Print Your Own Tshirts Fun Field Trip!

Choose one of our super cute customizable Troop designs
Learn the art of Screen printing and print one of your very own!

and enjoy a snack!

Do something exciting and fun!
All American will teach your group about the art of custom Screen Printing!
Each guest will print their own T-shirt.
The T-shirt design printed will be specifically created and personalized for your group!
Nobody else in the world will have a shirt exactly like yours!
T-shirts are oven cured and will be ready to take home that same day!
We also provide a snack and beverage for our guests! Fun, education, snacks too!!
 Leaders/Trip Planners FYI
Groups of 12-24 field trip duration 30 minutes
It’s fast but it’s a Blast!

Groups of 12-24 $9.50/ea
Groups of 25-50 $9.00/ea
Groups of 51-100 $7.00/ea
Patches are now available for an additional $1.00
Prices are based on WHITE T-shirts!
Sizes Youth Small through XL
Other colors, styles and sizes available for an additional fee. (check out our website for printable PDFs

Several Free Troop oriented designs to choose from!

Go to AATshirts.com and click on the Field Trip tab for details. You can also click on our Facebook tab on this page to see some great pics of our field trip!

Visit AATshirts.com for more info or call 586.997.2400
42496 Mound Road, Sterling Heights

Patch $1.00
Option A

Patch $1.00
Option B
It’s that time of the year again! Another year of friendships, badges, cookies and lifelong memories. With Girl Scouts, the possibilities are endless here, and we are so excited our girls and volunteers are back for another year of unleashing the G.I.R.Ls within!

This summer, GSUSA debuted 42 new badges available to all Girl Scouts nationwide. This set of badges offers choices for active involvement in science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) and the outdoors. STEM and outdoors are integral parts of our organization’s girl centric programs and activities. This cutting-edge programming is rooted in passion for adventure and healthy risk-taking, creating innovators and true leaders now and into the future. Starting at just 5 years old, Girl Scouts are coding, camping, and working hand-in-hand with NASA.

The new year has also brings some important changes to GSSEM’s volunteer structure. Districts are now Service Units, and Communities 2 and 3 were restructured to comprise different council administration boundaries. All volunteers had the chance to complete a survey about the strengths and weaknesses of the old structure. A committee of 12 volunteers, along with support from GSSEM staff, conducted a four-month review of the structure and service delivery models to arrive at this new structure. Also new are Short & Snappy training videos, which have replaced SLaMs, and all of your volunteer learning needs have been updated and are in one convenient location at gssem.org/learning.

CONNECT Magazine gives you exclusive access to everything happening at GSSEM. You’ll read about all of the upcoming events, fundraisers, programs, important news and even some awesome tips for you and your girl! Each month will include a calendar listing highlighting important events so be sure to save the date(s)! All current Girl Scout members will receive a magazine in the mail. They’ll also be available at all service centers and online at gssem.org/connect.

Here at GSSEM, you’ll find your lifetime Girl Scout home. All of our volunteers, leaders, staff and supporters create an invaluable network that your girl can carry with her for years to come. We are so grateful for everyone that is a part of this ever-growing movement. Your support means the world!

Let’s make this year unforgettable!

Yours in Scouting,

Denise Dalrymple
CEO

GSSEM Board Chair Telva McGruder
and CEO Denise Dalrymple
WELCOME TO ANOTHER GIRL SCOUT YEAR, FAMILIES!

The bonds and experiences your girl makes in Girl Scouts is unmatched and will be a part of them forever. You know why? Because Girl Scouts lets girls choose their own paths and journeys. They have the power to control their own leadership experience, making it unique for every single member. Girls are guided by strong, influential women in today’s society who prepare them to stand out and take the lead from Daisies to Ambassador, and all the way into adulthood.

Now is the best time to get active in Girl Scouts. Earning the Gold Award makes an impact on college admissions, scholarship applications, and military rankings. Not to mention Gold Awardees have more successful careers and are more active mentors and community volunteers. Some of your favorites were once Girl Scouts (Taylor Swift, Venus Williams, and Gwyneth Paltrow, just to name a few). Our girls reach for the stars!

What makes Girl Scouts so special is the fact that it's completely girl-led. Our girls are able to flourish in a space where they feel non-pressured and at ease to be themselves. Every troop meeting, excursion, camping trip, cookie sale, and beyond is inclusive and informative. Girl Scouts creates a safe-haven for girls to be as expressive as they want without feeling the anxieties that may come with a mixed-gender environment. Here, our girls jump up and go get it, take healthy risks, innovate, and lead their peers.

For more information about how Girl Scouts make a real difference visit gssem.org/Getthefacts. You and your girl can invite new girls to join an existing troop or organize a new one. Call us at 800-482-6734, and select option 5.

COMMUNICATIONS OUTLETS
GOT A GS STORY? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We love to see stories about the great things our Girl Scouts are doing to help their communities. If you have a story to share, email us at communications@gssem.org. Reminder! Tell us your girls’ event, service project, or other newsworthy thing your troop is doing at least two weeks in advance, and always take pictures. Even if it's after the event, go ahead and email us a picture and the details. News coverage isn't guaranteed, but GSSEM can share your story in Latest News on our website, the all new G.I.R.L. Talk blog, and our Facebook page! Like, follow and and share @GSSEM.
NEW & RETURNING LEADERS
Useful Tips to get your Troop Year started

VOLUNTEER RESOURCES
Tips, guides, and valuable information

HIGH AWARDS
Inspire yourself & others by going Gold, Silver, or Bronze!

GSSEM BY THE MONTH
OCTOBER-SEPTEMBER
Be sure to check out the month-by-month guide for awesome activities and events your Girl Scout won't want to miss!

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TROOP LEADERS: GET THE YEAR STARTED RIGHT

Congratulations on being a Girl Scout Leader! You will introduce girls to new and awesome experiences and show them numerous ways to unleash the G.I.R.L. within. Use this checklist to help you make sure you’re ready to make memories that will last a lifetime:

CHECKLIST FOR NEW LEADERS

☐ Register to be a GSSEM Troop Leader at gssem.org/volunteer.
☐ Complete your background check online. Once your background check is approved, you will receive an email confirmation prompting you to log into MyGS (your Girl Scout Member Community) on gssem.org, outlining your next steps including proper training. You will receive your troop number once you register and have an eligible background check.
☐ Your Recruitment Specialist will help you get signed up for an in-person or webinar session of Troop Leader/Co-Leader Training.
☐ Invite girls and other adults to join your troop! Your Recruitment Specialist will help you plan and carry out your first meeting with parents and girls.
☐ Log into MyGS and check out the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK)! VTK has detailed plans and a calendar outline to help you have a successful year.
☐ Set up the days, times and locations for troop meetings on VTK.
☐ Be sure to attend a Service Unit Meeting in your area. Your Service Unit Manager will provide more information on meeting dates and times, or you can find your meeting at gssem.org/calendar.
☐ Meet with your other Troop Volunteers to make plans for the next year and assign roles.
☐ Reach out to parents via a meeting or other communications to solicit support for the troop. After discussing with parents, make sure to update your new troop information at gssem.org/troopupdate.
☐ Open your Girl Scout bank account. Please visit our Learning Page at gssem.org/learning to view a short training on how to open a troop bank account.
☐ Host your FIRST GIRL SCOUT MEETING!

CHECKLIST FOR RETURNING LEADERS

We’re so happy you made the decision to continue leading girls through another year of fun and adventure! Here are some helpful hints to get your year started.

☐ Take the Returning Leader Refresh training on the Learning Page to test your knowledge and learn what’s new this year.
☐ Log onto VTK to see what’s new. Can’t log in to your member profile? Contact customercare@gssem.org.
☐ Contact new troop members as they join. If your troop is under 12 members, your troop will automatically be displayed in our Opportunity Catalog for new members. When new girls select your troop, you will receive a notification via email. Please reach out and welcome the new member(s) to the troop within three business days.
☐ Be sure and watch for Leaders, GSSEM’s bi-weekly e-newsletter for Troop Leaders. It is distributed on every other Friday.
☐ Check out the Learning Page to take advantage of all of our fabulous online training resources including our extensive Short & Snappy library.
☐ Schedule a meeting with parents to get them involved in the troop!
☐ Attend a Service Unit meeting: check gssem.org/calendar for dates and locations.
☐ Host your FIRST GIRL SCOUT MEETING of the YEAR!

Remember, we’re here for you every step of the way! If you need help, simply reach out to your Troop Support Specialist. If you don’t know who your Specialist is, call (800) 482-6734, and select the option for Troop Support. We’ll get you connected!
VALUABLE VOLUNTEER RESOURCES

GSSEM offers even more support for our beloved volunteers! We recently launched gssem.org/newleaders, a complete at-a-glance web page for new Troop Leaders. Helpful hint: even our returning leaders can use the great info at your fingertips on this page. Check it out today!

Volunteer Essentials: This valuable guide includes information about engaging girls, safety requirements, managing finances, and policies. There’s even a glossary of Girl Scout terms! Check it out at gssem.org/ve.

Safety Activity Checkpoints: This document contains everything you need to know to keep girls safe while having fun. You can access the Safety Activity Checkpoints at gssem.org/safety.

GSSEM Online Directory: Have a question and need to contact us? Visit gssem.org/stafflist.

Case Management System: Anytime you click the Contact Us Form on gssem.org, a case is created that will be viewed by multiple staff members to ensure your inquiry is resolved quickly.

Short & Snappy: Short & Snappy videos are online volunteer learning opportunities in the form of short videos and interactive modules that help you better understand a process or procedure. These are interactive tools to help with everything from managing your Member Profile to demystifying the Volunteer Relations Process. Check them out at gssem.org/learning.

WHAT VOLUNTEERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TROOP FINANCES

Bank Account: All troops need to establish a bank account with two unrelated adult signers for collection of payments of troop supplies and activities, and for the fall and cookie sales. Check out the Troop Banking Information at gssem.org/bankaccount.

Financial Assistance: Financial assistance is provided to make sure ALL girls and adults can participate in Girl Scouting. Any member needing financial assistance for membership can request it during the online registration process. Other financial assistance exists for books, badges, uniforms, and programs. The Financial Assistance application can be found at gssem.org/forms.

Money-Earning Activities: The Cookie program is the primary money-earning activity for a troop. You can also request a limited number of additional fundraising activities. The Money-Earning Project Request form can be found at gssem.org/moneyearning.

Reporting and Receipts: Every troop should report out the troop finances to parents at least three times a year.

Remember, the Short & Snappy videos at gssem.org/learning are there to help you with the financial process!
THE VOLUNTEER TOOLKIT (VTK) HELPS YOU DELIVER EASY, FUN TROOP MEETINGS ALL YEAR

The VTK is a fully customizable digital planning tool that provides you with Girl Scout program content, award requirements, and other resources, so you can keep your Girl Scout year running smoothly. Accessible on any computer, tablet, or mobile device, the VTK lets troop leaders:

- Choose a year plan or design your own
- Renew members
- Edit the troop roster and update contact information
- Set meeting locations, dates and times
- Print step-by-step activity guides and shopping list
- Track troop finances, badges earned, Journeys completed, attendance
- See important Council dates right in your year plan
- Changes are as easy as “drag and drop”

It's a full year of Girl Scouting accessible to you and it's easy to get started: Log on to gssem.org. If you are an approved troop volunteer and have registered or renewed your membership, click on MyGS in the green navigation bar. Follow the log-in instructions and you can access VTK.

Check out the Video Trainings at gssem.org/vtk.
GIRL SCOUTS’ HIGHEST AWARDS

Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards represent the highest honors a Girl Scout can earn at each level! These three awards allow girls to select an issue they care about and inspire others to make changes. Girls can make a difference in their corner of the world and maybe even beyond!

**Bronze Award:** This is for Girl Scouts in 4th or 5th grade who have completed a Junior Journey. Bronze Award Projects must be done as part of a team. Bronze awards are approved by the troop leader. No paperwork is submitted to GSSEM. Pins are available at no charge from any of our Council Shops. Girls' accomplishments can be recorded by completing the Bronze Award information form on our website and when complete, you will receive a link to download a free customizable Bronze Award Certificate. Don’t forget to look for Bronze Award Celebrations in spring 2020!

**Silver Award:** This is for Girl Scouts in 6th-8th grades who have completed a Cadette Journey. Girls can work on their own or build a team of no more than 2-4 girls. Silver Award final reports are approved by the troop leader and submitted to GSSEM for review.

**Gold Award:** This is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. Girls in the 9th - 12th grade who have completed a Silver Award and one Senior or Ambassador Journey or have completed two Senior or Ambassador Journeys are eligible to earn their Gold Award. A Gold Award project is earned independently by a girl who is mentored by a GSSEM Volunteer Gold Award Committee Member. Each Gold Awardee receives a GSSEM $500.00 scholarship and one girl is selected as the GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction to receive additional scholarship money.

**GSSEM Precious Medals P.I. Patch Program:** This patch program is available for girls to learn more about the highest awards in Girl Scouting. Have fun being a Precious Medals Private Eye and discover mysteries surrounding the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards. Activities are available on our website for each program level!

**GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction:** Each year, GSSEM selects a Gold Award recipient whose final project demonstrates extraordinary leadership and addresses a global issue with measurable and sustainable impact. This candidate receives additional scholarship money.

**National Gold Award Girl Scout:** Each year, GSSEM selects three exceptional recipients of the Gold Award to be considered by GSUSA. GSUSA selects 10 outstanding Gold Award Girl Scouts nationwide whose projects demonstrate extraordinary leadership, have a measurable impact and sustainability, and address a local, national or global issue.

**Other GSSEM Awards**
Be sure and check out all the great awards online like the Tammie Murray and Jennifer Barnum Spirit Awards, Precious Medal Award, and more.

**Ready to get started earning a high award?**
Each award has specific guidelines and requirements. Visit gssem.org/highawards or the Council calendar at gssem.org/calendar for in-person Silver and Gold Award trainings. If you can’t attend one of our dates, try our online Silver and Gold Award training and High Award chats! Contact Caroline Feathers at cfeathers@gssem.org.

For her Gold Award project, 2019 GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction Casie Paul action and created a program called, “Hospital Helpers: Making Your Hospital Journey Easier” for McLaren Hospital. Videos and stories were created for children and special needs patients to show them what will happen during their visit.

All Silver and Gold Final Reports must be submitted to GSSEM by March 1 to be included in the May 3, 2020 Honor Reception. Silver and Gold Award pins are presented at the annual reception at no additional charge.
GSSEM’s annual Fall Program is an opportunity for girls to raise funds for their Scouting year’s must-do list by selling candy, nuts, and magazines. Girls not only learn vital skills when selling and managing their product sales, they can also earn money for things like camping, programs, and more. Girls will be able to sell magazine subscriptions AND candy and nuts online using their own avatar created with M2Media! They can also choose to sell the candy and nuts with a paper form. Girls can sell one or both products.

Our partner for the candy and nut portion of the Fall Program is Trophy Nut Company and our partner for the magazine sales is M2 Media Group. Troops earn 95 cents per candy and nut item sold and $1.50 for each magazine subscription.

- Troops should have received packets in the mail by mid-September
- Sale Dates: Oct. 1 - Nov. 1 (Enter and Submit Troop Candy and Nuts in-person and booth extras into online Fall Program system by 11:59 pm Nov. 1)
- Products & Rewards Pick Up: Nov. 14, 15, and 16

Get Started!
GSSEM is offering three Fall Product Training Webinar sessions. You must register for each by email at productsales@gssem.org. Check out gssem.org/fallsale for all the information you need including more dates and times.

FALL HAS THE PERFECT WEEKEND CAMPING WEATHER!

Weekend Camping
GSSEM Weekend camps are a chance for girls to have fun with a purpose. Each core camp is held at Camp Hawthorn Hollow and has a theme based on the Journey or badge the girls will be earning.

Troop Camping
Ready to plan your own camping weekend? Come to a Troop Camping weekend where you are in charge! Plan your meals, activities and schedule! Troop Camping weekends are available at Camp Hawthorn Hollow and Camp Playfair.

Register for camp now at gssem.org/go!
GIRL SCOUT SPIRIT WEEK
OCTOBER 21-26, 2019

- **Monday** – Show Your Girl Scout Spirit!
  - Wear your Girl Scout Sash/Vest or Girl Scout t-shirt to work, school, or just around town!
- **Tuesday** – Tell a Friend!
  - Be a go-getter and **spread the word** about Girl Scouts! Even better—invite a friend to join you at a meeting as a guest.
- **Wednesday** – Be a good citizen!
  - Plan a flag ceremony or ask your principal if you can lead the pledge of allegiance and/or the Girl Scout Promise during morning announcements!
- **Thursday** – Take pride in your community!
  - Plan a community clean-up or other service project at your meeting place. Ask other troops you know to help too.
- **Friday** – Be a sister to every Girl Scout!
  - Look at the badges and activities for girls one program level (or more) younger than you and plan an activity to invite them to.
- **Saturday** – Make a Difference!
  - Participate in one of the many projects that GSSEM is doing in your community to celebrate Make a Difference Day!
- **BONUS** – Grab a Girl Scout yard sign and display it proudly in your yard for everyone to see! (Yard signs available at our Service Centers.)

Complete 4 out of 7 of these activities, and bring your checklist to one of our retail shops before Dec. 1, 2019 to claim a free gift!

MONEY MANAGER

Oct. 5, 1 pm - 3:30 pm
Learn the difference between needs and wants in this workshop as you and your Brownie Elf paper doll make decisions and learn from them. Snack and patch included.

GIRL SCOUTS DAY WITH THE DETROIT LIONS

Cheer on the Detroit Lions as they take on the Minnesota Vikings Sunday, Oct. 20! For more info and special ticket pricing, visit gssem.org/lionstickets.

TOUGH ENOUGH to be a GIRL SCOUT!

JOIN US FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL TOUGH ENOUGH BREAKFAST


CALENDAR DATES:
10/5 | Money Manager
10/5 | Skeet Shooting
10/6 | Girl Advisory Board Meeting
10/7 | Silver Award Training-Macomb
10/8 | Silver/Gold Award Training Flint
10/12 | Program Aide Training-White Lake
10/20 | Moxie Talks
10/20 | Detroit Lions Girl Scouts Day vs Minnesota Vikings
10/20 | Harvest Festival (CHH) Join us for a day of classic Michigan Fall Fun. We’ll have cider, donuts, pumpkin, hayrides and more!
10/21-10/26 | Girl Scout Spirit Week
10/26 | National Make a Difference Day
10/30 | 2nd Annual Tough Enough Breakfast
10/31 | Juliette Gordon Low’s Birthday or Founder’s Day.

Watch for recruiting events on our calendar at gssem.org or call us at 800-482-6734, option 5, and we’ll help you organize a troop in your community.
During Summer 2019, 28 GSSEM Girl Scouts geared up, got out, and became experts in fire and law enforcement. The adventure began at Camp Hawthorn Hollow, where they engaged in workshops with female firefighters and police officers; learning about active shooters, defense tactics, arrest techniques, and tactical force concepts. Later that week, the girls got to take the action to the streets as they headed to the Macomb Fire Academy.

At the Fire Academy, girls were completely immersed into the firefighter “lifestyle.” Upon arrival they were greeted by real firefighters and given full body gear to wear to start the day of activities. Throughout the day all the girls had to complete agility courses, learned how to use a fire extinguisher, and even put out real fires using a fire hose. They also engaged in fire safety talk, went through a confined space maze, and learned how to forcibly enter a door. Talk about getting active!

Camp Fury is a partnership with U.S. Custom and Border Protection and local fire departments to offer high school girls a fire and law service immersion experience. It provides teenaged girls the opportunity to exercise, train, and connect with many amazing women firefighters, paramedics, EMTs, police, and detectives. Girl Scouts is taking an active role towards changing the narrative when it comes to male dominated industries. The ultimate goal is to build teamwork, respect, and most importantly, self-confidence.

EXPLORING THE WORLD WITH DESTINATIONS!

Girl Scouts love to explore and experience new adventures! Girl Scout Destinations offers the ULTIMATE adventure program for girls 11 and older. Make friends from all over the country as you travel with sister Girls Scouts and make new experiences. With a ton of different trips around the world every year, there’s something amazing for everyone to experience:

- Explore the ancient temples of Kyoto!
- Eat Traditional Italian cuisine in Rome!
- Take your outdoor skills to the next level in Maine!

Keep checking gsem.org/destinations to find a trip that sparks your WOW! Submit an application today!
BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT BIG COOKIE NEWS!

Shhhh! Exciting new things are in store for the 2020 Cookie Season. Cookie Confidential is your troop’s chance to be informed about exciting product news before it’s released to the public. The catch is you have to keep everything you’ll learn and see Cookie Confidential! Get it?

By joining us in this top-secret mission you’ll:

• Be in-the-know of exciting, TOP SECRET information for Cookie Season.
• Get information you’ll need to plan and stay in control of a successful cookie business;
• Create buzz about the upcoming cookie season and help ensure more success for cookie bosses across the country!

Be sure to attend all the upcoming trainings and webinars to find out more and watch gssem.org/cookies for updates.

CALENDAR DATES:

11/1-11/3  |  Lead and Learn for Volunteers at Camp Hawthorn Hollow
11/2     |  GM Careers in Design
11/2     |  Girls Can Fly, Too!
11/9     |  Program Aide Training, Clinton Twp
11/10    |  Moxie Talks
11/16    |  Chemistry Day
11/17    |  National Take a Hike Day (Kensington Metro Park)
11/18    |  Silver/Gold Award Training, Goodrich
11/21    |  Silver Award Training, Clinton Twp.

All month: In-Person Cookie Program training for new volunteers and on-demand online Cookie Program training: gssem.org/cookieprogram

NOMINATE AN AMAZING GSSEM VOLUNTEER!

GSUSA National Volunteer Awards are presented to volunteers whose contributions are vital to the success of our programs, projects, and events. Nominate a volunteer before Dec. 13 at gssem.org/volrecognition.

CAREERS IN DESIGN AT GM

Nov. 2, 10 am - 2 pm
Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors will explore sculpture, pen and ink, digital, and 3D design with female professionals who will share their passion. Discover how designers use photography, video, and CGI to bring future concepts to life.

GIRLS CAN FLY, TOO!

Nov. 2, 9 am – 1 pm
Explore the science of flight at the Oakland County Airport, sit in a cockpit, meet women pilots, and have hands-on experiences. Lunch and a patch are included. Open to all Juniors, Cadettes and Seniors.

IN-PERSON COOKIE TRAINING FOR NEW TROOPS!

In-person cookie program training will cover all the basics you need to know to run a successful cookie program for your troop. Dates, locations and times for in-person trainings will be available on the website in early November.
2020 COOKIE SEASON: WOW THE WORLD!

There is SO much yummy goodness to celebrate for the 2020 Girl Scout Cookie Season! Besides offering delicious cookies, the Cookie Program helps fuel awesome adventures for girls, while helping them learn valuable skills.

When a Girl Scout sells cookies, she’s building a lifetime of skills and confidence. Selling cookies teaches goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. All of these things are essentials skills for successful leaders ... and life! And the Cookie Program helps girls pay for their next amazing adventure and opportunities to try something new and unleash the G.I.R.L. within!

Keep an eye out for your 2020 Cookie Season mailing and save these important Cookie Season dates:

- Troop Cookie Trainings start Dec. 5
  (Check gssem.org/calendar for dates and locations!)
- 2020 Cookie Season Dec. 16 - April 5
- Troop Cookie Orders due Jan. 23
- Troop Cookie Delivery Feb. 8-11
- Cookie Cupboards Open Feb. 13 - April 6
  (Cupboard start dates vary by location. More info at gssem.org)
- Troop Reward Orders Due April 6
- Cookie Celebration events in mid-May
  (Invitation-only for girls who sell 600+ packages)

GIVING TUESDAY: DEC. 3

Join us on this global day of giving and be part of this celebration. #GivingTuesday kicks off our Year-End giving. Give the gift of leadership, empowerment and opportunity this year. Donate at gssem.org/givingtuesday.

YEAR-END GIVING

Give the gift of Leadership, Empowerment and opportunity this holiday season. Your tax-deductible donation benefits more than 24,000 girls throughout our Council boundaries. For more information, contact Marc Berke, GSSEM Chief Development Officer at 313-870-2569 or mberke@gssem.org.
GET TO KNOW GSSEM’S NEW VOLUNTEER SERVICE DELIVERY STRUCTURE AND BOUNDARY CHANGES

After several months of research and evaluation, the following recommendations to update GSSEM’s volunteer structure will be implemented:

1. **Districts will now be called Service Units.**
2. Service Unit Managers will replace Leader Support Coordinators, with additional volunteer positions recommended to better support volunteers in each Service Unit.
3. Updates to council administration boundaries will occur in Communities 2 and 3.

The committee’s charge was to refresh current volunteer service delivery structure to:

- Support effective Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE)
- Develop ownership of mission with constituents
- Attract committed volunteer workforce
- Attract and retain highly qualified administrative volunteers
- Efficiently use resources

For more information and details on council boundaries, please visit [gssem.org/serviceunits](http://gssem.org/serviceunits).

BE ADVENTUROUS: COME WINTER CAMPING (HEAT INCLUDED)!

Did you know that Camp Hawthorn Hollow is open YEAR-ROUND? Don’t let the short days get you down! Plan a Troop Camping weekend or attend a Weekend Camp this winter. Troop Camping Winter add-on activities are also available. Try your hand at snowshoeing, animal tracking, hiking, or warm up by the fire with an outdoor cooking lesson!
CELEBRATE INTERFAITH DIVERSITY AT THE DIA!

January 26, 2020 1—6 pm
Detroit Institute of Arts
Cadette, Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts
$10 per registrant for food and patch

In partnership with the DIA, the GSSEM Religious Committee will present a ground breaking program
Reuniting the Children of Abraham. The day long program is a special opportunity for Girl Scouts
to take the lead in breaking down the longstanding barriers of stereotyping and intolerances across our
communities. The vision for this program is to create a brave space using the arts to build bridges of
understanding and communication.

The afternoon begins with a treasure hunt through the museum on a DIA web app created for GSSEM. At
each stop the girls will be asked to take a picture or write about what they are experiencing. It’s an exciting
new way to see both the beauty and differences in Islamic, Christian, Judaic, Hindu and African art. The
program also includes participating in Reuniting the Children of Abraham (RTCOA) Toolkit for Peace; a
documentary and discussion, created by Girl Scout and Jewish liaison to GSSEM Brenda Naomi Rosenberg.
RTCOA has received 18 national and international awards and was a CBS national special on reconciliation.

The focus on the day is the Girl Scout Law
commitment to “make the world a better place.”
The experience will be inclusive, as girls will get to
share parts of their religion and culture that others
may not know or understand. They'll also have the
opportunity to present their ideas, hopes, and
dreams that will help push the agenda of peace in
our community, region, and the world.

Bus Transportation will be available courtesy of the
DIA from points throughout the Tri-county area to
and from the DIA. Registration opens Sept. 22 and
closes Nov. 15. Due to our partnership with the DIA
late registration will not be permitted.

MENTORING AWARDS

Teen mentoring is a
win-win proposition:
When girls guide or teach
others, they act as mentors.
Help your girls become empowered
and confident in this role and grow as
leaders. Information can be found online
at gssem.org/otherawards.
GET YOUR COOKIE MERCH!

Let everyone know you have Girl Scout Cookies and are ready to make big sales! New rollabanas, cookie banners and wheeled cookie carts will make your booth shine! Don't forget the table covers, buttons, money bags, yard signs and car magnets to make selling a blast, too! Shop online at [gssem.org/store](http://gssem.org/store) or visit a GSSEM Council Shop location for great cookie-selling merchandise!

COOKIE PRO CONTEST CELEBRATES COOKIE ENTREPRENEURS!

Twenty four lucky Girl Scouts will embark on an exciting trip to Orlando for a once-in-a-lifetime Cookie Entrepreneur Experience including full VIP access to G.I.R.L. 2020—the largest event for girls in the world!

Who is eligible to participate?
Registered Girl Scout Cookie Program participants from GSSEM who are selling cookies during the 2019-2020 season

When can girls enter?
Feb. 1–March 31, 2020

How do girls participate?
By submitting a complete entry at [girlscouts.org/cookiepro](http://girlscouts.org/cookiepro), which will include answering a set of required questions and uploading a personal photo

What will girls win?
Twenty four girls nationwide—4 per Girl Scout grade level—will win an exciting trip to sunny Orlando, FL for the Cookie Entrepreneur Experience of a lifetime at G.I.R.L. 2020! The twenty four lucky winners will get an opportunity to:

- Enjoy full VIP access to all G.I.R.L. 2020 activities
- Have breakfast with GSUSA CEO and Council CEOs
- Embark on epic adventures at a local amusement park
- Attend a Girl Scout alums coaching session to build entrepreneurial skills
- Get recognized on the EXPO Hall main stage and through a featured story at the Entrepreneurship Pavilion
MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR 2020 COOKIE PROGRAM

Looking for ways to stand out at your cookie booth and increase earnings? Here are a few ways to boost your sales:

- Wear your Girl Scout uniform
- Use homemade signage and cookie merch to decorate your booth
- Have all cookie varieties available to sell

The direct sale portion of GSSEM’s annual Girl Scout Cookie Program runs from **Feb. 14 through April 5**.

SUPER BOWL BOOTHS

The Saturday before Super Bowl Sunday is the most popular day of the year to buy snack foods! Make Girl Scout cookies a staple in everyone’s Super Bowl Sunday snack list. GSSEM troops can enter a lottery to be selected to sell cookies early, on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2020. More information, including how to enter the lottery, will be available on **gssem.org** in November 2019.

YEAR OF YUM OFFERS CUSTOMERS GIRL SCOUT COOKIES FOR A YEAR!

Girl Scout Cookie season is the yummiest time of year, right? Let the customer know that when they purchase five boxes of cookies, they could enter to win 52 BOXES of Girl Scout Cookies—A Year of YUM! Visit **gssem.org/cookies** to download Year of Yum cards with details on how to enter and distribute the cards to customers who buy five or more boxes of cookies. GSSEM handles all the entries, conducts the drawing and ships the cookies to the winners!

COOKIE POP-UP SHOPS

GSSEM is once again offering Girl Scouts the ability to sell cookies at pop-up shops. These shops give troops another way to reach customers who want to buy cookies. Details about pop-up shop locations and opportunities to sell can be found in the cookie packet sent to troops via FedEx.

MALL KIOSKS

Selling cookies at mall kiosks give GSSEM cookie sellers even more chances to increase sales. GSSEM will have kiosks in area malls located throughout our Council region. More information about kiosk locations and reserving a mall kiosk booth can be found in the cookie packet mailed to troops via FedEx.

BLING YOUR BOOTH CONTEST

GSSEM troops can enter our Bling Your Booth contest to win up to $300.00 in GSSEM program credits! One winning troop and their ‘blinged-out’ booth from each of GSSEM’s 12 communities will be selected to receive $100.00 in program credits. Those 12 finalists will be entered in the grand prize contest. The winner of that contest will get an additional $200.00 in program credits! To enter, submit a photo of your girls in action at their ‘blinged out’ cookie booth to GSSEM via our Facebook page. For more information, visit **gssem.org/cookieprogram**.
2020 COOKIE RALLY!

Get ready to get pumped up for this year’s sale with our annual Cookie Rally!

Jan. 11
10 am – 2 pm
LEGOLAND Discovery Center
Great Lakes Crossing, Auburn Hills

Check gssem.org/calendar for updates.

OUTDOOR SURVIVAL FREEZE-IN IS COMING BACK TO CAMP HAWTHORN HOLLOW, JAN. 25-26

Imagine arriving at camp with your backpack zipped and your boots laced all the way up. The weather says the high will be a chilling 16 degrees with the low dipping down to -2 degrees! You hike through snow and tall pine trees to select a site to start building your “lean-to”—a three-sided shelter for campers and hikers. You gather downed trees and lash them together to build the shelter. You start your own fire, where you’ll cook all their meals. This is where you’ll spend the next 24 hours.

Outdoor Survival Freeze-In offers Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors an experience to gain self-confidence and self-discipline. Girls will spend the day outside in the middle of winter in groups of three to five building their own shelter and fire, cooking meals, and preparing to spend the night in the winter wilds of Girl Scout Camp. Come and find out what hundreds of girls have learned: Girl Scouts can survive just about anything, anywhere! Will it be challenging? Probably. Will it be worth it? Definitely. No outdoor survival experience, no problem! Attend our two mandatory trainings January 15 and January 22, in Southfield to acquire the necessary skills. Go to gssem.org/decamp to learn more!

CALENDAR DATES:

1/5 | National Bird Day Bird-watching event led by Detroit Audubon Society
1/11 | Cookie Rally at LEGOLAND Discovery Center
1/20 | Winter Solstice Get Outdoors Challenge Kick Off (CHH)
Join us at Camp Hawthorn Hollow as we celebrate winter! We’ll try snowshoeing, sledding and animal tracking. Afterwards we’ll warm up with hot cocoa and s’mores.
1/26 | Reuniting the Children of Abraham at the DIA
THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR C,S,A GIRL SCOUTS ARE ENDLESS

To all of the Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors: the time is now! Reach your full potential and make the most of this journey.

**Girl Advisory Board (GAB):** Be the voice of more than 24,000 girls throughout Southeast Michigan!

**High Awards:** Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards are the highest achievements that Girl Scouts can earn. Create a Take Action projects that help change the world! Check [gssem.org/calendar](http://gssem.org/calendar) for training dates today!

**Cadette Program Aide (PA):** To earn the PA award, girls in grades 6-8 must earn at least one Leadership in Action award, take a training course, and work directly with younger girls over the course of six sessions.

**Volunteer in Training (ViT):** Seniors and Ambassadors can earn a ViT award by working with a mentor and Daisy, Brownie or Junior Girl Scouts for three to six months. Complete a council-sponsored leadership course and create a Journey or Badge-based activity for younger Girl Scouts with four or more sessions.

**Counselor In Training (CIT):** Seniors and Ambassadors can earn a CIT award by mentoring younger girls in a camp setting as they build all of the necessary skills towards becoming a counselor.

**Destinations:** Check [gssem.org/destinations](http://gssem.org/destinations) for this year’s exciting locations!

**Moxie Talks:** These networking events are led by some of Michigan’s most inspirational women and focused around leadership principles that will motivate girls to change the world.

**JULIETTE GORDON LOW SOCIETY**

Have you already named GSSEM, or would like to name GSSEM, as the beneficiary of a planned gift? We would love to welcome you as a Juliette Gordon Low Society member! For more information about how you can become a member—in a manner that benefits you, your heirs, and Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan—please contact Marc Berke, GSSEM Chief Development Officer at (313) 870-2569 or mberke@gssem.org.
WORLD THINKING DAY IS FEB. 22

World Thinking Day is celebrated every year by both Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from 150 countries around the world! That’s a huge network, right? By participating in World Thinking Day, girls will join millions of fellow Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in a day of building awareness and education. Use World Thinking Day as a reason to take action and make a difference on a global project. The 2020 World Thinking Day theme is “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.”

1. Explore World Thinking Day and the diversity of the Girl Scout movement
2. Explore diversity and inclusion
3. Explore equity
4. Prepare and plan a Take Action project for World Thinking Day
5. Carry out your Take Action project

Patches are available for purchase online or at Council Shops. For more information about World Thinking Day 2020 and the latest news about the 2020 theme, visit girlscouts.org.

MY PROMISE, MY FAITH FOR OLDER GIRL SCOUTS

Don’t miss out on this inspiring, annual event held for Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts. Come learn about different world religions through various interactive opportunities. Girls of all levels can earn the My Promise, My Faith pin, which complements existing religious recognitions and allows girls to strengthen the connection between their faith and Girl Scouts. Be sure to check gssem.org/calendar for updates.

GET OUTDOORS AND EARN PATCHES!

Got the winter blues? Don’t worry! It happens to the best of us! Get outside and earn some patches! GSSEM has several ways for girls to earn patches with their troop or on their own! Check the gssem.org/calendar for upcoming winter fun.
GSSEM’S FIRST ROBOTICS TEAMS WILL DESIGN BETTER PLACES TO LIVE AND WORK

Daisy, Brownie, Junior—and for the first time, Cadette, robotics teams—will all show off their problem-solving STEM skills and creativity at the GSSEM FIRST Robotics Expo in 2020! This program year’s FIRST teams will explore the growing needs and challenges of the people in our community: City Shaper for FIRST Lego League (FLL) teams and Boomtown Build for Junior FIRST Lego League (JFLL) teams. Girls will be challenged to think like scientists and engineers by choosing and solving a real-world problem using LEGO technology: JFLL teams are for girls in grades K-3, and FLL teams are for girls in grades 4-5.

Cities and towns face big issues, like transportation, accessibility and even natural disasters. The FLL teams will create solutions to the questions: How can we shape a better future for everyone? It will take teamwork and imagination. Are you ready to build a better tomorrow together? Using imagination and LEGO®Education WeDo 2.0 technology, the JFLL teams will imagine and create a building that solves a problem and makes life easier, happier, or more connected for the people that use it.

FUNDING AVAILABLE
Thanks to funding from our generous sponsors, GSSEM will purchase a newly formed JFLL and FLL teams’ registration and LEGO materials and returning teams are eligible to receive additional supplies. To learn more about forming a team, please visit gsem.org/FIRST or contact Chris Nichols at cnichols@gssem.org.

MALL FRENZY 2020

March 21
Lakeside Mall, Sterling Heights
Girls in grades 4-12 and adults are invited to attend Mall Frenzy, a lock-in at Lakeside Mall. Come hang out with friends, do some shopping, participate in various badge stations, perform karaoke, get airbrush tattoos and lots of other entertainment. There’s a little bit of something for everyone to enjoy, whether you’re a first time attendee or a veteran to the program! A custom event patch is included as well.

Adult to girl ratios must be maintained as outlined in Volunteer Essentials. Individual girls attending must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Sorry no tagalongs can be accommodated. Any girl attending the event that is not in the proper grade or is not properly supervised will not be able to participate. Additional information will be sent with the confirmation materials.

Cost: $25 per person
Registration deadline: March 3 or sooner if event reaches capacity first. No walk-in registration is accepted.
COOKIE GALA IS BACK!

Celebrate GSSEM’s largest fundraiser of the year

The Cookie Gala returns to MGM Grand Detroit on Thursday, March 26. Join us as culinary artists from all over Detroit prepare desserts featuring a very special ingredient: Girl Scout Cookies! They will each compete for the top prize in this “tasty” competition. Attendees will have the opportunity to taste these desserts, bid on silent and live auction items, and capture memories in the cookie photo booth. You’ll also hear from current Girl Scouts like, Anwaar A., who touched the hearts of everyone in the building last year, with her speech about how Girl Scouts has had a tremendous impact on her life.

This adult event sells out every year, so make sure to get your tickets early! Benefit the girls of southeastern Michigan at this one-of-a-kind event. You don’t want to miss it! Please visit gssem.org/cookiegala for updates. A variety of sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact the Fund Development Department at 313-870-2562 for more information.

GLOBAL ACTION

The Global Action Volunteer Committee is devoted to connecting girls with their international sisterhood, and is working to provide resources so girls can become responsible global citizens who make the world a better place! For more information on how to earn the Global Action Days patch, please visit gssem.org/gad. If you’re interested in joining the committee, or want more information, please contact our Volunteer Services Department at volunteerexp@gssem.org.

MY PROMISE, MY FAITH FOR YOUNGER GIRL SCOUTS

Daisy, Brownie and Junior Scouts will have the opportunity to learn about the common values and traditions that the Islamic faith and the Girls Scout Law share.

March 22 from 1-5 pm

Islamic House of Wisdom
22575 Ann Arbor Trail
Dearborn Heights, MI

Cost: $12.00/girl (includes pin)
OUTDOOR SKILLS PATCH PROGRAM

This patch program is a fun way for girls to collect patches doing the things they love! Patches include archery, backpacking, fishing, outdoor cooking, and so much more. There is one large main patch with mini skill patches that adhere to the main patch with strong velcro. Girls can earn and collect as many as they want.

Girls can earn these patches by attending outdoor skills events held by the Council or a Service Unit, as well as through community events, a local business or organization’s outdoor event, troop activity, or by simply doing the outdoor skill with family. As long as a girl has learned about the outdoor skill (Discover), and practiced the skill (Connect), she has earned the outdoor skill mini patch. All she has left to do is Take Action by getting outdoors, using her skills, and possibly sharing with others what she has learned. Both the large patch and the smaller patches are available in all of our council shops.

NEW BADGES FOR 2020!

There are 12 NEW reasons to Get Outdoors with the new High Adventure badges! The badges are designed for girls to explore nature and experience exciting outdoor adventures like backpacking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, rock climbing, and tree climbing. All these experiences give them the confidence to support one another, take healthy risks, and spend dedicated time in nature. These are the first Girl Scout badges that members can earn by choosing one of two self-directed paths (funded by The North Face).
APRIL IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH!

Volunteer month is back! We are so thankful for all of the volunteers worldwide that commit their time to our girls. Without them, Girl Scouts simply would not be the program that it is today. Volunteers give endless hours to mentor, teach and be examples of what real leaders look like. Not to mention they get things done! Girl Scouts everywhere are able to discover and explore all the world has to offer because of the unmatched dedication and support of volunteers. Look around, they are all around you: Troop Leaders, Co-Leaders, Board Members, Committee Members, and anyone else who has ever taken their time out to support Girl Scout events. Each month, but especially this one, we THANK YOU for helping to fulfill our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who help make the world a better place. These invaluable contributions don't go unnoticed. Watch our newsletters and website for information on recognition activities planned for the month of April. To kick off National Volunteer Month in April, GSSEM will honor our valuable volunteers at the Volunteer National Awards Banquet on March 28.

OUR CHALET TEA: KENTUCKY DERBY LUNCHEON

April 25, 2020 at noon
First United Methodist
6363 Livernois Rd, Troy, MI
Free for C,S,As with a suggested donation for adults $35

2020 GIRL SCOUTS DAY AT COMERICA PARK

Bring the whole family and cheer on the Detroit Tigers at Girl Scouts Day at Comerica Park! A special pre-game ceremony in recognition of the 2020 Gold Award honorees will be held (the Young Woman of Distinction even throws out the first pitch!). For more information and to find out the 2020 date, keep checking gssem.org/calendar.

ON MY HONOR:

This spring, donate to our Girl Engagement Initiative program benefiting underserved and low-income girls while honoring that special person that touched your life. Donate and receive the exclusive On My Honor fun patch! Go to gssem.org/onmyhonor to give.

CALENDAR DATES:

4/5 | National Geologist Day - Meet your neighborhood Geologist
4/19 | Girl Advisory Board Meeting
4/22 | Girl Scout Leader’s Day
4/26-4/27 | Earth Fair Goodells Park, St. Clair
Join GSSEM at the largest Earth Day celebration event in the state. Two full days of fun learning how to be better environmental stewards for the Earth and each other.

2020 GIRL SCOUTS DAY AT COMERICA PARK

Bring the whole family and cheer on the Detroit Tigers at Girl Scouts Day at Comerica Park! A special pre-game ceremony in recognition of the 2020 Gold Award honorees will be held (the Young Woman of Distinction even throws out the first pitch!). For more information and to find out the 2020 date, keep checking gssem.org/calendar.
EMBARK ON THE GREAT OUTDOORS
THIS SUMMER

This year, GSSEM will be providing some amazing opportunities for everyone, where badges, patches, and memorable experiences are guaranteed. Outdoor Skills programs offer both girls and adults a chance to learn the basic skills of camping, like building a campfire, pitching a tent, and orienteering. Use your newly developed skills to master the wilderness, and explore the beauty of nature first hand. The Seasonal Outdoor Challenge is back. Embark on adventures to complete the activities and challenges on the list designed for that season, and earn a patch! What better way to enjoy the season? Keep a lookout for some Canoe and Kayak programs, too! New partnerships with dedicated companies and organizations will provide GSSEM many unique programs, like Metro Parks, Farmington Hills nature center and more. Be sure to visit gssem.org often to see what new and exciting adventures are coming soon!

Join us for a Camp Open House
May 17 Camp Hawthorn Hollow and Camp Playfair 12 pm - 6 pm

Interested in our camps? Curious to see what they are all about? Join us at one of our camp open houses!

- Get a camp tour
- Learn to play Gaga ball
- Make some traditional camp crafts
- Learn about our camp programs and events
- Make an extreme S'more
- Shoot a bow at our archery range* (first 75 people who register)
- Explore nature
- Climb our rock wall* (first 75 people who register)
- Go on a letterbox hike
- Meet the staff
- Learn camp songs

Visit gssem.org/go to register.
*Brownies and older

MEET ME AT THE ZOO!

Join us at the Detroit Zoo on May 9, 2020! Get up close and personal with more than 2,000 animals, including all of your favorites and a exotic ones, too! Check out award-winning exhibits all while earning Girl Scout awards and recognitions. Visit gssem.org/calendar for more information!
HONOR RECEPTION: JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

Celebrate the accomplishments of our Silver and Gold Award recipients and special recognitions of graduating seniors, and recipients of the Tammie Murray and Jennifer Barnum Spirit Awards at our Honor Reception on May 3, 2020. Individual invitations will be sent to all girls and their families that have successfully completed the Silver Award Requirements and have submitted their Final Reports prior to the March 1st deadline. At this special recognition event our current Young Woman of Distinction, Casie Paul, will announce the new 2020 recipient. Each Gold Award recipient will be awarded a $500.00 scholarship and the GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction will be granted a $2500.00 scholarship. Need more reasons to GoGold? Visit our website at gssem.org/gold.

Here what some of our Gold Award Girl Scouts have to say:

**Abigail Collins-Carey**
Completing my Gold Award project helped me discover leadership skills and gave me a passion for a future career in international economics and business. It has also shown me that when there is something I am passionate about, I WILL do it - even if I am often told “no” along the way.

**Robbie McCall**
I was able to learn more about my community and myself. I found individuals committed to making a change for the better within the community, and that with enough determination and hard work, we could work together to make a difference in their homes.

**Linda Weng**
I became a leader and a teacher to my peers and was able to introduce them to computer science in such a fun way! Being able to code is becoming an essential skill to have in any job sector so this provides an opportunity for our future generations to take their first step on their path to success.

EARLY RENEWAL! MAY 1-JUNE 15, 2020

It’s never too early to start thinking about signing your girls up for another year of adventure. Get a jump on fall and renew early! Early renewal dates and special incentives will be announced in the January issue of Leaders. Visit the gssem.org/learning to access the Managing Your Member Profile Short & Snappy.

SUMMER DREAMS: HELP GIRLS GO! TO SUMMER CAMP THIS YEAR!

At GSSEM, we are committed to continuing to provide high-quality outdoor education, equipment and experiences to girls who would not otherwise be able to afford it. Camping and Outdoor Learning have a lasting impact on a young girl’s life. Your gift will empower the next generation of female leaders to make the world a better place. Visit gssem.org/summerdreams to help make her Summer Dreams come true!

COOKIE REWARDS ARE COMING!

Girls who participate in the cookie program are eligible to earn rewards, based upon individual sales. A full list of reward items and levels can be found on the back of each cookie order card. You may also download this from the forms section at gssem.org. In late-May, GSSEM will mail the rewards to the same person who filled out the Responsibility Agreement Form. More information will be sent out via eBudde (the online system that troops use to manage the cookie sale).
BRIDGING CEREMONIES HELP GIRLS CROSS OVER INTO THEIR NEXT ADVENTURE

As the end of the school year approaches, it’s time to start wrapping up the Girl Scout year too, and looking forward to the next step. Whether a Daisy is flying up to Brownie or a Junior is about to become a Cadette, a Bridging Ceremony marks a girl’s move from one level of Girl Scouting to another. It’s that defining moment when a girl becomes aware of her recent achievements and is ready to take on her next adventure! The Bridging Ceremony should be fun, personalized, and memorable for everyone. And like all things in Girl Scouts, it should be girl-led in partnership with adults. You can plan your own bridging ceremony, or if you’re planning to attend the Meet Me at the Zoo event on May 9, participate in a bridging ceremony there.

Check out the Bridging Awards available for each level, and some great tips on other important Girl Scouts ceremonies and traditions at gssem.org/ceremonies. Not sure how to get your Bridging Ceremony started? Visit the gssem.org/learning to view a short training on bridging ceremonies.

THE TROOP YEAR IS WINDING DOWN!

You did it! Another year of Girl Scouts in the books! Here are some tips to end your year with ease:

• Troop Leaders are responsible for ensuring accurate and complete financial records are maintained for each troop and open for review at any time by parents of girls, Service Unit or community volunteers, or council staff.

• Supplemental learning modules are available to help you complete your Troop Finance Report: Visit gssem.org/learning and look under the Group Finances section.

• Bridging ceremonies mark a girl’s move from one level of Girl Scouting to another! Keep checking gssem.org/calendar for Service Unit meetings and trainings that cover bridging ceremonies or contact your Service Unit Manager if you need assistance.

• Is your Troop coming back next fall? Be sure to renew your volunteer role by accessing your Member Profile through the Girl Scout community or MyGS Sign In on gssem.org.
HELP HER LAND A SUMMER JOB

Source: GSUSA’s Raising Awesome Girls

Lifeguard, camp counselor, or dog walker—whatever first job she’s dreaming of probably seems so exciting and fun. She’ll meet new people, get to try her hand at new skills, and earn some extra cash that can help pay for summer fun or be put toward her college education. Sweet! But before she can reap the rewards of her summer job, she has to get one first. Here’s a few tips on how to help her get started:

Help her come up with a list
We all know that not all work is fun, but wouldn’t it be great if she could get a summer job she loved or could help her explore a career field she may be interested in? Sit down with her and help her figure out her strengths and interests. Maybe she already makes a mean sundae and would love to learn how to churn a batch of ice cream. Perhaps she can program the household electronics without glancing at a manual and would love to help others with their tech issues. Helping her figure out what she’d be interested in and what she’s already good at will narrow her search.

Teach her to network
You might think her network is small at the moment, but she knows more people than you think! Explain to her that networking is basically reaching out to people you have relationships with who would be willing to vouch for her. She should let teachers, neighbors, friend’s parents, Girl Scout troop leaders, and coaches know she’s on the job hunt. You never know who might know of the perfect gig.

Write a perfect resume
Believe it or not, she should have a resume handy even if this is her very first summer job. Just like any professional resume, it should start with her name and contact information at the top, list her grade and the school she currently attends and any prior “starter” jobs (e.g., babysitting, plant watering, dog walking). She can then list any extracurricular activities that will enable the reader to get to know her and some responsibilities she’s taken on. Sit down with her and have her write down any special awards or achievements she’s received through school or in the community. Make sure she’s not humble or shy! Did she get a perfect attendance certificate last year? That’s going to let employers know she’s reliable! Was she on student council? That shows awesome leadership!

Creating positive and professional job searching habits will stick with your girl well into adulthood!

For more tips and information from GSUSA’s Raising Awesome Girls, visit girls scouts.org/raisinggirls.

KICK-OFFS FOR 2020

Get energized! Get excited! Get ready to get back to Girl Scouts at our annual GSSEM Kick-offs! The Kick-offs are the best place to connect with fellow troop leaders and learn about new program offerings, tips for growing your troop, activities to keep your girls excited about Girl Scouting and so much more! Kick-offs will be offered at various locations throughout the GSSEM council region. Watch gssem.org and our social media pages for details about the 2020 kickoffs!
DON'T MISS OUT ON THE 20TH ANNUAL FORE! THE GIRLS GOLF CLASSIC!

Golf lovers and Girl Scouts go hand in hand at GSSEM’s 20th annual Golf Classic Fore! the Girls. The annual golf outing returns on Monday, Aug. 17,* 2020. Grab your colleagues, friends, and fellow Girl Scouts for an exciting day out on the course. The outing features an 18-hole scramble, lunch, silent auction and dinner. Prizes and awards for longest drive, closest to the pin and more will also be presented. Wonderful sponsorship opportunities are available! Contact the Fund Development Department at 313-870-2562. Check gssem.org/calendar for current information.

*Date subject to change.

GIRL SCOUTS LOVE STATE PARKS!

For the 2nd annual event, Girl Scouts will host a variety of events at state parks for girls to explore what the parks have to offer and to participate in select activities, such as working on a badge or Take Action project, camping overnight, and much more. The events are open to Girl Scouts, with some parks offering events for families and friends as well.

VTK - YEAR PLAN ARCHIVED

All VTK plans for 2020 will archive on July 1. After this date, once you have registered for 2021, you will see the 2021 plan, where you can start to set your new meeting dates, times, locations, and activities. You can still access previous plans through VTK by selecting the Year Plan Archive feature where you can view any past year plans you have created.
WE LIVE IN A BLUE WATER WONDERLAND!

Come back for a second year as we explore everything water at GSSEM’s Blue Water Wonderland! Spend the day learning and having fun on the St. Clair River! Hear about GSSEM’s new patch programs, earn the Great Lakes patch, create unique water art, race your boat in a rain gutter regatta, investigate water careers, participate in the power of girls with water and so much more!

This is a non-structured event, so come and go as you need to! But be sure to leave enough time to enjoy the fun! Adult to girl ratios must be maintained as outlined in Volunteer Essentials. Individual girls attending must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

BACK 2 SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

At GSSEM, we are committed to ensuring all girls have the opportunity to explore STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) careers and become the leaders and innovators of tomorrow. With your help, she can have the equipment and experiences she needs for a successful future. Visit gssem.org/back2school and make your gift count.

IT’S BACK TO TROOP TIME!

School is back in session and it’s also time for another year of Girl Scouts fun to begin! As you head back to troop, remember that GSSEM offers plenty of resources for new AND returning Troop Leaders. Be sure to check out pages 6-7 of this issue of Connect for a full overview. Questions? Call your Troop Support Specialist or find one at (800) 482-6734, and select the option for Troop Support.

CALENDAR DATES:

7/1 | All VTK plans for 2020 will archive
7/26 | Fun Cruise Cookie Reward
8/14 | National Save the Honeybees Day-Beekeeping 101
8/17 | 20th Annual FORE! The Girls Golf Classic (date subject to change)
8/23 | Pool Party at CHH

Check gssem.org for Kick-offs to Celebrate the start of a new Girl Scout Year!

9/12-9/13 | Girl Scouts Love State Parks!
9/21 | Autumnal Equinox/Fall Get Outdoors Challenge Kick off
ATTENTION TROOP LEADERS!

Bring your troop to Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt in Macomb Township for a fun day of operations to earn patches and frozen yogurt.

Email us for additional information: OrangeLeafMacomb@gmail.com

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Lego Robot Workshops for Girl Scouts

The Robot Garage
Birmingham and Rochester Hills, MI
248-723-9100
Contact:
Annie@TheRobotGarage.Com

TheRobotGarage.Com

Give Your Troop The Gift of Great Manners!

Daisy  Brownie  Junior  Cadette  Senior  Ambassador

This is the perfect opportunity for your girls to meet the requirements for their petals, try-it badges, badges and fun patches while having fun! For more specific class details please visit the website at www.TheEtiquetteGuru.com and review the ‘ Scout It Out’ section under the Class Options Tab for the class best suited for your troop. Please note that the all important one hour ‘Dining Etiquette’ course is appropriate for any age group and will prepare the girls to dine properly in public.

**Girl Scout Daisies:** ‘My Best Self’, ‘Respect of Self and Others’ are emphasized through a focused instruction review of Manners both ‘Traditional’ and ‘At Home’

**Girl Scout Brownies:** ‘Making Friends’, ‘Friendships’ are the focus of this class as is ‘Making a Good First Impression’, ‘Proper Handshakes’, and ‘Telephone Manners’

**Girl Scout Juniors:** ‘Social Butterfly’ The many and varied aspects of becoming a mature young lady are explored through ‘Party Protocol and Poise’

**Girl Scout Cadettes:** ‘Netiquette’ We discuss ‘Verbal/Non-verbal Communication’, ‘Electronic Etiquette’ and ‘Social Media’

**Girl Scout Seniors:** ‘Business Etiquette’ Here we discuss ‘Interviewing Techniques’ and ‘Personal/Professional Social Protocol’

**Girl Scout Ambassadors:** ‘The Dinner Party’ With instruction on ‘American/Continental Dining Styles’ and ‘Basic/Formal Dining Situations’

Call The Etiquette Guru, LLC at 1-866-273-0728 to schedule your appointment today. Classes will take place wherever/whenever is most convenient for you.

**Great Manners are the key to future success!**
 Earn your Badges
with Oakland County Parks and Recreation

Badge Days offered for Daisies, Brownies, Jr. Girl Scouts and Cadettes

- Fulfills all requirements for the badge
- Hands-on activities
- Most programs include snack and craft
- Badge Field Trip dates can be arranged, including Girl Scout Journeys
- Offered on Saturday mornings and afternoons
- $7/scout, $3/adult
- Pre-registration with payment required - sessions fill quickly!

Complete Badge Days schedule at OaklandCountyParks.com

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Jeiser-Weaver Crafts

Your Mobile Art Solution
Roole Jeiser-Weaver will come to your meeting location, at the time & day you desire to provide your girls with a fun workshop.

- For Daisies: Outdoor Art Maker badge
- For Brownies: Potter and Painter badges
- For Juniors: Jewelry (all new projects) and Drawing badges
- Pottery lessons and Holiday workshops for all ages
- New Paint Some Pottery parties

Email us:
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Call us:
616-745-9524
See our website for additional information:
www.geiser-weaver.com

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Gingerworks
Arts and Crafts Classes

Janine Herron
Enrichment Director
J9herron@yahoo.com
(586) 219-4491

We come to you and bring all supplies needed! All classes are 1 hour long
$13 per child

Enrichment Classes
Private Parties/Birthday Parties
Scout Troops

Classes:
Gingerbread Houses with Halloween, Christmas or Easter Themes
Stained Glass Plaster Playtime
Wood Toys Sweet Eats
Presto Magic Create a Candle
HOW DOES SHE FIND THE POWER OF G.I.R.L. IN HER?

Girl Scouts teaches girls to empower themselves by engaging in collaborative, hands-on, girl-led experiences. Guided by supportive adults, girls participate in a variety of fun and challenging activities. Here she will:

• Engage in healthy activities
• Find her entrepreneurial spirit and learn financial literacy
• Explore the great outdoors
• Participate in hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skill building
• Connect with girls around the world
• Carry out meaningful community service projects
• Take the lead in her own life and in the world
• Earn badges and pursue the Girl Scout Gold Award
• Discover her future potential
GIRL SCOUT NIGHTS

ALL TICKETS INCLUDE A PATCH

FOR PRICING AND DETAILS, CALL 313.471.3099
OR VISIT 313PRESENTS.COM/SCOUTNIGHTS

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The Element of...

Science Center

2019 - 2020 Girl Scout Badges

Daisy, Brownie & Junior
- Robotics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Space Science Explorer

Cadette & Senior
- Robotics

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All American Tshirt Printing Field Trip!
Do something exciting and fun! All American will teach your group about the art of custom Screen Printing! Each guest will print their own T-shirt. The T-shirt design printed will be specifically created and personalized for your group! Nobody else in the world will have a shirt exactly like yours! T-shirts are oven cured and will be ready to take home that same day! We also provide a snack and beverage for our guests! Fun, education, snacks too!! Leaders/Trip Planners FYI Groups of 12-24 field trip duration 30 minutes. It’s fast but it’s a Blast! www.AATshirts.com • 586-997-2400.

A Beautiful Me
Since 2008, A BEAUTIFUL ME has provided 3rd-12th grade girls a fun, unique, and interactive self-esteem workshop series. We’ve reached over 8,000 girls through workshops, programs, and events in southeast Michigan. This is a superior supplement to the Junior aMUSE Journey and the Cadette aMAZE Journey. It’s EASY! You schedule our workshop series with your troop on-site and we do the rest. Contact Karen at 586-604-3037 TODAY!

Belightful
Introducing yoga into the Girl Scout experience is a novel way of bringing to life key values like building character, fitness and self-worth. Inspire and support girls in developing self-esteem, concentration, focus and self-awareness, all while having fun. Participants each receive a fun yoga patch. Belightful can also help Girl Scouts earn skill-building activity badges. To find out more about our Scout Programs and how to schedule them, please contact us at anne@belightfulyoga.com.

Discover Bugs
Experience the strange world of bugs through a fun, interactive workshop, where girls will participate in hands-on activities, and observe some of nature's most remarkable critters up close. We have carefully designed a curriculum specifically to help Brownies earn the Bugs Badge. Scouts will learn about the characteristics, habitats, and importance of insects. Workshops are available year-round within Genesee & Shiawasee Counties. Visit www.discoverbugs.org to schedule a workshop at a location of your choice!

Geiser-Weaver Crafts
Geiser-Weaver Crafts will come to your meeting location, at the time & day you desire to provide your girls with a fun workshop. Badges available are: Brownies: Pottery & Painter; Juniors: Jewelry & Drawing. New Outdoor Art badge for Daisies, Brownies & Juniors. Pottery lessons for all age levels. We come to you! See our website for additional information: www.geiser-weaver.com. Age Level: Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior & Ambassador Contact: Roxie Weaver, p: 616-745-9624 or email: geiserweaver@gmail.com. Fee: $6-$10 per girl.

Oakland County Parks and Recreation
Earn your badges with Oakland County Parks and Recreation! Scout Badge Days are offered at Red Oaks Nature Center in Madison Heights and Wint Nature Center in Clarkston. Held on Saturdays, the programs fulfill all requirements for badges for Daisies, Brownies, Jr. Girl Scouts and Cadettes. If scheduled dates aren't convenient, special group dates can be arranged. Programs often fill quickly so don’t delay — get schedule online at OaklandCountyParks.com.
Olympia Entertainment
Olympia Entertainment is one of the country's most diverse sport and entertainment companies in the mid-west. The company owns and operates Detroit's Fox Theatre, the intimate City Theatre, books and operates Joe Louis Arena and books Comerica Park. Olympia Entertainment also handles business operations for the Detroit Red Wings and collaborates with the Detroit Tigers. For more information on group tickets please call **313-471-3099**.

Stage Nature Center
We offer "Scout It Out" programs for Daisies, Brownies and Juniors to complete nature-related badges and Journeys. Girl Scout troops of all levels can schedule field trips to work on badges, service hours or awards. Our programs are hands-on and interactive. Visit [www.stagenaturecenter.org](http://www.stagenaturecenter.org) or call **(248) 688-9703** for more information.

The Etiquette Guru
Give Your Troop The Gift of Great Manners!
Daisy • Brownie • Junior • Cadette • Senior • Ambassador
This is the perfect opportunity for your girls to meet the requirements for their petals, try-it badges, badges and fun patches while having fun! For more specific class details please visit the website at [www.TheEtiquetteGuru.com](http://www.TheEtiquetteGuru.com) and review the ‘Scout It Out’ section under the Class Options Tab for the class best suited for your troop. Please note that the all important one hour ‘Dining Etiquette’ course is appropriate for any age group and will prepare the girls to dine properly in public. Call The Etiquette Guru, LLC at **1-866-273-0728** to schedule your appointment today. Classes will take place wherever/whenever is most convenient for you.

The Henry Ford
Inspire your Girl Scouts to think differently. At The Henry Ford, they’ll discover their potential through hands-on learning experiences and stories of innovators, inventors and entrepreneurs who changed out world. As they explore the museum, village or factory tour, they’ll learn how to challenge the rules, take risks, learn from failure, collaborate, be empathetic and stay curious — skills to help them make the world a better place. Special Scout rates for groups of 10 or more! Plan your trip at [thf.org](http://thf.org).

The Parade Company
Come to The Parade Company and take a magical journey through the Parade studios. You will experience a behind-the-scenes look at America's Thanksgiving Parade® presented by Art Van! Learn about the Parade's interesting history and traditions; see all of the floats up close; and see the unique collection of papier-mâché heads. You will also get to pass by the costume shop and see where characters come to life. For more information visit: [www.theparade.org](http://www.theparade.org) or call **313.923.7400**.

Troop Mackinaw
Troop Mackinaw is the premiere Mackinac Island Girl Scout event. This fun & affordable weekend is the complete Mackinac Island Scout package. No other package offers so much for so little. Bring the whole troop or just mother & daughter! For more information, visit [www.TroopMackinaw.com](http://www.TroopMackinaw.com).
GSSEM locations

GSSEM is the provider of premier leadership experiences for girls all over southeast Michigan. We serve more than 32,000 girls and adults in Oakland, Macomb, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Sanilac, and parts of Wayne, Monroe, and Livingston Counties. For the most up-to-date information about what’s happening at GSSEM, visit gssem.org.

Service Centers, Council Shops & Camps

Clinton Township Service Center/ Council Shop
42800 Garfield
Clinton Township, MI 48038
P: 800-482-6734
F: 586-263-6320

Detroit Service Center/Council Shop*
1333 Brewery Park Blvd.
Suite 500
Detroit, MI 48207
P: 800-482-6734
F: 313-870-2600

Flint Service Center
Plaza One Building
111 E Court St, Suite D
Flint, Michigan 48502
P: 800-482-6734
F: 810-600-0609

Port Huron Service Center
2186 Water Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
P: 800-482-6734
F: 810-984-2206

Southgate Service Center
1 Heritage Place
Suite 130
Southgate, MI 48195

White Lake Service Center/ Council Shop/Museum
8545 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48386
P: 800-482-6734
F: 248-666-5377

Camp Hawthorn Hollow
1046 Mayer Road
Columbus, MI 48063

Camp Playfair
3135 Lakeshore Road
Lexington, MI 48450

To reach any of our offices, please call 800-482-6734.
Inspire your Girl Scouts to think differently.

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▸ **Special Scout rates** for groups of 10 or more.

For group reservations, contact 313.982.6001 and press 1, or email reservationcenter@thehenryford.org.

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