

Council Updates

April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month!

Happy Volunteer Appreciation Month! Thank you for all the creativity, care, and dedication you bring to Girl Scouts. We appreciate everything you do to help build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.



This month, be sure to closely follow our social media accounts, check your emails, or visit the Volunteer Hub on our website to learn more about how to enter GSUSA's Volunteer Appreciation Giveaway for a chance to win a prize worth up to \$1,250.



Every Woman's Marathon



CALLING ALL GIRL SCOUTS! We're ecstatic that we're partnering with Every Woman's Marathon in their mission to create an empowering space for women running their first (or second, or third!) 26.2 miles. Powered by Team Milk, we'll be gathering in Savannah on November 16 as a charity partner to support all the female runners!

Every Woman's Marathon is a unique event specifically designed for women, by women, to celebrate female strength, uniting runners of all levels, abilities, and backgrounds in a genuinely inspiring, community-driven wellness weekend. Sign up now, and select Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia during registration!



Note: While the race is catered to women, all adults 18+ can register to race.

Not ready to run a marathon? Check out other ways you can show your support:

- Every Woman's Marathon is open to runners from all over the world! Even if you aren't participating, share about the opportunity with your friends!
- Know of a local running club in your area? Reach out to Brianna Jarvis at bjarvis@gshg.org or Brandy Tatum at btatum@gshg.org to let us know about it so we can get some flyers in your area.
- Join our Cheer Squad! Plan to be in Savannah on November 16 to help cheer on all the marathon runners. Stay tuned for more information and registration.

Marketing & Communication Updates

Send us your troop photos!

Submit your troop photos to us at media@gshg.org, and you may see them featured on GSHG social media or in 5 on Friday!

Stay up to date with Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia!

Whether you are a seasoned troop leader or a first year Girl Scout parent, be sure to follow us on social media and bookmark our website so that you'll have first access to breaking news, event updates, and other additional information!

Looking for one of our newsletters? You can find those on the website!



5 on Friday
(published weekly)



Service Unit
Agenda
(published monthly)



Program
Newsletter
(published quarterly)



Daisy's Dispatch
Alum Newsletter
(published 3 times a year)

Follow Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube for the latest updates on social media. For more in-depth information, visit our website at www.gshg.org and bookmark our home page for easy access to event calendars, breaking news, important forms, new training, and more!

Membership Updates

Early Bird Registration is Here!

Calling all explorers! We know that you have been having an amazing year of fun and adventure, but are you ready for a year of exploration? Renew your membership from April 1 to June 30 and begin your journey of discovering more of what Girl Scouts has to offer!



Council Early Bird Incentives

- All girls who re-register for 2025 during the campaign (April 1-June 30) will receive the one-of-a-kind 2025 GSHG Early Bird Patch designed by a GSHG girl!
- Troops who re-register 80% of their girls and 2 adults during the first 2 weeks (April 1-14) will receive \$50!
- Troops who re-register 80% of their girls and 2 adults in the following weeks (April 15-June 30) of the campaign will receive \$25!
- Service Areas will receive \$1 for every girl who early bird registers during the campaign (April 1-June 30).



Regional Early Bird Incentives

Check out the Early Bird flyers to learn more about your local early bird incentives.

Extended Year Membership

For new members only

The extended year membership campaign runs from April 1 - July 31, 2024. The cost of an extended year membership is \$40 for girls and \$35 for adults. New members who join during this time will have an active membership until September 30, 2025.

Troop Size

A troop must consist of at least 5 girls. Older girl troops must consist of at least 3 girls.

Meeting Locations in Your Community

Do you know of any places in your local community that would be a great spot to host a troop meeting? If so, please contact your regional Membership Recruitment Manager and provide them with the details.

Troop Opportunities Catalog

Need more girls and adult volunteers in your troop? We are here to help with that. Scan the QR Code and complete the form. We will update the Troop and Volunteer Opportunities Catalog for you. If you have the perfect number of girls and adult volunteers, please let your Membership Onboarding Manager know. We will mark your troop as closed and it will not be displayed in the Troop Opportunities Catalog.



Troop Monthly Reports

We look forward to hearing about all the wonderful things your troop is doing! Please fill out this form by the 30th of each month.

Volunteer Development Updates

Outdoor Training

It's time to level up your Girl Scout outdoor game! Take advantage of one or more of these upcoming trainings and get ready to take your Girl Scouts on some amazing adventures that we know they will love! Some are also open to older girls. Questions? Contact Betsy Connell at bconnell@gshg.org or 470-208-3664. We'll see you out there!

- April 19-20: ARC Lifeguard Training - Lizella, GA; register by April 12
- April 27-28: Basic Outdoor Skills (along with Troop Camp) - Crawfordville, GA; register by April 19
- April 27: Basic Water Safety & Small Watercraft - Springfield, GA; register by April 19
- May 4-5: ARC Lifeguard Training - Augusta, GA; register by April 26
- June 29: Basic Water Rescue & Small Watercraft - Gainesville, GA; register by June 10

For more information or to register for one of these trainings, please visit the events page of our website. If you have a need for outdoor training in your area, please email Betsy Connell at bconnell@gshg.org.



Program Updates



Highest Awards 2024

Join us to celebrate this year's Highest Awards! Many Girl Scouts in our council have worked hard this past year to earn their Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards! This is the time to celebrate the achievements of our exceptional young women and the adults who guide them.



Save these dates!

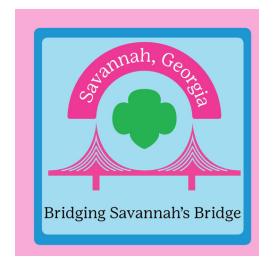
- Athens/Gainesville: May 4 at 1 pm at Homer United Methodist
- Augusta: May 5 at 6 pm at Harlem High School
- Savannah: May 5 at 3 pm at Georgia State University Armstrong Campus
- Albany: May 5 at 5 pm at Flint Golf Course
- Columbus: May 4 at 2 pm at St. John AME Church
- Macon: May 5 at 1 pm at Camp Martha Johnston



Bridging Savannah's Bridge

June 8, 8:00am-12:00pm

End your 2023-24 Girl Scout year with a BANG! Join us to celebrate all your accomplishments and contributions to your community and to connect with your Girl Scout sisters from all over Georgia and the U.S. at this ceremony by the sea.



Girl Scout Daisies through adults are welcome to join us - and some special guests - for a Girl Scout exclusive event inside Fort Pulaski before we march across the drawbridge, through the magazines, and out to cross the Back River Bridge. Trolleys will be waiting as we continue to our celebratory Party at the Pier on the beach at Tybee Island. Fun, festivities, refreshments and more will complete the morning and be a sweet start to your summer!

The registration cost is \$35 per person. A T-shirt, patch, water bottle and other swag are included for all registered participants! This event is open to all levels - you don't have to be bridging to celebrate your year's accomplishments! Please register by May 15.



Get ready to Explore!

With Girl Scout campgrounds across the council and super-powered outdoor programs, there are lots of options for Girl Scouts to create their own explorations this summer! Two weeks at Camp Low, two weeks at Camp Tanglewood, a week of travel camp to Washington D.C. and Philadelphia, and wrapping up summer camp season with a week at Camp Martha Johnston - the opportunities for Girl Scouts are just beginning! Registration is open now!

Council Programs

We have lots of exciting programs happening around the council! Whether you're a Girl Scout ready to earn your next badge and make new friends at an art workshop, or an adult volunteer looking for training opportunities, we've got an upcoming event to help you do it. Search for Girl Scout events near you!

Region 1

Lego Challenge - Athens

Jun. 1, 12-2 pm; registration ends May 17

Girls will work in teams and individually to complete a series of Lego challenges within a time limit. Girls will earn a Lego fun patch and take home a Lego creation!

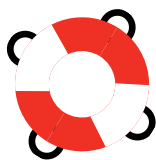


Region 2

ARC Lifeguard Training - Augusta

May 4, 9 am - May 5, 4 pm; registration ends Apr. 26

The American Red Cross lifeguarding course teaches the skills and knowledge needed to prevent and respond to emergencies in or near a body of water.



Region 3

Disney on Ice - Savannah

May 3, 7-9 pm or May 4, 7-9 pm

Celebrate the love of family in the new show everyone will be talking about. This show will have you singing and dancing in your seats!



Region 4

Coding for Good 2: Digital Game Design Seniors & Ambassadors - Virtual

Apr. 24, 6:30-8 pm; registration ends Apr. 17

Discover how video games use a story to move the game along, how players make decisions, and how games can make a positive difference in the world.

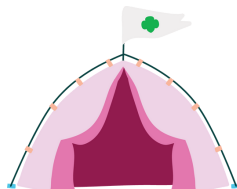


Region 5

Unicorn Troop Camp Session 1- Fortson

Apr. 26, 6 pm - Apr. 27, 3 pm; register by Apr. 10

Join us for a unicorn themed how-to-camp adventure! All campers will receive a unicorn fun patch and leave feeling prepared for their next camping adventure!



Region 6

Girl Scout Night with Macon Bacon - Macon

May 25, 6:30-10 pm; registration ends May 9

Bring the whole family out to cheer on the Macon Bacon baseball team! Come dressed in your Girl Scout best so we can show our Girl Scout spirit as well as our team spirit!



Register for an event with us today!

Visit our website see all of our programs happening around the council! Remember, you can attend any of our programs, no matter what region you live in!

Product Program Updates

Cookie Season Totals

This year there were 1,701,987 packages of cookies sold across the council. That's a 10% increase from last year's cookie program (1,548,796 packages sold in 22-23). Way to go, Girl Scouts!

Total packages sold in each region:

- Region 1: 319,168
- Region 2: 269,835
- Region 3: 436,585
- Region 4: 266,037
- Region 5: 178,420
- Region 6: 231,942



Congrats to our top-selling Girl Scout, Jazalyn H., with a total of 8,020 packages sold – Jaz, you are a super seller! 🏆



Cookie Cart Contest

February 23 marked the halfway point of the Booth Sale portion of our Cookie Program. We are rewarding the top troops in each region that had the highest total sales as-of February 23 with their very own Cookie Cart! Troops can pick up their Cookie Cart at their local regional Girl Scout office. Congratulations to the following troops:

- 12199
- 20036
- 30019
- 40523
- 50387
- 60637

Troop PGA Rewards

PGA (Per Girl Selling Average) is a goal we as Council set for all our girls. The Troop PGA reward can be found on every Girl Scout's order card and in the Troop Cookie Manual. This year, we wanted to celebrate those troops that reached the 425 PGA at the halfway point of the program with a \$50 deposit directly into their Troop Bank Account! We randomly selected 10 troops and here are our winners:

- 10705
- 12189
- 20025
- 20258
- 30172
- 40511
- 30288
- 50264
- 30385
- 60193



Cookie Program Rewards

Rewards will arrive to your Service Unit Product Program Managers by the end of April.

Girl Advisory Committee

Calling all Girl Scouts! We want to hear from YOU! Sign up for our Girl Advisory Committee to share your ideas on all things rewards and programming and even decide where we travel for the 2025 Cookie Trip. The purpose of this meeting is to get feedback from our Girl Scouts regarding all things Fall Product and Cookie Program. If you have big ideas and want your voice to be heard, please complete this sign up form and jot down in your calendar our upcoming virtual meeting times and dates.



Product Program Planning Committee

Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia invites volunteers to apply to serve on the council-wide Product Program Planning Committee. This committee will be comprised of Product Program representatives from each region and will include girls to ensure diversity and all the council's geographic regions are represented. We are looking for NEW committee members that will provide GSHG with valuable input future Product Programs.

Product Program End Survey

We extend the greatest appreciation to our volunteers, parents and guardians, and Girl Scouts for a successful Fall Product and Cookie Program. Despite all the challenges, you have exemplified our themes of "Own Your Magic" to the fullest. The following survey will help us improve next year's programming. Please feel free to answer all questions openly and honestly. This survey will close on May 31 at 11:59 pm.



Retail Updates

Uniform Heat Press Service at the Savannah Shop

As of March 25, we are now offering heat press service for uniform insignia only in our Savannah Shop. At this time, we will not have onsite heat pressing services in our other locations.



The cost is a \$12.00 service fee per vest/sash/tunic for the American flag, council ID, troop crest, and troop numbers (shipping is additional). Orders must be placed 48 hours in advance for 1-9 vests and 5 business days in advance for 10 or more vests. Heat press items are ineligible for refunds or exchanges.

Looking for something to keep your Girl Scout busy over Spring Break?

We have a limited number of Badge in a Bag Kits still available in our Savannah Shop. Each kit includes badge, instructions, and all the supplies needed to complete the badge. Kits cost \$15 each, plus tax and shipping.

- Daisy Kits – Rollercoaster, Coding Basics, Space Science, Trail Adventure, Good Neighbor, My First Cookie Business, Shapes in Nature, Eco Learner
- Brownie Kits – Eco Friend, Shapes in Nature, Fair Play, My Cookie Customer, Fling Flyer
- Cadette Kits – Cookie Venture, Space Researcher, Good Sportsmanship



Shop Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia 24/7 Online

Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia Staff

Meet the Program and Property Teams

Questions about your area? Reach out to our staff, or contact Customer Care at 888-689-1912 today!

Athens & Gainesville

- **Christina Smashey-Smith**
Program Manager
- **Breanna Jackson**
Admin. Assistant to Program
- **Betsy Connell**
Special Projects

Augusta

- **Harley Williams**
Program Manager
- **Carl Gibbs**
Property Manager / Ranger
- **Wes Barney**
Assistant Property Manager/
Ranger

Savannah

- **Lorena Kirschner**
Senior Director of Program
- **Jami Brantley**
Assistant Director of Program
and Partnerships
- **Abby Stevens**
Program Manager
- **Timothy Cirincioni**
Property Manager / Ranger
- **Denis Robertson**
Assistant Property Manager/
Ranger
- **Eddie Morrison**
Assistant Property Manager/
Ranger

Albany

- **Michele "Sparkie" Edwards**
Assistant Director of Program
- **Miranda "Mocha" Mathis**
GEM Program Manager

Columbus

- **Catherine "Ellie" Smith**
Program Manager

Macon

- **Haley "Hippie" Hall**
Program Manager
- **Doc Holliday**
Director of Property / Ranger
- **Bobby Lumpkin**
Assistant Property Manager/
Ranger

