

5 on Friday

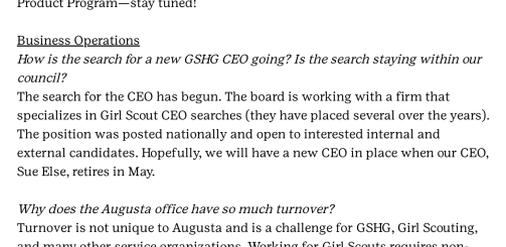


Congratulations, Savannah N. from Troop 30235! Savannah won our early bird patch design contest, and her drawing will be turned into our fun patch for this year!

Submit your troop photos to us and you may see them featured on GSHG social media or in 5 on Friday!

SUBMIT TROOP PHOTOS

1. Town Hall Q & A



Last month, we held town hall meetings to answer your most pressing questions—and you showed up with some great ones!

This week, we're sharing answers from those meetings, starting with Business Operations, Program, Membership, and Volunteer Development. We'll keep the conversation going in next week's *5 on Friday* with answers from Property and Product Program—stay tuned!

Business Operations

How is the search for a new GSHG CEO going? Is the search staying within our council?

The search for the CEO has begun. The board is working with a firm that specializes in Girl Scout CEO searches (they have placed several over the years). The position was posted nationally and open to interested internal and external candidates. Hopefully, we will have a new CEO in place when our CEO, Sue Else, retires in May.

Why does the Augusta office have so much turnover?

Turnover is not unique to Augusta and is a challenge for GSHG, Girl Scouting, and many other service organizations. Working for Girl Scouts requires non-traditional hours and some periods of high pressure, especially for our front-line roles. The demands can be challenging for our largely female workforce, especially those with families. We continually strive to make the council a rewarding place to work.

Can there be more support from council for difficult parents?

Our membership staff and regional directors try hard to mediate these situations – when we are aware of them. Over the years, girls have been moved from one troop to another where the personalities are a better fit. We also work with troops when there are internal disputes—often they involve money. If there is a general type of assistance or specific need, please let us know.

Program

Camping - should really offer a day camp week at each camp. One week should be for day campers and one week for resident camp. Can we have day summer camps at Camp Tanglewood next year with a separate week for resident camp?

We are so glad there is an interest in day camp! After last season, we looked at our data and it showed girls preferred day camps that were not as isolated as our camps. To meet their needs, we are offering day camps at our service centers in Savannah, Albany, and Columbus. Registration numbers already exceed last year's day camps. We also want to give a shout out to all of the service units hosting local day camps in their towns! Thank you for providing wonderful opportunities and fun without long drives!

Can the council allow Service Units to book council camp a year out?

Starting May 1 of this year, SU managers will be allowed to book an entire camp for a SU event/camporee a year out. The reservation will then be verified by our rental coordinator. Thank you for planning!

Membership

Can we have a mentor program for new leaders/new troops?

A mentor program for new leaders is a good idea, and best suited for the SUs to set up. There are some established service units that have a process for assigning mentors. For areas without service units, partnering with neighboring service units might be an option. We are open to ideas.

What is going on with Direct Delivery (DD) in the Greater Savannah Area?

We are currently serving 273 girls across 6 schools. Those schools are: Haven Elementary, Heard Elementary, Godley Station, Georgetown K-8, Juliette Gordon Low School of Humanities, and Susie King Taylor Community School.

During this school year, our girls have had a lot of fun working on and earning their GS Ways badge, their Financial Literacy badge, and Cookie Business badges, participating in the cookie program, and completing our Mental Wellness patch program, Resilient, Ready, Strong. And, our Daisy Girl Scouts have earned all of their petal badges! Before the year ends, our Cadettes will be working on the aMaze Journey and completing their service project at Georgetown K-8th School.

Our DD program throughout the council is going strong. We are currently serving 1720 girls through Direct Delivery and expect to serve another 500 girls before this current GS year ends.

Can travel request forms be improved with responses given in a timelier manner?

We have recently reviewed our Troop Travel request process and did an update to our internal Standard Operating Procedures and our forms. Our Membership team received training, and as a part of our new process, we decided that the Troop Trip Coordinator, the person who submitted the Troop Trip Application, will receive communication from their Membership Manager on the status of their Troop Trip Application within 3 business days of us receiving the request. If a troop has submitted a request to travel internationally, which should be submitted 12 months in advance, that request is reviewed by our Program Department within 3 business days of being received.

Volunteer Development

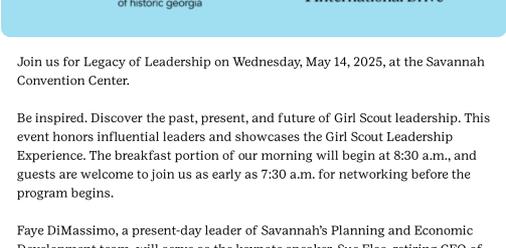
When can we expect a large outdoor activity certification training weekend, like the one held at CMJ each spring, for volunteers in the Savannah region?

We have Basic Outdoor Skills and archery scheduled for the Savannah region during the first weekend of May. We also offer outdoor certifications at LEAP every fall at Camp Low.

Can we have more training in Augusta for water safety, outdoor skills, archery, etc.?

We are currently trying to schedule outdoor training for the Augusta region, but it can be difficult to find a location in the area. With so many state parks and other locations also dealing with hurricane damage, it has proven a challenge to find locations. Once Camp Tanglewood opens this fall, we will be working to get our regularly scheduled outdoor training back up and running in the Augusta region.

2. Early Bird Registration



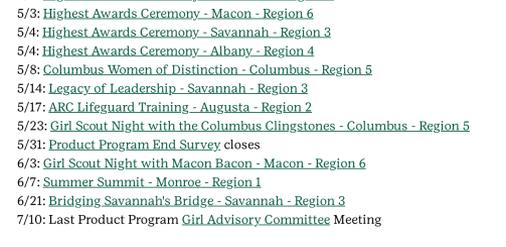
Early Bird Registration is here! Renew your membership for the 2025-2026 membership between now and June 30 and take advantage of some amazing incentives.

Council Incentives

- All girls who re-register for 2025 during the campaign (April 1-June 30) will receive the one-of-a-kind GSHG Early Bird patch designed by a GSHG girl!
- Troops who re-registered 80% of their girls and 2 adults during the first 2 weeks (April 1-15) will receive \$50!
- Troops who re-register 80% of their girls and 2 adults in the following weeks (April 16-June 30) will receive \$25!
- Service Units will receive \$1 for every girl who early bird registers during the campaign (April 1-June 30).
- Check with your local membership manager to learn more about regional incentives.

RENEW NOW!

3. Columbus Women of Distinction



Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia is proud to announce that Patricia Eldridge, Brittany Haines, Brooke Peak, and Dr. Stuart Rayfield have been selected as the 2025 Columbus Women of Distinction. The Girl Scouts Women of Distinction Award honors women who reflect the values in the Girl Scout Promise and Law and who serve as excellent role models for girls.

Eldridge, Haines, Peak, and Rayfield will be honored during a special dinner on Thursday, May 8, from 6-8:30 pm at the Columbus State University Cunningham Center. Proceeds benefit Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia. Individual tickets are \$150 and sponsorship opportunities are available.

Questions about this event may be directed to Sophie Jones, community engagement manager for Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia, at sjones@gshg.org.

GET TICKETS

4. Legacy of Leadership



Join us for Legacy of Leadership on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at the Savannah Convention Center.

Be inspired. Discover the past, present, and future of Girl Scout leadership. This event honors influential leaders and showcases the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. The breakfast portion of our morning will begin at 8:30 a.m., and guests are welcome to join us as early as 7:30 a.m. for networking before the program begins.

Faye DiMassimo, a present-day leader of Savannah's Planning and Economic Development team, will serve as the keynote speaker. Sue Else, retiring CEO of Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia, is receiving the Legacy of Leadership Award. This exclusive award honors a woman who reflects the values in the Girl Scout Promise and Law and serves as an excellent role model for girls.

You don't want to miss it!

GET TICKETS

5. Council News and Upcoming Events

We are still looking for camp staff for this summer! [Click here](#) to learn more and apply today!

Don't forget to check out the [daily programming happening at the Albany Girl Scout DreamLab!](#) Be sure to follow Albany Girl Scout DreamLab on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram!](#)

April Events:

- 4/27: [Camp Martha Johnston Open House - Lizella](#)
- 4/30: [Product Program Planning Committee Applications](#) close

May, June, and July Events:

- 5/1: [Grits and Girl Scouts - Augusta - Region 2](#)
- 5/3: [USA Archery Level 1 Instructor Training - Savannah - Region 3](#)
- 5/3: [Highest Awards Ceremony - Homer - Region 1](#)
- 5/3: [Highest Awards Ceremony - Augusta - Region 2](#)
- 5/3: [Highest Awards Ceremony - Columbus - Region 5](#)
- 5/3: [Highest Awards Ceremony - Macon - Region 6](#)
- 5/4: [Highest Awards Ceremony - Savannah - Region 3](#)
- 5/4: [Highest Awards Ceremony - Albany - Region 4](#)
- 5/8: [Columbus Women of Distinction - Columbus - Region 5](#)
- 5/14: [Legacy of Leadership - Savannah - Region 3](#)
- 5/17: [ARC Lifeguard Training - Augusta - Region 2](#)
- 5/23: [Girl Scout Night with the Columbus Clingstones - Columbus - Region 5](#)
- 5/31: [Product Program End Survey](#) closes
- 6/3: [Girl Scout Night with Macon Bacon - Macon - Region 6](#)
- 6/7: [Summer Summit - Monroe - Region 1](#)
- 6/21: [Bridging Savannah's Past - Savannah - Region 3](#)
- 7/10: Last Product Program [Girl Advisory Committee](#) Meeting

We're always adding new events to our calendar, so don't forget to bookmark www.gshg.org/events to stay up to date with what's new and see what's coming up next at GSHG! Breaking news updates are always added to our [Facebook](#) and [5 on Friday](#) e-newsletter!

GSHG Shops

Come visit us at one of our council shops!

Shop Saturdays
Due to High Awards Ceremonies, our First Saturday Shop times for May will be:

- Athens: Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (closed on May 3)
- Macon: Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Savannah: Saturday, May 3, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- First Headquarters: Saturday, May 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mobile Shops

- Augusta: May 6, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Albany: May 13, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Gainesville: May 21, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Columbus: May 22, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Please have preorders for Mobile Shop to Catherine or Sidney by the Friday before your Mobile Shop date.
There will be no mobile shops in June or July!

Athens

706-548-7297
Hours of Operation
Mon-Thu: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1st Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

EMAIL THE SHOP!

Macon

478-935-2221
Hours of Operation
Mon-Thu: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1st Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

EMAIL THE SHOP!

Liberty Street

912-988-8651
Hours of Operation
Mon-Thu: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

EMAIL THE SHOP!

First Headquarters

888-223-3883
Hours of Operation
Mon-Sat: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Wed. and Sun.

EMAIL THE SHOP!

Albany

888-689-1912
Hours of Operation
Mon-Fri: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Note: There is a limited selection of uniform items & gifts in the Albany boutique. Contact Catherine Shinn in the Macon shop to place orders for badges, fun patches, and other specialty items.

EMAIL THE SHOP!

Mobile Shops

See when the mobile shops are coming to your area! Mobile shop hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mobile Shop Schedule
First Tuesdays: Augusta
Second Tuesdays: Albany
Third Tuesdays: Columbus
Third Wednesdays: Gainesville