

Volunteer Newsletter

September - October 2024



Troop Spotlight

Troop 1029 used their cookie proceeds to go to Hersheypark this summer. They enjoyed roller coasters, water park fun, giant swing rides, and more - some for the first time.

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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September

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|----|---------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | 2 GSCB Offices Closed | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 +Closing Ceremonies for Grove Point +Agent of Change |
| 8 Closing Ceremonies for Grove Point | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend | 14 Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend |
| 15 Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend | 16 | 17 Dover Skater Center BOGO Party | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 +Transportation U Open House +Hispanic Heritage Month +Meet and Greet with Tahiya Cooper |
| 22 Junior Craft and Tinker Workshop | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 SU Networking Night | 27 | 28 Think like an Engineer Journey in a Day |
| 29 Archery Level 1 Training | 30 | | | | | |

October

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----|----|---|----------------------------------|--|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 Volunteer Summit |
| 6 Small Craft Facilitator Training | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Dover Skating FREE Learn to Skate for Girl Scouts | 11 | 12 Journey in a Day with Service Unit 2 |
| 13 | 14 Youth Mental Health First Aid Training | 15 | 16 | 17 October Moon Mayhem | 18 Junior Geocacher Overnight | 19 +Junior Geocacher Overnight +Cadette Nightowl Overnight +Outdoor Skills Training |
| 20 Cadette Nightowl Overnight | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Founders Day Event - The Promise of Democracy - Empowering Our World Together |
| 27 Cookie Captain Training | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Founders Day | | |

Updates and Happenings

Time to Get Ready for a New Girl Scout Year!

As we get ready to plan a new Girl Scout year, we want to make sure that you have all the resources you need at your fingertips! Here are some great places to start!

Troop Roster Checks!

Troop Leaders – be sure to log into myGS to check your Troop Rosters! Do you have girls that haven't renewed for the new membership year yet? Let's be sure that everyone is all set as we kick off the new year! Reach out to MemberCare@cbgsc.org with any questions.

Volunteer Essentials

Be sure to keep the [Volunteer Essentials](#) page of our website bookmarked! From Girl Scout Program resources to all of your guidelines to running your Troop or Service Unit, find all that you need here!

New Leader Central

Calling ALL Leaders – new and experienced! Check out our [New Leader Central](#) page, where you can find tips, best practices, and resources to keep at your fingertips!

What's New in gsLearn

- *200: Troop Leader Onboarding Part 1: Getting Ready*
- *200: Troop Leader Onboarding Part 2: Getting Started*

This is a collection of valuable trainings that have great information to get a Leader started on their journey! If you are a New Troop Leader, these Learning Paths will be a required part of your onboarding. If you're not a new leader, these courses are great as a refresher! Check them out today!

200: Mandated Reporter and Abuse Prevention

This important course will be a required course to be refreshed annually for all volunteers in the Service Unit Manager, Troop CoLeader, and Troop Support Volunteer roles, and is highly recommended for all volunteers and members.

New to gsLearn? As a Member of GSCB, you can access any required trainings and all of the great content available to you on gsLearn via your MyGS account! Check out our short video tutorial "[How to Access gsLearn](#)".

Are you new to [Volunteer Toolkit \(VTK\)](#)? VTK is a digital resource that supports volunteers in delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and Juliettes (individually registered girls) in managing their own experience with their caregiver, ensuring every Girl Scout has the opportunity she deserves to build a lifetime of leadership, success, and adventure.

The caregiver view for troops, leaders and caregivers can communicate easily about upcoming meetings, what girls will be doing/learning, attendance and any help needed for the troop meeting.

Want to learn more about using VTK for your Troop or Juliette? Check out these trainings in gsLearn today!

- GSUSA Volunteer Toolkit - Caregiver View
- GSUSA Volunteer Toolkit - Individual Registered Girl (IRG) Caregiver View
- GSUSA Volunteer Toolkit - Troop Leader View
- GSUSA Volunteer Toolkit – Finance Tab

Recruitment Readiness!

As volunteers, you are an important part of getting more girls involved in Girl Scouts. By opening your troop to new girls, sharing your experience with Girl Scouts with your friends and family, volunteering to represent GSCB at local events, hosting your own recruitment events, etc., YOU are the key to a successful recruitment season.

Sampler Troops - A popular way to introduce Girl Scouts is to host a sampler troop. After a set number of meetings with both girls and caregivers, the goal of the sampler troop is to convert into a traditional troop. If successful, caregivers will step up to become troop volunteers after seeing the role demonstrated first hand, or GSCB and the volunteers running the sampler troop will have recruited other adults to lead the troop. If you're interested in learning more or hosting a sampler troop, contact your Volunteer Support Specialist.

Recruitment Resources for Service Units –

- Service Units can use the [Service Unit Recruitment Supplies Request Form](#) to get marketing materials like flyers, giveaways and more to support their recruitment or community events.
- Service Unit Lead Forms and QR Codes: To improve our follow up and placement of future Girls Scouts, each Service Unit has been issued their very own SU Lead form to capture information at recruitment events, as well as a QR Code image to include on flyers and signage at events! Connect with your Volunteer Support Specialist for more information.
- Additionally, GSCB has refreshed the evergreen recruitment flyers for both younger and older girls on the [SU Central Page](#): Younger Girl | Older Girl to include an area where you can now upload your new QR Code directly to your flyer! (Be sure to download/open in Adobe for best functionality!)

GSCB Board Approved Recognitions

Board Approved Recognitions are an esteemed way to recognize your peers that leave you in awe. Volunteers nominated for these recognitions are gamechangers, not just for their Troops but also for their Service Unit and maybe neighboring Service Unit(s) too!

- Review the recognitions and understand their requirements using the [GSCB Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition Handbook](#).
- Submit nominations through the [GSCB Board Approved Recognition Nomination Form](#)
- Submit required endorsements through the [GSCB Board Approved Recognition Endorsement Form](#)

All nominations and endorsements are **due by December 31, 2024**.

Volunteer Summit Save the Date!

We are so excited to host the 2nd Annual GSCB Volunteer Summit this year on Saturday, October 5th. This one-day event is the perfect time to come together to kick off the new Girl Scout membership year and learn about important updates, engage in peer-to-peer learning and discussions, network with other volunteers, and more!

Whether you are a Troop Leader, Service Unit volunteer, Product Program Champion, or any level of GSCB Volunteer, you are welcome to attend!

[Register today!](#)

- Date: Saturday, October 5th
- Time: 9:30am – 4:00pm
- Location: Delaware Agricultural Museum, 866 N. Dupont Highway, Dover, DE 19901
- Cost: \$15

Volunteer Getaway Weekend – Save the Date!

We're still reminiscing about how much fun we had at our last Volunteer Getaway Weekend! We kayaked, we painted, we made crafts, and most importantly we laughed and spent time together. We are looking forward to planning our getaway which will be held November 8-9 at Camp Country Center in Hockessin, DE!

Save the date - Registration information will be coming soon!

Training Opportunities

Registration open! All in-person trainings are being held at Camp Todd - 25012 Beauchamp Branch Rd, Denton, MD 21629. Outdoor Skills, Archery Level 1, and Small Craft are open to Ambassador and adult members. Additional trainings are in the works and will be shared via newsletter and social media when they are added to the calendar.

Thank you to our volunteer instructors who make these trainings possible!

- [Virtual Youth Mental Health First Aid](#) 10/14/2024
- [Virtual Youth Mental Health First Aid](#) 12/2-3/2024
- [Virtual Youth Mental Health First Aid](#) 2/8/2024
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 10/19/2024
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 11/16/2024
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 1/22/2025
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 2/17/2025
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 3/8/2025
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 5/31/2025
- [Archery Level 1 Training](#) 9/29/2024
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 1/22/2025
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 2/17/2025
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 3/8/2025
- [Outdoor Skills Training](#) 5/31/2025
- [Archery Level 1 Training](#) 9/29/2025
- [Archery Level 1 Training](#) 11/16/2024
- [Archery Level 1 Training AM](#) 4/5/2025

- [Archery Level 1 Training PM](#) 4/5/2025
- [Small Craft Facilitator Training](#) 10/6/2024
- [Small Craft Facilitator Training](#) 4/13/2025

GSCB is looking for a Challenge Course Supervisor! To learn more, check out the [Volunteer Description](#). Those interested should contact Member Care at MemberCare@cbgsc.org.

Product Programs

Cookie Cupboards

Does your Service Unit have a cupboard within their area? If not, would you be interested in becoming a Cookie Cupboard Champion?

Shoot a message over to Renee Naughton at rnaughton@cbgsc.org and let's start a cookie-fueled conversation! The sooner, the snappier - let's prep you for the MY25 Cookie Program in no time

Already know you would like to be a Cupboard Champion, fill out form [here](#).

Calling All Cookie Captains

The time is coming for Girl Scouts to prepare for Cookie Captain Trainings; please share with girl interested, Cadettes – Ambassadors.

Think you've mastered the Cookie Program? Show us what you got! Become a Cookie Captain and educate younger Girl Scouts about how to succeed in selling cookies. By completing the Cookie Captain Training Program, you'll learn the skills to help mentor younger cookie sellers, help at cookie events and booths, and provide valuable assistance to the Cookie Champion in your Service Unit. There will be no virtual training,

Requirements:

- Attend one in person training
- Work with troops and Service Unit Cookie Champions on identifying a need to support them
- Log 20 hours of service
- Submit log by March 31, 2025

[October 27, 2024 – Camp Country Center, 3 pm – 5 pm](#)

[November 9, 2024 – Camp Todd, 10 am - 12 pm](#)

Product Program A.C.E.S

Help your Girl Scouts obtain the status of Product Program A.C.E.S. These are an exclusive group of Girl Scouts who go above and beyond during the GSCB Product Programs. They reach new goals and gain access to a special A.C.E.S. fun patch, a Business Review from Little Brownie Bakers May 2025, GSCB Product Programs vendor rewards (first to vote) and are given the first opportunity to represent GSCB to the press or in news media segments about the GSCB Product Programs, and more! For the new Product Program A.C.E.S, you will receive the A.C.E.S. fun patch and those who have earned that already, you will receive a rocker!

What does A.C.E.S. stand for?

- Ambition
- Creativity
- Entrepreneurial
- Spirit



Requirements for girls to join the A.C.E.S. group:

- Sell \$175+ worth of products during the Fall Product Program
- Sell 625+ packages of Cookies during the Cookie Program

Product Program Service Unit Share

Service Unit Share Requirements for Product Programs have been communicated to all Service Unit Managers over the summer by your Volunteer Support Specialist. If you have not had this conversation, please follow up with your Volunteer Support Specialist.

Fall Product Program Updates

The “Embrace Possibility” Fall Product Program begins on Friday, September 27. Make sure your Troop Fall Product Champion is [registered](#) or has [renewed](#) for the MY25 year, has a current background check, completed the Fall Product Champion Agreement and has taken the gsLearn training module(s) assigned. We also have a robust volunteer Fall Product site for additional support (see link below).

gsLearn for Fall Product went live on August 23rd. All volunteers either at the Service Unit level or Troop level that completed their Product Program Champion Agreement and Membership Year 25’ registration/renewal completed, are being uploaded to the training module(s).

NOTE: A Product Program Family Agreement is required for Girl Scouts to participate in all GSCB Product Programs moving forward. Caregivers can fill theirs out today using the link in the list below:

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

Key dates for Product Programs:

Fall Product:

- September 27 – November 3, 2024 – Program start and end date
- December 2, 2024 - Deliveries begin to the Troop Fall Product Champion
- December 20, 2024 - ACH (Automated Clearing House)



Cookies:

- January 4, 2025 – Order Card and Digital Cookie begin
- January 22, 2025 – Troop Initial Orders due
- February 1 – February 7, 2025 – Service Unit Initial Order Cookie deliveries
- February 7 – March 9, 2025 – Booth period
- February 21, 2025 – Initial Order ACH
- February 21 – 23, 2025 – National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend
- March 9, 2025 – Cookie Program ends
- March 21, 2025 – Final ACH



Things to Do

[Program Guide](#) is now available!

Registration for all 2024-2025 program offerings is now open!

Please keep in mind that we work with new and existing Program Partners throughout the year to bring unique program experiences, exclusive opportunities, discounts and more to our members. As these opportunities are scheduled, they will be shared in the monthly program email, social media, and [events calendar](#).



Girl Scout Days

Through Girl Scout Days and special programs offered by GSCB and our Community Program Partners, Girl Scout troops along with their families and friends can explore and enjoy activities with sister Girl Scouts from across our footprint. Girl Scout troops along with their families and friends can explore and enjoy activities around the area and beyond. Check out more [here](#).

Girl Scouts Love the Outdoors Challenge

There's still time to soak up the fun and sun! Pick your favorite ways to enjoy the great outdoors— from a backyard, window, computer, playground, park, or campsite—and earn the Girl Scouts Love the Outdoors Challenge patch. This challenge starts on June 1 and ends with [Girl Scouts Love State Parks weekend](#) on September 14 and 15, 2024.

Save the date - Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend is coming!

Lead the way during [Girl Scouts Love State Parks](#) weekend, September 14 and 15, 2024, to explore outdoors. Share your experience with #gsLoveStateParks. Check out [events](#) happening across the peninsula and beyond.

Download the [Girl Scouts Love State Parks Passport](#).

Program on the Move

The program of your choice, delivered to your meeting place...FREE! Ready for your next Girl Scout adventure? All signs point to Program on the Move! Program on the Move will be the primary source of program delivery for membership year 2024-25.



What does that mean? It means this is your first stop for exceptional Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay programming! Our dedicated staff are standing by to help you create the hands-on, badge-earning program experience you've been wanting, at the time and place that works best for your troop/group, completely free.

- [Sign up for Program on the Move](#)
- [Review Program on the Move offerings and FAQs](#)

2024 Founder's Day Event

The Promise of Democracy - Empowering Our World Together

Date: Sat Oct 26, 8:00 AM EDT - Sat Oct 26, 3:00 PM EDT

The promise of democracy is one we must uphold for the Girl Scouts of today and tomorrow. We can't wait to come together during this event and explore the ways our local, state, and national governments work and guide girls in understanding the power of their voice. Open to all members and community members interested in joining Girl Scouts.

The day will begin with guest speakers, and panel discussions to showcase the ways engaging with democracy and civics can uncover new paths towards "making the world a better place". Attendees will enjoy lunch (provided), then get hands-on with exciting activities meant to elevate girls' knowledge of how our democracy works. At the conclusion of the event, Girl Scouts will have met the requirements for the Democracy Badge at their program level. Badges will be provided.

Troops must maintain girl-adult ratios. Individual Girl Scouts must attend with a guardian. Register [here](#).

Governance

All regularly scheduled board meetings occur from 6PM - 7:30PM. Meeting Summaries are approved at the following month's meeting and will be posted after approval. Our next board meeting is October 18th.

Other

2023 - 2024 Membership Goals and Update

During the 2023-2024 membership year 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 Girl Membership* - 4,015

MY24 Adult Membership Goal – 1,900 Current MY23 Adult Membership* - 1,959

Lifetime Membership* – 1,006

*Membership data is as of August 23, 2024

Staff Comings and Goings

Staff Goings

- Katie Osborne, Program Coordinator, left the GSCB team on August 27th. 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.

[Girl Experience Coordinator/Camp Director](#)

[Girl Experience Specialist](#)

[Girl Experience Specialist/Camp Support](#)

Uniform Pre-Order

We have been so excited to see our members positive response to our retail items over the last several months. We've also heard your feedback that you would like to see more GSUSA official merchandise like uniforms and badges available, to lessen the burden of shipping costs. While we won't be stocking those items at our retail tables in the future, we are hosting a Uniform pre-order opportunity from July 1st – September 30th.

Uniforms can be pre-ordered using this [LINK](#). GSCB will organize the orders by Service Unit, and Volunteer Support Specialists will deliver them to September or October Service Unit Leader Meetings. It will be the responsibility of the people who order to coordinate picking up their uniforms by attending the Leader Meeting themselves or asking a Troop Leader or other volunteer to pickup on Updates & Happenings Other Things to Do Governance 4 their behalf. SUMs can set the expectation for how they would like to manage uniforms that are not picked up at your upcoming September/October Leader Meetings. We are hopeful this pickup opportunity will be an added bonus of driving increased attendance to Leader Meetings this fall.

If the uniform pre-order is well-received, we will be seriously considering hosting a spring pre-order for badges, pins, or other earned items you may need to support bridging ceremonies and end-of-year celebrations. For questions regarding the Uniform Pre-Order, please contact MemberCare@cbgsc.org.

QR Codes

In lieu of a printer version, we are adding a QR code page to the bottom of the newsletter to give you easy access to our events online.



Girls in Action Form



GSCB Events Calendar



Volunteer Essentials



New Leader Central



POTM Event Listings



POTM Details



How to access gsLearn



Login to MyGS



SU Supplies Request Form



SU Central



Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition Handbook



Board Approved Award Endorsement Form



Board Approved Award Nomination Form



Youth Mental Health First Aid Training



Founder's Day Event



Outdoor Skills Trainings



Archery Level 1 Trainings



Small Craft Trainings



Girl Scout Days



Challenge Course Supervisor



Product Program Champion Agreement



Cookie Captain Trainings



Product Program Volunteer Site



Product Program Family Agreement