

## Alum News – Spring 2023

*Quarterly Newsletter for GSCCC Alums*

In this edition you'll find spotlights on two of our Girl Scout Alum, information on volunteering, travel opportunities, and some fun ways you can support GSCCC without even breaking a sweat!

More stories, resources and other information can be found at [gsc.org/alum](https://gsc.org/alum).

### ***Alum Spotlight:*** **Meet Lifetime Girl Scout Dina Crewe**

Dina Crewe is a lifetime Girl Scout and local alum who grew up with Girl Scouting. She is passionate about Girl Scouts and has attended three National Girl Scout Conventions, two while volunteering in her last council before returning to Hampton Roads—National Convention held in Atlanta in 2004 and in Indianapolis in 2008—and one representing GSCCC at the 2014 convention held in Salt Lake City.



She says the experience of going to convention was multifaceted, with the governance part being the most important. “I noticed by the 2014 convention that the girl delegates were much more involved and vocal,” she said. “Going to the meetings and seeing all the other delegates from all over the USA and seeing folks also from other countries was unique and fabulous! I also loved the Young Women of Distinction segment and how amazing those young ladies spoke and presented their wonderful Gold Awards!”

She recalls how the Hall of Experiences at the 2014 convention was full of opportunities for exchanging ideas with corporate sponsors, patch companies, and product sale companies. “Meeting both nut and cookie companies’ representatives and all the presenters and speakers, too many to name, was amazing,” she said. “I really enjoyed meeting and seeing the female Globetrotters! I also enjoyed the breakout groups and how National Board members came and listened. In 2014 I went to all of the breakout sessions about the Outdoor Program and bringing back outdoor badges.”

Meeting leaders, girls and volunteers from all over and exchanging SWAPS is a memory Dina cherishes. “Overall, I loved being a representative at national conventions and consider it a major highlight in my Girl Scout life.”

*The 2023 Girl Scout Convention will be taking place July 18–22, 2023 at Walt Disney World® Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida; [learn more and register here](#).*



## **Fun and Easy Ways to Support GSCCC – Without Breaking a Sweat!**

Set it and forget it! We’ve gathered some easy ways you can help GSCCC with minimal effort that makes a big impact.

### **Facebook Birthday Fundraisers**

When your birthday rolls around, consider a Birthday Fundraiser to support GSCCC. You'll be making a difference in the lives of so many girls in just 8 easy steps! [View the walkthrough](#) (with screenshots) to get started.

### **Kroger Community Rewards**

You can support Girl Scouts just by shopping for groceries! If you have a Kroger loyalty

card, you can designate GSCCC as the beneficiary of your Community Rewards—in just 4 easy steps. [View the walkthrough](#) (PDF with screenshots) to get started.

### **Dollars for Dough**

We are part of Papa John's Pizza Hampton Roads "Dollars for Dough" program! We will receive 20% of every dollar spent on a pizza when you order through [papajohns.com](http://papajohns.com) and use the code "GSCCC" at checkout.

Do you have another idea we could add to this list? Let us know at [philanthropy@gscce.org](mailto:philanthropy@gscce.org).

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## **Share Your Time and Talents**

From hands-on activities to planning events to mentoring girls as they go for the Gold, we have roles for you to fill at GSCCC. Whether you can only help for a few hours or are looking for long-term adventures, read on to see how you can get involved today!

The GSCCC **Gold Award Committee** advises and mentors girls in the planning, implementation, and documentation of Gold Award projects. As a volunteer member, you will work with the committee in the decision-making process for approving and awarding Gold Awards. The group meets once a month.

Email [gsgoldaward.gscce@gmail.com](mailto:gsgoldaward.gscce@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**The Wild Things** are led by a group of dedicated outdoor adventurers. As a volunteer you will help develop and implement high adventure programs that include camping, backpacking, canoeing and other activities. Don't worry, you don't have to be proficient at everything! You just have to love the outdoors, be willing to learn, and have an interest in helping girls experience awesome opportunities. Email [terriw@gscce.org](mailto:terriw@gscce.org) if you are interested.

It's never too early to schedule fun in the sun! Our talented recruitment team is planning some **Outdoor Recruitment Days** for this summer. These two-hour events give girls and their families a chance to enjoy an outdoor activity and learn about Girl Scouts. We need volunteers who can assist with archery, geocaching or other outdoor fun. Help widen our

sisterhood circle and sign up to help—you'll also get a GSCCC Recruiter patch!  
Email [kiml@gsgccc.org](mailto:kiml@gsgccc.org) if you are interested.

Cookie season means all hands on deck! Our **Cookie Count-n-Go** is coming up on **March 25**. It's a great way to spend a morning with friends who share your love for Girl Scouts. There are three locations to choose from—Chesapeake, Virginia Beach and Hampton. Can you lend a hand? Contact [customercare@gsgccc.org](mailto:customercare@gsgccc.org) to sign up for a shift.

## **Make this your last renewal—become a member for life.**

*Did you know?* Any individual who accepts the principles and beliefs of the Girl Scout Movement and is at least 18 years old can purchase a lifetime membership. When you join as a lifetime member, \$25 of your membership fee will fund a year of Girl Scouting for a member in your local community. Over the past few years, **lifetime members have helped provide more than 30,000 memberships to Girl Scouts across the country** whose families would otherwise not have been able to afford it.

A Girl Scout lifetime membership is a one-time purchase and costs \$400. Alums under 30 or volunteers with ten or more years of service can purchase a lifetime membership for \$200. Your lifetime membership donation is tax-deductible as allowed by law. [Learn more about the great benefits enjoyed by lifetime members and sign up today.](#)



### ***Alum Spotlight:*** **Girl Scout Alum Dr. Marissa Rice, Postdoctoral Researcher**

Marissa grew up in Virginia Beach and spent most her girl years in Girl Scouting, earning the Girl Scout Gold Award for an environmental project she created. She also served in many leadership capacities here at GSCCC as a girl member, including representing GSCCC as a delegate to one of the National Conventions! As an alum, she

stayed connected by helping at Cracks, Crevices and Crawlways—a program event to inspire girls to try caving.

A proud Girl Scout alum (with a great sense of humor), Marissa completed her PhD in Behavioral and Evolutionary Neuroscience at Cornell University in 2020. She was classically trained as an ecologist while receiving her Bachelors of Science at Virginia Tech, which involved studying animal behavior in the wild. She then transitioned to study behavioral neuroscience incorporating the brain's hormones and neuromodulators to understand decision making. Now as a postdoc she brings that combined skillset into the study of human behavior in psychology and human development. Her research uses an integrative approach that encompasses behavioral ecology, neuroscience, cognition, and environmental psychology. She is interested in how physical space use and social affordances influence individual behavior and decision making. Her strength is in bringing concepts and frameworks from biology into the forefront of how we discuss, conceptualize, and solve problems regarding human behavior and motivation. She is also excited to translate her findings with animal research (voles) into meaningful human applications.

Outside of the lab you can find Marissa doing stand-up comedy, playing online co-op video games with friends, Olympic weightlifting, or watching true crime documentaries.

## Save the Date for our Virtual Auction

Join us online at [gscoc.org](https://gscoc.org) the week of **April 30 - May 6** for our annual Virtual Silent Auction benefitting Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast. Once again, our theme is “Camp is Calling” to benefit our great outdoor program; **in particular this year we are raising funds for the Enmeier Center at Camp Skimino**. Be ready to have fun, bid on fantastic items and support a great cause! More than 50 items will be available, including travel offers, golf packages, designer fashion items, gift cards and more. Your participation makes a real difference. Because when girls are given opportunities to grow and develop their potential, they change the world!



## **Pave the way for future Girl Scouts by purchasing an engraved brick.**

Your personalized brick will be placed in the courtyard of the Girl Scouts of Colonial Coast headquarters and regional program center, A Place for Girls, to commemorate your Girl Scout journey or offer a tribute to someone special!

It is a memory that will last forever and will literally be “etched in stone.” Each year, a celebration is held to unveil the bricks purchased during that membership year.

**[LEARN MORE](#)**



## **Travel with Fellow Girl Scout Alums and Supporters**

Looking for new ways to stay in touch with your Girl Scout sisters? Girl Scouts has partnered with [Club Adventures](#), a AAA-owned adventure tour operator, to design small-group vacation packages for alums and supporters. We've baked the Girl Scout experiences right in, from friendship circles to s'mores. And, with a local woman leader at the helm, you'll gain perspective on the destination's traditions.

(Is the trip you want sold out? Check out their Private Group Options and set up an exclusive adventure with just your crew! All it takes is six travelers to lock in flexible departure dates and plan an incredible adventure!)

Alum are also welcome to take a road trip or attend a Girl Scout Getaway; learn more at [girlscouts.org/travel](https://girlscouts.org/travel).

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## Spring Specials in the Shop

Everything is coming up cookies in the shop this spring, but we've also got plenty of other seasonal items perfect for celebrating, gift-giving, and treating yourself! Come in to see the full selection or visit us online.

**LET'S SHOP**

## Are You Networked?

Make sure you are signed up with the [Girl Scout Network](#), so you'll receive even more news, discounts, and special invitations from GSUSA.