



Girl Scouts Nation's Capital  
56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
**Faye Fields Remarks**  
Board President

Thank you for another wonderful Annual Meeting. Weren't our girls' stories incredible? Now multiply that by 10,000 and you will begin to appreciate the powerful impact Girl Scouting has on this region.



I may be standing here alone, but I want you to know that besides me is a very committed and talented **Officer Team**. They work tirelessly to make sure Girl Scouts continues to thrive in our region.

Last October, I had the pleasure of attending the **Girl Scout 54<sup>th</sup> National Convention and National Council Session** in Ohio. How many of you were there? Well let's take a look at our girls' experience in our video.

[Video]

National Convention is always so inspiring.

I am honored to give back to this organization that I love so much. I've shared my Girl Scout story here many times before, and every chance I get, I tell people about the incredible work Girl Scouts does in each of our communities.



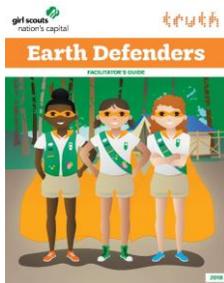
Last month, I participated in a forum with several **National** Baseball owners and prominent nonprofit groups. Business leaders care about the development of strong girl leaders, and they recognize the work Girl Scouts does to shape the future workforce.



Our Council continues to strengthen our partnerships with corporations and foundations in this region. Many, like Booz Allen Hamilton, GEICO and Toyota Financial Services have upgraded their contributions to Girl Scouts Nation's Capital over the last 12 months.

This year, we negotiated a **\$125,000** grant with **TRUTH**, the group working to eliminate smoking in this generation. Their research found that young people care about the effect smoking has on our environment. So when they were looking for a partner to help deliver this message, Girl Scouts Nation's Capital was the perfect match.

We've been green for over **100** years.



The result, a great new **pilot** program, called **Earth Defenders**, developed by our council and being released this summer at community based and core camps! Girls will learn how smoking impacts the environment, and taking a cue from the **G.I.R.L. Agenda**, they will learn how to advocate to protect our parks, waterways and neighborhoods.

At the end of the program, girls will earn the Earth Defender patch and customize their very own **Earth Defender** cape.

Girls, turn around and let's show them the cape.

We will continue to work with **TRUTH** on ways we can deliver this program to more girls. More information to come at the August Kick-off meeting.



Major Gift contributions continue to fund capital campaign projects at our camps, like the **solar panels** being installed at Camp Winona and yes “**flush toilets**” at Camp Coles Trip. We are using resources wisely to protect our environment.



Every contribution is valued. I am extremely proud that **SHARE**, our annual giving campaign for friends and families, continues to be a crucial part of our fundraising efforts. Last year, through SHARE we raised close to **\$800,000**.

**SHARE: SERVICE Units Made Goal**

**Congratulations!**

10-13	11-9	12-6
14-4	15-1	15-9
31-1	31-5	32-3
32-4	33-2	33-5
33-10	34-1	34-5
34-7	34-8	37-1
37-7	37-8	40-1

This year, we are thrilled that **Association 34** has already exceeded their SHARE goal for 2018. And we would also like to recognize our **34 Service Units** that have also reached goal.

**[Live]**

**SHARE: SERVICE Units Made Goal**

**Congratulations!**

40-2	42-5
52-10	53-1
54-15	56-4
56-6	60-1
70-4	70-18
80-6	80-11

Because of you we are able to provide more opportunities to Girl Scout families in our region, and why we say—**share your love of Girl Scouting**.



We have an obligation to ensure the future of Girl Scouting, like **Kathy and Chris Duda**. Kathy has fond memories growing up as a shy girl, but in Girl Scouts she found friendships, and a lifetime of memories. When her daughter, Colleen arrived, she knew immediately that she too would be a Girl Scout, and Kathy would be her leader. With Kathy’s support her daughter went all the way and earned the Gold Award. Today, Colleen has successfully graduated from college, and when she and her husband discussed where they would store their “treasures”—of course they both agreed Girl Scouts!



1Kathy and Chris are members of the Juliette Low Legacy Society, and I extend an invitation to all of you to join. You can ensure Girl Scouting in this region for years to come by making a planned gift and including Girl Scouts Nation's Capital in your estate plan. Thank you.

Today, girls are doing all the right things. They are graduating from college and earning advanced degrees at higher rates than men.

But there is still a problem when women struggle to gain equal pay, and when Girl Scouts' highest achievement, the Gold Award, does not hold the same gravitas to the Eagle Scout.



At the core of the problem is a lack of awareness for our Gold Award. We each have the power to change that. Let's start by encouraging Gold Award Girl Scouts to include it on their resume—**for life!** I recently heard a story of a girl in a resume writing class who was told by the instructor that since the **Gold Award** was earned in high school, she could take it off her resume. I don't think anyone is telling that to an Eagle Scout.





We must leverage our positions in the workforce to open doors and introduce **Gold Award Girl Scouts** to potential careers. Through our **Women's Advisory Board**, our Council has created a great Gold Award alumnae group. In addition to providing unique mentoring experiences for Girl Scouts going for the Gold Award, our Women's Advisory Board, reaches out to Gold Award girls in college, to share internship and employment opportunities.

There is another opportunity to network. Girl Scouts of the USA and **LinkedIn** just launched the Girl Scout Network. It's a career resource to promote girls and women's empowerment, and tip the scale for women in the workplace. This is an opportunity to network with tens of millions of Girl Scout alums across the nation. I encourage all of you, **girls** and **adults** to fuel that talent pipeline and enhance your professional networks by joining the **Girl Scout Network** on LinkedIn.



The world is being redesigned, and Girl Scouts intends to ensure that women are part of that process.

When town planners, CEOs, government agencies and our Department of Defense look for a workforce who can code, build robots, or compile and protect our data, Girl Scouts



can say, **we have a badge for that!**



We already know how to capture girls' natural curiosity and now we are making sure girls are keeping up with trends in science, technology, engineering and math. Last year, Girl Scouts of the USA launched new STEM badges for Daisy, Brownie, and Junior levels.

I am happy to announce that this year, new **STEM badges and Journeys** are rolling out for our Cadette, Senior and Ambassador levels. Girls need to be the makers—to create the next “must have” tech gadget, to improve community infrastructures, to save the environment and even save lives.



Working with Palo Alto Networks, this September, GSUSA is releasing **eighteen cybersecurity badges**, for girls in grades K–12. This industry has the smallest number of women, but they need women to embrace technology and design in ways that consider our unique needs.

The STEM workforce is crucial in this modern economy and essential for generating new ideas. But women remain underrepresented, holding less than 24 percent of STEM positions. Girl Scouts' **STEM initiative** is a huge step toward eliminating traditional barriers to industry access, such as gender, and will ensure that even the youngest girls have a STEM foundation.

Girls will get their start in **STEM** by earning Girl Scout **badges!**



And finally, have you seen the latest Girl Scouts and The **North Face** advertisements, She Moves Mountains? This ad was in the New York Times. The collaboration is designed to enhance our Girl Scout **outdoor** experiences. Outdoor programs build

leadership skills and encourage girls to seek challenges. It remains an **essential** aspect of our program.

The North Face project is a multiyear initiative that will result in **12** new Outdoor Adventure badges. Programming is still in the design stage, but will include activities



like mountaineering and climbing, backpacking, hiking, and more. This will be a great enhancement to our already robust outdoor programs.

I am excited by all the new program opportunities coming down the pike. And, I want to thank you all for your unfaltering commitment to the success of Girl Scouts. Because of you, girls are supported and able to face whatever challenges come their way. Let's instill in our girls the confidence needed to reach their full potential. Let's give **every** girl the chance to lead like a **Girl Scout**.

With that, I would like to turn it over to your CEO, **Lidia Soto-Harmon**, for an update on Council operations.