I'd like to bring an end to strife
and peace on earth to see.
But all I have is one small life,
All I can give is me.
I cannot make all nations join
In peace in every land
But, I can reach out to one friend
An understanding hand.
If each of us, would just reach out,
One hand in friendship plain,
We soon would stretch across the earth,
In one unbroken chain.

FOR ALL YOU DO

For the bounteous help that you have given
For the edge of sanity to which you were driven
For all the skeeters that you had to slap
For all the girls, for you they'll clap
For another Scout chore so very well done
For without you, activities would be none
How to say Thank You in some new way
Always floors me as to what to say
But all of your work was done in glee

Bright young faces are reward for thee.

VOLUNTEERS, GOD BLESS THEM

Many will be shocked to find
When the day of judgment nears
That there's a special place in heaven
Set aside for volunteers.
Furnished with big recliners,
Satin couches and footstools,
Where there's no committee chairman,
No group leaders or car pools.
No forms to fill out, signs to make,
No bazaar or bake sale,
Not a thing to staple, patch or tape
And nothing to fold or mail.
Telephone lists will be outlawed,
But a finger snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners
And treats fit for a king.
You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few
And work for all they're worth?"
Why, all those who reaped the benefits
And not once volunteered on Earth.

EVERY 100 GIRLS WHO JOIN GIRL SCOUTS

- Four will earn the Girl Scout Gold Award-the highest award for girls.
- Twelve will have their first contact with a church.
- Five will earn their church religious award.
- Only rarely will one be brought before juvenile court.
- One will enter the clergy.
- Eighteen will develop hobbies used during their adult life.
- Eight will enter a vocation that was learned through the badge or patch program.
- Seventeen will be future Girl Scout volunteers.
- One will use her Girl Scouting skills to save a life.
- One will use her Girl Scouting skills to save her own life.

That is a pretty good return on an investment in Girl Scouting!

IT'S BEING A GIRL SCOUT LEADER

It's the first parent's meeting, hoping you say the right things.

It's helping one of your girls with problems at home find some acceptance.

It's having a girl, the victim of prejudice, ask for advice because she is too embarrassed to ask her mother.

It's seeing the girls jump and scream in excitement when you tell them you are going to camp for the first time in the spring.

It's the week that has been terribly hectic and you call your Co-leader and she says - don't worry - I've got everything under control. Or the week you both show up at the meeting with nothing to do and the girls take over and come up with their own ideas.

It's understanding your own daughter better by understanding the other girls.

It's staying up I ate gluing their crafts back together after the girls have gone home so that they won't know they did it wrong.

It's planning a big campfire and having all the girls fall asleep-too tired from the day's excitement to participate.

It's soothing a bruised ego or bandaging a cut knee, drying away tears or simply giving a hug for encouragement.

It's giving and sharing, loving and caring.

It's knowing that without people like you and me, Girl Scouting just cannot be .

FRIENDSHIP

If I could catch a rainbow
I would do it just for you,
And share with you its beauty
On the days you're feeling blue.
If I could build a mountain
You could call your very own,
A place to find serenity
A place to be alone.
If I could take your troubles
I would toss them in the sea,
But all these things I'm finding
Are impossible for me.
I cannot build a mountain
Or catch a rainbow fair,
But let me be what I know best
A friend that's always there.

YOU INSPIRE ME

Inspired by the Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts I know
Some of you I have watched grow through many years.
Learning through the laughter and the tears,
Dealing with all of life's hopes and fears,
Growing from little girls to my peers.
Some of you I have known for only days.
Almost grown already in many ways.
In both the new and old, your approach amazes
Trying to find your way in life's twisting mazes.
All of you, unaware of what we see,
All of you, proud, lovely, and free.
You heard and heeded Juliette's plea
Come, join me - a Girl Scout be.
You inspire each of us to continue to grow
To challenge the things we think we know
You inspire us to "go with the flow"
And yet, to never settle for the status quo.
You remind me everyday I must confess,
To do my duty and my best.
With every deed you impress
And every day our lives you bless.

By Kathryn Jacobs, Copyright March, 2001

NINE CHARACTERISTICS OF GIRL SCOUT VOLUNTEERS

Philip de Montmollin

First, Girl Scout volunteers care. They care about each other, they care about other people, they care about their families. Not just plain old "care," but sincere, deep-down, bottom-of-the-heart kind of care. They care about people who have less than they do. They care about people who have more. They care about their council, they care about the national organization. They care about the youth of the world and, of course, most especially, they care about girls.

Next, all of the Girl Scout volunteers I've met are committed. They have a deep sense of commitment to the purpose of Girl Scouting. They believe in what they are doing. They have made personal commitments to help our country's young women. They support the Girl Scout promise and law, and live them both in their daily lives.

Girl Scout volunteers work hard. Whatever you say about Girl Scout volunteer work, you can't say it's easy. It's hard work. That's okay because Girl Scout volunteers are busy active people, full of energy and enthusiasm. They work hard and they enjoy it. And they get a lot done.

Successful Girl Scout volunteers enjoy life and they share that joy with the people around them. They're happy people. They smile a lot. They like to sing.

Girl Scout volunteers are understanding. They are open to the ideas of others, and take the time to listen. They are skillful in perceiving the needs of others, and react with sensitivity to those needs. They understand the need for compromise and mutual support.

Girl Scout volunteers are generous. Generous with their time, generous with their talents, generous with their treasures.

Girl Scout volunteers have a sense of humor. They have fun and can laugh at themselves.

Girl Scout volunteers are confident. They are positive thinkers. They are persons who know we can succeed and convince others of that.

Finally, Girl Scout volunteers have faith, they believe. They have faith in themselves, faith in the Girl Scout Movement, and what we're trying to do.

They have faith in others, especially in little girls. They have faith in their council, faith in their community, faith in God.

Girl Scout volunteers are special, very special. Not everyone can be one. Some try and don't succeed. But those who do are special, some of the most special people in the world. People just like you.

A LITTLE GIRL SCOUT #1

A careful soul I have to be,
A little Girl Scout follows me.
To a narrow path I must stay,
For if I don't, she too will stray.
I must choose my deeds with care.
For all I do, she too, will dare.
My words I guard and softly speak
And I must love the strong and the weak.
Oh, I must be fair, from the start.
And boldly lead with a steady heart.
In all I say and all I do,
I promise to strive to be true.
Because you know...
Where're I go...
A careful soul I have to be,

A little Girl Scout follows me!
Ley Cash

A LITTLE GIRL SCOUT #2

A careful Girl Scout I want to be, A little Daisy follows me.
I do not dare to go astray, for fear she'll go the self-same way.
Honest and true I have to be, For there's a Brownie following me.
I cannot once escape her eyes, Whatever she sees me do, she tries.
Like me she says she's going to be, That Junior Girl Scout's followed me.
She thinks that I am glad and fine, Believes in every word of mine.
The best in me she must now see, The growing Cadette who's following me
I must remember as I go, Through summer's sun and winter's snow,
I'm building for the years to be, When she's a Senior following me

A Little Girl's Eyes

"I'd like to be a Brownie" (Her eyes were deepest blue)
"I'd like to learn and play and sing, Like Jane and Ashley do."
"I know how to use scissors; I can cut cloth if I try.
I'm eight years old, a big girl now, And hardly ever cry."

I gave her the application, and parent participation sheet.
(Her eyes were filled with sunshine as she left on dancing feet.)

Next day my friend was back again. No longer wearing the smile she'd had.
"I guess I'll skip the Brownies" (Her eyes were dark and sad).
"My mom is awfully busy, She has lots of friends , you see,
She'd never have time for a troop, She hardly has time for me."

"And dad is always working, He's hardly ever there.
To give them any more to do Just wouldn't be fair."
She handed back the papers With the dignity of eight years
And smiling bravely left me, (Her eyes were filled with tears.)

Do you see your own girl's eyes As other people may?
How she looks when you're "too busy" Or, "just haven't the time today"?

A girl is such a special gift, Why won't you realize,
It only takes a little time, To put sunshine in her eyes.

You say "I'll start tomorrow" But tomorrow is far away.
She's little for such a short time So won't you start today?

LIFE'S CHOICES

- Life isn't about keeping score.
 - It's not about how many friends you have or how accepted you are.
 - It's not about if you have plans this weekend or if you're alone.
 - It isn't about who you're dating, who you used to date, how many people you've dated, or if you've dated anyone at all.
 - It isn't about who your family is or how much money they have or what kind of car you drive or where you go to school.
 - It's not about how beautiful or ugly you are, the clothes you wear, the shoes you wear, or what kind of music you listen to.
 - It's not about if your hair is blonde, red, black, or brown or if your skin is too light or too dark.
 - It's not about how smart you are, how smart everybody else thinks you are, or how smart standardized tests say you are.
 - It's not about what clubs you're in or how good you are at "your" sport.
 - It's not about representing your whole being on a piece of paper called a resume and then seeing who will "accept the written you."
 - Life just isn't about those things.
-
- Life is about choices.
 - Life is about who you love.
 - It's about who you make happy.
 - It's about kindness and generosity.
 - It's about holding and sharing trust.
 - It's about friendship.
 - It's about what you say, what you mean, and thinking heartening thoughts.
 - It's about faith, integrity, and knowing your own heart.
 - It's about carrying inner love, letting it grow, and spreading it.
 - Most of all, it's about using your life to touch other people's hearts in such a way that could have never occurred alone.
 - Only you choose the way those hearts are affected, and those choices make up what your life is all about.

THIS IS A GIRL SCOUT, GOD BLESS HER TODAY

A Girl Scout is honest, a Girl Scout is true.
Her word can be trusted, her promises too.
A Girl Scout is loyal to friends new and old.
To her a true friendship is more precious than gold.
A Girl Scout helps others, she needn't be asked,
but willingly, cheerfully, tackles each task.
You'll find she's a friend to girls far and near.
Their color or background makes no difference here.
A Girl Scout is courteous, a lesson to learn.
To listen with patience, not speak out of turn.
No animal fears her, she'll do them no wrong.
She obeys every order with a smile or a song.
She's careful of time, equipment and money,
Sometimes she's serious, sometimes quite funny!
A girl who is clean in thought, word and deed.
Who loves God and country; who'll fill every need.
As well as she's able in her own selfless way.
This is a Girl Scout, God bless her today.

GIRL SCOUT PRAYER

Dear God, guide us scouts today
In our work and in our play
help us to see where we may serve
In some new place, in some new way.

Before our searching eyes unfold,
new beauties which are seldom told
help us to live the promise taken
Code for Girl Scouts both new and old.

BLESSED ARE THE FLEXIBLE

Blessed be the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape

--*Deirdre Dee (zosha)*

THE GIRL SCOUT LEADER

When the Creator was making Girl Scout Leaders, He was into His 6th day of "overtime" when an angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one."

And the Creator said, "Have you read the specification on this order?" She has to be completely washable but not plastic, have 180 movable parts ...all replaceable, run on black coffee and Girl Scout Cookies, have a lap the disappears when she stands up, a smile that can cure anything from a bruised ego to a broken leg, and 6 pairs of hands!"

The angel shook her head slowly and said, "6 pairs of hands....no way."

"It's not the hands that are causing me the problems," said the Creator, "It's the three pairs of eyes that Girl Scout Leaders have to have."

"That's in the standard model?" asked the angel.

The Creator nodded. "One pair that sees through closed doors and tent flaps when she asks 'What are you girls doing in there?' when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course the ones here in front so that she can look at a girl when she goofs and say, 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word."

"Creator," said the angel touching his sleeve gently, "come to bed...Tomorrow ..."

"I can't," said the Creator, "I'm so close to making something so close to myself. Already I have one that heals herself when she is sick ...run for a weekend on four hours of sleep...can feed a patrol of eight on one pound of hamburger...can make treasures from trash....and can get a dozen 7yr. olds to agree on a decision."

The angel circled the model of a Girl Scout Leader very slowly." It's too soft," she sighed.

"But tough!" said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this Girl Scout Leader can do or endure."

"Can it think?"

"Not only think, but it can reason, compromise, and delegate," said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran a finger across the cheek." There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told You... You were trying to put too much into this model."

"It's not a leak," said the Creator. "It's a tear."

"What's it for?"

"It's for joy, sadness, delight, disappointment, happiness, pain, and pride."

"You are a genius," said the angel.

The Creator looked somber. "I didn't put it there"

adapted from an original poem by Erma Bombeck

THE BOX

This simple box is made of paper,
and covered with fine gold,
surrounded by a beautiful ribbon
it's a lovely gift to behold.

Do not be deceived by the size
for the items it contains
are worth more than a kings gold,
or a million hope diamonds.

This box is filled with miles and miles of smiles
and a never ending supply of kindness and caring
its bursting at the seams with strength and courage,
with mountains of respect, honesty and sharing.
And when you find yourself needing a friendly word
or a helpful hand,

just reach inside and discover,
the sisterhood that awaits you under its tiny band.

We each need a little something from time to time
and now you have a little box
that has been packed with you in mind.

Just remember to share the gifts that were passed to you
because that is what all Girl Scouts do.

Melanie Racine-Kerr

***** (I usually present the leader(s) with a small papier-mache box painted gold. Inside the bottom of the box is a girl scout sticker. After closing the box, tie a red ribbon around the circumference and secure with a bow. There are many ways to present the leadership with their box - arranged them in a basket or stacked in a large gift bag, etc. As you read the poem pass around the basket or have them reach inside the large gift bag. By the end of the poem each leader will have their own special little box for them to take home. Every time I have done this activity the leader(s) realize the impact they have on each other and all those they come in contact with. There is never a dry eye in the house including my own.)***

Story Behind the Box:

The story goes that some time ago a man punished his 5 year old daughter for wasting a roll of expensive gold wrapping paper. Money was tight and he became even more upset when the child pasted the gold paper so as to decorate

a box to put under the Christmas tree. Nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift box to her father the next morning and said, "This is for you, Daddy." The father was embarrassed by his earlier over reaction, but his anger flared again when he found the box was empty. He spoke to her in a harsh manner, "Don't you know, young lady, when you give someone a present there's supposed to be something inside the package?" The little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and said, "Oh, Daddy, it's not empty. I blew kisses into it until it was full." The father was crushed. He fell on his knees and put his arms around his little girl, and he begged her to forgive him for his unnecessary anger.

An accident took the life of the child only a short time later and it is told that the father kept that gold box by his bed for all the years of his life. Whenever he was discouraged or faced difficult problems he would open the box and take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.

Unknown

Sometimes as adults we have a tendency to lose sight of the pure innocence of a child's view of the world. We even experience momentary lapses of insight with fellow adults. Perhaps simply taking the time to look into the eyes and heart of another individual can help each of us in realizing the kindness and beauty that exist inside.

By realizing that our time here on this earth is precious and we each need to find in ourselves and others the compassion to forgive and respect each other is truly a gift. Being an adult leader gives each of us an opportunity to show by example that even when we make a mistake or are faced with a difficult situation that we can turn a negative experience into a positive one. Respecting others and treating each other with kindness and dignity allows everyone to see the beauty that exists in each of us.

VOLUNTEER

V is for the vigor that you bring
O is for the opportunity to know you
L is for your life you share
U is for the unconditional love you have
N is for the nurturing you give
T is for the time you don't have
E is for the excitement you bring
E is for the energy you have
R is for the reason you're a volunteer

OR

V	aluable is the work you do.
O	utstanding is how you always come through.
L	oyal, sincere and full of good cheer,
U	ntiring in your efforts throughout the year.
N	otable are the contributions you make.
T	rustworthy in every project you take.
E	ager to reach your every goal.
E	ffective in the way you fulfill your role.
R	eady with a smile like a shining star,
S	pecial and wonderful—that's what you are.

VALUABLE VOLUNTEER

Valuable is the work you do.
Outstanding is how you always come through.
Loyal, sincere and full of good cheer,
Untiring in your efforts throughout the year....
Notable are the contributions you make.
Trustworthy in every project you take.
Eager to reach your every goal.
Effective in the way you fulfill your role.
Ready with a smile like a shining star,
Special and wonderful—that's what you are.

HELP WANTED: MOM

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Long term team players needed for challenging permanent work in a chaotic environment. Candidates must possess excellent organizational skills and be willing to work variable hours, which will include evenings and weekends and frequent 24 hour shifts on call. Some overnight travel required, including trips to primitive camping sites on rainy weekends and endless sports tournaments in faraway cities. Travel expenses not reimbursed.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

For the rest of your life. Must be willing to be hated at least temporarily, until someone needs \$5 to go skating. Must be willing to bite tongue repeatedly. Also, must possess the physical stamina of a pack mule and be able to go from zero to 60 mph in three seconds flat in case, this time, the screams from the backyard are not someone just crying wolf. Must be willing to face stimulating technical challenges, such as small gadget repair, mysteriously sluggish toilets and stuck zippers. Must screen phone calls, maintain calendars and coordinate production of multiple homework projects. Must have ability to plan and organize social gatherings for clients of all ages and mental outlooks. Must be willing to be dispensable one minute, an embarrassment the next. Must handle assembly and product safety testing of a half million cheap, plastic toys and battery operated devices. Must always hope for the best but be prepared for the worst. Must assume final, complete accountability for the quality of the end product. Responsibilities also include floor maintenance and janitorial work throughout the facility.

POSSIBILITY FOR PROMOTION:

Virtually none. Your job is to remain in the same position for years, without complaining, constantly retraining and updating your skills, so that those in your charge can ultimately surpass you.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:

None required, unfortunately. On-the-job training offered on a continually exhausting basis.

WAGES AND COMPENSATION:

You pay them, offering frequent raises and bonuses. A balloon payment is due when they turn 18 because of the assumption that college will help them become financially independent. When you die, you give them whatever is left. The oddest thing about this reverse-salary scheme is that you actually enjoy it and wish you could only do more.

BENEFITS:

While no health or dental insurance, no pension, no tuition reimbursement, no paid holidays and no stock options are offered, the job supplies limitless opportunities for personal growth and free hugs for life if you play your cards right.

GIRL SCOUT SISTERS

Girl Scout sister are forever friends.....

Each morning when the day begins

When other friendships fade or end...

Girl Scout sisters are forever friends.....

Seasons come and seasons go.....

Summer rains turn into snow.....

But no matter where you live.....

Are how far you go.....

Girl Scout sisters are forever so.....

Pam Martini

STUMBLING BLOCK OR STEPPING STONE?

Author: R. L. Sharpe

Isn't it strange that princes and kings
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings
And common folks like you and me
Are builders of eternity?

To each is given a bag of tools, --
A shapeless mass and a book of rules;
And each must make, ere life is flown,
A stumbling-block or a stepping-stone.

MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE

Set a goal to strive for,
Work to reach the top,
Though you may be weary,
Pause, but never stop.

Use each failure wisely,
Learn from each mistake,
Setbacks are the stepping stones,
To the golden break.

True success comes slowly,
Roads are rough and long,
But when you approach the end,
You will sing a song.

It's very hard to realize this,
Yet, it is really so,
Things that come too easily,
Just as easily go.

Have faith in your purpose,
Believe in what you do,
Faith is always needed,
To make your dreams come true.

NEW FRIENDS AND OLD FRIENDS

Make new friends, but keep the old;
Those are silver, these are gold.
New-made friendships, like new wine,
Age will mellow and refine.

Friendships that have stood the test-
Time and change-are surely best;
Brow may wrinkle, hair grow gray,
Friendship never knows decay.

For 'mid old friends, tried and true,
Once more we our youth renew.
But old friends, alas! may die,
New friends must their place supply.

Cherish friendship in your breast-
New is good, but old is best;
Make new friends, but keep the old;
Those are silver, these are gold.

JOSEPH PARRY

CANDLE POEM

A candle's but a simple thing
It starts with just a bit of string
Yet dipped and dipped with patient hand
it gathers wax right up the strand
Until, complete with snowy white
it gives at last a lovely light
Life is so like that bit of string
each deed we do, a simple thing
Yet day by day if on life's strand
we work with patient heart and hand
It gathers joy, makes dark days bright
and gives at last a lovely light

Author Unknown

WATCH YOUR THOUGHTS

Watch your thoughts
They become your words

Watch your words
They become your actions

Watch your actions
They become your habits

Watch your habits
They become your character

Watch your character
It becomes your destiny

WHEN YOU THOUGHT I WASN'T LOOKING

(Written by a former child)

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I immediately wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you feed a stray cat, and I learned that it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake for me and I learned that the little things can be the special things in life.

When you thought I wasn't looking I heard you say a prayer, and I knew there is a God I could always talk to and I learned to trust in God.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick, and I learned that we all have to help take care of each other.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you give of your time and money to help people who had nothing and I learned that those who have something should give to those who don't.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it and I learned we have to take care of what we are given.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw how you handled your responsibilities, even when you didn't feel good and I learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your eyes and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I learned most of life's lessons that I need to know to be a good and productive person when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked at you and wanted to say, "Thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking."

--Author Unknown

GIRL SCOUTING IS A BELIEF

Girl Scouting is a belief in a set of values...of truth and honesty, of the dignity and worth of each person, of the willingness to work with others from all walks of life.

Girl Scouting is a belief that God made this world...and that we have a duty to Him.

Girl Scouting is a belief in the democratic process...of listening to each other thoughtfully, of discussion and evaluation of ideas, of the give and take of compromise to evolve a solution, of abiding by the majority opinion with respect for minority views.

Girl Scouting is a belief that one of the greatest gifts a child can have...is an understanding heart attuned to other people.

Girl Scouting is a belief in leadership...that children need adult guidance and a firm thoughtful discipline that leads to self-discipline, that girls work in meaningful partnership with adults.

Girl Scouting is a belief that girls will grow to be better women...because adult men and women give greatly of their time, their talents, their energies, their worldly goods and their hearts...to make Girl Scouting available to all girls.|

FRIENDSHIP CHAIN

I'd like to bring an end to strife
And peace on earth to see,
But all I have is one small life.
All I can give is ME.

I cannot make all nations join
In peace in every land,
But I can reach out to one friend
An understanding hand.

If each of us would just reach out
One hand in friendship plain,
We soon would reach across the earth
In one unbroken chain.

Written by Girl Scout Troop 338, Great Blue Heron Council in 1998

A POEM FOR THINKING DAY

In our world and troubled times.
The only peace is in your mind.
But it is stronger
And it will last longer
Than any material things.

There is love beyond all hate
And peace beyond all war.
People are people, looks can't decide
Just one special feeling
Than comes from inside.

Written by Kathryn Lawson, age 12; 1985. NWGA Leader/Daughter Wknd.

A LEADER

Somewhere between the sternness of a parent and the comradeship of a pal is that mysterious creature we call a Girl Scout Leader. These leaders come in all shapes and sizes and may be male or female. But they all have one thing in common, a glorious twinkle in their eye.

Girl Scout leaders are found everywhere - on field trips, camp-outs, square dances and contests. They are always preparing for, sitting through, participating in, or recuperating from a meeting of some kind. They're tireless consumers of cookies, experts at threading needles, and peerless leaders of songs and games. They have a telephone stuck in their ear, a jar of glue at their fingertips, ashes in their hair and blisters on their feet.

A Girl Scout leader is many things - an artist making a display for an event, a nurse patching up a skinned knee, a counselor at camp, a lawyer filling out reports and a shoulder to cry on when a project just didn't work.

Nobody else is so early to rise and so late home at night. Nobody else has so much fun with such a large family of girls. We sometimes forget them, but we can't do without them. They receive no salary, but we can never repay them.

They are "Angels in Green", "Saints in Sleeping Bags". Their only reward is the love of the kids and the respect of the community. But when they look around

them at the skills they've taught and the youth they've built, there's an inner voice from somewhere that says, "WELL DONE".

BLOSSOMS AND BUTTERFLIES

The caterpillars crept alone
around the seeds that were yet to be sown.
The caterpillars are our girls, you see,
and the seed is the experience of Girl Scout activity.

The caterpillars all fuzzy and new
come together as individuals yet form a crew.
Then the seeds are planted with great care,
seeds of knowledge, experiences and friendships to share.

Changes begin slowly, too slowly to see,
as the girls experience their scouting activities.
The seed grows into a plant, strong
and nourishes our caterpillars all the yearlong.

Scouting has brought changes across the world wide,
but the change in our girls is mostly inside.
Yes, those simple seeds have changed each of our lives
With the help of Girl Scouts, our girls have blossomed into butterflies.

Written by Julie Willis 2000

THOSE LITTLE GIRLS

Those little girls in the brightest blue,
came to a meeting, learning the Promise and the Law
And how to live by it.

Then came Brownies, of which there were many,
a sea of helpers, all giggling and happy,
Sit upon, s'mores and try it's alike,
You took them on their very first hike.

Along came the Juniors, who were just getting started,
You told them never to settle , to dream big and strong,
While you taught them "How To", and to honor themselves.

Cadettes came next with their clothes of tan,
looking forward to building their dreams of tomorrow,
as You guided their plans.

Seniors came last, and oh what change,
In these young women who you've guided and shown,
You've watched and encouraged
all those seeds you've sown ,

On their way to life's new adventures,
You've done your task well,
They plan , and implement, and lead on their own,
A positive example is what you've shown.

Those little girls in blues, browns, greens and tans,
Are now young women with dreams in hand
So thank you Leaders for all you've done,
You've served them proud,
Each and every one!!!

WHO KNEW

Your decision to become a Girl Scout Leader,
didn't come without Strings Attached.
Who knew you would be tying daisy tunics or shoes,
Or bandaging up their occasional black and blues.
Who knew you would be tying up Brownie Braids,
So their hair didn't blow in their Fireman's Parade.
Who knew you would be tying up Junior Patches,
Those pre-teen years of pleading matches.
Who knew you would be tying up Cadette made quilts,
To help them earn their Silver Award from the plan they "built".
Who knew you would be tying up a Seniors Journey,
Who now may be ready to be a firewoman, mechanic or attorney.
Those little girls in blues,browns,greens and tans,
are the little girls who held your hands.
So thank you Leaders for all you've done,
and know that each knot you've tied will never come undone! *Terri Smith, Swift*
Water Council 2003

A VOLUNTEER'S PRAYER

Help me to become the kind of volunteer the council would like me to be.

Give me that mysterious something which will enable me, at all times to explain satisfactorily, all the policies, rules and regulations, to my scouts, parents and fellow volunteers, when they have never been explained me.

Help me to work with the uninterested and dim-witted without ever losing my patience or my temper.

Give me that love for my fellow leaders and staff, which passes all understanding, so I may lead the obstinate into the paths of righteousness, by my own example and my persuasive tones instead of busting them on the nose.

Instill into me peace and tranquility, that no longer will I wake from my restless sleep in the middle of the night crying out "What has that other volunteer got that I haven't got, and how did she get it?"

Teach me to smile even if it kills me.

Make me a better volunteer by developing larger and greater qualities of understanding, tolerance, sympathy, wisdom, perspective, calmness, mind reading and second sight.

And when Dear Lord, Thou has helped me achieve that high pinnacle which my scouting has prescribed for me, and I have become that model of all supervisory virtues in this moral world

Dear Lord - MOVE OVER!

GIRL SCOUT PURPOSE

The purpose of Girl Scouting is inspiring girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service, so that they may become happy and resourceful citizens.

WHAT IS A GIRL SCOUT LEADER?

Somewhere between the sternness of a parent and the comradeship of a pal is that mysterious creature we call a Girl Scout Leader. These leaders come in all shapes and sizes and may be male or female. But they all have one thing in common, a glorious twinkle in their eye. Girl Scout leaders are found everywhere - on field trips, camp-outs, square dances and contests. They are always preparing for, sitting through, participating in, or recuperating from a meeting of some kind. They're tireless consumers of cookies, experts at threading needles, and peerless leaders of songs and games. They have a telephone stuck in their ear, a jar of glue at their fingertips, ashes in their hair and blisters on their feet. A Girl Scout leader is many things - an artist making a display for an event, a nurse patching up a skinned knee,

a counselor at camp, a lawyer filling ut reports and a shoulder to cry on when a project just didn't work. Nobody else is so early to rise and so late home at night. Nobody else has so much fun with such a large family of girls. We sometimes forget them, but we can't do without them. They receive no salary, but we can never repay them. They are "Angels in Green", "Saints in Sleeping Bags". Their only reward is the love of the kids and the respect of the community. But when they look around them at the skills they've taught and the youth they've built, there's an inner voice from somewhere that says, "WELL DONE".

By Carol Lee Spages

GIRL SCOUTING.....

I wear the pin of a Girl Scout; I try to live the Law.
I have often said the Promise, when life held only flaws.
But it's not the pin nor the Promise, nor just the Law I live
That causes me to love this Scouting - It's the feeling Scouting can give.
You have to live it to know it: When the sun has sunk down low
You must sing with other Girl Scouts, around the campfire's glow.
You must plan a cookout with them, and have it spoiled by the rain,
You must sing instead of crying, and make the plans again.
You should hike for many a mile, under a clear blue sky.
Then sleep in the open country, and watch the stars go by.
There are no words to express it, it can't be told in song.
You just must experience it; it will not take you long.
It is brought out when you are singing, as loud as you can sing.
And again in the peaceful silence, when a flag is taking wing.
Then when you salute Old Glory, you know that you belong,
And Taps cannot end this feeling, after the day is gone.
You will want to meet tomorrow, in hope that you can live
To pass on some of this feeling, only Scouting can give.
So it's not the pin nor Promise, nor just the Law I live,
That cause me to love Girls Scouting - it's the feeling Scouting can give.

Majorie Su

A Good Friend

In kindergarten your idea of a good friend was the person who let you have the red crayon when all that was left was the ugly black one.

In first grade your idea of a good friend was the person who went to the bathroom with you and held your hand as you walked through the scary halls.

In second grade your idea of a good friend was the person who helped you stand up to the class bully.

In third grade your idea of a good friend was the person who shared their lunch with you when you forgot yours on the bus.

In fourth grade your idea of a good friend was the person who was willing to switch square dancing partners in gym so you wouldn't have to be stuck do-si-do-ing with Nasty Nicky or Smelly Susan.

In fifth grade your idea of a good friend was the person who saved a seat on the back of the bus for you.

In sixth grade your idea of a good friend was the person who went up to Nick or Susan, your new crush, and asked them to dance with you, so that if they said no you wouldn't have to be embarrassed.

In seventh grade your idea of a good friend was the person who let you copy the social studies homework from the night before that you had forgotten about.

In eighth grade your idea of a good friend was the person who helped you pack up your stuffed animals and old baseball cards so that your room would be a "high schooler's" room, but didn't laugh at you when you finished and broke out into tears.

In ninth grade your idea of a good friend was the person who went with you to that "cool" party thrown by a senior so you wouldn't wind up being the only freshman there.

In tenth grade your idea of a good friend was the person who changed their schedule so you would have someone to sit with at lunch.

In eleventh grade your idea of a good friend was the person who gave you rides in their new car, convinced your parents that you shouldn't be grounded,

consoled you when you broke up with Nick or Susan, and found you a date to the prom.

In twelfth grade your idea of a good friend was the person who helped you pick out a college, assured you that you would get into that college, helped you deal with your parents who were having a hard time adjusting to the idea of letting you go . . .

At graduation your idea of a good friend was the person who was crying on the inside but managed the biggest smile one could give as they congratulated you.

The summer after twelfth grade your idea of a good friend was the person who helped you clean up the bottles from that party, helped you sneak out of the house when you just couldn't deal with your parents, assured you that now that you and Nick or you and Susan were back together, you could make through anything, helped you pack up for college and just silently hugged you as you looked through blurry eyes at 18 years of memories you were leaving behind, and finally on those last days of childhood, went out of their way to come over and send you off with a hug, a lot of memories, reassurance that you would make it in college as well as you had these past 18 years, and most importantly sent you off to college knowing you were loved.

Now, your idea of a good friend is still the person who gives you the better of the two choices, holds your hand when you're scared, helps you fight off those who try to take advantage of you, thinks of you at times when you are not there, reminds you of what you have forgotten, helps you put the past behind you but understands when you need to hold on to it a little longer, stays with you so that you have confidence, goes out of their way to make time for you, helps you clear up your mistakes, helps you deal with pressure from others, smiles for you when they are sad, helps you become a better person, and most importantly loves you!

Source unknown

MY MOM IS A GREAT GIRL SCOUT LEADER

author unknown

(to the tune "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean")

My mom is a great Girl Scout leader
I know that she does it for me
I wish that I could get to see her
Please bring back my mommy to me!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me,
to me!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me.

(Daisy)

I really love being a daisy
and making the new friends you see
I just wish my mom could be talking
Not on the telephone but to me!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me,
to me!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me.

(Brownie)

They asked for someone who would lead us
Or no brownie troop there would be
So my mom said that she would do it
This took her time away from me.

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me,
to me!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me.

(Brownie)

It started with a training meeting
Training number two, number three
nuts, cookies and the sock hop
Thinking day and then QSP!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me,
to me!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me.

(Junior)

She's learning a lot of new scout songs
And singing them to everyone.
Our house is filled up with strange craft stuff
She's starting to think this is fun!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me,

to me!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me.

(Junior)

Her daughter gets no special treatment
Unless extra work means there's some
We're early as meetings are set up
And stay late 'til clean up is done.

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me,
to me!

Bring back, bring back, Oh bring back my mommy to me.

(Cadette)

Now sometimes it starts to annoy me
She's at every meeting, EACH ONE!
I know that I really should like it
but she sings in front of everyone!

Please take, please take, please take my leader from
me, from me.

Please take, please take, please take my leader from
me.

(Cadette)

We carry out many great projects
and to distant places we roam.
The troop thinks our leader's the greatest
But she doesn't follow them home!

Please take, please take, please take my leader from
me, from me.

Please take, please take, please take my leader from
me.

(Senior)

I don't want to sell any cookies
Or plan any more thinking days
I really just want to go camping
Why doesn't she see it that way?

Please take, please take, please take my leader from

me, from me.

Please take, please take, please take my leader from me.

(Senior)

She's wearing her swap hat to Downtown!
She's got her scout pins on at the mall.
She's trying to ruin my whole life.
She's scaring away all the boys.

Please take, please take, please take my leader from me, from me.

Please take, please take, please take my leader from me.

(All -- seriously)

My mom is a great Girl Scout leader
I know that she does it for me
Girl scouting has added to my life
It's made me the girl that you see.

Thanks mom, thanks mom, you are a great leader for me, for me.

Thanks mom, thanks mom, you are a great leader for me

Why I'm a leader (for men)

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I love my daughter.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I still have a lot to learn.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I need guidance.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because of the girls who have no father figure.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I'm a good listener.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because of their reaction when they learn something

new.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because of my reaction when they learn something new.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because girls have no limits in life.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because girls have questions.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because girls have unlimited opportunities.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I don't want my girls to depend on a man.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I make the time.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I'm proud of their accomplishments.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I love to give pats on the back.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because they are worth every minute! e.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I don't have all of the answers.

I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I'm man enough to be a Girl Scout.

And last but not least: I'm a Girl Scout Leader because I'm getting in touch with my feminine side.

THE GIRL SCOUT LEADER'S HUSBAND

I am a Leader's husband
My work is all cut out
I play the second fiddle
When my wifey's on the "Scout."

My car becomes a truck
I drive it here and there
Filled with girls or filled with food
to camp in open air.

I pitch the tent and skin my leg
And wallow in despair.
My mind is choked with protest
I have to eat the swear.

Then when at last I do get home
To lie down on my bunk
I find a Girl Scout cooking school,
And then I'm simply sunk!

LEADERSHIP

Leaders are called to stand in that lonely place
Between the no longer and the not yet
And intentionally make decisions
That will bind, forge, move
And create history.

We are not called to be popular,
We are not called to be safe,
We are not called to follow.

We are the ones called to take risks,
We are the ones called to change attitudes,

To risk displeasures,
We are the ones called to gamble our lives
For a better world.

CHANGE

"I realize that each year it has changed and grown until I know that, a decade from now, what I might say of it would seem like an echo of what has been instead of what is."

Juliette Gordon Low 1925

TEN COMMANDMENTS OF BEING A GIRL SCOUT PARENT

1. Thou shall be prompt in arrivals and departures--also in turning in monies due.
2. Thou shall see that thy daughter arrives in uniform with book in her hand.
3. Thou shall not wait to be called upon to help. Plan on staying at meetings to help once in a while. The leaders may struggle alone rather than taking the time to make phone calls.
4. Thou shall take time at home to help thy daughter with her achievements so that she does not fall behind the others. Leaders cannot possibly do all achievements at their meetings without boredom soon setting in and lack of time to complete them all. Some achievements must be done at home.
5. Thou shall accompany thy daughter to Girl Scout Sunday, or make arrangements with another parent to take responsibility for your daughters transportation and behavior. This other parent is NOT to be the leaders.
6. Thou shall keep thy own children under control at functions that you are present. It is awkward for a leader to reprimand a girl when her parent is sitting right there! Thou shall reinforce with thy daughter that the rules of the meeting place are to be obeyed.
7. Thou shall set a good example for our girls during functions by being a good sport about participating in the fun and games and keeping annoying chit-chat to a minimum during ceremonies and awards.
8. Thou shall honor thy troop leaders with TLC. A smile and a kind word of gratitude will make up for a lot of noise and rowdiness.
9. Thou shall try to "call in sick" when thy daughter has to miss a meeting. There will undoubtedly be something you need to know, and three absent girls makes three more phone calls for an already-overloaded leader.
10. Above all, thou shall try to remember that the leader's job is one you didn't want or

didn't think you had time for. Do whatever you can to make that job easier.

* author unknown

REALITY OF VOLUNTEERS

Facing reality, we find that:

Roughly 10% of the people do about 80% of the volunteer work, Roughly 20% of the people do about 10% of the volunteer work, Roughly 70% of the people never volunteer to help at all; rather, this group supplies the complaints about how much better the result would be if they had taken on the tasks

HOW YOU SPENT YOUR LIFE (DASH)

I read of a man who stood to speak
At the funeral of a friend
He referred to the dates on her tombstone
From the beginning...to end.

He noted that first came her date of birth
And spoke the following date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the dash between those years. (1934-1998)

For that dash represents all the time
That she spent alive on earth...
And now only those who loved her
Know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own;
The cars...the house...the cash,
What matters is how we live and love
And we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard..
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left,
That can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real,
And always try to understand

The way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger,
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect,
And more often wear a smile...
Remembering that this special dash
Might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy's being read
With your life's actions to rehash...
Would you be proud of things they say
About how you spent your dash?

BUSINESS OF A LEADER

"The business of a leader is to turn obstacles into stepping stones,
weakness into strength, and disaster into triumph."

~anonymous

TOP TEN PIECES OF ADVICE FROM A SEASONED LEADER

10. There is not just one way of doing things. Your way is just great. There are no Girl Scout Police. You don't need to be a great outdoorswoman or a life-long Girl Scout to be an effective Girl Scout Leader. (But if you know somebody like that, don't forget to use their expertise to help you along the way !)

9. Being a Girl Scout Leader is not a competitive sport. If you hear of something neat that another troop is doing, the appropriate response is not to feel inferior. It is to think of all the great things your troop is doing, too, and to file that great idea away because maybe you'd like to borrow it for your troop.

8. Network. One part of the Girl Scout Law is to use resources wisely. Don't re-invent the wheel! Talk to other leaders, as well as people involved in other youth organizations and get ideas. Don't hesitate to call team members for advice.

7. Work together, and maybe even plan some joint activities with other troops. Invite some girls from older troops to come help you, especially troops that are getting ready to bridge to the next level.

6. Remember that all those Girl Scout rules and regulations are there to help and protect you, not to be punitive or restrictive. Those rules, along with a little common sense, will keep you out of hot water.

5. Get the girls to be as self-sufficient as possible. Don't do something for them that they could do themselves. Don't automatically jump in and fix everything right away. Ultimately, this will be better for them and better for you. This is an investment you'll make in the earlier years. Some day, you'll sit in a lawn chair while they serve you. I promise.

4. Take the training courses that are offered to you. It's hard to commit to yet another night out, but you'll get some great ideas and meet some really nifty people. In the long run, it'll be a time saver.

3. Attend Leader meetings. Same reasoning as the last one.

2. Delegate. Let the other parents in the troop know that everyone should have a part in the troop. There are lots of jobs to be done, large and small, and to fit every time schedule. Make it clear that you are not baby-sitting.

1. Have fun! Being a Girl Scout Leader is one of the best things you'll ever do for yourself, your daughter, and all of those other girls in the troop. It's not brain surgery or rocket science, but it's just as worthwhile and important.

ODE TO THE INVISIBLE VOLUNTEER

There are those among us who volunteer their time
But whose contributions never seem to get above the line
Whose efforts keep us going and help the girls to grow
Who need us to see them and recognize their glow

To the man who gives 7 weekends a year,
Making sure leaders know how to cook
To the leader who is always on time, no matter what
With her finance report, cookie reports, other tracking and books

To the parent who always can drive and feed
Even if you call her just an hour before you leave
To the trainer who you know will handle any class
On any subject whether it have 1 or 50 attendees

To the Cookie Parent who has processed the papers,
Organized the booths, listened to the gripes, and still yes next year
To the volunteer who runs the programs Council can't afford
Because there are 5 or 10 girls who need some one to hear

To the leader who has run the high school troop For over 15 years.
Whose daughters now are crying to join, but no one has the time
To the volunteer who answers the phone at the office
While council staff gets trained, or meets, or takes a break

To the woman who can barely get out of bed each day
But is there to whatever it may take.
The volunteer who just is there, then one day...
Suddenly is not.

I ask that you share your thanks - and tell them
You mean a lot!

Kathryn Jacobs

ABC'S OF A FRIEND

A friend.....

Accepts you as you are
Believes in "you"
Calls you just to say "HI"
Doesn't give up on you
Envisions the whole of you (even the unfinished parts)
Forgives your mistakes
Gives unconditionally
Helps you
Invites you over
Just "be" with you
Keeps you close at heart
Loves you for who you are
Makes a difference in your life
Never Judges
Offer support
Picks you up
Quiets your fears
Raises your spirits
Says nice things about you
Tells you the truth when you need to hear it
Understands you
Values you
Walks beside you
X-plains thing you don't understand
Yells when you won't listen and
Zaps you back to reality

GIRL SCOUT GIFT

"On my honor I will try,"
Defines a way of living
A song, a game, a knot to tie,
But most of all a giving.
Gifts of crafts and time and caring,
A girl, a troop, a leader give.
Learning soon the fun of sharing,
And finding too, a way to live.
In a world of rush and roar,
One vision stands out clearly,
Our Founder's dream to help girls soar,
We all must cling to dearly.

ODE TO A GIRL SCOUT LEADER II
Maumee Valley Girl Scout Council Staff

You, my friend, should be cast in gold for the things
you've done that will never be told.
For the dinners delayed by Girl Scout meetings, for
the friendly smiles and cheerful greetings.
For the badge requirements no one wanted to do, which
you insisted were important, too.
For the meetings you led that went just as planned,
with no one there to give you a hand.
For the calendars you sold and the cookies you
ate...
For the toilets dug, meals cooked on a grate...
For the one more girl you absorbed in the troop,
because she wanted to be in your group.
Tell me again how you lost your voice, was camping in
winter really your choice?
And wasn't that you I saw shopping downtown, trying
to keep up with twelve little clowns?
"Why do you do it?" you're probably asked, "Who
forced you to take on this year round task?"
Those innocent young faces really tell it all,
And that's why we're hoping to see you next fall.
When you were made, they broke the mold.
If you're ever re-cast - it will be in gold!!

MY PURPOSE

My Purpose.....to go on with my heart and soul, devoting all my energies to Girl Scouts, and heart and hand with them, we will make our lives and the lives of the future girls happy, healthy and holy.

Juliette Gordon Low

SHOW HER THE RAINBOW

Show her the rainbow, for rainbows don't wait.
And soon she's a woman; too soon it's too late.
Rainbows and childhood too soon disappear;
Like an illusion, you thought they were here.

Someday a rainbow may be hard to find.
And childhood and rainbows will be left behind.
Like ripples on water they vanish and fade.
Then what will become of the plans that you made?

So take time to show her the wonderful things
Like snowflakes and dewdrops and butterfly wings.
Show her the moonbeams that shine down at night . .

.
A sky full of starlight all twinkling and bright.

Soon you'll discover some treasures can't wait,
So show her the rainbow before it's too late.
Yes, show her the rainbow while she is still small.
Or soon you will find there's no rainbow at all.

SEVEN DAISIES IN A WEEK

Supplies: Make a large poster board daisy for each girl to hold. On each daisy, print the appropriate day of the week (e.g.: SUN-DAISY).

SUN-DAISY:

My name is Sun-Daisy,
And we're here to speak
About Juliette Low

And Girl Scout week.

Just before the Civil War
Juliette was born
In Savannah, Georgia
One October morn.

MON-DAISY:

Daisy was her nickname
Throughout her living days.
She loved games and writing
And performing in plays.

When Daisy grew up,
She began the Girl Guides.
Her first troop was in Scotland
With seven girls by her side.

TUES-DAISY:

Daisy sailed to America;
March 12 was the day
She started a troop
Called Girl Scouts U.S.A.

Eighteen girls met with Daisy
Very eager to start
To make uniforms and badges
Each doing her part.

WEDNES-DAISY

Juliette spoke the Law
For all Girl Scouts to learn
And told of requirements
For badges they could earn.

The troop went on hikes
Along nature trails
Watching birds of all kinds
And recording details.

THURS-DAISY:

Sports were important
To keep the girls fit.
Basketball was the first game
To become a big hit.

Daisy told the girls of camping
Under stars shining bright.
Destination-Camp Lowlands
The first Girl Scout campsite.

FRI-DAISY:

For the rest of her life
Daisy spread the word 'round
To millions of girls
In town after town.

Shortly after her death
A World Friendship fund began
To honor this grand lady
And her work through the land.

SATUR-DAISY:

Each year we join
In a friendship celebration
With Girl Scouts 'round the world
And with great dedication.

We'll remember Juliette Low
Of whom we will speak,
For we're proud to be Girl Scouts
Each day of the week.

Carol Lee Spages

THE RHYME OF THE BROWNIES

(Suitable for Investiture or Rededication)

(Girls in circle, mirror on floor, surrounded by
leaves)
This tale is told of Tom and Mary,

Who lived in a hut which was not so merry.
A poor tailor by trade was their papa,
And the untidy house was kept by Grandma.

Nothing was clean or polished or swept;
Tom and Mary were dirty and very unkept,
Careless and lazy, but busy at play,
Never thinking to help in the smallest way.

Then one day Gran told them a story-
She thought it might make them feel sorry.
"I'll tell you of brownies who used to live here,
But they moved away for good, I fear."

"How many kind things they did in a day
Was rather hard to tell, in a way,
For they worked very quietly and never were seen,
But the chores were all done and the house was so
clean."

The children thought what fun it would be
To have a few brownies who'd work for free.
That would leave them the live-long day
For fun and a chance to do nothing but play.

So Granny told them to see the owl
And not to worry if he should scowl.
They could listen to his advice,
And find some brownies, that would be nice.

That night Mary crept out into the dark,
And it sure didn't seem like such a lark.
She was scared but then heard the old owl hoot
And she followed the sound in hot pursuit.

"Please Mr. Owl, I've come a long way
Help me, I'll do whatever you say.
A brownie I simply have to find,
So tell me what is in your mind."

The old owl laughed and said quite plain,
"Go down to the pond at the end of the lane

The moon must be shining big and bright,
You must stand at the edge in clear moonlight."

"Turn yourself about 3 times
While saying this verse and be sure it rhymes.
Look in the pool and there you will see
A brownie as sure as sure can be."

Mary ran off as she was told
Found the pond, made the turns, spoke very bold.
The missing word seemed so hard to get,
For all she saw was her own silhouette.

Back to the owl she went very fast
And he helped her to understand at last.
In a moment she knew how the rhyme should go.
And she spoke the words that we all know.

(Girls stand up, form circle close to mirror and
repeat together.)

Twist me and turn me and show me the elf
I looked in the mirror and saw... myself.

Back at the house Mary told Tom her plan.
A surprise was in order for Papa and Gran.
Next morning a change had sure taken place,
And smiles were seen on everyone's face.

For the table was set and breakfast was ready,
The whole place was bright as a shiny new penny
"The brownies are back," said Mary, "to stay.
This time we know they won't go away."

(Girls repeat together)
"Brownies we are and brownies we'll stay,
Keeping our Promise in every way."
(Repeat Girl Scout Promise.)

Carol Lee Spages

ATTRIBUTES OF A GOOD TROOP LEADER

GOOD is the leader who has not sought the high places, but has been drafted into service because of ability and willingness to serve.

GOOD is the leader who knows where she is going, why she is going, and how to get there.

GOOD is the leader who knows no discouragement, presents no alibi.

GOOD is the leader who knows how to lead without being dictatorial.

GOOD is the leader who leads for the good of the most concerned and not for the personal gratification of her own ideas.

GOOD is the leader who develops leaders while leading.

GOOD is the leader who marches with the group, interpreting correctly the signs on the pathway leading to success.

GOOD is the leader who has her head in the clouds but her feet on the ground.

GOOD is the leader who considers leadership an opportunity for service.

Carol Lee Spages

A TO Z OF FRIENDSHIP

A friend.....
A ccepts you as you are
B elieves in "you"
C alls you just to say "HI"
D oesn't give up on you

E nvisions the whole of you (even the unfinished parts)
F orgives your mistakes
G ives unconditionally
H elps you
I nvites you over
J ust "be" with you
K eeps you close at heart
L oves you for who you are
M akes a difference in your life
N ever Judges
O ffer support
P icks you up
Q uiets your fears
R aises your spirits
S ays nice things about you
T ells you the truth when you need to hear it
U nderstands you
V alues you
W alks beside you
X -plains thing you don't understand
Y ells when you won't listen and
Z aps you back to reality

GIRL SCOUT PENNY

* Lincoln symbolizes the freedom we have as Girl Scouts to choose our own path. One of the path you have chosen is Girl Scout trainer.

* The inscription, "In God We Trust" reminds you that the motivating force of Girl Scouting is a spiritual one.

* The Lincoln Memorial symbolizes your goal as a Girl Scout trainer:
-providing adults with the knowledge and skills to help inspire girls become happy resourceful citizens. This is the

ultimate tribute to
you the Girl Scout trainer.

- * The three steps represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise
- * The ten columns remind you of the Girl Scout Law.
- * Just as the columns support the monument, you teach how the Girl Scout Promise & Law supports the values and goals of the organization.
- * The open door symbolizes the openness in which you share your knowledge and skills with others.
- * "E. Pluribus Unum" reminds you that many people are united in Girl Scouting. As a trainer, you nurture that unity with your enthusiasm and inclusiveness.
- * This penny symbolizes the many rewards you will receive during your lifetime. The rewards of a Girl Scout trainer are not money or gifts. A smile from a new trainee who now feels more confident in working with girls, a handshake shared with an adult who has learned a new skill, and knowledge and pride you gain in doing the best you can while mentoring others in Girl Scouting.
- * Keep this penny...every once in a while look at it and remember what it means to be a Girl Scout trainer.

rewritten by Carol Lee Spages

JOYFUL JOURNEY

by Henry Van Dyke

Let me but live from year to year
With forward face and unreluctant soul,
Not hastening to, nor turning from the goal;
Not mourning for the things that disappear
In the dim past, nor holding back in fear
From what the future veils; but with a whole
And happy heart that pays its toll
To youth and age, and travels on with cheer.
So let the way wind up the hill or down;
Though rough or smooth, the journey will be joy,
Still seeking what I sought when but a boy:
New friendship, high adventure, and a crown!
I shall grow old, but never lose life's zest,
Because the road's last turn will be the best.

BECAUSE OF YOU

Because of you
she makes a Promise
and keeps it.

Because of you
she learns a Law
and lives it.

Because of you
she goes into the world
and changes it.

Because of you
The Girl Scout Volunteer.

TO JULIETTE LOW

More than a score of years ago, a torch was lit.
A beacon whose glow shone for the joy of youth,
And you, sensing its brilliancy, beneath your roof
Kindled a kindred flame, that girlhood in your land
Should live within its light and with your hand
You tended it and kept its whiteness pure;
Prayed that its bright promise might endure
And waked yourself uprightly in its gleam.
And we who have had faith in this your dream
And come to give account of our brief stewardship.
Millions of girls share your ideals today,
Millions of women walk with them your lighted way.
With lives enriched and broadened from its treasury
And glad hearts consecrated to your memory.

Recompense (To Juliette Low)

Hers was a golden vision; for looking down the years
She understood the questions and needs that would
arise
In the lives of little girls and big girls growing to
womanhood,
And clothed her understanding in adventurous
disguise,
Taking as recompense the laughter in their eyes.

Adapted from the poem by Birdsall Otis Edey

HOW MANY DAY CAMP VOLUNTEERS DOES IT TAKE TO SCREW IN A LIGHT BULB?

35

1 Day Camp Director to change the bulb
4 Unit Leaders to tell her that even though they
don't want her job, maybe next time she should do it
differently
3 to point out we probably should have called the
property manager first
2 to suggest Council should be notified

3 to recommend we send a note home to the parents, telling them the light bulb was changed to make sure their

daughter still has permission to attend and be photographed

2 to ask if they were supposed to do something, because their unit doesn't have light bulbs, and what are the

chances of getting one installed?

3 to remind us to look it up in Safety-Wise and Green Pages because they heard from another day camp we weren't supposed to change light bulbs

2 to complain it's too hot at camp, and if we leave the dang light OFF, it will help keep it from being any hotter

1 to wonder if light bulb replacement funds come from QSP, SHARE, Capital Campaign or Day Camp fees.

2 to remind us we should have asked the girls first if they WANTED it changed, because we're supposed to practice GAP

4 Center Directors to remind us that they're busier than Unit leaders, and therefore would never have time to do it.

3 to suggest that this is something Teen Staff could do
3 to suggest that Teen Staff should never handle a light bulb

because it's made out of glass and it could break

2 parents to call in and ask if they should send in light bulbs with their daughters tomorrow at camp

2 annoying little girls who are asking annoying questions while watching you change the light bulb because

they're at First Aid because they "don't feel good" and really they just wanted to get out of latrine duty

1 Council Staff person to call and say "What is going ON at your day camp???!!!!"

Barb Hunter

JULIETTE GORDON LOW

Can be sung to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

From Savannah Mrs. Low did roam
But she always called it home

Juliette, Juliette Gordon Low
Founded the Girl Scouts long ago

She met a man named Baden-Powell
Starting the Boy Scouts was his goal

When some girls came to be a Scout
Juliette decided to help them out

When she came back to the USA
She started the Girl Scouts right away

Juliette, Juliette Gordon Low
Founded the Girl Scouts long ago

In 1912, some girls-they met,
And had tea with Juliette

Juliette, Juliette Gordon Low
Founded the Girl Scouts long ago

Girl Scouts she came here to start
And I thank her from my heart.

A CHARGE TO LEADERS

There are eyes upon you and they're watching
night and day;

There are ears that quickly take in every word
you say;

There are hands all eager to do anything you
do;

And a girl who's dreaming of the day she'll be
like you.

You're the girl's idol. You're the wisest of
the wise;

In her mind, about you, no suspicions ever
rise;

She believes in you devoutly, holds that all
you say and do,

she'll say and do, in you way, when she's a
grown-up like you.

There's a wide-eyed girl who believes you're
always right.

And her ears are always open; and she watches
day and night.

Your are setting an example every day in all
you do,

for a girl who's waiting to grow up to be just
like you.

JUNIOR GIRL SCOUT CHARGE

Juniors, you are just about
To become 11 - 17 Girl Scouts.

Before you flew with Brownie wings
To Junior Girl Scouts and bigger things

As a Girl Scout there's even more,
Like charms, challenges and projects to explore.

As you climb the stairs with the rest,
I challenge you to do your best,

To live your life with no major flaw
By following the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

WE APPRECIATE YOU

Your willingness to give with out asking in return,
Your dependability and heartfelt concern,
The many kind things you do and you say,
To warm others lives day after day,
Make your gift of time beyond compare,

Thank you for being a wonderful volunteer.

BUBBLES THANK YOU

Give with a small bottle of bubbles

Thanks for all the many things you do with all your troops,
The paper jungle, people maze, your jumps through all the hoops.
You've rushed to go to meetings, leaving things at home undone,
To make sure your girls would have so many memories of fun,

In all the running 'round we do, we often fail to say,
That we notice all the things you do, each and every day,
So take a couple minutes, and look way deep inside,
Get past the bills, and phone calls, to that little girl(boy) you hide,

You might not recognize her(him), haven't seen her(him) in awhile,
But she's(he's) been there just waiting, with his/her patient (or silly) little smile
So grab this jug of bubbles, and you both go out to play,
Take all your troubles with you, and blow them all away!

Tina Fitzpatrick

WHAT IS A SWAP?

Sandy Norman

Just what is a SWAP a girl asked me one day
I gave it some thought, not sure what to say.
We looked in some books and on the computer
And then asked a Girl Scout, we knew we could
trust her.

"S" stands for switch as in trade or exchange
"W" stands for with, which shouldn't sound
strange.

"A" is for another, someone other than you
"P" is for person, but can mean more than two.

"But what is a SWAP?" she asked me once more
It's whatever you want, let your imagination
soar.

It can be something store bought or something
you make

Something you pick up or something you bake.

Some people give patches, some people give
pins

Whatever you choose, it is sure to bring grins.
So what is a SWAP? The ideas never end
It's the best way of all to make a new friend.

Then the girl set to work very hard at her task
Of getting her SWAPs ready for those who would
ask.

So get your SWAPs ready for the day that you'll
meet

The girl in this story, her SWAPs can't be
beat.

BRIDGING POEM

From Daisy Girl Scouts dressed in blue
when everything is fresh and new
we learn our Promise and our Law
and we grow strong as we grow tall.

As Brownie Girl Scouts eager to learn
We try new things and Try-its earn
We make the world a better place
with a big Brownie smile on our face

In to Juniors we venture on
exploring our backyard and beyond
In a circle of friendship, hand in hand
helping people all that we can

Girl Scouts 11 to 17 have much to achieve
whether Cadettes, Seniors or Studio 2B
They can earn their Silver and their Gold
while they make new friends and keep the old

Little girls into women grow
sharing with other all that they know

Adult Girl Scouts are there to lead
and lend a hand where there's a need

From level to level, step by step
with our sister Girl Scouts there to help
we meet the challenge each level brings
then we're on to bigger and better things.

Ruth Stephenson

FOUR TRAITS OF EFFECTIVE LEADERS

Each of us commands some authority. There are or will be those we guide, supervise, rear, mentor or lead. Some of us will be effective and others will feel as if we're running a cemetery: we've got a lot of people under us and nobody's listening.

Much has been written and taught about leadership, but I find that at least four traits are common in all people of authority who effectively elicit cooperation and respect from those who look up to them. Whether you are a parent, whether you find yourself in the workplace, sitting on a volunteer committee or teaching someone a new skill, these traits will help you effectively guide those who would seek to follow.

These good leaders are...

*Listeners. They take time to listen to the suggestions and concerns of those they endeavor to lead.

*Encouragers. They don't try to do it all themselves. Neither do they motivate by force or guilt. They encourage others and help bring out their best.

*Assertive. They say what needs to be said without being unkind. They tell the truth as they see it, openly and frankly.

*Decisive. They know what needs to be done and they make timely, even difficult, decisions when necessary. But they can also take charge without running over the people in their lives.

In short, good leaders L-E-A-D!

BROWNIE STORY POEM

For once, a long time ago
When fairies and elves in forests did grow
A girl & boy as normal as you
Lived with their father and grandmother, too!

Their father, a tailor, worked hard all day
And Granny, very busy, had no time to play
The girls loved to play and dance and sing
They could make a game out of any old thing

Then one day the father, a wise old man
Told of the magic of Brownie Land
He told them of the Brownies who work and dust
And clean for their families without making a
fuss

Granny told them to look for a magical place
Where the wise old owl might show them the face
Of a Brownie who was willing to clean and sew
And dance and sing, 'cause Brownies love that,
you know!

Our two found the owl with the answers to share
With all the little girls waiting way out there
Said he "Go to the Magical Browine Ring,
Join all the Brownies in everything."

"Deep in the woods when the moon is out
Go to the pond - turn yourself about
You'll find magic that starts with a rhyme"
And this magic circles the world in time

"Twist me and turn me
And show me the elf
I looked in the water
And saw myslef"

Now all of us know of the magic Brownie woods
Where each little girl helps as she should
Where trees and flowers and the rain and the
sun
Are friends of children who join Girl Scouting
fun

FUDGE THANK YOU - Give with a gift of homemade fudge

F - Forgiving; Fun; Festive
U - Understanding; Unique; Ubiquitous
D - Diligent; Delightful; desperate to do well
G - Generous; Giving; Grateful;
E - Exactly perfect to be a Girl Scout Leader.

F - For all you have done and will do....
U - Understanding that someone has to do
it.....
D - Diligently watching over the girls.....
G - Giving all you have and more....
E - Endless Paper Work

F - Fantastic
U - Upbeat
D - Divine
G - Green Blooded
E - Energetic

F - Following the 'RULES' (even when you don't
agree!)
U - Understanding Change (even when you don't
like it)
D - Delivering quality program (even when you'd
rather not)
G - Giving your heart and soul (even when
you're soooo tired.)
E - Entirely devoted to it all.

GREAT LEADER

"It takes a really
great leader to teach a girl not to follow"

I AM A GIRL SCOUT

I Am A Girl Scout

I am sunshine...the sparkle of merriment in the
eyes of my youth.

I am a doorway out of the commonplace into a
new, exciting experience.

I am a purpose-for-life, which will make the
later years of the girls I love rewarding.

I am noise... and a silence with warmth in it.

I am laughter...and a quiet revolution, which
seeks the comfort of a listener.

I am energy and a touch of living service.

I am youth and the slowly emerging habits that
make matured experience worthy

I am the today and tomorrow that is being
shaped.

I am habits, ideals, ways of living, confirmed
attitudes in the souls of youth.

I am the giver of gifts that fall not away,
that time will not quench, that riches will not
deceive.

I am a home to which a heart can unfold.

I am a force that holds you near to each other
no matter how different people are.

I am a spirit that forever sings within your
heart.

I am love - deep, sincere, devoted love.

I am part of you - for though your feet may
pass my door, in my memory you will live eternally.

I am a Girl Scout.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering means saying "Yes"
When others all say "No"
It means giving of your best
Of Heart, Mind, and Soul.

Thank You for your willing heart,
Your strong and helping hands,
That keep us from falling apart
In all that life demands.

Thank you for your agile mind,
Your quick wit and gentle laugh
Your words both soft and kind
That help us on our path.

The road we chose is often rough
But Friendship smoothes the way
This small token is not enough
Your kindness to repay.

Juanita

WHY WE'RE IN GIRL SCOUTING

We're not involved in Girl Scouting for the easy
hours, high pay, parent gratitude, power or prestige.

We're involved because we want the world for girls -
a world they can share and shape; a world of love
and laughter where they can show compassion.

We want them to see beauty in the stars, a sunrise, a
sunset, those different from themselves, and
themselves.

We want to help them learn to finish anything they
start and do it well and guide them to know their
worth through their own understanding.

We want to help shape women who have strength of

character and who are sensitive to the needs of others.

We want them to be the best they can be, whether as career women or as homemakers - or both, whether as wives, singles, mothers, or friends.

In giving of ourselves and our time, we reap rewards far beyond what we can give. We receive a better world.

We are involved in Girl Scouting because we care.

GREAT LEADER 2

It Takes a Great Leader to Teach a Girl Not to Follow

A BADGE IS

adapted from Glendyl Walton

A badge is a symbol
of something earned
For doing things nimble
while a skill is learned.

A badge is a token
of a service rendered
With no praise spoken
for assistance tendered.

A badge is a goal
for which girls work hard
To accomplish a role
and meet with high regard.

A badge is not to be taken lightly
Its possession is quite a feat
It must be earned rightly
And all requirements meet.

VOLUNTEERS ARE SPECIAL PEOPLE

"Volunteers are special people with a highly developed sense of responsibility. While pessimists and optimists argue whether a glass is half-empty or half-full, the volunteer sees a glass of water and starts looking for someone who might be thirsty"

INVESTITURE POEM

These Girl Scout trefoils in my hand
Upon new members we will bestow,
But first the meaning that the trefoil bears
The spirit of our Promise we must know,
Three bold leaves the trefoil wears.
Threefold the Promise that it bears,
To serve God and your country dear.
To bring to people hope and cheer
And every day in every way,
The Girl Scout Law we must obey.

RECOMPENSE (To Juliette Low)

Hers was a golden vision; for looking down the years
She understood the questions and needs that would arise
In the lives of little girls and big girls growing to womanhood,
And clothed her understanding in adventurous disguise,
Taking as recompense the laughter in their eyes.

I AM THE LEADER'S DAUGHTER (3)

I am the leader's daughter, a lot is expected of me -

To be the best behaved and act so cheerfully.

It is not the easiest, being the leader's kid,
Torn between what's expected of me, and what I actually did.

I am the leader's daughter and it's not an easy task

Sharing her with others then being the last one

asked.

Sometimes it makes me jealous, seeing her with
them

But I know what she means to the others; in
their eyes she's a "gem".

I am the leader's daughter and I have to admit
Having her as my leader, keeps my pathway lit.
Making sure I know the Promise and live truly by
the Law

She helps to keep me focused and accepts my
every flaw.

I am the leader's daughter and I can truly say
I have watched her share with others each and
every day

I now look forward to having a daughter of my
own

And being her leader, too, just the way I was
shown.

Kristy McGuire Girl Scouts of Northeast Mississippi, 2001 Dedicated to Megan and Katie

WORLD TREFOIL PIN

This is the World Trefoil Pin!
Wear it proudly!
The aims of Girl Scouting,
It proclaims loudly!

Reflecting the gold
Of heaven's sun
In God's blue sky
Above everyone.

The shape of the trefoil
Our Promise shows,
The three distinct parts
That each Girl Scout knows.

The stars are our goals -
The Promise and the Law,
Girl Scouts' way of life
Shine without flaw.

The vein of the leaf
Our compass true
Pointing the way
For me and you.

The base of the stalk
Is love's pure flame
Girl Scouts the world over
With but one aim -

LOVE ONE ANOTHER!
Whatever her creed,
Her race or her color
Her name or need.

This is the World Trefoil Pin
We proudly wear
Symbol of Girl Scouting
Everywhere!

GIRL SCOUT GAME

This is from the 1933 Girl Scout Handbook:

"Dear Girl Scouts:

I hope that we shall all remember the rules of
this Girl Scout game of ours. They are:

To play fair,

To play in your place,

To play for your side and not for yourself.

And as for the score, the best thing in a game
is the fun and not the result, for:

'When the Great Recorder comes
To write against your name,

He writes not that you won or lost
But how you played the game.'

Girl Scouts, I salute you.
Your friend,
Juliette Low"

PROMISE AND LAW 1930

THE PROMISE

On My Honor I will try:
To do my duty to God and my country
To help other people at all times.
To obey the Girl Scout Laws.

THE GIRL SCOUT LAWS

- I. A Girl Scout's Honor Is to Be Trusted
- II. A Girl Scout Is Loyal
- III. A Girl Scout's Duty Is to Be Useful and to Help Others
- IV. A Girl Scout Is a Friend to All, and a Sister to Every Other Girl Scout.
- V. A Girl Scout Is Courteous
- VI. A Girl Scout Is a Friend to Animals
- VII. A Girl Scout Obeys Orders
- VIII. A Girl Scout Is Cheerful
- IX. A Girl Scout Is Thrifty
- X. A Girl Scout Is Clean in Thought, Word and Deed

DAISY'S PEARLS

May be Sung to the Tune: "On My Honor"

Whatever happened to Daisy's pearls?
They were sold one day for Daisy's girls.
And since that day they can be found
A glowin' from Girl Scouts the world around.

The price she paid was a string of pearls
To keep us going - we are Daisy's girls.

There are millions of pearls cast around the
earth
And a bushel of diamonds can't match their
worth.

And which of us have some of her pearls?
And which of us give for Daisy's girls?
And who among us share that glow?
Every Girl Scout leader the world shall know.

We are Girl Scout leaders, we carry those
pearls.
We are Girl Scout leaders, some of Daisy's
girls.
And we'll cherish her gesture and cherish her
pearls
And pass them on to more of her girls.

THE GIRL SCOUT TREE

May be Sung to the Tune: "Tell Me Why"

Once Daisy planted the sapling tree
And passed its care on to you and to me
It's roots are deep and spreading still
It's branches reaching, her dreams to fulfill

The golden sun will help it grow
The gentle rain will nourish it so
For generations we'll keep it true
Girl Scouts forever, for me and for you.

I WISH I WERE A DAISY

May be sung to the tune of "I Wish I Were an Oscar Meyer Weiner"

Oh I wish I were a little Daisy Girl Scout,
That is what I'd truly like to be!
'Cuz if I were a little Daisy Girl Scout,
Everyone would be in love with me!

Skies above me dancing in the sunshine,
Water shining silver like the sea,

All the world is just around the corner,
All the future waiting just for me.

I'm glad I am a little Daisy Girl Scout,
Sharing lots of fun, as you can see,
And if you are a little Daisy Girl Scout,
You can come to Girl Scouts just like me!

THE LEADER QUILT

Being a Girl Scout leader is like making a quilt. First, we gather together the cloth-- our girls -- from different origins and cuts of materials. Some are shy, unimposing -- like pale pastels. Others are dizzy patterns of vibrant color. We must bind them together, matching their sameness, blending their uniqueness. The thread of Girl Scouting is strong. Our own hands must be steady and sure, patiently making each stitch small and even. Until -- finally -- the quilt is finished, with a background of the Girl Scout Promise and Law and a thick padding of love and understanding. And though each patch is different, together they are strong, beautiful, and warm; and the seamstress can be proud.

ODE TO A GIRL SCOUT VOLUNTEER

If you ever see a dust bunny
Rolling around your happy home...
 Stop
 Smile
 Know
The time you spend not dusting,
Helps girls have the best program known.
Carol Lee Spages

WHERE GIRLS GROW STRONG

Jason Andrews

The foundation of knowledge removes our fears
As we, to work, or college, encounter new
frontiers.

Empowered through learning
Where girls grow strong.

Recognition in diversity; how beautiful we are
Triumphant in adversity, we are going far.
The legacy of values
Where girls grow strong.

Supporting one another, going the extra mile,
Friend, sister, mother, expressed through a smile.
The spirit of togetherness
Where girls grow strong.

Striving to be our best redefines our goals.
Standing to the test, unites our souls.
The imprint on character
Where girls grow strong.

Our tradition is distinction as we break new
ground.

A purpose with conviction that better can't be
found.

Memories last a lifetime.
Girl Scouts
Where Girls Grow Strong

WHY BE A VOLUNTEER?

Anonymous

It's not for money: it's not for fame.
It's not for only personal gain.
It's just for love of fellowmen.
It's just to lend a helping hand.
It's just to give a little self.
That's something you can't buy with wealth.
It's not for medals, worn with pride.
It's just for the feeling deep inside.

It's that reward deep in your heart.
It's feeling that you've been a part
of helping others far and near.
That makes you...
A volunteer

"Volunteers give time today to make life better tomorrow."

WHAT WILL MATTER?

Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end.

**There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours or days.
All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten
will pass to someone else.**

**Your wealth, fame and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.
It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed.
Your grudges, resentments, frustrations
and jealousies will finally disappear.**

So too, your hopes, ambitions, plans and to-do lists will expire.
The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away.

It won't matter where you came from
or what side of the tracks you lived on at the end.
It won't matter whether you were beautiful or brilliant.
Even your gender and skin color will be irrelevant.

So what will matter?
How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought
but what you built, not what you got but what you gave.

What will matter is not your success
but your significance.

What will matter is not what you learned
but what you taught.

What will matter is every act of integrity,
compassion, courage, or sacrifice
that enriched, empowered or encouraged others
to emulate your example.

What will matter is not your competence
but your character.

What will matter is not how many people you knew,
but how many will feel a lasting loss when your gone.

What will matter is not your memories
but the memories that live in those who loved you.

What will matter is how long you will be remembered,
by whom and for what.

Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.
It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice.

Choose to live a life that matters

by Michael Josephson

SISTERS MAKE LIFE EASIER

A sister is the one who makes life easier to live,
Whom you can share our likes and dislikes with,
She is the one who tells us her vast secrets and feelings
And asks us to do the same,
And has the rights to know all our friends' name.

She makes us feel comfortable when we are sad,
She guides us the right way when we are bad,
She is more than any word can tell,
She holds us when we tend to fall.

She comes to know our problems through our eyes,
She is of course naughty but wise,
She is my life's sunrise.

We should always make oneself full
of these qualities to be a sister.
And my Sister you are the most beloved to me
As you care so much for me!

SISTERS

by Kirsti Leigh Nelsen

Sharing hopes and fears
Laughter and tears
Inside jokes and school
Your best friend's always there

Finishing your sentence
She's your definition of cool
In your eyes she's your sister
You're tighter than tight

Your minds are both the same
You can tell her your dreams
and your thoughts and your woes
And she'd never think them lame

If you glance her way
During class one day
And catch her eye and smile
Then you know in your heart
That your ARE soul sisters ...And you will be for quite a while

-

LIKE A TEDDY BEAR

Learn to listen like a Teddy Bear.....
With open ears and mouth closed tight.

Learn to forgive like a Teddy Bear.....
With open heart and not caring who is right.

Learn to love like a Teddy Bear.....
With open arms and imperfect eyesight.

-

GIRL SCOUTS AULD LANG SYNE.

*Auld Lang Syne** - Adaptation by Carol Lee Spages
**Meaning: Good Old Times*

Let not Girl Scouting be forgot
Or the days of auld lang syne
Hold true the Promise and the Law
And let the trefoil shine.

For auld lang syne, my friends
Girl Scouts and auld lang syne
We'll take a hand in friendship yet
For the sake of auld lang syne.

-

I'LL SHOW YOU A VOLUNTEER

Poem by Foley

Show me a person who spends endless hours in training without pay,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person where a cry for help brings split-second dispatch,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who is devastated when lives are lost or maimed,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who is graciously welcomed as a next-door neighbor,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who takes ridicule more than compliments,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person whose car is garaged with the grille facing out,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who sacrifices homelife, TV... even tender moments,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person visibly moved at the strains of our National Anthem,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who may be asked to give more than just dedication,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who is asked to give more... and more... and more,
And, I'll show you a volunteer.

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TAKING TIME

One woman takes her extra time
And knits it into lace
Another takes her extra time
Embroideries to trace.

The lace may wear a year or two
Or perhaps go out of style
The colors of the 'broideries fade
In just a little while.

But she who twines her extra time
In lives of many a lass
Produces that which will endure
When time and tide shall pass.

DOORS

Make the door to Girl Scouting wide enough to receive all girls who need human love, guidance and friendship, yet closed enough to shut out all hate, greed, envy and prejudices.

Make the threshold smooth, to eliminate all stumbling blocks for our girls, but rugged and strong enough to build a generation of young adults who believe in America, honesty and fair play.

Let these doors always be open to all girls regardless of race, creed, color or physical health.

Let Girl Scouting be the door to our girls' future.

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VOLUNTEER PLEDGE

I promise to keep my volunteer hours in check,
to keep my spirit and my family first and,
to make sure I ask for help when I start to feel overwhelmed.

I vow to compare myself to no one -
my time and contributions are my own special gift and,
to feel proud that I can do what I do.

I vow to compare no one to myself,
to recognize everyone gives their best of their time and abilities,
to always remember it is the pieces that make the whole.

I pledge to accept less than perfect,
to always remember I am a volunteer and,
to celebrate the joy in making a difference.

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