Ceremonies

| ** | Planning a Ceremony | pages 2-3 | | |
|----|--|-------------|--|--|
| | Ceremony Worksheet page 4 | | | |
| | Flag Ceremonies | | | |
| | Flag Ceremonies - Definition of Terms | page 5 | | |
| | Flag Ceremony Guidelines | page 6 | | |
| | Flag Ceremony | page 7 | | |
| | Flag Recipe | page 8 | | |
| | Flashlight Flag Ceremony | page 9 | | |
| | Retiring Flag Ceremony | page 10 | | |
| * | Investiture Ceremony (Brief Version) | pages 11-13 | | |
| * | Investiture Ceremony Poem | page 14 | | |
| | Daisy Investiture page 15 | | | |
| * | Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday (Oct 31 ^{st)} | page 16 | | |
| * | Girl Scout Pin Ceremony | pages 17-18 | | |
| * | Bake a Batch of Brownies Ceremony | pages 19-21 | | |
| * | New Law Ceremony/10 Ribbon Colors | pages 22-23 | | |
| | Nickname Ceremony | pages 24-25 | | |
| * | Flame Ceremony pages 26-27 | | | |
| | Passing the Light Candle Ceremony page 28 | | | |
| | Grow a Girl Scout Troop Ceremony – Trail Mix | page 29 | | |
| * | Court of Awards Ceremonies | page 30 | | |
| | Try-It Award Ceremony | page 31 | | |
| | Tree of Knowledge | page 31 | | |
| | Junior/Cadette Court of Awards | pages 32-33 | | |
| | Bouquet of Badges | page 34 | | |
| | More Ideas for Presenting Awards | page 35 | | |
| * | Girl Scout Poems | | | |
| | Scouting is a Candle | page 36 | | |
| | Leader's Promise | page 36 | | |
| | Bridging Poem | page 37 | | |
| | Junior Girl Scout Poem | page 38 | | |
| | Careful Soul | page 38 | | |
| | A Parent Meeting Fable | page 39 | | |
| | Ode to a Girl Scout Leader | page 40 | | |
| | For Everything | page 41 | | |
| | • The Candle | page 41 | | |
| | Girl Scout Benediction | page 42 | | |
| | Girl Scout Law Interpretation Poems | page 42 | | |

Planning a Ceremony

Purpose:

- To welcome new members to Girl Scouting in an investiture ceremony.
- To inaugurate a new troop/group project.
- To rededicate continuing members.
- To mark progression from one program age level to another in a bridging ceremony.
- To recognize accomplishments in a Court of Awards ceremony.
- To recognize members of the community for their involvement in Girl Scouting.
- To celebrate one of the special Girl Scout Days (Juliette Low's Birthday, Thinking Day, Girl Scouting Birthday).
- To open or close a meeting.
- o Other.

Where will the ceremony take place?

--Meeting room --Auditorium or hall --Outdoors, where?

When? How long? _____

--During a group meeting --A special event by itself --Day-Evening-Weekend

Who will attend?

What will the ceremony include?

Is there a theme or central idea?

What words describe the atmosphere you are trying to achieve?

Themes might include:

- --friendship, nature, courage,
- --commitment to values,
- --world understanding and peace.

Ways to express ideas/theme:

- --Music and songs
- --Poetry and stories
- --Choral readings, dramatizations
- --Quotations
- --Thoughts expressed by girls
- --Original writings by girls
- --Girl Scout Promise, law, etc.
- --Dance, creative movements.
- --Light candles, campfires, etc.

Your thoughts:

Ideas continued:

- --Flowers, mirror

- --Symbols: -- Flags -- Bridges, arches -- Rings, circles, -- Chains

- -- Girl Scout Membership Pins-- Meaning of Insignias-- Presentation of Recognitions

Ceremony Worksheet

| Sequence and timing of the ceremony: | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| How to begin: | Time: |
| | Time: |
| | Time: |
| | Time: |
| | Time: |
| How to end: | Time: |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Flag Ceremony–Definition of Terms

Caller -- the Girl-Scout-In-Charge who announces the procedure.

Color Bearer -- the person who carries one of the flags.

Color Guard -- one or more persons who escort and assist the flag bearer. Term is also used to describe the color guard and bearers as a group.

Colors -- the flag of the United States of America.

Eyelets -- holes, usually with grommets, on the field edge of the flag; they are used to attach the flag to the staff or halyard.

Field -- the blue part of the American flag on which there are 50 stars.

Halyard -- a rope used to raise a flag on a mast or pole.

Honors -- a rapid silent salute given by the color guard before picking or posting the flag.

Pole -- a staff that is fixed firmly in the ground.

Post -- to place the staff firmly in the stand.

Salute -- right hand is placed over the heart.

Staff -- the rigid pole to which the flag is attached so it can be carried or flown.

Stand -- a solid holder on the floor into which the staff is placed.

Symbol -- something that stands for (or represents) a feeling, a concept, or a group of people.

Wheel -- two or more people, shoulder to shoulder turning together.

Flag Ceremony Guidelines

- 1. Every flag ceremony should have a color guard.
- 2. Scouts who take part in a flag ceremony should be in full uniform. Camp uniforms are acceptable for outdoor ceremonies.
- 3. Fly the flag only from sunrise to sunset.
- 4. The American flag receives the place of honor and is put to the right of, in front of, or higher than any other flag.
- 5. Everyone present should stand during a flag ceremony.
- 6. Girl Scout's use the citizen salute, placing their hands over their hearts whether they are in uniform or not during a ceremony.
- 7. All Girl Scouts must stand at attention and salute when the flag is being raised, lowered, passing by in a parade, or when the "Star Spangled Banner is played."
- 8. Do not allow the flag to touch the ground or be used for a drape or cloth.
- 9. When a flag is worn it should never be thrown in the trash. The flag must be destroyed (usually by fire).
- 10. Members of the color guard should conduct themselves with honor befitting their role in the ceremony.

Flag Ceremony

Girls form a horseshoe.

Girl Caller: Troop Attention. Color Guard Attention

Flag bearers salute the flags and pickup them up. The American flag is always lifted first. Girls carrying the flags stand side by side. The guards stand at either side of these girls.

Girl Caller: Color guard, advance.

Color guard marches to the open end of the horseshoe. Everyone stands at attention. The guard remains silent throughout the ceremony. All other Girl Scouts salute the flag.

Girl Caller: Could you all please join us in saying the saying the pledge of allegiance.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands one nation, under God indivisible for liberty and justice for all.

Girl Caller: Could you please join us in singing, "It's a Grand Ole Flag"

Girl Caller: Color guard post the colors.

Color guard places the flags in their appropriate stands. The American flag is always posted first. All members of the guard salute the flag together. The ceremony is over when the Girl Caller ends with: Color guard dismissed.

Flag Recipe Ceremony

6 Girl Scouts (adjust numbers to fit your needs)

You will need:

1 cup of blue paper bits 1 cup of red paper bits 1 cup of white paper bits stars or glitter large pot large spoon or stirrer American flag

Set up Girl Scouts forming a semi-circle around the pot. The American flag is folded before and hidden in the pot. Each girl is holding the 'ingredients' that she adds.

- 1) "We are going to fix a treat that is really grand. And make for you a recipe the greatest in the land."
- 2) "First we'll put in a heaping cup of red for courage true," (Add red paper bits to pot)
- 3) "And then we'll add for loyalty, a dash of heavenly blue." (Add blue paper bits to pot)
- 4) "For purity, we will now sift in a layer of snowy white," (Add white paper bits to pot)
- 5) "We will add a pinch of stars to make it all come out right," (Add stars or glitter to pot)
- 6) "We'll stir and stir and then you will see, That what we have made is... (Takes spoon/ stirrer and pretends to mix, taking care not to disturb the Flag)
- 7) All speak "Old Glory!" (All reach in pot and pull out the Flag.

Flashlight Flag Ceremony

You will need: four flashlight bearers or candles as appropriate to your girl levels 2 Narrators, Flag Bearers, Color guards

Narrator1: Troop attention

Narrator2: Color Guard Attention

Narrator 3: Could we please turn off all the lights please

Narrator 1: Color guard advance

Color guard, flag bearers and flashlight bearers advance in the darkness

Narrator2: Color guard post the colors

Narrator 3: Flashlight guards honor your flags

Flashlight guards direct light at the American and other flags

Narrator1: What you see here tonight represents the past, present, and future. The stripes of Old Glory stand for the original thirteen colonies.

Narrator 2: The stars represent the present 50 states. The light and warmth of the four lights you see shining remind us of the four great freedoms - Freedom of the Press, Freedom of Assembly, Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Religion.

Narrator 3: Eliminate any one of these freedoms and our world would become darker and colder.

Narrator calls out the four freedoms slowly. As each is called a flashlight is turned off until the room is again in total darkness.

Narrator 3: Freedom of the Press , Freedom of Assembly, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Religion

Narrator1: In this world of potential cold and darkness, of rule by a few, stands the United States of America.

Narrator 2: Here the Four Freedoms do exist and are an example of warmth and light for all.

Narrator 3: Will you please join us in the salute to our flag?

(Turn flashlights back on and direct light toward flag) All join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Retiring A Flag Ceremony

Ceremony for retiring a worn flag

This is a very solemn ceremony and should be done with the utmost respect for the retiring of the flag of our country.

Items needed: Flag to be retired, sharp scissors, flashlight, fire to burn the flag.

People needed: The color Guard – four girls to hold each corner of the flag (we used 6). One or two girls who will cut the flag, one or tow girls who will lay flag pieces on the fire, a caller or reader, adults to watch over the fire (just in case)

Ceremony:

Caller: "Color guard, advance" – carry the flag in flat and unfolded. "Please stand for our Pledge of Allegiance" This will be the last pledge recited to this flag.

An appropriate reading or poem

A song

Caller – "When the flag of our country has become worn or damaged, the proper way to dispose of it is through burning or burial. We are here tonight to pay our last respects to this particular flag with love and reverence. Each stripe stands for one of the thirteen colonies, and each state is represented by a star on a field of blue."

When reader finishes, the cutter starts cutting the first stripe. When it is entirely cut, she lays it over the fire.

As each stripe is laid on the fire, the caller calls out the name of the thirteen colonies in the order in which the states were admitted to the Union. The first stripe stands for Delaware, then Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia, New York, North Carolina, and Rhode Island.

The field of blue with white stars, which stands for all the states, is burned last. It should be laid on the fire with two girls holding the corners, not tossed into the fire.

Closing: Song such as "God Bless America"

The girls are excused in silence while taps is played or hummed by the group.

Investiture Ceremony (Brief Version)

1. Welcome to Parents

I would like to thank the families of ______ for joining us this evening for this special occasion. Tonight we will be investing these girls into Girl Scouts. In addition the girls have decided to share some songs with you.

2. Flag ceremony (see Flag Ceremony)

Girl Caller: Could you all join us be saying the pledge of allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands one nation, under God indivisible for liberty and justice for all.

Girl Caller: Color guard dismissed

Color guard joins the Brownie Circle

Girl Caller: Will you all join us in singing Make New Friends

3a. The Brownie Poem

In accepting our two new friends into the family of Girl Scouting I will read a short poem, which describes how the Brownies get their name.

For once, a long time ago when fairies and elves in England did grow. Two little girls as normal as you lived with their father and grandmother, too! Then one day the father, a wise old man told of the magic of Brownie Land. He told them of Brownies who work and dust, clean for their families without making a fuss. Deep in the woods when the moon is out go to the pond-turn yourself about. You'll find magic that starts with a rhyme the magic circles the world in time.

All the girls will form a circle {new girls in the center}

Pick one older girl to turn each new girl

Troop repeats: Twist me and turn me and show me the elf I looked in the pond and I saw (myself) {Girl responds with name} Girls are pinned by Asst. Leader {Girl Scout Sign with right hand shake with left}. Leader Explains: The Brownie Pin must be worn upside down until a good turn is performed. 3b. Brownie Skit

All Girls are sent outside/offstage

Leader asks, "Who comes to the Brownie woods?"

Brownies answer, "We do"

Leader - "What do you want?"

Brownies - "We want to be Brownie Girl Scouts"

Girls enter and gather around a pond {Can use a mirror with sprigs of pine and potted plants}

Leader - "Who comes first to the Brownie Pond?"

Asst. Leader Reads names alphabetically Leader turns each girl saying:

Twist me and turn me and show me the elf I looked in the water and saw

Girl responds with" myself {Name}

Girls are pinned by Asst. Leader {*Girl Scout Sign with right hand shake with left*}.

Leader Explains: The Brownie Pin must be worn upside down until a good turn is performed.

4. Brownie Promise

Girls say promise as the candles are lit.
All Girls: On my honor I will try
1st Girl: To serve God and my country (light candle starting from the right)
2nd Girl: To help people at all times, (light the middle candle)
3rd Girl: and to live by the Girl Scout Law, (light the candle to the girl's right)

5. We will now sing: Whenever you make a promise

When e'er you make a promise consider well its importance and when made, engrave it upon your heart.

The following is a small selection of songs the girls have decided to sing for this special night.

Brownie Smile Song

I've something in my pocket it belongs across my face I keep it very close at hand in a most convenient place. I'm sure you couldn't guess it if you guessed a long, long while so I'll take it out and put it on it's a great big brownie smile.

Fishey Song

Have you ever seen a fishey on a hot and summer day? Have you ever seen a fishey out swimmin in the bay? With his hands in his pockets and his pockets in his pants. Have you ever seen a fishey do the hoochey-koochey dance? You never did (clap, clap). You never will. You never did. You never will. With his hands in his pockets, and the pockets in his pants the ity-bitty fishey does a hoochey-koochey dance.

6. Closing Ceremony:

Girl Caller: Color Guard retrieve the Colors

Color Guard retrieves the flags and holds them while the troop sings:

She wears a G for generosity She wears an I for interest too She wears an R for Real good sportsmanship She wears an L for Loyalty for Loyalty She wears an S for her sincerity She wears a C for courtesy She wears an O-U-T for outdoor life outdoor life And that girl scout is me.

One of the New Invested Girls begins the squeeze

Investiture Ceremony Poem

These golden trefoils in my hand Upon our new Girl Scouts we will bestow But first the meaning that the trefoil bears The spirit of our Promise we must know

Three gold leaves that the trefoil wears Threefold the Promise that it bears To serve God and your country dear To bring others hope and cheer

And everyday in every way The Girl Scout Law learn to obey And yet another message too These three gold leaves should bring to you

There are three ways each girl should grow Three sides of life each Scout should know Your body is the temple of your soul Oh, Girl Scouts build it strong and straight and fair

In God's great out-of-doors your kingdom lies Health and happiness await you there In beauty, too, in this great land Our Father made so fair Seek long for Beauty, and even more Make beauty where no beauty was before

DAİSY İNYESTİTURE

You will need: Daisy petals equal to the number of girls in your troop, a golden yellow center, a long green stem reaching toward the seated parents (wide enough for the girls to walk on), a leaf for each leader and assistant.

Tape all in place on the floor before the meeting. Daisy pins and certificates for each girl may be placed on a small table by one of the leaders. Simple Daisy name tags may be made for girls and parents. (Be sure these are pinned to the right side of the dress or tunic of the girls to eliminate confusion when the girls receive their pins.)

Placement: Girls take their places in a circle around the Daisy. The leaders stand at the end of each leaf.

Leader: Where are the girls who want to be Daisy Girl Scouts?

Girls: Here we are!

Leader: You have agreed that you are ready to make a promise and receive your pin as Daisy Girl Scouts. Let us make that promise together "On my honor..."

Assistant: ______(naming girl), as a Daisy Girl Scout would you come forward?"

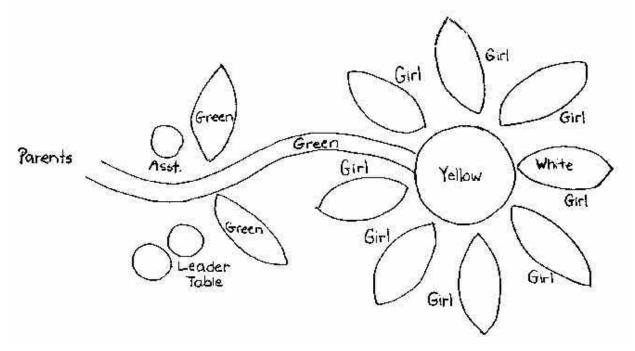
(Girl walks down stem to leaders.)

Leader: "Welcome, _____. Here is your Daisy Girl Scout pin." She pins girl, shakes her left hand and makes the Girl Scout sign with her right hand. "And here is your certificate." (And so on ---- until all of the girls are invested.)

Leader: "Now let's sing our Daisy Girl Scout song. (Or "When'er You Make a promise.")

Leader to Parents: Daisy Girl Scouts are named after the founder of Girl Scouting in the United States, Juliette Gordon Low, whose nickname was Daisy. She brought Girl Scouting to the United States from England. Notice that the stem of our daisy leads to you. As parents, you are very necessary to the growth and development of our Daisy Girl Scouts. We need to know your expectations for how "high" our Daisies will grow and ways that you can help us to reach that growth. We would appreciate your suggestions and participation. Would you please join us in a friendship circle (explains that) as our closing and stay for refreshments? Girls move back into larger circle--admitting parents as part of the group.

Have a friendship circle and refreshments. As refreshments are being set up, parents may help their daughter's place their invitations and the girls' certificates in the girls' scrapbooks.



Juliette Gorden Low's Birthday October 31st

- Ø This candle represents the vision that Juliette Low had of a Girl Scout Movement in the United States.
- *This candle stands for the hope Juliette Low had for worldwide understanding through Girl Scouting.*
- *Ø* This candle represents the dream Juliette Low had for a peaceful, friendly world.
- Ø This candle is for the faith Juliette Low had in the girls of the United States and the world to fulfill her dream.
- \varnothing This candle is for the spirit she left, which leads us constantly to greater growth and fellowship.
- \varnothing This candle represents the love she had for all mankind especially the old and sick.
- *I* This candle represents the millions of Girl Scouts in the United States who honor Juliette Low on the anniversary of her birth.
- *Ø* Please join us in singing Girl Scouts Together.

Girl Scout Pin Ceremony

Building the Girl Scout Pin (Traditional)

As each girl says her part, lighting a candle can be symbolic of the three parts of the Promise and the ten parts of the Law.

Girl 1: Our pin is symbolic of our fundamental beliefs. Beliefs which have not changed since our beginning, although methods change with the times. Beliefs which help each girl attain the highest development of which she is capable. This pin is in the shape of a trefoil, meaning three-fold, and reminds us of the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise.

All: "On my honor, I will try: To serve God and my country..."

Girl 2: We learn to find God in nature, to recognize spiritual values as more important than material ones, to seek the beautiful, and to see God in other people. Girl Scouts learn devotion to and seek pride in their country.

All: "On my honor, I will try: to help people at all times..."

Girl 3: In her consideration for others, a Girl Scout learns to give generous, selfless service. She comes to realize that service to others is an expression of dedication to people.

All: "On my honor, I will try: to live by the Girl Scout Law."

Girl 4: The Girl Scout Law is a guide for daily living - stated simply enough for a young girl to apply to her own life, profound enough to serve as a measuring post for adults. Think about the people you admire; what makes you admire them? Friendliness, dependability, enthusiasm to serve. These are the qualities that the Girl Scout Law helps us attain.

Girl 5: Tying together all parts of the Promise and serving as its foundation is the fact that we pledge on our honor to try. When we are discouraged, when we have made mistakes, our Promise reminds us that the best we can do is to keep on trying with a sincere effort. We do more than believe in our Promise, we try to live by it. Our pin is symbolic of our Promise, and we are here to explain the parts of our pin tonight.

Girl 6: The eagle is a bird of great endurance and strength. It is used on the Great Seal of the United States to represent power and strength. We wear it on our pin because we are chartered by the Congress of the United States.

Girl 7: The Shield represents protection. In the design of the Great Shield of the United

States, it rests only on the eagle to show that we are a self-sufficient government. One of our aims in Girl Scouting is to become self-reliant citizens.

Girl 8: In the right talon of the eagle is an olive branch representing peace. To show that we are a peace-loving nation, the eagle's head faces the olive branch. Girl Scouting is similarly a peace- time movement.

Girl 9: However, the arrows show preparedness to fight for our ideals. As Girl Scouts, we prepare ourselves to cope with every situation and emergency.

Girl 10: On the scroll are the words "E Pluribus Unum," meaning one from many. There are many states but one nation. In the United States we have three million in Girl Scouting. Each one is an individual personality, each one has her own place, but we are working in one organization toward one goal according to the ideals that we have in common.

Girl 11: The G.S. on the pin stands for Girl Scout. It means many different things to many different people. All of us have to decide what it means to us - new friends we have made, things we have learned, understandings about people we have gained, experiences we could have not have had except as a Girl Scout. The list is almost as endless as the number of people in the organization.

Girl 12: There is a destiny that makes us brothers None goes his way alone All that we send into the lives of others Comes back into our own

Girl 13: Three candles lighted here represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise. Ten candles lighted here represent the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law. All rise and join us in singing "Girl Scouts Together".

Bake a Batch of Brownies Ceremony

| Props | 12 containers of: |
|--|---|
| Oven (Large Box) Measuring cups Bowl Sifter Baking Pan Spatula Timer Measuring spoons Aprons Brownie Handbook Whisk/spoon | Honesty Friendliness Care and Consideration for others Helpfulness Fairness Strength and Courage Sisterhood Respect for authority Respect for myself and others Wise use of Resources |
| Cans of : Well-Being People Out-of-Doors Promise to make the world a better place Responsibility for what I say and do Arts Today and Tomorrow | |

- 1) We only have a few Brownies in our Troop from last year!! We need some new Brownies!
- 2) Yes, what can we do about it?
- 3) I know! Let's make some new Brownies!
- 4) We can look in our handbook for the recipe (Open Brownie/-* Handbook and look)

- 5) Here it is! To make Brownies, we must mix 3 basic ingredients: the Promise, the Law, and a desire to learn try new things. (Set the book out where people can read the "recipe" while _____ gets out a mixing bowl and spoon).
- 6) (Read from the "recipe") In a large bowl, we will cream together 1 cup of a promise to serve God, my country, and mankind. (put a cup of "promise" into the bowl)
- (Read from the "recipe") To this mixture, add two cups of honesty and 2 tablespoons of fairness. Mix together until well-blended. (Put 2 cups of "honesty" and 2 tablespoons of "fairness" into the bowl).
- 8) (Read from the "recipe") Stir in one cup of friendliness and a cup of helpfulness.
 (Put in a cup of "friendliness" and "helpfulness" into the bowl)
- 9) (Read from the "recipe") Beat together 1/2 cup of caring and 1/2 cup of consideration for others and add to the mixture. (Mix the 1/2 cup of "caring" and 1/2 cup of "consideration" together, then put it into the bowl)
- 10) (Read from the "recipe") Now add to the mixture 2 cups of courage and strength, pour in some responsibility for what I say and do, and mix well. (Add 2 cups "courage and strength" into the bowl, pour in the "responsibility")
- 11) (Read from the "recipe") Add one cup of respect for authority and one cup of respect for myself and others. Stir until well blended. (Put in a cup of "respect for authority" and one cup of "respect for myself and others" into the bowl. Take the spoon from _____ and stir a bit...)
- 12) (After giving ______ the spoon, read from the "recipe") Sift together 1/2 cup of a wise use of resources and 3 tablespoons of a promise to make the world a better place. Stir into mixture. (Mix the 1/2 cup and 3 tablespoons together, then add to the bowl.)

- 13) (Read from the "recipe") Sprinkle some sisterhood of Girl Scouting and mix well.(Sprinkle the "sisterhood" into the bowl)
- 14) (Read from the "recipe") Blend together 1/2 cup of each of the following worlds: Well-Being, People, Out-of-Doors, Arts, Today and Tomorrow. (Go to each container to get 1/2 cup of each ingredient, and add all of them into the bowl.)
- 15) (Read from the "recipe") In a prepared pan, spread the batter evenly. (Have ______ help you pour the bowl mixture into the pan. Spread it out, and then put it in the oven. _____ should secretly take it from you so nothing spills!
- 16) (Read from the "recipe") Bake at a moderate temperature until done. (Set the dial on the oven and set the timer)

(Bell rings)

17) They're done! (Open the oven door and let New Brownies crawl out of the oven)

New Law Ceremony/10 Ribbon Colors

Part I -- The Girl Scout Promise

Use 3 large white candles for each part of the promise. On my honor I will try to serve God and my country. (light the candle to the girl's left)

To help people at all times, (light the middle candle) and to live by the Girl Scout Law. (light the candle to the girl's right)

Part II. --Sing "Whene'er You Make A Promise" (Found on page 6 of the Girl Scout Pocket Handbook)

(Use 10 white candles, each tied with specified color ribbon as noted. Each girl reads her line then lights the candle) I will do my best to be: (all the girls say together)

Honest and fair (girl #1)

The purple ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of honesty and fairness. A Girl Scout works honestly and keeps her promise. She is fair in all she does and those she meets.

Friendly and helpful (girl #2)

The blue ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of friendship and thoughtfulness. A Girl Scout is amiable and loyal to her friends. She helps others wherever and whenever she can.

Considerate and caring (girl #3)

The orange ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of kindness and warmth. A Girl Scout works well with others and looks out for the well-being of others.

Courageous and strong (girl #4)

The red ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of adventure and independence. A Girl Scout attempts new tasks and braves new endeavors. She is confident and self-assured in her actions.

Responsible for what I say and do (girl #5)

The gold ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of ownership and pride in her work. She readily admits her strengths and weakness and is aware of the consequences of her actions. A Girl Scout is up front with her intentions.

And to: (all the girls say together)

Respect myself and others (girl #6)

The white ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of integrity. A Girl Scout directs her thoughts and deeds to encompass her won beliefs and to be sensitive to, and respectful of the beliefs of those around her.

Respect authority (girl #7)

The yellow ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of regard for another's position. A Girl Scout understands the importance of having a leader of a group to make final decisions. She works with that leader to make the best decisions for the good of the group.

Use resources wisely (girl #8)

The green ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of being careful with resources. She uses her materials, money, time, and energy wisely. A Girl Scout does not waste the Earth's resources.

Make the world a better place (girl #9)

The brown ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's sense of improvement. A Girl Scout strives to be clean, conserve, and enrich the world around her. She believes it is important to leave a better place than when she found it.

Be a sister to every Girl Scout (girl #10)

The silver ribbon on this candle represents a Girl Scout's loyalty to sisters all over the world. A Girl Scout is always ready to accept more friends into her ever widening circle. She treats all of her sisters with kindness, acceptance, and warmth.

Part IV.--Sing "Make New Friends" (Found on page 10 of the Girl Scout Pocket Handbook)

Nickname Ceremony

Materials needed:

Glitter (shiny paper, cellophane, or other similar material) cut in large pieces (in other words, not the stuff you glue down on paper)...or any other material for "sprinkling" on their heads The poem (below)A name tag with the nickname on it Anything else you'd like to use to make this enjoyable.

With girls/adults all quietly assembled in a horseshoe, state that it is now time to begin the "Nickname" ceremony, and read the following poem:

I knew a little mystery girl, she was a friend of mine. We knew each other from grade school; it's been a long, long time.

She had lots of pins and badges, You see, she'd been everywhere; They were on her sash and uniform, But one thing wasn't there.

This thing is like a special gift That is given by someone special you know. You can't see it, touch it, taste or feel it, But you'll have it forever more!

I asked her if she had one. She replied, "Can I buy it? What is that?" I told her if she had one She'd say YES right off the bat!

So my friend doesn't have this special thing That you will get today. When she found out she couldn't buy one, She just hung her head and walked away.

When you receive your special gift today, Please hold it near and dear to your heart, And remember how you got it, No matter if we're near or far apart.

Each one was chosen carefully To fit you especially in and out! Because you are one great bunch of girls to have, That would make any leader shout!

Now I have you wondering, Just what is she talking about? Well, here goes, let's give the first one, To a super duper Girl Scout!

**At this time, go stand in front of the first girl who is receiving a "nickname", and hold your right or left hand over her head and slowly let the "glitter" fall to her shoulders/head and say the following:

"By the power invested in me as leader of Cadette Troop _____, I hereby bestow the following name to (say girl's name). On this day, (say the date), and forever more, you will now be known as "(say the nickname)". (Now pin the name tag on the girl's shirt).**

Go to the next girl/adult receiving a nickname and repeat **this portion** all over again.

You may end the ceremony as you like, with an appropriate song, or any other ending you can come up with. We sang "Make New Friends"

Contributed and written by: Gail Burnes

Flame Ceremony

To be used to celebrate International Friendships

Needed: 5 candles - brown, green, red, white, and yellow. Arrange the candles with the green color in the middle, the brown and red candles on either side. The white and yellow candles are in the outside positions.

| Scout in charge | Girl Scouts come from many lands all with smiles and helping hands Though they speak a different way the law and promise they obey. |
|-----------------|--|
|-----------------|--|

First Girl: I light the brown candle in friendship for all the brown skinned Scouts and Guides in the world. Watch the flame closely please.

Second Girl: I light the red candle in friendship for all the red skinned Scouts and Guides in the world. Watch the flame closely please.

Third Girl: I light the white candle in friendship for all the white skinned Scouts and Guides in the world. Watch the flame closely please.

Fourth Girl: I light the yellow candle in friendship for all the yellow skinned Scouts and Guides in the world. Watch the flame closely please.

| Scout in charge | Have you noticed the light from one candle is the same as the other, even though the outside covering is different on each one? The culture of the nations around the world vary from one another, but we all have the same basic needs. We all wish to be shown respect for who we are and to enjoy the friendship and love of others. |
|-----------------|--|
|-----------------|--|

Light the green candle and then extinguish the flame from the brown, red, yellow and white candles.

| Scout in charge | The green candle represents the idea of international friendship and understanding. Let us strive each day to keep the flame alive in our own lives. |
|-----------------|---|
|-----------------|---|

At the conclusion of the ceremony sing Rise up old Flame or He's got the whole world in his hands. This ceremony can be broken down into more parts as necessary.

Passing the Light Candle Ceremony

Equipment needed:

- 1. Candle for each girl
- 2. Matches/lighter
- 3. Water bucket (with water in it)

Long ago a special ceremony was formed. Juliette Low wanted her original girls to carry a special spark with them as their Scout group broke up. Some from the troop were moving away, working to help their families or wanted to help a group of girls a little younger than themselves. But whatever their reasons, Juliette knew no other group would ever quite be the same. As the girls stood in a circle holding candles (they had made), Juliette knew what spark it was that she wanted to pass on.

She lit her candle and spoke.

"With this candle I give you each something very special to pass on. As I light the candle on my right I ask each of you to light the candle to your right and pass it on. I want you to carry this thought with you wherever you go. This is the ETERNAL FLAME for Girl Scouts. Each of you after having a lit candle before you will repeat the Girl Scout Promise with me, then pause and recall a few of the things we have done together as a group. I will hold my candle up and as I do so you will all raise yours and we will blow them out together. Before we separate from our circle, I want to ask you to keep this candle as a very special candle. It is not to be used for any purpose but passing on the ETERNAL FLAME. You may use it in other Girl Scout ceremonies such as camps, encampments, campfires, bridging or court of awards ceremonies. I'm glad we were able to start a special tradition based on our ETERNAL FLAME."

Grow A Girl Scout Troop

(Trail Mix Ceremony)

Girl Scouts come in all colors, from all races around the world. Every Girl Scout is a sister no matter where she is from, no matter the language she speaks, no matter the color of her skin. God loves variety, and Girl Scouts are the colors of the rainbow. (M & M CANDIES)

We have a promise and a law. On our honor, we try to do our best to be fair and square. (CHEX CEREAL)

Some of us are tall, and some of us are small. When we get together, size doesn't matter at all. (PRETZEL THINS AND MINI MARSHMALLOWS)

Sometimes we are nutty. We love to joke and play. We'd love to put a Girl Scout smile into everyone's day. (NUTS) *ask about allergies first

Sometimes we are quiet and thoughtful. We have special gifts of love and caring to give in service to those who need our help. (Goldfish crackers)

When we get together, we seem to make circles. We may sit in circles, play circle games, make a Friendship Circle. You could say that we are well-rounded. (CHEERIOS)

When we are busy planning a project, or doing a craft, we pop around until we're done. (POPCORN)

Girl Scouts respect all living things. The earth is our home and we want to keep it safe for everyone. (ANIMAL CRACKERS)

Girl Scouts are "chips off the old block". Girl Scouting began in 1912. Since then we all have been part of an old tradition, and are proud to be part of the future. (BANANA CHIPS or Chocolate CHIPS)

We get a kick out of wearing our uniforms, learning new things, helping others, and being together with our friends. (KIX CEREAL)

Young Girl Scouts may be hard to resist because they are fresh, sweet and new. But the older scout maybe more fun, because she has more experience. (RAISINS)

Welcome to Troop _____ I hope we will have a wonderful year.

Court of Awards Ceremonies

What is a Court of Awards?

At a Court of Awards, Girl Scouts receive recognition for their accomplishments in the form of patches, badges, pins and certificates. Court of Awards ceremonies are held several times during the year and even more frequently for very young girls. A Court of Awards may be used as a closing ceremony for a project the whole troop has worked on, with each girl receiving the patch or badge that symbolizes her effort. Or, recognitions individual girls have earned over a period of time may be distributed at the Court of Awards.

What's in a Court of Awards?

Presentation of awards is the main activity of a Court of Awards ceremony. There are many creative ways to present girls with recognitions. Demonstrations or displays of what was done to earn the awards can add interest to the ceremony. Girls may wish to include candle lighting in the ceremony. Many of the Promise and Law candle lightings used for investitures are also appropriate for Court of Awards ceremonies. A Court of Awards can be a formal kind of ceremony with invited guests; parents, troop support committee, program consultants and sponsors. Or, it can be a simple ceremony with the troop leader presenting the girls with recognitions at the end of a regular troop meeting. Whatever form the Court of Awards takes, it should be an opportunity for girls to feel proud of their accomplishments.

Things to Think About

- * Prepare recognition items ahead of time; packaging each girl's awards together.
- * Emphasize the effort each girl made to earn whatever awards she is receiving, rather than the number earned.
- * Hold award ceremonies frequently, especially for younger girls. Brownies and young Juniors Girl Scouts should receive recognitions as soon as they have earned them to help them understand that the award is a symbol of their work. These can be very simple ceremonies with just the troop present.
- * Recognize each girl individually by name. If possible, comment on what was done to earn the recognition.
- * To save time, pin the awards to ribbons and then pin ribbons on the girls.

Try-It Award Ceremony

Decorate the ceremony site with samples of the activities girls did to complete Try-Its; or have girls draw pictures of Try-It activities they did.

Leader: To complete a Brownie Try-It, girls choose and do four activities in one of forty Try-Its. There are forty Try-Its, eight in each of the five Worlds of Interest. Today we are celebrating the completion of the _____ Try-It(s) in the World(s) of

Let's tell about what we tried and learned.

Ask each girl to name one thing they tried to do as part of a Try-It activity. Girls may hold up samples of their work, etc. Present each girl with her Try-It patch(es).

Tree of Knowledge

Prepare in advance a tree trunk with five branches. This can be a real tree, or a tree drawn on poster board and hung on the wall. You will also need construction paper leaves with activities girls have done to earn awards written on them.

Perform flag ceremony and opening remarks or song.

Leader: This is the Tree of Knowledge. The tree trunk represents the World of Girl Scouting. Each branch represents one of the Five Worlds of Scouting. The leaves represent the knowledge and skills we acquire as we branch out and explore each of the five worlds.

At this time, girls can come forward and place on the tree leaves representing different activities they did to earn awards. Then each girl can receive her awards. These might be presented on real or construction paper branches.

Junior/Cadette Court of Awards

"BADGES" COURT OF AWARDS

- Leader: This candle that I light is a symbol of our Girl Scout slogan: "Do a good turn daily". A Girl Scout's greatest desire is to serve.
- **Co-Leader:** May the light of the second candle shine as a symbol of our Girl Scout Motto: "*Be Prepared*". Through our work to earn Girl Scout recognitions, we learn the skills needed to be prepared for many situations.
- Additional Adult: May the light of the third candle shine as a symbol of our Girl Scout Promise, a pledge we strive to live by daily.
- Leader: Please join us in reciting the Girl Scout Promise.

(Song - Whene'er You Make a Promise, consider well it importance, and engrave it upon your heart, engrave it upon your heart)

Guest: Poem (A badge is....)

Write each letter on a 9" x 12" piece of poster board. On the back of the cardboard write the explanation. Use as flash cards for a Court of Awards. Girls may have their own ideas for what each letter could stand for.

| B | Stands for Badges to be given today. What is a badge? An outward sign of an inner accomplishment. The scrap of colored material is not nearly so important as the job that was done to earn it. |
|---|--|
| Α | Awards given at the Court of Awards. Here we are not rewarded for the badge itself but for what the badge represents. It means new knowledge, new skills learned, and new opportunities to be of service to others. |
| D | stands for Deeds . Good deeds to be done now and in the future for family, friends, and the community. Good deeds done with the knowledge and skills acquired through the badges. |
| G | Is the Girl in Girl Scouts and the growth we achieve through living the Girl Scout Promise and Law. |

is for **Eagerness** and **Energy** necessary to earn badges. Badges do not come easily and they should not, or their value would be small. Badges present challenges and satisfaction in accomplishment.

Ε

S

stands for so many things. **Service** to others, **Self-Development**, and most important, **Self-Respect** -- the way you feel about yourself as a person.

Leader: And so we have badges to be given out today in this Court of Awards. We, as your leaders, know how eager you are to wear them, and it is with great pride and a feeling of accomplishment that we present them to you now.

Leader reads off each girl's name and the badges she has earned one at a time. The girl comes forward to receive her badges, shares the Girl Scout handshake with the leader and returns to her position. We made homecoming type corsages and attached all the badges to the long ribbons.

Bouquets of Badges

Present badge Daisies at your next Court of Awards. Use or adapt the pattern shown here. Cut "daisies" from colored construction paper (red for Well Being badges, blue for People badges, yellow for Out-of-Doors badges, etc.) Use double sided tape or staple badges to the center of each flower. The girls' name, troop number, etc. can be written on the daisy petals.

Girls who have earned several badges can be awarded "bouquets." Add a wire stem and leaves and place in a vase and you have a table decoration for your ceremony.

The Spelling of Girl Scouting

These can be put on pieces of poster board or just read (or memorized) as the girls choose.

| 1 | | |
|---|---|--|
| G | is for the Gracious way we all proclaim our birth | |
| | points up the Ideas shared and those we'd like unearthed | |
| R | is for Respect we have for every race and creed | |
| L | is for our Loyalty to promises we heed | |
| | | |
| S | is for Sincerity of deed and word and mind | |
| С | is for the Countless ways in which these are combined | |
| 0 | is Obligation that we owe to fellow man | |
| U | means that it's You who must be first to lend a hand | |
| Т | is for the Teamwork which has evidenced our growth | |
| | is for Integrity which backs the Girl Scout oath | |
| Ν | is for the Noble way we remember days of old | |
| G | is for the Grateful thanks for efforts toward our goal | |

Each of these is Girl Scouting --- What work! What fun! What pride!

To recall with admiration ---

And seek with greater stride

More Ideas for Presenting Awards

- □ Wrap recognitions is festive packages
- D Put recognitions on pipe cleaner stems in a flower pot
- Device Put recognitions in a plastic egg for a springtime ceremony
- Device Put recognitions from the World of the Out-Of-Doors
- □ On leafy branches or pine boughs
- \Box In a bandana on a stick
- On a natural wood plaque
- Device Put recognitions from the World of People
- On a paper doll chain
- □ Attached to international flags
- □ On small U.S. Flags
- Put recognitions from the World of Well Being
- On cardboard hearts
- On tongue depressors
- Put recognitions from the World of Today and Tomorrow
- On paper airplanes
- □ Attached to pencils or rulers
- Put recognitions from the World of the Arts
- Attached to paintbrushes or sheet music
- In crayon boxes
- □ Strung on balloons
- □ With a photograph of something girls did

Scouting is a Candle

Scouting is a candle that will light you on your way It's trying on your honor and helping every day. Exploring worlds around you and looking wider still Pitching tents out in the woods or hiking up a hill. Guitars and voices blended under God's majestic sky. Loving those around you Friendships that never die. The meaning in a moment, In a smile or in a tear. Make you a little taller with each Girl Scouting year.

A promise to your God and to your country, too. Makes you a part of your world and your world a part of you. It's something you may carry wherever you may go. You can't hide happiness you can't hide the glow. A secret deep inside you that only scouts can know. That's the kind of secret you want the world to know. A candle glows forever it shines eternally. Make it shine on everyone that's the way the world should be. Make it shine on everyone, that's the way the world should be.

Leader's Promise

I will do my best:

To be honest about my girl's abilities and fair to their talent

To be friendly and helpful because my girls deserve the best

To be considerate and caring even when things don't work out

To be courageous and strong because my girls need me

To be responsible for what I say and do because others are depending on me

To respect myself and others, after all I am a Girl Scout

To respect authority even the girl's

To use resources wisely by not wasting the potential in each girl I work with

To make the world a better place by sharing my best and not sharing when necessary

To be a sister to every Girl Scout and care for each Girl Scout as family.

Bridging Poem

Take my hand in friendship I give to you this day. Remember all the good times We had along the way.

Take my hand in helping Other people that we know. The more we give to others, The more that we will grow.

Take my hands in learning To camp on nature's ground. Enjoying trails and campfires With new friends that we have found.

Take my hand in giving Our knowledge of true scouts To girls we meet and talk to Who have so many doubts.

Take my hand in thanking Our leader and our guide. With sincere appreciation For standing by our side.

Take my hand in eagerness To be an older scout. We're proud to be bridging Is what we're going to shout.

So take my hand to follow New scouting paths in sight. We're joining hands with each And in friendship we'll unite.

[In Unison:] We give our hands in promise To hold our country dear, And abide the Girl Scout Law Each day throughout the year.

Junior Girl Scout Poem

(adapted by Laura S.)

J is for the joy we share each and every day U is for the uniform we wear while we're on our way N is for nature we continue to share I is for interests and service projects that show we care O is for the outdoors whether hot or cold R is for real good memories we'll have until we're old

G is for the golden friendships we have made I is for the interesting trails we laid R is for the roads we tread L is for loyalty in the Promise said

S is for service in everything we do C is for the courtesy often showed to you O is for the oath we have spoken U is for the unity close and unbroken T is for the trefoil worn with pride S is for the sisters of Girl Scouting found far and wide

Careful Soul

A careful soul I have to be, a little girl scout follows me. To a narrow path I must stay, for if I don't she too will stray I must choose my deeds with care for all I do she too will dare. My words I guard and softly speak and I must love the strong and weak Oh I must be fair from the start and boldly lead with a steady heart. In all I say and all I do I promise to strive to be true. A little Girl Scout follows me! Because you know where ever I go a careful soul I have to be

A Parent Meeting Fable

(Read to encourage membership on a troop committee)

The Little Green Hen, A Fable (Author Unknown)

Once upon a time there was a Little Green Hen that had a Girl Scout Troop. She had an Assistant Leader and a lot of mothers with this troop. One day, the Little Green Hen found she needed a Badge Manager for her troop. She asked Susie's mother, but Susie's mother said, "No, I am far to busy with the PTA." She asked Janie's mother, but Janie's mother said, "No, I'm far to busy with my bridge club." She asked Kathy's mother, but Kathy's mother said, "No, I'm working so we can buy a color TV." "All right" said the Little Green Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy handling the badge records at several meetings that they never did finish their Christmas Service Project.

Then one day, the Little Green Hen found she needed a Cookie Manager for her troop. She asked Susie's mother, but Susie's mother said, "No, I'm far to busy with my church circle." She asked Janie's mother, but Janie's mother said, "No, I'm busy redecorating just now." She asked Kathy's mother, the Kathy's mother said, "No, I'm working so we can buy a snowmobile." "All right" said the Little Green Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy handling the Cookie Sale that they didn't finish planning for their overnight at spring vacation and so it had to be canceled.

Then one day, the Little Green Hen found she needed a Finance Manager. She asked Susie's mother, but Susie's mother said, "No, I'm busy working on the school referendum." She asked Janie's mother, but Janie's mother said, "No, we're going to Spain." She asked Kathy's mother, but Kathy's mother said, "No, I'm working to buy a motorboat for the summer." "All right" said the Little Red Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy making finance calls that she couldn't keep up with the badge records, and so they had to cancel the Court of Awards.

Then it came time to re-register the troop. Susie's mother said, "I don't think the Little Green Hen is a very good leader." And Janie's mother said, "I don't think Janie will stay in Girl Scouts because they didn't finish their Christmas project, they didn't go on their overnight, and Janie didn't get her badges." And Kathy's mother said, "I don't think Kathy will stay in Girl Scouts because they didn't go on their overnight, and Kathy didn't get her badges."

And the Little Green Hen said, "I won't take the Girl Scout troop for another year because I can't do it all myself." And she didn't!

Ode to a Girl Scout Leader

(Created by the Maumee Valley Girl Scout Council)

- You my friend, should be cast in gold for the things you've done that will never be told.
- For the dinners delayed by Girl Scout meetings for the friendly smiles and cheerful greetings.
- For the badge requirements no one wanted to do, which you insisted were important, too.
- For the meetings you led that went just as planned, with no one there to give you a hand.
- > For the calendars you sold and the cookies you ate..
- > For the toilets dug, meals cooked on a grate...
- For that one girl more you absorbed in your troop, because she wanted to be in your group.
- Tell me again how you lost your voice, was camping in winter really your choice? And wasn't that you I saw shopping downtown, trying to keep up with twelve little clowns?
- "Why do you do it?" you're probably asked, "Who forced you to take on this year end task?"
- Those innocent young faces really tell it all, and that's why we're hoping to see you next fall.
- When you were made, they broke the mold. If you're ever re-cast--it will surely be gold!!!

For Everything

For every step taken on a wet and rocky trail. For every reminder note you didn't forget to mail. For every skinned knee you attended, For every broken heart you mended. For every burnt camping meal you ate, For every late parent on which you had to wait. For every tearful disappointment you heard, For every time you could've ... but didn't say a word. For every time you could've ... but didn't say a word. For every ounce of laughter to a little girl you brought, For every midnight giggle your tired ears have caught! For every tear you've shed as they've grown up through the years. For every one of your Girl Scouts, now full of confidence, not fears. For every song you've sung, For every song you'll sing... Thank you...Girl Scout Leader... simply put...for everything!

The Candle

There was a child standing outside, alone. She was absorbed into the wall surrounding her. By chance someone saw her there, saw her need, And stopped to light her candle...

...And she, in candlelight...glows.

There was a child without confidence. She was afraid to try, worried about rejection. Someone lit her candle with a smile, A nodding of praise for her efforts... ...And she, in candlelight...glows.

There was a child who couldn't be still. She bounced and bubbled and never came to a rest. Someone filled her eyes with awe, and she saw A gift of light, and emotions quieted her soul...

...And she, in candlelight...glows.

There was a child searching for meaning. Looking for direction that made sense to her. Someone lit a candle to help her find a way, With a Promise, a song and a prayer... ...And she, in candlelight...glows.

There was a child seeing a need in the world. She didn't know what to do that would help. Someone showed her a little light, flickering. She lit the candles of others... ... And she, in candlelight...glows.

Girl Scout Benediction

"Go in peace And let your hearts be gay/ Go in peace, Now at the close of the day. In friendship we part, And, until we meet again. God bless and keep you, Girl Scouts Amen."

Girl Scout Law Interpretation Poem

- A Girl Scout tries her best to be honest and fair * (Fairness and honor shining bright, like a brilliant flame can split the night)
- A Girl Scout tries her best to be friendly and helpful * (A hand held closed has nothing to bring, but open and giving, is a wonderful thing.)
- A Girl Scout tries her best to be considerate and caring * (One kindness is small, but the magic it sends, turns into two, and the chain never ends.)
- A Girl Scout tries her best to be courageous and strong * (Courage and strength, what love lies here; Bright as a smile, soft as a tear)
- 5) A Girl Scout tries her best to be responsible for what she says and does * (Smiles and laughter can make a burden light, and the sound of campfire singing brings a glory to the night.)
- 6) A Girl Scout tries her best to respect herself and others * (Grant us wisdom to keep in our memory what the worker wrought in stone - All that we send into the lives of others, comes back into our own)
- A Girl Scout tries her best to respect authority *

 (To respect authority sometimes can be hard, but this is a need for you must follow that you may learn to lead.)
- A Girl Scout tries her best to use resources wisely *
 (So much is given each of us as we go on our way, we must learn to spend life wisely, lest we waste one precious day.)
- A Girl Scout tries her best to make the world a better place * (Love for all things is one of heaven's keys. For his care is given freely unto the least of these.)
- 10)A Girl Scout tries her best to be a sister to every Girl Scout * (When hearts seek hearts and hand seek hands, oceans are bridged and love links lands.)