

Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley Delegate Bulletin

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**Girl Scouting builds girls of
courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.**

Fifth (Final) Installment

More questions and answers from GSUSA regarding the changes coming in the Fall of 2008

Will Girl Scout Daisies be able to participate in the cookie program?

Beginning in October 2008, GSUSA will provide age-appropriate guidelines for girls in K-1st grade on participating in the Girl Scout cookie program activities.

What about girls with special needs?

GSUSA will continue to serve all girls, including those with special needs. Please contact your local council for guidance on meeting the needs of the girls you support.

What do girls say about the changes?

Girls want a more contemporary image and have requested activities that better reflect their current interests. Some girl members worry about how the changes will affect the Girl Scout experience they know and love. Many girls in Girl Scouts wanted to keep traditions, like current age level names, wearing of awards on vests, etc., so these are still with us. And the transition process will enable girls to complete the experiences they have already begun. Girls will also continue to have opportunities to contribute ideas as new books, awards and Web content are created.

What about the four program goals?

The values underlying the four program goals are integrated into the new Girl Scout Leadership Development Program and its activity cycles of Discover, Connect and Take Action. The four program goals, however, did not tie to a compelling end result for girls. The Girl Scout leadership model clearly defines the impact of Girl Scouting on girls' lives: leadership!

What about the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards?

Don't worry! The Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards remain vital awards in Girl Scouting, and they are great awards to teach girls how to Discover, Connect and Take Action as leaders. The Girl Scout Gold Award will remain the highest award. Over the next few years, as new program materials are developed, the awards will be updated based on the leadership model.

Will patches, badges and charms still exist?

Yes! They will remain important symbols of achievement in Girl Scouting. We will also add other fun items as girls say they want them.

Since uniforms are changing [see May 17, 2007 Delegate Bulletin], what do we do with our current uniforms?

Continue using them! Tunics, vests and sashes for the display of official pins and awards will still be a part of the Girl Scout uniform.

What about STUDIO 2B?

Girl Scouts of the USA has received many comments and suggestions about STUDIO 2B. Many girls, especially those at the pre-teen level, love aspects of the approach—from tone and graphics of the books, to options for the awards, like badges or charms, the ability to set and learn from their own goals, and the renewed commitment to the *girl-driven* approach. Other girls want a clear, strong emphasis on the Girl Scout brand, image and leadership experience. So, we'll use the aspects of STUDIO 2B which are most well-received and valued and incorporate them into the Girl Scout Leadership Development Program.

How can we (volunteers) help?

Thanks for asking! Here's how:

- Talk it up! Share your enthusiasm about the changes we're making to better serve girls.
- Find ways to emphasize leadership using existing Girl Scout materials.
- Encourage girls to select existing Girl Scout activities, books and awards that give them the opportunity to *discover* their personal best and prepare for a positive future, *connect* with others in an increasingly diverse world, and *take action* to solve problems and improve their communities.

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Delegate Web page and the
Realignment News Web page at
www.gsgv.org.
Updates are made frequently!