

GSHH Delegate Newsletter

September 4, 2020

Volume 1, Number 4

**"Scouting rises within you and inspires you to do your best."
"The work of today is tomorrow's history, and we are its makers."
"Right is right, even if no one else is doing it" – Juliette Gordon Low**

Delegate Calendar 2020-2021

Nov 9, 2020
Fall Delegate Meeting

April 22, 2021
Annual Meeting

June 3, 2021
Spring Delegate Meeting

**Nov 8, 2021
(Tentative)**
Fall Delegate Meeting

All meetings will be virtual

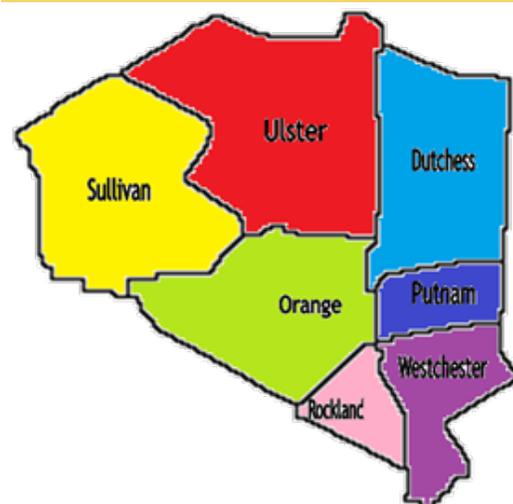
Back to Girl Scouting....

Hello and welcome to a new Girl Scouting year! Thank you for your continued commitment to Girl Scouts and for serving such an incredible organization with the most humbling mission – to build girls of courage, confidence, and character! The mission of Girl Scouts is more important now than ever before in helping girls learn, understand, and overcome challenges while building resilience during these unprecedented times.

We offer the world's best leadership experience for girls. Nowhere else do girls have the opportunity to run their own business to finance their dreams; learn about our democracy as Council Delegates, Girl Directors to the Board of Directors, and National Delegates to the upcoming 55th National Council Session; push their personal boundaries; or demonstrate leadership through innovative community outreach.

The Preamble to the Constitution of Girl Scouts of the United States of America states: "The ultimate responsibility for the Girl Scout Movement rests with its members." The democratic process is a central tenet of Girl Scouting. We achieve it for girls by making our activities girl-planned and girl-led to the fullest extent possible. Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson is governed by an efficient and effective democratic process that includes the core values of representative democracy, access to decision-makers, and participatory involvement valued at all levels of our Council.

As we move into the new Girl Scouting year, let's also remember that we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment allowing women the right to vote. We encourage girls to learn more about the history of women's suffrage, the 19th Amendment and the Civil Rights Act of 1965 and to think about the world they live in today and how they can make a difference. As always, please continue to share your ideas, thoughts, concerns, and questions with us.



GSHH Delegate Pin – Criteria and Honorees

As published in the Winter edition of the GSHH Delegate Newsletter, the Governance Committee received approval from the Board to award a Delegate/Alternate Pin to those members who fulfilled the following requirements:

- 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 at least 2 of the 3 Governance Meetings – the Spring/June, the Fall/November, and the Annual Meeting.

Please review the list below for those delegates/alternates that will receive this award at the November Delegate meeting. If you have met the requirements above and do not see your name on the list, please send an e-mail to delegates@girlscoutshh.org so that we can further research.

Service Unit	First Name	Last Name	SUT Position
Croton	Liz	Poling-Hiraldo	National Delegate 2020, 2017
Kings Ferry	Erik	Andersen	National Delegate 2017
Larchmont/Mamaroneck	Patricia	Allen	National Delegate 2020, 2017
Minisceongo/Central Haverstraw	Pauline	Jarney	National Delegate 2017
Misty Mountains	Linda	Engler	National Delegate 2017
New Oaks	Fay	Casatuta	National Delegate 2020, 2017
Pearl River	Merrill	McGarity	National Delegate 2020
Peekskill	Deborah	Paul	National Delegate 2017
Tuckahoe/Eastchester	Erica	Gorvcki	National Delegate 2017
West Lakeland	Maureen Delia	Connolly	National Delegate 2020, 2017





Service Unit	First Name	Last Name	SUT Position
Carmel	Jane	Chebetar	DELEGATE
Chappaqua	Leah	Heiss	DELEGATE
Chester	Liz	Vargas	DELEGATE
Cornwall	Victoria	Halfpenny Stramiello	DELEGATE
Croton	Liz	Poling-Hiraldo	DELEGATE
Dutchess Tri-Valley	Sharon	Burt	DELEGATE
Dutchess Tri-Valley	Nancy	Graf-Peters	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
East Fishkill	Theresa	Smith	DELEGATE
Fishkill	Ann	DeVanzo	DELEGATE
Hudson Highlands	Jen	Gilleo	DELEGATE
Hudson Highlands	Deirdre	Knapp	DELEGATE
Hudson Highlands	Danielle	Hyatt	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
Katonah/Lewisboro	Rosemary	Forbes	DELEGATE
Katonah/Lewisboro	Eileen	Gleba	DELEGATE
Lakeland East	Pat	Byrnes	DELEGATE
Lakeland East	Gail	Sullivan	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
Larchmont/Mamaroneck	JoAnn	Russo	DELEGATE
Minisceongo/Central Haverstraw	Jamie	Fodor	DELEGATE
Minisceongo/Central Haverstraw	Pauline	Jarney	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
Misty Mountains	Linda	Engler	DELEGATE
Misty Mountains	Barbara	Londa	DELEGATE
Monroe-Woodbury	Shannon	Giacomazza	DELEGATE
Mount Vernon	Elizabeth	Smith	DELEGATE
New Oaks	Laura	Underhill	DELEGATE
New Oaks	Katherine (Kate)	Underhill	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
Newburgh Enlarged	Jillian	Black	DELEGATE
Ossining	Elaine	Gardner	DELEGATE
Ossining	Monica	Nazario	DELEGATE
Palisades	Jill	Tanney	DELEGATE
Pawling	I. Nina	Muller	DELEGATE

Service Unit	First Name	Last Name	SUT Position
Pearl River	Merrill	McGarity	DELEGATE
Poughkeepsie	Margaret	Bedrossian	DELEGATE
Putnam Valley	Marianne	DiNardo	DELEGATE
Putnam Valley	Javier	Madrid	DELEGATE
Saugerties	Nancy	Forsythe	DELEGATE
Saugerties	Donna	Mehalak	DELEGATE
Scarsdale/Edgemont	Liz	Kaufman	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
Sojourner Truth	Debra	Hanley	DELEGATE
South Yonkers	April	Stiller	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
Spackenkill	Ronald	Rosen	DELEGATE
Sylvan Hills	Claudette	Mack	DELEGATE
Sylvan Hills	Amelia	Roger	DELEGATE
Tioronda	Rhonda	Altonen	DELEGATE
Tioronda	Carman	Johnson	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
Wappinger Falls	Carla	Hill	DELEGATE
Wendys	Barbara	Quinn	DELEGATE
West Lakeland	Maureen Delia	Connolly	DELEGATE
West Lakeland	Julie	Mazurak	DELEGATE
West Lakeland	Jen	Hayes	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
West Lakeland	Kelly	Sorrentino	ALTERNATE DELEGATE
West Nyack	Andrea	LaMantia	DELEGATE



"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world " – Harriet Tubman



Let's Meet the GSHH National Delegates...

It's almost time for the start of the 2020 55th National Council Session and the 12 delegates (10 Adults and 2 Girls) representing GSHH have begun preparations for this exciting event. Beginning in August, the delegates will participate in a series of **virtual** meetings to get to know each other, review assigned proposals that will be discussed at the National Council Session and begin interacting with other delegates in small groups. This will be the first virtual National Council Session in GSUSA history. To get a better understanding of what is involved with this important role in our council, we will be following one of the girl delegates, Gina O'Shaughnessy, on her virtual journey over the next several months.

Gina is 17 years old and will be a Senior at John F. Kennedy Catholic Preparatory School in Somers, NY in the Fall. She has been an active Girl Scout for 13 years and is interested in pursuing the Gold Award with a project focused on mental health. So, what inspired Gina to apply to be a delegate for our Council? It started four years ago when Gina participated in a National Council Session in Columbus, OH and had the opportunity to talk to other girls about their own experience as a Girl Scout delegate. She was impressed at how much GSUSA emphasized the "power of girls' voices" and really felt that they did make a difference. In her role as a delegate, Gina is interested in learning more about the overall Girl Scout governance process and how she can use her "own voice" to shape the future of Girl Scouts.

Check out this picture from the 1953 NCS in Cincinnati. (From a 1954 copy of Leader Magazine)



GSHH National Delegates (2020-2023)

Andrea LaMantia
Fay Casatuta
Joanne Casella
Liz Poling-Hiraldo
Marie Reger (CEO)
Maureen Delia Connolly
Merrill McGarity
Patricia Allen
Robin Stoutenburg
Gina O'Shaughnessy (G)
Nicole Zlotnikov (G)
Ritza Jolie Falcon-Santiago (G)

New City, Rockland
Wappingers Falls, Dutchess
Mahopac, Putnam
Croton on Hudson, Westchester
Tappan, Rockland
Cortlandt Manor, Westchester
Pearl River, Rockland
Larchmont, Westchester
Clintondale, Ulster
Peekskill, Westchester
Scarsdale, Westchester
New City, Rockland

The National Council



The National Council is the membership body of Girl Scouts of the USA charged with providing input and broad direction to the future of the Girl Scout Movement.

As required by the Girl Scouts of the USA Constitution in the *Blue Book of Basic Documents* ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)), the body convenes every three years and is the major link between Girl Scout councils and the national organization.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead

Roles of National Delegates, Alternates & Visitors

While National Delegates have a very specific governance role at the meeting, every participant at convention can observe the meetings of the National Council. Non-voting members of council delegations, who take advantage of this opportunity, deepen their understanding of the Movement and prepare themselves for future service as a National Delegate. Your entire group—delegates and visitors—serves as ambassadors for your council. Ensuring role clarity for all council participants helps the NCS flow smoothly and gain the greatest benefit from full participation.

All attendees have a unique opportunity to connect with Movement leaders during the National Council Session and convention. Everyone should seek out National Board members and get to know them. The board members are excited to meet as many National Delegates and members as possible. Key GSUSA staff members are also eager to interact with girls and volunteers. Girl members who attend these events have the rare opportunity to collect the National President and CEO patches.

Delegate-only roles:

- Attending all National Council Session meetings:
 - Discussing, debating and voting on proposals
 - Speaking and voting as an informed individual
 - Electing the National Board of Directors
 - Participating in discussion topics on the National Council Session agenda
 - Attending delegate-only receptions and meals
- Participating in visitor roles when the National Council is not in session
- Reporting on the experience upon returning to their council.

Alternate-only role:

- Acting as visitors during National Council Session unless elevated to a delegate role on site.

Visitor roles:

- Observing all National Council meetings, but refraining from commenting or influencing the actions of National Delegates
- Attending G.I.R.L. 2020 (convention) events
- Spending enough time in G.I.R.L. EXPO – A Hall of Experiences to see it all and catch the girls' excitement
- Being part of council-specific event such as caucuses or dinner meetings
- Taking advantage of special pre- or post-convention local tourism activities
- Reporting on the experience upon returning to the council
- Serving as girl participant liaison/chaperone if requested.

National Council Proposals (2020)

1. Establishment of a Task Force to Examine the Feasibility of a National Gold Award Scholarship Foundation
2. Constitutional Amendment on Membership Dues
3. Adoption of a Procedure for Communication on Dues Actions by National Board
4. Membership Dues Increase Restriction
5. Constitutional Amendment on Consistency in Delegate Terms
6. Lifetime Membership Discount



Board of Director Announcements

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson regrettably announces the resignation of Roosevelt Travell Summerville, effective May 2020. The Board of Directors thanks Travell for his

service and wishes him success with his future plans.

We are pleased to welcome Christine Drasba and Jean Zappia to the Board of Directors. Ms. Drasba's term began June 2020 and Ms. Zappia's term began July 2020. Both Directors will serve through the 2021 Annual Meeting, at which time they may be included on the full slate for a vote by the Delegate body for a 3-year term from 2021 to 2024. The Board of Directors took this action in accordance with Article IV, Section 4.5 of our Council bylaws.

Ms. Drasba is a Yonkers resident and an education professional at Sarah Lawrence College with a decade of experience in non-profit and community partnership building, youth services, and civic engagement program management. She will serve on the Fund Development Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee.

Ms. Zappia is a 37-year veteran of the chemicals industry, recently retired from Ashland, LLC. Ms. Zappia has an extensive background as a female business executive in a science, research, and data-based industry that will enable her to bring a perspective to young women interested in what options are open to them in the technical fields. As an executive with a Fortune 1000 company, Ms. Zappia brings Board relevant skills in business and financial management, strategy development and execution, marketing and innovation management, capital investment planning, and policy development and governance. She will serve on the Strategic Planning Committee

***"She stood in the storm and when the wind did not blow her away,
she adjusted her sails." - Elizabeth Edwards***



**"The best protection any
woman can have... is
courage." –
Elizabeth Cady Stanton**



GIRL SCOUTS

Your Opinion Counts!

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 delegates@girlscoutshh.org.

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