

Volunteer Newsletter

May - June 2024

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Troop Spotlight

In April, Troop 298 learned about manners and etiquette by participating in a fancy tea party! Following the tea party, they presented what they learned to parents and caregivers.

Want your troop or Service Unit to be spotlighted in a future newsletter or on social media? Submit your troop activities using the [Girls in Action](#) form!

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			1 + Youth Mental Health First Aid Training + Night Hike at Camp Grove Point	2	3	4 + Think Like A Citizen Scientist Journey in a Day at Country Center
5	6	7	8	9	10 + V.I.C. Overnight at Camp Grove Point	11 + Amazing Race Day at Camp Grove Point + MEdia Journey in a Day at Camp Todd + Detective/Special Agent Badge Workshop at Country Center
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 + Adventurer Day at Pocomoke River State Park + Youth Mental Health First Aid Training + Toy Business Designer Badge Workshop at Todd
19 + Adventurer Day at Trap Pond State Park	20 + Finance and Annual Reporting Training	21	22	23 + SU Networking Night	24	25
26	27 GSCB Offices Closed	28	29	30	31 + Adventurer Overnight at Camp Grove Point	1 + Adventurer Overnight at Camp Grove Point

MAY

JUNE

2	3	4	5	6	7	8 +GSCB Carnival Day at Camp Todd
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 + Virtual Pride Month Program
16	17	18	19 GSCB Offices Closed	20 + Night Hike	21 + Volunteer Getaway Weekend	22
23	24	25 + Finance and Annual Reporting Training	26	27	28	29
30						

Updates and Happenings

New Trainings Available in gsLearn

Do you need assistance navigating or finding information on our website? We've got you covered!

Now available in gsLearn:

- 200: Navigating GSCB.org

Attention bridging Brownies and current Junior troops! There will be a virtual Bronze Award training session, date to be announced, but we also have the following available:

- 200: GSCB Girl Scout Bronze Award Training

We recommend caregivers view the training with their Bronze Award aspiring Girl Scout.

New Service Unit and Troop Finance Tracker and Annual Report Process

You've heard us talking about the Service Unit and Troop Annual Finance Reporting process at Service Unit Meetings, in past newsletters, and you may have even taken the assigned gsLearn training titled [200: GSCB Finance and Reporting Learning Path](#).

Do you still have questions?

Register or save the date for one of these [Finance and Annual Reporting Training](#) calls:

- [Monday, May 20th at 7PM](#)
- [Tuesday, June 25th at 7PM](#)

Don't wait until July to get started on this new process. We're here to help every step of the way.

Girl Scouts are on the GO! Troop Travel Reminders

Is your troop planning to use your Cookie Proceeds for a travel experience? Don't forget to complete your [Troop Travel Application](#) if your troop will be:

- Staying anywhere overnight (all adult chaperones MUST be registered and background checked)
- High risk activities (as defined by the Safety Activity Checkpoints)
- Air travel
- International travel
- Girl, Troop, or SU is partaking in trip organized by another council or GSUSA

Remember: When you travel, your safety ratios change. Review the chart and make sure you have enough registered, background checked volunteers to maintain ratio.

	Group Meetings		Events, Travel and Camping	
	Two unrelated volunteers (at least one of whom is female) for up to this number of girls:	One additional volunteer to each additional:	Two unrelated volunteers (at least one of whom is female) for up to this number of girls:	One additional volunteer to each additional:
Daisies (grades K-1)	12	1-6	6	1-4
Brownies (grades 2-3)	20	1-8	12	1-6
Juniors (grades 4-5)	25	1-10	16	1-8
Cadettes (grades 6-8)	25	1-12	20	1-10
Seniors (grades 9-10)	30	1-15	24	1-12
Ambassadors (grades 11-12)	30	1-15	24	1-12

GSCB After Hours Program Line

We've heard your feedback that it is necessary to be able to reach a member of the Program Team after hours. You can now reach a member of the Program Team after business hours for day/night of program concerns by calling the GSCB After Hours Line: 302-451-9300

- Option 2 - If you have a Program on the Move reservation scheduled and need to reach someone.
- Option 3 - If you are registered for a program that GSCB is hosting (Badge/Journey Workshop/Adventurer Program/Outdoor Activities/Etc.)

As always, please continue to contact Member Care at MemberCare@cbgsc.org with registration or non-emergent questions, and continue using the Program Survey for sharing your feedback.

Early Bird Renewal

Early Bird Renewal is well underway! Have you renewed your membership? What about the girls in your troop? Earn incentives for your troop and service unit by encouraging girls and caregivers to renew during Early Bird for only \$25! (During this special timeframe, the council service fee of \$20 is waived.)

This year, we're putting our BEST Foot Forward with Girl Scouts and here are some of the BIG benefits of renewing during Early Bird:

- For Girl Scouts - Renewing your membership between April 1st - June 30th will get you:
 - ▶ \$20.00 Membership Discount- Your membership cost will be \$25.00. After June 30th, the price increases to \$45.00.
 - ▶ FREE Bigfoot patch!
- For Troop Leaders - Your troop will earn a chance to get a \$50.00 ACH into the troop bank account if you complete the following by June 30th:
 - ▶ 75% of girl members renewed
 - ▶ 2 Troop Leaders renewed
 - ▶ Troop Participation Form completed
- Service Units - Your SU will earn a chance to get an ACH deposit into their Service Unit account if they renew 75% of the girls in their service unit. ACH deposit amounts vary by SU, depending on size. Additionally, the SU with the highest renewal rate will earn a FREE property reservation for an upcoming encampment.

Current number of girl members renewed: 976

Current number of adult members renewed: 493

*Early Bird data as of April 29th, 2024.

Extended Year Membership

Are there new Girl Scouts interested in joining your troop? Joining now through July 31st with an Extended Year Membership allows them to participate for the rest of this year and next at a reduced price. Learn more at www.gscb.org/join.

Girl Scout Voices Count

Last year, over 100,000 members completed the GSUSA annual Girl Scout Voices Count national survey to tell us about their Girl Scout experiences. Feedback is used to make national programs more engaging, inclusive, and hands-on and to create new resources to support troop leaders. Your voice matters and makes Girl Scouting better for everyone—so we want to hear from you!

This year, there's been a slight change to the audience of the surveys. Girl Scouts of the USA is pausing the surveying of caregivers and volunteers and is focusing on the responses of our Girl Scout youth members. The feedback you provide is so important as it helps us improve Girl Scout programs and services.

Be sure to check your email or text messages for an invitation for your Girl Scout to participate. As a thank you, everyone who completes the survey will have a chance to win 1 of 20 \$50 gift cards. This survey and opportunity to participate will close on May 15th, so don't hesitate! We're looking forward to hearing from you!

If you have any questions, please email GSVoicesCount@girlscouts.org.

Product Programs

Cookies



Fall Product

Exciting Updates for the Fall Product Program! We are full of anticipation for the upcoming Membership Year 25' Fall Product Program! We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support in empowering our Girl Scouts.

We're thrilled to announce some exciting changes for this year's Fall Product Program:

1. Direct Shipping to Troop Fall Product Champions: Gone are the days of picking up products and rewards from your Service Unit Fall Product Champion (SUFPC). Starting the week of December 2, 2024, troop products and rewards will be shipped directly to the Troop Fall Product Champion (TFPC).

For our Service Unit Fall Product Champions, you'll still need to:

- Register for the 2025 Membership Year
- Renew your background check, if expired
- Complete Product Program Champion Agreement for your position
- Complete the gsLearn learning path for your position
- Provide ongoing support to troops/volunteers throughout the program

But you'll no longer have to:

- Schedule time to receive products and rewards vendors
- Sort products and rewards for troop-level distribution
- Schedule pickup times for troops

For our Troop Fall Product Champions, this means you'll still need to:

- Register for the 2025 Membership Year
- Renew your background check, if expired
- Complete Product Program Agreement for your position
- Complete the gsLearn learning path for your position
- Ensure that caregivers complete the GSCB Family Product Program Agreement (required to participate)
- Support Girl Scouts and caregivers throughout the program
- Separate products and rewards for troop members
- Schedule pickup times for products and rewards with caregivers

But you'll no longer have to:

- Schedule time to pick up products and rewards from SUFPC

For caregivers, here's what you'll need to know:

- Register your Girl Scout for the 2025 membership year as soon as possible
- Complete the Caregiver Product Program Agreement (required to participate)
- Complete gsLearn learning path for caregivers
- Ensure payments are submitted to TFPC by the requested date (or take all payments through your Girl Scout's online account)
- Schedule pickup time for products and rewards with the TFPC
- Guarantee product delivery to customers by December 13, 2024

2. Additionally, order cards will be mailed directly to Girl Scouts registered for MY25 as of August 22, 2024, the week of September 16, 2024. If your Girl Scout is new to the troop or did not receive the mailing, you can print the order card online on the [For Girl Scout Members' Fall Product Program Page](#).

Here are some important dates to remember:

- **August 2024** – Fall Product Training available for all levels; Service Unit Fall Product Champion, Troop Fall Product Champion, and Caregivers; Register Girl Scouts by August 21st to get a mailed paper order card.
- **September 20, 2024** – GSCB early access to the platform for Service Unit Fall Product Champions, Troop Fall Product Champion and Girl Scouts who have met the criteria (Registered for MY25, Position Agreement and Background Check)
- **September 27, 2024** – Fall Product Program Begins (Online and Order Card)
- **October 30, 2024** – Last Day to enter Order Card orders by participants
- **November 1, 2024** – Last Day to enter Order Card orders by Troop Fall Product Champions
- **November 3, 2024** – Last Day to enter Order Card orders by Service Unit Fall Product Champions
- **November 4, 2024** – Last Day for Girls/Troops to Make Reward Choices
- **December 2, 2024** – Product and Rewards start shipping to Troop Fall Product Champions
- **December 13, 2024** – Last Day for Girl Delivery to Customers
- **December 13, 2024** – GSCB Product Program Communication to Troops with ACH Information
- **December 20, 2024** – Troop ACH Occurs (Credit/Debit)

Things to Do

Volunteer Getaway Weekend

As a Girl Scout Volunteer, you do so much to provide for our members. From planning meetings and guiding them through activities like earning badges and exploring the outdoors, to teaching them lasting skills of leadership and empowerment, you truly care for your Girl Scout members. Now it's time for us to show our appreciation to YOU!

Join us for yet another fun-filled Volunteer Getaway Weekend where WE do the planning, provide the activities, and you have fun with your friends! You can choose to participate in every activity, or just sit back and relax all weekend!

Lodging and food included. Activity details will be provided closer to the event.
Register today!

Volunteer Getaway Weekend - Camp Todd
Friday, June 21, 6:00 PM – Sunday, June 23, 12:00 PM
25012 Beauchamp Branch Rd. Denton, MD 21629
Cost = \$50 Lodging and meals included.

May Mental Health Awareness Month

Girl Scouts is good for your Mental Health! That's why we're celebrating Mental Health Awareness Month in May. Check out our Mental Wellness at Girl Scouts page for more information.

- NEW Mental Wellness Patches available for Juniors - Ambassadors
- FREE Resilient. Ready. Strong. patches available by request during the month of May! Only while supplies last. **REQUEST**
- FREE "Girl Scouts is Good For Your Mental Health Sticker" available by request when you do something good for your mental health during the month of May! Only while supplies last. **REQUEST**

Adults, we encourage you to participate in our upcoming Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainings!

May Adventurer Weekend is Now 2 Adventurer Days!

Due to a change in availability, our Adventurer Weekend at Pocomoke State Park will now be 2 Adventurer Days - that's double the opportunity to get outdoors and have fun with us at local state parks!

Here's the new details:

- Saturday, May 18th - Adventurer Day at Pocomoke River State Park from 10AM - 3PM - All Levels (Registration closes 5/10)
- Sunday, May 19th - Adventurer Day at Trap Pond State Park from 10AM - 3PM - All Levels (Registration closes 5/11)

As an added bonus, this is a special opportunity to earn the "Day" piece of our Adventurer Patch! Purchase the main patch at your leisure and fill it in with Day, Overnight and Weekend patch pieces by attending GSCB events.

GSCB Carnival Day - Volunteers Needed

We are getting SO excited to host our first ever GSCB Carnival Day at Camp Todd on June 8th! We have met our minimum number of required registrations, and we have many exciting games and activities planned to keep girls and families engaged. We are currently looking for volunteers to help run games, hand out snacks, attend activities, etc. This opportunity is available for adults or older girls and will count towards a Service to Girl Scouting bar!

If interested in volunteering, contact Tiffany Klotz at TKlotz@cbgsc.org.

Governance

Service Unit Delegate Appointment Process

As we plan for the 2024 – 2025 Membership Year, Service Unit Delegate elections have begun for the upcoming term. Service Unit delegates and alternate delegates serve as a member of the Corporation of the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council to communicate governance information between the board of directors and the service unit that elected them. Delegates and alternates represent the voice of the service unit to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting of the council. Check out the [GSCB Governance and Financials webpage](#) for more information, and the [Service Unit Delegate and Alternate Position Description](#).

Here are the steps to Elections:

1. Let your Service Unit Manager know if you are interested in being nominated for this role.
2. Service Unit Managers will facilitate a Service Unit Delegate election at a Leader Meeting in May or June.
3. Service Units submit their elected Delegates and Alternate Delegates using the [GSCB Service Unit Delegate Election Form](#) by June 30th, 2024.

Service Unit	9/30/23 Girl Membership	# of Delegates to be Elected	Service Unit	9/30/23 Girl Membership	# of Delegates to be Elected
1	139	3	24	66	2
2	74	2	25	187	4
4	59	2	30	212	4
6	67	2	31	190	4
7	95	3	33	214	4
10	70	2	34	94	3
11	86	3	36	54	2
12	97	3	39	94	3
13	311	6	45	266	5
14	117	3	79	295	5
15	51	2	88	199	4
18	167	4	89	60	2
19	206	4	97	194	4

Annual Meeting Recap

On April 17th the GSCB Delegation voted and approved the following slate of individuals to the Board of Directors:

- Board of Directors - Officers Class of 2026
 - ▶ Janet Chavous, Treasurer, 1st Term
- Board of Directors - Members at Large Class of 2027
 - ▶ Greg Fogarty, Member at Large, 2nd Term
 - ▶ Autumn Tuxward, Member at Large, 1st Term
 - ▶ Patricia Nash Christel, Member at Large, 1st Term
 - ▶ Anuradha “Anu” Sivaraman, Member at Large, 1st Term
 - ▶ Kristina Schroeder, Member at Large, 1st Term
 - ▶ Sharmina Ellis, Member at Large, 1st Term
- Board of Directors, Teen Girl Representatives
 - ▶ Olivia Bruno
 - ▶ Juliana Morrissette
- Unexpired Board Terms
 - ▶ Board of Directors Member at Large Unexpired term - Kimberlee Ziolkowski
 - ▶ Board Development Committee Unexpired terms - Autumn Tuxward and Amber Young

GSCB Board Approved Award Recipients

- Appreciation Pin
 - ▶ Ashley Arnold - Ashley is an active Troop Leader as well as a Delegate for Service Unit 631. She has increased the awareness of Girl Scouts and opportunities for the girls in 631 to do meaningful community service by connecting with various community groups. She prioritizes activities, such as supporting the girls in earning their Bronze Award by making a hygiene closet for a local intermediate school, making PBJ sandwich bags for Code Purple, and adopting a family every Christmas. Ashley always has a positive attitude and is very resourceful. If there is something the girls have an interest in pursuing, she figures it out (or helps them figure it out) and then shares her findings with other troops.
 - ▶ Natalie Surles - Natalie is an active Troop Support Volunteer as well as a Delegate for Service Unit 631. She has been an advocate for getting the girls outdoors and enjoying camp. She and her daughter have been instrumental in engaging their full troop in participation in the Very Invested Camper Program (V.I.C). Natalie was a valuable member of the GSCB Property Taskforce, volunteering her time to help ensure that the necessary research and analysis were completed to prepare the report that came out to all GSCB members.
- Thanks Badge
 - ▶ Lesley Czocho - Lesley is a Delegate for Service Unit 679. She was an instrumental member of the GSCB By-laws Taskforce in the 2022-2023 Membership Year. Lesley has a passion for governance and utilized that passion to have a positive and detailed impact on the committee outcomes. She was meticulous in her review of our council and non-profit bylaws, her feedback, and ongoing guidance. She supported the development of strong collaboration and thoughtful considerations throughout the process the ensuring a successful outcome.
 - ▶ Cheri Stewart - Cheri is a dedicated member of the Gold Award Review Committee (GARC). In her role, Cheri provides direct mentorship to Girl Scouts, ensuring their projects meet the gold award standards and follow the established processes. She is always willing to fill vacancies on a review team, often volunteering to facilitate the review process - allowing other GARC members to focus on the project while she handles the administrative tasks. Cheri is a positive presence and brings a can-do attitude.

- Seagull Pin
 - ▶ Tracie Bruno - Tracie is a National Delegate, Association Chair (IV), Service Unit Manager (631), Troop Leader, and Archery Facilitator. She has encouraged participation and communication through her Association, fostering the connection between the Council and local Service Units. In a time where transparency, communication, and awareness are instrumental, this increased involvement empowered leaders in Association IV to hear and understand the Council's actions. As National Delegate, Tracie was instrumental in educating GSCB members on proposals for consideration, accepting feedback, serving as their voice, and communicating the outcomes following the National Council Session in July of 2023.
- GSCB Pin
 - ▶ Ethelyn Gill - Lyn is a Gold Award Review Committee Member, Archive Committee Member, Delegate for Service Unit 679, Service Unit Treasurer, and previous chair of the Annual Meeting Committee. Lyn's passion and dedication to Girl Scouts is unmatched. In each of her roles, she has delivered fresh ideas, clear direction, and a commitment to service. Lyn's contributions impact the length and breadth of Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council; from Claymont, DE to the Eastern Shore of Virginia; from the Chesapeake Bay to the Delaware Bay and Atlantic Ocean. She is a selfless volunteer, whose impact is felt by many both past and present.

Years of Service Awards

15 Years
 Donna Burroughs
 Jacqueline Cannon
 Lisa Ramos-Roth
 Timah Ricketts
 Kerry Stewart
 Laurel Sweet
 Meredith Weiss

20 Years
 Brenda Bilous
 Rachel Delgado
 Stacey Sizemore
 Corrine Smith

25 Years
 Michelle Passwaters
 Lauralee Rappleye

Other

2023 - 2024 Membership Goals and Update

The 2023-2024 membership year is in full bloom and we focused on building a strong membership foundation rooted in retention of current members and engagement of new members.

MY24 Girl Membership Goal – 4,500 Current MY24 Girl Membership* - 3,844

MY24 Adult Membership Goal – 1,900 Current MY24 Adult Membership* - 1,860

Lifetime Membership* – 1,041

*Membership data is as of April 29, 2024

School Information Updates

We have 389 Girl Scouts who have a mismatch between their schools and grades. Namely, a lot of high schoolers still attending elementary schools. Caregivers and Troop leaders are able to edit this information in myGS- please log in and do so! Or email MemberCare@cbgsc.org with your roster and we will make the updates for you.

The following troops are effected (in no particular order):

1285	523	951	1424	513	271
291	1121	979	269	679	277
293	363	1150	512	687	360
346	889	1326	934	1427	491
943	404	193	237	382	516
1172	94	454	653	721	53
234	1065	499	70	752	548
45	1271	593	105	801	719
602	1385	665	1093	832	1019
62	591	701	1098	85	1269
878	630	1196	1147	1496	129
1082	827	1222	122	203	1411
137	899	123	1220	361	1498
371	1009	267	150	412	177
101	937	47	222	457	288
1059	1168	547	313	510	488
1331	1246	100	336	1145	562
211	1321	1431	541	292	739
242	484	17	674	312	
255	740	200	680	526	
385	768	268	751	658	
80	109	500	78	764	
86	272	511	873	11	
1376	73	734	472	1277	
323	379	829	537	13	
799	428	850	66	136	
204	479	1068	833	15	
29	579	1240	1078	231	

Staff Comings and Goings

• Staff Goings

Ashley Bulley, Chief Operations Officer, is leaving Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay, effective May 10th. Ashley has seen us through many successful campaigns and initiatives, including two years of year-over-year membership growth, the launch of our Program on the Move program, Peninsula Day of Service, Long Range Property Planning, as well as many volunteer support initiatives. We thank Ashley for all she has done for GSCB and wish her well in her next endeavor!

Madeline Goodall, former Chief Development Officer, left the GSCB team on April 26th. We wish her all the best!

GSCB Employment Opportunities

Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay is seeking passionate, driven and engaged individuals to join our team. Interested parties should email their resume and cover letter to Careers@cbgsc.org for further consideration. To review all open positions, visit our career page, [here](#).

Seasonal Employment

[Summer Overnight Unit Counselor](#)

[Summer Overnight Unit Lead Counselor](#)

[Summer Camp Kitchen Staff](#)

ShopGSCB Merchandise

Camp Care Package items are now available to purchase a la carte from ShopGSCB! Get your hands on a tie dye baseball cap, flip up straw water bottle, 2024 camp water bottle decals, or the long sleeve “Camp Girl Scouts” t-shirt (it’s perfect for tie-dyeing!).

Also available just in time for Mother’s Day and Father’s Day - Girl Scout Mom and Girl Scout Dad t-shirts!

SHOP NOW

