

National Council Delegate Comments

Lisa Amatruda	I am new to Girls Scouts and am excited to get more involved. I have two boys and two girls and it seems that most everyone knows what an Eagle Scout is and it speaks volumes on college applications, but not so many people know about the Girl Scout Gold Award. I want to make a difference and I thought this would be a good way for me to get the "bigger picture" of Girl Scouts. I am a brownie leader in Litchfield.
Darleen Andrews	I have been a Girl Scout for over 37 years and absolutely believe in Girl Scouting and would also like to give back to Girl Scouting for all the experiences I have enjoyed over the years. I would like to be a part of the decision making process in Girl Scouting and sharing that information with the Girl Scouts of Connecticut.
Jackie Bennett	My involvement with Girl Scouts as a member of the CRC and as a member of the board of one of first "new" councils has allowed me to participate in a process that will continue to affect the movement for many years to come. I feel that I have a good solid base of information and knowledge about the organization, the direction for the future, and the challenges facing councils following realignment. As the officer on the board responsible for governance I feel that my attendance at the National Council Session would be a valuable experience for myself and for GSOFCT and facilitate my ability to serve our council and especially the governance process. As one of the contacts for volunteers in the decision making process I think I am in a great position to ensure that our membership has a voice in the decisions at the National session and to also ensure that our membership is informed of the decisions that are made.
Alicia Currier	I think GS is a wonderful opportunity for girls to do everything I can to help promote its wonderful programs, and would continue to as a National Delegate. As a National Delegate I would share with my SU and others across the state everything I learn at the National Convention. In the next few years there are going to be many changes and I'd like to help other troop leaders and councils get through them. My daughter Bree (she's 14) is also applying to be a delegate and I think we would be a great team to work with adults and girls across the state. My children have had so many wonderful opportunities with Girl Scouts and so have I that we would never have had the chance to do it weren't for Girl Scouts. Not just my girls but my son looks forward to Girl Scout Camp every summer and attending the many family trips that have been planned with the Girl Scouts. I would be honored to represent Girl Scouts of Connecticut at the 2008 National Convention.
Bree Currier	I absolutely love Girl Scouts. Ever since I joined Girl Scouts as a Daisy it has been one of the most significant aspects of my life. One of my goals as a Girl Scout is to improve what we have in Girl Scout program and add new ideas. I also think Girl Scouts has so much to offer and am extremely grateful for the amazing chances I have had as a Girl Scout I also want to share with other girls, both in Girl Scouts and not, what I have learned. At the National Council session I plan to contribute my feelings towards the GS's programs. I want to make sure that the girls' voices are heard. After all that's what it's all about. "By girls, for girls." I believe it is vital to the survival of Girl Scouts that the ideas and feelings of girls are taken into deep consideration and by attending the National Convention I will make sure this happens. After the convention I plan to bring back everything I have learned to the Girl Scouts of Connecticut. The Girl Scouts of Connecticut would greatly benefit by me attending and I will make sure what CT wants is heard.

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	<p>Connecticut needs to make sure its voice is heard in the National Convention. I guarantee that I will try my best to ensure that the issues we have are addressed. I am an assistance troop leader for a Brownie troop and plan as I get older to stay involved in Girl Scouts. Some day I hope to have my own troop and do as great a job with them as my mom has done with my troop. My mother is also applying to the National Convention and I believe tht she and I would make a good team. We work together to run a Brownie troop and do so much for Girl Scouts on our own time. Together my mother and I would bring so much to the Convention. For both of us Girl Scouts is our life. We are always looking for ways to bring more Girl Scouts into the program. We have ran several bring-a-friend days that have enticed several girls into joining. For us Girl Scouts is about making sure all girls have the opportunities to join and have fun. As a Girl Scout I have had so many opportunities to use my talents to help other people. Girl Scouts has also helped me. Yearly I look forward to camp and love planning overnights.</p>
	<p>My troop is working on a trip to Switzerland in 2011 and I am working very hard to make sure that we will be able to go. Finally I feel that I will bring my best qualities to the table and just want to help girl Scouts be all that it can be. I want girls everywhere to have the same opportunities that I have had as a Girl Scout. There are going to be many changes in Girl Scouts in the coming years and I want to be able to help people across the state of Connecticut adjust and understand these changes. I am also interested in attending the Girl Scout Leadership Institute in Indiana prior to the National Convention. I am interested in being a girl leader and feel that me attending would not just benefit me but all the others whose lives I could change by being a leader.</p>
<p>Leander Dolphin</p>	<p>I believe that I could contribute a unique perspective to the National Council Session. Having joined Girl Scouting in the middle of the realignment process for our council, I have been able to experience the power and potential of the organization, as well as bring my corporate legal training to benefit the council as we strengthen and grow, and as we work to fulfill our mission. I am a graduate of Wesleyan University and Howard University School of Law.</p>
<p>Ariel Ekblaw</p>	<p>“National Delegate”—what does it mean? To me, it’s my chance to lead and act productively in the Girl Scout experience. I see the position as an opportunity to help all the Girl Scouts I know, whether guiding a younger troop or encouraging the older. ‘Girl Scouts’ inspires me as a program and as a belief. Since first reading of the opportunity 5 years ago, I have aspired to serve as a National Delegate; and now look forward to contributing to the upcoming National Council Session/51st Convention. As an informed national delegate, I would embrace a unique part of the Girl Scout system, not just in the name of growing my own character, but as an advisor leading millions of girls around the country. I have faithfully lived the Girl Scout Law and Promise, and wish to continue enriching the Girl Scout path. With my amassed skills gained through Girl Scouts, both personal and public, I am ready to discuss and vote on crucial issues. The National Convention will offer a forum with which to present my ideas and meaningful input.</p>

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	<p>Having enjoyed Girls Scouts since the age of five and through all the levels, I am permanently committed to my troop and Girl Scout friends. After experiencing the council system through the Board of Directors, and internships, I have only increased my thirst for involvement. As a High School student, Girl Scouts continues as my passion and guide. I plan to embrace the responsibility of making important decisions affecting our scouting future. If granted the opportunity, I will devotedly fulfill all commitments, attend the sessions and report diligently back to our Council. Please consider me for the position, as I have done my best to earn it. I have been a member of the By Girls For Girls Committee, and served as a girl member of the Southwestern Board of Directors.</p>
Megan Fitzgerald	<p>As an active member of the Girl Scouts both in my Cadette Troop and as an assistant leader of my younger sister's Junior scout troop, I can give input as to the types of programs girls would like and need. I also can give input as to why some of my peers/friends are not involved in scouting and what types of programs would attract them to the organization.</p>
Doon Allen Foster	<p>As a 12 year "girl" Girl Scout and a 10 year "adult" Girl Scout, I am eager to continue my participation in an organization that I have loved for a very long time and in many roles. I am certain that Girl Scouting can continue to be relevant and have a major role in the lives of girls and young women in this changing and challenging world. As I have often said in GS fundraising contexts, "I want the surgeon who does my heart transplant to have been a Girl Scout. I want the mayor of my town, the Superintendent of Schools and my Senator to have been Girl Scouts. My nanny, my daughter-in-law and my tennis partner could all</p>
Deborah Fox	<p>I have worked in a number of levels in GS in two different Councils here in our state. I have also worked at NCW for a summer. Having been active for over 20 years in so many varying roles and positions I have a unique perspective on where we are and where we are going. I would represent my state at this event and I would be a positive member of our delegation and a role model for our girl representatives. This would be a memorable opportunity to help shape the future of Girl Scouting for my daughter and the girls who will follow her.</p>
Judy Frey	<p>Delegates and Super Delegates! Everywhere one goes there is talk of them. I see a parallel here with our National Council Delegates. Like Super Delegates, Girl Scout National Delegates are usually people who have "been around the block." They are individuals who understand the Girl Scout Mission, who have spent years being advocates for girls, who have served in a multitude of positions at all levels of Girl Scouting.</p>
	<p>Like many others, I fit that bill perfectly. As a 20-year troop leader and Service Unit Manager before becoming a Board Member and Board Chair, I can deal with both policy and operational issues. But even more important than that, I can take the next step and empathize with GSUSA. I know that the National organization is confronting a huge problem as demographics change in this country and I know that they need our help if they want to successfully surmount the difficulties. Local leadership must put forward ideas. It is the National Delegate who are the policy influencers. I would not shy away from that responsibility.</p>
Judy Frey, continued	<p>Over the last couple of years I attended several National Leadership sessions and workshops on Realignment, got to know many of the key players at GSUSA and many of the key volunteers and staff from councils around the country. I became familiar with the issues faced by GSUSA and their ideas for dealing with them. Plus I heard from council representatives around the country their concerns about the forward movement of Girl Scouting. This is the knowledge that helped me orchestrate much of the realignment work in Connecticut and will be of assistance in the role of National Delegate.</p>

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	<p>Realignment has not gone smoothly in Connecticut. Nor has it in many other states. The rollout of the new program model will likewise not be seamless! GSUSA needs people from around the country to come together and help them get it right. They need ideas from people like me who are not antagonistic, who understand the necessity for National oversight and local conformity to GSUSA decisions.</p>
	<p>At the same time, Girl Scouts of Connecticut needs National Delegates with the capacity to put forward Connecticut's case and then bring back from National a rationale for the decisions made at a country-wide level. After the meeting, Delegates should be able to "sell" the National position to the members. I think I've proved over the years that this is something I have done and can do again.</p>
	<p>Delegates can only be effective liaisons if they are knowledgeable about the issues, willing to attend sessions and participate in debates, then come home and work for the common good. This is a leadership position I am comfortable undertaking.</p>
Marcelle Gosteli	<p>In my high school there are few girls who do girl Scouts. This is such a shame because I know the great opportunities Girl Scouts can bring. I would like to go to the convention to share my thoughts on this issue. Then I can helpfully bring this experience back to my school and spread the word.</p>
Denise Grzesik	<p>I feel I would be able to contribute greatly to the National Council Session and the Girl Scouts of Connecticut because of my experience as a Girl Scout and as a leader. I've been a Girl Scout since the first grade and became a leader when I was just starting my college career, so I think this makes me a unique candidate. I'm not the normal Girl Scout leader because I don't have children who are in girl Scouts. I volunteer because I want to make a difference and be a role model. I feel with my unique situation I will be able to contribute to the National Council and the Girl Scouts of Connecticut by offering a different point of view. During my years as a Senior Girl Scout I worked towards earning my Gold Award, and by earning my Gold Award I was able to develop my leadership skills and gain more confidence. When I graduated high school and moved to Connecticut to go to school I decided that I wanted to continue with girl Scouts to help myself grow and to help others grow.</p>
	<p>So far my experience as a leader has been wonderful and has taught me many lessons. I have enjoyed watching the girls grow up. I've been with the same troop and girls since they were in Daisies, they are now Juniors. Through my experience with Girl Scouts both as a Girl Scout and as a leader I feel I have great experiences and suggestions that could help contribute to Girl Scouts both nationally and locally in their future growth. So many times after our service unit meetings, cookie sales, trips and regular meetings I feel so frustrated and aggravated with the way things are handed to us or handled. Sometimes it's so chaotic that myself and others leave confused, and if we try to seek out help we may get it or we may not.</p>
Denise Grzesik, continued	<p>I feel the best way to help correct this state of confusion is to contribute and to be part of the team that has a say in the way Girl Scouts operates. Currently, I'm enrolled in a Master's program in management and think that the skills I will be learning will be able to add a different view on how Girl Scouts can get even better. I plan on continuing being a Girl Scout leader for a long time, so I would like to have a say in how Girl Scouts will proceed in the future. I also think that by contributing on the National Council and continuing to be a leader for the Girl Scouts of Connecticut will help me. I think Girl Scouts will help me prosper both in my personal and professional life. I look forward to the possibility and opportunity to learn more about Girl Scouts, and in playing a role to shape Girl Scouts both nationally and locally with my contributions.</p>

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<p>Peggy Jerrell</p>	<p>Peggy has served as Board Chair of the legacy Connecticut Trails Council from 2003 through 2007 and was Third Vice President from 2000-2003. She also served as a member of the board of directors from 1992-1999. Peggy has chaired the Personnel Task Force, Self-Evaluation/CPA Committee (twice), Nominating Committee (twice), and has represented the council as a national delegate on three occasions (1984, 1999, and 2005). She is actively involved in fund raising as a member of the fund raising committee and has chaired the 85th Anniversary Committee, the 90th Anniversary Reunion event and served as a table captain and host at two fund raising “ask” events. She has attended Raising More Money – a mission based fundraising model. She also has served in various operational roles ranging from Troop Leader to Gold Award Committee to Service Unit Chair. She is a recipient of the Thanks Badge II, the highest adult recognition in Girl Scouting. She has been recognized by the Association of Volunteers Administrators and the National Women’s Hall of Fame.</p>
<p>Amber Kountz</p>	<p>I have been a girl scout since the age of five. I was also a girl Scout troop helper at St. Aedan School. During middle school, I was Student Council Vice-President, and captain of my basketball and softball teams. My responsibilities for these organizations were to listen to ideas and work to make them become a reality. Participating in several groups and the orchestra has helped me become organized. I feel my role in this world is to prove that women can do anything. I want to start my journey by contributing my voice to the National Council Session. I also have a strong family history of involvement with Girl Scouts. My mother and grandmothers were active Girl Scout members. My grandmother was also a troop leader and was selected to attend the opening of the United Nations in New York City. My sister is currently a National Delegate and she has shared her wonderful experiences with me. I hope you will choose me to be a delegate.</p>
	<p>Amber is a ninth grade student at Sacred Heart Academy. She has excelled in her academics, receiving honors for several years. In 2007 she served as Vice President of student council. Amber's favorite subject is science. In 2007 she was a finalist in the school and citywide science fair, ultimately receiving the Joseph Celentano Science Award. Her science team placed first and third respectively in the Science Olympics at Laurelton Hall. Amber is also active with the school groups and the orchestra (alto saxophone first chair.) She also serves on the youth group and as an acolyte at St. Luke's Church. She has been member of the Girl Scouts since the age of five and volunteers each year as a ball-kid at the Pilot Pen Tennis Tournament. Amber loves life and was honored to receive the Best Attitude and Best Spirit Awards at Hopkins School-Summerbridge program last summer.</p>
	<p>Most people know that Amber enjoys sports. She has earned numerous awards including: Basketball - Sacred Heart Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams. St. Aedan Captain, Most Valuable Player, Hamden Fathers All Star Team and Free Throw Contest Winner, Elks National Hoop Shoot Contest (1st place - 2003, 2nd place - 2002), Quinnipiac University NCAA Stations Award and the NBA Best Defender Award, Chuck Russo Student Athlete Award and Yale University Youth Scholar Athlete Award. Softball - St. Aedan Most Valuable Player. Tennis - USTA-ATA Semifinalist (2006.)</p>

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Kate Larkin	By attending the National Council Session, I will contribute my leadership skills and cooperation skills to accomplish whatever tasks are presented to me. I will also encourage more girls to join Girl Scouts of America. Through this experience at National Council, I hope to learn how to promote tolerance in a better way and contribute more to my society, both locally and globally. My leadership skills are important to use during the National Council Session. Without guidance skills, there wouldn't be management or control. I am a camp counselor at Camp Wightman, a summer camp. To be a counselor, it is necessary to be a leader and work quickly and efficiently. I feel I can bring leadership to the National Council and contribute my skills. Leadership is very highly treasured at organizations and is essential to having a professional meeting.
	In Connecticut there are very few Senior Girl Scouts. If chosen to be a part of the National Council Session, I will aim to promote Girl Scouts more in my region. I plan to learn from my experience in the National Council and use what I have learned to encourage Girl Scouting in others.
Laura Linder	I am a well rounded 16 year old woman. I have exhibited independent thinking and have developed leadership skills thanks to my many years as a Girl Scout. My contribution to the Session will be my pride in the Girl Scouts organization and my interest in participating in the process and sharing what I learned with the Scouts back in CT. Thank you for considering my application.
DeLois Lindsey	Information currently not available
Rita Lomasney	I have been a girl scout for 35 years. As a Senior scout, I served on the Program Committee to the National Board of Directors and had the privilege to attend a national convention. I also served on the local council's Board of Directors as a Senior Scout. I then spent more than 10 years serving on local council Boards of Directors, holding positions such as Treasurer, Annual Giving chair and Nominating Committee chair. I enjoyed having a policy making role before I became a leader for my only daughter's troop. I would like to be able to contribute to decision making again in the role as a national delegate.
Heather Martinez	Girl Scouting has been a part of my life for over 15 years now. I never made it into scouts as a daisy, but I did join as a Brownie scout. Ever since the first meeting, I was hooked. I learned so much about growing up in the female world, and learning that life is a journey that we have to travel one way or another. How we go about that journey is up to us, but what I learned from scouting made it much easier. And now, being older and helping out with my own daughter in scouts, I want to share that same knowledge that was passed on to me so many years ago. I love looking into the faces of the young girls that I see on a weekly basis, and seeing how they look up to me. I WANT to be a role model to all girls out there, showing them that being a female in today's society is ok, and they are stronger than they think.
Leann Misencik	I would contribute to the National Council Session because I have ten years of experience as a Girl Scout, and 2 years of experience leading a Brownie troop. I am familiar with the program levels, from Daisy to Senior. I am currently working on my Silver Award, which demonstrates my desire to serve my community. I would enjoy serving my community by being a representative at the National Council Session. Not only would I gain insight to Girl Scouting in the USA, but I would also bring the concerns of youth in scouting to the Session, and bring back valuable information. I work well with both adults and youth. I am a reliable and respectful person. I try to live the Girl Scout Law in my daily life.

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Rose Ann Misencik	<p>I have 13 years of experience as a Girl Scout Leader, most of this time spent leading 2 troops of different program levels. I am familiar with all program levels and the proposed upcoming changes. My experience of managing and guiding a very large service unit such as Shelton's has allowed me to understand the functioning of Girl Scouting within the community. It has also aided in my understanding of how Girl Scout Council serves the individual service units. My knowledge and understanding of Scouting, and my ability to communicate the needs and concerns of both girls and fellow leaders would be valuable at the National Council Session. My love and enthusiasm for Girl Scouting in CT is evident through my desire to make this commitment to our organization. GS of CT would be able to count on my attendance at meetings, fair and dignified representation of the Council, informed voting during the National Session, and distribution of accurate and unbiased information upon my return. I truly believe in the Girl Scout mission and desire to make a difference.</p>
Rose Ann Misencik, continued	<p>I am interested in applying to become a National Delegate from Connecticut. I think that I bring many good qualities to the job. I have many strengths and I have the experience of many leadership roles throughout the last few years. I have many good skills that will help me as a National Delegate. I am a very good listener. I can listen to another person's ideas without interruption, until they are finished. Also, I contribute many good ideas. I think about a subject, and then I can come up with a good idea to solve or help it. Another quality that I have is the ability to focus. I like to have fun, but when needed, I can really buckle down and pay attention. I am also good at helping others to focus. With so many girls coming to the National Delegate meetings, there could often be side conversations. I am good at setting people on track without embarrassing them in front of the whole group. I think that I have many good qualities for being a National Delegate. I have held many leadership roles in the last few years.</p>
	<p>I was selected to be a captain on my school's cross-country team. I also earned my bronze award in sixth grade, along with the leadership award. I am currently working on my silver award, and all I have left is the final phase of my project and the paperwork. I have 34½ hours of leadership so far. I earned the bulk of those hours planning, preparing, and directing meetings with Brownie and Junior Girl Scout troops. I helped the Brownies earn the Her Story try-it and the Juniors earn the Creative Solutions badge. I spent 15 hours working with those younger Girl Scout troops. Another thing that I did for leadership hours was to lead a station at our town's Fall Fun Day, for which I earned six hours. Also, at our snack and sing I completed 4½ hours by helping plan the event, signing troops in, and handing out snacks. The final thing that I did to earn leadership hours was to be a delegate for my troop for two years, earning 9 hours. I have many leadership abilities and have been able to experience several leadership roles.</p>
	<p>I believe that the skills and experience that I possess will help me to be successful in the role of a National Delegate. I really enjoy Girl Scouts and I look at this as an opportunity to give back to Girl Scouts some of what it gives me while continuing to learn. I thank you for your time and I hope to become a National Delegate.</p>
Ashleigh Monroe	<p>I have many good skills that will help me as a National Delegate. I am a very good listener. I can listen to another person's ideas without interruption, until they are finished. Also, I contribute many good ideas. I think about a subject, and then I can come up with a good idea to solve or help it. Another quality that I have is the ability to focus. I like to have fun, but when needed, I can really buckle down and pay attention. I am also good at helping others to focus. With so many girls coming to the National Delegate meetings, there could often be side conversations. I am good at setting people on track without embarrassing them in front of the whole group. I think that I have many good qualities for being a National Delegate.</p>

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Jessie Leigh Morotto	<p>I am currently a Senior Girl Scout. I've participated in numerous Girl Scout events over the last ten years. Here are some examples of my most recent adventures as a Cadette/Senior Scout: "It's A Girl Thing"; "The Game of Life"; "Get Lost"; "Dancing With Two Feet"; Program Aide training; and Advanced Camp Specialist training. I've also visited the Juliette Gordon Lowe House in Savannah, Georgia with my troop in April 2006. In addition, I have attended two of the Connecticut Girl Scout Camps: AN-SE-OX Day Camp, and Laurel Resident Camp.</p>
	<p>I have developed leadership skills to not only be a camper/student but a leader/teacher as well, by participating in the numerous Girl Scout events and camp programs. If I am chosen to attend the National Convention then I will use my gained knowledge and experience as a Girl Scout as well as a Home Schooler to contribute my thoughts and feelings on what I may have enjoyed/disliked about Girl Scouting. Not only will I have the opportunity to express my thoughts and feelings, but those opinions of other Home Schoolers and Girl Scouts from my troop for ideas about future programs that may/will be a part of the Girl Scout Organization for years to come.</p>
Kristine Morotto	<p>At 34 years old, I have been a part of the Girl Scout Organization for sixteen years, almost half of my life. I have had the advantage of experiencing Girl Scouts from two different perspectives: One as a young girl, and the other as a Leader. In addition, I have also been a part of the "behind-the-scenes" Girl Scouting as a membership recruiter and as both an Alternate Delegate and a Delegate.</p>
Kristine Morotto, continued	<p>Although my troop is small (4 girls), these girls have stayed with me for the last nine years. No matter how many other girls that have come and gone from our troop my girls still say to me "next year we can do..." or "Next year, we can go...." It is so rewarding for me to hear those words "next year." It means to me that these girls see Girl Scouts as a permanent part of their lives. It means that as long as I am part of the Girl Scout organization I have the chance to make a difference in a girl's life. I have the opportunity to make a "girl grow strong."</p>
	<p>In addition to Girl Scouts, I have home schooled my daughter for the last seven years. We are fortunate to be able to interchange home schooling and Girl Scouting. Sometimes we base a home school lesson on something we've done or learned in Girl Scouts. Other times we take what we learned while home schooling and bring it to our girl Scout meetings to share with the other girls in our troop so that they too may have unique opportunities to help broaden their view of the world.</p>
	<p>I feel that if I am chosen to be a part of the National Convention then I will bring all my experiences as a Girl Scout, a Girl Scout Leader, as well as a home school mom. I will be able to represent how having Girl Scouts as a part of my life has encouraged as well as challenged me to grow and improve my leadership skills and to pass those skills on to the girls in my troop as well as new women becoming Girl Scout Leaders.</p>

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Aubrie Nelson	I've been a Girl Scout since I was a Daisy in Kindergarten. I have been lucky enough to have wonderful leaders for my troop who have provided me with enriching Girl Scout experiences that have included things like camping, service projects for the community, younger girls, and senior citizens, outdoor experiences, and opportunities to make great friends who have been with me throughout my whole life thus far, and have continued to be so into my teen years. My Silver Award project gave me leadership experience in planning and event like we did with Camporee. All these events have given me the necessary skills to be able to sufficiently contribute to the National Council Session, because they have given me a strong belief in Scouting and what it is about and I want to be able to give back to the organization and keep the program going for other girls. I love being a Girl Scout, and it has been a big part of my life.
	I want to stay involved in it as I am now watching my little sister be a Daisy and want her to have as great an experience as I have had. Attending this conference would allow me to serve as a role model for other girls and share my enthusiasm for Scouting with other troops in Connecticut.
	This summer I will be attending a destination called "Juliette Low Camp" in Kansas City, MO, where I will be working as a counselor for disabled girls. I believe this opportunity will not only strengthen my leadership skills but also give me the opportunity to meet other girls from across the country, which will give me a chance to gain new perspective and find out what Girl Scouts means to them. I would be able to share this at the National Council Session with ideas about teens in Scouting. I have had experience with public speaking through my church and the drama club productions I have participated in and am becoming increasingly confident speaking in front of groups. I'd look forward to sharing my experience both at the conference and upon return. Thank you for considering me for this opportunity.
Jazzmine Pertillar	I have been a member of Girl Scouts since I was a Daisy. I have enjoyed my experiences. My contributions would be to share what teens are looking for and when trying to decide where to spend their time. I would also be able to share from my perspective how Girl Scouting can be more effective for young women such as myself. Currently, I am an independent member of Girl Scouting and I miss the opportunity of being in a troop, partially because I participate in other activities that I equally enjoy.
Allison Santi	Represent Girl Scouts of Connecticut as an active Girl Scout member contributing ideas and bringing back information to share.
Karen Santi	As a leader and mentor of girls I would guide the girl representatives to make the most of their experience. Representing Connecticut by sharing actively in discussions and learning as much as possible to share back home. I am a Girl Scout Leader, and volunteer for Relay for Life and Second Baptist Church.
Ann Smith	I am interested in serving as a National Delegate from the Hartford Connecticut region in order to ensure that a diversity of perspectives is represented in policy and planning discussions that affect the Girl Scouts of Connecticut. Girl Scouts has a rich history that provides a solid foundation for growth and development of Girl Scout programming and marketing to retain traditional Girl Scout populations while attracting new groups of young ladies. Both of these objectives are critical for the continued success of Girl Scouts in the 21st Century. I believe that they are of particular importance for the Girl Scouts of Connecticut as the merger of the three legacy councils proceeds. Serving as a National Delegate would afford an opportunity to learn what other Councils are doing, to hear what Connecticut, and particularly Hartford, Girl Scouts and volunteers would like to do, and to participate in the decision making process.

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Rebecca Tanner	I would contribute my experience as a volunteer, parent, summer staff member (7 years) and staff member. I love to talk to people and get new ideas to keep programs fresh. I am eager to learn more about what National is offering. I am a member of the Gold Award Committee, and a Council Trainer.
Amanda Valaitis	I would like to be able to vote in issues that affect Girl Scouts and I would like to be able to learn new ideas that I can bring back and share with other Girl Scouts.
Sheri Valaitis	I would like to attend the National Council Session and learn about the issues that girls across the country are interested in. I would like to be able to raise the awareness of my own girls and bring home new ideas and share experiences with other Leaders, girls and parents.
Teresa Younger	I credit Girl Scouts with the leadership skills I possess today and would proudly represent the Council. I have a diversified and well rounded view of issues facing girls and women and feel that my ability to listen, give feedback and affect change would be helpful. I see the world connected and yet I understand and know the significant and distinctive attributes of Connecticut. When I was 14 I attended my first National Council meeting and it profoundly changed my life. The exposure and opportunity that the Girl Scouts has given me is something I'd like to share.
Linda Zimmer	WHAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSION: One of the biggest values of attending the National Council Session would be the opportunity of meeting and networking with a variety of Girl Scouts from across the country and having the chance to share ideas and activities as well as a chance to pick their brains and experience. My passions lie with the Gold Award, older girls and keeping college girls and older active in the Girl Scout movement. I'd like to be able to meet and network with others from around the country with similar interests. This could be arranged ahead of time through various list serves. I can even imagine organizing such a networking session(s) to be held during our "free" time.
	Another way of contributing to the National Council's success would be to further encourage all girls there to stand up and be heard via the parliamentary procedure in use. Frequently adults tend to look down on the girls rather than treat them as equals in situations such as this. Our older girls deserve our respect and support, and that can be shown by treating them as adults and equals, while quietly looking out for their welfare.
	WHAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUTS OF CONNECTICUT BY ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING: I envision a number of ways I could contribute to the Girl Scouts of Connecticut.
Linda Zimmer, continued	1) Bringing back the significant and impressive role of older girls at the Council Session, especially those chosen and showcased as Young Women of Distinction, having earned the Gold Award far and beyond expectations. The role of girls using parliamentary procedures is also significant and the role of girls as mistresses of ceremonies. Most of our troops never hear anything about this.
	2) Hopefully, GSUSA will expand upon the concept of Journeys and the various new age level groupings and programs so that new, positive, and clearer information can be brought back to the Girl Scouts of Connecticut and disseminated to those in the field, but in the context of the big picture as well as how it will affect them. This could happen not only during regional meetings, but during trainings, program, and Gold/Silver/Bronze workshops already in place.
	3) Networking at the National Council Session would be one of my main objectives -- to mine new program ideas, new trip ideas, new recognitions ideas, new older girl activity ideas, Gold celebration and promotion ideas, money earning activity ideas -- to bring back not only to my own troop and service unit, but to the Council in general. In best case, it would be done through regional programs; in worst case, it can be done through normal communications at trainings, program workshops, Gold workshops, etc.

National Council Delegate Comments

	<p>4) Break-out Workshops on specialized topics, especially if run by GSUSA, should generate a great deal of specialized information to be shared with interested parties. Not everyone is going to the same workshop of GSOFACT, so we all need to benefit from each other's information and be able to share it with our sisters here in Connecticut.</p>
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