



Ron Moss, with his daughter and son-in-law, Glenda and Ron Johnson, meet Carol Dedrich during the tree planting picnic at our Balboa Campus.

Meet Carol!

Join us in welcoming Carol M. Dedrich as Girl Scouts San Diego's new CEO!

Carol has fond memories of her childhood Girl Scout activities in Michigan. "Through Girl Scouting, I discovered a love for the great outdoors, gained business skills by selling cookies, and made friends who have grown with time! The Girl Scout learnings and experiences were key to becoming the leader I am today."

"What an incredible council this is!" Carol observed her first week on the job. "I can see the power of Girl Scouting everywhere. From outdoor programs to STEAM activities, girls are getting out of their comfort zone and discovering their gifts." She added that none of this would be possible without the many caring, generous individuals who provide unwavering support.

Carol looks forward to meeting and collaborating with our volunteers, donors and community partners to expand the reach of Girl Scouting in our region.

"Together, we are Girl Scout strong!" declares Carol.

Executive profile

Name:

Carol M. Dedrich, MBA, CFRE

Title:

Chief executive officer
Girl Scouts San Diego

Previous job:

External relations officer,
Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles

Background:

Twenty-plus years executive level experience in development, marketing, strategic planning and leadership; has worked in the government/military, corporate and not-for-profit sectors. Formerly a Patriot Missile Officer in the U.S. Army, and veteran of Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Bio:

Go to www.sdgirlscouts.org and click on "Leadership" tab



Legacy Circle Spotlight: Saluting Coralie Thomson

After completing officers' training at Quantico, Virginia, during the Korean War, 2nd Lt. Thomson USMC reported for duty in San Diego. The former Girl Scout's assignment was supervising physical education programs for locally based women Marines. Her favorite part of the job? Coaching basketball!

Today, 88-year-old Coralie Thomson plays forward for the San Diego Senior Women's Basketball Association league's Splash team. She and her octogenarian teammates have won multiple national championships, bringing home six gold, three silver and one bronze medal since 1995. With help from Coralie — whose signature hook shot has scored many points — the Splash team hopes to triumph again during the 2017 National Senior Games tournament.

Coralie's on-court success follows a lifelong pattern of setting and achieving goals by working well with others — skills she built by following the tenets of the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

"I've always believed in treating people the way you want to be treated: with kindness, respect and understanding," she says.

Coralie, who hails from a family of strong women, grew up in the mountains of Oregon, east of Eugene. With encouragement from her mother, Coralie helped form a troop at age 11, recruiting an aunt to lead it. Coralie loved Girl Scouting, especially the opportunities for outdoor experiences like hiking, swimming and camping.



Basketball champ Coralie in action.



Coralie hits the court with Girl Scout Miranda Hernandez.

She spent every summer at Girl Scout camp, located just a half mile from the ocean. In her teens, she joined the staff as a kitchen assistant, then worked her way up to camp counselor, unit director, swimming instructor and, ultimately, waterfront director.

"I was very proud of that progression," notes Coralie.

Her outdoor feats during those years included backpacking trips along the Pacific Crest Trail with two other camp counselors. The trio made headlines in a Portland newspaper: "Three Girls Brave Wilds!"

Those early leadership experiences were stepping stones to future Girl Scout adventures. After earning a degree in sociology from the University of Oregon (where her grandmother cooked for a fraternity), Coralie landed a job as assistant summer camp director at the Girl Scout council in Las Vegas.

The Korean War awakened Coralie's desire to serve her country.

“I joined the Marines! My brother had been in the Army, and my dad in the Marines, and now it was my turn. I knew I could do it, and should try,” recalls Coralie.

Assigned to San Diego’s Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD), she was given the responsibility of overseeing sports programs — including managing basketball, softball and volleyball teams — for female personnel.

While there, Coralie met Fran Styles. Coincidentally, Fran was also from the Eugene area, graduated from the University of Oregon and later joined the Marine Corps.

Coralie succeeded Fran as director of the MCRD Women’s P.E. department. (And now they both play basketball on the Splash senior team!)

Coralie used the earnings from her two-year stint in the Marines to purchase her first home. In mulling over post-military career options, she decided to follow in the footsteps of her mother, a teacher. While working full-time as a Juvenile Hall counselor, Coralie took night classes at San Diego State University to earn her credential and master’s degree. She went on to teach elementary school, a calling that she loved. During her down time, the avid sports fan attended Padres, Chargers and SDSU Aztec games. She also found her way back to Girl Scout camp.

Through her Girl Scout network, Coralie was introduced to Jean Stewart, who had arranged for the Girl Scouts of Orange County to use Girl Scouts San Diego’s mountain camp facility. Jean hired Coralie to serve as summer camp director during school breaks. That opportunity grew into a friendship with Jean that has lasted more than 50 years.

“Girl Scouting teaches girls they can do anything they set their mind to!”

Coralie is a member of our **Legacy Circle**, a group for people who remember Girl Scouts in their estate planning.

She feels thankful for the many friends she made through our organization, and how it shaped her. “Girl Scouting teaches girls they can do anything they set their mind to!” declares Coralie.

To learn how a gift from your estate can benefit you and Girl Scouts, contact Interim Chief Development Officer Merle Brodie at (619) 610-0804 or mbrodie@sdgirlscouts.org.



Camp Exec participants included (from left) Girl Scout Riley Belzman and mentors Stephanie Kuhlen, Christina Hastings and Carolyn Fritz.

Camp Exec: A weekend retreat like no other!

During the first-ever Camp Exec, held recently at our Camp Whispering Oaks mountain property, 18 teen Girl Scouts paired up one-to-one with 18 accomplished female professionals for a unique, three-day leadership development program.

The mentors who participated were Sandy Brue, Melissa DeVita, Chris Dulnikowski, Carolyn Fritz, Suzanne Fronz, Christina Hastings, Linda L. Katz, Shannon Kelly, Stephanie Kuhlen, Amy Mantione, Pamela Mudd, Oliva Reyes, Audrey Ruland, Brittany Russell, Danell Scarborough, Kevin Elise Schneider, Cybele L. Thompson and Judy Thompson.

Through panel discussions and individual conversations, the girls learned about their mentors' career journeys in business, the arts, engineering, finance and other fields. Session topics included personal branding, etiquette, college preparation and financial literacy. The multi-generational campers also enjoyed outdoor team-building activities like archery, yoga and conquering the high ropes challenge course.

“It was wonderful to see the talent pool of young women moving up, and also to meet industry leaders amongst the mentors I didn’t previously know,” said Cybele Thompson, the City of San Diego’s Director of Real Estate Assets.

Camp Exec was funded in part by gold sponsor Wells Fargo and bronze sponsors SDG&E and Dave Walker.

Please consider participating in next year’s Camp Exec, which is set for the weekend of Sept. 22-24. For details, contact Program Director Jen Nation at (619) 610-0726 or jnation@sdgirlscouts.org.

'Tis the season of giving!

Dear friends:

If you're thinking about ways to support Girl Scouts at year-end, you might want to consider making a tax-wise gift of securities. It might be the right option for you if you can answer yes to each of the following questions:

- Do you have stocks that you've owned for more than one year that are worth more than you originally paid for them?
- Do you want to avoid paying taxes on their appreciation?
- Can you afford to relinquish ownership of these stocks?
- Would you like to support our mission?

When you give appreciated stocks to Girl Scouts San Diego, you get a charitable deduction at full fair market value without paying capital gains tax. Consult with your tax advisor for any IRS limits that may apply to your particular situation.

If you want to make a gift of securities, kindly contact me so I can help your broker electronically transfer your intended shares to the appropriate Girl Scout investment account.

Please consider donating stocks, or making any year-end gift to Girl Scouts San Diego. Your investment will help build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season!



Merle Brodie
Interim Chief Development Officer
Gift Planning Officer
(619) 610-0804, mbrodie@sdgirlscouts.org



Make a tax-free gift from your IRA

Your individual retirement account (IRA) is an excellent tool for saving for your retirement years. It's also an easy and financially prudent way to give to Girl Scouts.

If you are between 59½ and 70½:

Once you reach the age of 59½, you may begin taking money out of your IRA without paying a penalty, but will need to pay income tax on the amount you decide to withdraw. If you decide to use this money to make a donation to Girl Scouts San Diego, and you itemize your tax deductions, you are eligible to take an income tax charitable for the full value of the gift.

If you are 70½ or older:

This is the age when you must begin taking the minimum required distribution from your IRA. If you don't need this income for your day-to-day expenses and would like the satisfaction of making a difference in the lives of girls today, you can make a charitable contribution of up to \$100,000 to Girl Scouts directly from your IRA. It's a simple way to make a great impact, and not pay income tax on the distribution you make directly to Girl Scouts.

If you are any age:

You can support us with your IRA regardless of your age or financial needs during retirement by naming Girl Scouts as a beneficiary of the account. This costs you nothing today, and you retain complete control over your account during your lifetime. One hundred percent of your gift goes to our organization, since any funds we receive as a beneficiary are non-taxable.

Give to Girl Scouts today through your IRA

Your generosity can help make a difference in the lives of girls. Please consider giving to Girl Scouts San Diego through your retirement fund. Speak with your tax advisor to see if the IRA charitable rollover makes sense for you.



Girl Scouts' Volunteer Services Manager Dayana Silva-James (left) welcomes new co-chairs Wendy Bryer and Sharon Strich to their new roles.

Alumnae Association: New co-chairs, new century!

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Wendy Bryer and Sharon Strich as co-chairs of Girl Scouts San Diego's Alumnae Association steering committee. Together with their team, Wendy and Sharon are developing exciting opportunities for current and future alums to connect through 100th anniversary events.

The co-chairs are lifetime members who volunteer for Girl Scouts San Diego events like Urban Campout, Operation Thin

Mint SendoffSM and Cookies on Tap. As girls, they were very involved with their troops and other activities, including camp, cookies and the Destinations travel program. Both earned their Girl Scout Silver and Gold Awards.

In addition, Wendy served as a national delegate and as a counselor-in-training at Camps Winacka and Whispering Oaks, where she was later hired as a staff member. She is now the California State University San Marcos Director at Hillel of San Diego, a nonprofit dedicated to engaging and empowering Jewish students.

Sharon works for ViaStat, Inc. and as a stage manager for local theater companies. As a Girl Scout, she chaired the Surfside Cluster (a group for older Girl Scouts), and served as a national delegate to a Girl Scouts of the USA convention. While in college, she was a lobbyist for Girl Scouts with the Public Policy and Advocacy Office in Washington, D.C.

Wendy and Sharon look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones at upcoming gatherings. (See next item.) Everyone is invited to help launch the next century of Girl Scouting! If you were a Girl Scout, troop leader, volunteer or employee anywhere in the world, we invite you to get involved. The Alumnae Association is a great way to network and rediscover Girl Scouting as a volunteer ... and membership is free! Join today at sdgirlscouts.org/alumnae. For details, contact Volunteer Services Manager Dayana Silva-James at (619) 610-0771 or dsilva-james@sdgirlscouts.org.

Celebrating our centennial!

Throughout 2017, we'll infuse 100th anniversary themed activities into all Girl Scouts San Diego events and programs, including those listed below. Look for details on our website, Facebook page and in *Connections*, our monthly e-newsletter.

January-March

Girl Scout Cookie Program — 100 years of Girl Scout Cookies!

- San Diego Restaurant Week | Celebrating Girl Scout Cookies — Jan. 15-12
- Cookies on Tap | National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend — Feb. 24-26
- Cookie sale — Jan. 29-March 12

March 12-June 19

100 days of Girl Scouts

April

Cool Women awards luncheon — Thursday, April 6

May

Operation Thin MintSM Sendoff — Friday, May 5

Councilwide Bridging Ceremony in Balboa Park —

Saturday, May 20

State of the Girl conference — date TBA

June-August

Girl Scout Gold and Silver Award ceremonies —

Saturday, June 17

Girl Scout camp — June-August

Volunteer Conference and Celebration — Saturday, Aug. 26

September

Camp Exec — Sept. 21-24

Urban Campout — Friday, Sept. 15

100th Anniversary Sunset Celebrations — Saturday, Sept. 30

October

Outdoor Skills Weekend volunteer training — Oct. 13-15

For 100th anniversary sponsorship opportunities, please contact Interim Chief Development Officer Merle Brodie at (619) 610-0804 or mbrodie@sdgirlscouts.org.



Girl Scouts San Diego celebrates:



OTM Sendoff



Girl Scouts eagerly boarded the USS Midway to celebrate sending off 159,198 boxes of cookies to deployed military and local veterans.



Volunteer Conference and Celebration

More than 600 volunteers gathered at the San Diego Convention Center for a day of training, rejuvenation, fun and festivities to honor star leaders who go above and beyond for Girl Scouts.





Promise and Legacy Circle

Esteemed members of our giving circles joined together to honor Mimi and Mike Murray for their countless contributions to Girl Scouts. Mimi has volunteered on the local and national levels of our organization for 36 years. She started as the leader for her daughter's troop and now helps councils across the country strengthen their fund development and board governance functions.



Urban Campout

Giving feels good! Urban Glampers brought in a record-breaking \$520,000 to help provide the support, financial aid and outreach that keeps Girl Scouting available for all girls.



Giving to Girl Scouts: more than just a smart tax strategy



Invest in girls and change the world!

Girl Scouts — the nation's best leadership development experience for girls — helps:

- Develop a strong sense of self
- Build positive values
- Seek challenges
- Foster healthy relationships
- Solve community problems

Growing positive outcomes: Girl Scouts take action to make the world a better place every day — feeding the hungry, honoring the military, running anti-bullying campaigns at their schools and developing apps to help teens conserve water. As adults, statistics show that Girl Scouts complete more education, earn higher incomes and become leaders in their communities.

Long-term stability and accountability: Next year, we'll celebrate 100 years of Girl Scouting in San Diego. Spending 82¢ of every dollar on programs and activities is just one indicator of the transparency and sound fiscal management that has earned us three consecutive four-star ratings from Charity Navigator.

The bottom line: Rising costs and economic challenges are affecting everyone, including Girl Scouts. Your contributions help cover the projected \$448 per-girl cost for a year of Girl Scouting in 2017.



Give today for unlimited returns.

The dividends never end when you invest in Girl Scouts!

To make a contribution, go to sdgirlscouts.org/donate. For more information, contact Interim Chief Development Officer Merle Brodie at (619) 610-0804 or mbrodie@sdgirlscouts.org.



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