National and Council Awards

Adult Recognition

What’s inside?

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✓ Nomination Form
✓ Letter of Endorsement Form

For questions or assistance, Please contact:

Recognitions Coordinator Girl Scouts of Silver Sage 208-810-7244
recognitions@girlscouts-ssc.org

Visit our the GSSSC website: https://www.girlscouts-ssc.org/

ANR 101
Adult Recognition in Girl Scouting

Girl Scouts of Silver Sage Council (GSSSC) is fortunate to have so many individuals who share their time, talents and skills to be a positive influence in the lives of others. GSSSC wants to ensure that our dedicated volunteers and staff are recognized for exemplary service beyond the normal expectations of their positions. Recognition is an important way to retain the invaluable women and men who serve with Girl Scouts.

In general, recognition awards begin at the service unit level and then proceed to the council and national levels.

Formal Recognitions

Formal recognitions are presented at the Annual Conference Luncheon held in April. These National and Council awards are reserved for those demonstrating truly significant service that goes well beyond what would be expected for the position held.

See Adult Recognitions located on the GSSSC website.

Informal Recognitions

Volunteer appreciation can happen all year long!

Recognitions might be made on a special Girl Scout holiday, at service unit meetings, or at a special recognition event.

See Adult Recognitions located on the GSSSC website.

Adult volunteers, staff and organizations can be nominated.

View our National and Council award descriptions and criteria on pages 4-5 to determine which award the best fits for your candidate(s).

Submit nomination and letter of endorsement forms by February 1st to recognitions@girlscouts-ssc.org or to Girl Scouts of Silver Sage, 8948 W Barnes, Boise, ID 83709

Adult Recognition Timetable

National and Council Recognitions

Key Dates

Upon Receipt (November-January) -- Nominations/Endorsements are reviewed for accuracy and completeness. The nomination package, with nomination form and endorsement letter, must be submitted together with required signatures in order to be considered. Nominators may be contacted if any further information is needed.

February 1st – Completed nomination forms and letter of endorsement with required signatures are due at midnight by email to recognitions@girlscouts-ssc.org or to Girl Scouts of Silver Sage, 8948 W Barnes St., Boise ID.

February – Board of Directors Recognitions Committee meets and votes to approve or revise nomination category.

February -- Nominators are notified of the status of their nominations within 5 business days of the vote.

March – Board of Directors votes its final approval.

Late April – National and council awards are presented at the Annual Conference Luncheon.
The Nomination Process in 5 Easy Steps

At Girl Scouts of Silver Sage, the Nomination Process for Adult Recognitions is easier than ever, and now only requires TWO forms – a nomination and one letter of endorsement (with multiple signatures). Any registered adult Girl Scout can nominate and receive National and Council recognition.

Here’s how you do it!

**STEP 1: Verify**
- Check the past awardee list (online) to see what awards your candidate may have already received. Award pins are given once in a lifetime.

**STEP 2: Review**
- Review the Adult Recognitions Criteria on pages 4-5 to find the right award for your nominee.
- Letters of Endorsement require two additional signatures, EXCEPT Thanks Badge I, Thanks Badge II and the Diana Lawson Award which require three separate Letters of Endorsement.

**STEP 3: Nominate**
- Download the National-Council Nomination writeable PDF form to your computer (very important that you download the form first!) Be sure to include:
  - Specific accomplishments of the candidate
  - How the candidate’s service has impacted others
  - How the candidate exceeded expectations for her/his role
  - Growth – what new accomplishments has the nominee performed since receiving her/his last award.

**STEP 4: Endorse**
- Recruit one additional person to download and complete the writeable PDF Letter of Endorsement form. The person writing the Letter of Endorsement should be one who knows the candidate well and can detail her/his accomplishments.
- The Endorsement Letter should be different than the nomination statement and offer an additional perspective and additional information on the candidate.
- Recruit two additional people to sign the letter. Seek endorsers (other than family members of the candidate) who have experience with the candidate.

**STEP 5: Complete**
- Attach and email the Nomination form and Endorsement Letter with required signatures to: recognitions@girlscouts-ssc.org or by mail to Girl Scouts of Silver Sage, 8948 W. Barnes St., Boise, ID 83709.

**DEADLINE:** February 1st (at midnight). Sorry, no exceptions.

Questions? Contact Recognitions Coordinator at 208-810-7244 or recognitions@girlscouts-ssc.org
**National Board-Approved Recognition**

**Important Information:**

All Board-Approved National and Council Adult Recognition nominations and letters of endorsement, and application forms should be sent to Recognitions Coordinator at Girl Scouts of Silver Sage, 8948 W Barnes, Boise ID 83709, or to recognitions@girlscouts-ssc.org.

Nomination forms (with letters of endorsement) and applications can be found at the Silver Sage Council’s website. For questions or assistance, please call the Recognitions Coordinator at 208-810-7244.

All Board-Approved National and Council Recognitions are purchased by Council and will be presented at Annual Conference in April.

**Member-Earned Recognition:**

**YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP:** Recognizes registered adults who have completed five or more years of Membership and Commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Pins can be presented at the Annual Recognitions Luncheon or by the member’s service unit. Application form required.

**YEARS OF SERVICE PIN:** Recognizes active, registered adults who have served as Girl Scout Volunteers for five or more years. Pins are presented at the Annual Recognitions Luncheon or at the members’ service unit event. Application form required.

**Nominated Recognitions:**

**PRESIDENT’S (CHAIR OF THE BOARD):** Recognizes the efforts of a Service Unit team or committee whose exceptional service results in significant, measurable impact toward achieving the Girl Scout Mission. Nominations should address the committee’s or service unit’s accomplishments in leadership training, leadership retention, membership engagement, diversity, community contacts, on-time reports and service area communications. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

**VOLUNTEER OF EXCELLENCE:** Recognizes exceptional service from an active, registered adult member while partnering directly with girls and who has contributed exceptional service in support of the Girl Scout Mission. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

**APPRÉCIATION PIN:** Recognizes exceptional service from an active, registered adult member who contributes to and impacts achievement of the Girl Scout Mission in one or more geographic areas, service units or program delivery audiences. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

**HONOR PIN:** Recognizes exceptional service from an active, registered adult member whose service contributes to and impacts achievement of the Girl Scout Mission in two or more geographic area, service units or program delivery audiences. It is distinguished from the Appreciation Pin by the span of influence and impact of the nominee. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

**THANKS BADGE:** Recognizes an active, registered adult member whose exceptional service results in outcomes that benefit the entire Silver Sage Council or the entire Girl Scout Movement and is so significantly beyond expectations that no other honor would be appropriate. It recognizes an individual whose ongoing commitment, leadership and service has an exceptional, measurable impact on the Girl Scout Mission. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and 3 separate Letters of Endorsement.

**THANKS BADGE II:** Recognizes an active, registered adult member who has previously received the Thanks Badge and whose service to the Silver Sage Council and/or the entire Girl Scout organization continues to demonstrate exemplary, measurable service in a leadership role which impacts the Girl Scout Mission. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a 3 separate Letters of Endorsement.
Silver Sage Council Board-Approved Recognition

The BETTY BOYD MEMORIAL PIN is named after a very dedicated Girl Scout Leader who became a trainer to guide other leaders in fulfilling the Girl Scout Mission through girl-led planning and decision-making. This pin is appropriate for active, adult Girl Scout Troop Leaders who have served in troop leadership for three or more years and whose outstanding service merits recognition by the entire Silver Sage Council. The nominee must have previously received at least one of the following pins: Outstanding Leader, Outstanding Volunteer or Rookie of the Year given by a Service Unit. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

The JO JAMESON PIN is named after a very active Girl Scout troop leader, service unit director, day camp coordinator and trainer who served Silver Sage Council for over 16 years. The Jo Jameson Pin recognizes excellence in training at the Council level and is appropriate for an active adult member who has served as a Council trainer for at least three years. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

The JO McATEE VIP MEMORIAL PIN is named after an active Lifetime Member of Silver Sage Council who served as a leader, master trainer and association delegate. Jo was the recipient of the Thanks Badge and Thanks Badge II and was an active volunteer in her community. The Jo McAtee VIP Memorial Pin recognizes an active, registered adult who has delivered continuous, consistent, outstanding leadership to a service unit area in two separate leadership positions for a minimum of four consecutive years. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

The Outstanding Service to the Community recognizes an active, registered adult who has given significant and outstanding service to the community through other groups or organizations beyond the expectations of his/her normal position. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 1 additional signature. A second Letter of Endorsement is required from the community organization which the volunteer serves.

The Outstanding Community Partner recognizes continued outstanding support of Girl Scouts of Silver Sage Council by an individual or business for more than three years through contributions of time and/or services. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

The Millie Carey Board Member of Influence is named after Millie Carey who served as a Girl Scout volunteer for 67 years. She was the state representative for the Green Hat Society, state representative for the World Organization for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and mentor to numerous Gold Award recipients. The Millie Carey Board Member of Influence recognizes longevity and community engagement. It is given to a current member of the Board of Directors of Silver Sage Council who has been an active community volunteer for a minimum of 10 years and has served on the Silver Sage Council Board of Directors for a minimum of three years. The nominee enthusiastically represents Girl Scouts at Council and other community events, and by his/her behavior exhibits exceptional commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and a Letter of Endorsement with 2 additional signatures.

THE DIANA LAWSON Trophy is Silver Sage Council’s highest adult recognition, and is named for current Lifetime Member, Diana Lawson, who has actively served Silver Sage Council for over 55 years. She is recipient of the Thanks Badge and Thanks Badge II and served as Chair of the Silver Sage Council Board of Directors for many years. Diana continues to be an active volunteer for GSSSC and her community. The Diana Lawson Trophy recognizes an active adult member who has been a member for a minimum of five years and has received BOTH the Thanks Badge and the Thanks Badge II. This distinction recognizes furtherance of the entire Girl Scout Movement through public and highly visible community involvement, whose work in creating greater possibilities for girls shows extraordinary results and whose contributions are significantly beyond expectations of the position. This nomination requires a Nomination Form, and 3 separate Letters of Endorsement.
# How to Write a Strong Nomination or Endorsement Letter

The Board of Directors’ Recognitions Committee wants to know how fabulous your award candidate is and they may not know your candidate at all. Therefore, it is important that you adequately “sell” your candidate! Here’s a chart that shows how a statement, with a little thought, can become a stronger nomination and win the day!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial Statement</th>
<th>Thoughtfully consider</th>
<th>Strong Nomination Statement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary has been a leader for many years.</td>
<td>How many years? Through which levels?</td>
<td>Mary has been a leader for approximately 11 years, beginning with Daisies, and mentoring her troop to their current Senior Troop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She is a great leader.</td>
<td>What kind of leadership qualities does she bring? What makes her stand out?</td>
<td>Mary continually encourages her girls’ leadership skills by mentoring them through problem-solving tasks. This year, they wanted to go on a Destination in the United States. She carefully guided them through the process of choosing their top three locations. Then, working in teams, the girls thoroughly researched their plans. In the end, they went to San Francisco for their Bridging Ceremony! They all said how much they had learned about planning travel and can’t wait to go someplace again!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She has increased membership in her town.</td>
<td>How did that happen?</td>
<td>Mary participated in several back-to-school recruiting events. Her troop also holds their annual Thanksgiving service project in the town square to collect food for the local food bank. Everyone is welcome to participate. Through these efforts, she added 3 new girls to her Senior Troop and was able to start a new Brownie troop by demonstrating to parents how they, too, could lead a troop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary always goes the extra mile.</td>
<td>Be specific! Tell a story about the support given to the girls and how the girls benefited.</td>
<td>For the past 10 years, Mary has headed up a Service Unit day-camp that serves 50+ girls and their friends. This year, the day-camp was in danger of cancelling due to lack of adult volunteers. Mary jumped in and began an email and phone campaign to recruit the volunteers needed. As a result of her enthusiasm, both to girls and parents, approximately 75+ girls attended. They loved it!</td>
</tr>
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Girl Scout Adult Navy Vest

- American Flag Patch
- Council Identification Set
- Personalized ID Pin
- Volunteer Insignia Patch
- Troop Numerals
- Volunteer Pin
- Adult Insignia Tab
- World Trefoil Pin
- Gold Award Pin
- Girl Scout Membership Pin
- Volunteer of Excellence Award Pin
- Lifetime Membership Pin
Girl Scout Adult Navy Blouse

- American Flag Patch
- Volunteer Insignia Patch
- Volunteer of Excellence Award Pin
- Thanks Badge
- Thanks Badge II
- Honor Pin
- Lifetime Membership Pin
- Personalized ID Pin
- Bridge to Adult
- Volunteer Service Award Pin
- Girl Scout Award
- Alumna Pin

- Volunteer Pin
- Adult Insignia Tab
- World Trefoil Pin
- Adult Position Pin
- Girl Scout Membership Pin
- Contemporary or Traditional
- Membership Numeral Guard