

The Trooper

February 2024



We are Girl Scouts.



Earn a Troop Take Over Party

During cookie booths, troops can earn a "Troop Take Over Party" hosted by your Membership Support Specialist.

All you need to do is have your customers complete a quick five-question survey using the QR code on the cookie booth table runner. This will be provided in your cookie packet and distributed on cookie pickup day. Troops with the most surveys in each area: Northern Utah, Salt Lake County West, Salt Lake County East, Central/Eastern Utah, & Southern Utah will earn a Troop Take Over Party.

Be sure to review the information in your cookie packet; if you have questions

Campfire Chats

Campfire Chats are in-person meetings for troop leaders and co-leaders and are all about learning something new!

Are you looking to connect with more leaders in your area or your level? Are you stumped for ideas? Are you curious about how to start traveling with your troop? Join your MSS at your local service center and chat with experienced volunteers.

Meetings will be held at each of the council resource centers (Ogden, Salt Lake, & American Fork) on February 28, 6:30-8 p.m. with a special presentation at 7 p.m.

Registration is available through gsEvents, just log into your MyGS account.

Important Cookie Program Date Reminders

- March 2, 2024 Service unit warehouse cookie pickup day
- March 7, 2024 Cookie Cupboards open (*subject to change*)
- March 15-30, 2024 Cookie Booths
- March 30, 2024 Cookie Program ends

Cookie Booths

We want everyone to have a safe and rewarding experience at cookie booths! Use these agreements to help girls and adults understand the rules and steps they need to follow to be successful.

- Girl Scout Cookie Booth Conduct
- Adult Cookie Booth Contract

Bling Your Booth

Decorate your booth and win prizes! Highlight a service project, feature a fun cookie theme, or highlight your troop's adventures in your Cookie Booth while highlighting your cookie goal. According to a Girl Scout Research Institute survey, 50% of customers are more likely to increase their purchase if they know it supports Girl Scout goals and adventures.

Your cookie packet that will be distributed on cookie pickup day will include more information on the contest, including how to submit photos.

Upcoming Training for Volunteers

Intro to GSU Training

This training is recommended for all leaders, new and experienced, and is designed to help you better understand GSU's volunteer policies, processes, and procedures as well as review information unique to GSU. There is also plenty of time to ask questions - our GSU staff will be there to answer all your questions and provide resources for your role as a troop leader.

Please join us on the first Wednesday of the month by pre-registering through MyGS.

Whether you are a seasoned Girl Scout Leader or new to the world of what girls can do, one particularly important aspect of your role is training!

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Youth Mental Health First Aid is primarily designed for adults who regularly interact with young people. The course introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a five-step action plan for how to help young people 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.

GSU will be offering two (2) YMHFA training opportunities for Girl Scout volunteers that interact with adolescents aged 12-18: Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador level Girl Scouts.

Saturday, May 11 will be an in-person training at the GSU Salt Lake CRC

• Saturday, May 18 will be a blended learning format: online pre-work and virtual training

Space is limited to 30 attendees at each training course – if you are interested in participating in this training opportunity, we suggest registering as soon as possible.

Additional details are available on the GSU Events Calendar.

Program Updates

Did you know that March 10 kicks off Girl Scout Week? This week is full of fun celebrations highlighting the Girl Scout birthday on March 12. Each day, there is a new theme and way to participate:

- March 10, Spirit Sunday, is a great time to do something kind in the spirit of Girl Scouts!
- March 11, Affirmation Monday, focuses on sharing a positive message with friends.
- March 12, Girl Scouts' Birthday, is all about celebrating the amazing 112 years of Girl Scouts!
- March 13, Wear it Wednesday, Girl Scouts should show off their pride and wear their Girl Scout gear.
- March 14, Thankful Thursday, Girl Scouts should share something they're thankful for.
- March 15, Flash Forward Friday, is a day for Girl Scouts to share their big plans for the future!
- March 16, Service Sunday, Girl Scouts can find a way to serve their community!

Day Camp planning

Day Camp planning is underway! Need some reminders?

Do not forget to get input from your GAB (older girls) committee. All Day Camps must be council sponsored, must include 12 hours of program over three days,

and will count toward the required two CSEs needed to qualify for the extra .02 cents per package of cookies sold during the Cookie Program.

- Intent to run Day Camp information is due by March 15.
- Day Camp Applications are due by April 15.

GSU and GSUSA sometimes update policies and requirements so be sure that your CSE Training is current. Council Sponsored Events Training is required for each SU (Service Unit) Event Rep and Day Camp Coordinator and must be taken every 3 years.

Council Sponsored Events Training will be held February 28, **Register today!**

Volunteer Appreciation & Recognition

Share the love! How is your SU planning to show appreciation and recognition this year for your leaders, volunteers, and community partners? We previously emailed the years of service and years of membership report for volunteers; these years should be their current years.

To Do List:

- Review the previously sent report and return any corrections to Sadie Fowers by March 10; **sfowers@gsutah.org**
- Order adult <u>Years of Membership and volunteer Years of Service</u> pins by March 10
- Order your service unit recognition awards by March 30 details on our **website**.
- Remember, Council Recognition Award Nominations are due by July 28.

If you have questions about SU level appreciation and recognition, <u>read the</u> <u>details</u> and if you need further assistance contact Sadie Fowers at: <u>sfowers@gsutah.org</u>

Quick Links

- Join GSU's team find and apply to job openings.
- Receive ongoing communications from GSU GSU's Facebook

- 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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