

### Council Updates

#### Important News!

Heads up, Girl Scout families! For the 2025-2026 membership year, the annual membership fee for girls will be \$45, plus a \$5 council fee. We understand the importance of making Girl Scouts accessible to all families. To help offset the increased cost, we're excited to share that up to \$15 in cookie credits earned during the 2025 Girl Scout Cookie Program can go toward girl membership fees for the 2025-2026 membership year.



Don't wait—renew early! Sign up during Early Bird registration in April to lock in your spot for another unforgettable year of adventures, friendships, and fun. Plus, Early Bird members get special perks you won't want to miss!

Be on the lookout for more information about Early Bird registration and using cookie credits to offset increased membership costs.



#### Save the date for the Columbus Dessert Challenge!

Attention Columbus foodies! From Monday, February 17, to Sunday, February 23, local chefs will debut original desserts at participating restaurants.

Sample these sweet creations, then cast your one vote online for your favorite! A panel of judges will also weigh in to help crown the winner, who will be recognized at the Columbus Women of Distinction event in May.

Stay tuned for additional information on social media and in 5 on Friday.

#### Gainesville Woman of Distinction

Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia is proud to announce that Carol Healan Burrell has been selected as the 2025 Gainesville Woman of Distinction. Join us in celebrating Carol at a special luncheon on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Chattahoochee Country Club. Tickets are \$125 and proceeds benefit GSHG.



Special thanks to presenting sponsor Northeast Georgia Health System for its generous support.

## Marketing & Communications Updates

### Brand Tip: Using Spot Illustrations in Design

Want to enhance a flyer or social media graphic for an upcoming troop event with illustrations? Here are some things to look for to ensure that your chosen illustrations meet Girl Scout Brand Standards:

1. Flat color (no gradients or textures)
2. Flat-color shadows and highlights to add dimension
3. Colored line accents with flat colors to add depth
4. Edges or borders with no black outline
5. Realistic colors (e.g., accurate skin tones)
6. Similar level of realism as existing illustrations



For more information about our brand or to access ready-to-use Canva templates, visit the [Brand Center](#) on our website.

## Membership Updates

### The Girl Scout Experience Box

Our newest Girl Scout troop leader hack is here! Introducing the Girl Scout Experience Box: our monthly supply box for new Daisy (K-1) troop leaders, where you'll get everything you need to lead your troop successfully. The best part? It's complimentary! [Visit our website](#) to learn more.



### Become a lifetime member!

Lifetime membership is available to any individual who accepts the principles and beliefs of the Girl Scout Movement, pays the one-time lifetime membership fee, and is at least 18 years old (or a high school graduate or equivalent). A Girl Scout lifetime membership costs \$400. For alums under age 30 and currently registered volunteers with ten or more years of service, the cost is \$200. [Visit our website](#) to learn more.

## Volunteer Development Updates

### Outdoor Training Opportunities

[ARC Wilderness and Remote First Aid- Macon - Region 6](#)

*Friday, March 21, 6:00 p.m. - Saturday, March 22, 6:00 p.m.*

This American Red Cross Training gives individuals a foundation of first aid principles and skills to be able to respond to emergencies and give care in areas that do not have immediate emergency medical services (EMS) response. *\*\*First Aid/CPR is a pre-requisite. If needed, that certification can also be earned. Select that session in the registration. There will be an online portion to be done ahead of time and a practical portion done on Friday evening, March 21.*



## Basic Outdoor Skills and Advanced Cooking- Fortson - Region 5

*Friday, April 11, 5:00 p.m. - Saturday, April 12, 8:00 p.m.*

Get ready to take your troop on an overnight adventure with Basic Outdoor Skills! In this training, leaders will learn the skills needed to take Girl Scouts on an outdoor overnight experience. We will also cover Advanced Outdoor Cooking, where we'll share techniques beyond the basics for an enriched, delicious outdoor meal experience. *Please register by April 1.*



### **Outdoor Skills Summit - Macon**

*Saturday, April 26 - Sunday, April 27*

More information and registration coming soon!

## **Adult Awards and Recognitions**

The deadline for National and Council awards is this month! Would you like to recognize a volunteer in your Service Unit for the great work they did with Girl Scouts from Oct. 1 2023 to Sept. 30, 2024? We have formal and informal award and recognition opportunities. Check out [our website](#) to learn more about our Adult Recognitions process.



Remember that some awards, like our Volunteer Years of Service and Membership Numeral Guards, can be self-nominated by yourself or by the Service Unit. Please review the [Adult Recognitions booklet](#) and the [instructional videos on our website](#).

Nominations for adult recognitions are due by *11:59 p.m. on February 22* to [adultrecognitions@gshg.org](mailto:adultrecognitions@gshg.org). If you have questions about the process, forms, or awards, please email Tiffany Connolly at [tconnolly@gshg.org](mailto:tconnolly@gshg.org).

## Product Program Updates

### **New for Cookies 2025: Bling Your Booth!**

Starting February 14, we will have a special theme for each booth sale weekend. Participating troops will submit photos of their decked out booths for a chance to be featured on GSHG social media!



Bling Your Booth Flyer

Check out the [Bling Your Booth flyer](#) for more information about this year's themes:

- Feb. 14-16: *Valentines Weekend*
- Feb. 21-23: *National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend / Girl Scouts Decades*
- Feb. 28-Mar. 2: *Unbox Your Future*
- Mar. 7-9: *Embrace Possibility*



Photo Submission

Make sure you [submit your photos](#) by March 9 at 11:59 p.m.!



### **Cookies on the Go**

During the week of February 12-14, Girl Scouts become traveling entrepreneurs by taking it back to the basics and selling cookies door-to-door! Grab your cookies carts and wagons, map out your neighborhood or local business district and submit a picture of your Girl Scout offering delicious Girl Scout cookies to people in your area to earn this reward. This form will close on March 9, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.

### **Deadlines and Dates:**

- *February 1:* Cookie Booth Selector open to all SUs
- *February 6-11:* Initial Order Cookie Drop
- *February 13:* Cookie cupboards open for reorders
- *February 14:* Booth sales start date
- *February 16 & 23:* Weekly deadline to place your cookie cupboard order for that week pickup
- *February 18:* Initial ACH due
- *February 18:* Troops must request a decrease in the ACH
- *February 18:* Delinquent Request Form due to council
- *February 19:* Cookie cupboards open to pickup
- *February 19:* Cookie warehouses open for deliveries
- *February 21:* ACH drafts begin appearing in troop bank accounts



### **How to Calculate Your First (1st) ACH Draft**

$$\text{1st ACH Draft} = \frac{(\text{total IO in pkgs} + \text{others} + \text{extras} - \text{charity}) \times 5}{2 - \text{DOC bank payments up to 2/16/2025}}$$

### **How and When to Complete the Delinquent Request and Account Forms**

The Delinquent Request Form is used when a troop requests a decrease in the amount withdrawn from their troop bank account. The troop might need more time to deposit funds into their account or a parent/caregiver has not paid their balance due to the troop cookie program managers.



The Delinquent Account Form is completed to communicate with council who the responsible party is for debt. It is imperative that troop cookie program managers attach all receipts, text messages, emails, and bubble sheets/troop pickup sheets to this form.



A troop cannot pick up more cookies from a cupboard or warehouse until the ACH draft is paid in full!

## Program Updates



### Black History Month Fun Patch

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements and contributions of the African American and Black communities - a time (though not the only time!) for emphasizing the central role of this varied community throughout U.S. history. We've got plenty of activities for girls to choose from as they join the Black History Month celebration. They'll discover and learn their way to earning a Fun patch!



### Check out these upcoming events!

Remember, your membership is nationwide, so you can attend any of our programs, no matter what region you live in. Visit our website to register for events!



#### Region 1

**Mar. 13:** Robotics: Girl Scout Style! - Athens

**Mar. 15:** Archery and Woodworking Day! - Athens

**Mar. 28:** Van Gogh Get'Em - Athens

**TBD:** Girl Scouts Night with the Rock Lobsters - Athens

#### Region 2

**Mar. 5:** Arabian Horizons: Exploring Cultures, Cuisine, and Language - Augusta

**Mar. 8:** Exploring the Stars - Augusta

#### Region 3

**Mar. 12:** Bee Bots - Savannah

**Mar. 17:** Savannah St. Patrick's Day Parade

**Mar. 25:** Unlock Your Glow! Prepping for Prom - Savannah

#### Region 4

Check out the daily programming offerings at the Albany Girl Scout DreamLab!



#### Region 5

**Mar. 5:** Building a Healthier You (K-5th Grade) - Columbus

**Mar. 19:** Building a Healthier You (6th - 12th Grade) - Columbus

**Mar. 25:** Spring Into Fun - Columbus

#### Region 6

**Mar. 8:** Historic Preservation - Milledgeville

**Mar. 22:** Miss Fix It - Tool Day at CMJ - Lizella

**Mar. 28-30:** Ready, Set, Live: Adulting 101

## Retail Updates

### Stay warm this cookie season!

Did this cold weather catch you off guard? We have just the items to make sure you stay warm at cookie booths.

#### *More than Great Cookies Hoodie*

Youth Medium - Youth Extra Large: \$35

Adult Small - Adult Extra Large: \$38

Adult 2X & 3X: \$42

#### *Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia Hoodie*

Adult Small - 3X: now \$39.99 (was \$48.00 - \$52.00)

#### *Navy Frost Long Sleeve Hoodie*

Youth Small - Youth Extra Large: now \$29.99 (was \$36.00)



### Shop Saturdays and Mobile Shops

- *First Saturdays:* Athens shop open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Macon and Savannah shops open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- *First Tuesdays:* Augusta mobile shop (from Athens) open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- *Second Tuesdays:* Albany mobile shop (from Macon) open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- *Third Tuesdays:* Columbus mobile shop (from Macon) open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- *Third Wednesdays:* Gainesville mobile shop (from Athens) open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

*Please have preorders for mobile shop to Catherine (in Macon) or Sidney (in Athens) by the Friday before your mobile shop date!*

**Don't forget!** You can shop [Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia online](#) 24/7!



### We're hiring!

Imagine working for an organization that makes a positive difference in the lives of girls and a lasting impact on the community - a place that builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Working for Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia is about much more than a job. It's about passion and commitment to help girls – all girls – grow into the best version of themselves. It's about delivering leadership programs for girls, working side-by-side with volunteers to bring the Girl Scout mission to life and forming lasting partnerships in the community. If you are ready to embark on a challenging, yet rewarding career, apply to any open position [on our website](#).





## Meet our Customer Care, Product Program, and Retail Teams!

Questions? Reach out to our staff, or call Customer Care at 888-689-1912 today!

### Athens & Gainesville

**Lori Cobb**, Customer Care Specialist

**Alicia Palmer**, Customer Care Reservation Specialist

**Ivy Westbrook**, Onboarding Manager

**Addie Kelly**, Assistant Director of Product Program

**Sidney Popish**, Shop Associate

### Augusta

**Juliette Williams**, Data Administrator

**Jennifer Ellis**, Onboarding Manager

**Quiana Wizzart**, Product Program Manager

### Savannah

**Lori Warnock**, Product Program Manager

**Dawn Cusack**, Retail Sales Manager

**Nasheemah Kennedy**, Shop Associate (FHQ)

### Albany

**Shanika Price**, Product Program Manager

### Columbus

**Jackie Ramsey**, Director of Customer Care

**Eltalena Freeman**, Onboarding Manager

**Susan Freeman**, Director of Product Program

**Melisa Resto**, Product Program Manager

### Macon

**Becki Sandifer**, Product Program Manager

**Catherine Shinn**, Shop Associate



*You can always access our full [staff directory online](#) or call Customer Care at 888-689-1912, and they will direct you to the right person!*