

Recognition Tips

February 2010

Save the Date:

Town Hall Meetings
Tuesday, February 16-Dubuque
Thursday, February 18-Waterloo
Monday, February 22-Quad Cities
Monday, March 15-Galesburg
Tuesday, March 16-Burlington
Monday, March 22-Cedar Rapids

Invitations will be mailed to all registered adults in our area.

DEADLINE CHANGE

The deadline for submitting Service Unit awards has been extended to March 15 2010. Outstanding Leader, Outstanding Volunteer, Volunteer Achievement, and Leadership Development forms, along with appropriate letters of endorsement may be turned in to the Recognition Coordinator, Regional Membership Manger, or mailed to the Rock Island office.

Top Five Reasons to Plan a Service Unit Recognition Celebration

1. Service Unit events create a stronger community presence.
2. Service Unit events create a stronger connection with Girl Scout families.
3. Girls enjoy meeting other Girl Scouts from their local neighborhood and surrounding areas.
4. Family and community members get to see our leaders being recognized for the good work that they do.
5. Service Unit events are fun!

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Girl Scout Recognition Celebrations

Service Units are encouraged to plan a Girl Scout Recognition Celebration to encourage active and continued participation in Girl Scouting. This kind of event will also give parents a chance to see some of the valuable and fun activities that girls in their community have participated in. They will be able to see the Girl Scout leaders in their community being recognized for their achievements and dedication to youth. This is a win-win for everyone!

For this kind of an event, think about what you WANT the parents and community to know about Girl Scouting, as well as what they NEED to know about Girl Scouting.

Here are some tips for planning a successful Girl Scout Recognition Celebration:

- Prior to the event, ask your leaders about parents in their troops who might need to be thanked.
- Load-in of supplies and set-up at the facility should start at least 90 minutes before the event is scheduled to begin and should be completed at least 30 minutes before the event is scheduled to begin, as this is when participants often start to arrive.
- Allow 5 to 10 minutes at the beginning of the event for late check-in, opening activities—such as a flag ceremony and/or recitation of the Girl Scout Promise, introductions and announcements.
- Take the time to say THANK YOU to the volunteers in your service unit who work for the good of all girls. Allow time to present the Outstanding Leader, Outstanding Volunteer, Volunteer Achievement, Leadership Development and Years of Service/Membership Awards to volunteers in your service unit.
- Do you have troops who will be bridging? Can you combine several troop bridging ceremonies?
- Allow troops time to do a short song or skit or have a Court of Awards Ceremony to present the Girl Scout awards and fun patches they have earned.
- Allow time for a Family Giving presentation to benefit the service unit and the council.
- Allow 10 to 15 minutes at the end of the event for final announcements, final thank-you's and closing activities, such as a flag ceremony.
- Allow approximately 45 minutes for clean-up and load-out of supplies after the event.



Girl Scouts[®]
Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois