

# Volunteer News

*Training • Events • Activities • Tips*



## Girl Scout Volunteer News & Updates for Sept. 2025

From the Volunteer Kickoff to Girl Scout Fest and the new Spread Kindness patch program, we have a busy fall on tap! Read on for fun ways to start your new Girl Scout membership year.



**Meet GSUSA National Board President**  
**Noorain Khan**  
*at the*  
**Volunteer Kickoff**  
**SEPTEMBER 13**



A purple rectangular banner featuring a portrait of Noorain Khan on the left. To the right of the portrait is a Girl Scout National President patch. The text on the banner reads: "Meet GSUSA National Board President Noorain Khan at the Volunteer Kickoff SEPTEMBER 13".

Join us for an exciting and impactful day! Enjoy workshops, trainings, creativity stations, drawings, vendors and more. Plus, we'll hear from our special guest speaker, GSUSA National Board President Noorain Khan! Come ready to learn, connect, and be inspired as we kick off an incredible year of leadership, growth, and service.

Location: Virginia Beach United Methodist at the Oceanfront – Parking is Free!

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Lunch Provided)

Cost: \$10 per person

**Registration Deadline: September 5**

**REGISTER**

## September Special Observances:

- **National Preparedness Month:** The Girl Scout motto is “Be prepared.” In the 1947 Girl Scout Handbook, the motto was explained this way: “A Girl Scout is ready to help out wherever she is needed. Willingness to serve is not enough; you must know how to do the job well, even in an emergency.” The same holds true today!
  - **September 5: National Food Bank Day** Observed on the first Friday of September, you can learn how food banks help people in your community when you earn the GSCCC [Explore the Foodbank](#) patch.
  - **September 7: Grandparents Day** – Honor your grandparents, or other senior citizens in your life, with this year’s [Spread Kindness patch program!](#)
  - **September 13-14: Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend** – Get outside and [earn a fun patch](#) at a state park near you!
  - **September 18: U.S. Air Force Birthday** – Celebrate these brave men and women by earning a [Military Pride patch](#) today!
  - **September 26: National Johnny Appleseed Day** – Do you know how to sing the Johnny Appleseed song? Learn about this American folk hero and hear some Girl Scout alum and volunteers perform the song at [gscgcc.org](http://gscgcc.org).
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## This will be your LAST Volunteer e-newsletter!

We’re moving to **ONE e-newsletter per month**, instead of separate ones for volunteers and families, **beginning in October**. Delivered on the **first Thursday of each month**, *The Colonial Coaster* will have sections for targeted reading so you can focus on what you need.

Plus, we’re streamlining our event emails; the *GSCCC GO!* weekly digest of program opportunities will be **sent on Tuesdays**. (There may sometimes be additional GSCCC emails for special promotions.)

Make sure you are opted-in to emails from GSCCC! Visit [gscgcc.org/email](http://gscgcc.org/email) for more information.



# Activities and Events



## **Spread Kindness to Seniors – Hand in Hand!**

This year's Council-wide community service effort is focused on making a difference in the lives of senior citizens. Download the free activity sheet, sign up for Council-hosted events, and learn more at [gsccc.org/kindness](https://gsccc.org/kindness). Here is a sample activity you can try with your group to help Girl Scouts understand some of the challenges faced by seniors with disabilities.

**Physical Disability:** First, have each girl try to thread a needle while wearing either a pair of mittens or thick, bulky socks. (Girls may take turns if a limited number of mittens are available.) Then have girls try to button a shirt with their fingers taped together. Wrap both hands, including the thumbs, with strips of washi tape or masking tape. Did the girls find these tasks frustrating? Why? Explain to the girls how it mimics the challenges represented by arthritis.

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You can browse our full calendar at [gsccc.org/events](https://gsccc.org/events) or [download a PDF](#) of select events through May 2026.

[Events Registration Tutorial](#) – Use this video guide to help you get registered for council events!

### **Volunteer Awards Celebration – October 4**

Each year, GSCCC formally recognizes those adult volunteers who have made significant accomplishments and gone above and beyond to empower girls. Girl Scout awards are deeply rooted in tradition and confer a great sense of gratification and achievement. Join us for this meaningful ceremony followed by a dessert reception. (Our shop will be open before and after the ceremony for your convenience.)

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake, VA

Levels: All

*Registration Deadline: October 4*

### **Outdoor Skills 1 & 2 – October 5**

Gain new outdoor survival skills and team up with other Girl Scouts to conquer challenges! Learn how to build a fire, use a compass, some basic emergency techniques, and more.

Location: Camp Apasus, Norfolk, VA

Levels: J/C

*Registration Deadline: September 25*

### **STEM Club: Solar Energy – October 11**

Let's scope out the 'S' in STEM as we delve into the science of solar energy! We'll meet Daisy the SmartFlower and learn about innovative ways to protect the environment. We will do science experiments inside and out (weather dependent) so please dress for the weather!

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake, VA

Levels: All

*Registration Deadline: September 24*



### **Girl Scout Fest 2025: Let's GROW! – October 18**

Girl Scout Fest returns to Northwest River Park this fall for outdoor activities, fun experiences with our community partners, beloved Girl Scout traditions, and more! Get your troop and family together and get ready to GROW into a new membership year!

Location: Northwest River Park, Chesapeake, VA

Levels: All / Family-friendly

*Registration Deadline: October 1*



**Facilitator Trainings Page** – This hub features links to all our upcoming facilitator trainings, FAQs on requirements, certifications, and more.

## **American Red Cross Adult & Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED – October 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. 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: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake, VA

*Registration deadline: October 4*

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## **2025 Fall Product Program: Brave, Fierce, Fun!**

**This year’s program begins on September 12 — are you ready?** The Fall Product Program is an easy, fun way to earn startup funds for your troop activities at the beginning of the membership year. Girl Scouts learn essential skills when they participate — Business Ethics, Decision Making, Goal Setting, Money Management, and People Skills — which set them up for success in life and leadership! **Learn more and get started at [gsc.org/fall](https://gsc.org/fall).**

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## **Engaging Families**

You want your Girl Scouts to have fun, be inspired, take risks, and learn about themselves and the world—that’s why you’re a Girl Scout troop leader or troop volunteer! Parents and caregivers want the same thing for their children, but getting families to pitch in and play an active role in the troop while also enhancing the experience for their Girl Scout and themselves can be tricky for many volunteers. It doesn’t have to be this way.

**Kick the Year Off Right by Engaging Parents and Caregivers:** Parents and caregivers will feel most connected to the troop when you are proactive in engaging them early on. Express your desire for them to play an active role in troop life, and how that can contribute to the connection, joy, and sense of pride the Girl Scouts feel. At the same time, recognize that not all families have the same capacity to be involved for various reasons (don’t take it personally!). Be open with parents about your hopes for their involvement and listen to what can work for them. Find more tips and ideas for engaging families at [gsc.org](https://gsc.org).



# Our Stories: In the Spotlight

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

**Community Troops in Newport News**—GSGCCC partnered with multiple youth-serving organizations this summer. [Read the full article](#)

**Military Spotlight: CDR Heidi Koski**—Strength, leadership, and dedication define this Gold Award Girl Scout alum. [Read the full article](#)

**Silver Award Spotlight: Bridging to Middle School**—Girl Scouts replaced a worn, unsafe footbridge used by middle school students. [Read the full article](#)

**NEW Podcast: Season 2, Episode 9**—Say hello to 2025 GSUSA Gold Award Scholarship recipient Maureen. She's a rising sophomore at the University of Alabama with a long-standing history of service. [Listen on Spotify or YouTube](#)

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

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## Did you forget something?

The Girl Scout membership year is October 1–September 30 and must be renewed annually. Make sure you're ready to go before the end of this month so you don't miss a single moment of fun this fall – especially the [Fall Product Program!](#) **Find detailed instructions on renewing for families and troops at [gsgccc.org/renew](https://gsgccc.org/renew).**

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## GSCCC 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! *May not be combined with any other offer.*

### Say Yes to the Vest!

Get ready for the new Girl Scout membership year with your uniform essentials! Our Start-up Kits include everything you need in one convenient bundle: uniform vest, American flag patch, council identification strip set, troop numbers, insignia tab, WAGGGS official pin and official Girl Scout membership pin. Flat rate shipping or in-store pickup is available, and you can [order directly online through this secure form](#).

Plus, check out our other essentials to complete the look and launch your year!

[\*\*SHOP NOW\*\*](#)

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## New Marketing Resources

Looking to grow your troop? Help spread the word! Find the new "Where We Grow" 2025-26 membership campaign assets for print, social media, and more at [gsc.org/marketing](https://gsc.org/marketing).