



CPR/First Aid/AED

Special Limited Offering! Registered Girl Scout adults can attend this training and receive their Adult & Pediatric CPR/First Aid/AED certification for only \$20, 66% off the normal cost! This is a hybrid training with online coursework and an in-person skills test. This training meets First-Aider criteria for adult members and leaders needing certification for troop travel. Spots still available for April 27 in Fort Smith, April 30 in Paragould and May 20 in Magnolia.

Girl Scout Voices Count

Each spring GSUSA surveys Girl Scouts to help councils assess how best to serve their membership. This year, it will consist of a shortened survey for caregivers to complete with their Girl Scouts. The survey will be open April 15 through May 15.

Year Planning Roundtable

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 pm for a virtual volunteer roundtable to jumpstart troop year planning for the 2024-2025 Girl Scout year!

Adult Recognitions

It's Recognition Time! Take a moment to review the Adult Recognition Descriptions and nominate volunteers who go above and beyond and truly radiate the Girl Scout Law and Promise in everything that they do. We will be using Jotform this year. It will allow an individual to submit a nomination form and send a unique link to each endorser to complete their endorsement through a convenient online form.

Review the How to Submit a Council Award Nomination section to learn more! Nomination Submissions are now live. Both the Nomination and Endorsement Forms must be received no later than **April 15**. Questions? Contact recognitions@girlscoutsdiamonds.org.

Numeral Guards and Years of Service

The *Numeral Guard* recognizes the number of combined girl and adult years as a registered member of Girl Scouts. *Years of Service* recognizes the total number of years that a volunteer has served in Girl Scouts.

These pins are presented in 5-year increments (15, 20, 25, etc.) and council provides them at no cost beginning at 15 years. If you eligible for your pin, please complete and submit the Numeral Guards and Years of Service form by **April 15**.

Outdoor Training Survey

Please take a moment to fill out this outdoor training survey. We encourage you to share it with other adult volunteers in your community. Your valuable input will help us better understand the needs of our volunteers and identify areas where *Venture Out II* training is needed. A minimum of 6 participants is required to facilitate Venture Out II training sessions. Thank you for your time and participation.

Troop Finance Reports

Keeping accurate troop financial records is important for maintaining Girl Scout's non-profit status and to safeguard the troop's hard-earned funds. Troops shall submit financial reports as required by council procedures. Annual troop financial reports are due by May 31. Troops who submit financial reports online via Volunteer Toolkit (VTK) finance tab will have a chance to win some extra funds for their troop account.

Troops that meet the criteria below will be entered into a drawing for \$75.

- Submit Annual Troop Financial report by May 31, 2024
- Submit online via VTK Finance Tab
- Supporting paperwork must be attached (large attachments can be emailed to dwolverton@girlscoutsdiamonds.org by May 31, 2024)
- No Extension Requests submitted

There will be one drawing winner per region: Southeast, Southwest, Northeast, Midwest, Northwest, and Central. Funds will be deposited via EFT to winning troop account.

*Drawing will take place on June 14. The winning troop per region should receive \$75 in their account by the end of June.

Spring Renewal

It's time for Spring Renewal! The program runs from April 10-May 15. Members are encouraged to register early for the upcoming membership year to avoid the fall rush. Early registration allows for uninterrupted receipt of forms and materials from the council, helps troops and council plan ahead, and gets girls excited about all the great things they want to do as Girl Scouts next year.

In addition, members who renew early will receive exclusive incentives! There is even a special *Day One Incentive* for those who register on April 10.

Troop Travel

Spring has sprung which means beautiful weather. It's a great time for troop travel! Please remember to submit a troop travel application at least 3 weeks prior to your trip if it is overnight or a day trip that is 120+ miles away (one-way). All applications, online and paper forms must be completed prior to submission. Send all paper travel applications to info@girlscoutsdiamonds.org.

Save the Date

Second Saturday
Retail Shop Day

April 13
10 am – 2 pm



Skip the line! Send your pre-order to retail@girlscoutsdiamonds.org by Monday, April 8.



2024 Solar Eclipse Patch

Did you miss the opportunity to pre-order the Girl Scouts - Diamonds limited edition solar eclipse patch? Great

news! We ordered extras and have a limited quantity available. Email your order to retail@girlscoutsdiamonds.org.

Leader Appreciation

The month of April is *Volunteer Appreciation Month* and April 22 is set aside as *Girl Scout Leader Appreciation Day*! We want to

express our thanks for all that our volunteers do. You make the Girl Scout experience possible for our Girl Scouts!





Thank you Walmart!

We want to thank Walmart for supporting our Northwest Arkansas mission delivery efforts over this past year. Girl Scouts – Diamonds received a grant from Walmart’s *Northwest Arkansas Giving Program* and this funding helped us reach 1000+ Girl Scouts in Washington and Benton counties for this membership year. This grant provided 50 membership fees, several camperships, and troop startup fees for new troops in these counties, and staff support through the past year. We cannot thank them enough for making an investment in local Girl Scouts and believing in the power of girls.

Join the Friendship Circle!

“Make new friends, but keep the old.” The Friendship Circle of sustaining donors is a proud and bold commitment to Girl Scouting. This monthly giving program secures our council’s future for generations to come. Anyone can join the Friendship Circle with at least a \$15 monthly donation, which can support our greatest need, membership assistance, or our camps. Your monthly gift can make a huge impact! Did you know that \$15 a month for a year could pay for 7 annual memberships or pay for almost half of a girl’s Summer Camp registration?

Anyone who joins *Friendship Circle* this year will also receive this limited-edition patch after their third month. This will be an annual tradition for all Friendship Circle members to celebrate the memories made as a Girl Scout.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Friendship Circle monthly giving program and join today!



Cookie Financials and Draft

As we wrap up cookie season, we want to remind everyone of the upcoming Cookie Draft on April 12. You can find your troop’s draft amount in Smart Cookies in the ‘Troop Balance Summary’ report or ‘Troop Balance Summary Snapshot’ report. Details on how to read these reports can be found in our [Just-in-time Smart Cookies Training Recording](#) or [PowerPoint](#).

Additionally, you can determine the amount you should have deposited in your troop bank account by reviewing the total sales amount on the Troop Balance Summary and subtracting out all digital credit card payments.

Total Sales – Total Online Sales = Amount that should be collected from in-person sales and deposited into the troop bank account.

Product Program Dates

March 29	Caregiver Outstanding Balance Forms due to Product Program Staff
April 12	Troop draft
May	Rewards begin mailing to SUPMs

Hints for a Healthy SU

Service Unit Directors, Treasurers and Product Managers – don’t forget to attend the [Spring Service Unit Summit](#) on Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 pm. Service Unit that have representation at summits are better informed about events, new programs and any new procedures or policies. It’s also a great time to network with other service unit leadership teams!

Also, don’t forget that you can use Service Unit funds for a small token of appreciation, a meal, or an event to recognize volunteers. You can also share social media posts, send cards, or have girls make signs showing how much they appreciate volunteers in your area.



Paper Flower Craft

This craft comes from *Easy, Peasy and Fun*. They have [video](#) instructions and more details available.

You will need a large circle hole punch, colored paper (yellow plus other flower colors), paper cutter or scissors, glue sticks, green paper drinking straws and tape.

Depending on the age levels of your girls, you might wish to do some cutting beforehand. Each flower will need one circle cut out of yellow paper and several strips of another color. Girls should glue the ends of paper strips together to make loops as shown in the second image. They will need several of them – the number depends on the size of flower you are making. Glue the loops to one side of the yellow circle. When girls are happy with how full their flower is, use both glue and tape to secure a straw as the stem. Turn it around to enjoy from the front.

On My Honor

This song was written in 1981 by Cindy Dash and is often sung in ceremonies and near the end of campfires. Please note, the chorus is sung every two verses.

On my honor I will try.
There's a duty to be done and I say "aye."
There's a reason here, and a reason up above,
My honor is to try and my duty is to love.

1st Verse

People don't need to know my name,
If I've done any harm then I'm to blame.
If I've helped anyone, then I've helped me,
If I've opened up my eyes to see.

2nd Verse

I've tucked away a song or two,
When you're feeling low, there's one for you.
If you need a friend, then I will come,
And there's many more where I come from.

3rd Verse

Come with me where a fire burns bright,
We can even see better by candle's light.
We can find more meaning in a campfire's glow
Than we ever learned in a year or so.

4th Verse

We've made a promise to always keep
And we sing "Softly Falls" before we sleep.
We'll be Girl Scouts together and when we're gone,
We'll still be trying and a-singing this song.

Springtime "Would You Rather?"

"Would You Rather" questions are great icebreakers or fillers for a meeting.

- Would you rather have to waddle like a duck wherever you go, or have to hop like a bunny wherever you go?
- Would you rather be followed wherever you go by 8 ducklings who think you are their mother, or have butterflies constantly flying in a circle around your head?
- Would you rather be a squirrel or a frog for a day?