

S'more News

exclusively for leaders and volunteers



Cookie Booth updates and more in this week's edition of S'more News.

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**January 4, 2023
Edition**

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Monacan Creek Cookie Rally!



Monacan Creek Service Unit held an exciting cookie rally in December to prepare for the 2023 Cookie Program.



2023 Summer Camp

2023 is here and you know what that means – camp season is fast approaching! We are excited to share with you the 2023 Camp



Book, filled with exciting new offerings and classic camp fun. As you plan your summer break this year, consider giving the gift of summer camp! Each session is a chance for campers to learn new skills, make new friends, and gain self-confidence all while having boatloads of unplugged fun in the great outdoors.

Look for the Summer Camp 2023 book in your mailbox!

Registration opens Wednesday, February 15th, 6:30 p.m. We hope to see lots of you at camp check-in this summer!

Program Event and Activity Guide

New Year, New Adventures!
Check out all the fun events and activities coming up in January and don't forget to sign up before all the spots are gone!

**1/20- Trail Adventure Weekend:
On the Loose (S, A)**

**1/21 - American Red Cross:
Prepare with Pedro (B)**

**1/21 - American Red Cross:
Pillowcase Project (J)**

**1/26 - Altria Theater: Hairspray (D,
B, J, C, S, A) see below**

**1/27-1/28 - Unleash Your Inner
Artist (D, B, J, C, S, A)**

**1/28 - Richmond SPCA: Pets Badge
at the SPCA (B)**

**1/28 - Richmond SPCA: Daisy Care
About Animals at the SPCA (D)**



Girl Scout Program Age levels welcome to register for each program activity featured are indicated by a letter for the level.

D - Girl Scout Daisy (K-1)

B - Girl Scout Brownie (2-3)

J - Girl Scout Junior (4-5)

C - Girl Scout Cadette (6-8)

S - Girl Scout Senior (9-10)

A - Girl Scout Ambassador (11-12)

**American Red Cross Program activities
Hurry! Deadline to register is January 14th.**



For this presentation, we discuss the most common hazards in the United States – particularly home fires - and



how students can stay prepared for and know what to do in case of an emergency. We teach students how to use coping skills to help manage stress which are also practical for everyday situations. We help students gain confidence in the abilities to be prepared and discuss how students can use their knowledge to act as advocates for emergency preparedness in their homes and communities.

The Prepare with Pedro virtual or in-person presentation is a 45-minute story time with Pedro the penguin and his friend, Mia, that teaches 2nd and 3rd graders how to stay safe from home fires. We discuss what a smoke alarm is and how important it is to "get low and go", check their smoke alarms, and establish a meeting place that all members of the household will go if there is a home fire.



YOU CAN'T STOP THE BEAT hairspray

BROADWAY'S TONY AWARD®-WINNING BEST MUSICAL IS BACK

Hairspray: Thursday, January 26, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Can a girl with big dreams (and even bigger hair) change the world? HAIRSPRAY, Broadway's Tony Award-winning musical comedy, follows 16-year-old Tracy Turnblad in 1960's Baltimore as she sets out to dance her way onto TV's most popular show.

Girl Scouts can use this [link](#) to purchase group tickets online for 8 or fewer attendees.

Girl Scouts should contact the Broadway in Richmond office for assistance with a group purchase of 9+: groups@broadwayinrichmond.com or 804-592-3401.

Training Opportunities



Coming soon!

Registration will open in the coming weeks for the training opportunities below.

Check your calendar to plan ahead and watch S'more News.

Sync Your Knowledge

January 26, 2023

Zoom

Girl Scouts are ready for their next adventure, are you? Register now for training!

Intermediate Camping Training

Required Prep Session (two locations* will be offered - choose the location that is most convenient for you):

March 21st | 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. | metro Richmond

March 23rd | 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. | metro

Fredericksburg

*Each Prep Session option requires a minimum of six participants.

In-person training session: March 31st-April 2nd starts 9:00 a.m. Saturday - ends 1:00 p.m. Sunday (Friday night is optional) | Camp Kittamaqund "Kitty"

Time to get outdoors! The Intermediate Camping Course is designed for leaders and troop volunteers seeking to take their troop tent camping. Registration closes Tuesday, March 14th for Intermediate Camping Training.

Sign Up for Intermediate Camping [HERE!](#)

Paddlesports training (canoe, kayak, paddle boarding)

April 15-16, 2023, at Pamunkey Ridge

Paddlesports training (canoe only)

April 29, 2023, at Pamunkey Ridge

Beginning Camping

May 6, 2023
Pamunkey Ridge

Archery Level 1

June 10, 2023, at Pamunkey Ridge

Archery Level 2

June 11, 2023, at Pamunkey Ridge



North Region opportunity

Growing Up Wild: training for Daisy & Brownie Leaders | \$10

Date: Saturday, February 4th, 2023, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Location: Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 161 Embrey Mill Rd. Stafford, VA 22554

Discover what's outside | **Connect** with nature | **Take Action** outdoors

Leaders will receive a troop copy of the *Growing Up WILD* guide! The *Growing Up WILD* activities support many of the Daisy and Brownie badges, including the Outdoor Art, Math in Nature, Camping and more. **Registration is open now** and closes Friday, January 27th, 2023.

Cookie Program

GO BRIGHT Ahead

The 2023 Cookie Program has officially begun. Girls are actively taking orders both online and in person.

If you were unable to attend our in-person or virtual training, we have recorded versions of the new and experienced leader trainings. This link to our website will take you to the recorded training (in the helpful videos section) as well as other important cookie information.

<https://www.comgirlscouts.org/en/cookies/for-volunteers/resources.html>

Cookies and social media

Our social media guidelines have evolved over the past few years as new tools are available for girls to use. With the addition of troop links to girl links, it's become rather confusing. Consider the guidelines below when wondering what can be posted where.

- **Girl Links**- this is a direct link to a specific girl's order site. These can be posted on social media but **only to family and friends**. This allows people your family has a personal relationship with to order cookies directly from your Girl Scout.
- **Troop Links**- this is a direct link to a troop's order site and benefits the entire troop not one specific girl. These can be posted on social media to **family and friends**. For example, a Troop Leader without a Girl Scout in the troop may want to share this link. Remember after the Cookie Program the cookies need to be allocated to girls in the troop to get credit.
- **Booth Sales**- details can be posted to public sites giving the date, time, and location if it's simply informative. We can't post links to virtual booths in public groups (such as a neighborhood or PTA group), but you can let them know about an upcoming cookie booth.

Cookie Booths: important reminders and exciting updates!



Are you scheduling booths on your own for your troop? Remember to enter those in Smart Cookies so they will show up on the Cookie Finder site. Listing them in Smart Cookies enables your troop to use Smart Cookie credit card processing for electronic payments at your booth.

When scheduling your troop's booths, keep in mind guidance from Girl Scouts of the USA. *Certain locations may be inappropriate for young girls based on the standards of your local community, may*

negatively impact the cookie program experience for girls, and/or may negatively impact our brand in your community. For clarity, girls should not sell in or in front of establishments that they themselves cannot legally patronize. For this reason, GSCV does not approve cookie booths at breweries, wineries, and dispensaries.

To enter your troop secured booth in Smart Cookies follow the steps below:

- Log into Smart Cookies
- Click on Booth at the top of your dashboard
- Click on Troop Secured Booths
- Enter the location with the complete address
- Enter the day and time of the booth
- Click Save

Each booth will need to be approved by a member of the GSCV staff before it shows on the Cookie Finder site or as a booth in your troop listing. Booths are approved daily.

The first-come first-serve cookie booths will go live in Smart Cookies on Monday, January 23rd at 7pm for all troops. We will continue to add more booth locations as they become available so be sure to check back with Smart Cookies regularly. Initially, we will limit troops to one booth, so everyone has a chance of getting one. Then we will expand the amount a troop can sign up for as we add more opportunities.

To register for one of these booths follow the steps below:

- Log into Smart Cookies
- Click on Booth at the top of your dashboard
- Click on Schedule Booth
- Select a booth out of the available opportunities

Below is an update on the status of some of our community partners and cookie booths:



Stores **Troops Can Contact** to set up cookie booths:

Kroger (except Willow Lawn)
Dunkin Donuts
Sam's Club
Tractor Supply
small locally owned businesses



Stores who are currently not allowing booths to be scheduled - **Troops should not contact them:**

Wawa
Kohls
Target
Publix



Stores working with the council for booth opportunities - **Troops should not contact them:**

Walmart
JoAnne Fabrics
Triangle Rock Climbing Club
GNC
Food Lion
more updates coming

2023 Important Cookie Dates

As you plan your troop 2022/2023 membership year, these are the most important cookie dates to assist in your planning.

Sunday, January 1st

Girls can begin taking orders and selling online

Wednesday, January 25th

Deadline for Troop Leaders to input girl orders in Smart Cookies

February 15th-22nd

Traditional deliveries (rural communities)

Thursday, February 16th

Cookie Drive Thru in Fredericksburg

Friday, February 17th

Cookie Drive Thru in Richmond

Saturday, February 18th

Cookie Drive Thru in Chesterfield

Tuesday, February 21st

Cookie Cupboards open

Wednesday, March 15th

First ACH draft (50% of initial order)

Friday, March 31st

Final day of cupboard operation, last day of program

Tuesday, April 4th

Second ACH draft (balance due) and Reward orders due in Smart Cookies by Troop Leaders

GSUSA semi-annual sale online only!

Our semi-annual sale starts now!

— Up to —

50% OFF

select items*

Now through January 10.

[Shop Now](#)

Girl Scout apparel, patches, accessories or just bundle and save! Shop online 24/7 from the comfort of your home. Purchases made online help provide services and programs to girls in Commonwealth Council!

The semi-annual sale items are available online only.

Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia

804-746-0590 • 800-4SCOUT4 toll-free

gshelper@comgirlscouts.org • www.comgirlscouts.org

office hours: Monday - Friday | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

shop hours: Monday - Friday | 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Sunday | closed

S'more News is an e-publication for troop leaders and other volunteers of Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia.



Girls and volunteers can text NEXT to 59618 to join!