

# Volunteer News

*Training • Events • Activities • Tips*

girl scouts  
of the colonial coast



## Girl Scout Volunteer News & Updates for November 2023

As we settle into the routines of the autumn season, we begin to turn our focus inward, to themes of gratitude, gathering, and graciousness. That said, the weather is still welcoming enough to have some fun in the great outdoors, and many troops are gearing up for fall encampments and other adventures. What are your plans? Read on for new badges, fun patch programs and activities — and save the date for next month's Cookie Kickoff!

### November Special Observances:

- **National Veterans and Military Families Month:** Find inspiring stories, resources, and more on GSCCC's [Supporting Military Families](#) page.
- **National Gratitude Month**
- **National Entrepreneurship Month**
- **Native American Heritage Month:** Girls and leaders have plenty of activities to choose from to [earn this fun patch!](#)
- **November 7:** Election Day
- **November 8:** National STEM Day – Check out the new [STEM Playbook](#) or try some of these [STEM badges and activities!](#)
- **November 10:** U.S. Marine Corps Birthday – Celebrate these brave men and women by [earning a patch today!](#)
- **November 11:** Veterans Day
- **November 13:** World Kindness Day (Have your girls earned the new [Spread Kindness patch](#) yet?)
- **November 13-17:** Anti-Bullying Week

- **November 23:** Thanksgiving Day (*GSCCC office and shops will be closed November 22-24.*)



### **Knot Tying Game: Test of Strength**

Equipment: One rope for each girl, about three feet long.

Formation: All girls in a circle; to make it a competition, divide into teams of two or more circles.

Procedure: Players sit in a circle holding their ropes. Each girl ties one end of her rope with a square knot to the rope of the girl on her left. When all knots are tied, they lift the rope over their heads and down to the middle of their backs. At a signal from you, they lean back hard against the rope circle. If any of the square knots aren't tied correctly, they'll fall over backwards! Try variations on this game by having girls make the knots behind their back instead of in front, or tie them with their eyes shut.

Competition Finish: The team with the longest tail of strings with correctly tied knots wins. (Need more practice? Sign up for [Knot Tying](#) at A Place for Girls on December 2!)

### **Have Fun with New Badges**

“Girl Scouting and homeschooling is a perfect fit,” says Girl Scout volunteer Southern Van Auken who helps lead Troop 94, a troop of homeschoolers in Virginia Beach. “We incorporate a lot of Girl Scout badges and awards into our curriculum. From STEM and environment exploration to the arts, there is always a badge or event to make our studies just a bit more fun and hands on!”

This fall, the troop members got creative while earning the new Art and Design badge. They learned about abstract and representational art and practiced using several different mediums, then everyone got the chance to be a maker! Using famous artist Georgia O’Keeffe as their inspiration, girls created their own flower art pieces. Girl Scouts of Troop 94 also earned the new Craft and Tinker badge by hosting a troop bake-off! Girl Scouts learned about the science of baking and then tinkered with recipes by making ingredient substitutions. Girls decorated their baked goods and competed for prizes in Best Decoration, Best Taste, and Best Overall. Everyone was a winner at this delicious Girl Scout meeting!

Read all about the new Maker badges for Daisies, Brownies and Juniors: [Art and Design](#) – [Create and Innovate](#) – [Craft and Tinker](#)



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### **It’s Your World, Change It! – Saturday, December 2**

Girl Scout Journeys are multi-session experiences in which girls dig deeper into their interests and use the skills they gain along the way to make a difference in their community. While badges show the world you’ve learned a new skill, Journey awards say, “I found a way to make a difference.” Whether it’s planting a garden, painting a mural, or launching a letter-writing campaign, this Journey helps girls understand what it means to be a leader who makes a difference in the world through unique leadership and advocacy challenges.

Levels: All

Location: Virginia Wesleyan University

*(Registration deadline: November 17)*

### **Cookie Kickoff – Saturday, December 16**

Discover how to Own Your Magic at this year’s Cookie Kickoff celebration. Join us for a great day of fun and complete all of the steps needed to become a CEO — that’s a Cookie Entrepreneur Officer! Participants will earn their cookie pin and complete some Cookie Business badge activities including Meet My Customers, Cookie CEO, Business Plan, My Portfolio and Research & Development. Meet some of our top sellers and hear how they became CEOs.

Location: Children’s Museum of Virginia

Levels: All

*(Registration deadline: November 17)*

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**Calling all early birds: Registration is open for the 10th Annual Cookie Classic Run!** We’re heading back to the Dismal Swamp Trail on Saturday, January 13, 2024. *Don’t wait, prices will increase after November 14...*

Download a printable version of the entire calendar of events for the 2023-24 membership year: [Program Events Calendar](#) (PDF)



### **Girl Scout Leader Enrichment Day – Saturday, November 11**

Join us for this fun day of learning together with other volunteers! You may sign up for the entire day or pick the individual sessions that interest you.

1. New Leader Bootcamp (9:00 – 10:30 a.m.)
2. Girl-Led: The Leadership Experience (10:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)  
*(Lunch on your own, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.)*
3. Discover, Connect, Take Action! (1:30 – 3:30 p.m.)

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

*(Registration deadline: November 8)*

### **Effectively Facilitating Adult Learning – Sunday, November 12**

Learning is a lifelong process! The role of the adult educator in Girl Scouting is to facilitate training so that every learning event successfully meets the varying needs of each adult and results in changes in thinking, behavior, or values that benefit both the learner and the Girl Scout movement. This course focuses on how to deliver an adult learning session to a group of adult learners.

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

*(Registration deadline: November 6)*

### **American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED Training – Saturday, December 2**

This blended learning course equips you to recognize and care for a variety of first aid breathing and cardiac emergencies involving adults, children, and infants. A certificate for Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED is issued upon successful completion.

Time: Noon - 3:30 p.m.

Levels: C/S/A and Adults

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

*(Registration deadline: November 18)*

## **Got room for some cookies?**

Girls need your support to have a successful cookie season — help out by storing yummy inventory and keeping the cookies moving into the hands of our customers! **Volunteer “Cookie Cupboards”** are needed in the following areas: Acredale, Fairfield, Arrowhead or Town Center areas of Virginia Beach, and the areas of Indian River and South Norfolk in Chesapeake.



# Our Stories: In the Spotlight

**Meet Daisy, Our Solar SmartFlower**—This new feature at A Place for Girls was officially dedicated on Monday, October 2, 2023 at a special ceremony. [Read the full article](#)

**Volunteer Spotlight: Linda Linke**—From acting as troop leader to serving on the Highest Awards Committee, this First Class Girl Scout and Lifetime Member has real staying power! [Read the full article](#)

**Girl Scouts Explore Military Pride across Hampton Roads**—From touring Air Power Park in Hampton to enjoying a scavenger hunt at Virginia Beach Surf and Rescue Museum, Girl Scouts in Troop 94 had fun while learning about each branch of our military. [Read the full article](#)

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



## GSCCC Shop Specials

**November 1, 8, 15, and 29: Discount Wednesdays!**

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

## **Special Hours:**

- The shop will be open 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 11.
- The GSCCC office and shop will be closed November 22-24 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**Sherpa Fleece Blankets:** Ultra-soft meets warmth in this new blanket that is ideal for cooler days when you want to bundle up and get comfy. Available in Oatmeal (shown above), Navy Heather, Black, or Grey Heather, it measures 50" x 60". \$40 each.

**New Charms:** Get your branded bling on! Come see all the different Girl Scout designs including golden daisies, glittery trefoils, and even a cookie booth! \$6.00 each.

**Varsity Rainbow Sweatshirt:** In classic varsity style, this long sleeve charcoal gray pullover features multicolor “GIRL SCOUTS EST 1912” and a solid blue trefoil. Comes sizes XS to 5X, \$34 each.

More new items are arriving every day—[let's go shopping!](#)

## **Help out with Highest Awards**

Interested in mentoring an aspiring leader or being part of a team of girl champions? Consider joining the Highest Awards Committee, a group of dedicated volunteers who review and approve Girl Scout Silver and Gold Award Projects, which includes helping girls and cheering them on to do great things. Email the committee with your interest at [\*\*gshighestawards.gscgg@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:gshighestawards.gscgg@gmail.com).