



# Silver and Gold

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WW'04

What do I want  
to be when I  
grow up?

Come and share  
your dreams with  
fellow alumnae, at  
Camp Bothin the  
weekend of  
September 10-12.  
See enclosed flyer  
for details and  
registration  
form. Be sure to  
register by Aug  
27th or you will be  
charged a late  
fee!  
Hope to see you  
there!!

Melina Bratton -  
WW'04  
Coordinator

Girl Scout Alumnae of San Francisco Bay Area

June 2004

## Loretta Klarkowski—Remembered . . .

A Girl Scout for over 50 years, Loretta Klarkowski passed away on February 25, 2004. She touched the lives of more Girl Scouts than can be counted.

She was a leather craft expert, swim instructor, camp nurse, Association Chair, SUD, Recognition Committee, Council Delegate, National Delegate, and lover of Girl Scout songs!

Lauretta was a long-time champion of establishing the Girl Scout Museum. She attended workshops at both The Birthplace in Savannah, Georgia and at Camp Macy in New York to properly handle treasured items.

Lauretta was awarded every recognition from Girl Scouts—Appreciation Pin, Honor Pin, Thanks Badge I and II, and recently the Maud Whalen Award.

A former nurse, she met

her husband, Frank, while serving in Hawaii in 1948. Through the years the military moved them, and their 5 children, from Washington to Texas to Germany. It was while stationed in Germany that Lauretta took her troop to our Chalet in Switzerland. After moving to San Raphael, she became co-leader of Troop 2053 with Dorothy Brown. They took their troop on a trip to Canada and have many amusing stories of that trip!

The Girl Scout Promise was very dear to Lauretta's heart and she lived it to the fullest. In 1991 she and Dorothy were co-recipients of the Carnation Community Service Award in Marin County. Lauretta was one of the first members of Girl Scout Alumnae and we shall miss her greatly.



Lauretta from the  
1992 Girl Scout Calendar

## Our Members Recognized at Annual Council Awards

This year at the San Francisco Bay Area Council Annual Awards Luncheon, many of our members were recognized.

It was held at the beautiful Pleasanton Hilton. The theme was "Picture This", with all the Associations contributing pictures for the tables. There was a tasty lunch,

spectacular presentations and girls from our local Associations came and entertained us. It was a lovely afternoon.

Our Members that received recognitions were:

### Thanks Badge

Pamela Atkinson and  
Martha Bratton.

### Honor Pin

Sharon Sagar and Betty  
Tocchini.

### Appreciation Pin

Nancy Deras, Marcia  
McGallian and Eva Watson.

Congratulations to all,  
Awards well deserved!

About - **CAROL McMillan**

Carol McMillan, our Girl Scout Alumnae Vice President, is an amazing woman with a history of Girl Scouting.

In the summer of 1993, Carol McMillan and Diane Surtees already had a six-year friendship. Diane tells the story of Carol's first encounter with Girl Scout Alumnae's Women's Weekend. "I knew she always put her family first, no doubt about it. Yet when I saw the GSA article announcing an event called Women's Weekend, I was determined to get Carol to go with me. I mentioned the event to her on the phone, with the added bait that the alumnae would be recording a tape of nostalgic Girl Scout songs at the event ... and since she and I had been leading song workshops throughout WCCC, this was right up her alley. She was interested, but quickly said she couldn't justify taking an entire weekend away from home. So I simply asked her to think about it. Then I went to Plan B: I crafted a cheerful and persuasive letter, and addressed it to her husband and kids. It worked! She called and said 'my husband practically insists that I go to this Women's Weekend thing with you!'" And the rest is history...

Carol soon became active in GSA and directed members with recording their first song tape, "Old Time Favorites" in 1993. That tape was so successful, that Carol directed and moderated the second song tape, "Sing Lively."

As a Brownie, Carol's mother was a co-leader and

had most of the meetings at their house. They held special meetings at the Scout House in San Bruno. "The musty smell there still brings back great memories," Carol reminisces. She continued in Girl Scouts through high school. She was camp counselor at the day camp held in Junipero Serra Park in San Bruno where she taught fire building and other camp skills, and especially loved to teach singing.

Years later, Carol re-entered scouting when her daughter, Rachel, was ready for Brownies. She started a new Brownie troop when they could not find a troop that met after school. Later she was active with Rachel's troop with Diane Surtees as leader and took over as leader of the Junior troop when Diane moved away (boo-hoo!).

Carol stayed registered in Girl Scouts as an adult. She has organized and taught "How to teach songs to girls" for an outdoor leader training and was a workshop leader at Discoveree teaching "Traditional songs." She is a trainer for San Francisco Bay Area Council.

Carol's careers include Cardio Pulmonary Technician, EKG Technician, Coronary Care Monitor Tech, and Healthcare Librarian. As part of one of her jobs, she annually planned the graduation ceremony for over 1000 attendees. Recently, she went back to school to complete her education and graduated in 2003 with a bachelor's degree. Carol is currently attending classes again to receive her EMT (Emergency Medical

Technician) certificate in June. She works as an independent contractor as a Health and Safety Instructor and Consultant, teaching CPR, first aid, defibrillator usage, and light search and rescue skills. She is a certified instructor for American Red Cross, American Safety and Health Institute, American Heart Association and Medic First Aid.

In 1999 she was publicly honored with the "Distinguished Citizen Award" from the West Contra Costa County Education Fund.

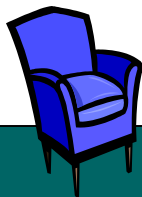
Thank you for all your hard work and leadership skills, Carol McMillan!!

## GSA Scrapbook

*Georgia Mann is collecting Women's Weekend memorabilia, photos, newsletters, etc. for our GSA Scrapbook.*

*If you have any to share, contact Georgia by e-mail*

[georgiaamann@earthlink.net](mailto:georgiaamann@earthlink.net)



## FROM THE CHAIR....

I hope you are getting ready for a great summer and will end it with Women's Weekend.

We plan to have this event the same weekend every year so Alumnae can put it on their calendar ahead of time.

We are anticipating more communication with Council and more support of their programs. Our members have a lot to offer and we are hoping that we can "give back".

The Girl Scout Alumnae had been asked to help this year with a small portion of the Older Girl Reception which was on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

"Carol McMillan, Vice Chair,

gave a wonderful touching speech that I want to share with you:

"As camp counselor at the Girl Scout day camp, I can still see the admiring faces of the younger girls looking up to me as a role model; hanging on to my every word, wanting me to teach them camp skills, and especially teaching Girl Scout songs, my passion. Isn't that the greatest feeling to be looked up to?"

"You too are wonderful role models, demonstrating determination and dedication to a cause you believe in. Unlike my day, you have much more competition for your time –

more sports opportunities, greater competition for college admission, with emphasis on higher grades and SAT scores. You are to be commended for realizing the value of Girl Scouts in your list of priorities."

Graduating Senior Girl Scouts were honored with an adult pin. Among those present were Jeanette Bemis' daughter, Rachel, and Betty Tocchini's daughter, Nicole. Thanks to Carol, Dorothy Frantin and Jeanette Bemis, GSA Members, who helped with this event.

"I'd like to thank Marcia McGallian for volunteering to

take over as Newsletter Editor and Michelle Luster and crew for the mailing. Our new Historian, Georgia Mann, is collecting memorabilia (newsletters, photos, etc) for our scrapbook. If you have anything to share, please contact Georgia, or bring to Women's Weekend."

Thanks for being such a great group – I look forward to seeing most of you soon or in September!

Martha Bratton

## KQED PLEDGE NIGHT

Once again, GSA members were seen on TV in their colorful green or blue shirts. Our GSA logo, with GSA website was flashed across the TV screen for additional exposure.

On March 11, 2004, 17 GSA members and friends generously donated their time to volunteer for one of KQED's TV Pledge nights. They answered phones and took pledges from home viewers. They helped raised a grand total of \$72,470, and many of our members were seen on TV.

In addition to the free publicity, the GSA members, along with the 60 other

volunteers were fed a wonderful dinner, beverages and dessert. It was great fun talking to all the other volunteers and watching the TV operations behind the scenes. Many of us got to shake Greg Sherwood's hand and talk to him before and after the show.

This message was sent to our volunteering GSA members from KQED: "Please pass along our gratitude to all who took part in this important event. Your generous contribution of time and service help us continue to provide our Bay Area audience with quality

programming and the best Public Broadcasting has to offer."

GSA has made a commitment to volunteering at the KQED Pledge in March in honor of the birthday of Girl Scouts. We all had great fun. Wouldn't you like to join us? Contact Carol McMillan and you will be put on the list to contact next year. It is usually about a three our hour time commitment.

Not only would you like to volunteer but would you like to take over as coordinator of this project? I have initiated this project, made contacts

with KQED, signed us up for advance notice, submitted our logo, and now I would like to hand it on to someone else. I have a binder with contact information at KQED as well as a healthy list of volunteer names and phone numbers.

We only do this once a year – an easy project for someone who wants to become more involved with GSA.

Visit the  
GSA  
Website  
[www.gsasfbay.org](http://www.gsasfbay.org)



**Women's Weekend  
Attendees  
2003**

**Diane Surtees (former Silver & Gold editor, now living in Oklahoma) shares this story about her 3rd grade daughter's**

If you are a dues paying member of the Girl Scout Alumnae of the San Francisco Bay Area, you are receiving this newsletter in your mailbox.

If you need to update our

database information, would like to have changes made, be removed from the list, or would like to

**BECOME A MEMBER** (annual dues are \$14), please send an email to

[membership@gsasfbay.org](mailto:membership@gsasfbay.org)

biography about someone who changed America. Bailey Surtees of Brownie Troop 171 recently presented a book report on Juliette Low. Bailey enjoyed this assignment, reading the book in one 3-hour sitting and sharing Juliette facts long afterward. (Bailey is a girl with Big Plans, and I'm sure she identified with Juliette's ambition!)

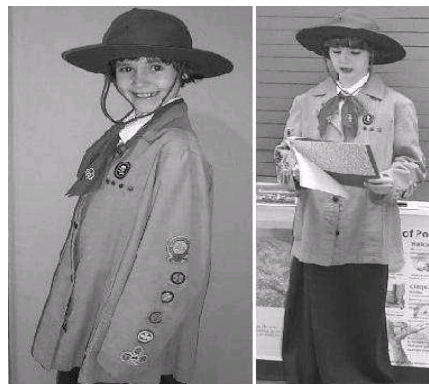
Our school librarian (a lifetime Girl Scout) told us our local service center has a Juliette Low uniform available for special occasions. This Assigned to read a helped Bailey with the second part of her assignment: that she dress as the subject of her biography.

Students and teachers, alike, were impressed by the full costume! Bailey delivered her report very well, and gave an impromptu curtsy in her long skirt when everyone clapped

Afterward, there were a few questions from the class: *"Was she married?"* Bailey replied that yes, she had married a man who drank and smoked himself to death. It was funny the way she expressed it, with a scolding *"let that be a warning to you"* sort of voice!

After answering that Juliette didn't have any children, a very concerned youngest child asked: *"But did she WANT children?"* Bailey confidently answered: *"Yes. And that's why she considered all Girl Scouts as her family."*

The class commented on how interesting this report had been. They clapped again as Bailey took her seat, and she remained in costume for the rest of the hour





## MINUTES

Scout House – San Bruno  
February 1, 2004

After a delicious pot luck luncheon and lively introductions, the meeting was called to order by Chair, Martha Bratton and Vice Chair, Carol McMillan.

**Treasurer** Millie Kwan –Lim presented a thorough account of GSA expenses and income.

- She compared 2002 with 2003.
- It was decided that any monies collected over the fee amount (donations) would be referred to as scholarships.
- Our GSA Website is up and running, but not yet connected to Council.

Our next date for KQED **service project** is March 2004. Carol McMillan has a list of volunteers.

### Membership –

We currently have 72 dues paying members.

- Old names will be kept in a separate file.
- Email is free to all who request it.
- Dues shall be current from October 1 thru September 30 of each year.

Jackie Brennan stepped down as **Silver and Gold editor** – Thanks for a good job !

Marcia McGallian volunteered to take over.

### Council Liaison

Michelle Luster volunteered to be our liaison with Council, so that we will be aware of our talent pool and activities.

### Historian

Georgia Mann volunteered  
- To be GSA Historian.  
- She is looking for pertinent GSA material

- Members voted to set aside \$100 for her to assemble albums, etc.

### Women's Weekend 2004

- Melina Bratton declared that the theme will be "What do you want to be when you grow up?"
- Members voted to keep the fee at \$50. with a \$10. discount for "paid up dues" members.
- GSA will ask Council for continuity by scheduling Women's
- Weekend for the same weekend each year

### Brainstorming session

- "How and Where would we like to see GSA in the future" was the topic
- Ideas were presented and will be posted at the Women's Weekend and in the next newsletter.

*Women's Weekend – September 10 – 11 – 12, 2004 Sign Up*

## What do I want for GSA?

List created at the Winter meeting

More growth at Women's Weekend  
Scholarship group for Gold Award winners  
Recognition for Gold Award winners  
Scholarship for ten-year plus members  
Skill building / career fairs at Association level  
Help fund improvements for camps  
Better communication with Council  
More support for Historical Society  
Resource / Mentorship for new leader training  
More Alumnae events  
More GSA travel opportunities

Get members active in GSA  
Getting girls in as Seniors  
Free membership to GSA as Seniors  
GSA to host WW for Seniors  
Recruit exiting leaders  
Helping Women Grow !  
Summer lunch with keynote speaker  
Expand luncheon to WW / Retreat  
Book of the year review at WW  
Book Club  
Fitness – Yoga – Meditation  
Live to be a Healthy Hundred

Service Projects  
Camping trips at non-GS facility (with adult beverages)  
GSA badges  
Wilderness adventure  
Risk-taking  
Networking Tool

### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Publish the list in newsletter  
Pass around list at WW  
Rate the items on the list and tally what gets what ranking

### Girl Scout History

If you have any articles or information for our History Museum, please contact Georgia Mann.

Laughter is one of the healthiest activities we can do for ourselves, it stimulates the mind and body, and it just makes you feel good. I see a noticeable difference in the way someone reacts to a joke or comedy routine. It like a knee jerk reaction, the entire body reacts, not just the sound we make, but from the inside out. We have heard it said, it was so funny my belly hearts, or our sides ache. Then there is the laughter that starts with a small giggle, with another person, then a few more giggles, then uncontrollable laughter, you're in tears and you have a hard time trying to stop, especially in a meeting or church. Then after you get control, you ask, what were we laughing about? There are studies and information on laughter therapy, I will try to find it and pass it on.

JM

### A Lesson in Being Prepared by Diane Surtees

Wednesday, April 21st was an unusually hot and bright afternoon in Oklahoma City. Atmospheric conditions were rated as "highly unstable" and the entire state was under a Tornado Watch until 9 pm. Rather than cancel our Brownie field trip, we chose to Be Prepared!

As our troop assembled inside the Krispy Kreme shop, I talked to the manager about where we should take cover if the civil defense sirens went off (to indicate the Watch had changed to a Warning). He doubted we'd hear sirens because the kitchen vent fans are so loud. So we asked two of our driver-moms to keep tabs on the weather via cell phone calls to family members with TV access.

The girls were delighted to be at the doughnut shop! The manager complied with our request for a shorter, faster tour so we could return to school before the weather turned bad. All 20 girls were ushered to the kitchen at once, where they received pieces of dough to shape; the plan was to have them

cook and decorate their own doughnuts. As I was realizing how the back kitchen smells twice as sugary-sweet as the lobby, I noticed something else: you CAN hear the tornado sirens inside their loud kitchen! We stopped the tour and had the girls sit in a narrow hallway in the kitchen's storage area. Brownies played a story-telling game while our moms-on-phones kept us updated on the weather. After ten minutes, it seemed we could make a break for the shelter at school; this would get the girls to a safer and more predictable place for their parents to retrieve them.

As we left, it was raining hard and loud! The girls in my car said the Lord's Prayer together as we drove; then they prayed for any kids who might be at home alone and scared. As we ran for the shelter at school, we were pelted with marble-sized hail that was coming down like a white-out blizzard!

Safely in the shelter, the Brownies used their pieces of dough as stress balls, squeezing them and reshaping them without letting go. Our leaders called parents to tell them of our

change in venue. Tornadoes were sighted all over town but only one touched down; high winds and hail did the most damage. (we would later see news reports of hail over a foot deep just two miles from us -- cars on the freeway were stuck in hail stone embankments and had to be dug out by the fire department!)

As we headed for home around 5:15 pm, we found the temperature had dropped from 81 to 61 in barely an hour -- brrr! If it hadn't been for the remarkable amounts of hail, it would've been a typical, stormy April day in Oklahoma ... but with a side order of Brownies and Doughnuts!

### Discoveree Workshop Leaders Needed

It's time again to start gathering the creative people to head up our Discoveree Workshops. If you want to share your talents, contact Sandi Mulkey at [Brakes225@aol.com](mailto:Brakes225@aol.com)

### Out of the Mouths of Babes.

At our recent Dos pueblos Association Brownie Overnight, a troop of Brownies was asked if they knew who the founder of Girl Scouts was. The replies were:

- Brownie #1. Juliette Gordon Low
- Brownie #2. J. Low
- Brownie #3. Oh yes, J.Lo
- Brownie #4. I know -- Vicky Hinckley (Their Brownie Leader)

### GSA WEAR

To order your GSA Wear please contact Jeanette Bemis by snail-mail at:

P.O. Box 31426,  
San Francisco, CA 94131



GSA Song tapes and note cards available too!