



Three Generations of Girl Scouts GSCCC Volunteer Continues The Legacy

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Rebecca Picek is a member of Service Unit 550 in Santa Barbara County. She's no stranger to the world of Girl Scouts – she is part of a three generation lineage including her mother and daughter!

With her mother's encouragement and good experiences in scouting, Rebecca began her journey with Girl Scouts as a Brownie and continued for six years. "What inspired me to stay involved in Girl Scouts were the positive experiences and role models I had with my own troop as a girl. Looking back, scouting fostered my adventurous and creative spirit, I knew when I had my daughter I wanted those same positive experiences for her." Now, as a leader of her own troop, she passes along the values and traditions that she learned as a scout.

Rebecca's daughter, Lauren, has been involved for seven years and is currently working on her Silver Award. "Being my daughter's leader hasn't always been easy, but it has benefited her life in many wonderful ways," says Rebecca. "It's helped her find a voice to speak up, self-reliance, confidence to believe in herself and a love of the outdoors."

Last summer, Rebecca along with two other leaders took a group of 13-14 year-old Girl Scouts on a southwest adventure. They visited three national parks, two national monuments, and rock climbed, kayaked, and camped along the way.

Her mother, Carol, joined Girl Scouts in 1956 when her family was stationed in Siapan, located in the Marianna Islands. "A group of military wives wanted to start a Brownie troop and my grandmother, Jessie, was a co-leader," says Rebecca. Two years later when the family was transferred to Naha, Okinawa, Carol continued in Girl Scouts until they went stateside in 1960. Her favorite memory is when she was stationed on Naha and her troop went to a huge banquet in town where they met a group of Naha Girl Guides. A special ceremony was performed and WAGGS pins were exchanged.

If she could have Girl Scouts take away one key life lesson from the program, it would be that things won't always go as planned, but it doesn't make the end result any less awesome. "One thing Girl Scouts has taught me to be is adaptable in my leadership role. The day of our camp-out at the beach, a huge storm came around. Suddenly, all our painstaking planning for the night went down the drain. Instead of freaking out, I asked the group. 'Ok. What's



the *next* plan?' We all stopped and thought, and within a few minutes we had a whole new evening planned. That event taught the troop that in life you don't always get your first choice in outcomes, so you might as well always plan for what's next."

Rebecca says that her time with Girl Scouts has continued to change her life in many ways. "When I started out 7 years ago, I had no idea how much I would get out of being involved. I've met a group of leaders who were kind enough to show me the ropes, mentor me and inspire me. I got to know my daughter's friends in a way that I would not have otherwise. But it's the simple things that mean the most. If I get to play a role in letting them know that someone cares, it's a fulfilling experience to me."

"Volunteering is worth my time because it is such an important and rewarding job," she says. "I'm making a difference in the lives of girls, and I want them to know that they are truly supported and are capable of great things. I believe others should volunteer because you'll be the role model she'll remember forever."

Join the network of nearly 1 million adults who actively serve as role models for the next generation of G.I.R.L.s. Help inspire, encourage, and guide the leaders of tomorrow by [becoming a Girl Scout leader today](#).

About GSCCC

Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast serves over 10,200 girls across six counties and is committed to making the Girl Scout Leadership Experience available to girls in ways that impact their lives both in the moment and into the future. Girls participate in troops, individual projects, council events, day camps, resident camps and more. A variety of leadership, outdoor skills, and Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) based programs and events provide girls with opportunities to learn and explore in fun and informative ways. To join or volunteer in Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara or Ventura County, visit: <http://www.girlscoutscoc.org>.

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