



# The Colonial Coaster

*Monthly Newsletter for Girl Scout Members, Volunteers, and Families*

## December 2025

We're preparing for the upcoming winter holidays, but we're even more excited about the upcoming Girl Scout Cookie season! As a reminder, *The Colonial Coaster* will hit your inbox on the first Thursday of each month, and be archived at [gscgcc.org/publications](https://gscgcc.org/publications).

(Note: GSCCC office and shop will be closed December 24 – January 2 for the holidays.)

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## Activities and Announcements

### Featured Activity: Be Internet Awesome

This patch program from Google and Girl Scouts guides youth in using technology more intentionally, on their own and together as a family. Whatever your age— whether you're preparing to enter the online world in a few years, or you're already an experienced pro with your own platform—there are ways to [boost your savvy and make your digital world a better place](#). (Patch is *FREE* for a limited time with code *GOOGLE* at checkout in the GSUSA shop!)



As a warm-up, you can explore your digital footprint with this [video](#) from the GSUSA Activity Zone.



## 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Program Planning and You

**Cookie season starts on January 9!** We've got our "to do" list going and that includes securing Cookie Cupboards and volunteers to service them. What is a Cookie Cupboard? It is an area storage location where troops can pick up cookie inventory; think of them as mini-warehouses managed by volunteers! Do you have a place of business, home or church that could offer space for a Cookie Cupboard? Can you volunteer for this short-term role?

The Girl Scout Cookie Program teaches girls valuable life skills like goal setting, decision making, money management, and people skills, and volunteers like you are an integral part of that experience. Have questions? Email [customercare@gsccc.org](mailto:customercare@gsccc.org) and a member of our Product Program Team will connect with you.

## STEAM-H Scholarship Essay Contest

The Virginia Council on Women hosts this contest each year to award scholarships to high school senior girls pursuing STEAM-H (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics, and healthcare) majors and careers. Submit your entry at [women.virginia.gov](https://women.virginia.gov) before January 30, 2026.



## The 2026 Camp Guide is LIVE!

Early-bird registration opens **Feb. 12** at [gscgcc.org/camp](https://gscgcc.org/camp). Make plans to join us at a free open house event in the spring!

- [Camp Skimino](#), Williamsburg – March 7
- [Camp Apasus](#), Norfolk – March 21
- [Camp Outback](#), Chesapeake – March 28

NEW: [Summer Camp Gift Certificates](#) — just in time for the holidays!

## Now Hiring for 2026 Summer Camp

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 the chance to work with a diverse team including international staff. View available positions and apply online at [gscgcc.org/careers](https://gscgcc.org/careers).

## Women in Business

GSCCC wants to congratulate all the women leaders being recognized with the 2025 Women in Business Award from Inside Business! This award aims to encourage women to trust their abilities, strengthen their self-confidence and become thought leaders and trailblazers in our region. In addition to an in-person award celebration, there will be a special themed-edition of Inside Business featuring the honorees. A special shoutout to Girl Scouts being honored:

- GSUSA National Board member and past GSCCC Board Chair Carolyn Pittman
- GSCCC Board Member and Girl Scout Alum Latonya English
- GSCCC Philanthropy Committee Chair and Gold Award Girl Scout Alum Sarah Linden-Brooks
- Girl Scout Volunteer Nicole Newsome

Read more and get tickets to the December 10 awards gala at [virginiamedia.com](https://virginiamedia.com).

## Spread Kindness Patch Program Reminder

Wrap up your [activities](#) and get your completed [survey](#) in no later than January 30 to ensure you receive your patch! (You will be notified when they arrive, sometime in late February.) We have loved seeing Girl Scouts participate; you truly make the world a better place.

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## Featured Events



### **Hurrah for the Holidays and The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!**

Kick off the holidays in style with the Hurrah Players! Enjoy your choice of two shows this month as dancers dance, singers sing and Santa lights up the stage. Discount available for groups of 10 or more! Call (757) 627-5177 and ask for Lisa. Get your tickets now!

### **PB&J: Jingle Bell Jam – 12/14**

With a visit from Santa Claus, the beloved Jingle Bell Jam rings in the magic of the season with the holiday tunes you know and love! Celebrate the holidays with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. Lobby activities begin at 2:00 p.m. Discount available for Girl Scouts! Use promo code PBJPARTNER2526 for \$2 Off Adult/Child Tickets.



### **Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future – 12/10**

**Gold Award alumnae** are invited to this free virtual event to hear from Noorain Khan, a sister Gold Award Girl Scout and National Board Chair, GSUSA's CEO, Bonnie Barczykowski, and a Highest Award earner who will moderate a thoughtful discussion on how Girl Scout alums continue to shape what's next for the Movement.

Join the **Lady Eagle Engineers and Scientists from Landstown High School** for these STEM events!

- **STEM Club: Mechanical Engineering – 1/10**

Explore the “E” in STEM for some hands-on fun as we build and experiment with machines.

Levels: All

*Register by 12/14*

- **Think Like a Programmer – 1/17**

Complete fun, computational thinking activities with hands-on materials. We will also get to experiment with programming a simple robot!

Levels: All

*Register by 12/31*

### **Cookie Classic Run – 1/17**

We welcome runners of all abilities to join us for this family-friendly event. Participants will receive T-shirts, goodie bags and more! 5K and 10K finishers will receive a medal and a special gift.

Levels: All/Family-friendly

### **Cracks, Crevices & Crawlways – 1/25**

Join the Colonial Coast Girl Scout Cavers at Camp Skimino for a day of climbing, crawling, and scooting through our artificial caves!

Levels: B/J/C/S/A

*Register by 1/15*

### **But wait, there's more!**

Browse *everything* at [gscgcc.org/events](https://gscgcc.org/events) or download the entire calendar of events through September 2026: [Program Events Calendar](#) (PDF) — and don't forget to check the weekly *GSCCC GO!* delivered to families and volunteers every Tuesday.

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## **Blog and Podcast Spotlights**

**Prepare to be inspired!** You can find these stories and more at [gscgcc.org/blog](https://gscgcc.org/blog).

### **Bronze Award Spotlight: Kindergarten Safety Basics**

Girl Scout Junior Alice of Troop 57 from Currituck helped new kindergarteners learn to stay safe at school.

### **Community Troop Spotlight: Churchland Elementary**

Girl Scouts in Portsmouth had fun learning robotics and other STEM subjects to earn badges.

### **Volunteer Spotlight: Carolyn Pittman**

Our Council's past Board Chair will be serving on the GSUSA National Board. Carolyn has a long history with Girl Scouting, and was recently recognized with the Girl Scout Thanks Badge.

**Are you subscribed to our podcast?** Listen on [YouTube](#) or [Spotify](#)

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## Volunteer Hub

### Youth Mental Health First Aid – 1/17

Topics covered include anxiety, depression, substance use, disruptive behavior disorders, and eating disorders.

*Register by 1/2*

### Basic Troop Camping – 2/7 Join us for this all-day training in outdoor skills at Camp Darden.

*Register by 1/15*

Climbing Wall Facilitator Training – 2/8 Learn how to set up and take down the climbing wall at Camp Darden, as well as some knot-tying and belaying skills.

*Register by 1/29*

Axes/Archery Facilitator Training – 2/8 Join us for this combination training at Camp Darden. By taking this course you will be certified as a facilitator in both areas.

*Register by 1/29*

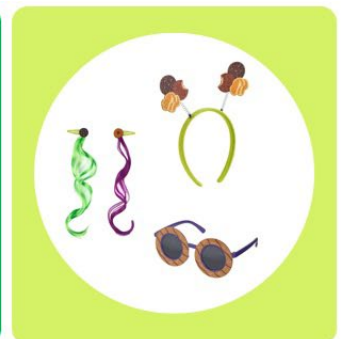
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## Shop Specials

**Discount Wednesdays!** Spin the lucky wheel at checkout and receive a 5%, 10% or 15% discount off the entire purchase, or score a special surprise item! *May not be combined with any other offer.*

**New Cookie Gear is Here!** Get ready to kick off Girl Scout Cookie Season in style with fun new bling and flair!





**Supermix Studio:** Create and customize your own gear with Girl Scout designs and more! Choose from girls' and boys' youth and adult sizes, hoodies, joggers, zip ups, backpacks and more. Use the interactive kiosk at A Place for Girls or shop from home at [supermixstudio.com/gscgc](https://supermixstudio.com/gscgc) — either way, all items ship direct to you. Order now for holiday delivery!

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## Special Convention Discount!

Our vision for 2026? An epic gathering of Girl Scouts making history together! Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience including interactive skill-building workshops, incredible live performances, and inspiring speakers like Space Gal Emily Calandrelli and Girl Scout book authors Sayantani DasGupta and Yamile Saied Méndez.

**Save 15% on All Access 3-Day tickets** purchased by 11:59 p.m. on January 4, 2026 — groups of four can save up to \$300!

## Be the Reason

If you've ever encouraged a shy Girl Scout selling cookies or watched a young leader speak with confidence—you've seen the power of Girl Scouts in action.

**Now imagine being part of the reason she got there.**

As 2025 comes to a close, we invite you to make your gift to Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast. Your support opens doors for girls to explore STEM, lead service projects, earn badges, and build the courage, confidence, and character they'll carry for life.

Your donation—*no matter the size*—helps us reach more girls, expand programs, and launch initiatives like our new **Gold Award Scholarship Endowment**.

One of the most impactful ways to give is through **Daisy's Circle**, our monthly giving program starting at just \$5. It's simple, meaningful, and ensures girls have consistent access to life-changing experiences all year long.

**Will you join us before December 31 with a tax-deductible gift?** Together, we can help every girl grow strong, kind, and ready to change the world.

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## Share Your Story

Girl Scouts do amazing things every single day and we want to hear about it. Did you earn an award or participate in a special project? Maybe you earned a new badge or took a fun trip — whatever your news is, [we can't wait to hear from you!](#)