



*August 2023*

## Where did the Newsletters Go??

Volunteers may have noticed a disruption in newsletter delivery from council. We experienced issues with our newsletter system this summer, and we are now ready to get back on track to keep you informed. You can expect to receive timely information, helpful tips, and exciting program updates via "The Trooper," our newly branded newsletter for volunteers. Thank you for your patience while we worked to resolve this issue.

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## Your Year of Inspiration – Renew Now!

It's time to renew so you and your troop can have another year of inspiration. Check out our On-Time Renewal Incentives for this year:

- **Retro Membership Fee**

Flash back to 2010! All members that renew August 15 – September 30 will only have to pay \$15 per membership.

- **GSUSA Your Year of Fun Renewal Patch**

All girls who have renewed, including those who previously renewed in the spring, and attend a council or service unit activity any time August – October will receive this fun patch to wear on their uniform.

- **FREE T-shirts for the WHOLE Troop!**

Yes, you heard that right, GSU will be holding a drawing for FREE t-shirts for 20 troops – all girls & adults registered with the troop by September 30, 2023.

*\*To qualify, troops must: have 100% girl renewal and adult/leader ratio compliance, be in good financial standing with council, and have submitted the annual troop finance report, also all troop volunteers must have the Youth Protection Training completed **AND** add 5 new girl members to your troop – all of which will be verified.*

## RENEW YOUR TROOP TODAY

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### **Hawaii Wildfires: Fundraising Ban Lifted**

Our thoughts are with those in communities impacted by the wildfires in Hawaii. We know that some Girl Scouts of Hawaii families have been displaced, but we have no confirmed reports of serious injury to Girl Scout staff or members at this time. We're staying in close touch with the council in order to offer support and receive new information to pass on as it is released.

The GSUSA Board of Directors has approved lifting the fundraising ban for Girl Scouts of Hawaii for a period of three months starting immediately. Many of you have asked how you can contribute to the recovery efforts for our sister Girl Scouts and their communities. We have learned that when girls experience natural disasters/emergencies like this and are surrounded by recovery efforts, participating in Girl Scouts can be one way to help them and their families feel some normalcy. That's why the fundraising restrictions were lifted to enable girls to raise money for communities impacted at Girl Scouts of Hawaii.

To contribute to these efforts, please direct your support to one of the agencies listed.

- **Maui United Way** is based in Maui and in the best position to strategically place resources that best serve their own community. They are accepting donations to its Maui Fire and Disaster Relief fund at <https://mauiunitedway.org/disasterrelief>.
- The **American Red Cross** is setting up shelters in Maui and urgently needs volunteers. You can support the **Hawaii Red Cross** by donating or volunteering [here](#).

**Action needed:** Discuss and share with your families and stay tuned for more information about how you can support recovery efforts.

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## Troop Leader Tips

### Ready to plan your troop year?

Our age-appropriate [Troop Year Plans](#) are the best tool for first year troop leaders to get started with Girl Scouts without getting overwhelmed. The entire year is mapped out—just follow along to help your Girl Scouts complete badge activities, improve their communities, and explore the world around them.

### Volunteer Toolkit (VTK)

The VTK has everything you need right at your fingertips! Check out the enhanced Resources Tab – we have added a few things that troop leaders have found extremely useful.

### Campfire Chats

Make new friends but keep the old... Troop Leaders & Co-Leaders are invited to join your Membership Support Specialist for in-person “Campfire Chats.” These evening gatherings will be held at our office locations in Ogden, Salt Lake, and American Fork on September 27, February 28, and April 25.

Mark your calendars and join us for an evening of networking and best practice sharing – maybe even collaborate on something fun for everyone.

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## Training Opportunities

Are your certifications expiring this year? Check out the [training calendar](#) and register early so your training remains current.

- First Aid/CPR/AED
  - Camping 101
  - Council Sponsored Events
  - Extended Overnights & National Trips
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# Recruitment Round-up

## **Back to School = Back to Troop**

Fall recruitment is here and we are partnering with schools to attend back-to-school nights, parent/teacher conferences, and book fairs. If you know of a school that is open to having Girl Scouts participate in their back-to-school activities, let us know – we will work with you to help girls start their year of discovery!

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## **Calling All Volunteers**

### **Volunteer with GSU's Girl Advisory Board**

We are looking for a volunteer to help with our council-level Girl Advisory Board (GAB). Participating in GAB allows Girl Scouts to give their opinions and help plan programs at the council level. It is open to Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors and allows them to put their leadership skills into practice. This individual should have experience working with Girl Scouts at that age level and be available to attend our monthly meetings.

While GAB is led by a GSU staff member, we appreciate having a volunteer to help us meet the proper ratios. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Program Specialist, Alyssa Meredith at [ameredith@gsutah.org](mailto:ameredith@gsutah.org).

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## **Service Unit Extra**

### **Service Unit Leadership Teams at Leadership Summit**

We are excited to see our SU volunteers next weekend at Trefoil Ranch – They will have the chance to engage with ABC Bakers, hear from guest speakers, and enjoy some amazing BBQ & gourmet s'mores!! - And that's just Friday!

### **Council Sponsored Events Training**

Now is the time for SU Event Reps to make sure they are compliant and ready to take on events for the girls in your service unit. [Register for this training](#) by September 19 to reserve your spot.

### **Council Connect is Back!**

Service Unit Teams should plan to join council on November 29, January 31, and

May 29 to get the hottest topics for the service unit & troops.

### **Regional Service Unit Manager Meetings**

These will be held in October and March. And new this year are **Camp re Chats** - for all troop leaders and co-leaders as well as service unit volunteers. Attend to participate in open discussions with council staff.

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### **Quick Links**

- Join GSU's team - [Find and apply to job openings.](#)
- Receive ongoing communications from GSU - [GSU's Facebook](#)
- Salt Lake City and American Fork shop info - [Retail](#)



Have a question? Don't be shy!  
[Contact us](#) for more information.