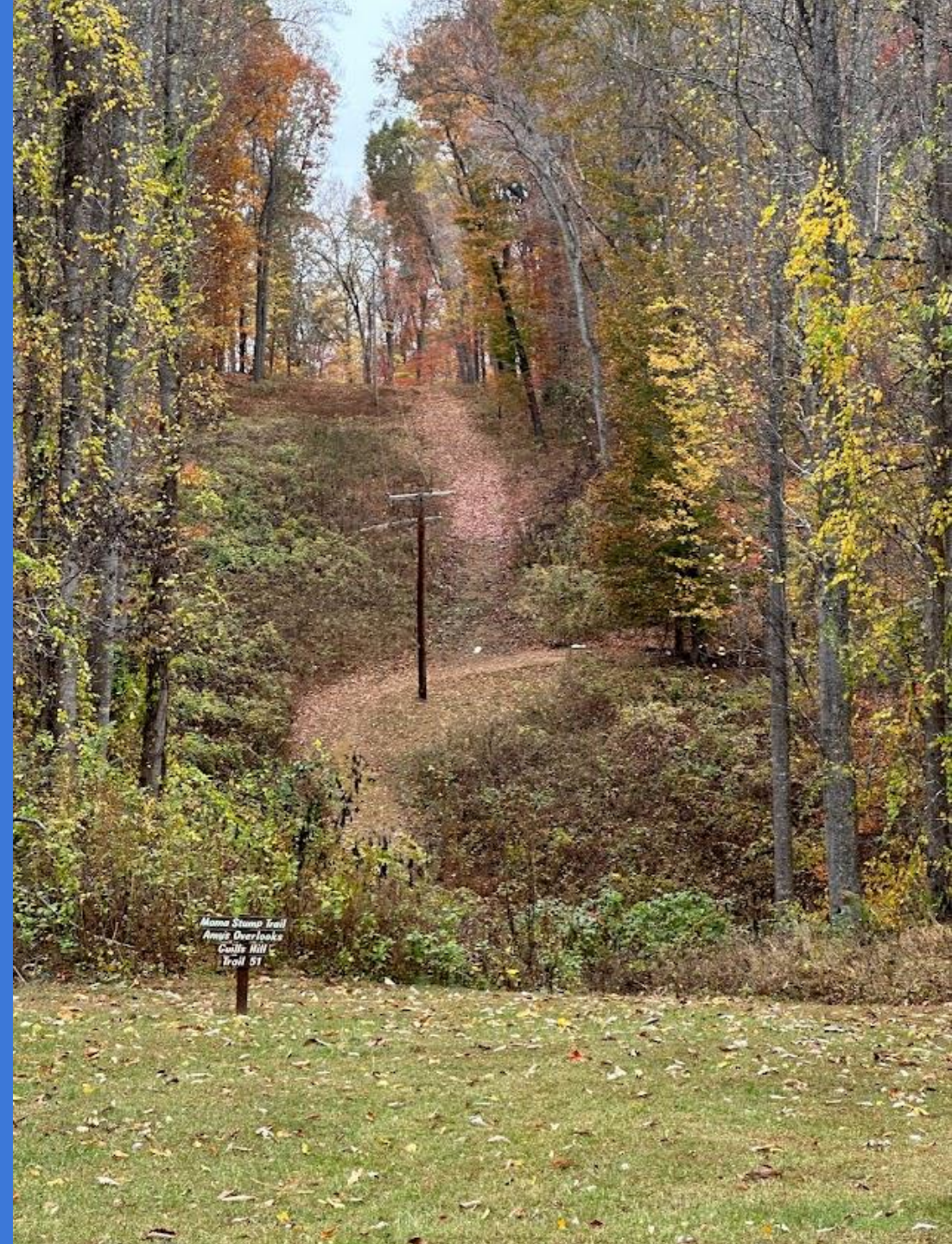




Lynchburg Campbell County
Girl Scout Service Unit

Amherst/Appomattox

November 2023
Update



Power of the Promise

Gold Award Recipient: Highest Award Earned in Girl Scouts

Audrey of Troop 108 saw a need for empathy teaching in our young children – many children today are not interacting with others face-to-face because of increased use of computers and tablets. She developed an accessible toolkit designed to help young children learn empathy. The kit is aimed primarily at 3 and 4 year olds and can be used by both parent and teachers. The kit includes several different types of cards: 1. Face cards where children can draw features on a blank face to show emotional state, 2. Charade cards which include a description of an emotional state that children can then act out, 3. Emotional domino cards where children can match emotions with a photo of a person. The kit also includes a few children's books with simple text and lots of illustrations. She designed the kits to be minimal cost and the cards are available online and can be printed for free.



Power of the Promise

Silver Award: Highest Award earned by a Cadette Girl Scout

Caitlyn's (Troop 1315) Silver Award project was the creation of the Amherst County Parks Passport Program by designing a 10-page passport booklet in the Amherst County Recreation and Tourism Department located at the Monroe Community Center. In participation with Amherst County, permanent signs with plaques were installed at the 6 county parks where people can take a rubbing onto a specific page in their passport booklet. Participants receive a free souvenir patch commemorating the program. Caitlyn hosted 6 events, one at each park, that ranged from survival bracelet making to hiking and first aid. The Amherst County Parks Passport Program is now available.



Colleen and Hailey (Troop 1315) designed and created the *Love Bite Recipe Book – Easy Breezy Recepeezies* for the clients at the Neighbor Helping Neighbor. Both Colleen and Hailey volunteer at this food bank and noticed lots of groceries untouched. They listened to customers sharing their concerns on not knowing how to prepare these groceries. These Girl Scouts created new and easy recipes to decrease their food waste. Colleen and Hailey cooked and tried all of the recipes. Completed recipe books were donated to the food bank and a master digital binder was created and provided to Neighbor Helping Neighbor.



Girl Scout Destination to Pennsylvania '23

I was a little apprehensive about spending a full week with other Girl Scouts I had never met before. There was a total of 16 from Texas, Connecticut, California, Indiana, Montana, Pennsylvania, Washington State, Oregon and Virginia. We enjoyed many day trips, historical Gettysburg (the history was incredible), the Eisenhower Farm, Foxfire House, Hershey Park (lots of rides), Hershey Museum and the Chocolate Factory where we made our own chocolate bar, plus more adventures including a hike on the Appalachian Trail. There were lots of morning visits to Starbucks to start our day. I made 7 new friendships and my entire week was great! I highly recommend the Girl Scouts Destination trips. I know you will have as much fun as I did. I will definitely stay in contact with my new friends.

Kiernan, Senior Scout
Troop 678



Check out <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/members/for-girl-scouts/ways-to-participate/Travel/destinations.html>

There is something special about having a campfire with friends. The fresh air feels exhilarating and the warmth of a fire invokes a little more gratefulness and conversations go a bit longer.



And that is how it was at Outdoor Education at Camp Sacajawea the weekend of 9/29 -10/1/23. It was good for all of us.

Thank you to the Outdoor Ed team – Donna, Gail, Rebecca and Amy.



The Cadette/Senior Journey in a Day *Think Like an Engineer*



Held at Camp Sacajawea on October 7 proved to be a most successful hands on learning experience. We were able to correlate the steps in the design program: Ask – imagine/explore – plan – create-improve into the highest award thought concept.

The girls were introduced to fashion/smart clothing, learned about the principals behind mechanical/civil engineering, biomedical and a take action project where they each designed an adaptive device and then tested it. Some pretty cool stuff on creating, then recreating making things better each time.



Open Your Heart and Lend a Hand

Happy *Friendsgiving* is traditionally a gathering of friends to share the spirit of Thanksgiving. It's a holiday where you can demonstrate your love for your friends, families and neighbors through generous and friendly gestures. It is also a great time to show folks they are respected and cared for. During the upcoming Friendsgiving time, we ask our Girl Scouts to be friendly and helpful and consider caring by generously giving their time to make others a little happier. Here are some ways to open your heart and lend a hand.

Flowers for a neighbor, make special cards, create a center piece, bake something, sing songs at a nursing home, help someone by walking their dog, share a joke, find a location accepting donations for Thanksgiving and deliver food items, create your own heartfelt gesture. There is a Friendsgiving patch

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/funpatchprograms> or you can research <https://www.snappylogos.com/>



We want our girls to thrive in the outdoors. As a troop leader, we want to inspire their sense of adventure, help them make new friends, strengthen bonds with older friends and challenge them in ways that will help them grow into their best selves all while creating wonderful memories. While providing this unique opportunity for our girls to learn and grow, have fun in the great outdoors, they develop independence, learn new skills, build self-esteem, foster teamwork, develop and improve social skills, unplug from technology, improve physical health and develop a sense of community. Check out <https://volunteers.girlscoutsrv.org/> (Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys) topics: *Girl Scouts Love the Outdoors*, *Simple Fun Ways to Explore Nature*, *Taking Traditionally Inside Activities the Outdoors*. Download for free *Girl Scouts Love the Outdoor Activity Sheet*.

Forest Bathing: Back in the 1980s, scientist found that time spent in the forest was correlated with better health. Upon researching this phenomenon, they found that trees release chemicals into the air to protect them from insects and when we breathe this in, it helps our immune system.

Are you ready?

The eagles should be returning to Camp Sac soon to spend the winter and early spring with us and add to their nest, lay their eggs and raise their chicks. Target date for their arrival is the first or second week in November. Activity tub, *Mama Stump Trail*, is located at Sunspot. You will find information about the eagles, location of the trail and 6 high quality binoculars. Be mindful of the QUIET ZONE (soft voices please). The trail blaze is light green. At the end of the *Mama Stump Trail* is *Amy's Overlooks*, where you can sit, relax and often observe the eagles as they fish. This is a real learning experience and lovely hike toward the mighty James River. Viewing of the eagles' nest is near the Gay Lodge fire circle. Look for the gold colored painted rock and triangle made from tree branches. You are about 250 feet away but it is very visible with the naked eye.



The Skyline Adventurers was founded in 1986 by volunteers to give our older Girl Scouts (ages 11-17) a place to challenge themselves to try new exciting different outdoor activities like kayaking, rock climbing, caving, hiking and many other high adventure activities. The Adventurers love to travel regionally, nationally and overseas to one of our WAGGGS World Centers. For their calendar of events and activities, plus how to join, go to the GSVSC.org website www.gwvsc.org/adventurers.



Upcoming events

- Space Science program for our Cadettes/Senior Girl Scouts - Saturday, November 18 5:30-8:30 at Randolph College, Rivermont Avenue. Cadettes have the opportunity to earn the Space Science Researcher and our Senior Scouts can earn Space Science Expert. We will wrap up with a Star Party at the Winfree Observatory. Flyer is posted on the Lynchburg Campbell County website. For questions, contact Rebecca.
- Super Service Day - Saturday, December 9 at First Presbyterian Church for our Daisy, Brownie, and Junior Girl Scouts. Hosted by LCC Service Unit and facilitated by many of our older Girl Scouts who will oversee the 8 stations. Our younger Scouts will enjoy crafts, three service projects including birthday boxes for Meals on Wheels. Flyer is posted on the Lynchburg Campbell County website. For questions, contact Rebecca.

Upcoming events

- Viewing of the Girl Scout Tree of Hope - Part of the Festival of Trees. Tuesday, November 21 – December 14, Monday – Friday at Centra Alan B Pearson Cancer Center, 1101 Thomson Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501. Flyer is posted on the Lynchburg Campbell County website. For questions, contact Rebecca.
- Wreaths Across America – Saturday, December ____ at Old City Cemetery, 12:00 noon (should arrive 11:45am). This inspirational ceremony honors more than 2300 veterans from the Revolutionary War through Vietnam buried at Old City cemetery. This program is free, lasts for about an hour, includes music and laying of the wreaths which our girls can participate in. Our Service Unit has donated wreaths. Troops and families attend on their own.
- World Thinking Day – Saturday, March 2 at First Presbyterian Church. It's a day of international friendship and a time to stand up for causes that inspire the lives of girls around the world. Our theme this year is *Our World, Our Thinking Future: The Environment and Global Poverty*.

Troops or Service Units can use Square Stripe, Venmo, PayPal and/or the Rallyhood App (Stripe) to collect money between meetings as long as the following conditions are met.

- The app is set up under Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council tax id,
- The app is connected to their Girl Scout approved bank account,
- The app must not be used as a “holding” account for Girl Scout funds. Troop/service unit funds must be deposited/held in their Girl Scout approved bank account.
- The app must not be used to purchase of pay troop expenses to businesses/organizations outside of Girl Scouts. Troop/service unit expenses must be paid by GS debit card or check.
- The volunteer must provide all copies of app transaction receipts with their annual finance report.
- The GS bank account or money app may not be used to pay subscription services of any kind for app fees.

The campfire is calling
We can all agree that sitting
Around a campfire nurtures simple
pleasure that draws us into a
simpler state of mind.



Forms/documents:

<https://www.gsvsc.org/en/for-volunteers/forms---documents.html>

Volunteer Resources Tab for trainers, delegates, troop leaders, service units, info/suggestions on first six troop meetings (D, B, J)

<https://www.gsvsc.org/en/for-volunteers/volunteer-resources.html>

Questions:

LynchburgCampbellCoGirlScouts@gmail.com

www.lburgccgirlscouts.weebly.com

[www/facebook.com/LCCGSSU](http://www.facebook.com/LCCGSSU)

Lynchburg Campbell County Girl Scout Service Unit
4925 Boonsboro Road, PMB 189
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503

GOVERNANCE



Open Council Dialogue Meetings*

2023 OPEN COUNCIL DIALOGUE MEETINGS

All delegates (and alternates) are required to attend at least one Open Council Dialogue Meeting. Below are the meeting dates and times for Fall 2023.

CLICK LINKS TO REGISTER:

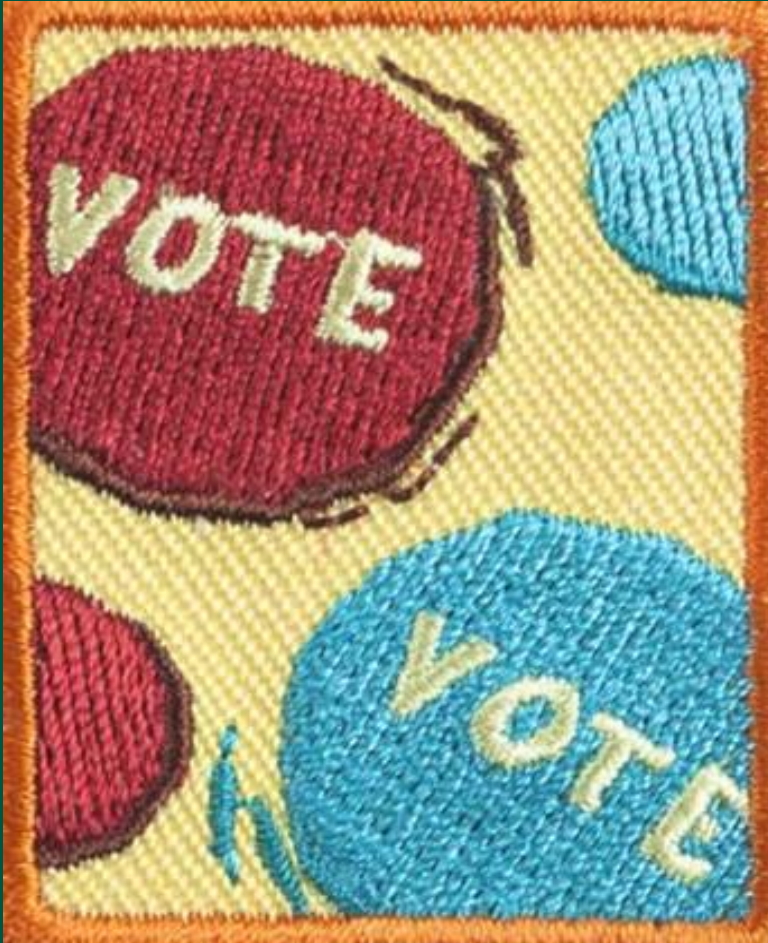
Thursday, November 9

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Governance



Service Unit Delegate Elections Required Forms

Delegate/alternate Election Roster and position agreement forms have been converted to **online forms**. This allows council to use our resources wisely, easily track delegate elections, and reduce paper, which saves time and costs.

We can no longer accept scanned or paper copies of forms #1369 and #1608

Click links below to access online forms!

- To verify elections, the Service Unit Team Leader or other appointed volunteer, must submit the **online form**: [Delegates and Alternate Delegates Roster Report \(#1369\)](#)
 - a. Submit [Attendance Record \(#3066\)](#) to verify quorum of voting members. If voting electronically, a copy of the electronic election results must be submitted to verify a quorum for delegate elections. One of these **MUST** be uploaded through online form #1369.
- Each elected delegate and alternate delegate **MUST** then submit the online form: [Delegate & Alternate Delegate Position Agreement \(#1608\)](#)
- All newly elected delegates and alternates, who have never held the position, must also complete the [Delegate Self-Study \(#1358\)](#) and email it to council at info@gsvsc.org.

All forms must be submitted to council by November 20, 2023

Contact council staff for assistance at info@gsvsc.org or call 540-777-5100.

Governance



At-Large Group Delegate Elections:

At large members who declared to participate with the following at large groups, **watch your inbox!** (Adventurers, Alumnae, Camp Volunteers, or Council Trainers) At Large delegate elections will begin this week! The chair or staff liaison will be reaching out to facilitate an election. Council Trainers will vote at Annual Conference of Trainers on Nov. 18th.

Remember:

- **At-large voting members may NOT vote with their service unit**
- **To verify the at-large group election has been completed, the chair of each at-large group submits the [Delegates and Alternate Delegates Roster Report \(#1369\)](#)
 - a. [Attendance Record \(#3066\)](#) or copy of the electronic election results must be submitted to verify a quorum for the election and **MUST** be uploaded through online form #1369**
- **Each elected delegate and alternate delegate **MUST** then submit the online form: [Delegate & Alternate Delegate Position Agreement \(#1608\)](#)**
- **Complete [Delegate Self-Study \(#1358\)](#) as needed**

All At-Large Delegate Roster Reports and Position Agreements must be submitted to council **by November 20, 2023**

Contact council staff for assistance at info@gsvsc.org or call 540-777-5100.

Marketing & Communications



Your Girl Scout Calendar

NOVEMBER

Nov. 9: OCD Meeting (virtual) **LAST ONE!**

Nov. 9: The Skyline Shop OPEN

Nov. 14: Council Closed (All Staff Meeting)

Nov. 16: GSVSC Town Hall

Nov. 18: [Annual Conference of Trainers](#), Camp Sac

Nov. 22-24: Office Closed (Thanksgiving)

Nov. 28: Giving Tuesday

Nov. 27: Fall Product Program ends

Nov. 30: The Skyline Shop OPEN

DECEMBER

Dec. 2: Cookie College: Online/Virtual (REG. CLOSSES 11/8)

Dec. 7: The Skyline Shop OPEN

Dec. 12: Council Closed (All Staff Meeting)

Dec. 21-Jan. 1: Council Closed (Winter Break)

DETAILS HERE:

www.gsvsc.org/calendar

Marketing & Communications



Holiday Parade Time: Join Girl Scouts Leaflets

Is your troop marching in the local holiday parade this December? If you happen to be passing out candy or trinkets, then don't forget to include a "Join/Volunteer Girl Scout" parade postcard. These parade postcards print and ship for FREE to you.

ORDER HERE

<https://www.gsvsc.org/en/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/membershipmarketing.html>

PICTURED

Roanoke Valley Troop 170

Grandin Road Holiday Children's Parade 2022

Marketing & Communications



Girl Scout INSERT for GS Sunday, Sabbath/Sabbath, Jummah

Girl Scout Sunday, Sabbath/Shabbat, and Jummah give girls an opportunity to attend their place of worship and be recognized as Girl Scouts. If a place of worship is the group sponsor, girls may perform a service, such as greeting, ushering, or doing a flag ceremony. These days can also be a time when girls explore other faiths.

Mar. 10-16: Girl Scout Week 2024

Mar. 10: GS Sunday

Mar. 12: GS Birthday

Mar. 15: GS Jummah

Mar. 15-16: GS Sabbath

Marketing & Communications

Council Holiday Card Contest

Congrats to our winners!

1st PLACE

Lucy G., Cadette Girl Scout, Troop 1315
Lynchburg/Campbell Co Service Unit
(artwork pictured here)

2nd PLACE

Zoe H., Cadette Girl Scout, Troop 9620
Charlottesville/Albemarle Co. Service Unit

3rd PLACE

Lucy S., Junior Girl Scout, Troop 800
Staunton/Augusta Co./Waynesboro Service Unit





Mission Delivery

Welcome Emily Stoltzfus

Community Engagement Manager



You can reach out to her at estoltzfus@gsvsc.org

Mission Delivery Staff



Emily Stoltzfus, Community Engagement Manager

Service Units: Bath, Buckingham, C'ville/Albemarle, Culpeper, Fluvanna, Greene, Highland, Louisa, Madison, Orange, Rappahannock and Rockingham/Harrisonburg



Elisabeth Copp, Community Engagement Manager

Service Units: Alleghany, Amherst, Augusta (SAW), Appomattox, Charlotte, Galax/Carroll, Giles, Grayson, Halifax, Nelson, Rockbridge and Wythe



Vacant, Community Engagement Manager (**Final interviews underway**)

Service Units: Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, Floyd, Henry, Lynchburg/Campbell, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Pulaski, Radford/Montgomery, and Roanoke Valley

Membership Recruitment

Help us spread the word!

- Share Join Flyers at cookie booths!
- Community & Civic Center Events/Local Festivals
- Social Media Apps/Groups
 - NextDoor
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Instagram
- Parent Teacher Organizations/Associations
- Children's Museums/Book Stores
- Local libraries
- Online Newspaper Calendars

Reach out to your Community Engagement Manager to let them know how you will help by contacting info@gsvsc.org for assistance or suggestions!

Fall Recruitment still in progress...

How can you help?

- Host recruitment events November & December
- Share flyers at PTO/PTA or other school events
- Lead a Starter troop - for 4-6 sessions!





Invite a Friend!

BRING-A FRIEND REFERRAL CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN EXPANDED!



Due to the overwhelming response to the Bring-A-Friend Referral Campaign, we expanded the campaign to include some new and fun opportunities!

Customer Care is diligently registering and renewing members!

NEW REFERRAL INCENTIVE

For your initial referral, you will receive council credit: \$32 for a girl member referral and \$25 for an adult volunteer referral or a free renewal for yourself for membership year 2023-24 (MY24), if not already renewed. All additional referrals qualify for entries into drawings. For every additional girl or adult referral that leads to a girl membership or adult becoming a volunteer, your name will be entered into a random drawing for one of the following prizes:

- **3 GIRL MEMBERS** will be drawn to receive a choice of \$50 online Girl Scout Shop gift card, a \$50 council program credit (good for anything the council sponsors) or a \$50 voucher to your choice of Virginia Safari Park, SeaQuest-Lynchburg, or Massanutten Resort.
- **3 ADULT MEMBERS** will be drawn to receive a choice of \$50 online Girl Scout Shop gift card, a \$50 council program credit (good for anything the council sponsors) or a \$50 gift card to your local Dick's Sporting Goods, Camping World, or Walmart for troop supplies.

We expanded the campaign to include additional troop adult volunteer opportunities. For all new adult troop volunteers (troop co-leaders, troop treasurers, troop product program managers, and troop chaperones) brought on by current volunteers, a FREE membership will be provided for the new adult volunteer and the current adult member qualifies for the new promotions above. To refer a girl or adult to Girl Scouts, [please complete this referral form.](#)

[Click here for all the details!](#)



Renewal T-shirt updates!

As of Oct. 16th, all T-shirts were shipped to the adults **who claimed them in gsEvents.** Troop leaders likely did not claim or receive all of them. Please reach out to parents and/or co-leaders to confirm they received them.

Roanoke/Salem troops were notified to pickup at HQ.

Most were received by Oct. 18th - Oct. 23rd, if not sooner!

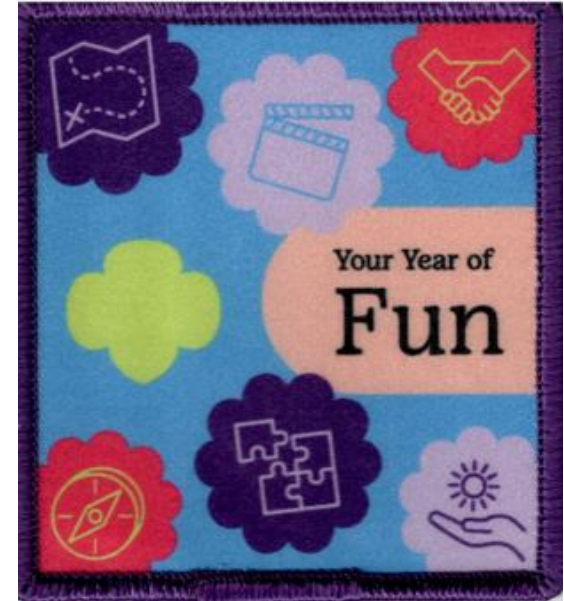
So far, we have had two packages returned and are working to get updated mailing information.



MY24 Renewal Reward Updates

We have shipped first aid kits and collapsible wagons directly to winners. We are in the process of mailing out patches and certificates for archery, first aid/CPR, and Medic Solo winners. We are also working on scheduling the photoshoot.

Program team is putting together badges-in-a box rewards and preparing them for shipping.

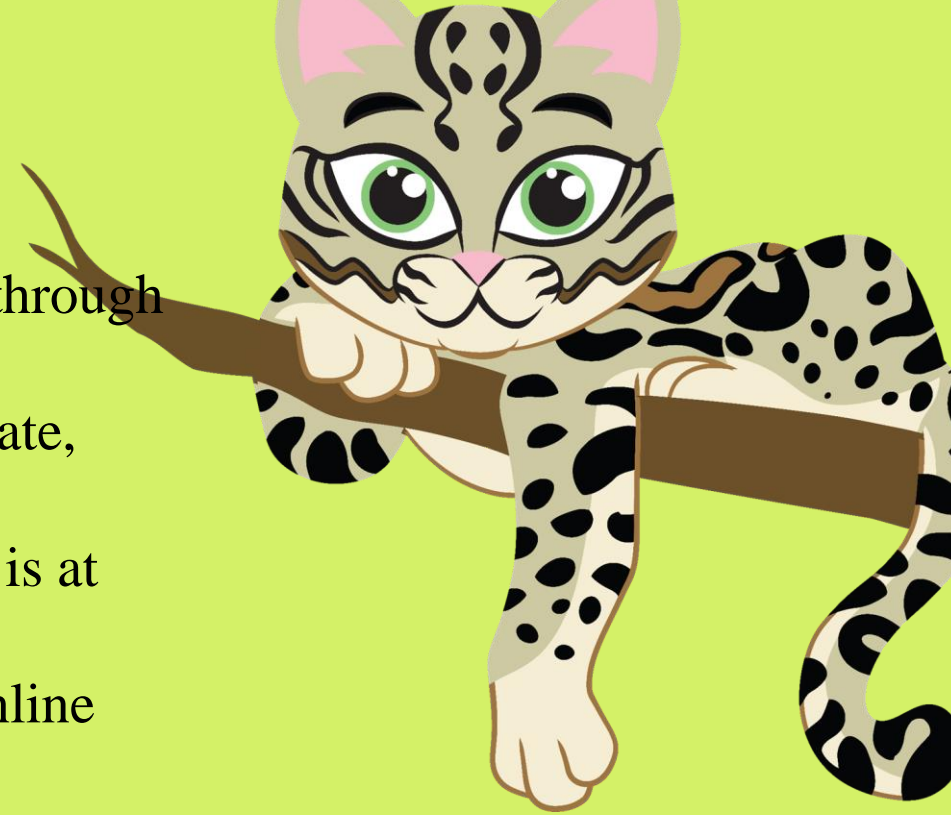


MEDIC





2023/24 Fall Program



- The Fall Product Program online order process will run through 11/27/23
- The current sales total is \$214,606, 76% of last year to date, some issues that are having a negative impact are:
 - Replacement for Salsa Mix, the Hot Cajun Crunch is at 12th place & Salsa Mix was 5th last year
 - GSUSA decided to remove some items from the online direct shipments and not replace them
 - The new item, Cheddar Caramel Crunch is last
- The # of girls registered in M2 is 1,331 and the # of girls with an item sold is 771, 25% less than last year
- The per girl average is 28 items compared to last year's 30
- New promotions-Troop Pizza Party and Trip to NC Zoo

Thank you for your support and please check in with your troops and/or parents!

2024 Cookie Program

It's Almost Cookie Time!



- Cookie season-order card and online program opens on 12/11/23 and ends on 3/18/24
- Area/Service Unit Cookie Program Managers training was held on 10/21/23 with a virtual and in person session;75% have completed training
- No new cookie and RR will not be available this season
- Major changes-
 - All parents/guardians/adults participating in any Girl Scout activity of any kind must be a registered member with a CBC and a volunteer role
 - The interim payment/deposit in February has been increased to 50&
- The Crossover Award will be announced next week



Program

Welcome Alyssa Eason,
Program Coordinator



You can reach out to her at aeason@gsvsc.org.

Upcoming Programs

- Skyline Reader's Club Fall Bingo - [Now through Nov. 15th](#)
- STEM Day - Nov. 8th. Stay tuned to Girl Scouts connections for more information.
- Virtual Cookie College - [Dec. 2nd](#)
- Skyline Reader's Club Winter Bingo - more information coming soon.

G	S	V	S	C
Read a book with magic	Takes place at night	Visit a library or bookstore	Read in the dark with a flashlight	Ghosties
Swap a book with a friend/family member	Found Family	Monster book	Read and make a fall themed recipe	Read a book for Founder's Day or about Girl Scouts
Read a myth/legend	Attend Story time on GSVSC Facebook live	Reader's Choice	Read a book with orange on the cover	Stars
Read with a warm beverage	Re-read a book	Read a non-fiction book*	Pumpkin book	Read a book with "girl" in the title
Spooky short story	Halloween picture book	Read a book written by an indigenous author	Post a book recommendation on Rallyhood	Fire

girlscouts of virginia skyline | Skyline Readers Club | www.girlscouts.org/join
* can be any book that is not fiction

girlscouts of virginia skyline

2023
COOKIE
COLLEGE

Now Enrolling

Icons: Girl Scout, Cookie, Book, Graduation Cap, Magnifying Glass, etc.

Junior Jam: Save the Date



Mark your calendars for May 17-19 for Junior Jam 2024! This is a camping event just for Junior Girl Scouts. Girls will experience Girl Scout traditions with a movie-themed flair. This camporee will take place at Brethren Woods Camp in Keezletown (near Harrisonburg). Registration will open next February.

Check out more event details here:

<https://www.gsvsc.org/en/sf-events-repository/2024/junior-jam-2024.html>

Program Updates



<https://www.gsvsc.org/en/sf-events-repository/2023/cookie-college-virtual-event-2023.html>



Other Program News

- The [Trip Permission Form](#) has been updated. The new fillable PDF has been uploaded to the council website.
- Human Sexuality (or soon to be called Sensitive Topic) Forms are currently available by request only. This approval process is a three week process.
- An Older Girl Program Survey was sent to Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors via email on Oct 25.
- Stables for vendor approval are still a work in progress.





Property

Welcome Bobby Hudgins,
Property Manager/Camp Ranger



You can reach out to him at
bhudgins@gsvsc.org or (540) 226-0228.

We are onboarding a new part time
maintenance support staff.

More details coming soon.



Property

- Camps are being winterized.
- Multipurpose at Sugar Hollow remains closed. Thank you for your patience while we get the necessary repairs done.
- While the council is transitioning it's current trash removal service at Sugar Hollow, effective immediately any trash created on property must be removed by you when you leave the property.



The Skyline Shop Skyline Shop Open



The Skyline Shop will be open for shopping by appointment on these dates:

- November 9 from 11 am to 5:30 pm
- November 30 from 11 am to 5:30 pm
- December 7 from 11 am to 5:30 pm

Email skylineshop@gsvsc.org to schedule an appointment.

- You can continue to place orders with the shop at skylineshop@gsvsc.org for pickup or shipment
- The GSUSA online shop is open 24/7 at girlscoutshop.com
- Many special discounts and online products only are available online
- GSVSC receives approximately 35% of the revenue from the online shop

Pickup Info:

The shop will continue to process orders by email (skylineshop@gsvsc.org) for pickup or shipping. When you are notified your order is ready for pickup, please come to the new headquarters location at 5488 Yellow Mountain Rd, Roanoke 24014. The office is open Mondays through Thursdays from 8:30 AM-5:30 PM for pickups.

Please continue to shop online at the [Girl Scouts of the USA's online store](#). Watch here in *The Girl Scout Connection* for upcoming special discounts!



Volunteer Resources



Updated [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) now available **on our website**

How to Use Safety Activity Checkpoints

As soon as a Troup/Group, Service Unit, Summer Camp, or Adventurers begin planning a particular trip or activity, always review:

The Introduction: Standard Safety Guidelines section and individual Safety Activity Checkpoints

Volunteers and troop co-leaders should continue to refer to both the Introduction: Standard Safety Guidelines and individual Safety Activity Checkpoints throughout the entire activity planning process to ensure all proper precautions have been taken and all safety guidelines have been met before participating in the activity.

As part of your activity planning, pay particular attention to the following:

- When the adult-to-girl ratio, or other safety parameters are stricter for a specific activity than in the Introduction: Standard Safety Guidelines always follow the stricter parameters given in the individual activity's Safety Activity Checkpoints
- Infectious Disease Guidelines. Review the Infectious Disease Safety for Girl Scouts section under the Introduction: Standard Safety Guidelines
- Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Review and document your EAP before taking girls out for any activity and review it with the girls so they too are prepared. Think through scenarios of what can go wrong such as an accident, physical injury to a girl, missing girl, sudden illness, or sudden weather or water emergencies
- [Activities Not Permitted for Girl Scouts](#)

When in doubt, contact Council for guidance in adhering to the safety standards set forth in Girl Scouts Safety Activity Checkpoints: info@gsvsc.org or 540-777-5100.

Volunteer Resources



Currently available:

- [Introduction: Standard Safety Guidelines](#)
- [Activities Not Permitted for Girl Scouts](#)
- [Girl Scout Activities at a Glance](#)
- [Individual Safety Activity Checkpoints](#)

Coming soon!

- Safety Activity Checkpoints Booklet (All inclusive)
- Canoeing*
- Corcl Boats*
- Kayaking*
- Row Boating, Scull, and Shell*
- Standup Paddle Boarding*
- Whitewater Rafting*
- Master Paddling and Rowing Sports Progression Chart*

***Under review with ACA Paddlesports SEI**



Camping

Activity Permitted for: D B J C S A

Council Approval: Required as per Council Policy P1; [Activity/Trip Permission \(2129\)](#)

Vendor Approval: Not Required

Required: 281 GS 201 Trips & Overnights (gsLearn). At least one adult must be trained in camping as required by your council: 281 GS 301A Outdoor Education Planning (gsLearn) and 281 GS 301B Outdoor Education Overnight. *See below for additional required training prerequisites*

About Camping

Camping, a great Girl Scout tradition, is one of the very first activities that Girl Scouts' founder Juliette Gordon Low encouraged for girls. The key to an enjoyable camping experience is being prepared—by packing just enough gear, supplies, and weather-appropriate clothing. Girl Scouts advocate for the Leave No Trace method of camping, which involves leaving a campground the way it exists in nature, free of garbage and human impact.

Rallyhood Updates

Rallyhood Platform Enhancements:

- **Rallyhood Message Wall Update Coming as of Nov. 10th**
 - *Admins will have the ability to turn on/off comments on the Message Wall in Settings*
- **Rallyhood App Version 6.6.2 Released on 10.6. and Version 6.6.1 Released on 9.25 included several updates *to notifications.***

1. **Everyone should download the latest Rallyhood App Version 6.6.2 (Released on 10.6)**

1. **Starting Nov. 1st, Android Users that have not updated their device (or are unable to update their device due to it being an older model) to the [Android 13](#) or later version (e.g. [Android 14 coming 2024](#)) will not be able to install Apps or receive App Updates from any App in Google Play.**

1. **New YouTube Playlist: [Rallyhood "How To" Tutorials](#) *Links are being added to every rally!***



Recognitions

Did you nominate that deserving person for an official award?

Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council provides recognitions to honor its dedicated volunteers, staff and friends of Girl Scouting. These council and national awards recognize outstanding accomplishments that go well beyond what would be expected for the position held.

Take a look at the [Virginia Skyline Adult and Girl Recognitions Summary](#) to determine:

- Which awards would be appropriate for your candidate(s).
- Whether letters of endorsement are required, and how many, for each type of award.
- Who approves the award nomination.
- The deadline date for submission of nominations (**most deadlines are October 31**; others can be submitted year-round).
- How to complete the appropriate paperwork necessary.
- Send all nominations to adultrecognitions@gsvsc.org
- Here's a listing of [GSVSC Recognitions Award Past Recipients](#).

**SAVE THE DATE: The GSVSC Recognitions Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, January 19, 2024
at Holiday Inn-Tanglewood in Roanoke.**

REGISTRATION OPENS SOON!



SERVICE UNIT TEAM CAMPOUT



SAVE THE DATE: MY24 Service Unit Team Campout!

May 4-5, 2024

Camp Sacajawea (Gay Lodge)

Lynchburg, VA

[Registration Opens: January 8, 2024](#)

Calling all Service Unit Team members new and experienced! You are invited to the Service Unit Team Campout. Come connect with other Service Unit Team Leaders and Teams! Be ready to relax and unwind together. This is a time to discuss our strengths, challenges, and how we make a difference in our Girl Scout Council. New volunteers who plan to join their local service unit team are welcome!

Activities will include: Team building hike, guest speakers, campfire, Girl Scout tools, systems, and more!



GSVSC Training Dates

November Training:

- **Nov. 9:** [Virtual Bronze Award Workshop](#) (J)
- **Nov. 18:** [Annual Conference of Trainers @ Camp Sacajawea](#) (V)
- **Nov. 19:** [Bronze Award Workshop](#), virtual (J)

December Training:

- **Dec. 4:** [Virtual Looker training for service unit team members](#) (V)
- **Dec. 9:** [Gold Award Workshop](#), virtual (S/A)
- **Dec. 17:** [Silver Award Workshop](#), virtual (C)

February Training Dates:

- **Feb. 13, 2024:** [Gold Award Workshop](#), virtual (S/A)

May Training Dates:

- **May 4-5, 2024:** [SU Team Campout](#) (V) - Reg. Opens Jan. 8, 2024

Additional Training Registrations Coming Soon!

- **Nov. 29:** SU Finance Facilitator Training (V)
- **Dec. 10:** GS 106 Event Planning (V)
- **Apr. 20:** CIT Counselor-in-Training: Sugar Hollow (S/A)
- **Apr. 20:** Cadette Program Aide: Sugar Hollow (C)
- **Apr. 13-14:** GS 301-B Outdoor Education Overnight Session: Sugar Hollow (V)
- **Apr. 13-14:** Training for Trainers: Charlottesville (V)

More training dates to come!



Important Save the Dates

Service Unit Roundtable Dates (Zoom registration link will be posted in SU Team Network Rally)

Dec. 14, 2023

Feb. 22, 2024

Apr. 25, 2024

Service Unit Team Campout

May 4-5, 2024 @ Camp Sacajawea - Reg. coming soon to gsEvents!

Virtual Town Halls Dates (Zoom registration will be posted on GSVSC Event calendar)

Nov. 16, 2023

Jan. 25, 2023

Mar. 28, 2024

May 23, 2024

No service unit talking points, roundtables, or town halls during the months of June, July or August.



Questions?

Thank you!

Reach out to...

Contact Council: info@gsvsc.org or 540-777-5100