

girl scouts  
of south carolina  
mountains to midlands

# 12

Leadership  
Line

*A quarter in review.*



*Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.*

**SUMMER 2018**



# A NOTE FROM *Rebecca and Kim*



**Rebecca Lever**  
Chair, Board of Directors



**Kim Hutzell**  
President/CEO

Our organization is one rich in history and tradition, but it is also continually growing and innovating. We can say with absolute confidence that the Girl Scout Leadership Experience is more relevant than ever to the success and leadership development of today's girls. Just in time for the current troop year, GSUSA released 30 new Journeys and badges that cover everything from space science and engineering, to environmental stewardship and career exploration. Each of these Journeys and badges have been specifically designed to allow girls to explore new fields and topics, relevant to today's society, and discover how they can make the world a better place.

Don't take our word for it though, the proof of our program is in the research. Girl Scout alums display positive life outcomes to a greater degree than non-alums on several indicators of success, including sense of self, volunteerism and community work, civic engagement, education, and income/socioeconomic status. Everything we do, from camp and program, to volunteer training and community partnership is done with one, singular goal: to prepare girls to empower themselves through a lifetime of leadership. As you read throughout this publication, you will see the different ways in which we advocate for female leadership, provide girls with leadership building opportunities, equip our volunteers to mentor effectively, and partner with the community to reach girls from every circumstance. As you see from the cover our volunteers are committed. Nearly 200 volunteers attended our Volunteer Kick-Off in August for the 2019 membership year. They participated in trainings on the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, Recruitment, and how to coordinate their work year.

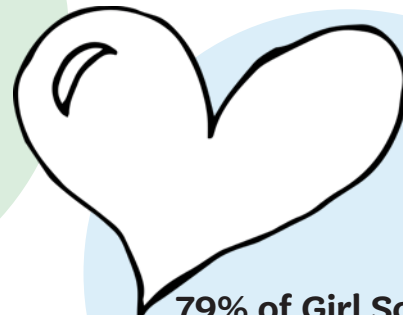
As always, we appreciate your continued support of the world's largest leadership development organization for girls. By joining hands in partnership, you give girls the opportunities to become the leaders they are meant to be.



**82% of Girl Scouts take part in healthy activities, like exercise and eating right.**



**79% of Girl Scouts take on leadership roles when working in a group.**



**79% of Girl Scouts engage in community service activities like volunteering.**

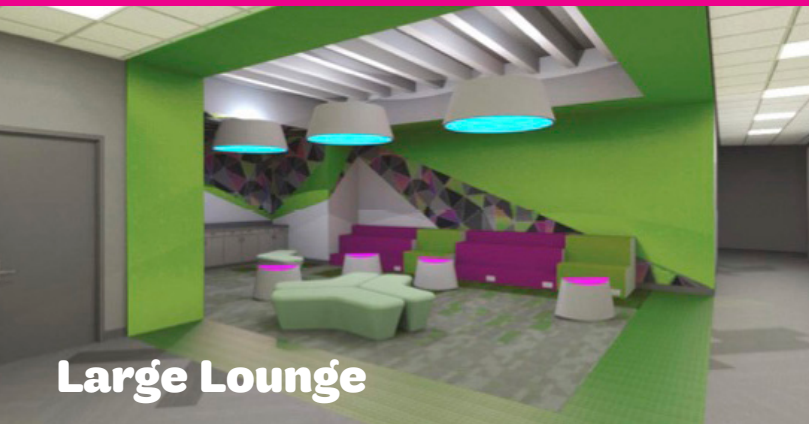
# DEMOLITION TRIGGERS THE START OF NEW BEGINNINGS

Be a part of the news conference celebrating the start of construction and the public phase.

Join us: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 10:00am at the site of the new

**Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center**

at the corner of Senate and Williams Streets in Columbia.



**Large Lounge**



**STEM Lab**

## We're Making Progress

Demolition began at the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center, building a future for girls. The first step in the construction process of the new leadership center is underway. Demolition will be followed by construction to transform the building into our new leadership center and one of our premier council "Places of Destination".

Like you, we've been anxiously awaiting the start of construction and can't wait to provide a unique place where girls will develop leadership skills that will last a lifetime. The Leadership Center is a game changer for girls in our council, a place where girls connect, learn, and grow!

Please celebrate this milestone by spreading the word about the impact of the Leadership Center with your friends and colleagues.

Stay tuned to our social media and website for weekly updates!

Make a difference in a girl's life! Donate time, resources, and money by calling 1.800.849.GIRL (4475) or go to [gssc-mm.org](http://gssc-mm.org)



(from left to right) Lou Kennedy, Honorary Chair of the Midlands region public phase, joined by ToGetHerThere Capital Campaign Honorary Chairs Susu Johnson, Spartanburg region; Minor Shaw, Greenville region; Charlotte Berry, Midlands region

**togetherthere**





# WOMEN OF

2018

## WOMEN of DISTINCTION AWARDS

### Greenville Region

The Greenville Women of Distinction celebration is an evening that pays tribute to women who exemplify excellence in service, leadership, community visibility, and professionalism. This is an incredible opportunity for us, as a community, to come together and elevate the importance of strong female leadership in the Greenville region of our council, which supports six counties.



from left to right:  
Kim Hutzell, CEO; Serita Acker, Honoree; Jane Dyer, Honoree;  
Rebecca Lever, Board Chair

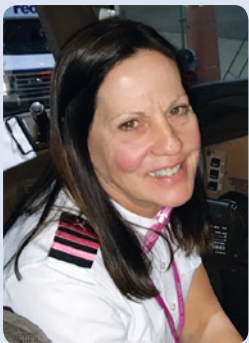


**Serita Acker** earned her bachelor's degree from Lander University and a Master of Education in Human Resource and Development from Clemson University. Before becoming the PEER/WISE director in August 2015, Serita was Director of the Women in Science and Engineering program. Additionally, she has more than 25 years of experience in higher education, both in the areas of student support services, mentoring, and diversity programs. She is a certified Global Career Development Facilitator and Academic Coach. Serita sees the PEER/WISE main role as providing student success programs and services that can equip students with the resources they need to excel at Clemson University and achieve their

educational goals so that they are prepared for success after graduation.

She has won several State and National Awards: Clemson University Woman of the Year, Martin Luther King Jr. Award, Clemson University Board of Trustee Award, WEPAN Distinguished Service Award, Career Communications College Level promotion of Education Award, Upstate Diversity Award Calder D. Elhmann Outstanding Individual.

She also serves as MentorLinks Consultant for the American Association of Community Colleges in Washington, D.C. and sits on many state and national boards to help promote STEM. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and traveling.



**Jane Ballard Dyer** has lived her whole life in a "man's world." She graduated from Clemson University in 1981 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. While at Clemson, she was the first female Commander of Air Force ROTC and was the first woman selected from Clemson to become a pilot in the Air Force. As one of the first female Air Force pilots, she flew Air Refueling aircraft and was an Undergraduate Pilot Training Instructor Pilot.

After serving in the Air Force, she continued her flying career by becoming a Captain at FedEx, flying the B727, A300, and the B777. She flew around the globe and amassed over 11,000 accident free hours. In a career field that is still around

5% female, she has been inducted into Smithsonian's Air and Space Wall of Honor.

Jane is married to John Dyer, a highly decorated combat pilot. They have four children, three grandchildren and a great-grandson. She now spends her time volunteering with the Rotary Club of Greenville, Clemson Corps, Greenville Women Giving, and her church.

# DISTINCTION



The Boots & Pearls Women of Distinction Event is a recognition and fundraising event that celebrates and honors outstanding women from the three counties of the Spartanburg region for their professional accomplishments, service to others, and impact on their community. Honorees have been chosen based on their accomplishments, which align with the Girl Scout mission: Building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

Celebrate these Women of Distinction on **Monday, November 12** at the **Spartanburg Marriott**.

To purchase tickets and sponsor these women, please visit our website at [gssc-mm.org](http://gssc-mm.org).



**Valerie Manatis Barnet** is married to Bill and they have 3 grown children – Becca, Will and John. Professionally, Valerie teaches theatre at the Spartanburg Day School (grades 8 – 12) and directs 2 productions annually. In the community, she serves on the boards of the Foundation for the SC School for the Deaf and the Blind, Sidewalk Hope and Mental Fitness, Inc. She volunteers at The Journey as a Sunday school teacher. Valerie is the co-founder and administrator of the non-profit, Hub City Animal Project. HCAP empowers local animal welfare organizations that are proactively working to address the root causes of animal homelessness in Spartanburg County in order to create long-term change and reduce shelter intake. ([hubcityanimalproject.com](http://hubcityanimalproject.com)) In her spare time Valerie enjoys exercising, reading and just “doing life” with her husband Bill and their dog, Honey.



**Mary Ann Washington Deku** is often described as teacher, guidance counselor, humanitarian and community change agent. She was raised in South Carolina and graduated from South Carolina State with bachelor’s and master’s degrees. She worked for Spartanburg District 5 from 1967-1985 and District 7 from 1985-2005. While working full-time, Mary always found time to serve others. She is known for giving birthday parties for people who have no family. Honors for Mary’s professional and community service include: 2004 Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year, 2006 Humanitarian Award for NAACP, 2007 Mary L. Thomas Civic Leadership and

Community Change Award, 2010 City of Spartanburg Community Weaver, Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce Noisemaker Award and the list goes on.

Mary Ann Deku has worked her entire life doing her part building a strong community for all those who live in Spartanburg.



**Marsha H. Gibbs**, a life time resident of Spartanburg County, South Carolina, is a member of the executive management team at Gibbs International, Inc., where she works alongside her husband, Jimmy Gibbs. Marsha helped build one of the most successful private businesses in South Carolina, while touching many lives with her generosity and caring as is evident in her role as Director of The Gibbs Foundation.

Marsha has an associate degree in business from Spartanburg Community College and graduated from The Barbizon School of Modeling and Finishing. She is the author of “Growing with Grace”. Marsha currently serves on the Board of Directors of Carolina Alliance Bank, Spartanburg Regional Foundation and Converse

College. She is very active in the community and has received numerous awards, including the 2003 Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce Neville Holcombe Outstanding Citizenship Award (with her husband, Jimmy) and the Wofford College Mary Mildred Sullivan Award.





# 70 YEARS of Camp WaBak

Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands believe in the power of camp! Not just because camp is often the highlight of a girl’s summer, or some of her fondest memories when she looks back on her childhood, but because the research speaks for itself. The correlation between meaningful experiences in the outdoors and leadership development in girls is undeniable. In fact, 29% of girls who tried an outdoor activity through Girl Scouts overcame a fear. The research also shows that girls who have meaningful outdoor experiences are more likely to take risks, identify as a leader, and have a stronger sense of self.

Camp WaBak is a cherished part of the Girl Scout culture in our council. So many families, maybe even your own, have had generations attend Camp WaBak. What an incredible and unique opportunity for today’s girls to connect with the past in such a meaningful way. In August, we celebrated Camp WaBak’s 70th anniversary and its legacy of preparing girls to empower themselves through impactful outdoor experiences.



Lois Graves (seated), former camp director with some Camp WaBak staff alumnae.



## 2018 Volunteer Kick-Off

Our organization is volunteer driven, and we are only as successful as we equip our volunteers to be. This is exactly why, every year, we host a Volunteer Kickoff Celebration just before the troop year begins again. On August 11, volunteers came out by the hundreds from across our council to learn how to deliver the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to their girls with courage, confidence, and character. We helped prepare our volunteers for the new year with information on the 30 brand new Journeys and badges rolled out by GSUSA, troop operations, and product sales. We also offered time for networking and team -building activities. The highlight... we handed out the latest FOCALPoint!

We think that our guest, speaker, and trainer for the day, Elizabeth Andrew put it best when she said, “Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.” At GSSC-MM, we are committed to equipping and empowering our volunteers for success as they mentor the next generation of great female leaders.





# GREENVILLE WOMEN GIVING

Our council was recently awarded \$88,540 by Greenville Women Giving. The funded program, Girls Who Thrive, will deliver the Girl Scouts' proven leadership program to low income and homeless girls in Greenville County over the next two years. Girls Who Thrive will create three dedicated troops. Troop 6000 will serve homeless girls in partnership with United Housing Connections, United Ministries, and the Salvation Army. Two troops, one at Welcome Elementary and the other at Grove Elementary, will serve low-income girls.

A program specialist will lead all troops and provide as a resource for parents to provide community contacts and act as an advocate for struggling families to help ensure that girls are able to grow, learn and thrive. During troop meetings and enrichment opportunities, girls will explore the arts, healthy living, business skills, outdoor/adventure, and STEM through hands-on, cooperative and girl-led learning.

“We appreciate the generous donation by Women in Giving and the recognition of the value Girl Scouts offers through the best leadership development experience for girls in the world. We are excited to serve girls with the potential to be the next generation of leaders”, said Kim Hutzell, President/CEO of Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands.




from left to right: Rebecca Lever, Board Chair; Kim Hutzell, CEO; Jane Dyer, GWG project contact

## Girl Scout Sister Tree

We believe that every G.I.R.L. who shares our DNA, no matter her circumstance, should have access to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. But for many girls in our council, program costs are simply out of reach for their families. That's why between November 1 and December 10, you will be able to come into any of our Girlz Gear shop locations and select a Girl Scout to partner with this coming holiday season.

By purchasing a uniform for a Girl Scout in need, you reaffirm our belief that every G.I.R.L. deserves the chance to discover and develop the leader within. We thank you for your support in advance as we work together to prepare girls to empower themselves for a lifetime of leadership.



  
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To the household of:

**SHARE YOUR NEWSLETTER:** Let others in your community know about Girl Scout opportunities for girls and volunteers. When you are finished with *Leadership Line* or if you receive more than one copy, take it to the medical office, school gym, salon, or other places you visit. Thank you!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Until October 21**  
Fall Product Program

**October 20**  
Back in the Woods

**October 31**  
Founder's Day (Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday)

**November 2-4**  
Mountain Magic Weekend

**November 10**  
Annual Business Meeting

**December 17**  
Summer Camp Registration Opens

Register for all of the above  
events at [gssc-mm.org](http://gssc-mm.org)

