

# Glossary of Girl Scout Terms

**Annual Giving Campaign** - An annual gift program during which both Girl Scout members and friends of Girl Scouting are given the opportunity to financially support the Girl Scouts of Central Indiana.

**Annual Meeting** - A representative meeting of voting members of the council to elect officers, board members and Board Development Committee members and to conduct other such council business as necessary (See Bylaws).

**Birthplace** - The Savannah, Georgia, birthplace and childhood home of Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low, founder of Girl Scouts of the USA. The Birthplace is now a historic house museum and Girl Scout troop program facility.

**Blue Book** - The Blue Book of Basic Documents is the GSUSA publication that includes national constitution, by-laws, policies, and credential information.

**Bridging** - Shared program activities with a troop of the next grade level. Designed to introduce girls of each grade level to what lies ahead.

**Brownie Ring** - A form of troop government for Brownie Girl Scouts. A "conference" circle or "talkabout" ring in which all members of the Brownie troop do planning and deciding. Called a Town Meeting at other grade levels.

**Buddy System** - A safety practice which requires two girls in an activity to keep watch over each other.

**C.I.T. (Counselor-in-Training)** - A Girl Scout who is taking a course to learn camp counseling skills.

**Community Engagement Manager** - A member of the council's executive staff assigned to work with specific geographical areas of the council who offers support and information throughout the year.

**Council, Girl Scout** - A corporation chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA which is responsible for the development, management, and maintenance of Girl Scouting in a defined geographic area or jurisdiction.

**Day camp (summer)** - Camping by day, usually lasting three to five days. Girls from different troops sign up as individual campers and are placed in temporary units. The girls and unit leaders plan and carry out activities. Day camping is council-sponsored on a site, which may be council owned, leased, rented or borrowed. Any registered Girl Scout may attend.

**Destinations** - Girl Scout activities for Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors. All *destinations* events provide an opportunity for individual members to broaden their perspectives and give Girl Scouting an enhanced visibility.

**Diversity** - The state of being different or diverse. When used to describe people and population groups, diversity encompasses such factors as age, gender, race, ethnicity, ability, and religion, as well as education, professional background, and marital and parental status.

**Dues (troop)** - Money paid by each girl to cover troop expenses and project costs.

**Dunk bag** - A mesh cloth bag with a drawstring, used to sterilize and hang dry eating utensils when washing dishes.

**Family Camp (summer)** - Share a camping adventure with the whole family. You and your family get the chance to experience all there is to do at camp.

**Family Campaign** - an opportunity for families to make a donation to Girl Scouts of Central Indiana.

**Financial Assistance** - Financial assistance available upon application for girls (can cover membership dues and uniform components) who otherwise could not afford to participate.

**Fly up** - The event at which a Girl Scout Brownie receives her Brownie Wings and becomes a Junior Girl Scout.

**Friendship circle** - A circle formed by Girl Scouts standing and clasping hands (before they reach for each other's hands, girls cross their right hand over their left). The circle represents the unbroken chain of friendship among Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world.

**Friendship squeeze** - A hand squeeze that travels around a friendship circle from one person to another after someone starts it.

**Girl Scout Birthday**- The official birthday of Girl Scouting, March 12, celebrated during Girl Scout Week, marks the first meeting of a Girl Scout troop held in 1912

**Girls of Distinction**- A council event held in June. The event celebrates the girls who have earned their Bronze, Silver, or Gold Awards and the highest cookie and fall product sellers.

**Girl Scout Bronze Award®**-The first award in Girl Scouting.

**Girl Scout Silver Award®**-The second highest award in Girl Scouting.

**Girl Scout Gold Award®**- The highest award in Girl Scouting. This award recognizes the leadership, efforts, and impact girls have had on their communities

**Girl Scout Cookie Program:** the largest financial literacy program for girls in the world. Girls learn five skills: Goal Setting, Decision Making, Money Management, People Skills, and Business Ethics. Funds generated from the program go to support girl, troop, and council programs.

**Girl Scout Fall Product Program:** combines educational activities with money earning opportunities for troops. Girls sell magazines, nuts, and candy to friends and family. Funds generated from the program go to support girl, troop, and council programs and specifically help troops get start-up funds for their activities for the year.

**Girl Scout Group** - Girls with common interests or needs who meet either on a part-time or short-term basis under the guidance of a trained adult.

**Girl Scout Insignia** - The umbrella term for U.S. Girl Scout earned grade-level awards, religious and other awards, emblems, and participation patches and pins. Girls wear all insignia, except participation patches and pins, on the front of their Girl Scout uniform.

**Girl Scout Handshake** - A formal way of greeting other Girl Scouts and Girl Guides. You shake hands with the left hand and give the Girl Scout sign with your right hand.

**Girl Scout Daisy** - Girl Scout who is in Kindergarten through 1st grade.

**Girl Scout Brownie** - Girl Scout who is in the 2nd through 3rd grade.

**Girl Scout Junior** - Girl Scout who is in the 4th through the 5th grade.

**Girl Scout Cadette** - Girl Scout who is in the 6th through the 8th grade.

**Girl Scout Senior** - Girl Scout who is in the 9th through the 10th grade.

**Girl Scout Ambassador** - Girl Scout who is in the 11th through the 12th grade.

**Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA)** – The official name of the national Girl Scout Corporation, chartered by the U.S. Congress and incorporated in the District of Columbia.

**Girl Scout Sabbath** - The Saturday in Girl Scout Week. A time for members to be recognized in their place of worship or to recognize the place of worship as a sponsor of a troop/group. Also an appropriate time for religious recognitions to be awarded to Girl Scouts exploring their own faith.

**Girl Scout service mark**- The Girl Scout service mark is composed of two parts: the symbol (the trefoil with three profiles) and the logotype (the words "Girl Scouts" along with the registration mark ®). Girl Scouts of the USA owns the exclusive use of the Girl Scout service mark.

**Girl Scout Sunday**- The Sunday in Girl Scout Week. A time for members to be recognized in their place of worship or to recognize the place of worship as a sponsor of a troop/group. Also an appropriate time for religious recognitions to be awarded to Girl Scouts exploring their own faith.

**Girl Scout Week** - The week containing March 12, the Girl Scout birthday, the anniversary of the first Girl Scout troop meeting in the United States in 1912. This observance is celebrated each year, starting with the Sunday on or preceding the 12th.

**Investiture** - Ceremony at which girls or adults become members of the movement by making the Girl Scout Promise and receiving a membership pin.

**Juliette Gordon Low** (October 31, 1860 - January 17, 1927) - Founder of the Girl Scout movement in the United States. Her nickname was Daisy.

**Juliette Low World Friendship Fund (JLWFF)** - A Girl Scouts of the USA-operated fund that supports educational programs, service projects, training, and international travel to foster friendship among girls from the 144 countries of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

**Kaper chart** - A grid system, wheel, or table showing the job assigned to each girl or group of girls for any given project. Useful for meetings, camp-outs, and special events.

**L.I.T. (Leader-in-Training)** - An older Girl Scout who is taking a course to learn troop leadership skills.

**Motto** - Be prepared.

**Patrol** - A small group of girls that plans and carries out activities within the troop/ larger group.

**Recruitment manager** - A member of the council's executive staff assigned to work with specific geographical areas of the council who recruits both girls and adults throughout the year.

**Rededication** - A formal ceremony in which a current Girl Scout renews her commitment to the Girl Scout Promise.

**Registration** - Membership registration is accomplished by submitting a completed member registration form and membership dues. Registration is renewed annually.

**Religious and other awards** - Official awards earned for completing requirements set by religious/other organizations or by Girl Scouts of the USA. These awards are all worn on a similar place on the Girl Scout uniform.

**Resident Camp (summer)** - A sustained camping experience during which girls from all parts of the council camp at an established site under the guidance of carefully trained counselors. Girls from different troops sign up as individual campers and are placed in temporary units. The girls and their counselors plan activities taking advantage of the opportunities available to them. Girls are grouped according to age, experience, and program interest.

**Safety Guidelines and Safety Activity Checkpoints, Girl Scouts** - Official guidelines of Girl Scouts of the USA addressed to all adults and girls in Girl Scouting containing Girl Scout Program Standards and Guidelines that provide for the health and safety of all girls.

**Service unit** - A name many local Girl Scout councils give to a specific geographic area and the Girl Scouts within it - all leaders, troops/groups, and girls there. A service unit also includes individuals who give troop support.

**Service Unit Camporee** - Troops in one service unit join for one to three nights of camping together with coordinated activities. Ask your service unit manager or Community Engagement Manager if your service unit offers this opportunity.

**Service unit community troop organizer** - The volunteer on the service team who is responsible for recruiting, organizing and monitoring troops in a geographic area, usually a school, church or community.

**Service unit manager** - The volunteer person who is in charge of the service unit meetings and the service team.

**Service unit registrar** - A volunteer on the service team who helps leaders complete the registration process and appropriate paperwork for registration.

**Service team** - A team of volunteers in each service unit who is responsible for seeing that troops and individually registered girls are organized and maintained at a level of high quality.

**Showcase** - Council-operated store for official Girl Scout items, including books, uniforms, badges, insignia, pins, record sheets, camping gear, gift items, etc.

**Sign, Girl Scout** - Made by raising the right hand shoulder high, palm forward, three fingers extended, the thumb holding down the little finger. Demonstrated when repeating the Girl Scout Promise.

**Sign, Quiet** - The Girl Scout signal for silence in a group situation. Raising the right hand over the head to signal for attention and quiet at any Girl Scout gathering. When the hand goes up, mouths go quiet, and everyone

joins in giving the quiet sign. The five fingers are kept up to remind others of the fifth part of the Girl Scout Law, I will do my best to be responsible for what I say and do.

**Sit Upon**- A lightweight pad or mat to “sit upon” when the ground is damp or dusty.

**Slogan** - Do a good turn daily.

**SWAPS (Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere)** - The tradition of Girl Scouts exchanging keepsakes. The keepsakes should tell something about the givers or the givers group. They also should represent the giver’s country, community, or Girl Scout council.

**Trefoil** - The international symbol of Girl Scouting. The three leaves of the trefoil represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise. Within the traditional Girl Scout trefoil is the American eagle and shield, which are part of the Great Seal of the United States of America. The eagle is a symbol of strength and victory, and the shield on the eagle's breast signifies self-reliance. In his talons, he clutches on his right an olive branch, the symbol of peace, and on his left, a shaft of arrows, and the symbol of might. The eagle faces right, which is the position of honor, looking toward the symbol of peace. The eagle and shield within the trefoil signify that Girl Scouts stand ready to serve their country. The stylized Girl Scout trefoil, introduced in 1978, symbolizes both the contemporary and continuing commitment to the three-part Promise in its trefoil shape. The three faces stand for the diversity of Girl Scouting and its focus on girls.

**Troop** - The basic unit in Girl Scouting consisting of the girls and 2 non-related adult leaders, with at least one of them being female.

**Troop committee** - Three to five registered adult members who help as needed while girls and leaders plan and carry on troop program.

**World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)** - An association of Girl Scout and Girl Guide national organizations around the world. WAGGGS serves approximately eight million Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in 144 countries. Through Girl Scouts of the USA's membership in WAGGGS, each girl and adult registered as a Girl Scout in the United States becomes part of the Girl Guide/Girl Scout world movement.

**World Trefoil Pin** - Official insignia showing membership in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

**World Thinking Day** - February 22, the birthday of both Lady Baden-Powell, World Chief Guide, and her husband, Lord Baden-Powell, founder of Boy Scouts. First celebrated in 1927, the day was renamed at the 1999 Girl Guide/Girl Scout World Conference. Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world use the day to think of each other and exchange greetings, learn about other countries, and give to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund.