

WAYS TO SAY



to a Girl Scout Volunteer!

Who Are GSSI's Volunteers?

GSSI is fortunate to have many great women, men, and teen volunteers serving in many different capacities:

Pathway Lead Volunteers (troop leaders and assistants, series and event facilitators, etc.) spend countless hours training, and hold meetings, plan and organize, and get to know and mentor the girls in their groups, and guide girls as they plan group activities!

Troop Committees bring snacks, help at some or all meetings, chaperone activities, serve as cookie volunteers, and more!

Service Unit Volunteers (event chairs, cookie chairs, and officers) support the larger Girl Scout community, typically at the county level, by planning events for girls or providing support for other Girl Scout volunteers!

Council Volunteers dedicate time to serve on GSSI council committees or on the Board of Directors, and their efforts benefit all of the girls in GSSI's 11-county jurisdiction.

A Personal "Thank You"

From GIRLS—

- Bake a cake, decorate it, and give it to your adult volunteer as a surprise.
- Make old fashioned thank you cards, or sending e-cards! Be sure to include why you appreciate her/him.
- Make a frame and insert a picture of the girls in your troop.
- Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper that describes why/how your adult volunteer is awesome.
- Write a poem or letter that describes why you think your volunteers are the best. If you are tech-savy, make an appreciation video to show at the next troop meeting!
- Make a card and attach it to flowers (flower seed packet, potted plant, or cut flowers) with "Thank you for helping me bloom!"
- Use a skill that you learned this year to make a special "crafty" gift for your leader or other troop volunteers.

From PARENTS—

- Nominate the volunteer for a GSSI or GSUSA formal award
- Write a letter or scroll of appreciation.
- Offer to babysit the adult volunteer's children, so she/he and spouse can have a night out.
- Arrange to include pictures of your Girl Scout's adult volunteers in a display of pictures in a community center that honors individuals or groups who have given outstanding service.
- Purchase a Girl Scout gift item for him/her from the many choices available at Katie's Korner, the council shop (e.g., trefoil charm, earrings, tote bag, scarf, pewter-like plate, books, music tapes, and much more).
- **Homemade gifts:** baked goods, mini scrapbook (either of the girls in the group or a blank one into which the volunteer can add her personal photos), personalized notebook, etc. Check out your favorite craft website or try one of these: <http://familycrafts.about.com> or <http://familyfun.go.com>
- **Gift cards:** Make an effort to find out more about the volunteer so you can customize it to his/her likes or hobbies. A few ideas: bookstore, home improvement or gardening center, movies, restaurant, craft or hobby store, spa, etc.
- **Gift baskets:** Personalize the theme to the volunteer's interests! Themes and contents might include gardening (pail, garden tools and gloves, seeds), kitchen (apron, towel, and kitchen gadgets packaged in a nice mixing bowl), crafts (general or specialized craft supplies in a cute tote), woodworking (tool belt with woodworking supplies tucked in each pocket), bath (bath towel, scented candle, lotions, and soap bundled in a basket), etc.

ANYTIME during the year—

- Offer to stay and help at meetings.
- Arrange for girls to create, sign, and send birthday or holiday greetings to their adult volunteer.
- Award a Special Recognition Certificate to an adult volunteer at an appropriate meeting.
- Always arrive on time to pick your Girl Scout up from activities.
- RSVP when asked, and turn in forms on time.