

GSHH Delegate Newsletter

February 8, 2020

Volume 1, Number 2

"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."
– Jane Goodall

Delegate Calendar 2019-2020

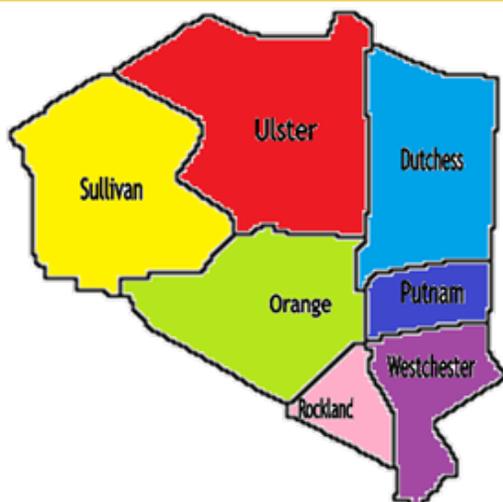
Nov 4, 2019

Delegate Meeting
New Hackensack Reformed
Church, 1589 NY-376,
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

April 25 Annual Meeting
Location TBA

June 4 Delegate Meeting
Our Savior Lutheran Church,
1400 NY-52, Fishkill, NY 12524

Nov 9 Delegate Meeting
Our Savior Lutheran Church,
1400 NY-52, Fishkill, NY 12524



What's New for 2020 as a GSHH Delegate

One of our main goals with this newsletter is to provide you with more information about your role within the Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson (GSHH) Council and to also educate you about the overall governance structure within the Girl Scout organization. Besides this newsletter, we have plans to revamp and expand the Governance section on the GSHH website, share information about the upcoming GSUSA National Council Session, provide links to other useful resources, and recognize your vital role as a delegate in our Council with a new Delegate Pin.

We love hearing from all of our delegates! Please continue to share your ideas, questions and suggestions for content in this newsletter by sending an e-mail to gshhgovernance@gmail.com.

Geographical Map of GSHH Delegates

GSHH was formed through the re-alignment of five legacy Councils in 2007 – Campbell Hall Sarah Wells Girl Scout Council, Girl Scouts of Dutchess County, Girl Scouts of Rockland, Girl Scouts of Ulster County, and Girl Scouts of Westchester-Putnam. Today, GSHH supports the 7 counties in the lower Hudson Valley, Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster, Sullivan, Orange and Rockland Counties.

As a delegate, you provide valuable information to your Service Unit by participating in the Governance meetings. In addition, this role allows you to meet other delegates from across the Council so that no matter where we are geographically located we share one common Girl Scout goal – to support and enrich the lives of our Girl Scout adults and girls.

At the Governance meetings, it is always fun to see the delegates exchange ideas, network with each other, and share useful tips on how your service units address common questions or issues. So no matter where you live, your voice as a delegate does matter!

Total # of Counties Represented = 7
Total # of Service Units = 95
Total # of Delegates = 208

"Scouting rises within you and inspires you to put forth your best." – Juliette Gordon Low



GSHH Delegate Pin

As delegates/alternates for GSHH, you serve an important role in our Council – you are elected by your Service Unit, take training, attend and participate in Governance Meetings in the Spring, Fall and Annual Meeting. You are expected to meet with your Service Unit prior to Governance Meetings to receive input and again after to give information. Your role is vital to GSHH as you ensure that our Council is well governed and runs smoothly and soundly. As girl scouts, we are part of an organization that has awards and pins for everything. It is the way we recognize service at all levels of scouting; however, there is no Delegate/Alternate Pin. So, the Governance Committee submitted a proposal to the Board of Directors, at the November Board meeting, to approve a pin for delegates/alternates in GSHH –which the Board did unanimously.

As with any type of award, there is a set of requirements that must be met to earn the pin. Please see the list below for more details. Delegates who fulfill these requirements will receive the Delegate Pin at the Annual meeting.

- Elected by your Service Unit
- Sign and return to Council the Delegate/Alternate Volunteer Position Description agreement
- Complete the Council offered Delegate/Alternate webinar training
- Attend **in person** at least 2 of the 3 Governance Meetings – the Spring/June, the Fall/November, and the Annual Meeting.

Proxy votes which occur only at the Annual Meeting **do not fulfill the in person** requirement.

"Girl Scouts is where I became acquainted with the idea that a woman can do anything." – Lisa Ling

Who is the Board Development Committee?

Members of the GSHH Board Development Committee (BDC) assume responsibility for the identification and cultivation of a diverse candidate pool ensuring that GSHH is led by dynamic individuals with the skills, influence and experience necessary to carry out Council's strategic priorities.

BDC members are committed to the mission of Girl Scouts, have strong community connections, and are prepared to make confidential decisions. They pledge to support the vision and mission of GSHH by maintaining a working knowledge of the Council's needs in terms of Board orientation, education, assessment, and succession planning.

The BDC reviews the leadership needs of the Council, solicits referrals and works to match appropriate individuals to Board vacancies.

The BDC is charged with the following responsibilities:

- Identify and develop a slate of Directors and Officers of the Corporation for election at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation
- Prepare a slate of delegates and alternates to the GSUSA National Council Session for election at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation
- Coordinate Board of Directors orientation for new Board Directors
- Identify needed skills and talents for Board committees, task forces and advisory groups



Board Committees, Task Forces, and Advisory Groups – What’s the Difference?

Board committees, task forces and advisory groups (referred to as committees and groups from this point forward) contribute significantly to the success of Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson. These committees and groups are made up of Council staff and volunteers such as Board Directors, alums and community members with particular expertise and a shared passion for the Girl Scout mission. Some committees, such as the Board Executive Committee, include only Board Directors, specifically, the Board President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

These committees and groups are a practical way for the Board of Directors to structure and manage their work. Smaller groups are more focused and efficient in dealing with certain issues than the full Board. A committee or advisory group is created to provide counseling and advice for the Board or to handle a task on the Board’s agenda. They are charged with specific and clearly defined scopes of work. Any recommendations made by a committee or advisory group must be approved by the Board.

In addition to the Executive Committee, our Board divides their work across the following standing committees:

- Audit
- Board Development
- Finance
- Fund Development
- Governance
- Investment
- Property
- Strategic Planning

The Board has one advisory group addressing girl programming. At this time there are no task forces formed.

“Work harder than everybody. You’re not going to get it by whining, and you’re not going to get it by shouting, and you’re not going to get it by quitting. You’re going to get it by being there.” – Barbara Walters

What is the Annual Meeting?

As a New York nonprofit public benefit corporation, the GSHH Bylaws state in Section 2.2 of Article II that there shall be an Annual Meeting of the Delegates held each year between April 1 and May 30 at the place, time, and date fixed by the Board, or, if not so fixed, as determined by the Board President.

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson’s Annual Meeting provides a vital opportunity for you to be part of the influencing body on matters of importance to Girl Scouting across our seven county footprint. This includes voting on a slate of

nominees approved by the Board Development Committee (pursuant to Sections 3.5 of Article III) to elect Officers and Members-at-Large to the GSHH Board of Directors; receive the annual report of the Treasurer (described in Section 6.9(E) of Article VI); and to conduct the transaction of such other business as may come before the Delegate body.

Additionally, this time is used to celebrate accomplishments of the council and present Board approved recognitions to outstanding volunteers.

When and Where is the Annual Meeting?

Saturday, April 25, 2020

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

TBD

All delegates **MUST** register to attend the Annual Meeting. Details to follow.

An Annual Meeting packet will be sent electronically approximately 30 days before the meeting.

How do Delegates Submit Service Unit Proposals?

Any service unit wanting to propose an agenda item at the Annual Meeting, which would affect the total membership, may submit such a proposal in writing to the Board no later than forty-five days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Board in its sole discretion will determine whether the proposal will be an agenda item. In the event a proposal is submitted by a majority of the service units, the Board must make the proposal an agenda item either for discussion or for a Delegate vote. If approved by the Board, the proposal will be included in the Annual Meeting packet for consideration prior to the Annual Meeting together with the recommendations of the Board.

**“Optimism is the
faith that leads to
achievement.
Nothing can be done
without hope or
confidence.”**



–Helen Keller

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Heart of the Hudson
Council**

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The world's largest girl-led event for girls and young women and everyone who supports them is about to happen....

More News about the 2020 55th National Council Session and G.I.R.L. 2020

For three days, girls will dominate Orlando, Florida—and we want you to be there! On **October 23–25, 2020**, thousands of girls and their supporters from around the world will come together for G.I.R.L. 2020 in Orlando, Florida.

Hosted by Girl Scouts of the USA, the mega event will provide attendees with unforgettable experiences as they gain inspiration, tools to empower themselves, and the know-how to lead change in their communities—connecting with some of the most influential women in the world along the way. So awesome!

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc. will be represented by 16 National Delegates at the 55th National Council Session.

Girl Scouts age 16 and above may apply to be an elected National Delegate

and travel to Orlando, Florida. You must be 16 year of age on or before April 25, 2020.

Application and details coming soon!

Your Opinion Counts!

Thank you for being the role models our girls need and for your time and talent in preparing our girls for a lifetime of leadership. The word needs more **Go-Getters, Innovators, Risk-Takers and Leaders (G.I.R.Ls)**. We sincerely thank you for your active participation as a Delegate!

Please reach out to us with any questions, ideas or concerns by emailing gshhgovernance@gmail.com

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc.

<https://www.girlscoutshh.org/>