

Council Updates

Closures

- First Headquarters will be closed on Saturday, March 15, for St. Patrick's Day weekend.
- The Savannah shop and First Headquarters will be closed on Monday, March 17, because of the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Virtual Town Halls

Looking for more ways to stay up to date with GSHG? All volunteers, parents, and girls are welcome to attend any of the scheduled virtual Town Halls.

- March 25, 6:30 p.m.
- April 5, 11:30 a.m.

Submit your questions and RSVP for a 2025 Town Hall today!



Spring Signature Events

Mark your calendars for these upcoming signature events!

- *March 11: Gainesville Woman of Distinction, Gainesville - Region 1*
- *May 1: Grits and Girl Scouts, Augusta - Region 2 (*more info. coming soon*)*
- *May 8: Columbus Women of Distinction, Columbus - Region 5*
- *May 14: Legacy of Leadership, Savannah - Region 3*
- *June 7: Summer Summit, Monroe - Region 1*

Happy birthday, Girl Scouts!

On March 12, 1912, Juliette Gordon Low founded Girl Scouts with 18 girls in Savannah, Georgia. More than a century later, we're still building courage, confidence, and character nationwide!

Celebrate Girl Scout Week (March 10-16) by showing your Girl Scout spirit, doing a good turn, and participating in Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith, a special time to connect with faith communities and earn your My Promise, My Faith pin or a Celebrate Faith patch.

Let's make this week unforgettable—wear your Girl Scout gear, share your story, and spread the Girl Scout love! Check out the Girl Scout Week calendar for ideas about how to celebrate. Happy 113 years of Girl Scouts!



Marketing & Communications Updates

Girl Scouts in the Spotlight!

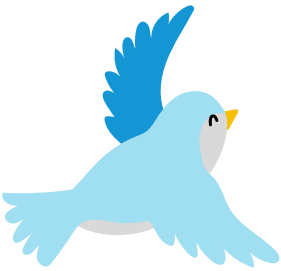
Girl Scouts are making headlines, and we want to hear about it! If your troop or a Girl Scout in your area has been featured on TV, radio, or in publication, let us know through our [NEW digital “In the News” form](#)!

Girl Scouts will earn the oval “In the News” patch for their first feature and a microphone patch for the next one (limit one patch per Girl Scout and one microphone per year).

Know a Girl Scout who was in the news? [Submit the story now!](#) If you have already submitted an “In the News” patch request via email, you do not need to send another one.



Membership Updates



Early Bird Registration

Early Bird Registration runs from April 1-June 30. This year's theme is “Your Year of Adventure.” Here's a little blurb you can use when sharing with your service units and troops: *We know that you have been having an amazing year of fun and exploration, but are you ready for a year of adventure? Renew your membership from April 1 to June 30 and continue 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 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 1-15) will receive \$50!
- Troops who re-register 80% of their girls and 2 adults in the following weeks (April 16-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).
- Be on the lookout for your local regional incentives again this year!

Reminder:

For the membership year 2025-2026, which begins on October 1, girl memberships will be \$45, plus a \$5 council fee, and adult memberships will be \$30. For more information on the price increase, please visit the [Special 57th National Council Session page](#) on the GSUSA website.



Early Bird Patch Contest

Think you have what it takes to design the next Early Bird patch? We want to see your creativity shine! Submit your original design for a chance to have your artwork featured as the official 2025 Early Bird patch for our council.



Contest Rules & Guidelines:

- Open to all Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia in grades K-12.
- Artwork must be original and created by the Girl Scout submitting the entry.
- Should include the words "Early Bird 2025" in the design
- No copyrighted or trademarked images
- One submission per Girl Scout
- Submissions must be received by 11:59 p.m. on March 31 to be included for the contest; voting for the design will open in early April.



Submit your Girl Scout's patch design today!



Extended Year Membership for New Members

Know someone ready to start their Girl Scout journey? Invite them to join with an Extended Year Membership and unlock up to 5 extra months of adventure! Starting April 1, 2025, their membership will run all the way through September 30, 2026—giving them even more time to make friends, explore new skills, and create unforgettable memories.

Extended year cost:

- New girl members: \$63 + \$5 council fee
- New adult members: \$42

Why wait? Start the fun early and dive into all the amazing experiences Girl Scouting has to offer. Visit [our website](#) to learn more and get started today!

Troop Monthly Reports

We look forward to hearing about all the wonderful things your troop is doing! Please [fill out this form](#) at the end of each month.



Volunteer Development Updates



Volunteer Appreciation Month

April is Girl Scout Volunteer Appreciation month. We appreciate our volunteers every day, but we want to make sure that each of you feel extra appreciated during April. Join us in celebrating the volunteers in your troop or Service Unit during the month of April. GSUSA has great ideas for SUs, troops, and families on their website, [Volunteer Appreciation Toolkits](#).

Outdoor Training

Spring is for outdoor training! Check out these upcoming trainings and sign up to get the information and skills you need to get your Girl Scouts outdoors. More dates will be added as details and trainers are confirmed. If you'd like to see training offered in your area or if you are interested in becoming an outdoor trainer and becoming a part of our fabulous volunteer team, please reach out to Betsy Connell at bconnell@gshg.org or 470-208-3664.

March 14-15: Basic Backpacking - Columbus - Region 5

March 15-16: Basic Outdoor Skills - Augusta - Region 2

March 21-22: ARC Wilderness and Remote First Aid - Macon - Region 6

April 3: Songs and S'mores Adult Training - Augusta - Region 2

April 11-12: Basic Outdoor Skills and Advanced Outdoor Cooking - Fortson - Region 5

April 11-13: Camp Low Challenge Course Facilitator Training - High and Low Elements - Region 3

April 12: Camp Low Challenge Course Facilitator Training: Low Elements only - Region 3

May 3-4: Basic Outdoor Skills - Savannah - Region 3



Save the dates! Registration coming soon for:

April 25-27: Outdoor Skills Summit - outdoor certification and enrichment trainings for adults and older girls at Camp Martha Johnston in Region 6

July 18-19: Leader Glamporee - outdoor fun and learning for leaders at Camp Martha Johnston

Product Program Updates

Deadlines and Dates:

- *March 2:* Last chance to place your Cookie Cupboard order for that week's pickup
- *March 5-7:* Last week for Cookie Cupboard pickup
- *March 7:* Cookie Cupboards close
- *March 8-9:* Last chance weekend for booth sales
- *March 9:* Cookie program ends – this includes Digital Cookie sales!
- *March 14:* Product Program End Survey opens
- *March 10:* All money due in troop bank account
- *March 10:* Deadline to request a decrease in the Final Troop ACH by submitting the ACH Delinquency Request Form
- *March 11:* Troops confirm and submit Final Rewards and all paperwork, including Delinquent Account Forms, to SUPPM
- *March 11:* Cookie Program Extreme Team Level Rewards form due
- *March 13:* SUPPM submit all Rewards and Delinquent Account forms to council
- *March 14:* Girl Advisory Committee Sign Up opens
- *March 14:* Product Program Planning Committee Application opens
- *March 21:* Service Unit Bonus Form due

Find all necessary forms on the GSHG Cookie Essentials page of our website!



How to close out your season:

- Double check the following:
 - Is the Balance Due column zero, meaning all parent debt has been paid?
 - Have you set aside your donations in your physical cookie inventory?
 - Does your total match what you physically have in troop inventory?
- Evenly distribute the remaining cookie inventory to your girls via the Girl Orders tab in eBudde until the Difference line equals zero.



How to review your Final Rewards:

- Head to Digital Cookie and download the Reward Selection report. Now you can see what rewards your girls have picked and enter in their selections into eBudde. Watch this: [eBudde Volunteer Training: Girl Rewards](#).
- Download the Girl Report from the Rewards tab in eBudde. Keep that report to help you organize rewards by girl once they are delivered to your Service Unit.
- Cookie Program Extreme Team Rewards are submitted via JotForm. Any Girl Scout that has sold over 1,200 packages will need to complete the [Cookie Program Extreme Team Rewards](#) in order to make their selection.



What to do when you have parent or troop debt:

- Collect ALL receipts! (text messages, emails, receipt books, and bubble sheets/troop pickup sheets)
- Complete *both* the Delinquent Request and Delinquent Account Form.
 - 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.



Program Updates



Your Summer of Ideas

Let your creativity run wild at Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia Summer Camp! Whether you're dreaming up new adventures, discovering hidden talents, or exploring the great outdoors, this is your summer to shine. Registration is now open—check out the [Summer Camp Guide](#) and start planning your best summer yet! [Sign up today!](#)

Highest Awards Ceremony paperwork deadline: March 31, 2025

To be recognized at the council's High Awards Ceremony in May, Final Report paperwork must be submitted by March 31, 2025.

- *Bronze (Juniors) & Silver (Cadettes) Awards*: Submit final reports via email to highestawards@gshg.org.
- *Gold Award (Seniors & Ambassadors)*: Submit final reports through the GoGold platform and ensure approval by the Gold Committee by March 31.

If the paperwork isn't completed by the deadline, girls will be honored at next year's ceremony.

Important: March 31 is the ceremony deadline, not the completion deadline for the awards:

- *Bronze Award*: Complete by September 30 of the year you finish 5th grade.
- *Silver Award*: Complete by September 30 of the year you finish 8th grade.
- *Gold Award*: Complete by September 30 of the year you graduate high school.

For questions, contact your local program manager or email highestawards@gshg.org.

Service Opportunity - Macon Area

Is your troop looking for an opportunity to make a difference in your community? Central Georgia Technical College is seeking donations to help fill their food pantry. If your troop would like to collect nonperishable food items for this pantry, they can be dropped off in C-135 at the Warner Robins campus or J-145 at the Macon campus. You can also arrange for pick-up by contacting Tonja Simmons Lee at tlee@centralgatech.edu.

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. 28: Van Gogh Get'Em - Athens

Mar. 30: Girl Scouts Night with Rock Lobsters - Athens

Apr. 26: Girl Scout Day at Arrows Farm - Clarkesville - Region 1 (*registration coming soon*)

Region 2

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

Apr. 19: Pinhole Photography - Augusta

Region 3

Apr. 5-6: Serendipity Troop Camp - Savannah

Apr. 9: Bee Bots - Savannah

Apr. 12-13: Flea Market Find Troop Camp - Savannah

Apr. 13: Family Adventure Day at Camp Low - Savannah

Apr. 15: Essentially Me - Lip Balm & Roll-on Perfume - Savannah

Region 4

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



Virtual

Apr. 8: Bronze Award Training

Apr. 10: Gold Award Training

Region 5

Apr. 4-5: Drive in Troop Camp - Fortson - Session 1

Apr. 5-6: Drive in Troop Camp - Fortson - Session 2

Apr. 16: Woodburning 101 - Columbus

Region 6

Apr. 12: National Donate Life Month with LifeLink of Georgia - Lizella (D,B,J)

Apr. 12: National Donate Life Month with LifeLink of Georgia - Lizella (C,S,A)

Apr. 17: Bees, Teas, and Seeds - Warner Robins

Apr. 26: Earth Day Celebration! - Lizella

Retail Updates

Celebrate Girl Scout Week at a council shop!

From March 10-14, stop by any council shop and enjoy a free spin on our prize wheel with any purchase! You could win fun Girl Scout goodies - just for shopping! It's the perfect time to check out new spring fashions, Trefoil fun finds, and last-minute cookie merchandise before the season ends!

Don't have a shop in your area? No worries! Our mobile shops in Augusta, Albany, Columbus, and Gainesville will also have the prize wheel!

Don't miss out - stock up on your Girl Scout essentials and take a chance at winning something special!



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!



Meet our Membership and Volunteer Development Teams!

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

Athens & Gainesville

Jaci Bridges, Regional Director of Membership & Volunteer Support

Melissa Clink, Membership Manager

Sarah Jones, Membership Manager

Ellie Riddell, Membership Manager

Augusta

Quiana Wizzart, Interim Regional Director

Lisa Martin, Membership Manager

Mona Cox, Youth Coordinator

Savannah

Tammy Williams, Regional Director of Membership & Volunteer Support

Sally McCoy, Membership Manager

Jennifer Rounds, Membership Manager

Gabrielle Sovocool, Membership Manager

Carmen Exum, Youth Coordinator

Albany

Cullena Mays, Girl Scout DreamLab Manager

Cynthia Gaines, Membership Manager

Abrea Harrell, Membership Manager

Keisha Herrin, Membership Manager

Columbus

Dee Dee Rivers, Senior Director of Membership & Volunteer Support

Anne Martin, Regional Director of Membership & Volunteer Support

Melissa Burkett, Membership Manager

Raneshia Hudson, Youth Coordinator

Wanda Jenkins-Davis, Youth Coordinator

Macon

Tiffany Connolly, Director of Volunteer Development

Jade Hill, Regional Director of Membership & Volunteer Support

Pristiny Brown, Membership Manager

Kiaira Jackson, Membership Manager

Ashlynn Kilcrease, Membership Manager

Jax Exum, Youth Coordinator

Ashley Newton, Youth Coordinator



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!