



The Trooper

April 14, 2023

Tips for Troop Leaders

Celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Month

We are so proud of our Girl Scout Volunteers! Of course, we think they are the best volunteers around, always going above and beyond what they are called to do. In honor of Volunteer Appreciation, we want to celebrate the Girl Scouts of Utah volunteers in every corner of our council. Join us by adding a sweet message of thanks to our [Kudoboard](#). Don't forget to add your name and Troop number!

Spring Renewal is here

Thanks to volunteers like you, girls 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.

April 1 - May 31		
All Members	Gift of Renewal	
Girl Scouts	Girl Scout-Designed Outdoors Patch	
Admin Volunteers*	Exclusive Decal	
<i>*Admin volunteers include Troop Leaders and Co-Leaders and members of service unit teams.</i>		
Troop 100% Renewal**	April 1-30	April 1 - May 31
	Cookie Booth Fast Pass	Additional \$0.05/Package
<i>**Troops must meet adult to girl safety ratios and submit financial report by June 30. Troop 100% renewal numbers will be determined by the number of girls actively registered in the</i>		

troop as of March 31, 2023. Incentives available for 2024 Cookie Program.

Action needed: Give your Girl Scouts a year they'll never forget. [Renew today.](#)

Volunteer Toolkit Finance Tab Training

In 2022, GSU turned on the Finance Tab in the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK) for the submission of the Annual Troop Finance Report. The focus of this training is the practical application of the Finance Tab in the VTK and how you can make your troop financing easier to manage.

[Register](#) for the live training session so you can see the Finance Tab in action and ask questions.

- Live Training Session: May 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 - Annual Troop Finance Reports are due to the council by June 30 (every year).
 - 674 VTK Finance Tab Training is also available on gsLearn and is assigned to all Troop Leaders, Co-Leaders, Troop Supporters, and Troop Treasures.
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Save The Date: Recognition of Excellence



Our annual Recognition of Excellence ceremony will be on Saturday, November 11, in Ogden, UT. Girl Scouts that have earned their Silver Award or Gold Award between October 2022 – September 2023 and adults receiving volunteer recognition will receive an invitation to attend the ceremony. Bronze Award Girl Scouts will be recognized separately. We will send out invitations with further details about the event in October. Please save the date and inform any Girl Scouts planning on earning their award this year.

Gear up for troop travel

With summer right around the corner, we know our troops are anxious to get out and travel. If planning an overnight trip of two-plus nights, you'll need to have your trip approved by GSU. Applications are due at least two months before your trip dates but can be submitted sooner. Once you apply, a GSU staff member will contact you about additional paperwork needed for approval. Any added paperwork requested will be due one month before the trip dates. Remember to consult the [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) for any planned activities requiring additional council approval, and turn in the [Activity Approval form](#) when the requirement is specified.

Action needed: Turn in your [trip application](#) at least two months before your trip dates and check the [Events Calendar](#) for any upcoming travel trainings needed for your troop trip. Brush up on any other requirements needed for your trip on the [Travel section](#) of our website.

Service Unit Shenanigans

Volunteer Appreciation

April is a great time to focus on volunteer support and appreciation! What is your team planning? How do the troop leaders and volunteers in your service unit prefer to be appreciated?

Action needed: Share this [appreciation language quiz](#) with the volunteers in your area, and plan accordingly.

Council Connect

We hope you didn't mind that we skipped our March Council Connect meeting. This is a quick reminder that our next and final Council Connect meeting is scheduled for May 31.

Regional Service Unit Manager Meetings

Service Unit Managers your MSS is hosting a regional meeting just for you and your compatriots the week of April 24 – watch for an email from your MSS with details:

date, time, location, and platform.

Never the Same Weekend Registration Opens April 17

It's almost time to schedule your Never the Same Weekend (NTSW) for the 2023-2024 membership year. Never the Same Weekends are opportunities for Service Units to provide a 24-hour camping experience at Trefoil Ranch in Provo Canyon. Service Units can provide all their meals and programming or they can contract with GSU's program team to provide meals and/or programming for their group. All information for upcoming registration can be found on the [NTSW webpage](#). Dates are reserved on a first come first served basis, please select a few dates with Service Units before registration.

Action needed: Register for a [Never the Same Weekend](#) starting Monday, April 17 at noon.

Council Corner

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](#)
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Support Girl Scouts of Utah While You Shop!

- Shop at [Smith's](#) and follow the instructions to link your Rewards Card to Girl Scouts of Utah
- Shop with [Walmart online](#) and round up your change to donate.



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