

girl scouts
of virginia skyline

Lynchburg Campbell County
Girl Scout Service Unit

Amherst/Appomattox

October 2023
Update



Power of the Girl Scout Promise

“On my honor, I will try to serve God and my country, to help people at all times.”

Bronze Award - Highest award earned by a Junior Girl Scout

Hartley and Piper, members of Troop 676, restored the letter boxing program at Camp Sacajawea. The original program was destroyed in the 2018 tornado that devastated the west end of the camp. Their new program includes 12 boxes, a 1¼ mile hike (which will take about 90 minutes), an activity tub, information box, and 2 beautiful handcrafted signs.

Teagan, member of Troop 134, focused on the Chapel Trail at Camp Sac. Her project was carried out by cleaning up the chapel, repainting signs, and sanding and painting benches. The trailhead begins at the painted white steps just off the main camp road. Teagan’s initial plan was to replace the top 2 steps but after further evaluation, she got permission to rebuild the entire staircase. Quite a masterpiece!



Silver Award - Highest award earned by a Cadette Girl Scout

Charlotte, member of Troop 440, directed her efforts to the Great Excursion Trail at Camp Sacajawea, a trail designed to teach backpacking. This was another area of camp lost in the 2018 tornado, from the blazed trees themselves to massive erosion created by the root balls. Charlotte had to skirt around the old trail, making a newer and safer path. She added a total of 35 steps using 4x4 timbers reinforced with rebar. This was a major undertaking and a very physically demanding project. She also added a “flower” activity tub at Sunspot that all troop levels will enjoy.



If you have more information about individual or troop highest award project, please share with Rebecca (becka6778@aol.com) so we can include these in the November update. We want to be sure to highlight all of these amazing projects!

What is a Girl Scout Service Unit?

- A leadership team of local volunteers in a geographical area created to support local members and troops. It is where troops and volunteers work together to offer, when possible, local events and activities. Service Unit events create a greater opportunity among the girls and leaders – they are richer activities than a troop can usually provide by itself. This is the primary way our traditions are passed onto our girls and leaders. We want to keep this going for the future if we can all share in the responsibility (hint, hint 😊).
- Our goal is to keep this 111-year-old program going and its leaders moving forward. We provide ongoing investment and service to our local community.
- A Service Unit is the cornerstone of the Girl Scout experience. No parent has the time or energy to start or maintain a troop without the feeling there is a live person who can meet with them and be present at Service Unit meetings and events. Without a Service Unit, so many troops do not survive. The Service Unit knows so much about each troop...where they meet, where the majority of the girls live, and how to best support these troops. You must have a truly caring Girl Scout Service Unit team or the leaders may walk away. The Service Unit team holds everything together – providing cheerleading along the way, ongoing support, events, and activities which help keep the team intact.
- We focus on building relationships.

Service Unit positions:

SU Team Leaders	Treasurer/Finance
Organizer/Recruitment	Delegates
Event Coordinators	Age Level Mentors
Communication	Product Sales



A Girl Scout Agreement

- The mission of Girl Scouts is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character to make the world a better place. This agreement (adjust as needed) is a code of conduct and behavior and expectations that will provide an environment to support our mission.
 - We value the following feelings and will honor each of them by:
 - Knowing that each of us is seen and heard
 - Being encouraging and supportive
 - Working together as a united group and including everyone in activities and discussions
 - Having fun and bringing joy
 - Staying safe in words and deeds
 - Being accepting of our differences and similarities
 - Being respectful
 - Being welcoming
 - Telling the truth
 - Welcoming others to feel comfortable to be themselves
 - Being kind
 - Honoring each other's' boundaries
 - Fostering trust
 - Being responsible for what we say and do
 - Owning mistakes and fixing them
 - Being fully present and limiting use of technology and other distractions
 - Being willing to hold others accountable to these ideals
 - Only taking what is needed and not being wasteful
 - Always leaving a place better than we found it
 - The ideal Girl Scout atmosphere is:
 - Welcoming – kind – silly – fair – helpful – trusting – caring – considerate – respectful – courageous – honest – adventurous – strong – comfortable – heard – accepting – supportive – Girl Scout sisters

Choosing a Troop Crest

A troop crest is a symbol of a troop's goal and main interests. It should have a special meaning for the troop. Once chosen, a crest is used for the life of the troop. If an entire troop bridges to the next level and forms a new troop, they may either keep their original crest or select a new one.

The Arrow

Stands for action and moving forward, hoping to do a lot to change the world

The Bee

Symbolizes hard work and industry. Hard workers also inspire others.

The Bluebird

Stands for happiness and good fortune. We want to spread cheer wherever we go.

The Carnation

One of the first 2 troop crests. Stands for health and energy. Usually a good symbol for friends who have tons of energy.

The Crane

Stands for strength, gracefulness, and loyalty. You are always true to friends and values.

The Eagle

The eagle's excellent eyesight helps it see important details. This shows that you want to bring focus and hard work to whatever you do.

The Lei

The Hawaiian lei is a symbol of friendship, love, and peace. Choose this to share your wish to spread peace and goodwill in the world.

The Lightning Bolt

Stands for inspirational and creative power.

The Nautilus Shell

The nautilus shell grows into larger chambers throughout its life. This shows that you will continue to grow and change inside and out.

The Pansy

Symbolizes loving thoughts and special friendships. Shows the bond you have with all of your Girl Scout sisters.

The Shooting Star

Shooting stars are rare, unexpected, and beautiful. Choosing this symbol shows that you are like a shooting star – a troop that lights up the world.

The Sun

Represents warmth and life, helps plants and trees grow. This shows that you want to spread good cheer and help yourself and others grow.

The Trumpet

When a trumpet sounds, it announces that you're ready to march into action. You might choose this symbol to remind others of your courage to take action to make the world a better place.

The Waterfall

A waterfall is always in motion but always looks the same. Choosing the waterfall shows you want to stay true to what you believe although the world is always changing.

The White Rose

One of the first 2 troop crests. Stands for new beginnings and is a great symbol for girls who are starting out on an adventure.

Holiday Card Contest

GSVSC needs help from your troop in designing the 2023 Holiday Card.

Theme: “be prepared for fun.” Show how a Girl Scout is prepared for badge fun, for the great outdoors, for summer camp, for cookie fun, for whatever fun the girls have in Scouting. Deadline for submission is Sunday, October 29th.

Rules: open to all levels, original artwork (any art tools acceptable), must be a registered Girl Scout, and must write the name of the theme on the drawing. The card submission can be completed individually or as a troop. The top card winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to the Skyline Shop and their own supply of cards to send to family and friends. Prizes are also provided to second and third place winners. Mail, email, or drop off drawings along with contact info to: Girl Scouts, Attn: Holiday Card Contest, 5488 Yellow Mountain Road, Roanoke, VA, 24014-7036 or communications@gsvsc.org. The winner will be notified November 3rd.

Open Council Dialogue Meetings

- We highly recommend that you attend at least 1 of the 4 Open Council Dialogue Meetings which are open to all volunteers. The theme for this year's meeting: "It's Your Voice, Use It: Speak Up, Speak Out, It Matters." These meetings give our volunteers the opportunities to share their thoughts, ideas, and concerns, and offer suggestions to the governance of GSVSC. Register online.
- Topics to be discussed: properties, programming, communication, troops/leadership/Service Units
- Meeting dates:
 - Saturday, 10/21/2023 – 9:45 AM to 12 PM – in-person – Aldergate United Methodist Church, 1500 E Rio Road, Charlottesville, VA
 - Saturday, 10/29/2023 – 8:45 AM to 11 AM – virtual
 - Saturday, 11/4/2023 – 9:45 AM to 12 PM – in-person – Sweet Briar College, Vixen Road, Sweet Briar, VA
 - Thursday, 11/9/2023 – 6:00 to 8:00 PM – virtual

Save the Date

GSVSC Cookie College

Saturday, 11/4/2023 at Sweet Briar College

Time: 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Register online at gsvsc.org

Join us as we kick off the cookie season!

Listen to savvy sales advice, find out cookie selling secrets, create a snack. Lots of fun and door prizes.

This is an opportunity to earn your cookie business badges:

- Daisies: Cookie Goal Setter
- Brownies: Cookie Decision Maker
- Juniors: My Cookie Team
- Cadettes: Innovator
- Seniors: Cookie Boss
- Ambassadors: Cookie Influencer

Tree of Hope

We will be participating again in the Tree of Hope sponsored by the Alan B. Pearson Regional Cancer Center as part of the Festival of Trees. All proceeds from the sale of the Girl Scout Tree of Hope (which is auctioned in December by the Cancer Center) will go toward the patient support fund which provides transportation and wigs for their clients in need. We are asking for our Girl Scouts to provide SWAPS to decorate the Tree of Hope. These are small, 1 ½ to 2” handmade ornaments – you can find lots of ideas on Pinterest. Please have your SWAPS ready by the second week in November. Let Rebecca know so we can arrange pick-up/drop-off time (becka6778@aol.com).

Juliette Gordon Low’s birthday is October 31st so you can encourage your girls to make SWAPS to honor her.

Thank you to Christine, Troop 9200 leader, for securing our 2023 7-foot tree!

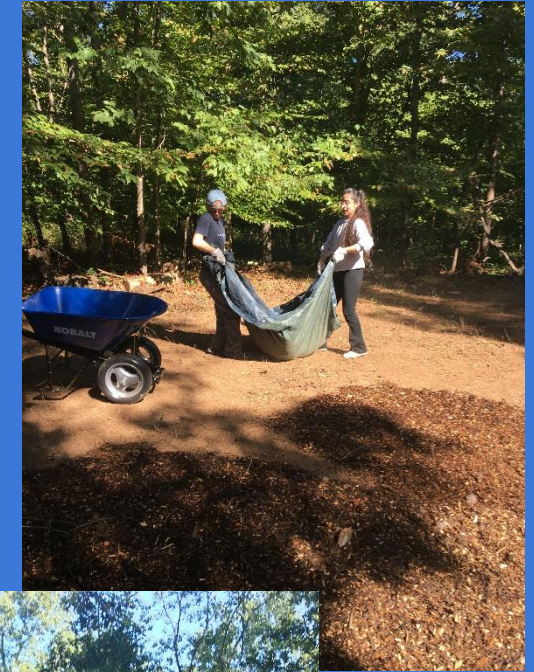


First Aid Certification

- Each troop should have their own first aider
- Council-approved First Aid/CPR/AED Class providers:
 - American Heart Association
 - American Red Cross
 - National Safety Council
 - American Safety and Health Institute
 - Medic First Aid
- First Aid/CPR training available online does not satisfy Girl Scout requirements – such courses do not allow enough opportunities to practice and receive feedback on your techniques
- Wilderness first aider
 - If you will not be able to get to help within 30 minutes and have minimal cell service, you will need a wilderness first aider with you.
- The following healthcare providers may serve as advanced first aiders:
 - Physicians
 - Physician Assistants
 - Nurse Practitioners
 - Registered Nurses
 - Licensed Practical Nurses
 - Paramedics
 - Military medics
 - EMTs

Update on the archery range at Camp Sacajawea

- We are moving forward at a nice, steady pace and thanks to Bobby and 1st and 2nd year medical students at Liberty University, we are so close! After the last 5 stumps were removed, Bobby (Property Manager) tilled the area prior to the med students coming in to do more prep work (raking, mulching, and trimming low branches). It looks absolutely amazing. We have just a little more groundwork to do and then should be able to hang the curtain, move over the tables and benches, then we're done! The site was originally chosen by former ranger Tim.
- Ongoing help is always appreciated. Please contact Rebecca if you want to work for an hour or two (becka6778@aol.com).
- We welcome you to come and enjoy Camp Sacajawea – it looks stunning!





**The things that we do for others matter the most.
The happiest people are the givers, not the takers.**

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:

Saturday, October 21

10:00 a.m. to noon

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

1500 East Rio Road

Charlottesville, VA

In-Person Meeting

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Saturday, October 28

8:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Virtual Meeting

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Saturday, November 4

10:00 a.m. to Noon

Sweet Briar College (*Vixen Den*)

134 Chapel Rd, Sweet Briar

In-Person Meeting

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Thursday, November 9

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Fund Development

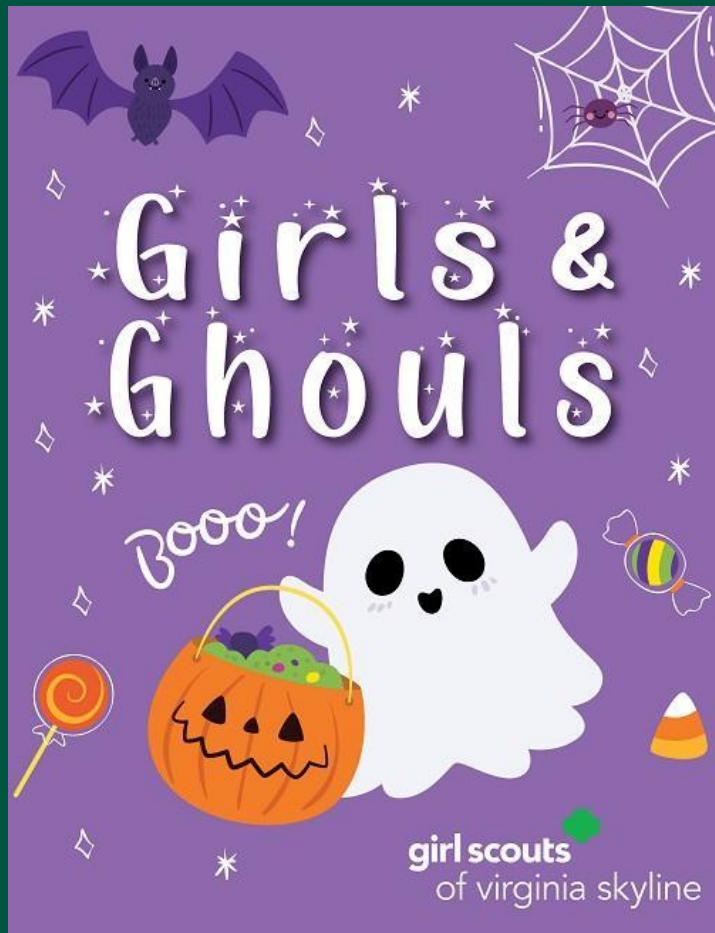


“Girl Scouts are Trailblazers!” is an annual fundraiser sponsored by Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline in commemoration of the council’s anniversary which falls on July 1 each year. This year on July 1, 2023, we turned 60 years old!

You can celebrate with us from July 1 to October 31 (Founder's Day/Juliette Low's birthday) by donating \$60 or more in honor of our 60th birthday. Donations of \$60+ snags you a limited edition 60th anniversary bandana and fun patch! ALSO if you sign up to become a new monthly donor of \$5 or more that also gets you the bandana and fun patch too!

You can pick-up your bandana and patch at council HQ or at special anniversary events or it will be mailed to you for free.

Marketing & Communications



Your Girl Scout Calendar

OCTOBER

- ~~Oct. 3, 10, 17 & 24: Future Voter Series - Cancelled~~
- Oct. 21: Open Council Dialogue Meeting (Charlottesville)
- Oct. 21-22: Girls & Ghouls (D/B/J @ Camp Sugar Hollow)
- Oct. 28-29: Girls & Ghouls (C/S/A @ Camp Sacajawea)
- Oct. 28: Open Council Dialogue Meeting (virtual)
- Oct. 29: Holiday Card Contest Entries Deadline
- Oct. 31: Halloween & Girl Scout Founder's Day

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 4: OCD Meeting (Lynchburg)
- Nov. 4: Cookie College (Sweet Briar College)
- Nov. 9: OCD Meeting (virtual)
- Nov. 11-12: Training for Trainers
- Nov. 16: GSVSC Town Hall
- Nov. 18: Annual Conference of Trainers, Camp Sac
- Nov. 23-24: Office Closed for Holiday
- Nov. 28: Giving Tuesday
- Nov. 27: Fall Product Program ends

DETAILS HERE: www.gsvsc.org/calendar

Marketing & Communications



Council Holiday Card Contest

Girl Scouts of VA Skyline needs your help designing the 2023 holiday card. Show us in "picture-form" how a Girl Scout is "prepared" for badge fun, for the great outdoors, for summer camp, for cookie fun, for whatever fun you have in Girl Scouting!

You can complete this project on your own or with your troop. The overall top card winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to The Skyline Shop and her own supply of cards to send to family and friends! Second and third place winners also receive prizes, and the top 10 cards are made into a video montage that we share on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and our website.

Entry Deadline: Sunday, October 29 (entries must be received by 12 midnight via mail, email or dropped-off at council headquarters in Roanoke)

The winner will be notified on Friday, November 3, & announced on our website & Facebook page.

Service Unit Recruitment Efforts

**Volunteers can help build membership
by:**

- Hosting at least one or more Discover Girl Scouts Event
- Helping start new Daisy & Brownie Troops at local elementary schools
- Helping at Community Event or Festival table
- Helping contact a list of prospects who may want to join or volunteer
- Referring a friend to join and/or



Invite a Friend!

BRING-A FRIEND TO JOIN A TROOP OR GIRL SCOUTING IN GENERAL!

To refer a friend to Girl Scouts, girls (or their guardian) will need to [complete this referral form](#). Girls can also invite friends to join their troop meetings **after getting permission from troop leaders**, by using the Join Our Troop Invitation (for [Daisy-Brownie-Junior](#) OR [Cadette-Senior-Ambassador](#)) to invite friends to her troop meetings and to be part of the Girl Scout sisterhood. Any girl who has a friend who wishes to join Girl Scouts can [fill out this request for a FREE membership for her friend as well as a FREE membership renewal for this year](#) (if not already registered for membership year 2023-24 = MY24) or a council credit* in the amount of her MY24 membership for use in the shop or at council programs.

FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

Making new friends is not only for the girls, but adults too! For all new co-leaders brought on by current volunteers, a FREE membership for the new co-leader and a FREE membership renewal for the current volunteer (if not already registered for MY24) or a council credit* (if already registered for MY24) in the amount of the MY24 membership. To refer an adult to Girl Scouts and receive your free membership or council credit, [please complete this referral form](#).

QUESTIONS

Drop us a line at info@gsvsc.org or pick up the phone to call us at 540-775-5100.

Hurry! Offer ends Oct.15, 2023, so refer your friends today!



***Council credit:** \$32 for girl member referral and \$25 for adult volunteer referral. Council credit good for use in shop or council programs until Sept. 30, 2024.

Join the Membership Recruitment Efforts!

Help us spread the word!

- **JOIN THE SIGNS**
- Flyers
- Community & Civic Centers
- Events/Local Festivals, Trunk or Treat
- Community Parades
- Social Media Apps/Groups
 - NextDoor
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Instagram
- Parent/Teacher Organizations/Associations
- Children's Museums/Book Stores
- Online Newspaper Calendars
- Wear Girl Scout insignia, uniform, t-shirt, hat, etc., when at public community events

<https://www.gsvsc.org/en/for-volunteers/membership-marketing.html>

Reach out to your Community Engagement Manager by contacting info@gsvsc.org for assistance or suggestions!

GSVSC Membership Recruitment Rally

Join the Membership Recruitment Rally on Rallyhood. All council-wide recruitment opportunities are posted for volunteers and girls to sign-up and help out!

Share your recruitment opportunities and sign up to help! Check the [Rally calendar](#) for dates and click on the sign up link or see the sign up list [here!](#)

Great opportunity for older girls to earn their **Service to Girl Scouting bar!**

Membership Recruitment Rally

Help keep the fun going!

Join Us.
Girl Scouts.



Required Annual Troop Meeting Updates



Troops not meeting the minimum requirements to maintain a troop/group status (5 girls/2 troop co-leaders) must request permission to continue as a troop/group. Request must be submitted in writing annually to info@gsvsc.org by **September 30**.

3007 Troop Meeting & Participation Catalog Updates

Every troop/group MUST submit this [form](#) annually to ensure Troop Meeting information is current with council.

This form is to be submitted:

- A. Once annually or as soon as there is a change in meeting location or meeting day/time/frequency
- B. When accepting new girls (growing troop size)
- C. When accepting new program levels (D/B/J/C/S/A)
- D. When no longer accepting specific program levels (specifically troop/groups aging up)

PLEASE NOTE: TROOP/GROUP MEETINGS IN A PRIVATE HOME ARE NOT ALLOWED.

Troops are **ONLY** displayed in the participation catalog to new members upon request.

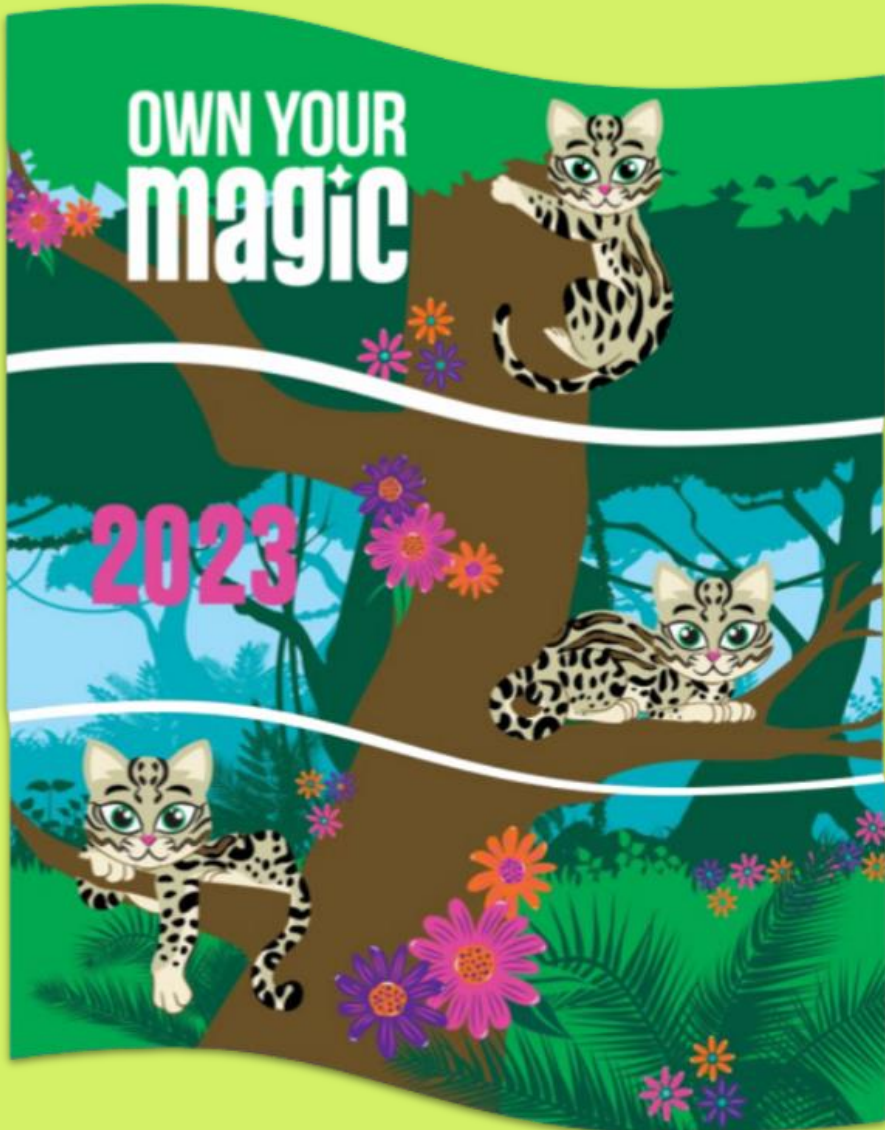
Once requested, troops will be displayed in the catalog until:

- A. The troop reaches the total desired number of girls and/or volunteers
- B. The troop leadership decides to change the number of open spots for girls and/or volunteers displayed in the catalog by filling out this form again or emailing info@gsvsc.org.
- C. The troop leadership has requested to be removed from the catalog and/or to ensure troop stays within girl-to-adult ratios.

Should you need assistance or have questions, contact Customer Care at 540-777-5100 or email info@gsvsc.org.



2023 Fall Program



- Theme: "Own Your Magic"
- Mascot: Ocelot
- Start date-order card & online:
September 5, 2023
- Order card due date: October 16, 2023
- Delivery date: November 8-9, 2023
- Online end date: November 27, 2023

Parents will enter orders taken in M2 by **Oct. 16, 2023**. (Girls may continue to take orders and turn into the Troop Fall Product Manager by Oct. 16, 2023.)

October 10, 2023, is when Troop Fall Product Managers can start entering order card information. **October 16, 2023**, is the last day troops can add orders into M2.

Questions: Reach out to your local area Product Sales rep or contact council at productsales@gsvsc.org



FY24 Cookie Season is just around the corner!

Area/Service Unit Cookie Product Manager Training: Virtual and In-person training on October 21, 2023 by invitation

Council Troop Training will begin in November: Dates to be published soon

Program Updates



~~Oct 3, 10, 17 & 24: Future Voter Series (D/B/J/C/S/A), virtual~~
Cancelled due to low registration

Oct 14: Scout Day at D-Day Memorial (D/B/J/C/S/A)

Oct 21-22: Girls + Ghouls (D/B/J), Sugar Hollow

Oct 28-29: Girls + Ghouls (C/S/A), Sacajawea



New updates coming! Form 2129 Activity/Trip Permission

Updated timeline for processing:

- 4 weeks - activities/trips within council boundaries that do NOT require vendor approval based on SACs
- 6 weeks - activities/trips outside council boundaries that require vendor approval based on SACs
- 8 weeks - activities/trips out of state and stable vendor approvals
- 12 weeks - international activities/trips (outside the continental US including Alaska, Hawaii, US territories and/or cruises)

Changes/Clarifications:

- Health exams are only required for international activities/trips
- Additional insurance is only required for international trips or to cover sickness
- All external training (First Aid and CPR/AED, WFA, high adventure training if not using a vendor, etc.) is required to be uploaded to gsLearn for verification
- The activity/trip leader needs to be a separate person from the first aider



SHOP TALK

The Skyline Shop Skyline Shop Open Oct. 12 and Oct. 26!



The Skyline Shop will be open for shopping on Thursday, October 12 and 26 from 11:00 AM to 5:30 PM by appointment on the half hour. Please schedule your time: skylineshop@gsvsc.org

The shop will continue to process orders by email (skylineshop@gsvsc.org) for pickup or shipping. When you are notified that an 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](#). The council receives credit for all sales within our council footprint. Watch here in *The Girl Scout Connection* for upcoming special discounts!

SHOP





GSVSC Training Dates

TRAININGS REGISTRATIONS

- ~~Sept. 29-Oct. 1: [GS301A & GS301B Outdoor Education \(all-in-one weekend\)](#), Giles Co. (V) - **CANCELLED DUE TO LOW REG.**~~
- ~~Oct. 13: [GS302A & GS302B Backpacker Training](#), Giles Co. (V) - **CANCELLED DUE TO LOW REG.**~~

Upcoming Training:

- Oct. 7: [Bronze Award Workshop](#), Camp Sugar Hollow (J)
- **NEW** Oct. 16: [Virtual Looker training for service unit team members](#) (V)
- Oct. 17: [Virtual Silver Award Workshop](#) virtual (C)
- **NEW** Oct. 26: [Service Unit Team Virtual Roundtable](#) (V)
- Oct. 28-29: [GS301B Outdoor Ed Overnight](#), Camp Sugar Hollow (V) - Reg. Closed **Oct. 2nd**
- Oct. 29: [GS203 International Trip Training](#), virtual (V)
- Nov. 1: [Gold Award Workshop](#), virtual (S/A)
- Nov. 9: [Virtual Bronze Award Workshop](#) (J)
- Nov. 19: [Bronze Award Workshop](#), virtual (J)
- Dec. 9: [Gold Award Workshop](#), virtual (S/A)
- Dec. 17: [Silver Award Workshop](#), virtual (C)
- Feb. 13, 2024: [Gold Award Workshop](#), virtual (S/A)

Registrations Coming Soon!

- Nov. 11-12: Training for Trainers - Charlottesville - reg. coming soon to gsEvents!
- Nov. 18: Annual Conference of Trainers @ Camp Sacajawea - reg. coming soon to gsEvents!



Important Save the Dates

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

Oct. 26, 2023

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