

JULIETTE LOW AND THE WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND



Juliette Gordon Low, known to everyone as “Daisy,” was a joyous, lively, talented and inspiring young woman. After she worked with the Girl Guide movement in England, Daisy knew the program was important to bring to the girls of the United States. On March 12, 1912, Girl Scouts was founded: Juliette

organized the first troop with 18 members in Savannah, Georgia.

From the start, one of Juliette Low’s aims was to bring an international aspect to Girl Scouting. She enjoyed working with Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from many lands. She attended international meetings abroad and even helped to pay for the expenses of other delegates from countries where Girl Guiding was just starting.

Part of her dream of international friendship was to hold an international Girl Scout and Girl Guide gathering in the United States. In 1926, Girl Scouts from all parts of the USA and delegates from 29 countries came together at the newly-formed Camp Edith Macy near New York City. For Daisy, the international encampment was her dream come true; even Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, the founder of Boy Scouts and his wife, were in attendance. At this gathering, the delegates decided to make February 22nd, the birthday of both Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, a special Girl Scout and Girl Guide day called Thinking Day.

After Daisy Low’s death in 1927, her Girl Scout and Girl Guide friends wanted to do something special to honor her memory. It should be something, they felt, that would express her ideals and hopes, something that would keep on growing. At last it was decided to start

a memorial fund “to promote Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding throughout the world as a contribution to peace and good will,” and the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund (JLWFF) was begun.

The Fund’s main purpose is to promote global understanding and friendship. The JLWFF helps to pay travel costs for United States Girls and adults to go to other countries for conferences, encampments, International Destinations, and service activities. The Fund also pays for girls and adults in Girl Guiding or Girl Scouting in other countries to visit in the United States. Other moneys are sent to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) so this international organization can provide training and development in other countries. Some money is also used to help in emergencies, such as replacing a national office washed away in a flood.

Many troops decide to give to the JLWFF on either Juliette Low’s birthday (October 31), or on Thinking Day (February 22) or on Girl Scouts birthday (March 12th).



IDEAS FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE JLWFF

TWO ELEMENTS ARE IMPORTANT:

- ▶ an explanation of the Fund which is appropriate to the age level of the girls
- ▶ discuss ways to give money to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund in an interesting way

SOME IDEAS FOR GIVING MONEY TO THE JLWFF:

- give a nickel times your shoe size
- a penny an inch of your height
- a nickel an inch of their father's waist
- an extra nickel a month in dues
- a nickel for every window in their house

On Thinking Day (February 22) or Juliette Low's birthday (October 31) or Girl Scout Birthday (March 12), donate the money your troop collected to the JLWFF!

For more information on the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund and its benefits, visit our website at www.kyanags.org or the GSUSA website at www.girlscouts.org.

Also check your handbook and your service center library for more JLWFF resources.

