

The Emerald Circle Newsletter

Summer 2010: In This Issue

College Care Packages

Mission

Year in Review

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1ST V.P. - Events
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From the President:



Greetings and welcome to our Emerald Circle Newsletter.

It is my pleasure to serve as the president of this very special organization within Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council. I have been meeting regularly with the other dedicated members of your elected board of directors since we took office in June of 2009.

It has been a very productive year for our group.

We have surveyed our membership and formulated a strategic plan for our current and future work.

During our successful membership luncheon last October we also wrote notes of encouragement to our 2009 scholarship recipients.

February brought the deadline for applications for college scholarships. The Scholarship Selections Committee was challenged to select the 23 very outstanding recipients for 2010 from the many highly qualified applicants.

In March we hosted an evening reception at the Program Place for Girls where we assembled Finals Boxes to send to last year's recipients as they entered into their final exam period this spring. Each girl also received a personal note to go with her box of snacks and other goodies. Their responses are just now coming in--and they loved them! This service project was enjoyed by all.

I encourage you to join us for lunch, for service or simply to support our scholarship awards. The Emerald Circle is doing very good work and we welcome your participation.

our mission and goals.

Instead of trying to figure out numerous ways that we can help a little, we are exclusively focusing on the thing that we do best - SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GOLD AWARD GIRLS. To that end, we have distilled our efforts so that everything we do impacts either the girls or our ability to support them. You may have noticed cards to girls at events, care packages going off to colleges, and even a dorm room gift basket for the silent auction at Urban Campout. We want you to know that your support is targeted toward our mission of "providing scholarships and program support, inspiring girls to aim for excellence while becoming the leaders of tomorrow."

Year in Review-How your membership made a difference

Scholarships



Through the support of TEC member's dues and additional gifts from both TEC members and other friends of GSSJC, an amazing \$33,500 in college scholarships was recently given out at an event sponsored by The Emerald Circle. By granting these 23 Gold Award recipients with scholarships in support of their education, we showed all girls that their achievements in earning the highest award in Girl Scouting is something to be proud of and something that our Council supports through more than just words or photos in The Golden Link. The scholarships, ranging from \$1000 to \$3000 are an incredible way to send these talented young women out into the world where we know they will "make the world a better place."

Congratulations to these scholarship winners:

Shannon Alridge

Raaji Asaithambi

Keri Belcher-Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation Scholarship

Marissa Cantu

Lindsey Cohen

Elena Douglass

Morgan Fredell

Chloe Griffen-Judy Kunkel Scholarship

Melanie Grover

Lotanna Ikeotuonye

Shannon Linderman-Craig & Heidt, Inc. Scholarship

Anna Masters
Megan McCormack
Alexandra Miller
Michelle Moon
Brittany Morton-Craig & Heidt, Inc. Scholarship
Victoria Noble
Christina Noblett-Marie Lawson and Webster Family Scholarship
Misha Sharp
Angela Song
Elizabeth St. Laurent-Robert H. and Joanne M. Williams Foundation
Scholarship
Analisa Valdivia -Ervan Chew Memorial Scholarship
Margaret Welch

Special THANKS to these generous donors:

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GSSJC Board of Directors
The Emerald Circle Endowment Fund
Members of The Emerald Circle

For information on contributing to the scholarship fund or establishing a named scholarship, contact Beth Shea in the Fund Development Department at 713-292-0321. Tax deductible contributions may be mailed to GSSJC, The Emerald Circle Scholarship Fund, 3110 Southwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77098.

Fall Event

Over 30 members and guests attended The Emerald Circle Fall Membership Luncheon on October 6th at the Renaissance Hotel. Along with the usual welcoming of new members there was a new twist to the event in an effort to keep the heart of our mission present at the event. A card for members to write a note to one of our scholarship recipients from the previous spring was at each place along with a short bio of the girl. This simple act of sending a personal note to one of the girls touched many members. After penning a note, members enjoyed hearing from Debbie Adams who offered her thanks from Ronald McDonald House Charity in appreciation of The Emerald Circle's support of their "pop top" service project. Past scholarship recipient Amy Ross reminded members of the face of our mission and what amazing things Gold Award recipients can do with our help and encouragement, and finally Iska Wire, TEC board member, presented an update on our mission and exciting new strategic plan. We hope to see each of you this coming fall for yet another inspiring event.

Urban Campout

Members of the TEC Executive Committee and COSTCO Wholesale - Galleria contributed a college dorm basket to be auctioned off at the final Urban Campout. The basket was packed with dorm room essentials - everything from sheets and bedding to a desk lamp for late night studies. Several members of The Emerald Circle were present at this historic final event for our council.



Spring Event

On March 2, The Emerald Circle sponsored a networking and happy hour event at The Program Place. Seventeen friends of The Emerald Circle joined together to assemble 25 care packages and write notes of encouragement to send to our 2009 scholarship winners who are now college freshman. The care packages will be mailed to the girls after spring break timed to show our support for them as they prepare for their final exams. Volunteers donated \$850 to sponsor the care packages. Thank you to all of the Emerald Circle Executive Committee members who helped make this event a success. A special thanks to volunteer Sandy Judson for coordinating fresh baked goodies and delivery of the care packages to our girls.



