



The Colonial Coaster

Monthly Newsletter for Girl Scout Members, Volunteers, and Families

May 2026

As we prepare for bridging ceremonies, and camping, and all the fun of summer, take a moment to recognize and celebrate all that you have accomplished since the start of our Girl Scout membership year back in September. Even if your troop year is wrapping up this month, you still have a lot to look forward to, so read on for upcoming events and fun activities!

As a reminder, *The Colonial Coaster* will hit your inbox on the first Thursday of each month, and be archived at gscgc.org/publications.

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Activities and Announcements

Featured Activity: Mental Wellness

Take care of YOU — you got this! May is National Mental Health Month, and Girl Scouts offers many ways to explore mental wellness and boost your child's confidence,

including [special patch programs](#) and fun activities like this video on the Science of Happiness.



Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline invites girls K-12 — and adults! — to come together in Roanoke on **August 30** to learn more about mental health from experts in the field while being in a fun, supportive, and uplifting environment. Girls will work on their Mental Wellness patches and all attendees will receive a swag bag with a T-shirt and other goodies, plus snacks, therapy dogs, yoga, and more! Event registration opens May 15 — visit gsvsc.org to learn more.



Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Month

This fun patch is designed for Girl Scouts of all levels to celebrate the cultural richness of all people in the U.S. whose ancestors came from the Pacific Islands or the Asian diaspora, and to acknowledge the many contributions of the AANHPI community to our nation.

[Fun Patch Activities](#) (PDF)

[Actividades en Español](#) (PDF)

Town Hall Meetings

As GSCCC prepares for the [58th National Council Session](#), we invite you to register for an upcoming Town Hall Meeting where you'll learn more about the topics and proposals that will be brought forward at the national level. Your perspectives and insights are an important part of this process and help ensure our national delegates are informed by the voices of our broader community. Whether you choose to participate in a virtual session, in person, or both, we greatly appreciate your time and thoughtful engagement!

[58th NCS Pre-read](#) (PDF)

- [May 31, NCS Girl Only Town Hall](#), (14 and up) 2:00-3:00 p.m., Virtual
- [June 18, NCS Town Hall](#), 6:30 p.m., APFG
- [June 23, NCS Town Hall](#), 7:00 p.m., Virtual



The Best Way to Say Thanks: Adult Awards Nominations are Open Until May 31

Girl Scout Adult Awards recognize our volunteers and other adult members who go above and beyond to make a real difference, both for the girls we serve and for each other. [Anyone can submit a nomination](#), for themselves or someone else!

Volunteer Appreciation Month is wrapped up for 2026, and we hope you enjoyed the social media posts and blog stories we shared throughout April...but we have one more “thank

you” left to say! **A huge shoutout to GSCCC volunteer Mara Bates** for years of dedication and leadership! For several years, Mara has been the driving force behind our Girl Scout presence at the NATO Festival Parade of Nations. On Saturday, April 18, Mara helped coordinate Troops 421 and 916 from SU 350 to host the Luxembourg float and festival tent. Members of Troop 421 rode on the USA float dedicated to the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

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Featured Events

Last call for [Summer Camp!](#) Don't miss out on the skill-building, friend-making, fun-having sessions at our camps with all your Girl Scout sisters. *Registration closes June 1.*



Elephant & Piggie's We Are in a Play Workshop - 5/30

Join The Hurrah Players for an exciting theater workshop where you'll learn stage skills from professional performers, followed by a special performance of Elephant & Piggie's: We Are In A Play! Get ready for a musical experience, ripped from the pages of Mo Willems' best-selling children's books, as Gerald and Piggie take to the stage in a rollicking adventure.

Troops and families are also welcome to attend other performances of the play; find info and get tickets at hurrahplayers.com.



Girl Scout Awards Celebration – 6/6

Join us for GSCCC's annual youth awards event, recognizing recipients of the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards, Summit Awards, Buck Harris Award, and honoring scholarship recipients, graduates bridging to adult, and top entrepreneurs from our Fall Product and Cookie Programs. **This free event is open to all, so bring your family and friends!**

Vintage Badge Series: My Country – 6/13

Celebrate America250 and Virginia250 with us at historic Jamestown! Groups and families are welcome to bring a packed lunch to enjoy in the Jamestown Settlement classrooms following the program.

Girl Scouts Unite: 2026 National Convention

Hear from inspiring speakers like Space Gal Emily Calandrelli, meet Girl Scout book authors Sayantani DasGupta and Yamile Saied Méndez, and participate in interactive workshops, all while making memories and having a blast. Don't miss the chance to feel a part of something bigger than yourself!

But wait, there's more!

Browse *everything* at gsc.org/events or [download the entire calendar of events through November 2026](#) (PDF) — and don't forget to check the weekly *GSCCC GO!* email delivered to families and volunteers every Tuesday.

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Blog and Podcast Spotlights

Find these inspiring stories and many more at gsc.org/blog.

Bronze Award: Little Library Makeover

Military-affiliated Troop 1993 transformed Little Free Libraries located on Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story.

Celebrating Confidence

Girl Scouts earned the new Body Appreciation badges with the William & Mary Kappa Deltas!

Gold Award: A Circle Unbroken

Girl Scout Lana's outdoor and equine therapy space helps survivors of trauma.

The GSCCC Podcast: Let's "Make the World a Better Place"

New episodes will be posted at gscce.org/podcast as well as on [Spotify](#) and our [YouTube](#) channel, so be sure to subscribe!

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Volunteer Hub

Wilderness First Aid – 5/30-31

Learn advanced first aid skills to be used in emergencies when help from professional first responders may be far away.

Register by 5/21

Lifeguard Training – 6/2

Learn how to save a life this summer. Open to ages 17+.

Register by 5/7

Canoe Facilitator Training – 7/26

Get ready to take your troop or group out on the water!

Register by 7/16

Basic Troop Camping – 8/22

An all-day training in outdoor skills at Camp Darden, with an optional overnight.

Register by 7/30

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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.*

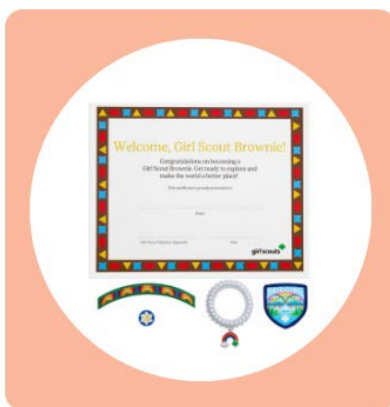
Special Summer Hours – Shop will be CLOSED on the following dates:

- May 25 (Memorial Day)
- June 23 and 30
- July 3-4 (Independence Day), 7, 14, and 21
- August 20-21

Share your Girl Scout pride with fun, new Council-branded items and other swag, perfect for Mother's Day, graduations, bridging ceremonies, camping, and more!

Inventory Clearance Sale – For three days only, you get a great price on inventory we don't want to have to count!

- June 4: 30% off clearance items
- June 5: 40% off clearance items
- June 6: 50% off clearance items



Congrats, Grads! Whether your Girl Scout is graduating from kindergarten or high school, let us help you celebrate! Graduation cord, \$31. Stole, \$40. Tassel, \$15.

Bridging Kits: Everything you need for each level, a kit includes certificate, bridging arch, bridging fun patch, membership star with disc, and hair tie/bracelet. \$9 each.

Camp, Explore, Repeat: Our fun camper kits include a cinch sack stuffed with a mister fan, a pen/flashlight, and a themed water bottle! \$20.

Supermix Studio: Create and customize your own gear with Girl Scout designs and more! Use the interactive kiosk at A Place for Girls or shop from home at supermixstudio.com/gscgc — either way, all items ship direct to you.

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Early Renewal, which **ends on May 31**, ensures you and your troop are ready to go well before the next membership year starts in October. Plus, you can score some very special incentives — like this patch!

RENEW TODAY

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!](#)