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## **Girl Scout Leaders and Celebrate Founder's Day, Juliette Low's Birthday**

*Submitted by Sandra Patterson (Service Unit Director)*

The Girl Scouts Lafayette Service Unit welcomed new leaders during the fall Leader Meeting held on September 28 at Girl Scout Camp Twin Canyon, located in Lafayette.

They follow a long line of volunteer leaders starting with Juliette Gordon Low, founder of Girl Scouts USA, who was born on October 31, 1860.

On Halloween this year, Girl Scouts will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Juliette Low's birthday. On March 12, 1912, she gathered 18 girls in Savannah, Georgia, to register the first troop of Girl Scouts in the USA.

In developing the Girl Scout movement in the United States, Juliette brought girls of all backgrounds into the out-of-doors, giving them the opportunity to develop self-reliance and resourcefulness.

She encouraged girls to prepare not only for traditional homemaking, but also for possible future roles as professional women-in the arts, sciences and business-and for active citizenship outside the home.

Girl scouting welcomed girls with disabilities at a time when they were excluded from many other activities. This idea seemed quite natural to Juliette, who never let deafness, back problems or cancer keep her from full participation in life.

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