

Arizona's
Inspirational Women
Patch Program Guide

ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN

Patch Program Guide

GREETINGS!

The Arizona's Inspirational Women Program is a collection of stories about women who have demonstrated a life-time of confidence, courage, and character and have made Arizona and our world a better place. By sharing these generational stories, we believe that current Girl Scouts will find hope and inspiration and learn about how they can also make our communities a better place.

WHAT "INSPIRATIONAL" MEANS TO US

- » Lives by the Girl Scout Promise and Law
- » Is dedicated to a passion or a cause of choice
- » Stands up for what she believes in
- » Shows kindness and compassion towards other women and girls

The activities included for the Arizona's Inspirational Women Patch Program are structured around three components and are available for girls in all levels of Girl Scouts. You will work with your Troop Leaders to take-action through a hands-on activity that represents the inspirational woman's life you are exploring.

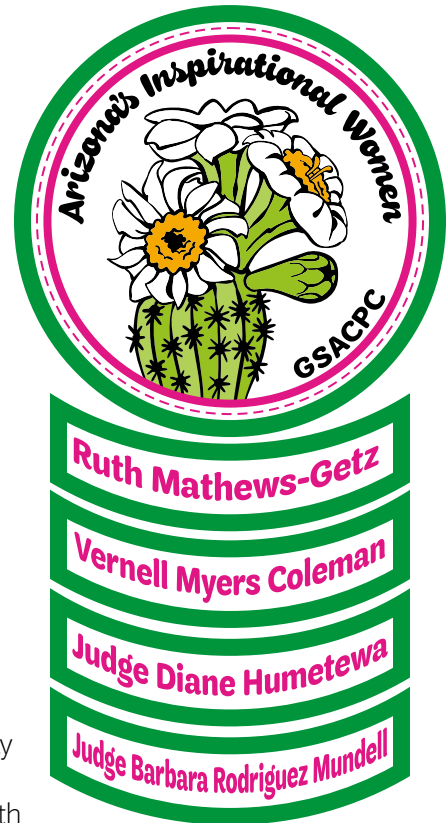
This program features numerous women that you can learn about--you may choose just one or as many as you'd like! By completing the activities for one or more of the women, you will earn the main patch, and the rocker with that woman's name. Each year, a committee of volunteers will add worthy women to this patch program, so the list of women you can learn about will grow. Annually, GSACPC will host an event where we will announce the new women who have been added to the program that year.

HOW THIS PROGRAM CAME TO BE

Ruth D. Mathews-Getz was a mentor and friend to Ambassador Barbara Barrett and Kathrin Straub Parsons. When Ruth passed away in 2018, Barbara and Kathrin approached the Girl Scouts with a desire to honor Ruth's legacy. What developed was an interactive and thought-provoking patch program that will annually highlight women who helped to shape Arizona and our country. This fit perfectly with the Council's desire to connect girls to stories of Arizona Women who have lived and demonstrated the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

PATCH PROGRAM COMPONENTS

1. **Discover** – Pick one of the Inspirational Women on the list and read the short story about her in the packet. *Bonus: do additional research to learn more about her story!*
2. **Connect** – Share or discuss with your troop or leader about how the Inspirational Woman made her community a better place.
3. **Take Action** – From the list provided, complete one of the activities the Inspirational Woman enjoyed so you can connect more deeply with who she is/was and how she contributed to her community.



ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM

RUTH D. MATHEWS-GETZ (1915-2018)



Ruth D. Mathews-Getz was a mentor and friend to many women throughout our community, and her story is a very special part of this patch program.

In 2018, when Ruth passed away, two of her friends and mentees, Ambassador Barbara Barrett and Ceramic Artist Kathrin Straub Parsons, set out to do something to honor and share Ruth's beautiful life with others. Together, GSACPC, Barbara, and Kathrin, created this patch program so girls could be connected to these stories of women who helped shape Arizona and how they have lived the Girl Scout promise and Law.

Ruth was passionate about caring for and mentoring women in her life. Her love, kindness, generosity of spirit, and compassion for others shined through in all she did. She was a very positive person and one of her favorite sayings was "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all." Born in St. Louis, Missouri in 1915, Ruth was the eldest of two children. She graduated from Mary Institute in 1934 and spent time volunteering with the Edgewood Children's Center and the Junior League in St. Louis.

She had four children, 2 boys and 2 girls; and 4 step children.

In 1960, Ruth moved to Phoenix with her husband Robert Mathews, and wasted no time becoming active in her community. She was a member of the Phoenix Art Museum, Arizona Costume Institute, Barrows Neurological Woman's Board, Phoenix Zoo, Desert Botanical Gardens, and Paradise Valley Country Club. In 1969, Ruth was the founding President of the Women's Auxiliary of the Scottsdale Boys and Girls Club, and from 1989 to 2005 served as Arizona Regent for the Kenmore Association (The George Washington Foundation of Fredericksburg, VA).

Ruth loved horses and enjoyed Ranch life. She and Robert owned a cattle Ranch in Sierra County, California. They had horses in Arizona, too, and would even ride their horses from their home on Hayden Road and Shea Boulevard to El Charro Restaurant in Paradise Valley for Sunday Brunch.

Ruth had residences in many places and traveled to them all. She got involved in the culture and communities in each of those places and was always helping out in some local cause.

In the 1970s, Ruth's husband Robert passed away, and Ruth remained in Paradise Valley. Her dear friend Barbara Barrett lived at Ruth's ranch during this time taking care of Ruth's horses while she attended law school. Barbara holds dear this time of mentorship with Ruth.

In 1977, Ruth met a young ceramic artist named Kathrin Straub. She and Kathrin became great friends and together they started a ceramic studio in Phoenix called Rush Teco Studio. At this studio they employed a variety of young artists and craftsmen. They taught the art of ceramics to many people and changed lives; giving the gifts of self-confidence, talent, and a paying job.

Ruth was always a positive force behind the studio. She believed in each person and supported the idea that we all have talent and can rise up to be our 'best selves.' As one person from Rush studios once said about Ruth, "You might say she was the Wind Beneath Our Wings."

Rush Studios was a success and the pieces they made sold all over the country. During this period Ruth bought Rancho Estrella in Taos, New Mexico, where she was involved in the Taos Drum Company with her son Bruce Allen. She was also involved in "The Frightened Owl," an art gallery in Santa Fe.

In 1983, she met and fell in love with George Getz. Together, they continued their philanthropic work with “The Hall of Flame,” a fire engine museum in Phoenix started by George Getz; and the Valley Field Riding and Polo Club.

Ruth bought a condo in Hawaii during this time and she and George spent a lot of time there. Of course, they were involved and volunteered with various causes like the canoe club and the local hospital. Together, they were involved in many projects, always thinking of ways to give back to people and their community.

After George died in 1992, Ruth continued to stay active in her community and providing mentorship to women in her life. She always inspired and guided people to live their dreams and believe in themselves. She always said, “Whatever you want to do; you can do it if you just work hard and trust.”

Ruth passed away at 102 and left behind many people who loved her and miss her today. She had another favorite saying as she felt truly great full for the beauty and joy of the life she had been given:

” All of this, and heaven to...”

Ruth was truly a great lady with a big heart who lived the Girl Scout Promise.

Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:

To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be

honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,

and to

respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and
be a sister to every Girl Scout.

ACTIVITIES

1. **DISCOVER** – Read the short story about Ruth.
2. **CONNECT** – Take turns sharing about a female role model in your life, and how they impacted you.
3. **TAKE ACTION** – Mentoring comes in many forms and Ruth was a true example that you can be a mentor at any age. Ruth had a unique way of making people feel seen.
 - **Daises** – sit in circle and take a minute to value your sisters by providing affirmations to each girl in your troop. For example: “Jasmine, I like when you are helpful and share with friends.”
 - **Brownies and above** – for one week do one act of kindness a day to make other people feel seen and valued. At your next troop meeting share with your troop members what you did and how it made you feel. You can share these out loud or even create a kindness tree where you write your acts of kindness on leaves and add them to the tree as you share. Be creative!
 - **Alternative activity (OPTIONAL)** – Ruth loved riding horses and appreciated being connected with animals and the outdoors. Save up for a troop experience and go horseback riding!

ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM



VERNELL MYERS COLEMAN (1918-1990)

“With a broad, freckle – wrinkling grin . . . and a gentle laugh.”

Vernell Myers Coleman served as counselor, confidante, role model, and provider of help and wisdom to many blacks and Hispanics in West Phoenix. Tirelessly, she acted as a liaison between service organizations and the people of her community to provide them with housing, food, clothing, an education, and a sense of history.

She was born in Henderson, Texas. Her parents owned a restaurant and ran a home laundry, where Vernell lent a hand. At age twelve she started working as a cook and housekeeper. Until her early 20's, she was active in various aspects of church life, serving as choir director, Sunday school teacher, and organizer of the youth choir.

In 1946 Vernell married Clifford Coleman and three years later the couple moved to Phoenix.

When Vernell moved into the city's Matthew Henson Housing Project in 1953, she had four children to support on her own. It is not clear what happened to her husband. Crippling arthritis in her hands and legs, contracted in the early 1940s, kept her from holding a fulltime job, so she took in ironing and other small tasks. She joined First Colored Baptist Church (later renamed the First Institutional Baptist Church), where she helped with fundraisers and served as secretary of the Pastor's Aid Society until her arthritis forced her to stop.

In the 1960s, Vernell became involved with the lives of her neighbors. Crime and violence raged in her housing project, and living conditions were substandard. Vernell committed herself to improving the place that would be home for the rest of her life. She helped organize a tenants' council and served as president. During the project's "turmoil years" in the late 1960s, Vernell was instrumental in toppling barriers between the community and police. Her constructive criticism as a member of the Matthew Henson Anticrime Committee improved police services, and the crime rate fell.

To improve living conditions in the apartments, Vernell took on the Phoenix Human Resources Department. In 1970, she organized a tenant strike; residents refused to pay rent without basic improvements such as the installation of cabinet doors, linoleum tile, and ventilation ducts. The strike was a success. Ten years later, Travis Williams, director of the Human Resources Department, praised her for bringing to light problems with the administration of city housing projects. The department responded by making appropriate changes. Vernell Coleman served as president of the tenants' council for ten years, becoming known as the "Mayor of Projects." She resigned in August of 1978 when she grew frustrated with *"the people who sit back, reaping the benefits while she and the others work to make the project a better place to live."* Without her leadership, the council fell apart and soon officially disbanded.

Vernell Coleman was active outside the projects as well. For three years during the 1960s, she served as a commissioner of the Leadership and Education of the Advancement of Phoenix (LEAP). She sat on the board of directors of the Phoenix Urban League and the City of Phoenix Housing Advisory Board and acted as area chairwoman and council treasurer for the Phoenix Human Resources Department. She also campaigned for the Seventh Avenue Clinic which provided free podiatry to the elderly and handicapped.

In the late 1970s, Vernell began to fix nutritious dinners for the elderly at Matthew Henson Community Center in the projects of Phoenix. She also taught cooking classes to teenage kids there and was instrumental in starting a sewing class at the center. Expanding the service, she organized the St. Mary's Food Bank and served on its board of directors. In 1982, she still spent every Wednesday cooking food for the program. Vernell loved to cook and it was one of the ways she poured into her friends and family throughout her entire life.

Through all her efforts, Vernell brought political and social change. She never feared to go to the seats of power to get problems solved. Once she had begun a project, she did not stop until she had reached her goal. Kindly and quietly, but firmly and persistently, she would go about her task. Former Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt once noted that “most of the people who count in Phoenix ... know Vernell.” Babbitt and Vernell had become friends when they both served as Phoenix LEAP commissioners in the mid-1960s. During his first campaign for public office in 1974, she rode with the candidate as he toured Phoenix’s inner city, but she admonished him not to “*make her a bunch of promises ... you’ve got to listen.*”

With all she did to help the poor and elderly of her community, her most noted accomplishment was the revival of the Juneteenth celebration in Phoenix. Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, when black slaves in Texas first learned about the Emancipation Proclamation, which Abraham Lincoln had signed two and one-half years earlier. The celebrations in Texas were quite large, including the one in Vernell’s hometown of Henderson. She recalled the baseball games, parades through the town square, and her mother’s fish and fried chicken stand. Phoenix’s first Juneteenth occurred in 1911 after a visit by Booker T. Washington. Vernell had attended a small celebration by the First Colored Baptist Church in 1938 when she first came to Phoenix, but when Reverend Moten died in the mid-1940s, the tradition died with him. Believing that black people should learn of their history, Vernell, as head of the Matthew Henson Tenants’ Council, initiated a Juneteenth celebration for the residents of the housing project in 1968. She and other senior residents started small and the event was held at Dunbar School, with the city of Phoenix providing the booths. After Vernell’s resignation from the tenants’ council, she organized a committee to continue the Juneteenth commemoration. Every year the event grew larger and eventually a nonprofit corporation, Juneteenth Tradition, Inc., developed under Vernell’s guidance, meeting throughout the year to plan the event. In 1980 the organization expanded its goals to raise scholarship money for underprivileged students. In publicizing the event, Vernell would speak with pride of scholarship recipients who had gone on to college and successful careers. She worked to make Juneteenth a multi-racial event, serving as honorary chairperson until shortly before her death.

Vernell Coleman’s many works did not go unnoticed. Between 1971 and 1988, she received numerous awards and honors from the State of Arizona, the City of Phoenix, businesses, and social organizations. In 1974 the Greyhound Corporation named her Phoenix Woman of the Year. The Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai’s of Phoenix in 1979 presented her with the first Willie L. Robertson Memorial Human Rights award for her efforts in finding housing for the poor and encouraging youth to continue their education. To honor her years of volunteer work, Luke’s Men of St. Luke’s Medical Center and KPNX-TV of Phoenix gave her the 10th Annual Hon Kachina award. The following year she was named Woman of Distinction by the Women of Achievement group, a coalition of the Junior League of Phoenix, Meyer Inc., and Soroptimist International of Phoenix. As a final touch, on February 15, 1988, Vernell received one of six Spirit of Arizona awards for serving her community in extraordinary ways.

For more than forty-years, Vernell Coleman diligently worked to improve the life of the poor in Phoenix. Despite being confined by her arthritis to crutches or a wheelchair, she stayed busy guiding various committees, talking with politicians, working one-on-one with her neighbors and cooking for family and friends. She gave endlessly of herself, not for recognition, but out of a sincere desire to improve conditions in her community. Through the Juneteenth celebration, this strong advocate of education found a way to support poor children as well as to remind blacks of their heritage.

Up until the end of her life, Vernell Coleman “Mother” Coleman died on March 27, 1990. In tribute, her friends and associates remembered her love for others that enabled her to make people of high position listen and act. Her passing was a great loss to all Phoenicians.

ACTIVITIES

1. **DISCOVER** – Read the short story about Vernell.
2. **CONNECT** – Share or discuss with your troop or leader about the parts of Vernell’s story that inspired you.
3. **TAKE ACTION (ALL LEVELS)** – Vernell believed that cooking for others was a way of nurturing the people she cared about in her family and in her community. She knew it was something she could do to help others and was committed to bettering her community one helpful deed at a time. Choose one of the following activities so you can connect with Vernell’s story through cooking and service to others:
 - Use some of your cookie proceeds to make a contribution of food or money to a food bank.
 - Provide a meal for a new mother, someone recovering from an illness, or an elderly person in your community.
 - At a troop meeting, practice healthy living by planning a healthy menu as a group, cooking together, and then sharing a meal together.
 - **Alternative activity for Senior and above** – Volunteer at a local food bank (serving meals or offering to organize their warehouse).

BONUS ACTIVITY: Vernell was dedicated to improving the community she lived in and helping others do the same. Work with your troop or Service Unit to organize a park or neighborhood cleanup.

ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM

JUDGE DIANE HUMETEWA (1964 – PRESENT)



Judge Diane Humetewa (Hopi), United States District Court for the District of Arizona, is the first Native American woman and enrolled tribal member to serve as a federal judge in United States history. Judge Humetewa is one of only three Native Americans in history to serve in this position.

Judge Humetewa's Indian tribe is in northeastern Arizona. The Hopi tribe predates the establishment of the U.S. and Arizona state governments. Judge Humetewa was raised on the Hualapai and Hopi Indian reservations and in the Phoenix area. Her parents raised her with the Hopi culture, language, and traditions. Today, Judge Humetewa considers her traditional home to be on the Hopi Indian reservation where she routinely returns to participate in cultural ceremonies and events.

Judge Humetewa received her Bachelor of Science degree in Justice Studies from Arizona State University. Thereafter, she worked as a Victim's Advocate in the U.S. Attorney's Office. The office is responsible for prosecuting persons who commit federal crimes throughout Arizona. She helped victims become aware of their rights, enabled their ability to participate in the court process, and provided them with emotional support. While in that position, Judge Humetewa became familiar with the federal courts, its processes and its impact on Indian tribal communities.

Judge Humetewa received her Juris Doctor in 1993 from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at ASU. Beginning in 1996, she served as the Tribal Liaison in the office of the United States Attorney for Arizona. After law school, she was hired to work for U.S. Senator John McCain on the U.S. Senate Indian Affairs Committee in Washington, D.C. She thereafter worked in the U.S. Justice Department and eventually returned to Arizona to fulfill her dream of advocating for crime victims as a lawyer in federal court. Judge Humetewa served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney from 2007, and was promoted to Senior Litigation Counsel in 2001.

As a young woman, and even as a young adult, Judge Humetewa had a fear of public speaking. It was very difficult for her to speak in front of strangers, volunteer answers in the classroom, or to stand in front of a crowd. As she grew older, she knew that if she was going to be an effective lawyer, she had to overcome this fear. She started by taking small steps: She would practice speaking out loud in front of the mirror, then in front of a parent, and challenged herself to volunteer an answer in class, even if it may be wrong. Over time, Judge Humetewa has become more comfortable with public speaking. Indeed, she has spoken before the U.S. Senate, before juries and in front of groups as large as 700. Today she is one of the most requested public speakers on the Arizona federal court.

Throughout her career, Judge Humetewa has used her skills to help the Hopi people. For example, she volunteered as an Appellate Court Judge from 2002 -2007, filled in as the Hopi Tribe's Chief Prosecutor in 2009, and routinely provided public education on the judicial system. In January 2007 she was recommended as a United States Attorney, the Chief Federal Law Enforcement Officer in Arizona, by both of Arizona's senators, John McCain and Jon Kyl; was nominated by President George W. Bush in November; and was confirmed by the United States Senate and sworn in as the United States Attorney for the District of Arizona in December 2007. She is the first Native American woman to serve as a United States Attorney.

On September 19, 2013, President Barack Obama nominated Humetewa to serve as a United States District Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Arizona. She was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate on May 14, 2014 and took her judicial oath of office on May 19, 2014.

ACTIVITIES

1. **DISCOVER** – Read the short story about Judge Humetewa.
2. **CONNECT** – Share or discuss with your troop or leader about how Judge Humetewa makes her community a better place.
3. **TAKE ACTION** – While growing up, Judge Humetewa often felt alone and isolated from other Native American children who shared similar culture (language, beliefs, foods etc.) because many of them were sent away to boarding school, while she was not. She did not openly share her background and culture with others for fear that she would feel embarrassed or ashamed of being different from her classmates. Over time, Judge Humetewa learned to appreciate her background and that all people have differences that make them unique and special. In addition, she found that learning about other people, their cultures and traditions is important for many reasons.
 - **Daisies through Cadettes** – Learn something about your personal heritage (language, place of family origin, food, culture etc.) by speaking to a parent or relative about your family’s background or research your family ancestry. Find out whether they came from a different state/country, or spoke different languages, had special traditions or ate a particular food. Share what you learn about your own heritage with your fellow Girls Scouts.
 - **Seniors and Ambassadors** – Learn about the differences between the state and federal court systems. You can do your own research or invite a guest speaker to come talk to your troop meeting. Share what you learn with younger Girl Scouts.

BONUS ACTIVITY: When Judge Humetewa was a young girl she had a fear of public speaking. Identify something that makes you nervous or fearful. Think of a plan to overcome that fear and take at least one or two steps toward putting your plan into action. Report back to your troop.



ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM

JUDGE BARBARA MUNDELL (1955 – PRESENT)

Barbara Rodríguez Mundell was the first female and the first Hispanic presiding judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court. She oversaw the work of approximately 95 judges, 58 commissioners, more than 4,000 staff members, 25 justice courts, and 23 municipal courts. She received her juris doctorate degree in 1981 from Arizona State University's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, entered private practice in 1983, and ended the decade as a Commissioner with the Maricopa County Superior Court. Barbara has worked throughout the court system: civil, criminal, family, juvenile, probate, and mental health.

Born in 1955 to a Mexican American fieldworker's family in South Phoenix, Barbara grew up in a loving home with two siblings and her parents. Her parents were humble, hard-working people; neither had completed elementary school—both dropping out of school to help support the household. Barbara remembers her parents recounting stories about the unregulated toxins, pollutants and poisons that were used on the fields they worked on. Not only did this spark Barbara's appreciation for caring for the environment, but she grew up aware of the tremendous sacrifices her parents made for their families and for their own children.

In an effort to demonstrate the importance of an education, Barbara's father hauled the family to an onion field early one Saturday morning. The entire family picked onions for eight hours and still did not make enough money to cover the cost of lunch. This left a huge impression with Barbara.

One of the things that continued Barbara's interest in the environment was her parent's intention to always keep a garden, even though they may not have always had much space in their yard. They had fruit trees (orange, peach, apricot), grape vines, tomato plants, and herbs. They had a deep respect for the earth and the bounty it could provide, and taught Barbara and her siblings that the earth would be fruitful if you nurtured it. To this day, Barbara and her family take active steps to reduce the carbon footprint they are leaving by driving a hybrid car, advocating for the use of solar power, and staying informed about the effects our actions can have on global warming.

While her family life was supportive growing up, Barbara lived in an environment where families like hers faced economic struggles and hardships—and racism. What she saw and experienced as a young girl convinced her that the creation and enforcement of laws to protect the poor and disadvantaged were the avenues to social change and the end of economic exploitation and discrimination. As a result, she began planning a law career while a student at South Mountain High School.

She attended Arizona State University, where she earned a degree in political science in 1978. She went on to earn her juris doctorate degree in 1981 from the College of Law at Arizona State University. She viewed law as "the great equalizer."

Early in her career, she worked as counsel for Swenson's Ice Cream Corporation, went into private practice for worker's compensation, and later became an administrative law judge with the Arizona Industrial Commission. In 1989, she became a commissioner for the Maricopa County Superior Court and in 1991, she became a judge, presiding over civil cases, before becoming the presiding judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court in 2005.

Barbara is very active in her community and was a member of the National Association of Women Judges, a board member of the National Center for State Courts, and past president of Los Abogados Hispanic Bar Association. Additionally, Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government selected her to serve as a member of its Executive Session for State Court Leaders in 2008 for a three-year period, addressing the topic of court leaders in the 21st century. She has received numerous awards for her commitment and dedication.

In 2006, she received the Governor's Office of Highway Safety award from Governor Janet Napolitano for the Spanish-speaking DUI probationary program. This innovative program conducts counseling, AA meetings, and court proceedings in Spanish to help convicted DUI offenders learn coping skills to maintain their sobriety. Also, in 2006, she received the Special Recognition Award by Valle del Sol at the 16th Annual Profiles of Success Awards Celebration. In 2008, she received the Racial Justice Leadership Award from the YWCA. This award honored her as the first Hispanic woman to serve as presiding judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court and, more importantly, for her work bridging the gap between Latinos and the court system. In 2009, she received the Mark Santana Law-Related Education Award for her exceptional contributions in furthering education and understanding the role of the law in our democratic society.

The Honorable Barbara Rodríguez Mundell is living the American Dream, the dream that began in South Phoenix under humble beginnings, which shaped her personality and drive to succeed. It is a dream forged by her parents and inspired by their sacrifices and realized through her hard work. She has said that the little girl from South Phoenix is still inside, always with her, always a part of her. Presiding Judge Barbara Rodríguez Mundell has overcome her own challenges and has become a successful attorney and judge, based on her talent and will and strength of character.

ACTIVITIES

1. **DISCOVER** – Read the short story about Barbara.
2. **CONNECT** – Talk with your troop or leader about how Barbara made/makes her community a better place as it relates to her commitment to civic engagement and the environment. Discuss what you think it means to have character.
3. **TAKE ACTION (ALL LEVELS)** – As you can tell, Barbara cares about our environment. Not only does she enjoy the outdoors but she likes to take care of it too! Choose one of the following activities to connect with Barbara's story:
 - Go on a hike and identify animals and plants you see along the way. Bring a grocery bag with you and while on your hike pick up any trash you may see.
 - **Juniors and above** – In addition, work with a park ranger to offer a service project to maintain a trail.
 - Plant a tree or volunteer at a community garden in your neighborhood.
 - Volunteer with an organization that is focused on protecting the environment like the botanical gardens, a wildlife center, or other organization in your community.
 - Discuss ways you can contribute to a healthy environment with your troop (for example: recycle more often, use a re-usable water bottle, stop using straws, etc.). Plan to incorporate one of these habits into your daily life for two weeks. Report back to your troop about what you learned.



ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM

JEAN FAIRFAX (1920 – 2019)

Jean Fairfax is one of the unsung heroines of civil rights movement. She is an American educator, civil rights worker, community organizer and philanthropist whose efforts have focused on achieving equity in education, especially for poor African Americans. She served as Director of Community Services of the NAACP from 1965 to 1984, where she was instrumental in organizing among black families and parents in school desegregation cases. She vigorously fought to prevent the downgrading or closing of historically black colleges which had been consistently short-changed by southern states in funding resources and programs.

A great humanitarian, organizer, strategist and activist, for decades, Jean Fairfax worked on the ground with black families in school desegregation cases. During her time as the Director of the Southern Civil Rights Program at the American Friends Service Committee, she helped ensure that black families suffering economic reprisals for participation in desegregation litigation received modest financial support. It was Fairfax who drove Legal Defense Fund attorneys through rural Leake County, Mississippi to meet with parents as they faced the decision about whether to send their children to potentially hostile white schools. She was intimately involved in the first desegregation of schools throughout Mississippi, and the integration of higher education systems throughout the region.

Jean Fairfax grew up in Cleveland, Ohio; her parents were the first in their families to be born legally free from slavery. She attended the University of Michigan, from which she graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She then matriculated to Union Theological Seminary.

After college, she worked as the Dean of Women at Kentucky State College and then held the same post at Tuskegee University. She was actively involved in religious organizations on both campuses and became particularly familiar with the Student Christian Movement in the South.

Fairfax lived a life of steadfast commitment to civil rights and social justice. Jean organized youth programs in civil rights, social justice, peace, and community service in Europe, Mexico, and Israel. Jean also organized a group of church women from across many denominations to agitate for a school lunch program for needy children. This led to reform of the National School Lunch program.

But Fairfax's greatest contribution to civil rights was her work as an organizer with black schoolchildren and their parents in the South. She advised the parents of six-year-olds living in rural Mississippi about their inalienable rights to a free education. In an interview, she recalls traveling to cotton fields by the light of kerosene lamps as she talked with families about school integration.

As she said in an interview with the Christian Science Monitor: “[s]omeone had to break the pattern, and very often the civil rights revolution was initiated by the most vulnerable black persons. Many of them were women and many of them were children -- tough, resilient, hopeful, beautiful children. The greatest experience of my life was standing with them as they took the risks.”

After resigning from the NAACP Legal Defense Fund in 1985, Fairfax, together with her sister Betty, turned her attention to philanthropy. She moved to Phoenix, to be with Betty, who had been working there since 1950 as a teacher, guidance counselor, and notable local civil rights advocate. In 1987, the two sisters established the endowment for the Dan and Betty Inez Fairfax Memorial Fund to expand educational opportunities for African American and Latino students. That same year, at the Mary McLeod Bethune School in Phoenix, they “adopted” a class of eighth-grade students, challenging them to complete high school and enroll in a four-year college; they promised to fund 92 of those who did with a scholarship of \$1,000 per year.

Jean and her sister Betty have also created the Betty H. & Jean E. Fairfax Fund for Educational Equity, and Jean went on to found the Black Legacy Endowed Fund, at Arizona Community Foundation, which she served as a trustee until she passed away in 2019.

During her time as a philanthropist in Arizona, Jean developed an interest in achieving greater diversity in philanthropic giving, especially among African Americans. She once admitted that she herself at first adopted the widespread misconception that “philanthropists were white people with inherited wealth or who made big deals in their investments or in their industrial work, like the Carnegies and the Rockefellers.” However, she and her sister demonstrated that despite their modest incomes and by living frugally, they were able to donate over \$100,000 a year to causes they supported. Since 1987, the endowments they created amounted to over one million dollars and will only continue to grow and carry on Jean’s legacy.

ACTIVITIES

1. **DISCOVER** – Read the short story about Jean.
2. **CONNECT** – Share or discuss with your troop or leader about the parts of Jean’s story that you thought were interesting.
3. **TAKE ACTION** – Jean was a great activist for civil rights and social justice. She believed that everyone should receive the same education and focused on ending segregation in schools. Choose one of the following activities so you can connect with Jean’s story:
 - **Daisies through Juniors** - Find a book about the Civil Rights movement or research the Civil Rights movement in Arizona online, and share what you find with your troop.
 - **Cadettes through Ambassadors** - Research a historically black college and share with your troop.
 - **All** - Visit the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center in Phoenix and learn about the history and culture of Africans and African Americans in Arizona.

Bonus Activity: Donate to the Jean Fairfax Memorial Fund at the Arizona Community Foundation. Jean Fairfax was dedicated to philanthropy and believed small gifts can make a big difference.

ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM



ISABELLA GREENWAY (1886 – 1953)

Isabella Greenway King was in her mid-30s when she came to Arizona in 1922. She was on her honeymoon, and it was her first real visit to the state. Just 10 years later she was so well known in Arizona that she was called “Arizona’s sweetheart.” She had made her name through business and civic activities in Tucson and as Arizona’s Democratic National Committeewoman and the state campaign chairman for Franklin Delano Roosevelt. In 1933 she won a special Congressional election, thus becoming Arizona’s first congresswoman.

Isabella was born into a family that had wealth, fame and social standing. Nevertheless, her life was not an easy one; each corner she turned in life was marked by personal tragedy.

She was born in 1886, in Boone County, Kentucky. Her family soon moved to a North Dakota horse and sheep ranch co-owned by her father and Theodore Roosevelt. Isabella attended Chapin School for Girls in New York City, where she became close friends with Roosevelt’s niece Eleanor. In 1905 she was a bridesmaid in the New York wedding of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt.

Isabella was married several times and lost two husbands to illness. After her second husband died, she moved her children to Tucson where she turned her energy to business, operating the Double X Ranch near Williams and Gilpin Airlines, based in Los Angeles. In 1934 she built the Arizona Inn, an elegant Tucson resort often visited by the wealthy, the great and the famous.

Greenway had gained political experience serving as Democratic National Committeewoman and delegate to the national conventions in 1928 and 1932. She also played a decisive role in Franklin D. Roosevelt’s nomination to the presidency in 1932, seconding his nomination. She decided to run for Congress in a special election in 1933, with the support of newly elected President Roosevelt and his wife, Eleanor, her close friend. She won the election to fill Lewis W. Douglas’ un-expired term. She was re-elected for a second term by an overwhelming majority.

During her years in Washington, D.C., she was instrumental in obtaining protection for the U.S. copper industry from foreign producers whose low prices had forced the shutdown of some American mines. She worked to secure public health relief for transient families, fought cutbacks in veterans’ benefits, and, with the aid of New Deal funds, saw that homes were found for destitute families in Phoenix, Mesa and Casa Grande. By 1936 Isabella was tired, however, and decided against a third congressional term in favor of going home to Tucson. She passed away in 1953 at the age of 67.

ACTIVITIES

1. **DISCOVER** – Read the short story about Isabella.
2. **CONNECT** – Share or discuss with your troop or leader about the parts of Isabella’s story that you thought were interesting.
3. **TAKE ACTION** – Isabella was Arizona’s first congresswoman who was dedicated to making her community a better place by serving in public office. She also fought for veteran’s benefits, public health relief, and homelessness. Choose one of the following activities so you can connect with Isabella’s story:
 - Research and learn about your city, county and state government. Find out who the officials are in your district and share with your troop or teach this information to a younger troop.
 - Go to the Arizona Capitol Museum in downtown Phoenix and learn about the suffragettes, the women who fought for the right to vote in public elections, known as women’s suffrage.
 - Do an activity from the Kids Voting website – kidsvotingusa.org/index.php/family-fun
 - Invite a speaker from the League of Women Voters to visit your troop - my.lwv.org/arizona/arizona-local-leagues

Bonus Activity: Isabella was dedicated to making her community a better place by serving in public office. Run for student government or help a friend with their campaign.



ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM

SUSIE SHIZUE SATO (1917 – 2015)

Susie Shizue Sato was born August 5, 1917 in Mesa and had a long family history in Mesa. The Ishikawa family immigrated from Hiroshima, Japan and began farming in the Lehi section of Mesa around 1909, shortly before Arizona was admitted to the union in 1912. During WWII, Arizona was one of seven states to operate internment camps.

Sato was recently married and had moved to Los Angeles when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. She and her husband's family relocated back to Lehi. As a result of Executive Order 9066 the "Exclusion Line" in Mesa was Main street. Those north of Main were not interned, so Lehi was a free zone. At that time, Sato, at 8 months pregnant, had to secure FBI clearance to give birth to her first child at Mesa Southside Hospital, which was south of Main.

"Peaches", as she was nicknamed, was very devoted to serving her community. After graduating from Mesa High in 1934, she was deeply involved with the Cactus-Pine Girl Scout Council and even received the Girl Scout "Thanks Badge". Her community work did not end with the Girl Scouts; she was also involved in work with the Mahnah Club, the John Rhodes Rehabilitation Institute, and the Barry Goldwater Foundation.

As a renowned scholar of Japanese-American history, she was also a longtime proponent of Mesa and Arizona history with the Arizona Historical Foundation, Mesa Historical Society, Mesa History Museum, and Mesa Public Library History room. She facilitated the Arizona Historical Society Museum's procurement of artifacts and translation of documents. She was a major motivation behind the Japanese Americans in Arizona oral history project that began in 2003. Her work included an article, "Before Pearl Harbor: Early Japanese Settlers in Arizona" in *The Journal of Arizona History* which was published by the Arizona Historical Society. She was Mesa's first Pride in Mesa award recipient in 1998 for her lifelong efforts to preserve the history and legacy of Mesa.

Susie was also a devout Buddhist, and spent a lifetime serving in her church. She raised three children and supported her husband in his civic duties as well. However, Peaches is best known for her delicious meals of Japanese, Mexican, and American dishes!

ACTIVITIES

1. **DISCOVER** – Read the short story about Susie.
2. **CONNECT** – Share or discuss with your troop or leader about the parts of Susie's story that inspired you.
3. **TAKE ACTION** – Susie Sato was devoted to serving her community and was passionate about the history of Mesa and Arizona state history. She also cultivated her love for preserving documents by working at the Goldwater Library where she was asked personally by Barry Goldwater to be an archivist and oversee the library. Susie also loved gardening and pruning roses. Choose one of the following activities so you can connect with Susie's story:
 - Do research about roses and then visit the Mesa Rose Garden to take a self-guided tour. Or volunteer there on the third Saturday of the month to prune the roses.
 - Research your city or town with your troop or share your findings with your troop! You can visit your library to do your research.
 - Volunteer with the Girl Scout History Committee and learn how they preserve historical documents. Contact council to volunteer.



ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM

DOT WILKINSON (1921 – PRESENT)

Dorothy “Dot” Elsie Wilkinson was a renowned catcher for the Phoenix Ramblers, a professional women’s softball team and winner of three national championships in 1940, 1948 and 1949. Wilkinson played for the Phoenix Ramblers from 1933 to 1965, joining the team when she was just 11 years old as the bat girl. She went on the play in the first Women’s Softball World Championship Game, held at Soldier Field.

She is a native to Phoenix, born in rural neighborhood near South Mountain in 1922 to immigrant parents. Her parents moved to America in 1912 and bought 10 acres of land where they raised chickens, eggs, alfalfa, cotton, corn, horses and a cow. However, they, like other people living in rural America, suffered during the Great Depression in the 1930s.

Dot went to work for Ford Hoffman, her much-admired coach, at his insurance and realty company after spending World War II working in war industries. After she retired in 1964, she began flipping houses before flipping houses was popular with her fellow Hall of Famer and teammate, Ricki Caito. She focused on buildings on the outskirts of town and renovated them with ingenuity and hard work.

She is considered one of the greatest Fastpitch softball players to ever play the game and is a member of two amateur Halls of Fame (softball and bowling). She was inducted into the National Softball Hall of Fame and Museum in 1970, which was also her very first year of eligibility. She was then inducted into the Arizona Hall of Fame in 1975 and booed by men during her induction speech because she was a woman. In 1990, Dot was inducted into the International Bowling Hall of Fame and later in 2016, at the age of 94, Dot received Arizona Hall of Fame’s first Lifetime Achievement Award.

Today, Dot occasionally engages in the community by attending high school, college and tournament softball games in Arizona, where she and some of her former teammates are honored frequently.

ACTIVITIES

1. **DISCOVER** – Read the short story about Dot.
2. **CONNECT** – Share or discuss with your troop or leader about the parts of Dot’s story that inspired you.
3. **TAKE ACTION** – Dot is considered the greatest female athlete in Arizona. She played for the Phoenix Ramblers softball team and she also was a great bowler. She was later inducted Arizona Hall of Fame for softball and bowling. Choose one of the following activities so you can connect with Dot’s story:
 - Go see a women’s softball game with your family or troop. Local softball tournament at high schools or college are easy to find.
 - Learn how to play a new sport with your troop or a family member.
 - Teach someone else a new sport!

Bonus Activity: Visit the Arizona Softball Hall of Fame in Prescott, Arizona, where Dot is an inductee.

ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM

ALICE LORD MARSHALL (1895 – 1994)



Alice Lord Marshall was born in New Jersey in 1895. She attended the celebrated New York School of Fine and Applied Arts (home to notable alumni including Norman Rockwell). In 1919 she moved to Phoenix, where she became involved with Trinity Episcopal Church. An attempt had been made a few years prior to start a Girl Scout troop in Arizona, but the troop disbanded after one year. Alice was asked by the Bishop

of her church to start a Girl Scout Troop. The troop was enormously popular, and a second troop soon followed. Jean Clark, a fellow AZIW honoree, was a member of one of Alice's first troops. This popularity continued, and by 1936 there were 143 girls registered in 7 Girl Scout troops. Alice was an expert organizer, and as Girl Scout grew in Arizona, Alice worked to gather supporters to continue to grow the movement. Alice knew how to use her leadership and standing in her community to collect support for the Girl Scout movement in Arizona, and hosted a special meeting in her home to create more structure for the organization. This group put in a request for a council Charter to the national Girl Scout organization, which was granted in 1937. Following this a Board of Directors was formed and Alice was elected as the first president of what would be known as the Maricopa Girl Scout Council. Alice and the board immediately began fundraising to support the Girl Scout movement in Arizona, starting with a bridge luncheon. As Alice stepped away from leading troops and put her focus on building the organization, her friend and protegee Jean Clark worked to advance the council's early diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. Jean and Alice were a dynamic pair – Jean spearheaded these efforts in the community, and Alice continued to fundraise and gather community support for Girl Scouting, ensuring Jean's efforts would be sustainable.

Alice's legacy of Girl Scouting still exists in Arizona today, and was continued by her family. Her daughter-in-law, Betty Udell Marshall was the council piper in the 1960s, and another daughter-in-law, Jan Bragg Marshall, oversaw the remodeling of the council headquarters in Phoenix. Her granddaughter, Wendy Marshall, also served as a council president in the 1990s. When you visit Camp Willow Springs, you can visit the lodge building, named after Alice. Alice was also philanthropic in other ways, including involvement in the National League of Pen Women, the Arizona Artists Guild, and the Arizona Water Color League. In her personal time, Alice was an accomplished painter and poet.

ARIZONA'S INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN PATCH PROGRAM

JEAN MADDOCK CLARK (1901 – 1992)



Jean Maddock Clark was born in Zelienople, Pennsylvania in 1901. She moved to Phoenix with her mother when she was young, and joined her first Girl Scout troop in 1922, through her church. As this point, Girl Scouting as a movement was only 10 years old! In 1928 she became a troop leader. Her goal was to be a professional Girl Scout, and she studied at Phoenix Junior College, where she wrote a series of theme papers around Girl Scouting, one of which included the quote “Girls are very queer little pieces of humanity. Just as queer as little boys are, but do you find as many leaders for little girls’ work as you do for boys? I have never found such and am enthusiastic for advantages due girls in the Girl Scout training.” After Phoenix Junior College, Jean earned a degree from Stanford University in 1930. While at Stanford she also led a Girl Scout troop in Palo Alto, California. While Jean was a biology and pre-medicine major, there were few professional options available to college-educated women in the 1930s, and so Jean refocused her career and took a job as a schoolteacher while continuing with her work as a troop leader. As Arizona’s first Golden Eaglet (now known as the Gold Award) recipient, Jean continued to lead the way in our council, becoming the council’s first trained camp director and traveling around the country to learn more about Girl Scout training methods and innovation. In 1936, at the same ceremony where one of Jean’s troop members earned Arizona’s third Golden Eaglet, Jean was awarded the Thanks Badge for her work in promoting Girl Scouts. This was a high honor, and required approval from GSUSA.

Jean Clark was also a leader in our council’s early diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, bringing girls and leaders on trips to the Navajo Nation and Grand Canyon, and inviting native ceramic artists to teach the girls and leaders. Jean also pushed for BIPOC girls to attend Girl Scout camp, in a time when this was not a popular ideal. Jean was a constant advocate for her Girl Scouts, nominating them for every event and award they qualified for and encouraging their community service at locations including Valley of the Sun, St Joseph’s Hospital, and inner-city day camps. She retired from teaching in 1976 and from active troop leadership in the 1980s. She passed in 1992 and her records and papers make up much of our knowledge of Girl Scouts’ early days in Arizona. Jean Clark was a Girl Scout leader for over 40 years and led over 500 girls and was remembered with affection and admiration by the girls she led, as a compassionate and innovative advocate for girls and the Girl Scout movement.

Alice Lord Marshall and **Jean Maddock Clark** worked together with many other women in our movement to build Girl Scouting in Arizona, creating the groundwork for our council as it exists today. Alice was a planner and an organizer, using her social influence to gather enthusiasm and financial support for Girl Scouts. Jean was a builder, creating and innovating Girl Scout programming and making major strides to make Girl Scouts available to every girl. In the spirit of their friendship and collaboration, their rockers are earned together, with one activity inspired by each woman and a third activity inspired by their friendship and collaboration.

ACTIVITY 1 - ALICE LORD MARSHALL

Alice Marshall had many passions in life, including art! An accomplished painter and poet, Alice was also a passionate advocate for Girl Scouting in Arizona, leading our council and fundraising for the Girl Scout movement. To emulate Alice's enthusiasm and advocacy, follow these steps!

For Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors:

1. Choose something you're passionate about (a sport, a school subject, world/community issue, etc.) and create a piece of art to celebrate it. It can be a painting, drawing, skit, poem, whatever creative medium you feel is best!
2. Share your art with your troop, a friend, or a family member. Be sure to share 3 reasons why you love the subject of your piece!

For Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors:

1. Choose a topic that you are passionate about (a sport, school subject, world/community issue, etc.) and create a piece of art to celebrate it. It can be a painting, drawing, skit, poem, whatever you feel is best!
2. Create a 3-5 minute presentation about your topic and the artwork it inspired! Be sure to share the artwork, and discuss why you choose that topic, why it is important to you, and how other people can engage with it!
3. Share your presentation with your troop, a friend, or a family member!

ACTIVITY 2 – JEAN MADDOCK CLARK

Jean Clark was the first Golden Eaglet (the precursor to the Gold Award) awardee in Arizona's history. She became a troop leader, with over 500 girls participating in troops she led, and countless more benefiting from her research into Girl Scout methods and her time as the first trained Camp Director in Arizona! One of her Girl Scouts was even the first woman mayor of Phoenix! To emulate Jean Clark, think of women in your life who have been mentors to you!

For Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors:

1. Make a list of three women in your life who you feel have taught you something important. It may be your troop leader, a teacher, a family member, a neighbor, or someone else in your life.
2. Write down each of their names, and the important thing they taught you.
3. Make a card for each person! You can write a note or draw a picture, but tell them what they taught you and why you think it is important or helps you be your best self! Then, send them the card!

For Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors:

1. Make a list of three women in your life who you feel have taught you something important. It may be your troop leader, a teacher, a family member, a neighbor, or someone else in your life.
2. Write down each of their names, and the important thing they taught you.

3. Write a letter to each person and tell them what they taught you and why you think it is important or helps you be your best self! Then, send them the card!
4. Next think of a younger girl in your life that you can be a mentor to. It might be your younger sister, a friend who is a daisy, brownie, or junior, or a neighbor. Think about what you love about them. Then, make a plan to check in on them this week, whether it is a card, a phone call, or even a text!
5. Finally, make a plan to be there for your new mentee, whatever that means for you. Maybe it's making a plan to call your younger cousin once a month, or helping your sister learn a new skill.

ACTIVITY 3 – ALICE MARSHALL AND JEAN CLARK

Alice Marshall and Jean Clark worked together with many women to build the Girl Scout movement in Arizona, for this activity, work with other to complete a project!

For Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors:

1. Choose a project you would like to work on. Maybe you want to re-organize your family bookshelf or want to try a new dessert recipe.
2. Find a partner to work on the project with! It can be a sibling, a friend, or a family member. Work with your partner to make a plan to complete the project!
3. Complete the project together!

For Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors:

1. Chose a project would like to work on. Maybe you want to collect items from around the house to donate to charity or want to put together a homemade care package for a friend or family member.
2. Find a partner to work with. It's up to you, it could be a friend from your troop, sibling, or family member! Work with your partner and make a plan to complete the project!
3. Complete the project together!
4. Share your project and the results with your troop, friends, or family!



AIW PATCH/ROCKER

Reporting Instructions

Once your girls have completed the requirements for one or more of the women featured in this packet, you can request your patch and corresponding rocker by completing the Arizona's Inspirational Women Patch Program form at <http://bit.ly/aiw-patch>.

Once you have completed your form online, patches and rockers can be purchased at the Council Shop at Parsons Leadership Center (1611 E Dobbins Road, Phoenix, AZ 85042).