



## From the CEO's Desk

November 20, 2012

### ***Girl Scouting Matters – Happy Thanksgiving***

I was so touched by the story below that was shared by one of our staff members who serves as a Community Development Manager. Not everyone is blessed to know how our actions positively impacted the life of a girl, but I hope many of you have such a story and that you might share it with me someday. One thing we can all do is reflect on who has impacted our lives in a special way and then reach out to them and let them know. With Thanksgiving right around the corner, I can imagine no greater gift than to know that our life matters.

*“A parent just told me that her daughter was one of the girls that went on the caving trip with me that I did during summer camp at Hoover one year. Her daughter was always a very shy, timid and scared of her own shadow little girl. Mom told me that when she came back from our trip underground that her daughter was a changed girl. She told me that it was the boost to her self-confidence that she needed and that her daughter told everyone and anyone what she had done and achieved. She spoke about the trip as being life altering and she thanked me for taking the girls on the trip. She said that her daughter would often tell people to put on their big girl panties and just try, that she went spelunking and she found out she could do way more stuff than she thought!*

*Her daughter is now a senior at Clarkson and studies engineering. (During our trips underground I always talked about the science in caves and there was a definite focus on girls in STEM careers). Mom and I chatted for a few minutes more and I thanked her for sharing this story with me. I do remember her daughter and as I drove home last night with tears in my eyes I was humbled to realize that we are all in our girls' memories. It is a privilege and honor I hold sacred and reminds me of why I work for Girl Scouts.”*

Happy Thanksgiving!

*Pam*

Pam Hyland  
President/CEO