



Connections

**News for Girl Scouts of
San Jacinto Council supporters**
Fall 2024

Success to Significance Luncheon

Support our annual fundraiser on Oct. 8 by sponsoring a table and donating raffle items. More information on the backpage or online at www.gssjc.org/s2s. Contact Katie Gordon at kgordon@sjgs.org.

EOG Resources Presents Brownie Magic



Thanks to sponsor EOG Resources, GSSJC had the opportunity to offer four Brownie Magic events to more than 700 second and third grade girls in our community. The events introduced them to camp and outdoor activities, including STEM and healthy living.

During each event, the girls participated in activities that allowed them to explore and deepen their interest in STEM, develop critical thinking skills, and boost their confidence. They also explored the great outdoors through hiking,

a nature scavenger hunt, and other exciting activities. Participants made mini terrariums while learning about plant life and healthy environments. The girls also made unicorn “goo” and learned new songs, dances, and games.

Thank you, EOG Resources, for building girls of courage, confidence, and character through transformative outdoor experiences in Girl Scouting.



Powering Up for Victory!

Thank You, Plug Power Inc., for Fueling Robotics Team's Success!

GSSJC's robotics team recently participated in local and state competitions and earned several awards, displaying their enthusiasm and team spirit. The Girl Scout team, called The Unibots, presented a Lego robot that they spent the past year building and programming as part of the council's robotics program.



The Unibots competed in the FIRST LEGO League Challenge, a creative and innovative robotic competition. During the competition, the team showed how its robot is able to navigate robot game missions. Together they engaged in research, problem-solving, coding, and engineering, earning them Core Value awards and the Motivate Award.

The Unibots exemplify Girl Scout's values by supporting one another and their peers as they participate in these challenging projects. We can't wait to see what The Unibots will accomplish next season!



Girl Scouts Receive Emerald Circle Scholarships

Twenty-five Gold Award Girl Scouts received scholarship funds totaling \$31,000 from the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Emerald Circle during the council's recent Highest Award ceremony.

The Emerald Circle is a GSSJC membership-based organization founded in 1992. The group's scholarship selection committee awards scholarships to outstanding Gold Award Girl Scouts to help them as they work to achieve their dreams of higher education and continue the hallmarks of Girl Scouting—service and leadership. The one-time scholarships range from \$1,000-\$3,000.

The Emerald Circle has awarded more than 575 scholarships totaling more than \$800,000 since its inception. This year, recipients look forward to pursuing their passions and dreams as they move to the next phase of their lives with courage, confidence and character. Scholarship recipients will attend universities nationwide, including Emory University, Rice University, University of California at Los Angeles, Trinity University, University of Texas at Austin, Boston College, Brown University, Texas A&M University, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Wellesley College, Northeastern University, New York University, and Princeton University.



Congratulations 2024 Emerald Circle Scholarship Recipients:

Layla Ansari, Oksana Arevola, Portia Berryman, Shantell Brown, Julia Duran, Vaishnavi Girish, Kathryn Griffiths, Kassidy Hook, Saachi Jain, Kavy Malgi, Ireen Maredia, Alexis Norman, Kaytlynn Norman, Priya Patel, Sienna Rossmiller, Emma Sjodin, Amanda Sobrinho, Annabelle Strange, Connie Sun, Aishwaryaa Udeshi, Lucy Vestal, Caroline Vestal, Hannah Washington, Lewen Alisa Zhao, and Irene Zheng

If you are interested in supporting the 2025 Emerald Circle Scholarship program, visit www.gssjc.org/donate, or contact Katie Gordon at kgordon@sjgs.org.

Thank You, Donors!

Great care has been exercised to ensure the proper recognition of our donors. If an error or omission does occur, we apologize and hope you will bring it to our attention. Contact Suzanne Carmona at scarmona@sjgs.org. Contributions made April 1 – June 30, 2024

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In Honor of Troop 25216, 25217, and Class of '20
Helena Reilly

In Honor of Mary Vitek
Susanne M. Glasscock

High-Flying Insights: Women Aviation Trailblazers Share Their Journey



Women aviation leaders spoke to more than 120 Girl Scouts about their career experiences during a GSSJC aviation kickoff at the Lone Star Flight Museum. The women shared their insights and imparted advice to the girls who had just earned the Discover Aviation patch. Eight-year-old Kacie Moore was among the eager participants excited about earning her patch. “I can’t wait to explore the planes and learn what it takes to become a pilot!” said Kacie during the March 23 event.

Speakers included GSSJC Board Member Shelly deZevallos and former Gold Award Girl Scout Autumn “Pepper” Rhodes. DeZevallos is an aviation thought leader and a licensed pilot with 30 years of experience in the aviation and airport industries. Rhodes is a certified private pilot and college freshman at Rice University, studying mechanical engineering and astronomy.

“Watching Girl Scouts explore the world of aviation is truly inspiring,” deZevallos said. “The Discover Aviation patch has the power to influence the career aspirations of young girls and pioneer a future where women’s contributions in aviation know no bounds.” Rhodes agreed, saying, “Girl Scouts has been an influential part of my life from when

I was Daisy on my first camping trip to an Ambassador earning my Gold Award. I would certainly not be the young woman I am today without Girl Scouts. Having the opportunity to collaborate with GSSJC after contacting them about my Gold Award project, Girls Who Soar, was truly surreal, and I am honored to be a part of the aviation initiative.”

The Discover Aviation patch program is the product of a year-long collaboration with the Lone Star Flight Museum. This program is based on the aviation and STEM programs offered at the museum, engaging in activities covering various topics, such as aviation safety and the importance of effective aircraft communication.

At the event, Girl Scouts learned about various career opportunities in the aviation industry and explored various aviation topics and chose from 22 activities aimed at sparking their interest in the industry. Additionally, they demonstrated their knowledge of the fundamental sciences of flight by operating a real Mooney Ovation aircraft.

Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts toured the museum with troop leaders and learned about the forces of flight while interacting with aircraft models and viewing the museum’s aircraft collection. Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors conducted a pre-flight check, flew a simulated mission, and learned about the history of flight with a guided museum tour.



“With only 7% of pilots nationwide being female, we recognized the importance of introducing young women to the boundless opportunities within the field of aviation,” said Mary Vitek, GSSJC CEO. “Our collaboration with Lone Star Flight Museum is instrumental in igniting this passion and showcasing the many avenues available to these aspiring young women.”

The ongoing aviation patch program offers Girl Scouts a variety of opportunities to:

- Learn about the fundamental elements of flight and aircraft design.
- Discover the impact of women in aviation history.
- Prepare and fly their own plane in state-of-the-art flight simulators.
- Explore aviation careers and meet and become inspired by female aviation leaders.



Ann Hobing, the senior director of education and outreach at the Lone Star Flight Museum, stated, “Collaborating with GSSJC represents a key step in introducing aviation and STEM career opportunities to girls.”

With your generous support, GSSJC can ensure that girls in our community are empowered to become future leaders in the STEM community. Donate now at www.gssjc.org/donate. For additional information, contact Susan Thraen at sthraen@sjgs.org.

Women's Leadership Network Makes Gift Bags to Thank Camp Counselors

The GSSJC Women's Leadership Network recently attended a summer social at SheSpace, where they assembled gift bags to thank camp counselors for their amazing work this summer. The gift bags were used to surprise counselors on their first day at summer camp.

Members and their guests also enjoyed an evening networking with like-minded women dedicated to empowering the next generation of women leaders. During the social, Mary Vitek, GSSJC CEO, presented council updates to WLN members, and Stephanie Tsuru, founder of SheSpace, shared her inspiring story about the origins of the premier female-focused coworking space.

Girl Scouts summer camp is where campers explore the outdoors, try new activities, practice independence away from home, make new friends, and so much more. All this is made possible because of a dedicated staff that manages the camp and supports girls every day. Thank you, WLN, for honoring our camp counselors for their outstanding work!



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Donate now!



Save the Date!
Success to Significance Luncheon
Tuesday, October 8, 2024
Hilton Americas Houston

Featuring guest speaker and Girl Scout alumna

Karen Walrond



Karen, a Houstonian and Girl Scout mom, authored *Radiant Rebellion*, where she investigates how we can resist ageism and live a gratifying, meaningful life along the way. Her earlier work, *The Lightmaker's Manifesto*, beckons readers towards lives of integrity, advocacy, conviction, and joy.

A panel of Girl Scouts will join Karen to share how they are making the world a better place!

EVENT CHAIRS



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