

# The Trooper

April 2024



# **April is Volunteer Appreciation Month!**

Girl Scouts of Utah is a community where dedicated volunteers come together to connect, inspire, and support young Girl Scouts as they develop courage, confidence, and character. The success of the Girl Scout program depends on the collaborative effort of its members. We are honored to work alongside you on this journey. The ability that you have to directly impact the course of a Girl Scout's life daily is immeasurable, but looking back we see the long-lasting change you make on the world.

Attention all Camp Staff Alumni! We're thrilled to extend a warm invitation to the 2024 Camp Staff Reunion hosted by Girl Scouts of Utah. Whether you've served at Camp Cloud Rim, Trefoil Ranch, Red Cliff, or our traveling camps, this event is tailor-made for you. It's a chance to reconnect with old friends, reminisce about camp adventures, and forge new connections. From serene canoe rides on the lake to adrenaline-pumping rock wall climbs, and from creative crafting sessions to soulful campfire sing-alongs, there's something for everyone. Join us in reliving the magic of camp, where you can hike Mt. Majestic, sip coffee while gazing at the lake, and simply soak in the nostalgia. Don't miss out on this special occasion—it only comes around every five years! We can't wait to see you there!

### **LEARN MORE!**

# **Trainings for Volunteers**

GSU is offering Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) training for volunteers on May 11 and May 18

We are happy to introduce this training as requested by our volunteers. YMHFA training is designed for adults who regularly interact with adolescents (age 12-18) to help youth who may be experiencing a mental health or addiction challenge or is in crisis. The course introduces common challenges faced by youth today, discusses adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help in both crisis and non-crisis situations.

Topics covered include anxiety, depression, substance use, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders (including AD/HD), and eating disorders.

Class size is limited – Reserve\* your spot today! <u>Saturday, May 11 – in person</u> <u>Saturday, May 18 - virtual</u>

GSU will provide lunch for the in-person session on May 11. More details will be included in your registration confirmation.

\*A \$10 registration fee is required to hold your spot; the fee will be refunded after the class is

All training opportunities can be found on the **GSU Event Calendar**:

- <u>5/1 Camping 101</u>
- 5/1 & 6/5 Intro to GSU
- 5/8 & 5/16 First Aid/CPR/AED
- 6/8 First Aid/CPR/AED
- 6/14 & 15 Wilderness Remote First Aid (WRFA)

### **Spring Renewal Incentives 2024-2025 All Members April 1 - 30 May 1 - 31** Gift of Renewal \$10 Renewal **Girl Scouts** Girl Scout-Designed Patch Admin Volunteers\* Exclusive decal \*Admin volunteers include troop leaders and co-leaders and members of service unit teams. Troop 100% Renewal\*\* April 1 - 30 May 1 - 31 Cookie Booth Fast Pass Additional \$0.05/Package

\*\*Troops must meet adult to girl safety ratios and submit financial report by June 30. All troop volunteers must be current on training.

Troop 100% renewal numbers will be determined by the number of girls actively registered in the troop as of March 31, 2024.

Incentives available for 2025 Cookie Program.

# **Tips for Troop Leaders**

Start planning your next Girl Scout year and earn fun incentives along the way! We're investing back into you by offering the gift of membership renewal in April.

Thanks to volunteers like you, Girl Scouts have the confidence to be themselves, try new things, and chase their goals. And this year is no different! There is so much to explore: exciting science experiments, outdoor adventures, and community projects that make a real difference. The opportunities are endless – and you make them possible.

Don't wait! Renew for FREE until April 30 – Renew 100% of your troop by April 30 and earn a Cookie Booth Fast Pass! Plus earn additional renewal incentives through May 31

### Renew your troop today!

### **Summer Trip Application Reminders!**

As we gear up for summer adventures, don't forget to turn in your <u>troop trip</u> <u>applications</u>. Please remember that trip applications must be submitted at least two months prior to the trip date, with earlier submissions highly recommended to ensure ample processing time. Additionally, all necessary paperwork for trip approval must be submitted at least one month in advance, though submitting earlier is strongly encouraged. If your trip extends for two or more nights, be sure to obtain approval from the Council.

Comprehensive information on trip requirements can be found on the GSU's website <u>travel section</u>. Before setting off, ensure all required training courses are completed. At least one adult on the trip must hold a CPR/First Aid certification with an in-person skills check. Looking ahead, troops planning international trips for 2026 should consider submitting applications now to utilize activity credits. Remember, activity approvals can take time, so secure them well in advance to avoid any delays. For further details on travel safety, consult the Safety Activity Checkpoints and Volunteer Policies. Let's make this summer the best one yet!

# **Product Program**

**Thanks to everyone for a great cookie season!** Activity Credits will be mailed the first week of May. All rewards, incentives, and activity credits are held for any unpaid troop or girl balances until payment is made in full.

If you have any questions, be sure to reach out to <a href="mailto:cookies@gsutah.org">cookies@gsutah.org</a>.

# **Program Updates**

Ways to Get Outdoors with Your Troop

**Troop Camping** at summer camp is a way for Girl Scouts and their troop leaders to enjoy the camp experience together with the support of camp staff. Troop camping

can be a great step in the camp progression before sending Girl Scouts to summer camp alone or before going camping on your own as a troop.

Girl Scouts are forces of nature and they are meant for outdoor adventures. For more information about program options, see the Programming section under <u>Troop Camping</u>.

### Compete with your troop at Wasatch Wanderlust

Has your troop got the travel bug, but want to start your adventure a little closer to home? Join Girl Scouts of Utah at Wasatch Wanderlust on June 8! This event can count as the first step in your travel progression, but everyone is invited to attend! Develop critical travel skills like planning, budgeting, decision making, problem solving, teamwork, and using public transportation.

Discover new aspects of Utah's capital city as you and your team complete challenges throughout the day. Earn points and compete to win fun prizes for your team. This choose-your-own-adventure style event is a great way to kick off your summer, so grab some friends to form your team and sign up today!

# Service Unit Specific

### Never the Same Weekend

Reservations are open and are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Be sure to get your service unit's reservation submitted soon so you don't miss out on your preferred dates.

Visit the **GSU NTSW webpage** for more information.

### **Volunteer Evaluations – Due May 31**

Last year we implemented self-evaluations for all volunteers. This allows us to support needs and pain points that are happening with volunteers and the program. We received your feedback; this year your self-evaluation is in a survey form so that the data can be collected electronically.

We will email this out to all leaders and co-leaders the first week of May with their update on renewal status; survey's are due May 31.

Service unit teams will also receive the evaluation in the May Service Unit Team

email to be completed before the end-of-year assessment with your MSS, no later than June 5.

# **Quick Links**

- Join GSU's team find and apply to job openings.
- Receive ongoing communications from GSU GSU's Facebook & Instagram
- Stay up-to-date on trainings and events from GSU GSU Programs Facebook
- Salt Lake City and American Fork shop info Retail













Have a question? Don't be shy! Contact us for more information.

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