

S'more News

exclusively for leaders and volunteers

Important notice:

*The GSCV Retail Shop will be closed Saturday, November 18, 2023 - Saturday, November 25, 2023 and the GSCV Office will be closed Monday, November 20, 2023 - Friday, November 24, 2023, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

GSCV Office and Shop will re-open Monday, November 27, 2023.



Registration is open!

Join us for the best time ever at the 2024 Cookie Rally with exclusive use of Kings Dominion before the general public can enter.

Details in this edition of S'more News.

[Trouble viewing? Click here.](#)

November 15, 2023 Edition

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- 2024 Cookie Program
- Feature Your Troop
- Training Opportunities
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Program Events & Activities

Real Life Academy

These virtual sessions are designed to inspire confidence in an ever-changing world.

Real Life Academy (C, S, A)

Next up on our Real Life Academy series is Tips on Stress.

Everyone experiences stressful situations. Join this Real-Life Academy to learn some tips and strategies for managing those overwhelming moments.

[Sign up](#) here.

Real Life Academy

These virtual sessions are designed to inspire confidence in an ever-changing world.

Ready to Vote
Casting your first vote is an important milestone. As you prepare to make your voice heard, learn about researching the issues and candidates on the ballot, finding your voting location, and casting your vote.
Cost: GS/Adult, \$150
Location: Virtual
Tuesday, Nov 7 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Tips on Stress Management
Everyone experiences stressful situations. Join this Real-Life Academy to learn some tips and strategies for managing those overwhelming moments.
Cost: GS/Adult, \$150
Location: Virtual
Tuesday, Nov 28 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

What to Do If You Get Pulled Over
Nausea the red and blue lights in your rearview mirror. How do you stay calm? Learn your rights and what to do if you are pulled over while driving.
Cost: GS/Adult, \$150
Location: Virtual
Tuesday, Jan 15 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Balancing Social Media and Real Life
Is your screen time clicking up? Are you constantly worried about how many likes your last post got? Navigating the internet can feel like a lot. Whether you're looking for a full detox or just trying to find balance, learn how to create a healthier relationship with social media.
Cost: GS/Adult, \$150
Location: Virtual
Tuesday, Feb 6 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Ace the Interview
Whether you're interviewing for a job, college, or a spot in a specialty in high school, learn the basics of what will set you apart and make you stand out.
Cost: GS/Adult, \$150
Location: Virtual
Tuesday, Feb 27 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

24 Program Events and Activities | 2023-24 Girl Scout Membership Year

Celebrate Native American Heritage Month by having fun learning about all the communities it represents while earning a new patch!



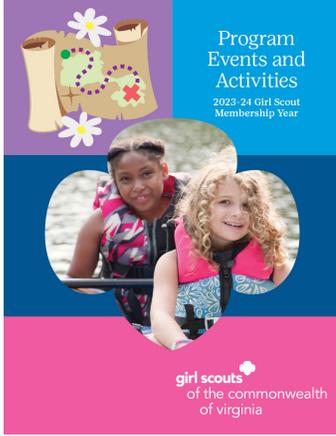
Native American Heritage Month:

- Identify five books written by Native American authors.
- Research the musical instruments that Native Americans have created and use.
- Recognize the various art forms that Native American artists have created as you explore your community or as you travel.
- Visit a Native American food truck or restaurant in your area.
- Learn about three different Native American tribes, and share your research with your troop, family, or friends.
- Using a map of the United States, select different colors to identify the seven Native American regions on the map. For an extra point, add at least five names of different Native American tribes located in each region.
- Research which Native American tribal land you live on and learn about the tribe(s) that used to occupy it.

“You can celebrate Native American Heritage Month by recognizing with your family and friends the histories, cultures, and contributions of the Native American communities that were the first inhabitants in the United States. Take this opportunity to learn more about the cultures of the Indian Nations in your state and across the country. We’ve got plenty of activities to choose from, so you can make new discoveries and have tons of fun while earning your patch!”

November events are open for registration. [Sign up now!](#)

Program Events & Activities for all Program Age Levels



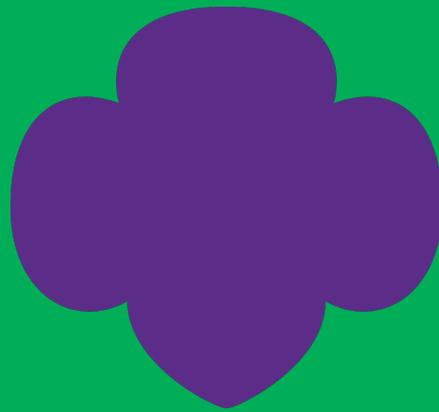
Daisy (D) grades K-1
Brownie (B) grades 2-3
Junior (J) grades 4-5
Cadette (C) grades 6-8
Senior (S) grades 9-10
Ambassador (A) grades 11-12

2024 Cookie Program



Important message about the 2024 Cookie Program

The Cookie Program is the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world. Girl Scouts learn five essential skills including decision making, goal setting, business ethics, people skills, and money management. Proceeds from the program fuel amazing experiences like troop travel and outdoor adventures.



For the 2024 Cookie Program, the council made the decision to adjust the price of cookies due to an increase in the cost of commodities to produce the cookies, supply chain challenges and corresponding increase in cost, combined with the need to keep pace with rising costs of programming and support to members. The price to the consumer will increase to \$5 per package with the cost of the gluten-free variety increasing to \$6 per package.

This is the first price increase at GSCV in ten years and is necessary to continue to provide support and services to members including financial assistance, camp property maintenance and improvement, and council-sponsored programming along with an increase in troop proceeds to assist with troop programming.

We are committed to all members having a fun and memorable cookie season. We will continue to support our volunteers and girls as they take on the world and master entrepreneurial leadership skills.



**Join us at Kings Dominion Winterfest
Sunday, December 10th!**





Girl Scouts and their family and friends can enter the park at 2:00 p.m. and will have exclusive use of the park until 5:00 p.m. when the general public can enter.

Girl Scouts will have access to ice skating, cookie decorating, cookie themed activities under the Eiffel Tower and a cookie rally patch.

Girl Scouts and their family and friends will be able to enjoy:

- Sally Brown's Christmas Crafts
- Shop in Build-A-Bear Workshop with Girl Scout clothing
- Available rides: Dominator, Berserker, Kite Eating Tree, Peanuts 500, and Flying Ace
- Enjoy something to eat or drink at: Starbucks, Pizza Parlor, and International Street Funnel Cake

New this Year: Girl Scouts will select their ice-skating time when purchasing their ticket. Girl Scouts under 10 years old must have a companion on the ice-skating rink. Companion passes are available for purchase in advance or at the park. Waivers will also need to be signed for ice-skating. The ice-skating ticket has a link to a waiver that they complete before skating – this will cut down on the line inside the park.



Girl Scouts who are **not** season pass holders \$40.



Girl Scouts - who are season pass holders \$20 (this will cover the special activities (ice skating, cookie decorating,

cookie activities and patch).



Family and friends who are not season pass holders \$20



Family and friends who are season pass holders, no charge for admission

New Digital Cookie Platform

In Girl Scouts, girls engage in activities that spark curiosity, confidence, and innovation. The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the foundation of entrepreneurial experience in Girl Scouts and is an important (and exciting!) part of being a Girl Scout. Research shows that girls are interested in becoming entrepreneurs, developing financially stable futures, and using their skills to make a meaningful impact on the world. As cookie entrepreneurs, they sharpen their business savvy and work as a team to accomplish common goals and solve problems, while building the confidence they need to shine as girls, as young women, and as future leaders. And did we mention fun? They have lots of that along the way, too. Every year, Girl Scouts all over the country use their cookie earnings to have amazing experiences in their communities and beyond.



This year it's more important than ever for Leaders to take part in Cookie Training. GSUSA is launching Digital Cookie, one unified platform for all girls and their parents to manage the cookie program.



Troop Leaders and Troop Cookie Managers with less than 2 years managing a cookie program are encouraged to attend New Leader Training.

This training will cover Digital Cookie as well as Smart Cookies, the system leaders will use to manage the troop's experience. Experienced Leaders with 2 or more years managing a cookie program are recommended to attend the experienced leader training to learn all about Digital Cookie.

In addition to training, we will offer multiple opportunities to pick-up your troop cookie packet. If you choose to attend an in-person training, you will pick-up your materials at training. If you attend virtual training, you will be able to pick-up your materials quickly at one of the designated cookie packet pick-up locations. A variety sample package of cookies will be available for \$10 (at packet pick-up).

After choosing the best day and time for your schedule, let us know which cookie training you will attend so we can ensure plenty of materials are there!

Cookie Training Registration

Saturday, December 2nd 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	New leader training GSCV office 4900 Augusta Ave, Suite 200 Richmond, VA 23230	In-person location
Saturday, December 2nd 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Experienced leader training (2 or more years managing the cookie program) GSCV office 4900 Augusta Ave, Suite 200 Richmond, VA 23230	In-person location
Saturday, December 2nd 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	New leader training GSCV office 4900 Augusta Ave, Suite 200 Richmond, VA 23230	In-person location
Saturday, December 2nd 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Cookie packet pick-up GSCV office lobby 4900 Augusta Ave Richmond, VA 23230		In-person location
Sunday, December 3rd 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	New & Experienced leader training Victoria Christian Church 2100 Lee Avenue Victoria, VA 23974	In-person location
Sunday, December 3rd 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Cookie packet pick-up Victoria Christian Church 2100 Lee Avenue Victoria, VA 23974		In-person location
Monday, December 4th 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	New leader training <u>Virtual</u>	
Monday, December 4th 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Experienced leader training <u>Virtual</u>	
Monday, December 4th 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	New & Experienced leader training <u>Virtual</u>	



Tuesday, December 5th
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

New & Experienced leader training
Tabernacle United Methodist Church
7310 Old Plank Rd
Fredericksburg, VA 22407

In-person location

Tuesday, December 5th | 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Cookie packet pick-up
Tabernacle United Methodist Church | 7310 Old Plank Rd
Fredericksburg, VA 22407

In-person location

Wednesday, December 6th
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

New & Experienced leader training
Rappahannock Community College
52 Campus Drive
Warsaw, VA 22572

In-person location

Wednesday, December 6th | 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Cookie packet pick-up
Rappahannock Community College | 52 Campus Drive
Warsaw, VA 22572

In-person location

Monday, December 4th - Friday, December 8th
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Cookie packet pick-up
GSCV office lobby | 4900 Augusta Ave | Richmond, VA 23230

In-person location

Vote on the 2026 Mascot!



American Bison



Black Footed Ferret



Little Brown Bat



Mountain Goat

@girlscouts

We want YOU to pick the Girl Scout Cookie mascot for 2026!

The top ranked animal will become a future Girl Scout Cookie Mascot! Simply select your favorite mascot—but remember, you only get one choice! Ready to cast your vote? [Click here to learn about the candidates and get started!](#)



Feature Your Troop on Social Media!

WE WANT TO FEATURE YOUR GIRL SCOUT TROOP ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!



Has your Girl Scout troop completed a project, taken a trip, or done something worthy of a shout out? Let us know!

We're looking for more incredible Girl Scouts to feature on our social media.

Submit your photos and a short description to our **Help Desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org**. We can't wait to feature them!

Training Opportunities

November 30, 2023
Online via Zoom

Sync Your Knowledge

March 9, 2024
Pamunkey Ridge

Outdoor Cooking
registration coming soon!

GSUSA Mental Wellness Patch Program (on demand)



Open 24/7
on-demand



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

Training for the Mental Wellness Patch Program

Located in gsLearn, the Mental Wellness Patch Program training is a three-part learning experience that will provide best practices for holding a Mental Wellness Patch Program. This training is for Girl Scout leaders of Junior, Cadette, Senior, and



Ambassador program age levels.

GSUSA **recommends** the training be taken in the following order:

First: GSUSA Mental Wellness 101

Second: GSUSA Delivering Inclusive Program

Third: GSUSA The Mental Wellness Patch Program: Why It Matters and How to Implement It.

The trainings above are located on your gsLearn dashboard and if you have any difficulty please contact the GSCV Help Desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org



Sync Your Knowledge is open for registration.

You decide what we cover at Sync Your Knowledge. **[Register today and let us know what you want to learn more about.](#)**

As always, there will be plenty of time for your questions.

Retail Shop

Your year of
Giving

The best
gifts are here

**Begin the season of joyful giving
with our holiday gift guide.**

SHOP 2023 GIFT GUIDE

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.



Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia | 4900 Augusta Ave., Suite 200, Richmond, VA
23230

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