

# Volunteer News

*Training • Events • Activities • Tips*



## Girl Scout Volunteer News & Updates for November 2024

The weather is cooling off but fun activities are heating up! Read on for great upcoming events, activities to try, inspiring stories, and more to make this fall memorable for every Girl Scout.

### November Special Observances:

- **National Gratitude Month**
- **National Entrepreneurship Month**
- **Native American Heritage Month:** Girl Scouts and leaders have plenty of activities to choose from to [earn this fun patch!](#)
- **Family Literacy Month**
- **National Veterans and Military Families Month:** Find inspiring stories, resources, and more on GSCCC's [Supporting Military Families](#) page.
- **November 5:** Election Day
- **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 (Check out this year's [Spread Kindness Patch Program!](#))
- **November 28:** Thanksgiving Day (*GSCCC office and shops will be closed November 28-29.*)



# Activities and Events

## **Affirmation Cards**

Children are like sponges and they soak up the messages they receive, both positive and negative. By providing them with positive affirmations, we can help them to develop a positive self-image, increase their self-worth, and instill in them the belief that they are capable and deserving of happiness, success, and love!

Affirmations are simple, positive phrases or statements that Girl Scouts can repeat to themselves regularly. These affirmations help to counteract negative self-talk and promote positive thoughts and feelings.

Start a meeting with an affirmation after saying the Girl Scout Promise and Law. You can add a brief game or activity as well focused on the affirmation (we've suggested some below). Soon, they'll look forward to including this healthy habit in their lives.

Use these phrases or come up with your own to make Affirmation Cards for your troop.

- I am loved and appreciated.
- I can do anything I set my mind to. (Activity Zone: [Train with Mental Imagery](#))
- I am a good friend.
- I am worthy of happiness. (Activity Zone: [Science of Happiness](#))
- I have many talents and abilities.
- I can learn anything I want to learn.
- I have the power to make a difference in the world. (Activity Zone: [What is a Take Action Activity?](#))
- I know it's okay to make mistakes.

- I am able to forgive and move on.
  - I am an important part of my community.
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### **Spread Kindness – November 23**

Let's spread kindness to our four-legged friends! Learn about adoptable animals, bake a simple pet treat, and make a toy from upcycled materials. All participants will earn this year's Spread Kindness patch!

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake, VA

Levels: All

*Registration deadline: November 13*

### **Donut Adventure Package (multiple dates)**

Join us for a fun-filled, donut-themed adventure at Duck Donuts! Whether you're looking for a fun, creative experience or a class specifically tailored to meet your troop's badge requirements, this event is perfect for Girl Scouts. Participants will customize and decorate their own donuts while engaging in fun, hands-on activities.

### **Advanced Knot Tying – December 7**

Practice your basic knots and then build on your skills. Knots can be used to tie tent flaps or secure camping gear, to connect a boat to a dock, and for lots of cool crafts and games. All materials will be provided including rope, knot-tying cards, and a fun patch!

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

Levels: J/C/S/A

*Registration Deadline: November 28*

### **Solar Pioneers – December 7**

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: C/S/A

*Registration Deadline: November 28*



# Upcoming Adult Trainings

## **NEW: 2025 Risk Management Course in gsLearn**

Safety is the number one priority in Girl Scouts. Complete this learning module and become familiar with Girl Scout safety guidelines. Risk Management is a required session for all volunteers.

## **Wilderness First Aid – December 7 and 8**

Designed for Girl Scout leaders, outdoor enthusiasts and anyone who works or spends time in remote environments, this course teaches advanced first aid skills to be used in emergencies when help from professional first responders may be far away. This course is required by Safety Activity Checkpoints for any camping trip that is 30 minutes or more from emergency medical services. NOTE: A current CPR/AED certification is a pre-requisite for this course.

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

Levels: Adults

*Registration deadline: November 21*

## **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



# Our Stories: In the Spotlight

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

**Alum Spotlight: Cathie Bales**—The daughter of the “Caving Lady” joins her own granddaughter in Girl Scouting. [Read the full article](#)

**Volunteer Spotlight: Gina Duffy**—Alum, volunteer, and outdoor facilitator says Girl Scout camp is her first love. [Read the full article](#)

**Podcast: Meet Nikki Turpin**—Season 2 of GSCCC’s “Make the World a Better Place” podcast has kicked off! The first episode features a conversation with doctoral candidate Nikki Turpin, who recently reconnected with Girl Scouts as a mom of two. [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).

## How is your new Girl Scout year going?

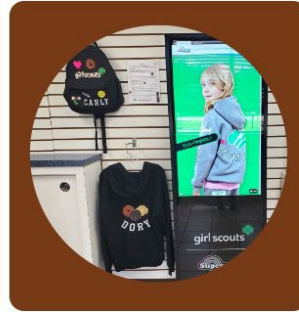
Everyone can use a little guidance, whether you’re a brand-new volunteer or a seasoned veteran. Be sure to bookmark the [Volunteer Essentials](#) page so you can come back to get information, answers and more throughout the year. (Oh, and have all you new Daisy troop leaders signed up for your complimentary [Girl Scout Experience Boxes](#) yet?)



## **Special 57th National Council Session**

Girl Scouts of the USA held a Special National Council Session on October 19. GSCCC National Delegates were among the nearly 900 who attended this virtual event. Based on national input led by our democratic governance process, Girl Scout membership fees will be raised starting in the 2026 Girl Scout Membership Year. You may read the full report and find FAQs at [girlscouts.org](https://www.girlscouts.org).

We thank our dedicated volunteers who were elected as national delegates and worked tirelessly to gather input from our members and acting as our Council's voice. A thank you also to Girl Scout Brownie Troop 648 for coming to A Place For Girls to lead the group in the Girl Scout Promise and Law as we prepared for the business of the day!



## GSCCC Shop Specials

### November 6, 13, 20 and 27: 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 Shop Hours:

- GSCCC offices and shop will be closed November 28-29 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

**Classic Girl Scouts Pajama Set:** Featuring a cozy navy top with green and blue plaid “12,” to honor our 1912 founding, and “Girl Scouts” graphic in white. The matching flannel bottoms have an elastic waistband for ultimate comfort and fit, with white “Girl Scouts” graphic on the leg. Youth: \$32; Adult: \$38

**My Girl Scout Story Fun Patch and Charms:** Let this new fun patch carry your best Girl Scout memories! Pick from assorted charms that tell your story and clip them onto the patch. Wear it on the back of your sash or vest! Patch: \$3; Charms: \$1.50 each

**Supermix Kiosk:** Come to A Place for Girls to create and customize your own gear with Girl Scout designs and so much more! Choose from girls’ and boys’ youth and adult sizes, hoodies, joggers, zip ups, back packs, pencil cases and hats. You can even shop from home at [supermixstudio.com/gsgcc](https://supermixstudio.com/gsgcc) — either way, all items ship direct to you.

**ChattySnaps:** Have you seen all these snaps? We also have tales and mini backpacks in assorted colors so you can customize and personalize your own chatty creation. Snaps: \$1.50; Tales: \$6; Mini Backpacks: \$8

For all this plus uniforms, awards, badges and more, [visit the shop!](#)