

## From the CEO's Desk

March 13, 2013

### Girl Scout Week

It is Girl Scout week and the beginning of our 101<sup>st</sup> year as a Girl Scout movement! I hope you take time to celebrate in a meaningful way. For me, there is no greater way to celebrate than through a heartwarming story of the *spirit of Girl Scouting* in action. So let me share with you a recent experience from one of our dedicated staff members....

*"As I was driving home, right about 9 at night I exited I-81 to complete my journey on local roads. The first road I travel had a fair number of vehicles on it including a tractor trailer and two cars driving very slowly. I watched them progress, wondering why they were driving the way they were—was the road icy? What was the problem? It began to appear that the driver of the truck was uncertain about where he wanted to go.*

*Sure enough, at the next traffic signal, the truck turned left and pulled immediately onto the shoulder of the road. I needed to turn left there anyway and pulled onto the shoulder behind the tractor trailer. I walked up to the cab and asked the driver if he was lost or just taking a break. She replied that she wasn't lost but was having trouble reconciling her directions with her GPS and the darkness added to her difficulty in reading street signs. I asked where she was trying to go. I convinced her that she should have gone straight at the traffic signal instead of turning. Wonderful! Now she needs to make a U turn in what was a LARGE tractor trailer rig on a fairly busy two-lane highway in the dark.*

*There was a place about four miles down the road where I thought she could turn around. I agreed to lead the way and told her not to worry if she were unable to negotiate the turns, I would stick with her until I got her on her way to where she was going.*

*After getting her to the place she had been looking for, I pulled over, went back to the truck and told the driver that that was as far as I knew to take her. She thanked me profusely, almost embarrassingly so. Then she turned a little to face me straight on and extended her right hand out the window. She told me her name as she shook my hand. I started to tell her my name but instead unzipped my sweater part way and revealed my council name tag, saying 'I'm a Girl Scout.' Up went her right hand in the Girl Scout salute and she said 'On my honor, I will try to serve God and my country. . . .' I finished it with her.*

*She recited the entire Promise. It was the late 60s/early 70s version but she knew it unhesitatingly. I think Juliette would have been pleased. And I got home safely!"*

I do think that Juliette would have been pleased that one of her Girl Scouts took action to help out someone in need. Let this 101<sup>st</sup> year be full of such stories! Happy birthday Girl Scouts!

*Pam*

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President/CEO