

Celebrating Girl Scouts at 100

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Juliette Gordon Low in 1887, painted by Edward Hughes. Photo: Creative Commons 3.0

The 100th Anniversary of the Girl Scouts arrives on March 12. The organization got its start on that date in 1912, when Juliette Gordon Low of Savannah, Georgia, organized the first troop meeting of what was then called the Girl Guides (the name was changed to Girl Scouts in 1913).

On that memorable day nearly 100 years ago, 18 girls gathered together. Today the Girl Scouts—officially known as the Girl Scouts of the United States of America—have nearly 4 million members.

To celebrate, a couple of events are planned in Sonoma:

Pancake Breakfast on Sunday (3/11), 8-11 a.m. – Those goal-oriented girl scouts are hoping to sell 100,000 pancakes that day (as their website says, “That’s a lot!”). Along with pancakes and other breakfast goodies, there will be fun drawings. You’ll get to meet

and talk with Sonoma Valley Girl Scouts (Service Unit #103) and stock up on Girl Scout cookies. All proceeds from this event assist the local program and help pay for summer day camp scholarships. Cost: \$7/Adults, \$5/Kids (3-12). St. Francis Solano Church (Father Roberts Hall), 469 3rd Street West, Sonoma. Information: SonomaGirlScouts.com.

Town Square Celebration on Monday (3/12), 6:30-7:30 p.m. – Special guests, a flag ceremony, a Count Down, and Girl Scout songs will mark this celebration. The signature event is the “Shout Out,” which takes place exactly at 7:12 p.m., when girls in hundreds of towns will be doing the same thing. Alumni are requested to wear their old uniforms and pins. This free event will be held at Sonoma plaza and amphitheater. Information: SonomaGirlScouts.com.

On March 12 Black Bear Diner will be donating a portion of their proceeds all day long to Sonoma Valley Girl Scouts.