

Giving Wisely



SPRING 2014

The Helms provide lead gift for Cabin 3

“Sparrow’s Nest” empowering girls to take flight

“Today’s girls live in a whole different world than the one I knew!” notes 89-year-old Dorothy “Dottie” Helm, a Girl Scout during the Great Depression. “They have more activities and opportunities than ever, yet the basic premise is still the same: Girl Scouting is all about helping girls discover their own potential.”

Born in Kansas City, MO, Dottie moved around the country with her family according to where her father, Charles Davis, could find work as a construction engineer. Dottie felt at home everywhere, thanks to Girl Scouting. “As soon as we moved to a new town, the first thing my mother did was start new troops for my sister, Barbara, and me.”

She credits her Girl Scout experiences for giving her the courage and skills to accomplish anything she set her mind to. “Girl Scouting breeds independence, responsibility and achievements ... attributes you must have to do well in life.”

Eventually, the Davis clan settled down in San Diego. Her mom, Zella, led her daughters’ troop and worked at our Girl Scout council as a field director and counselor. Her camp nickname was “Sparrow.” The family later temporarily relocated to Northern California,



Three generations of Girl Scouts (l to r) Linda Helm, Dottie Helm and Zella Davis

where Dottie earned a bachelor of science degree in health and statistics in 1945 from UC Berkeley.

After graduation, she landed a job as a biological statistician at her alma mater and married John “Jack” Helm. They raised their children, Ken and Linda, in Chula Vista, where Dottie continued the family tradition of leading her daughter’s Girl Scout troop.

Trips to Girl Scouts’ Camp Tapawingo in the Cuyamaca Mountains remain some of Dottie’s favorite memories. “The camp was pretty primitive, which was part of the fun! We slept outside, hiked, tried our hands at drama and swam in a pool my dad helped build.” Other daily camp activities included horseback riding, crafts, nature study and boating.

Dottie earned her camp name, “Sandpiper” at the weekend beach and mountain encampments she enjoyed with her mom and sister Girl Scouts. Her troop also worked on community service projects together. Dottie remembers that they often hosted parties for under-privileged children and raised money to send them to camp.

“We hope Sparrow’s Nest will always be a place where girls can benefit from Girl Scouting.”

Dottie still demonstrates that spirit of philanthropy. She and Jack generously donated \$275,000 to fund the initial construction phase of Cabin 3 at Girl Scouts San Diego’s Balboa Campus. In addition, the Helms bequeathed a large array of Girl Scout memorabilia, including historic photos and vintage canoe oars that will grace the cabin walls. They will dedicate the new, 2,800-square-foot facility to the memory of Dottie’s parents. As a tribute to her mother, Cabin 3’s Great Room will be called “Sparrow’s Nest.”

“I loved being a Girl Scout! We did so many things that appeal to youngsters, especially all the outdoor activities for girls. We hope Sparrow’s Nest will always be a place where girls can benefit from Girl Scouting the way I did.”



Cabin 3 construction campaign update

Thanks to the generous donation of \$275,000 from the Helm Fund at the San Diego Foundation as well as other contributions, we have a solid financial foundation to build our new cabin. We plan to break ground this spring.

Located by our Balboa Campus' popular Adventure Zone, the 2,800 square foot cabin will serve 5,000 girls and adults each year. Contributions to date total \$400,000; we still need to raise \$600,000 to create this extraordinary urban camping venue.

The Helms' gift funds the cabin's great room, to be called "Sparrow's Nest" (see cover story). In addition, Sue and John Major are underwriting the fireplace, and Patti Roscoe is sponsoring the commercial-capacity kitchen. Others providing support include Katie and Dan Sullivan, David Pepper and Qualcomm.

Our 43,000 girl and adult members appreciate these heartfelt efforts to make this exciting project possible. Many naming opportunities remain! Please contact Erin Miserlis at (619) 610-0735 to learn how you can participate in providing this unique urban camping experience for girls.

Available Opportunities Balboa Campus Leadership Center

\$1,000,000

Cabin 3		500,000
"Sparrows Nest" Great Room	Fulfilled	250,000
Loft space		100,000
Wrap-around program porch		50,000
Roscoe-Tiffany Culinary Experience	Fulfilled	50,000
Major Family Stone Fireplace	Fulfilled	50,000
Picnic area		50,000
Pulley-system elevator		50,000
ADA accessible shower/bathroom		50,000
ADA accessible shower/bathroom		50,000
Upper Lake at Camp Winacka		250,000
Upper Lake Canoe Dock and Landing		100,000
Dredging and engineering	Fulfilled	50,000
Water generating windmill		50,000
Camp Winacka Challenge Course		250,000
Climbing tower		125,000
Daleo Family Zip Line	Fulfilled	100,000
Two-Line Bridge		50,000
Burma Bridge		50,000
Power poles (trapeze)		50,000
Heebie Jeebie		50,000
Giant's Ladder		50,000
Vertical playpen		50,000



Girl Scouts San Diego's new partnership with Finish Chelsea's Run resulted in a record-breaking 6,800 participants and more than 1,200 volunteers and friends at the run on March 1. Together we are creating a powerful voice for the protection of our children, as well as the opportunity for regional high school students to earn scholarships.



At our Save the Planet workshop, teens taught younger girls how to become "planet protectors" by harnessing the four elements of earth, air, fire and water.



The Girl Scout Cookie Program teaches essential life skills like goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics. It also empowers girls to build a brighter future as they earn money for events and activities that benefit them and their communities. This year, local girls sold more than 2.8 million boxes of cookies.

MEET US AT OPERATION THIN MINT® SENDOFF

Saturday, May 3
USS Midway Museum, 910 N. Harbor Dr.
Activities begin: 8:15 a.m. • Program: 9-10 a.m.
Everyone's invited to this exciting free event as we send cookies overseas and cheer on the top cookie sellers.

Designate your assets to help others

If you are looking for an easy way to support Girl Scouts, but can't part with assets today, consider designating us as the beneficiary of your retirement plan or insurance policies. When you support us through a beneficiary designation, you have the peace of mind that comes with knowing your plans can be altered at any time.

Consider the following options:

Retirement plan assets make a tax-wise gift to Girl Scouts. If your children are the beneficiaries of your retirement plan assets, federal income taxes may erode up to 39.6 percent of the amount they receive from your plan. In contrast, as a nonprofit organization, we are tax-exempt and eligible to receive the full amount and bypass any federal taxes.

Life insurance is a low-cost way to provide a large gift to a charity of your choice. You can name us as primary or contingent beneficiary. If you name us as contingent beneficiary, we will only benefit if your primary beneficiary predeceases you.

Insurance annuities carry an income tax burden, making your named beneficiary responsible for paying taxes on the growth of your annuity. The tax burden makes these assets a popular choice to leave to an organization like Girl Scouts because we, as a nonprofit recipient, can eliminate the tax bill on the portion we receive.

How can you name Girl Scouts San Diego as beneficiary? It's simple! Contact your retirement plan administrator or insurance company for a change-of-beneficiary form. Indicate the percentage you would like us to receive and name us on the form. Then return the form to your plan administrator or insurance company.



Nina and Will de Burgh and CEO Jo Dee Jacob participated in the dedication in Savannah.

de Burgh's sculpture honors her Aunt Juliette's legacy

During a recent gathering at the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace in Savannah, GA, there was an unveiling of a beautiful sculpture of Juliette herself, our organization's founder. What a wonderful way to celebrate Girl Scouts' 102nd anniversary!

Juliette's great-great-niece, Nina de Burgh of Rancho Santa Fe, lovingly created "Lady of Compassion" in honor of her late father, Dick Platt. The masterpiece captures the essence of Girl Scouting's legendary leader, right down to her affection for animals. Remarkably, this was just the second time Nina worked in this particular medium. She inherits her artistic flair from Juliette, a gifted sculptor and painter who also sketched, wrote poetry and dabbled in theater. Her hobbies also included athletics and exploring nature.

Over the years, Nina's statue will remind the millions of visitors to Juliette's birthplace how her passion for life lives on through Girl Scouting.



Girl Scout Katrina Schaber (far right) in Sochi with the other "next generation" Olympic hopefuls.

Carlsbad Girl Scout has big Paralympic dreams

Fresh from attending the 2014 Olympics, 16-year-old Girl Scout Katrina Schaber—a champion alpine skier with cerebral palsy—is on her way to go for the gold in four years. Stepping stones have included earning silver and bronze medals at the Paralympic U.S. Nationals in Park City, Utah in March.

The Sochi trip a month prior helped fire her up for those national medals (the latest of a growing stockpile). Katrina attended the Olympics as one of seven young athletes TD Ameritrade's "next generation" of U.S. Olympians and Paralympians, and is poised to compete in the 2018 Paralympics in South Korea. While in Russia, Katrina and the other hopefuls appeared on *The Today Show*, witnessed the games firsthand and met the 2014 medal winners as well as sports legends like Kristi Yamaguchi and Bonnie Blair. Many of the athletes signed a box of Thin Mints Katrina brought for autographs.

Once home, Katrina shared pictures of the trip with her sister Girl Scouts. Troop 1121 has been cheering her on since childhood. Katrina attributes her success, determination and leadership savvy to Girl Scouting. She

says the cookie program helped her gain important business skills like goal setting and working with people, while camp geared her up for traveling on her own.

"Being a Girl Scout prepared me for who I am," she notes. "I've learned that I can achieve my dreams!"

When Katrina's not busy with Girl Scout adventures, school or training for ski competitions, she leads ability-awareness presentations at schools. Her message: You can achieve whatever you set out to do, no matter what.

Katrina should know! With support from Girl Scouting, she fought hard to overcome the limitations of her disability, and became what she is today: a Paralympian in the making.

Katrina lives in Carlsbad with her dad Dave, mom Carolina and younger sister Angelina, who is also a Girl Scout. To learn more about Katrina, TV interviews (*The Today Show* and local news segments) at www.sdgirlscouts.org/video.

Katrina meets 1992 Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi.



2013 program highlights



GIRL SCOUTS OUTREACH TO UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

Girl Scouts Outreach (GSO) served more than 9,000 at-risk girls in 164 schools and community sites in San Diego and Imperial counties during 2012-2013. Outreach partnerships included the Polinsky Children's Center; Teen Options (for pregnant girls); San Diego Center for Children; and, for the 16th year, the San Diego County Girls' Rehabilitation Facility (GRF) for incarcerated teens. Girls experienced new digital literacy programs, STEM discovery activities and healthy behavior programs.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT— DAY AND RESIDENT CAMP

At our summer camps, girls explored galaxies, storyboarded and starred in their own movies, hit the trails on horseback, navigated the bay in kayaks, and learned the culinary secrets of top chefs! With 176 day and resident camp sessions designed with girl input, there was a camp for girls of every age and range of interests. We gave 541 girls financial aid to attend camp this year, an increase of more than 20% from last year.



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH— YOU CAN BE

Cadettes through Ambassadors explored career options with women in STEM industries through our "You Can Be..." series. During exciting experiences like meeting zoo animals, snorkeling and using high-tech simulations, girls learned they can be anything they set their minds to be. Career discovery opportunities offered in 2013 included workshops on veterinary medicine, piloting, marine biology and nursing.



LEADERSHIP— HIGHER AWARDS

48 young women earned the Girl Scout Gold Award in 2013. Each girl was acknowledged for the exemplary leadership she demonstrated as she created and executed a "Take Action" project to address a community need. Our Gold Awardees join an elite sisterhood: Just 5.4 percent of Girl Scouts nationwide earn this recognition. We wish our class of 2013 the best as they continue to make the world a better place. Also this year, 300 and 516 girls earned Silver and Bronze awards, respectively.

Do you have a will?

Regardless of your life circumstances or estate size, your will is perhaps the most important document you will create. It expresses your values and effectively provides for the people and charitable causes important to you. If you've been putting off creating a will, here are eight important reminders of why you need one.

- A will allows you, rather than state law, to determine how, when, and to whom your property is distributed.
- You can reduce or eliminate future estate taxes.
- You can name your executor (a person, bank or trust company you choose to personally represent you) to manage and settle your estate.
- You can designate beneficiaries for items such as heirlooms, art, jewelry or real estate.
- You may create trusts to provide for your spouse, children and others.
- Through a "pour-over" will, you can transfer leftover assets to your living trust.
- You can support Girl Scouts through a gift in your will. It's simple, flexible and revocable at any time.
- You can designate a guardian for dependents under your care.

Important reminder

If you already have a will, make sure it's up-to-date. Life changes such as grown children, births, deaths, marriages, increased estate value or a move to another state should prompt you to meet with your estate planning attorney to review your will.

We can help provide gift planning information to you and your professional advisors at no cost or obligation. Simply contact me at (619) 610-0804 or mbrodie@sdgirlscouts.org.



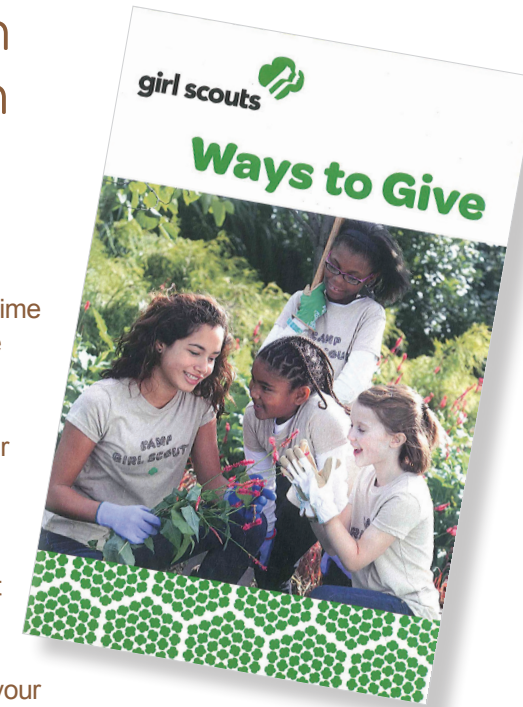
Merle Brodie
Gift Planning Officer

Merle Brodie

Giving on your own terms

Take care of family first

Demands on your time and wallet increase daily, and it's easy to become overwhelmed by all your obligations. Perhaps it's on your to-do list to send a donation to support Girl Scouts — but because you are already stretching your funds in many directions, you are not sure how charitable you can be at this time.



The above booklet, *Ways to Give* suggests how to combine philanthropic giving with your financial needs and tax-planning strategies. Contact Merle Brodie for your free copy.

Keep your cash flow

Adding a bequest provision to your will or living trust could be the answer. By making a gift of your assets — cash, stocks, real estate or other property — at death, you won't affect your current cash flow. And since the bequest doesn't go into effect until after your lifetime, you can change the provisions in your will or trust at any time.

If you wish to give us a percentage of what is left of your estate after other beneficiaries have received their share, your gift will remain proportionate to the size of your estate, no matter how it fluctuates. Plus, there are no estate taxes on amounts left through a charitable bequest.

Pledge your future support

In many cases, bequests offer the best of both worlds. You retain full control of your assets without depleting them now, while helping ensure that Girl Scouts continues to grow and thrive in the future.



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Cool Women, 2014

Each year, Girl Scouts San Diego spotlights fascinating women for their significant leadership, accomplishments and contributions to the community.

Exemplifying the values of the Girl Scout Law in their personal and professional lives, these 10 Cool Women serve as consummate role models for girls.

You are cordially invited to join us as Holland America Line generously hosts a luncheon aboard **ms Amsterdam** to honor our Cool Women Class of 2014.

Melissa d'Arabian – *Celebrity Chef, Author*
Ann Durst, SHCH, J.D. – *Casa Cornelia Law Center Founder*
Zoe Ghahremani – *Writer, Artist*
Magda Marquet, Ph.D. – *Althea Technologies Founder/Co-Chairman*
Justice Judith McConnell – *Presiding Justice, 4th District Court of Appeal*
Pamela Mudd – *Musicmatch Co-founder, Community Volunteer*
June Shillman – *San Diego-Yantai Friendship Society President*
Nancy A. Spector, Esq. – **Community Volunteer**
Chantal Sutherland – *Jockey*
Deborah Szekely – *Spa Business Pioneer, Community Activist*

Cool Girl

Ursula Hardianto – *Carnegie Hall Pianist*

Register at www.sdgirlscouts.org/cool-women

Event proceeds help keep Girl Scouting available and affordable for 30,000 local girls.

Information: Annie Revel, (619) 610-0807 or arevel@sdgirlscouts.org