 **November 2019**

**1 Membership**

Attached is the latest Service Unit Membership report. A huge congratulations to Service Unit 627 who reached their 2019-20 goal, we have four service units who are in the 90th percentile. We have not met our kindergarten girl goal and have put together a strategic plan for targeting kindergarten girls. If your service unit has schools that need additional attention in serving kindergarten girls your CEM will be reaching out to you with a plan to achieve this goal.

We welcome your support and ideas to help us serve more girls in that age level.

**2 Adult Recognitions 2020**

Leading the Way, our adult recognition celebration will be held on April 18th, 2020 at the Coralville Marriott. Now is a good time to start talking at Leader Meetings about who in your Service Unit you would like to nominate for a council award and how important it is to thank volunteers who have gone above and beyond with their commitment to Girl Scouts. Review all the information about these awards on our website under [Volunteers/Recognitions](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/for-volunteers/volunteer_recognitions.html)

**3** **Fall Product Program**

* The online store is open until November 6th. Items available will be direct ship only.
* Service units will receive their product deliveries Nov. 20-22.  Get the details from your Service Unit Product Manager.
* Problem Collection Forms, for any uncollected money from girls, are due to finance no later than Dec 6. The form can be found on our website: [www.girlscoutstoday.org](http://www.girlscoutstoday.org). Be sure to attach all signed receipts and permission form.
* ACH payments will take place the week of Dec 9th so make sure to have all money deposited before then.

**4** **Safety Activity Checkpoints**

[Safety Activity Checkpoints](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/content/dam/girlscoutstoday/documents/Safety_Activity_Checkpoints/Safety%20Activity%20Checkpoints.pdf) have been updated for 2020 and are now live on our website.  Many of the travel processes that were in Volunteer Essentials are now listed in Safety Activity Checkpoints.  Check it out and encourage your leaders to always make the Safety Activity Checkpoints the first stop when planning activities.

**5 Service Team Support**

* **Mark your calendars** for the first regional Service Team Rally on January 25th, 2020 for all service team members – more details coming.
* Service team position trainings are available on our [website](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/for-volunteers/service-units.html)
* The quarterly Service Team Newsletter will be delivered to all team members the first week in December

**6**  **National Convention**

The 55th National Convention will be held in October 2020 in Orlando, FL.

* National delegates have the opportunity to attend and participate in meetings of the national body, represent local views, and take actions that are in the best interest of the Girl Scout movement throughout the nation.
* An election committee will review the applications and present a slate of nominees to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in March 2020. If elected, a delegate will represent the council for a three-year term.
* All volunteers and girls at least 14 years of age by September 30, 2020 are eligible to apply. Application deadline is November 30, 2019.    For more information, contact info@GirlScoutstoday.org  . [Apply today](https://gseiwi514.wufoo.com/forms/z1vpo18k0myfmze/)!

**7 New Leader Support**

* Connect with new leaders and invite them to Leader Meetings, welcome and introduce them
* Promote info@girlscoutstoday.org, age-level Facebook pages, Volunteer Toolkit
* Drive new leaders to the New Leader Resources available on the [website](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/for-volunteers/troop-leaders/leader-resources.html)

**8 COOKIE BUSINESS**

**Join the GSEIWI Cookie Crew!**

During Girl Scout Cookie Season there are multitudes of people that make the cookie season a success!  GSEIWI is currently looking for 10-15 volunteers to assist council staff with cookie program activities/events.  You will even get your own Cookie Crew t-shirt to wear in proud support of the GSEIWI Cookie Program!  Feel free to forward the cookie crew information to volunteers you feel would be a good fit or even apply yourself!

[Click here for more information about the Cookie Crew Program](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/cookies/resources.html) [Click here to Apply](https://gseiwi514.wufoo.com/forms/z1blxpko08eb8qi/)

**Message to SU Product Mgrs.**

**Cookie Materials** (volunteer and girl materials, cookie samples, reward samples, etc) are expected to be delivered by UPS the first week of November.  SU Product Mgrs. should get an email ahead of time.

**Cookie Rallies**  Cookie rallies are an integral part of helping girls get excited to participate in the cookie program!  In order to ensure all girls get an opportunity to attend a rally, we are holding council cookie rallies in all eight regions in case there are SU’s that are unable to hold their own.

If your SU will be holding a service unit cookie rally, council will provide patches for the girls in attendance as well as cookie samples. (Sample rewards will be shipped to all Service Unit Product Managers whether the service unit is holding a rally or not– they do NOT need to be returned to council. These items will be deducted from your FINAL REWARD ORDER at the end of the sale).

**9 Reminders**

* Leader Chats
	+ **In-person:** 2nd Wednesday, 6:00 pm, [find one near you](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/events/event-list.html?q=Leader+Chat-Council+Wide)
	+ **Online:** 4th Thursday, 6:00 pm, [join an online chat](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/events/event-list.html?q=Leader+Chat-Online)
* Volunteer help and support is always available - Just call 800-798-0833 or email info@girlscoutstoday.org.
* New Office & Store Hours available [here.](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/girl-scouts-2/hours-and-locations.html)
* **All council offices & stores will be closed** –
	+ Thursday, November 14th for an All Staff Meeting
	+ Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th for Thanksgiving
* View a full listing of Events and Anytime Activities on our [website](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/events/event-list.html)
* Remind Leaders to get their 15% discount at Joann’s by completing this [application](https://www.joann.com/girlscoutform/).
* Check out GS Live recording on our [website](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/for-volunteers/service-units/service-unit-resources.html)

**10 SAVE THE DATE FOR THE SUD RETREAT August 7-8, 2020**

