

Volunteer Newsletter

January - February 2024

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Troop Spotlight

In November, Troop 66 was visited by Angela Woo from Comic Mania in Wilmington, DE. She showcased superhero comic books, and the girls designed their own superheroes, formed squads and worked together to solve problems!

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 Happy New Year! GSCB Offices Closed	2	3	4	5	6 +Ambassador College Knowledge Workshop
7 +Farewell to Camp Sandy Pines	8	9 +Breaking the Silence with Byrnes Health Education	10	11	12	13 +Ambassador College Knowledge Workshop
14	15 +Night Hike +Outdoor Skills Training Day GSCB Offices Closed	16	17 +Suspending Stress with Byrnes Health Education	18	19	20 +Leadership Basics at Camp Todd +Gold Award Training
21	22	23	24	25 +SU Networking Night	26 +Adventurer Weekend +Virtual Cookie Rally	27 +Babysitting Program +Outdoor Skills Training Day
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

				1	2 +Adventurer Overnight	3 +Adventurer Overnight +Virtual Black History Month +First Aid Badge Workshop
4	5 +Association Meetings (I & II)	6 + Association Meeting (III)	7	8	9	10 +Outdoor Skills
11	12 +Association Meeting (IV)	13 +Association Meetings (V & VI)	14 Happy Valentine's Day!	15 +Night Hike	16 +V.I.C. S'mores and Stargazing	17 +First Aid Badge Workshop +Gold Award Training
18 +World Thinking Day Event	19 GSCB Offices Closed	20	21	22 Happy World Thinking Day!	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Updates and Happenings

Is Your Troop Meeting GSUSA Requirements?

Here's a summary of what is required:

1. A Girl Scout troop/group must have at minimum five girls and two approved unrelated adult volunteers, at least one of whom is female (two Co-Leaders or one Co-Leader and one dedicated Troop Support Volunteer who acts to fulfill ratio).

However, adult to girl ratio varies with Program Level, number of girls and activity, so double-check the Troop Size and Knowing How Many Volunteers You Need sections of Troop Leader Central to make sure you've got the right amount of coverage for your troop.

GSUSA states a minimum of 5 youth members per troop.

We will be working with all troops with less than 5 girls over the next year to reach the GSUSA minimum of 5. If these troops are unable to recruit, we will assist you in transferring girl members to another troop experience or can help them transfer to participation as a Juliette.

	Group Meetings		Events, Travel and Camping	
	<i>Two</i> unrelated volunteers (at least one of whom is female) for up to this number of girls:	<i>One</i> additional volunteer to each additional:	<i>Two</i> unrelated volunteers (at least one of whom is female) for up to this number of girls:	<i>One</i> 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

NEW! Property Reservation System - "Campspot"

GSCB is excited to announce the launch of our new Property Reservation System, Campspot, on February 1st, 2024!

Join us for Campspot Office Hours to learn more about the new system, understand changes to the reservation process, and have your questions answered:

- Tuesday, January 16th - 7PM - 8:30PM - [REGISTER](#)
- Thursday, January 18th - 12PM - 1PM - [REGISTER](#)

Members will receive an email on January 18th, sharing the news and providing new resources for managing property reservations after February 1st, 2024.

NEW! Silver Award Suite

Calling all Cadette Leaders and Caregivers! Supporting your Girl Scout Cadette(s) in their Silver Award will help them to create positive change, learn leadership skills that will last a lifetime and prepare to earn their Gold Award! Earning the Silver Award is an incredible achievement - We're here to support them by making the process as simple as possible.

Be sure to use the new workbooks, proposal form, and resources to guide them every step of the way!

- [Cadette Workbook to Earning Your Silver Award](#)
- [Girl Scout Silver Award Project Proposal form](#)
- [Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report form](#)
- [Adult Guide for Earning the Silver Award](#)

In addition, check out these other great resources:

- Silver Award Meeting Plans in the Volunteer Toolkit
- NEW gsLearn Learning Path titled "GSUSA Earning the Silver Award: Your Guide to the Requirements and Process" - great training to share with your Cadettes!

You can access all of these new guidebooks right on our Silver Award page.

NEW! Annual Finance Report and Tracking Tools

We all know that financial transparency builds strong and invested troops. So GSCB has launched a new Annual Finance Report process as well as new Finance Tracking Tools for both Service Units and Troops! These new tracking tools (downloadable Excel worksheets) make it easy to track your SU or Troop's daily transactions and help prepare you for submission of the Annual Finance Report.

Wondering where to begin?

1. All SUMS, Co-Leaders, and bank account signers should complete the NEW gsLearn training titled: 200 GSCB Finance and Reporting Learning Path *This has been assigned to all SUMs and Troop Leaders, but can also be found in the Content Library tab in your gsLearn account.
2. Begin using these new tools to manage your SU or Troop bank account right away

Task	Service Units	Troops
Transparency Expectation	All Service Unit volunteers and members	All troop volunteers, caregivers and Girl Scouts
What documents to retain? (per GSCB Financial Account Guidance)	SUs and troops must maintain documentation of purchases and account maintenance records for a minimum of two years. This includes all receipts, statements, and proof of electronic transactions.	
Transaction Detail Tracking	GSCB Service Unit Financial Worksheet	GSCB Troop Financial Worksheet
Annual Finance Report Submission	GSCB Service Unit Annual Finance Report Submission Form	"Finance" tab of the Volunteer Toolkit (find this under MyGS on the gscb.org)
What documents to submit?	12 months statements (July - June)	
Submission Deadline	The report is due by July 31st of each membership year.	

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at MemberCare@cbgsc.org.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Volunteers and Adult Members are invited to participate in Blended Youth Mental Health First Aid Training which consists of a 2-hour self-paced online course and a 5.5 hour instructor-led virtual training.

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 12-18.

What Mental Health First Aid Covers:

- Common signs, symptoms of mental health challenges in this age group, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders and more.
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges.
- How to interact with a child or adolescent in crisis.
- How to connect the youth with help.

Two opportunities to attend below, offered at no cost thanks to a generous anonymous donation to Girl Scout Councils.

- February 19th - 9AM - 2:30PM - [REGISTER](#)
- March 16th - 9AM - 2:30PM - [REGISTER](#)

Product Programs

Cookies

The 2024 Cookie Program began on January 6th for Order Card taking and Digital Cookie. Reminder for all Cookie Program Champions and Caregivers: Due to the changes in the connection between eBudde and Digital Cookie, volunteers will no longer be able to use more than 1 email address. The email address provided in MYGS will be the email utilized for the 2024 Cookie Program.

All volunteer access into Digital Cookie and eBudde continues to be uploaded to all who have their agreement and training completed. Girl Scout/caregiver access to Digital Cookie began on December 20th. All volunteers that have not completed the assigned gsLearn modules for their position are highly encouraged to have these trainings completed to have access to the systems to submit their Initial Orders.

Upcoming Cookie Dates

- January 22 - 12PM - Initial Order Card Period ends, Digital Cookie Orders are paused for Initial Order Submission
- January 24 - 11:59AM - Troop Initial Order and rewards due to Service Unit Cookie Champion
- January 26 - 6PM - GSCB Virtual Cookie Rally
- February 2 - 8PM - Additional Cookie Booth Signups begin in eBudde (see below for Council Sponsored Booth Signup rules and details)
- February 3-9 - Service Unit Initial Cookie Deliveries
- February 9 - March 10 - Cookie Booth period
- February 16 - Troops informed of first ACH
- February 23 - First ACH facilitated

Council Sponsored Cookie Booth Signups and Rules

- Council sponsored booths will be in eBudde for troops to begin signing up when they open

on Friday, February 2nd, 2024 at 8PM.

- Troops are limited to signup for **3 booth slots per council-sponsored location** (ACME, Walmart, Food Lion, Christiana Mall).
- Starting Thursday, February 8th, 2024 at 8AM, Council Sponsored booths are open to all TCCs to select any number of booth slots they wish to fill.

GSCB staff will be monitoring all the locations above throughout the week (2/2 - 2/8) and reserve the right to remove any and all locations over 3 slots per council sponsored locations selected.

Product Program A.C.E.S.

All Girl Scouts who sold \$125 during the Fall Product Program, are halfway to earning your Program A.C.E.S. patch (or rocker if you have met the criteria in previous years), only 600+ boxes of cookies to go!

Reminder: Cookie Price Updates

As mentioned in the November newsletter, GSCB will not be increasing cookie prices for the upcoming program. Core cookies will remain at \$5 per box and \$6 for specialty cookies. As the market continues to change, we will be analyzing the program for Membership Year 2025.

Cookie Resources

- [Family Product Program Agreement](#)
- [Product Program Champion Agreement](#)
- [Product Program Volunteer Site](#)

Things to Do

View January - February Programs in the Program Guide

All of our currently planned GSCB programs are laid out in our 2023-24 Program Guide. The guide has a printer-friendly design, is broken down by program level, and is lean on content so you can find what you need quickly and easily.

[View Program Guide](#)

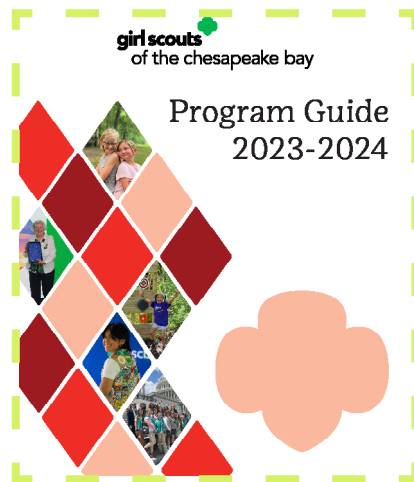
New Programs Added

Additional Outdoor Programming has been added for Spring and Summer 2024! Adventurer Overnights, Night Hikes, State Park Days, Facilitator Trainings, and more!

Summer Camp Registration Opens February 1st!

Registration for summer 2024 opens Thursday, February 1st at 7AM at www.gscb.org/summercamp.

Are you or someone you know looking for exciting summer camp employment opportunities? Check out our available summer camp positions and [apply now](#).



Governance

NEW! GSCB Association and Service Unit Delegate Guidebook

Calling all Service Unit Delegates and Alternate Delegates! Be sure to check out the new [GSCB Association and Service Unit Delegate Guidebook](#) today. This guide will walk you through everything you need to know about the GSCB Governance structure, your role as a Delegate, and how to support the members in your Service Unit. Check it out today and stay tuned for a new gsLearn training just for you!

Join us at the 62nd GSCB Annual Meeting!

Each spring, Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay holds its Annual Meeting. At the meeting, delegates and council members are invited to listen to a “state-of-the-council” address by our board chair and President & CEO, as well as vote on incoming board members, and more.

For this year’s Annual Meeting, attendees will have the option to join us either in-person or virtually through Zoom. Attendees joining us in-person can select to join us for both the dinner and business portions of the meeting or join us simply for the business portion.

Please join us on **Wednesday, April 17th at Delaware Technical & Community College - Terry Campus, Dover, DE from 5:00pm – 8:00pm.** - [REGISTER](#)

Association Chair Nominations - Coming in February!

Our council is made up of six geographic subdivisions which we call Associations. Each Association is led by an Association Chair whose responsibility is to plan and execute Association Meetings, to communicate with Girl Scout members within their Association, and to manage proposals as they are submitted.

A special thank you to our current Association Chairs who have served their terms in this role and have led our Associations thru the past few years!

- Association I – Barbara Lazenby
- Association II – Tiffanie Chandler
- Association III – Terri Mullikin
- Association IV – Tracie Bruno
- Association V – Shari Bayliff
- Association VI – Joan Przywara

This February, we will be accepting nominations for new Association Chairs in each Association as their terms have come to completion. Be on the lookout for when the nomination period begins, but in the meantime, if you are interested in this position or know someone who might be interested, please check out the [Association Chair Position Description](#) to read more about the role and responsibilities.

Winter Association Meetings

The purpose an Association Meeting is to provide members (adults and girls 14 years and older) the opportunity to receive update and provide input into council policy and governance decisions, provide feedback, and participate in discussion and forums necessary to ensure consistent, quality service delivery of the Girl Scout program, and help set and support strategic goals of the council.

We hope you will join us at one of these four scheduled meetings:

- Associations I & II - Monday, February 5th - GSCB Peninsula Resource Center (PRC) in Salisbury, MD - 6PM - 8PM
- Association III - Tuesday, February 6th - Camp Todd in Denton, MD - 6PM - 8PM
- Association IV - Monday, February 12th - Ewells Saint Paul Methodist Church in Clayton, DE - 6PM - 8PM
- Associations V & VI - Tuesday, February 13th - GSCB Newark Resource Center (NRC) in Newark, DE - 6PM - 8PM

Other

Survey Updates

We'll be transitioning the format of girl-facing surveys from standard questions to a prompt and video submission. There will also be an audio-only option if your family is not comfortable with video.

Why the change?

1. To empower girls to provide their own feedback independently of their caregivers.
2. This feature was recently made available by GSUSA – and we're excited about it!
3. Survey vendor Qualtrics does the video analysis behind the scenes using keywords and themes. Reducing staff time spent evaluating surveys and identifying feedback trends.

Things to know:

1. Audio only is an alternative if there are privacy concerns.
2. Staff will not be conducting individual reviews of these submissions.
3. They will remain anonymous unless personal identification information is shared or worn in the video.
4. Staff access to survey data is limited to three persons with structured debrief presentations for staff at large.
5. Surveys impacted will be: all program, product program wrap up, Girl Scout Advisory Board Application, and others as reviewed and deemed appropriate

For questions or concerns, please reach out to MemberCare@cbgsc.org.

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* - 3,347

MY24 Adult Membership Goal – 1,900 Current MY24 Adult Membership* - 1,619

Lifetime Membership* – 1,039

*Membership data is as of January 4, 2024.

DoMore24 Giving Opportunity

Unleash the Power of 24! Join the Girl Scouts in making a difference during Do More 24 Delaware 2024.

March 7-8, 2024 - 24 hours to inspire, give, and empower. Be a philanthropist, support the next generation, and let's create a wave of generosity together.

What is Do More 24?

Do More 24 is a unique 24-hour giving event that showcases the amazing and vital work of nonprofit organizations serving our state. The goal is to inspire Delawareans to come together for 24 hours and support the causes and organizations that they believe in. Donate early to help us reach our goal by visiting our website at (insert button or donation link) and select 'Do More 24' in the designation area. Let's rally together and proudly showcase the impact of our work in this exciting nonprofit competition!

Staff Comings and Goings

- **Staff Comings**

Alexandra Keville, Associate Director of Fund Development, joined the GSCB team on January 2nd. She will be supporting Fund Development efforts throughout our council. Welcome, Alexandra!

Vivian Guyton, Program Specialist, joined the GSCB team on January 8th. She will be supporting programming in the northern part of our council. Welcome, Vivian!

- **Staff Goings**

Linda Reagan, former Chief Financial Officer, left the GSCB team on December 18, 2023. 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](#)