

S'more News

exclusively for leaders and volunteers

The GSCV office and retail shop will be closed **Thursday, May 4th and Friday, May 5th.** The staff will be offsite attending a staff retreat. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.



Summer hours coming soon! Beginning Friday, May 26, 2023, through Saturday, September 2, 2023, the office and shop hours each Friday will be 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The shop will be closed Saturdays from May 26th-September 2nd.



How did a GSCV Ready. Set. Rally t-shirt get to Puerto Rico? Find out in this edition of S'more News.

[Trouble viewing? Click here.](#)

May 3, 2023 Edition

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Get Ready for Your Year of Fun!

Early Bird is April 10th - May 19th

WEEKS TO GO



Your Year of Friendship

- ✓ Cheer on your Troop's successes.
- ✓ Bond during a troop sleepover.
- ✓ Find new ways to spread joy.

Celebrate the big moments and look ahead to even more extraordinary ones with your Troop. Join us for another exciting year in Girl Scouts!

Renew between April 10th and May 19th to...

- Start planning ahead with your Girl Scout Troop.
- Get exclusive access to GSCV Events & Activities.
- Earn extra Girl Scout swag and gear for Camp.



Renew Today

girlscouts of the commonwealth of virginia

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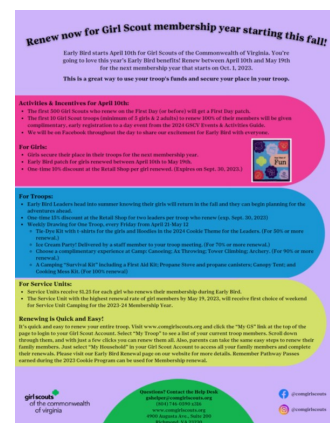
Early Bird now for MY24

Early Bird is your first opportunity to renew your Girl Scout membership. Celebrate the big moments and look ahead to even more extraordinary ones with your troop. Join us for another exciting year at GSCV. You are going to love the benefits available for renewing your membership during Early Bird!

Amazing incentives are available throughout the Early Bird season from April 10th-May 19th.

- 1) Early Bird patch for every Girl Scout who renews.
- 2) Discounts in the GSCV Retail Shop.
- 3) Weekly drawings for troops that renew their memberships.

And many more. See them all by clicking on the flyer or Early Bird patch.



Renew now for Girl Scout membership year starting this fall!

Early Bird starts April 10th for Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia. You're going to love this year's Early Bird benefits! Renew between April 10th and May 19th for the next membership year that starts on Oct. 1, 2023.

This is a great way to see your troop's friends and secure your place in your troop.

Activities & Incentives for April 10th

- The first girl who renews the membership of the troop that she belongs to get a Free Troop patch.
- The first 25 Girl Scout Troop members of 2 girls & adults to renew 100% of their membership will be given complimentary camp equipment that costs more than the 2023 Camp, Events & Activities fee.
- We will be on Facebook throughout the day to share our excitement for Early Bird with you!

For Girls

- Get an extra Free patch for their Troop for the next membership year.
- Early Bird patch for girls renewed between April 10th to May 19th.
- One free 4th placement of the Early Bird Troop patch (expires on Sept. 30, 2023).

For Troops

- Girl Scout Leaders head into summer knowing their girls will renew in the fall with their troop (planning for the summer ahead).
- The first 25% of renewals of the Early Bird Troop for the 2023-24 membership year (Sept. 30, 2023).
- Weekly Drawings for One Troop every Friday from April 20-May 19.
- The first 25 Troops to renew the girls and leaders for the 2023-24 membership year for the Leaders (for 75% or more renewed):
 - One Green Early Bird patch for a staff member in your troop meeting (for 75% or more renewed).
 - One complimentary experience at Camp Campy at Three Top Troop (Drawing, Activity, for 75% or more renewed).
 - One complimentary "Financial Aid" including a Free Fall 2023 Personal Items and program materials (Camp, Troop, and all activities for 2023) (for 20% renewed).

For Service Units

- For the first 25% of renewals for each girl who renews their membership during Early Bird.
- The Service Unit with the highest renewal rate of girl members by May 19, 2023, will receive First choice of weekend for Service Unit Camping for the 2023-24 Membership Year.

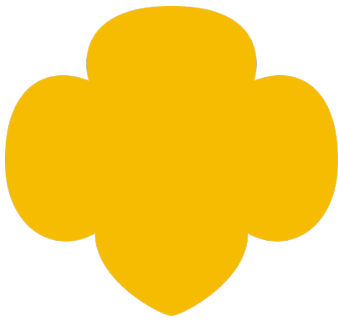
Renewing is Quick and Easy!

It's quick and easy to renew your girl's troop. Visit www.girlscoutsofva.org and click the "My GS" link at the top of the page and click on the "Renew" link. You'll be taken to the "Renew" page where you can renew your membership, upload your photo, and add your new photo to your member profile. Also, parents can click the same page steps to renew their family members, and when "My Renewal" is your Girl Scout account to access all your family members and complete their renewals. Please visit our Early Bird Renewal page on our website for more details. Renewal Payment Process outlined during the 2023-24 Campy Program on our website for more details.

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This past weekend, GSCV acknowledged and celebrated over 135 Girl Scouts for earning their Gold or Silver Award at the 2023 Inspired by a Girl Ceremony. Congratulations again to these wonderful young women and to all the parents and caregivers, troop leaders, project advisors, and Gold Award Committee members that supported these young women. The event was a huge success!





Troop 5285 Travel



Destination: Puerto Rico!

After being together since Daisies, Girl Scout Troop 5285 took their senior trip to Puerto Rico in March of 2023. We ziplined in the rainforest, kayaked in the bioluminescent bay, visited Old San Juan and the famous fort El Morro and tried every bit of Puerto Rican food we could get our hands on (and drank every single type of coffee and fruit smoothie we could). We saved for all of high school to go on this trip and it was the adventure of a lifetime. Troop 5285 is more than a troop, it's a family, and we hope this will not be the end of our adventures together.



Cookie Program

Cookie Rewards: here is what you need to know

Girls who sold 30-400 packages of cookies.

Rewards (including all patches) up to and including the t-shirt at the 400 level will be delivered to your local Service Unit Product Program Manager (SUPPM). Normally it takes several weeks to deliver, so expect them in mid-to-late May. Once the SUPPMs have the rewards, they will contact troop leaders to arrange a pick-up or delivery time.



Girls who sold 500 or more packages of cookies

Pathway Passes will be mailed to girls' homes. If you have moved in the last year, please check your account in **MyGS to make sure your mailing address is correct**. Pathway Passes expire on Friday, September 30, 2023. Passes can be used to renew a girl's membership, to obtain discounts in the GSCV Retail Shop, or towards events and camp registration fees.

Girls who earned tickets and acorn bucks for the **Cookie Boss** event (500 packages or more) at the *Night at the Diamond* in Richmond or Fredericksburg Nationals have received an electronic invitation with information on how to RSVP. **Fredericksburg Nationals tickets have all been spoken for and no more are available**. Girls who did not earn the Cookie Boss event can still attend by purchasing tickets through Flying Squirrels or Nat's websites. The Fredericksburg Nationals game is on **Wednesday, May 3rd**. The Flying Squirrels game in Richmond is on **Friday, June 2nd**.

Girls who sold 750 or more packages of cookies

Girls who earned an invitation to the **Stellar Seller** event (750 Packages) have received an electronic invitation with information on how to RSVP. This event will be held at Camp Pamunkey Ridge on Sunday, June 4th.

Girls who earned the **Mini Instant Printer** will receive it at the Stellar Seller Event.

Girls earning the cookie-themed **Hoodie** will receive it with their patches and other rewards through their local SUPPM.

Girls who sold 1,000 or more packages

Girls who earned a Camp Session (1,000 packages or more) have received an electronic invitation with instructions on how to register for camp.

Girls who earned the **Sports bag and Baseball hat** will receive them from their SUPPM.

Girls who earned a **Brick on Cookie Lane** will be able to view their brick at the Stellar Seller event on June 4th.

Girls who earned rewards at the 1,250 level and above will pick up their rewards at the Stellar Seller event on Sunday, June 4th. They will receive an electronic invitation with instructions on how to RSVP. Girls who earned the **American Girl Doll** (1,250 packages) have received an electronic communication allowing the girl to select one of four doll choices. Girls who do not respond will receive the American Girl Doll of the Year.

Girls who earned the **Nike Air Force Ones or Fjallraven Backpack** will receive a gift card and instructions on how to purchase. The gift card will be handed out at the Stellar Seller event.

Girls who earned a **Kayak or Nintendo Switch Lite** will receive their reward at the Stellar Seller event June 4th.

Girls earning the **Rafting Adventure** will receive electronic communication to assist with arrangements.

Girls who received **Great Wolf Lodge** overnight will receive a gift card at the Stellar Seller event.

The **Volunteer Apron** for the troops that earned them (PGA of 200+) will be distributed with the other rewards through local Service Unit Product Program Manager.

The **Fall Product/Cookie Crossover patch** earned by girls who sent 15 emails during the Fall Product Program and sold at least 275 packages of cookies will be mailed directly to the girls' homes. You should expect this patch in June.

Program Events and Activities

Asian American Pacific Islander Fun Patch

May is Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, an annual celebration of the achievements and contributions of Asians Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

It's a time where we join in paying tribute to the generations of Asian American and Pacific Islanders who have enriched the history of the United States and are instrumental in its future success.



We've got plenty of activities for you to choose from as you join the AAPI Heritage Month celebration this May. Check out these few options for you this week:

- Draw three flags from the countries that are part of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month.
- Learn about the history of the Lei and find a photos of the flowers used by each of the eight Hawaiian Islands.
- Look for a recipe that you can cook with your troop, friends, or family from one of the countries included as part of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month.
- Make a list of three Asian American and/or Pacific Islander Olympic athletes, including the medals they won and the sports they competed in.

We've got plenty of activities for you to choose from as you join the AAPI Heritage Month celebration this May so stick around for weekly options from the [patch program](#)!

READY. SET. RALLY. 110



Did you hear the news? Registration is now open for GSCV's 110 Rally!

Bring your water bottle, your siblings, parents, and your troop to Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp on June 10th to celebrate our council's 110th anniversary. Come ready to sing along, trade

S.W.A.P.S., and have some good Ol' Girl Scout fun! Added to the celebration are inflatables, ice cream, a petting zoo, relay race, and SO MUCH MORE!

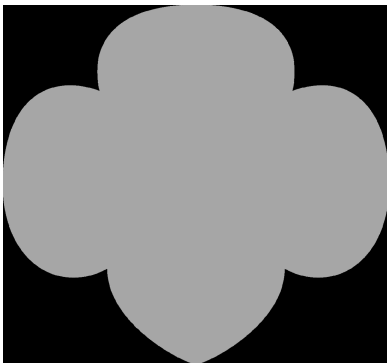
P.S. Don't forget your sunscreen!

[Register here](#) for the 110 rally and visit the [110th Anniversary page](#) on the GSCV website for more information.

Don't miss your chance to attend our ultra fun May events. Be sure to sign up soon!

[5/19-5/21 - Service Weekend at Camp Kitty \(D, B, J, C, S, A\)](#)

[5/20 - Fredericksburg Food Bank](#)



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)

2023 Summer Camp

Summer Camp sun is waiting for you - register for camp today!

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.



Feature Your Troop on Social Media

Want to see your Girl Scout Troop featured on our social media? Share your photos with us! We know Girl Scouts in our Council are making MAJOR waves in their community, and we're excited to show the world just what a girl can do. Send in your photos with a short description, and we'll spread the love on our Facebook & Instagram.

Submit all photos to
Janna Joyner, Director of
Marketing & Communications,
at
jjoyner@comgirlscouts.org

See you over on the 'gram!

Training Opportunities

June 8-9, 2023
Pamunkey Ridge
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Paddlesports training (canoe, kayak, paddle board)
Registration closes Friday, May 26th.

September 29-30, 2023
Pamunkey Ridge

TREK Weekend 2023
Watch S'more News for workshop details and registration.

Open 24/7
on-demand



Questions about training? Need assistance registering for a training course?
Contact the GSCV help desk: gshelper@comgirlscouts.org

Paddlesports training (canoe, kayak, paddle board)

Thursday & Friday, June 8-9, 2023, at
Pamunkey Ridge Camp
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (both days)

By taking the Canoe|Kayak|Paddle board



certification, you will become certified to bring this experience to girls in your troop, service unit, and special events! Certified adult instructors are required for Girl Scout canoeing, kayaking, and paddle boarding activities. Space is limited, so be sure to register right away! You will receive an email from the trainer with details regarding what you will need to bring the day of the training. **Register today!** Limited space, registration closes Friday, May 26th.



TREK Weekend 2023
September 29-30

Join us for a TREK Through Georgia at Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp!

- Learn about The Birthplace, Girl Scout travel and more
- Experience the highlights of camp
- Network with fellow leaders
- Take away new troop ideas

This adult-only training weekend is for new and seasoned leaders alike. Make memories and new friends. Do not miss out on this weekend of fun!



Join us for TREK Weekend 2023!
Friday, September 29, 6:00 p.m. (optional overnight)
Saturday, September 30, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
\$40 (includes meals, class supplies, and event patch)
Watch S'more News for list of classes and registration link.



**TREK Weekend 2023...save the date!
September 29-30, 2023**

TREK Weekend is for volunteers, by volunteers. Our theme this year is *TREK Through Georgia, held at Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp*. So, save the date and join us for exciting Girl Scout leader focused workshops, a chance to explore Pamunkey Ridge Camp, and a Georgia inspired menu. This adult only weekend is just for you! Watch S'more News for more details and the link to register.

Visit the GSCV Shop



Come visit your GSCV council shop and all the fun finds we have to offer. Troop 244 stopped by and even got a picture with our shop manager Liz, with all their

fun finds. You can also shop online at girlscoutshop.com

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!