

# Volunteer News

*Training • Events • Activities • Tips*



## Girl Scout Volunteer News & Updates for December 2024

The calendar year is coming to a close, but the Girl Scout year has only really just started! You can still find plenty of activities and events to get excited about this month as the holidays approach, and even more, well into the new year.

### December Special Observances:

- **Read a New Book Month**
  - **National Car Donation Month:** You can [donate your old vehicle](#) to support GSCCC.
  - **Learn a Foreign Language Month:** Did you know? [Many GSCCC resources are available in Spanish.](#)
  - **December 7:** Pearl Harbor Day of Remembrance
  - **December 17:** Wright Brothers Day – Try activities from the [“Discovering Flight” patch program](#) to celebrate!
  - **December 21:** Winter Solstice / Yule
  - **December 25:** Christmas Day
  - **December 25 – January 2:** Hanukkah
  - **December 26 to January 1:** Kwanzaa
  - **December 31:** New Year’s Eve
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# Activities and Events

## Cookie Rally Ideas

Cookie Season begins on January 11, and our baker has gathered dozens of ideas and activities to help you “Embrace Possibility” and organize your own Cookie Rally! Check out the videos and downloads available at [littlebrowniebakers.com/Rallies](http://littlebrowniebakers.com/Rallies).

## Time to build a snowman!

Girl Scouts of all ages and abilities can enjoy some sweet fun with this cute craft. Younger Girl Scouts can giggle over making a sticky mess, while older girls might relish the challenge of making more advanced designs. (Can you make a snow-Girl Scout, maybe?) However you approach this activity, simply start with marshmallows and your imagination! You could use chocolate chips, pretzels, peppermints, gummy candies, licorice, nuts, raisins — the possibilities are truly endless.



To stack the marshmallows together, use sticky edibles like cake frosting or peanut butter or more stable structural pieces like pretzel sticks or toothpicks (just be careful biting into it later). Explore the science of food and see what kinds of materials work best together, and talk about why.

Once done with your creation, you could let your snowman soak in a warm cup of cocoa, stand it up on top of a cake, or take it apart and start over!

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### **Cracks, Crevices and Crawlways – January 11 or 12**

Join the Colonial Coast Girl Scout Cavers at Camp Skimino for a day of climbing, crawling, and scooting through our artificial caves. Enjoy teambuilding exercises as well as games and songs to introduce Girl Scouts to the high adventure sport of caving and the importance of protecting the delicate ecosystems in caves. Adults are encouraged to participate, too!

Location: Camp Skimino, Williamsburg

Levels: J/C/S/A

*Registration Deadline: December 19*

### **Solar Pioneers – January 11**

Experiment with the power of the sun! You'll learn how solar energy works and all about the different ways we can use it: to create electricity for buildings, to cook, and more. Then, become a solar pioneer and create your own solar-powered device! Plus, meet Daisy, the solar SmartFlower who helps to power our regional headquarters.

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

Levels: D/B/J/C

*Registration Deadline: January 2*

### **Learn the Basics of an Aerialist – January 19**

Have you ever thought about joining the circus? Well, we have all the fun and amazement of the circus right here! Try out new poses and movements with the hoop and slings in this introductory session. Together we'll get in the air, be creative and get some exercise.

Location: Railroad Aerial Arts, Norfolk

Levels: C/S/A

*Registration Deadline: December 27*

**Register now for the 11th Annual Cookie Classic Run!** We're heading back to the Dismal Swamp Trail on Saturday, January 18, 2025. *Don't wait, prices will increase after December 21...*

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# Upcoming Adult Trainings

## **American Red Cross Adult & Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED – January 11**

This blended learning course equips you to recognize and care for a variety of first aid, breathing and cardiac emergencies for people of all ages. An online link will be sent to the participants prior to the course. The online portion (accessed via mobile, desktop or tablet) must be completed prior to attending the instructor-led skills session. Upon successful completion of the online course and in-person skills session a valid 2-year digital certificate for Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED is issued.

Location: Camp Skimino, Williamsburg

Levels: C/S/A, Adults

*Registration deadline: December 20*

## **Youth Mental Health First Aid – January 18**

Designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent (ages 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addiction challenge or is in crisis, this course introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations.

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

Level: Adults

*Registration deadline: January 2*

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# Our Stories: In the Spotlight

*from [gsccl.org/blog](https://gsccl.org/blog)*

**Girl Scout Gains Leadership and Earns Faith Awards**—Girl Scout Martha-Ann’s faith award led to accepting a GSCCC Board position. [Read the full article](#)

**Campapalooza**—Girl Scout troops enjoyed a free weekend of fellowship and fun at Camp Darden. [Read the full article](#)

**Podcast: Meet Amanda Howie**—Season 2, Episode 2 of GSCCC’s “Make the World a Better Place” podcast features a conversation with Amanda Howie, the Administrator of the Virginia Association of Commonwealth’s Attorneys, who currently serves on the GSCCC Board of Directors. [Listen on YouTube or Spotify](#)

Browse these and other inspiring stories featuring local Girl Scouts, volunteers, alum, and more at [gsccl.org/blog](https://gsccl.org/blog).

## Seeking Famous Formers Nominations

Do you know someone who has made a difference in your personal or professional life? Was she a Girl Scout? (Is it you?) **Nominate yourself or someone else by January 20**; an announcement of the 2025 honorees will be released in early February. Save the date to join us for the awards event on May 1, 2025!

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## Resources to Share with Families

Get your Girl Scouts' families involved in the experience! We've gathered the most frequently requested information and resources on our [For Parents and Caregivers](#) page. Share the link — and let us know if you find it useful, too!

If you need a resource to help you talk to new families who are still undecided, you can use this page to answer the question, "[What Can a Girl Scout Do?](#)" (Hint: Anything, and everything!)

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## GSCCC Shop Specials

### December 4, 11, and 18: Discount Wednesdays!

Pick a lucky candy cane at checkout and receive a 10% or 15% discount off the entire purchase. *May not be combined with any other offer.*

### Special Shop Hours:

- The shop will be closing at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, December 13.
- GSCCC offices and shop will be closed December 24 – January 1 in observance of the holidays.

**Wooden Keepsakes:** These limited-edition, handmade treasures are the perfect gift for the troop leader or volunteer in your life. Trefoil Suncatcher: \$15; Bee Suncatcher: \$10; Trefoil Keychain: \$5

**Fun Patch Ornaments:** These sew-on patches can be hung anywhere that needs a little Girl Scout-style holiday cheer! Three fun designs to choose from, \$6 each.

**Cookie Cart:** Are you ready for all the cookies? This cart is designed to safely and easily carry stacks of Girl Scout cookie boxes, great for delivery, secure restocking, or transporting to your booth. SALE: \$35 each.

**Classic Girl Scouts Pajama Set:** Packaged perfectly to gift! A cozy navy top with green and blue plaid “12,” to honor our 1912 founding, and “Girl Scouts” graphic in white, is paired with matching elastic waistband flannel bottoms with white “Girl Scouts” graphic on the leg. Youth: \$32; Adult: \$38.

We have the perfect gift or stocking-stuffer for every Girl Scout, volunteer, and special someone on your list — [let's go shopping!](#)

[SHOP](#)

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**All in 4 Girl Scouts! Every \$4 makes a difference:**

- For \$4, a Girl Scout proudly receives a new badge.
- For \$4/month, 4 Girl Scouts can engage in a STEM workshop.
- For \$4/week, a Girl Scout can attend camp.
- For \$4/day, more than 20 new troops can receive needed startup funds.



**Giving Tuesday is TODAY, December 3.** The end of the calendar year is a great time to make a financial donation. The sky's the limit on what Girl Scouts can do when they have enough support. [Please consider making your year-end contribution to support Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast.](#) Thank you for believing in the future!