



Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois

Corporate Service Center

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News Release

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Robot Revolution

Girl Scout team from Neoga qualifies for regional competition

Glen Carbon, Illinois -- The Girl Scout “robot revolution” is underway and Troop #2335 from Neoga is leading the charge! Led by troop leader Angie Worthey, the girls, also known as the “Techie Ten,” traveled to Maryville University to participate in a First Lego League (FLL) pre-qualifier competition.

But, how well did the “Techie Ten” perform? “Well enough to be one of 16 teams selected to participate at the upcoming FLL regional competition at St. Louis Community College on January 9,” said Emily Stanley, Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois (GSSI) program manager and team coach. “These girls had a wonderful competition and I am so proud of them all,” Stanley added.

In addition to being selected to move on to the regional competition, the “Techie Ten” team was awarded the “TEAMWORK” award by event organizers. According to Stanley, the judges were not only impressed with the girls’ teamwork skills, but their overall enthusiasm and Girl Scout spirit.

Prior to the competition, the “Techie Ten” were judged on three categories: research, technical and teamwork. During the actual robot competition, the girls were given three tries to complete missions by programming and using their robot. Each attempt was scored and their highest score was enough to qualify them for the FFL regional competition.

“The FFL competition was a great opportunity for the girls to learn something new and develop skills that they might have never tried, especially coming from a small town like Neoga,” said Worthey. According to Worthey, all of the girls had input, worked great together as a team and listened to each other’s ideas to determine the best approach to tackle the missions.

“We took turns for each match and the girls sitting out each round cheered for us,” said Kayli Worthey a Techie Ten team member. “If the team wasn’t doing well, we cheered each other up,” Kayli added.

Kierstyn Albin, another Techie Ten team member agreed. “We all worked together and took turns and shared how to put on pieces so everyone could have a turn at the table during the competition,” Kierstyn said. “The competition was very exciting and we didn’t think we were going to make it to the regional competition...but we did!!”

The Techie Ten team was first introduced to robotics through a GSSI Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiative, thanks to a \$7,500 grant from the Motorola Foundation.

Stanley stressed that to ensure that the Girl Scout robot revolution continues to expand, GSSI needs volunteers to assist girls in building, programming and working with robots. “I am looking for adults and older girls to mentor our robotics teams...to learn about the method and engineering behind the challenges and programming and to help spread the news about this cool program,” she added.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Girl Scout robotic program or to volunteer, please call Emily Stanley at 618.692.0692 or e-mail her at estanley@gsfsi.org

The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois became operational on October 1, with the successful merging of the Girl Scouts of River Bluffs and the Girl Scouts of Shagbark councils. GSSI is a high-capacity Girl Scout council serving approximately 16,000 girls and 4,800 adult volunteers in 40 ½ counties in southern Illinois. This restructuring is part of a national Girl Scouts of the USA initiative to create councils that are well equipped to provide compelling, contemporary and relevant experiences that meet the needs of girls in today’s fast-changing world.

Girl Scouting has inspired more than 50 million girls and women since its founding in 1912. As we approach the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting, councils nationwide are joining in a historic organizational transformation centered around the best leadership development experience for girls in the 21st century, while ensuring the traditions and values that have been core to Girl Scouting since its beginning remain strong and relevant.

The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois is a not-for-profit organization supported by various United Ways throughout the region. The Girl Scouts is a Proud Partner of United Way.



For more information, please call Jay Strobel at 618.692.0692 or e-mail at jstrobel@gsofsi.org.

The Girl Scout Mission: Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

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