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Archival Collection Finding Aid

Name/Title: Girl Scout Collection
Subject(s) girl scouting
Archival Collection #: 007
Accession #: 1987.13
Source: Mrs. Astrid Palmer
Date Acquired: 1987
Span Dates: 1940 - 1962
Processor(s): Alex Forist

Abstract:

This collection documents some of the activities of a Girl Scout Troop in southeast Michigan in the 1950s and 1960s.

History:

The Girl Scouts of the United States of America (GSUSA) is a youth organization for girls in the United States and American girls living abroad. It describes itself as "the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls". It was founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 and was organized after Low met Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, in 1911. Upon returning to Savannah, Georgia, she made her historic telephone call to a distant cousin, saying, "I've got something for the girls of Savannah, and all of America, and all the world, and we're going to start it tonight!"

GSUSA aims to empower girls and to help teach values such as honesty, fairness, courage, compassion, character, sisterhood, confidence, and citizenship through activities including camping, community service, learning first aid, and earning badges by acquiring other practical skills. Girl Scouts' achievements are recognized through rank advancement and by various special awards. Girl Scouts welcomed girls with disabilities early in their history, at a time when they were not included in most other activities.

Membership is organized according to grade with activities designed appropriately for each level. The GSUSA is a member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, and has an extensive history of accepting girls from all backgrounds.

In 1994, the Chronicle of Philanthropy, an industry publication, released the results of the largest study of charitable and non-profit organization popularity and credibility. The study showed that the Girl Scouts was ranked as the 8th "most popular charity/non-profit in America" of over 100 charities researched with 41% of Americans over the age of 12 choosing Love and Like A Lot for the Girl Scouts.¹

Scope and Content:

This collection may be of interest to general researchers interested in the typical printed materials used by Girl Scouts in the 1950s. There is also more detailed information about the Redford District in Detroit Michigan.

Series Descriptions:

No.	Series Name	Description
I.	Catalogs	Girl Scout and Brownie catalogs
II.	Calendars	Girl Scout calendars

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Girl_Scouts_of_the_USA

III.	Programs and Activity Guides	A variety of booklets, packets, magazines, and printouts on a variety of topics related to Girl Scouting
IV.	Cookie Sales	Envelopes and brochure from the Waterbury, CT Council
V.	By-laws and Rules	Official Girl Scout documents
VI.	Books and Booklets	Publications on a variety of topics related to Girl Scouting, 1940-1962
VII.	Miscellaneous	

Container List:

lantern slide, Dr. Van Noord's images of the brain/lantern slide, Dr. Van Noord's images of the brain

Container	Folder	Series	Description of Contents	Dates	Count
Box 1	1	I. Catalogs	Girl Scout and Brownie catalogs	1956-1962	7
Box 1	2	II. Calendars	Girl Scout calendar	1959	1
Box 1	2	II. Calendars	Girl Scout calendar	1960	1
Box 1	2	II. Calendars	Girl Scout calendar	1961	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	Program Helps for Camp Leaders	n.d.	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	Conserving Our Natural Resources	n.d.	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	Tips for Traveling Troops	n.d.	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	In and Around Detroit	n.d.	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	Selected Educational and Recreational Sources in Metropolitan Detroit	n.d.	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	What We Get From Trees	n.d.	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	Outdoor Activities for In-Town Groups	n.d.	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	Girl Scout Leader	1956	1
Box 1	3	III. Programs and Activity Guides	Set of printouts related to hiking, tools, nature games, song sheets, birds, flowers, plant identification, etc.	n.d.	27
Box 1	4	IV. Cookie Sales	Envelope, Girl Scout Cookie Sale	c. 1960	6
Box 1	4	IV. Cookie Sales	Brochure, Waterbury Area Council of Girl Scouts, Inc., Cookie Sale	c. 1960	1
Box 1	5	V. By-laws and Rules	Blue Book, Girl Scouts of the USA	1958	1
Box 1	5	V. By-laws and Rules	Accident Insurance	n.d.	2
Box 1	5	V. By-laws and Rules	Pamphlet, Girl Scouts of Metropolitan Detroit - Redford District, Rules of Procedure	n.d.	1
Box 1	5	V. By-laws and Rules	Pamphlet, By-laws - Girl Scouts of Metropolitan Detroit	n.d.	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Girl Scout Handbook for the Intermediate Program	1940	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Girl Scout Handbook, Intermediate Program	1956	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Girl Scout Leader's Guide	1955	1

Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Brownie Scout Handbook	1951	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Hands Around the World	1949	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Safety Wise, Health and Safety of Girl Scouts	1959	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	The Ditty Bag, Janet E. Tobitt	1946	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Games for Girl Scouts	1949	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Basketry, Merit Badge Series	1953	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	The Troop Camp Book	1951	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Mariner Scouting for Mariner Scouts and their Leaders	1955	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Skip To My Lou, 17 Singing Games	n.d.	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	A Friend in Deed, Juliette Low World Friendship Fund Report	n.d.	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Camping with the Girl Scouts	1958	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Camping	1962	1
Box 2	n/a	VI. Books and Booklets	Binder, Redford District Girl Scouts	n.d	1
Box 1	6	VII. Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous receipts, correspondence, newspaper clippings, blank forms, program schedule, instruction sheets, folders, scrapbooks, and charts	c. 1955	??