

S'more News

exclusively for leaders and volunteers



Coconut has her forever home!
Details in this edition of S'more News.

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**November 30, 2022
Edition**

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Congratulations Charlie!

Congratulations to Charlie from Girl Scout Troop 109!

Charlie is a Girl Scout Daisy and won our giant stuffed Hawaiian Monk Seal through her participation in the Fall Product Program.

All girls with at least \$50 in magazine sales were automatically entered into this contest.



Staff Spotlight

Please help us welcome one of our new staff members: Cierra Hall! Cierra is our Program

Manager.

Cierra graduated from the University of Virginia in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in youth and social innovation and psychology and a minor in Sociology. She received her master's in education from John Hopkins University.

Since graduating, Cierra has held several roles working to amplify the voices of youth. Cierra served as an elementary and middle school teacher in the Teach for America program. She has also developed and implemented positive programming and events that incorporated the Master Resiliency Training for children of National Guard service members.

When she is not in the office, you can find Cierra playing disc golf, riding her Peloton, or traveling with her fiancé and golden retriever. Cierra was a Girl Scout for six years with our neighbors - Virginia Skyline Council.

Cierra is looking forward to planning more events and getting involved with Higher Awards for Girl Scouts. We are thrilled to have her join our team!



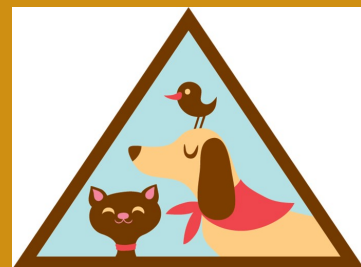
Program Event and Activity Guide



Real Life Academy: What to Do If You Get Pulled Over (C, S, A)
Wednesday, December 7, 2022
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

It's going to happen sooner or later. Join Girl Scout volunteers and local community members to learn how to stay calm, know your rights and what to do if you are pulled over while operating a vehicle.

Have you heard? The Richmond SPCA is opening another date for Brownie Pets Badge!
February 11, 2023, from 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Register here! Girl Scout Brownies (grades 2-3) will have an opportunity to tour Richmond SPCA and see what it takes to own your own animal. Brownies will earn their Pets Badge.



Richmond Ballet-
Nutcracker: Sunday,
December 11, 2022
5:30 p.m.

Coming in January!



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

Watch toy dolls come to life in this holiday classic. Girl Scouts and their families will enjoy a special post-show question & answer session with Company Dancers in the Carpenter Theatre at Dominion Energy Center.

Girl Scout Troop Leaders and families can order tickets as a group or on an individual basis through the link above or by calling the Richmond Ballet Box Office at 804.344.0906 x224.

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



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

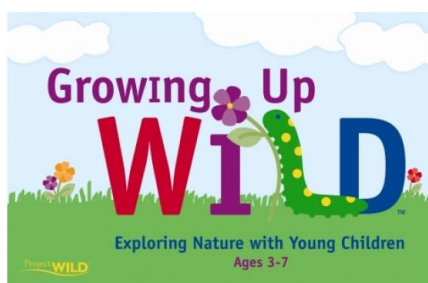
Each Prep Session option requires a minimum of six participants.

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. This course will give leaders hands-on experiences so they can successfully lead girls on outdoor experiences for multiple nights. Girl Scouts has a lot to offer through outdoor adventures and you will gain knowledge and practical training to prepare you to plan and manage overnight camping trips. You will learn a variety of safety techniques for fires, cooking and camps. You will also receive valuable tips for program planning, clean up, kapers, and packing. Registration closes Tuesday, March 14th for Intermediate Camping Training.

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



North Region opportunity

Growing Up Wild: training for Daisy & Brownie Leaders

Date: Saturday, February 4th, 2023

Time: 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

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

Cost: \$10

Discover what's outside

Connect with nature

Take Action to learn about the outdoors

Leaders will receive a troop copy of the *Growing Up WILD* guide filled with 126 pages of ideas, activities, fun facts, and the rest you will find in this exciting resource! 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

Cookie Rally at Kings Dominion!

Not too late to get your tickets!



This year's Cookie Rally will take place at Kings Dominion's Winterfest on December 11th. The registration/ticket purchase will take place through the link to the Kings Dominion website. All tickets include early admission to the park and parking. Girl member tickets include the Cookie Rally activities: ice skating, cookie decorating, a patch, and fun cookie themed activities for \$30 per Girl Scout. The pictures below will assist you in purchasing what you need for all the fun!



\$30
Choose this option to purchase tickets for Girl Scouts (girl members only) who are not season pass holders.



\$10
All Adults including Girl Scout troop leaders & non-Girl Scout family members.



\$10
Choose this option to purchase tickets for Girl Scouts who are season pass holders and would like to participate in Cookie Rally activities.



Cookie Training and Packet Pick-Up

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.

We ask leaders to participate in cookie training to best prepare to support girls in the world's largest girl-led entrepreneurial program!

New Leader training - New Leaders and Troop Cookie Managers with less than 2 years of experience are asked to attend the new leader training. This training will cover the basic operations of the Cookie Program as well as tips for a smooth and successful experience for your girls. Both virtual and in-person new leader trainings will be offered. Link to the virtual trainings is below. No registration is required.

Experienced Leader training - Leaders and Troop Cookie Managers with 2+ years of experience are asked to attend the experienced leader training but are welcome to attend the new leader training if they prefer. This training will offer a fast-paced refresher of the overall Cookie Program and highlight new information. Both virtual and in-person experienced leader training will be offered. Link to the virtual trainings is below. No registration is required.

Cookie Packet Pick up – This is the opportunity to "pick-up" materials and Cookie Program resources. 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. Seven-variety sample packages of cookies will be available for \$10 (at packet pick-up) and all troops will receive a complimentary package of the Trefoil Cookie (formerly known as Shortbread). Please be aware the new Raspberry Rally cookie will not be available in the sample pack; this cookie will only be available online.

Saturday, December 3rd
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Experienced leader training virtual
<https://zoom.us/j/97133601026>
Passcode: 593898



Saturday, December 3rd
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

New leader training
GSCV office
4900 Augusta Ave, Suite 200
Richmond, VA 23230

In-person
location

Saturday, December 3rd
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Experienced leader training
GSCV office
4900 Augusta Ave, Suite 200
Richmond, VA 23230

In-person
location

Saturday, December 3rd | 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Cookie packet pick-up
GSCV office lobby | 4900 Augusta Ave | Richmond VA 23230

Monday - Thursday, December 5th-8th | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Cookie packet pick-up
GSCV office lobby | 4900 Augusta Ave | Richmond VA 23230

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

Combined
New & Experienced
leader training
Ebenezer United Methodist Church
161 Embry Mill Rd.
Stafford VA, 22554

In-person
location

Monday, December 5th | 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Cookie packet pick-up
Ebenezer United Methodist Church | 161 Embry Mill Rd. | Stafford VA, 22554

Tuesday, December 6th
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Experienced leader training virtual
<https://zoom.us/j/96628203950>
Passcode: 791499



Tuesday, December 6th
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

New leader training virtual
<https://zoom.us/j/96628203950>
Passcode: 791499



Wednesday, December 7th
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Experienced leader training virtual
<https://zoom.us/j/98698336075>
Passcode: 795218



Wednesday, December 7th
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

New leader training virtual
<https://zoom.us/j/98698336075>
Passcode: 795218



Saturday, December 10th | 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Cookie packet pick-up
Ron Rosner YMCA parking lot
5700 Smith Station Rd., Fredericksburg, VA 22407

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

Update: Cookie Rewards



This is an update on the remaining cookie rewards from the 2022 Cookie Program. As you may recall, due to supply chain issues some items have been delayed. Girls who earned the small stuffed Koala at the 225 level and girls who chose the larger stuffed Koala (over the Koala Dream Light) at the 300 level were told they would be given their stuffed animals in October based on information provided by the vendor. The girls were given stuffed foxes as a replacement with the expectation that the Koalas would arrive. These plush animals are scheduled to ship this week and should arrive to your local Service Unit Product Program Manager soon. We apologize for the delay and hope girls are excited to receive the recognitions.

Additionally, girls who sold at the 1,000 level and opted for the sleep set reward of an eye mask, soft blanket, and slippers have already received the eye mask and soft blanket. We have been expecting the Koala slippers; however, yesterday we were informed that the slipper order could not be fulfilled due to multiple issues on the manufacturing and distribution end. We are deeply disappointed by this; however, we have an alternative that we are excited to present. The girls who were owed the slippers will instead receive a high-quality glitter tumbler and a beach towel with this year's theme of Go Bright Ahead. These will be shipped to the Service Unit Product Program Managers with a note explaining the switch and an apology from the vendor. The vendor shares these should ship within two weeks.



We hope and expect that these unusual circumstances will be behind us as we look forward to the 2023 cookie season.

Below is a refresher on how to determine who earned what rewards in the 2022 cookie season.

Log into Smart Cookies

- From the top of your dashboard click on Rewards
- Then click on Archived
- Next select 2021-2022
- From the column on the right click on Rewards
- Then from the column on the right choose Recognition Order Summary by Girl

Retail Shop



Girl Scouts shine in so many ways! This empowering t-shirt is a reminder that you are brave, creative, kind, strong, and awesome. Made of comfy cotton and recycled polyester, \$25.

We will be open this Saturday, so shop before or after you attend cookie training, or when you pick-up your troop's cookie packet. Visit us at the GSCV retail shop located at 4900 Augusta Avenue, ground floor.

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!