

True to our roots: A Girl Scout ‘take action’ project

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Sophie Popenoe (Cadette, 8th Grade), Nina Declercq (Cadette, 8th Grade)

Older Girl Scout Troop 10406 rolled up their sleeves and dug in the mud to do their part to help Sonoma Scouts plant 100 trees this year.



Center Row: Jessa Rank (Troop Advisor), Nina Declercq (Cadette, 8th Grade), Kyrie Dawson (Senior, 9th Grade), Cali Alton (Cadette, 7th Grade), DeDe Rank (Troop Advisor) Top: Sarah Hinchman (Senior, 9th Grade) Bottom, Tsering Sherpa (Cadette, 7th Grade)

Troop advisor, Jessa Rank says, “During the 100th Anniversary celebrations, it’s important that we stay true to our roots, which is why we are helping to do our part in this council-wide Take Action project to plant trees all over this beautiful council of ours.”

The Troop chose to adopt the Bouverie Preserve for this special project and worked closely with their Restoration Ecologist Assistant, Theo Michaels, to make a difference.

After closely monitoring the site, learning about seed growth cycles and irrigation, it was time to dig. Each of the eight Cadette and Senior girls in the troop got to plant at least one tree and several girls got to plant more at the Bouverie Preserve this month.

A total of 16 trees were planted: 5 Valley Oak, 5 Coast Live Oak, 4 Oregon Oak and 2 Buckeye. “I loved planting these trees and doing my part to help the environment. It feels great!” cheered Senior Scout, Kyrie Dawson as she rinsed the mud off her hands.

Theo Michaels shares, “This Girl Scout Troop has brought so much enthusiasm to Bouverie Preserve and Project GROW (Gathering to Restore Oak Woodlands). Not only are they providing a service to the community by planting trees for other generations to enjoy, they are providing a service to the planet by helping to restore oak woodlands which are home to more than 300 species of terrestrial vertebrates, countless birds and thousands of invertebrates. In other words, this team is helping to plant community. it is a pleasure to watch them work as a team and build their own personal connection to place.”



Theo Michaels (Bouverie), DeDe Rank (Troop Advisor), Cali Alton (Cadette, 7th Grade), Megan Oleson (Cadette, 8th Grade), Bethany Rank (Troop Advisor), Kyrie Dawson (Senior, 9th Grade), Tsering Sherpa (Cadette, 7th Grade), Jessa Rank (Troop Advisor)ton (Cadette, 7th Grade), DeDe Rank (Troop Advisor)

Girl Scouts have a long history of service to our communities. Each local service unit of Scouts has a goal to plant 100 trees to celebrate the 100th birthday of Girl Scouting. Girl Scouts of Northern California will plant 10,000 trees through its dedicated volunteer and girl members.

If every girl plants at least one tree we will hit our goal. Girl Scouts know that the trees and forests in our state have been so devastated by wildfire, disease and deforestation. These efforts will help repopulate forests, create greenscape where it is lacking as well as establish “carbon catchers” to help reduce the effects of climate change.

Bouverie Preserve is a magnificent 535-acre property features diverse oak woodlands, mixed evergreen forest, riparian, and chaparral ecosystems, and is known for its amazing spring wildflower displays. Bouverie Preserve is home to a rich and distinct combination of plants and animals, including more than 130 species of birds, 350 species of flowering plants, and numerous large mammals such as the bobcat, grey fox, and coyote.



Megan Oleson(Cadette, 8th Grade), Kyrie Dawson (Senior, 9th Grade)

Guided Nature Walks are offered monthly in the spring and fall and offer public access to the preserve. The walks are docent-led and give insight to the programs offered to over 3,000 elementary school children each year.

For more information on Bouverie Preserve, visit: http://www.egret.org/visit_bouverie