

Council Updates

New Membership Year

October 1 marks the beginning of our new Girl Scout year, and we are thrilled for all the fun, learning, and adventures ahead. If you have girls, volunteers, or caregivers who haven't renewed yet, now is the perfect time to do so—don't let anyone miss out on all the exciting opportunities this year has to offer!



For the 2026–2027 membership year, which starts on October 1, girl membership is \$70, and adult membership is \$30.

Free and reduced membership is available through our insurance partners (Amerigroup, CareSource, and Peach State); financial aid is available thanks to contributions to the Friends and Family Fund!

Reminder for our Lifetime Members and SU Volunteers: Please login to your myGS account and renew your SU roles for the 2027 membership year!



International Day of the Girl

Every year on October 11, the global community comes together to celebrate International Day of the Girl.

It's the day when you can recognize the power of girls everywhere—and highlight, discuss, and take action to advance the rights of, and opportunities for, girls across the globe.

Every girl has the power to realize her potential. But it's important to amplify girls' voices and advocate for their inclusion in changemaking spaces. By supporting and investing in girls, you can make the world a better place.

Celebrate International Day of the Girl not only to support a platform where girls can speak out, but also to share girls' achievements, triumphs, and contributions as we build towards a brighter and more equitable future for girls everywhere.

2026-2027 Program and Resource Guide is now live!

Our Program Guide has a new look this year, be sure to check out our programming schedule for the whole school year now!

Your Girl Scout membership is nationwide. Don't forget, you can attend events all across our council's footprint and beyond - solo or with your troop!



Membership Updates

Volunteers and staff are still out in the community spreading the word about Girl Scouts and inviting families to join the fun. This year's theme is **Find What's Within**—and there's no better time to grow our Girl Scout family. If you're interested in helping with recruitments in your area or need support growing your troop, reach out to your Membership Manager. We'd love for you to be part of our recruitment team!



Please note that a new membership fee structure went into effect on April 1, 2026:

- Girl Membership: \$70
- Adult Membership: \$30 (no change)

Need help renewing? Our Customer Care team is happy to assist—call 888-689-1912.

Reminder: Girls can use their Cookie Program rewards to renew their membership.

Reminder for our Lifetime Members and SU Volunteers: Please login to your myGS account and renew your SU roles for the upcoming 2027 membership year!

Insurance Partner Updates

Current and future Girl Scouts with insurance through our partners CareSource and Peach State will have an updated membership fee of \$5 per girl. Refer to the Insurance section of our website for requirements set by our partners for eligibility.



Power Her Future

Have you had the opportunity to sign our Power Her Future car yet?!

Be sure to find the car near you and don't forget to send photos to media@gshg.org!



Troop Monthly Report

Remember to send in your Troop Report by the 15th each month! It's a fun way to share all the amazing things your girls have been up to—and it helps us bring the Girl Scout experience to life. **Bonus: Each meeting submitted earns your troop one entry into a random drawing for a \$50 gift card!**



Volunteer Development Updates

Ready, Set, Troop!

Welcome to GSHG: October 19th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Are you a first-year Girl Scout troop leader? Starting again this month, GSHG we will hold monthly information sessions for our first-year Girl Scout troop leadership team volunteers. The 1-hour sessions will be online with a theme each month. First-year Girl Scout troop leaders will learn about timely topics for leading a Girl Scout troop, ask questions and meet other new troop leaders. *The sessions will be held the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.*



Songs and S'mores Adult Training - Augusta

October 2

Songs and S'mores gives participants the skills needed to safely build, tend and put out a campfire the Girl Scout way, how to make s'mores, and how to lead a campfire program with their Girl Scout troop or group.

This training is required before building fires with Girl Scouts.



Basic Outdoor Skills - Augusta

October 3-4

Basic Outdoor Skills Training gives leaders the skills needed to take Girl Scouts on a beginning outdoor overnight experience. This is a facilitator-led course that is required before taking Girl Scouts on experiences where there will be outdoor cooking (campfire or propane stove) or sleeping in an outdoor setting (bathroom facilities in a separate structure, platform tents, cabins, pitched tents).

Course Prerequisite: GSUSA Girl Scouts in the Outdoors (online course on gsLearn for all registered adult members of GSHG).

This training is required before camping with Girl Scouts.



USA Archery Level 1 Instructor Training - Augusta

October 4, 2026

The Level 1 Instructor will learn about range safety, range setup, the steps of shooting, equipment and repair, programs, and lesson plans. This course is required to facilitate archery programs for Girl Scouts. Participants must be 15 years old on or before the day of training. *There is an online portion that must be completed before the in person training.*



LEAP - Camp Low in Savannah

October 16-18, 2026

LEAP (Leadership Experience for Adult Pathways) Presents: Into the Holidays! This adult volunteer event includes a variety of training classes - from core training like Basic Outdoor Skills to enrichment workshops all in one convenient training event. Volunteers will have the opportunity to take several workshop sessions of their choosing over the duration of this event and meet leaders and volunteers from across their region and the council.



Product Program Updates



New! For Service Unit Product Program Manager.

The SUPPM eCookbook is now available in gsLearn. This training is mandatory for all volunteers in the Service Unit Product Program Manager Role.

To be considered a functioning Service Unit and receive the SU Bonus at the end of the Cookie Program, you must have the following roles assigned to a volunteer in your Service Unit: Treasurer, Manager, Cookie Program and Fall Product Program. You have until October 1, 2026 to make this decision and have the roles assigned in myGS.

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines:

- **October 5:** SUPPM confirm Fall Product & reward delivery addresses
- **October 23:** Troops begin entering Fall Product paper order cards
- **October 25:** Close Out Week! Troops have 7 days to close out Fall Product Program
- **October 28:** Caregiver & participants paper order entry deadline
- **October 29:** All deposits due in troop bank accounts
- **October 29:** Non-ACH payments due in council office
- **October 30:** SUPPM can begin entering Fall Product paper order cards
- **October 31:** TFPMP paper order card deadline
- **November 1:** Confirm that all registered and active Girl Scouts are listed on your Troop Roster
- **November 2:** SUPPM paper order entry deadline
- **November 2:** Fall Product Program ends at 11:59 p.m.
- **November 4:** Hop! Skip! And Win! Giveaway winner announced
- **November 6:** ACH Draft will begin appearing in Troop Bank Accounts (November 7-14)



*Hop! Skip!
And Win!*

GSHG Dog Rallies

Columbus:

October 3
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Columbus City
Dog Park



Macon:

October 10
12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
BSCO
Animal Services



Athens:

October 18
1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Normaltown
Brewing Co



Savannah:

October 24-25
12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Wag-o-ween
Juliette Gordon Low
Birthplace Museum



Patch Pals™ are soft-baked, blueberry muffin-inspired treats made just for your canine BFF. GSHG's cookie season is December 14, 2026-March 7, 2027. Patch Pals and Sparkables will be available starting January 12, 2027.

All cookies will be \$6 this season, Patch Pals dog cookie will be \$9.

Product Program Updates (*continued*)



Are YOU ready for the 2026 Fall Product Program?

Step 1: Be Product Program Ready!

- Be a registered Girl Scout volunteer with an approved background check for the current Girl Scout Membership year. To verify, call Customer Care at 1-888-689-1912.
- You must have the Troop Fall Product Program Manager role assigned to you in myGS to gain access to your Troop M2 Media Dashboard and have two non-related, background-checked volunteers assigned to the troop leadership role in myGS.
- Troops with less than 5 registered girls in grades K-5 and/or less than 3 registered girls in grades 6-12 may participate in upcoming Product Programs IF they are open in the Troop Catalog. Call Customer Care on 1-888-689-1912 for verification.
- Have your troop bank account set up by the Troop Account Manager.
- Complete the Product Program Manager Agreement Form and Troop Debt Form via Jotform.

Step 2: Watch training videos!

Go to gsLearn to access the entire Fall Product Program Training playlist. Get started by watching the GSHG Fall Product Program Training video to gain access to your M2 Media troop dashboard. [Click here to view your Volunteer Guide.](#)

Step 3: Mark your calendar!

Be aware of all deadlines set throughout the Fall Product Program.

Are YOUR GIRL SCOUTS ready for the 2026 Fall Product Program?

Step 1: Complete the Caregiver Checklist!

- Register your girl for the current Girl Scout membership year. To verify, call Customer Care at 1-888-689-1912.
- Opt-in to receive emails. Ensure that your correct email address is in your myGS account and verify that you opted-in to receive emails to receive your Girl Scout's online site invite.
- Complete the Product Program Caregiver Permission Form & Parent Debt Form via Jotform with your troop number, service unit name, and region before September 19th, 2026.
 - For Girl Scouts in multiple troops, you can only participate in one troop for the duration of the cookie program.
 - Caregivers must submit one form per Girls Scout. For example, if you have three girls in your household, you must complete three separate submissions of the caregiver permission form.

Step 2: Watch the training videos!

Head to www.gshg.org/cookies+ to access all available training resources. [Click here to view our Caregiver Guide!](#)

Step 3: Mark your calendar!

Be aware of all deadlines set throughout the Fall Product Program.



Program Updates

New: Self-Paced Gold Award Training Now Available!

GSUSA has released an online Gold Award training that Girl Scouts can take anytime, at their own pace—no gsLearn account or login needed. It works on any device (computer, tablet, or phone), designed to meet girls where they are.



What to know:

- Self-paced—start, stop, and revisit anytime
- Works on any device, no login required
- Open to Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors ready to explore the Gold Award. Required for Girl Scouts who plan to earn the Gold Award.
- Adults are welcome to take it too, just to see what it's about!

Ready to take the next step? At the end of the training, there's an interest form for Girl Scouts who want to move forward and be matched with a Gold Award Coach - a local volunteer from our council. GSUSA tracks completions and will notify us when a Girl Scout is ready for a coach.

Note: If you're not a Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador, feel free to explore the training, but please don't submit the interest form. Let's keep that step reserved for those eligible and ready to begin their Gold Award journey.

Link to the training: [GSUSA Gold Award Training](#). Feel free to share and let us know what you think! Questions? Mygoldaward@gshg.org or your local GSHG staff member.

Upcoming Programs

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!



Region 1 Events

10/18: Paws and Promise Dog Rally
10/27: Trick or Treat with Kappa Delta

Region 2 Events

10/2: Songs and S'mores Adult Training
10/3-4: Basic Outdoor Skills Adult Training
10/4: USA Archery Level 1 Instructor

Region 3 Events

10/6: Texas Roadhouse Dine to Donate
10/16-18: LEAP into the Holidays!
10/23-24: Build-A-Bear Sleepover
10/24-25: Wag-o-ween

Region 4 Events

10/6: Pasta-bilities
10/13: K-Pop Hunters Journey
10/30: Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday Party!

Region 5 Events

10/3: Paws and Promise Dog Rally
10/23-25: Girl Scout Weekend at Talladega

Region 6 Events

10/10: Pumpkins and Paws Dog Rally
10/24-25: Miss Fix-it Troop Camp
10/27: Texas Roadhouse Dine to Donate

Virtual Events

10/4: Ask me Anything: Highest Awards
10/5: Art for the Heart
10/6: Knowing My Emotions
10/7: Taking Control of Your Physical and Mental Health
10/8: Supporting the Whole Girl: Mental Health Training
10/9: Mindful Movement: Virtual Yoga

Retail Updates



The new Girl Scout year has started and it's time to refresh your style! From T-shirts and hoodies to skirts and skorts, our Girl Scout shops have all the combinations you could need. Top it off from head to top with a new hat, jewelry, and socks. Stop by your local shop or pop-up location to see all the latest offerings. Can't make it to a shop? Check out our current catalogs at [Girl Scout Shop](#) and shop anytime online.



Journey badges, books and pins have been marked down! While they may no longer count towards earning your Highest Awards, girls can still earn the badges and pins. Make sure to stock up on future levels now.

- Single Badges and Pins: \$1.99
- Multi Badge Sets or Individual Girl Books: \$2.99
- Girl Book & Badge Bundle: \$3.99
- Leader Guide Bundle: \$4.99

Supplies are limited and vary by location. All Sales Final. We will no longer be accepting any returns for Journey items.



Have your kids been missing out on finding the new viral toy? We have squishy butter, cheese, dumplings, and cubes. They are selling fast, so make sure to stop into a shop today! And yes, you can use your cookie points towards them.

Follow us on social media!

Want to stay up to date with the latest from GSHG? Follow us on social media for pictures and videos of all the exciting things girls are doing, program opportunities, council updates, and much more. Just search for "Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia" on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), or [TikTok](#)!

Help us hit our goal of 1,000 followers on TikTok so we can do exciting things like being able to go on TikTok Live from camp and events, and even open a TikTok Shop!



Meet the Membership Team!



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

Athens & Gainesville

Jaci Bridges

Regional Director of
Membership and
Volunteer Support

Ansley Land

Membership Manager

Melissa Clink

Membership Manager

Sarah Jones

Girl Experience Manager

Augusta

Quiana Wizzart

Regional Director of
Membership and
Volunteer Support

Toma Hamilton

Membership Manager

Mona Cox

Youth Coordinator

Demar Johnson

Youth Coordinator

Savannah

Crystle Bishop

Regional Director of
Membership and
Volunteer Support

Alexa Collyer

Membership Manager

Emilee Fry

Girl Experience Manager

Jennifer Rounds

Membership Manager

Kimberly Thompson

Membership Manager

Albany

Cindy Wisham

Regional Director of
Membership and Volunteer
Support

Cynthia Gaines

Membership Manager

Alexis Robinson

Membership Manager

Columbus

Dee-Dee Rivers

Senior Director of Membership
and Volunteer Support

Anne Whitmer

Regional Director of
Membership and Volunteer
Support

Lauren Fender

Membership Manager

Wanda Jenkins-Davis

Youth Coordinator

Melissa Burkett

Membership Manager

Ellie Smith

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Macon

Jade Hill

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Ashlynn Kilcrease

Youth Coordinator

Chelsea Mathis

Membership Manager

Kiaira Jackson

Membership Manager

Pristiny Brown

Membership Manager

Rachel Griffith

Membership Manager

Jax Exum

Youth Coordinator

Haley Hall

Girl Experience Manager



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!