



Alum News

*Quarterly Newsletter for
GSCCC Alums*

Winter 2024

The holiday season is here, and we are so thankful for the strong bonds of our Girl Scout alum! In this edition of your newsletter you'll find a very special alum reunion story, summer camp employment information, details on upcoming events, and so much more.

As always, you can find even more feature stories, resources and other information at gscucc.org/alum.



Camp Young Reunion

There's a saying that goes, "True friends are never apart, maybe in distance but never by heart." And so it is with Girl Scout alum who attended the

Camp Young reunion held on October 29. A few of the guests, now in their eighties, traveled from out of state to attend this special gathering. They joined other alum to reconnect with each other and honor a camp that was an important part of their history, and the history of Norfolk, Virginia.

When guests entered the social hall at Grace Episcopal Church, where many of them attended Girl Scout troop meetings in their youth, they smiled and laughed, hugged and cried as they greeted one another and the reminiscing began. Had it really been more than 60 years since they had braided pigtails, worn camp shorts, and spent two weeks away from home in the woods of Camp Young? For this one afternoon, time faded away and they were Girl Scouts again.

Read the full story, see photos from the event and watch a video of alum interviews at gsccc.org/blog.

Upcoming Events

JGL Society Pearls of Wisdom Social, January 12

In 1914, Girl Scouts' founder sold her rare pearls to support the growing organization. Today, members of the Juliette Gordon Low Society continue her tradition by supporting the future of Girl Scouting. The Society honors those who include Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast in their legacy plans, ensuring future generations of girls have opportunities to thrive.

Join us on Saturday, January 12 at A Place for Girls from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. for delicious food, delightful drinks, and great company as we honor those who have made a lasting impact on the future of Girl Scouts. Please RSVP by January 8 to philanthropy@gsccc.org. We look forward to celebrating with you! P.S. You don't have to be a JGLS member to participate!

Run with the Cookies! [Last call to sign up for the Cookie Classic Run](#), Saturday, January 18, 2025, to be held at Chesapeake's Dismal Swamp Canal Trail. One mile, 5k, 10k and virtual options are available.

Still Green. Still Great! Cocktails for a Cause, March 5, 2025

Adults 21 and over are invited to come celebrate the Girl Scout Birthday in style! Raise your glasses and toast to the incredible achievements of Girl

Scouts everywhere. Join us on Wednesday, March 5 at Town Point Club in Norfolk for this fun evening. *(Registration opens soon!)*

Girl Scout Famous Formers, May 1, 2025

Join us at the d'Art Center in Norfolk from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. to celebrate Girl Scouting and its legacy of leadership. Sponsors, guests, and honorees will share the excitement of dreamers and doers who come from the Girl Scout ranks and have excelled in their fields as female leaders, trendsetters, and visionaries. *(Registration opens soon!)* Do you know someone who has made a difference in your personal or professional life? Was she a Girl Scout? To be eligible, nominees must currently reside in southeastern Virginia or northeastern North Carolina and be a female entrepreneur or business leader who personifies the principles of the Girl Scout Promise and Law. **Nominate yourself or someone else by January 20**; find the nomination form and more information at gsgccc.org/famous.

A Week in Greece: Athens, Mykonos & Santorini, October 6 – 14, 2026

Join GSGCCC's "Travel Queen" Eileen Livick for this amazing adventure, just for adults. Walk through ancient history and open-air museums in the capital, Athens. Revel in the serenity and diversity of the Greek Islands on the isles of Mykonos and Santorini—daydreams come to life in a hundred shades of blue. Watch the setting sun from hilltops and black sand beaches. [See the full itinerary and book your spot today!](#)

“Make the World a Better Place” Podcast: Season 2

Have you subscribed to our [podcast](#)? Season 1 wrapped up with Isabella Orosco, a performer, playwright, podcaster and Gold Award Girl Scout, and Season 2 has started off just as strong with doctoral candidate Nikki Turpin and our own GSGCCC board member Amanda Howie. We invite you to spend

time with these women and hear their amazing stories; you can listen on Spotify or YouTube.

SPOTIFY

YOUTUBE

Alum Spotlight: Cathie Bales



Cathie joined Girl Scouts as a Brownie in the 1960s in Portsmouth, Virginia, staying in the program through high school. She had gone on many adventures as a Girl Scout, including a Wider Opportunity to National Center West in Wyoming (Wider Opportunities are now known as Destinations). Her mother, Melanie Ustick, continues to be remembered by many area Girl Scout alum as the “Caving Lady.” She had been one of the local founders of the caving program for Girl Scouts. Cathie is excited about going through the Girl Scout experience again with her granddaughter, Bridget.

“Mom would be so happy that Bridget is a Girl Scout,” she said. “We are looking forward to this year, especially the Cracks, Crevices and Crawlways program at Camp Skimino. Bridget will be introduced to her great-grandmother’s love of spelunking!”

[Read the full article at gsgcc.org/blog.](https://gsgcc.org/blog)

The holidays are coming, which means tax time is coming– let’s prepare!

Prepare for the end of 2024 with a quick look at your tax status. [A donation to Girl Scouts](#) can help lower the taxes you pay.

As you probably know, there are tax benefits associated with charitable giving. This starts with the ability to claim charitable deductions for your donations. According to the IRS, "... Itemized deductions, subject to certain dollar limitations, include amounts you paid, during the taxable year, for state and local income or sales taxes, real property taxes, personal property taxes, mortgage interest, disaster losses, gifts to charities, and part of the amount you paid for medical and dental expenses."

Most charitable donations GSCCC receives are cash-based, yet donations of stocks or securities (appreciated non-cash assets) can unlock additional savings for you. Transfer instructions can be found at gscgcc.org/donate.

Let us share your good news!

We know Girl Scouts make the world a better place well into adulthood, and your stories can inspire us all to keep going. **Send your professional honors, awards, recognitions, promotions, news and other announcements to marcomm@gscgcc.org**. We will include them in a future edition of this newsletter!

Girls Need Camp. Camp Needs YOU!

2025 Summer Camp Employment Now Hiring

You love the outdoors. You love hiking, boating and campfires. Plus, your friends say you're great with kids. Does this describe you? If so, the perfect job is waiting for you at Girl Scout camp! We offer career skills to build up your resume, leadership experience, training/certifications, and a chance to work with a diverse team including international staff.

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- Housing, meals, amenities and entertainment provided during overnight camp. Housing optional for staff who wish to remain onsite during day camp.
- All training and certifications provided. Some training will be prior to camp orientation.
- Need an internship? Find out how to earn credit while having the best summer of your life.

To learn more and apply online, visit gsccc.org/campjobs.

Know a Girl Scout who would love to go to camp?

Our [2025 Camp Guide](#) is now online! Registration opens February 13. (Consider giving the gift of camp to a Girl Scout in your life this holiday season. Gift certificates are available now! Send an email to customercare@gsccc.org today.)