

QUOTES

“Every badge you earn is tied up to your motto. This badge is not a reward for something you have done once for an examination you have passed. Badges are not medals to wear on your sleeve to show what a smart girl you are. A badge is a symbol that you have done the thing it stands for often enough, thoroughly enough, and well enough to be prepared to give service to it. You wear the badge to let people know that you are prepared and willing to be called on because you are a Girl Scout. And Girl Scouting is not just knowing.....but doing.....not just doing, but being.”

“Ours is a circle of friends, united by ideals.”

“I realize that each year it has changed and grown until I know that a decade from now, what I might say of it would seem like an echo of what has been instead of what is.”
letter in 1925

“The work of today is the history of tomorrow and we are the makers.”

“to go on with my heart and soul, devoting all my energies to Girl Scouts, and heart and hand with them, we will make our lives and the lives of the future girls happy, healthy and holy.” *when asked her purpose*

“I had my favorite watch on most days. The fact that it only had one hand, and couldn't really tell the time, never really bothered me.”

“I had a series of ear infections and was losing patience with 'traditional medicine'. I had heard that silver nitrate was the 'newest' treatment, and I insisted that the doctor use it on me. Unfortunately, it was too powerful a mixture, and it caused me to go deaf in that ear. Later at my wedding, a truly freaky thing happened; some of the rice people threw got caught in my other ear. I didn't want to take the time to see a doctor, since I was leaving on my honeymoon. Well, the rice festered in my ear and caused quite an infection. When it was finally removed, the instrument they used to take it out made me deaf in that ear too.”

“I was out fishing one night and felt a tug on my line. I fought hard for quite a while to try and 'land' my catch. What I didn't realize was that I hadn't hooked a fish – rather, I had hooked one of my guests straight through the ear. I was too deaf to hear his screams, and I was so determined to land the fish I never noticed that it was a human instead.”

“When I returned to the States and wanted to start the Girl Scouts, I knew I needed some help. The first woman I approached tried to tell me she wasn't interested. I pretended

that my deafness prevented me from hearing her refusals, and told her 'Then that's settled. I've told my girls you will take the meeting next Thursday.' I never heard a word of argument from her again!"

"I was bored at one of the parties I was attending, so pulled Kipling away from his friends and took him fishing. He kept complaining that we weren't dressed for it (we were both in formal attire), but I never saw what difference our clothes made – it wasn't as if they were the bait we were using!"

"When I was little, people fattened and then slaughtered their own Thanksgiving turkeys. Just before they cut off our turkey's head, I convinced my family the decapitation was inhuman. I argued that he could be chloroformed first, and then wouldn't feel anything. They finally gave in and agreed to do just that. Then they plucked the turkey and put him in the ice box. When they opened the icebox, the next day, the bird was wide awake and bolted out of his frozen 'cage'. The cook, thinking the bird had been dead, became hysterical and jumped on top of the stove."

"Once I showed up at my sister's with a baby rabbit I had bought from some children because its ears were cold. I put the rabbit on a hot water bottle and massaged its ears for quite a while. After all, I knew that all healthy animals had warm ears."

"When my husband died, I found that he had willed his entire estate to another woman. No one was going to get away with that! Against the advice of my friends, I decided to contest the will and eventually won a \$500,000 settlement."

"I always loved animals. I was constantly coming home with stray dogs, cats and even horses. Sometimes they weren't strays, but I felt their owners were neglecting them."

"Right is right, even if no one else does it."

When asked what the girls should do, Juliette responded "What do the girls WANT to do?"

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HONOR – This means that a girl is not satisfied with keeping the letter of the law when she really breaks it in spirit.

LOYAL – This means that she is true to her country, to the city or village where she is a citizen, to her family, her church, her school, and those for whom she may work or who may work for her.

HELPFUL – The simplest way of saying this for the very young Scout is to do a good turn to someone every day; that is, to be a giver and not a taker. This is the spirit that

makes the older Scout into a fine, useful, dependable woman.

THRIFTY – The most valuable thing we have in this life time, and most girls are apt to be rather stupid about getting the most out of it. Health is probably a woman's greatest capital, and a Girl Scout.....doesn't waste time on a poor diet....so that she goes bankrupt before she is thirty. Money is a very useful thing to have....a Girl Scout saves, as she spends, on some system.

FRIEND TO ANIMALS – All Girl Scouts take particular care of our dumb friends, the animals, and protect them from stupid neglect or hard useage.

PURE – A good housekeeper cannot endure dust and dirt; a well cared for body cannot endure grime and soot. A pure mind cannot endure doubtful thoughts that cannot be freely aired and ventilated.

From Juliette Low's Notes on the Laws, 1912

A tree for the Future

Every Spring
the sap rises in the trees
from root to branch
and makes a tree that looks dead
blossom with green leaves
and life.

So, it is that the Scouting Spirit
rises within you and
inspires you to put forth
your best.

By Juliette Gordon Low