

# Short & Snappy

## Volunteer Appreciation: Council Awards

### What's a Short & Snappy?

- A short training/information segment provided at a Service Unit meeting or for leaders to use at troop meetings.
- Any interested volunteer may lead a Short and Snappy.
- Short & Snappies are usually 10-45 minutes in length.

### Things to Remember

- Stay within the allotted time (you're taking up a piece of their agenda time).
- If you don't know the answer, seek the correct answer from the appropriate person.
- Bring the necessary supplies for your short & snappy.

### What you'll need

- Printout of this short & snappy.
- Poster Paper & Markers for brainstorming.
- Pens/Pencils.

### Introduction

The annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony, which takes place every April, celebrates our volunteers and highlights those who have earned a council and national award for their dedication to mentoring the next generation of leaders. Nominations for this ceremony are typically submitted from October -early December. If you know someone who spreads joy and makes a difference, please nominate them during this period and give them the recognition they truly deserve!

### Council Awards offered by GSGLA are listed below.

- Appreciation Pin
- Honor Pin
- Platinum Service Award
- Thanks Badge
- Thanks Badge II

### Council Recognitions by GSGLA are listed below.

- **Years of Service Pin** 25+ years – Years of service as an adult volunteer.
- **Numeral Guard Pin** 30+ years – Years as a registered Girl Scout.

### Description of each award

**Appreciation Pin** - Has significantly contributed to meeting one or more council goals in membership growth and retention, fund development, or increased community visibility in one geographic area such as a service unit. Requires one nomination letter and two supporting endorsements.



**Honor Pin** - Has significantly contributed to meeting one or more council goals in membership growth and retention, fund development, or increased community visibility in two or more service units. Requires one nomination letter and three supporting endorsements.



**Platinum Service Award** - Has significantly contributed to meeting one or more council goals in membership growth and retention, fund development, or increased community visibility in two or more service units. Council specific award. Required one nomination letter and three supporting endorsements.



**Thanks Badge** - Has provided outstanding service that benefits the total council or entire Girl Scout movement. Has taken a leadership role at the council level in one or more of the following areas during the previous four years. Requires one nomination letter and four supporting endorsements.



**Thanks Badge II** - Since the receipt of the Thanks Badge, the candidate has continued to take a leadership role at the GSGLA council level. The service benefits the total council or entire Girl Scout movement. The service is outstanding and significantly beyond expectations that no other award is appropriate. Requires one nomination letter and four supporting endorsements.



## Activity

10 minutes

Think about volunteers you know who have provided exemplary service within the last Girl Scout year. Consider breaking off into groups by Service Unit, or volunteers who have worked together and begin brainstorming. Which volunteers come to mind? Who helps plan and run events? Has anyone held a successful service project or community event that brought more visibility to Girl Scouts? Do you have a volunteer whose efforts have increased the Service Unit's giving over the previous year? These are all great examples of volunteers who should be nominated for an award.

Have a few volunteers in mind? Great! Let's talk about the nomination process.

## Nomination Process

1. Decide which award is appropriate for the service. Use the information in this Short & Snappy, or information in the Additional Resources section below to determine which award is best.
2. Decide who will nominate the volunteer and who will submit supporting endorsements. An individual familiar with the service performed should submit the nomination eForm while others familiar with the volunteer's work/service should submit supporting endorsements.  
**Note:** The nomination eForm can be found on our [website!](#)
3. The nominator will gather contact information for those providing supporting endorsements. Make sure they are aware of their responsibilities and the deadlines.  
**Note:** Supporting endorsements must be from someone other than the person who submitted the nomination.
4. The nominator will submit the eForm to nominate the volunteer. The nomination can only be submitted through our council's eForm and **MUST** include specific information that demonstrates the nominees' service, its scope, and impact. It must be specific to the award being nominated.
5. Submit no later than the first Friday in December. The supporting endorsements are due by the second Friday in December. Please note for each award, the number of endorsements will vary, and you will want to have contact information ready when filling out the nomination eForm.

## Helpful Tips

- Describe the service the volunteer contributed to in detail. The supporting letters should emphasize the body of work discussed for the committee to review.
- Review the requirements for the award so you can tailor your nomination and/or endorsement.
- Be results-oriented. Along with a volunteer being responsible mention the results they achieved.
- Give as much detail as possible whether you're nominating or supporting.
- Copies of all letters are included in award packet given to honoree.
- Nomination period starts October 1st through the first weekend in December.

## Additional Resources:

- [Council Level Volunteer Awards and Recognition Handbook](#)
- [Volunteer Recognition Page](#)
- **Additional Learning:** View the gsLearn course **611 Awards and Recognition** for additional information and learning about these council awards and recognitions. Log in to gsLearn through your MyGS account and search for this course in the Content Library.
- **Questions:** [adultrecognitions@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:adultrecognitions@girlscoutsla.org)

