



## Girl Scout Traditions

*Before completing this charm, girls should have completed the Be Wild, Be Free patch*

All levels do all parts of the charm work.

### **Part 1: Learn about Juliette Gordon Low.**

What interesting or funny things did she do? What were some of her hobbies? Do you have anything in common with her? Work with your troop or a sister troop to find out information. Check in your service unit if there are any older girl scouts that can share their knowledge with you.

### **Part 2: Participate in a girl scout holiday**

With your troop celebrate one of the girl scout holidays. Check with other troops or your service unit to see if anyone else holds events on these days. If not maybe you can start one! Use the internet to see how troops and councils from around the country celebrate. Start your own traditions.

- Founders day (Oct 31)
- World thinking day (Feb 23)
- Girl scout birthday (march 12)
- Girl scout week (the week of march 12)
- Leadership day (April 22)

### **Part 3: Practice leave a place better than you found it.**

A big part of girl scouts is making the world a better place. One way to practice that is to leave it better than you found it. You can practice this by helping to clean up a local area that needs it. You can keep the space your troop meets neat and tidy. You can also practice this in your everyday life at home and school.

- Clean up a school, park, or local woodland area.
  - Be aware of dangers or hazards in the area
  - wear gloves
  - always have an adult nearby
  - use the buddy system

- Be sure that the space you use for your meetings is left clean and tidy.
  - Pick all paper, scraps, etc. off the floor.
  - Tuck in chairs (or stack them)
  - Wipe down tables
  - Turn off lights
  - Remove garbage

#### **Part 4: Practice girl scout sisterhood**

Part of the law is to be a sister to every girl scout. This means sharing your ideas and learning from other girl scouts. Once a girl scout, always a girl scout. Find out about adults in your life who were girl scouts; your mom, grandmother, a neighbor

- Share a troop meeting with another girl scout troop
  - Invite a sister troop or a friend's troop to a meeting. Teach them something and have them teach you something.
- Learn about a former girl scouts experience. What were her favorite memories? What did she enjoy doing with her troop? How do your experiences compare?

#### **Part 5: Sing everywhere!**

Girl scouts have songs for everything, hiking, camping, troop meetings. Songs get handed down from generation to generation. Sometimes they change depending on who taught them and where they were taught. How many songs have you learned? How many have you taught?

- With your troop, talk about where you learned the girl scout songs you already know. Which songs are used at each troop meetings? Which are used for camps?
- Learn a new Girl Scout song. You may need to ask an older girl scout or girl scout alumna to teach one to you.
- After you've learned a new song, teach one to another girl. As a troop, teach another troop a new song. Keep the tradition of singing alive!