

## Girl Scouts of Connecticut 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Patch



This patch program celebrates 100 years of Girl Scouts and the people that made and make Girl Scouts happen in our state.

The patch program has two sections: *Girl Scout History* and *The Great Treasure Hunt Investigation!* To earn the patch, complete the two steps in Girl Scout History and the three steps in The Great Treasure Hunt Investigation.

You have between September 2010 and October 2012 to earn this patch. The Patch may be purchased from the council shops.

**Ready? Set? - Here we go!**

### Section 1: Girl Scout History

This is investigating the “basics”. Learn some Girl Scout History and use your creativity & team effort to find a way to share this knowledge with others.

Step 1. Gather the information. Here are some suggested topics to investigate. You can choose one of these or your own area of interest – as long as it involves Girl Scouts in the past!

- Juliette Low – her childhood, how she started Girl Scouts, what she achieved.
- The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
- Lord and Lady Baden-Powell and their connection to Girl Scouts
- What was it like to be a Girl Scout in another era?
- A particular aspect of Girl Scouts and how it has “changed with the times”
- Choose your own topic

Step 2. Work with others and find a way to share this information with others. This is where you can be really creative! Choose one of the sharing methods below or create your own...but remember to share it with others beyond your troop/group.

- Create a game
- Write a story
- Make a Power Point presentation
- Create a skit
- Translate what you discovered into an art display
- Write and perform a song
- Choose your own form of sharing

## Section 2: The Great Treasure Hunt Investigation!

To celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Scouts, the GSOFCT legacy committee would like to compile a complete town/city index with oral and written histories from all 169 towns/cities in the great State of Connecticut. Our Connecticut Girl Scout history is hidden in libraries, archives, senior centers and within your own family. Research, reach out and share!

There are treasures in your town, get set to hunt for clues as you investigate your local Girl Scout History!

### Step 1: Discover:

Learn skills that will help you speak to others. Learn how to interview, take oral histories, photograph, research and record data. As a group, define how your strengths complement each other to be the strongest investigator team.

Here are some suggested items to research:

- When was your town or city incorporated?
- When was the first Girl Scout troop organized in your town/city/area? What age were these girls?
- When was the first Brownie or Senior troop organized in your town/city/area?
- When was the first "council" organized in your town/city/area and what was it called? Did your town/city/area have a lone troop?

### Step 2: Connect:

Meet and interview women in your town/city/area. Have them share information about Girl Scouting between 1930 and 1985.

Here are some suggested areas to research:

- Gather personal oral histories. It is OK if the person you are interviewing did not grow up in your town! (See sample questions on next page)
- Name some important women in your community who were or still are Girl Scouts. List some of their accomplishments.
- The Girl Scout camps in your town/ city/county are an integral part of Girl Scouting. Interview historians in your town to find out more information about histories and locations of past Girl Scout day and resident camps. Go to [www.cslib.org/histsoc.htm](http://www.cslib.org/histsoc.htm) for a list of historical societies in the State of Connecticut.

### Step 3: Take Action:

Using what you have discovered about your team's strengths, together plan a take action project that addresses a need in your community related to Girl Scout historical information. Present your findings in an interesting and creative way to another troop or your community.

Here are some suggestions:

- Develop a troop or service unit scrapbook.
- Hunt through flea markets, garage sales and junk shops for Girl Scout pins, memorabilia and uniforms. Use them as part of your take action project.
- Videotape oral histories of adult Girl Scouts in your community.
- Create a "History of Girl Scout Music" workshop.
- Help create a traveling history "program in a box".
- Develop a Girl Scout History wide game.
- Develop a scavenger hunt on Girl Scout History.
- Develop a PowerPoint or video program based on the Historical Committee's collection of older Girl Scout materials.
- Write and produce your own video on GS History.
- Create your own project.

To ensure that the treasures you've uncovered can be shared for years to come, you **must** donate all your research to Girl Scouts of Connecticut and your local historical society.

Here is a helpful website related to collecting oral histories:

[http://dohistory.org/on\\_your\\_own/toolkit/oralHistory.html](http://dohistory.org/on_your_own/toolkit/oralHistory.html) "

## **Sample questions for step 2: Collecting Oral Histories**

Here are some helpful questions you might use when interviewing a “treasure” in your town.

1. What is your full name, including maiden name (for women), nickname, spouse’s name, and your camp name?
2. When and where were you born? Today’s age\_\_\_\_\_

### **Your Girl Scout Years**

1. When did you join Girl Scouts? Why?
2. Where did you live and what Council did you belong to?
3. What ranks did you complete?
4. What badges and awards did you earn?
6. Where did you go to camp? Share your memories.
7. What trips did you take?
8. Any special events you attended?
9. What kind of service projects did you/ troop do?
10. Your leader/co-leader’s name/troop number?
11. Who were your friends in Scouting?
12. Was your grandmother/mom/sister/aunt/ a Girl Scout?
13. How did Girl Scouting influence your life? (character, skills, friends, service)
14. Favorite Girl Scout memory?
15. Did you sell cookies? Cost? Kinds?
16. What expectations did you have for your future/ what expectations did your parents have for you?

### **Your Adult Girl Scout Years**

1. Did you go to college? Where/when?
2. Did you stay active in Girl Scouts during those years?
3. Did you get married?/ children/names?
4. Did your children join Girls Scouts?
5. When did you become a Leader/why/where?
6. What was your troop number/what trips did you take ?
7. Did you take training/what kind?
8. What other Girl Scout volunteer positions did you hold? Town/Council/National level?
9. What Girl Scout traditions do you think should be perpetuated?
10. Has Girl Scouting changed your life as an adult?
11. Anything else you would like to share?