 **February 2020**

**1 Membership**

Congratulations to the 4 SUs that are at their year-end goal:  **622, SUD Shannon Conaway; 629, SUD Judy Scheiner; 836,SUD Melissa McNally; 627 Vacant.** Attached is the most recent Membership Report.

We are so excited to see the following service units who are 10 or less girls away from achieving their goal!!!

* 616 (Decorah) – 5 girls
* 625 (Waverly) – 9 girls
* 626 (Sumner) – 2 girls
* 771 (Cascade) – 2 girls
* 810 (CR) – 3 girls
* 821 (Washington) – 5 girls
* 838 (Wilton) – 2 girls
* 841 (Maquoketa) – 2 girls
* 859 (Eldridge) – 8 girls
* 932 (Wapello) – 5 girls
* 940 (Mt Pleasant) – 7 girls
* 942 (Keosauqua) – 5 girls

**2 President’s Award**

Congratulations to the 31 Service Units who achieved the President’s Award. Please see the attached document for a complete listing.

**3 Summer Camp**

In just a couple of months a summer of adventures, memories, sunshine and smiles at Camp Liberty will be here! Summer Camp Registration officially opens up at 6:00AM on Monday, February 3rd, so make sure to help spread the word to all Girl Scouts and Families in your Service Units, as sessions fill quickly! To look at all the amazing sessions planned for the summer, you can find the camp guide [here](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/content/dam/girlscoutstoday/documents/Outdoor_Facilities_Camp/Summer_Camp_Guide.pdf).  For more information about summer camp visit – <https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/outdoor/summercamp.html>

Volunteer and Community Led Camps Are you planning a Volunteer and Community Led Camp for your service unit, area or community? If so, please be sure to fill out the intent to operate form – found here - <https://gseiwi514.wufoo.com/forms/volunteerled-community-day-camp-information/> A form must be submitted at least 3 months prior to the start of your camp.

All Camp Directors, planning team members, or those wanting to start up a Volunteer and Community Led Camp - mark your calendars for Saturday February 29 at Camp Liberty – where we will come together to share updates, resources, and information to the program from GSUSA,  as well as celebrate all that you do for providing outdoor experiences for girls in Girl Scouting! More information to follow, so be sure to check your emails!

**4 Annual Meeting**

Mark your calendars for our Annual Meeting on March 19, 2020 from 6:00 -7:00 pm. Here are easy steps to follow -

* 1. Watch for your invite to register
	2. Register for the Webinar
	3. Request your personal and unique ballot
	4. Receive your link to the ballot
	5. Vote during Annual Meeting

**5 Volunteer Toolkit – Finance Tab**

The Finance tab in the Volunteer Toolkit is active and accessible to troops!  This troop tool gives a place to record troop income and expenses throughout the troop year.  Parents can view when they log into the Volunteer Toolkit or troop volunteers can print a copy to share with families.

Troops can start using the Finance Tab now and update the information on the Finance Tab as the year progresses. All troops should submit their finance report by August 31, 2020.

**6 Girl Scout Week**

One of Girl Scouts most important tradition is to celebrate our Girl Scout Birthday on March 12 of each year.    One hundred eight years ago, on March 12, 1912, Juliette Gordon Low started the first Girl Scout troop in Savannah, Georgia.  It has been tradition that we not only celebrate on March 12 with a birthday celebration, but celebrate for a whole week with fun activities for the girls to do.  This year, Girl Scout Week is from March 8 to March 14 and we have chosen the theme Traditions.  Check out this [list](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/en/girls-and-families/news/2020/girl_scout_week.html) of all the activities that Leaders and Service Units can do to celebrate.  Happy Birthday Girl Scouts!

**7 Cookies**

**How to Get More Cookies?**

Once cookies arrive, you may find that your troop needs more cookies for cookie booths or filling girl’s orders!  Troop Product Managers can place a pending order in eBudde to pick up cookies from a local cookie cupboard.  The deadline to place orders are Sundays at 8:00 pm in order to pick up by the following Friday.  Check [Cookie Connections](https://www.girlscoutstoday.org/content/dam/girlscoutstoday/documents/Cookies/cookie-connections.pdf) on page 22 for more information.

**Care to Share**

Remind the girls in your troops to share a taste of home with our military service members by encouraging customers to donate Girl Scout cookies! It’s as easy as 1,2,3!

Girls record Cookie Share donation orders on their order cards.

Girls turn in the money to the Troop Product Manager.

Troop Product Manager enters the orders in eBudde and the council takes care of the cookie delivery!

**Join Girl Scouts across the USA in Celebration of National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend!**

National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend is February 28-March 1.  We will celebrate by holding a Walkabout Weekend.  Girl Scouts will walk their neighborhoods selling cookies door to door.  This is a great opportunity to visit customers you might have missed earlier – or revisit customers who need a restock!  Girls that participate will receive a patch.

**8 Volunteers Needed**

We are always looking for amazing volunteers to assist us with giving our girls and volunteers the best experience as possible. Attached you will find a Volunteer Opportunities and Summer Resident Camp positions document, please look it over and share it with you leaders, their families and community members who may be interested in supporting Girl Scouts.

**9 Pre-k Recruitment/New Member Deal Membership**

“Now is the time to start talking up Girl Scouts to incoming kindergarteners and their families! Any girl or adult new to Girl Scouting can take advantage of the New Member Deal membership and get up and going this spring/summer in Girl Scouts.” We look forward to partnering with Service Units to offer Pre-K girls the opportunity to join and begin their amazing Girl Scout Journey – more information coming from your Community Engagement Mgr. See attached FAQ for more information on New Member Deal.

**10 World Thinking Day**

World Thinking Day is Feb. 22 and there are a number of options for girls to work on leading up to Thinking Day. Backed by 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in locations worldwide, World Thinking Day 2020 celebrates the diversity, equity, and inclusion reflected in our global movement. Check out the activity guides designed by GSUSA and WAGGGS to explore this theme—and celebrate being part of the diverse global sisterhood that is Girl Guides + Girl Scouts.

**World Thinking Day award activities:**

[A](https://www.girlscouts.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsusa/forms-and-documents/For-Girls/think-global/GSUSA_World-Thinking-Day_18_Activities%20DBJ-B.pdf)[ctivity Guide for Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors](https://www.girlscouts.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsusa/forms-and-documents/For-Girls/think-global/GSUSA_World-Thinking-Day-2020_DBJ.pdf) (PDF)

[Activity Guide for Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors](https://www.girlscouts.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsusa/forms-and-documents/For-Girls/think-global/GSUSA_World-Thinking-Day-2020_CSA.pdf) (PDF)

And there is also the option of working on the Global Action Award. Girl Scouts’ Global Action award calls for girls to address the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development developed in 2015. In 2019, the emphasis was on SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 15 (Life on Land). In 2020, girls will explore SDG 5 (Gender Equality) to earn their Global Action award.

**Global Action Award activities:**

2020 Global Action Award Activity Guide [For](https://www.girlscouts.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsusa/forms-and-documents/For-Girls/think-global/GSUSA_Global-Action-Day-Activities-DBJ-B.pdf)[Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors](https://www.girlscouts.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsusa/forms-and-documents/For-Girls/think-global/GSUSA_Global-Action-2020_DBJ.pdf) (PDF)
2020 Global Action Award Activity Guide [For Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors](https://www.girlscouts.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsusa/forms-and-documents/For-Girls/think-global/GSUSA_Global-Action-2020_CSA.pdf) (PDF)

The [GSUSA website](https://www.girlscouts.org/en/for-girls/think-globally/world-thinking-day.html) has more information on these two award activities. Encourage your leaders to check out these activities and participate in a Thinking Day event with other Girl Scout troops in your area.

**Save the Date!**

* Saturday, February 1, 2020 – Adult Recognitions due
* Monday, February 3, 2020 – Summer Resident Camp Registration Opens
* Saturday, February 22, 2020 – World Thinking Day
* Thursday, March 12, 2020 – Girl Scout Birthday
* Thursday, March 19, 2020 – Annual Meeting
* Saturday, April 18, 2020 - Leading the Way, Honoring Champions of Girls
* Saturday, April 18, 2020 – President’s Award Reception
* Saturday, May 16, 2020 –Girl Scouting at Camp Liberty 75th Anniversary
* Saturday, June 6, 2020 – One Tough Cookie

**Immediate Alert** - Starting March 3, 2020 there will be a price increase on core uniform merchandise. This includes the numerals, council ID’s, sashes, vests and tunics for all age levels. If you are in need of any of these pieces for the cookie sale or even early renewal purchases, please visit your local shop to save.