



Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois presents Pearl of the Month Award to Poonam Jain from Staunton

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Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois (GSSI) is pleased to announce that Poonam Jain from Staunton has been named the July Pearl of the Month. The Pearl of the Month Award recognizes a Girl Scout volunteer who has delivered service beyond expectations and helped to ensure that the approximately 14,000 Girl Scouts in southern Illinois benefit from a premier Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Nominees must meet several criteria, including completion of all required training for his or her volunteer position as well as providing outstanding service to his or her Service Unit or the Council.

Poonam is Service Unit Director for SU 107 in South Macoupin County, organizing many events, including a science fair and a 5K run/walk. She also mentors a very busy Girl Scout Junior troop, leads a GSSI Robotics team, coordinates STEM activities in her area and serves as a council trainer. This summer, she also organized SU 107's first GSSI day camp. Poonam is commended for the incredibly high level of energy and dedication she brings to her many roles. She has given girls in the communities she serves the opportunities to explore science, develop outdoor skills and value healthy living in fun and innovative ways.

The mission of Girl Scouting states: ***Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.*** Girl Scouts is the world's pre-eminent organization dedicated solely to girls - all girls - where, in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adults, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives - like strong values, social conscience, and conviction about their own potential and self-worth.

Today's Girl Scouts not only enjoy camping and crafts, but they also explore math and science and learn about diversity, good citizenship, leadership and teamwork. Girl

Scouting is the place where girls experience the fun, friendship and power of girls together. Girl Scouting has inspired more than 50 million girls and women since its founding in 1912.

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

For more information, please call Erin Johnson at 618.692.0692 or Jay Strobel at 618.692.0692.

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

Check us out at: www.gssofsi.org

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