

## **Emerald Spotlight**

### **March 2011**

*The GSGLA Emerald Spotlight is a monthly award that recognizes a former Girl Scout who shows courage, confidence, and character in her current role as a community leader.*



**Geraldine B. Lewis**  
**Author, Artist, Creator**

*“My passion for the environment came from my Girl Scout adventures. Girl Scouting was an after-school place that made me feel special and encouraged my imagination and passions.” – Geraldine B. Lewis*

Geraldine Lewis worked in the advertising industry for fifteen years before opening her own business, Post-Consumer Products, an environmental promotional products company that developed over 500 recycled products and implemented environmental campaigns for major entertainment studios and government agencies. In 2005, Geraldine created Popsi, an 11” plush doll made from recycled plastic bottles, and wrote the storybook *Popsi: The Daughter of Mother Nature*, which is published on recycled paper with non-toxic inks. The story teaches children the importance of recycling and conservation and shows them how to be good stewards of the Earth. The book and doll have earned the Dr. Toy Best Green Product award and the Mom’s Choice Award.

Being dyslexic never became a handicap for Geraldine Lewis. She remembers being punished in school for getting poor grades back in the 1960s and then going to Girl Scouts in Bellflower, where she felt safe and was treated just like the other girls. Her imagination flourished with all the fun crafts, she felt proud to earn badges, and her respect for nature grew with each camping trip. Geraldine finds a positive opportunity in every challenge and, when she became an author and artist, she instilled Girl Scout values into Popsi so that she could empower other girls to go into their communities and make a difference. Her advice to Girl Scouts today is to remember that everything in life serves a purpose, even if you think you have used up all its value!