



NEWS RELEASE

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Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania Kick Off Troop Year with Fun in the Sun

August 15, 2009 (CAMP SMALL VALLEY - HALIFAX, PA) - Spirits were as high as the temperature on Saturday, August 15 as more than 200 service unit team members, other volunteers and camp and council staff gathered at Camp Small Valley in Halifax for the Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania 2009-2010 troop year kick off celebration. The day was filled with informational sessions, fun games and great opportunities to network with fellow Girl Scouts.

The theme of this year's event focused on the outdoors and volunteers could choose from a number of outdoor adventures such as geocaching, firebuilding, and the new environmentally focused Journey series. A special appearance by the "Leave No Trace" trainers from Colorado was also a highlight of the day as volunteers learned ways to lessen their impact on the environment and become more conscious in all that they do while outdoors, especially camping.

The day began with President and C.E.O. Jane Ransom thanking volunteers for their hard work and dedication. Ransom also reflected on how her first two months have provided her with a wonderful opportunity to "listen and learn" about the amazing program we provide for girls throughout our 30-county council.

The council shop remained busy all day with everyone picking up the latest merchandise from GSHPA.

Volunteers also got to see the latest program materials for the Fall Product Program and taste the candy and nuts from this year's lineup from Ashdon Farms. Representatives from Little Brownie Bakers were also there, handing out free samples of the newest cookie that will be unveiled next year.

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Betty Fish, troop leader in the South Central Region said she took away a lot from this year's event, "The kickoff was a great learning and sharing day. Not only did I get to discover new things, I also had the opportunity to connect with my team and other leaders and now I am completely ready to take action for the New Year," said Fish.

Thanks to all the volunteers who came and made the 2009-2010 kick off a huge success!