

Adult Recognitions

It's Recognition Time! Take a moment to review the <u>Adult Recognition Descriptions</u> 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 <u>How to Submit a Council Award Nomination</u> section to learn more!

Nomination Submissions are now live. Both the Nomination and Endorsement Forms must be received no later than **April 15**. Questions?

 $\underline{recognitions@girlscouts diamonds.org.}$

Volunteer Resources

Check out <u>Volunteer Essentials</u> on our website to view the latest updates. Updated <u>Girl Scouts - Diamonds Policies and Procedures</u> is live. Stay tuned to Diamonds Insider on February 15 highlighted changes.

Additional Insurance Clarification

We have received a lot of questions about the expanded Basic 1 Activity Insurance. We will be adding information to the website this month to distinguish between participants, visitors, youth tagalongs, and who is covered. Volunteers and caregivers will receive an email with this information later this month as well.

Troop Survey

It's troop leader survey time and we need your feedback! Troop Leader surveys ask about your specific troop and will also include questions about programs, trainings, and product program so that we can better serve your needs. Participants will be entered into a drawing for one of five \$25 gift cards! Complete the Troop Leader Survey by February 18.

Barnfest

Come join us for a fun day at Camp NOARK for the whole family on Saturday, April 27! With the help of industry professionals and rodeo queens throughout the state, this will be a day of rodeo and fair-type activities. We'll have contests such as goat dressing, where participants compete on how quickly they're able to put pajamas on a goat, and duck sorting, where kiddos on stick horses sort numbered ducks, and more.

We'll have a professional photographer and a hair and makeup artist to dress up our cowgals for their best life glamor shots with a horse. Cowboys will also have an opportunity for photos with a horse. Reining and dressage demonstrations will be held throughout the day, and there will be booths from different equine-related facilities, a farm animal petting zoo, and more!

If you're an out-of-towner, book your overnight reservation soon!

Girls in STEM 2024 Summer Day Camp

Girls in STEM Summer Day Camp is back with Conway and Little Rock offerings! Girls in STEM is a day camp hosted by the Museum of Discovery that introduces young girls to women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) jobs, encouraging them to pursue STEM education. This opportunity is available for girls ages 12-14 and lunch and snacks are provided. See attached flyer for dates and then complete the online application.

Council Advisory Team (CAT)

CAT is a selected group of girls (14 years and older) and volunteers who represent their service unit and share and discuss information and issues with our council CEO and a board member. Members impact the decisions made for the council and contribute to the Girl Scout experience that future Girl Scouts will have. It's a great learning experience and is wonderful to have on your resume or applications!

Each service unit can have two girls and one adult CAT member, and meetings are virtual. If your service unit does not have representation, you are missing out on the chance to have your voice count.

Info? sanderson@girlscoutsdiamonds.org



Delta Dental Smile Patch

February is National Children's Dental Health month, and we are proud to share that we have again received a grant from the Delta Dental of Arkansas Foundation for the support of dental education for Girl Scouts.

This year, this funding allows us to provide 400 dental kits for Daisies and Brownies.

We would love for your troop to join us on the journey to oral health. By participating in this program girls will receive **one dental kit** (toothbrush, toothpaste, timer, floss, and brushing chart) and **one Delta Dental Smile Squad patch.**

We ask that you work with your girls February – March to complete the **Delta Dental Smile Patch Program** and make it part of your troop activities this spring. In April, we will send out a simple survey link for girls to complete (with the support of their caregiver) about their experience completing the program.

Patch kits are available in each regional office and can be picked up or mailed to you at your convenience. We recognize that your troop may include older girls. We have a limited number of additional kits that you can pick up for them as well. We ask that you ensure that all girls who receive a kit also complete the patch program and document their brushing on the chart.

Kits will be provided on a first come, first served basis. Priority will be given to troops with Daisies and Brownies. We also want to give priority to girls that did not part participate in this program last year.

For more information on this program and to request a Smile Squad Patch Program Guide and kits for your troop, please contact info@girlscoutsdiamonds.org.

Troop to Troop Transfers

We have entered the blackout period for troop-to-troop transfers. Due to cookie system logistics, we will not process any troop-to-troop transfers between **January 26 and March 31.** Please note that troop transfers require caregiver permission and should be requested by the caregiver by emailing info@girlscoutsdiamonds.org or calling (800) 632-6894.

Cookies and Social Media

Girl Scouts marketing has evolved over the decades; in today's world, Girl Scouts exercise their marketing skills in the digital world. The digital world is not just a great place to reconnect with returning cookie customers but also meet new ones. When venturing into the world of digital marketing Girl Scouts and caregivers should remember and follow the Internet Safety Pledge and Girl Scout Digital Cookie Pledge that were accepted at the time of setting up their Digital Cookie account.

Additional Council Guidelines:

- Girl Scouts and caregivers should not post Digital Cookie site links on public social pages/websites (such as Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist, eBay). If it is reported that a link is shared on a public-facing site, product program staff will remind the Girl Scout's caregiver of the Digital Cookie pledge and the terms and conditions accepted and ask them to remove the posting within 24 hours. Not removing the post promptly can result in the Girl Scout's Digital Cookie link being disabled.
- Post can be made about a Girl Scout's cookie business or a troop booth location on public forums as long as a link is not posted. Girl Scouts, caregivers, and volunteers should always be reminded of the risk of posting in these places and accepting orders from strangers.

Smart Cookies Just-In-Time Trainings

Service unit and troop volunteers who will be utilizing Smart Cookies are invited to join the product program team and our ABC baker representative for just-in-time Smart Cookies trainings. All sessions are scheduled during the lunch hour, 12-1 pm (lunch and learn). We recommend volunteers register for each session even if you cannot attend. Registrants will receive an email from GoToWebinar with the recording link for any missed session.

Feb. 7 | Booths, Transfers and Payments Feb. 14 | Planned Orders and Cupboard Process Mar. 13 | Wrapping Up the Sale

Program Dates

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Feb.	Service unit deliveries
16-23	
Feb.	Booths begin
23	
Mar.	Booths and Digital Cookie ends
17	

Sing That Girl Scout Song: Whene'er You Make A Promise

This is a traditional Girl Scout song written by W.W. Shield in 1828.

When e're you make a promise, Consider well its importance, And when made, Engrave it upon your heart.

This <u>version</u> seems to be pitched well for most singers, but you can find many other versions online, including some that showcase the song as a round with additional groups coming in after the word "promise." (Handy hint – when singing a song as a round, the number of times you sing the song is equal to the number of groups you have).

Hints for a Healthy Service Unit: Celebrate Traditions

Observing Girl Scout traditions is important to the health of a service unit. Last month we shared information so you could make plans to celebrate World Thinking Day on February 22. Now is a great time to make your plans to celebrate all those special Girl Scout days and traditions that come up in March!

Girl Scouts' Birthday on March 12 commemorates the day in 1912 when Juliette Gordon Low officially registered the organization's first 18 members in Savannah, Georgia. How will your troop or service unit celebrate this special Girl Scout holiday?

Girl Scout Week is celebrated each March, starting with Girl Scout Sunday and ending with Girl Scout Sabbath on a Saturday, and it always includes Girl Scouts' birthday, March 12. In 2024, Girl Scout week will be observed March 10-16. Girl Scouts traditionally choose a different focus for each day of the week, like learning a new skill, performing an act of service, sharing their Girl Scout spirit, and/or learning about Girl Scout history.

Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith events give Girl Scouts an opportunity to be recognized at their places of worship during Girl Scout Week, share their legacy of service to others, and deepen their connection to their faith and Girl Scouting. Celebration days include Girl Scout Sunday, Girl Scout Jummah, and Girl Scout Sabbath/Shabbat. There are many ways to participate in Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith – including girls wearing uniforms to church, Girl Scouts serving as readers, greeters or candlelighters, and churches including bulletin inserts that highlight the shared values. Info here.

My Promise, My Faith Pins can be earned at any time in the year, but they tie into Girl Scout Week quite well! These pins are earned by girls who want to find out what their faith and Girl Scouting have in common, using the Girl Scout Law as a guide. There is a different pin for each year a Girl Scout earns the recognition. Girls can earn this pin once a year at each grade level. Follow this link for an activity sheet with requirements, to order the pin or to watch a video on where to place the pin on your uniform.

Plan a Girl Scout Trip: Savannah

Many troops love to make a trip to Savannah, Georgia to visit the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace. Girl Scouts can discover the unconventional life of Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low, the daughter, debutante, wife, adventurer, and artist who became the first Girl Scout. Together, your troop can explore Juliette Gordon Low's girlhood home, play one of her favorite parlor games, and look closely at how she challenged expectations for women in her day to become a confident leader. Look for information in an upcoming SU Talking Points about Troop Travel. Who knows you might even manage to add in a beach excursion at nearby Tybee Island!

Play that Girl Scout Game: Taxicab

A fun way to celebrate Girl Scouts Birthday is to play a game that Girl Scouts used to play. We've attached a copy of "Taxicab," a vintage Girl Scout game. Daisies-Juniors will love to play the game, and just might learn a new word or two along the way. Older girls could have a fun time modernizing the game's story to enjoy.