

## Service Unit Directors

October 1 will be the official start of the new Girl Scout year! You have all done so much to make your renewal goals and build a good foundation for the 2020-21 membership year. Let's move forward with spreading the word that Girl Scouting is thriving, and we have an exciting year planned for our current and new members.

### 1. President's Award

Thirty Service Units achieved the President's Award! With half of the year dealing with the COVID-19 crisis, it was truly amazing to watch everyone come together and not only make their renewal goals but do so much for their communities. Way to go team! We will notify the Service Units who achieve the President's Award and then make a public announcement of the Service Units that reached this status.

### 2. New Uniforms

Have you seen the new Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador uniforms? The new uniform options are designed by three young Fashion Institute of Technology students — and all, you'll be happy to know, incorporating pockets big enough to hold the biggest iPhone model. Included are a utility vest, black leggings, a denim jacket, drawstring joggers, cargo shorts, and other items intended to look more like what real girls wear these days than you probably remember from your Scouting days. [Check them out!](#)

### 3. Girl Scout Traditions

With a new membership year, I'm reflecting on all of our Girl Scout traditions. How many traditions can the leaders in your Service Unit name? Check out the [traditions "grab & go's"](#) and have some fun with your leaders. In October, a great tradition in Girl Scouting is celebrating Juliette Gordon Low's birthday, October 31. Below is a ceremony that combines honoring Juliette Gordon Low and with an Investiture/Rededication.

#### Juliette Gordon Low Ceremony

Supplies: three candles, matches/lighter (or use battery-operated candles) and/or flashlights.

Light Candle #1. I light this candle for Juliette Low, our Girl Scout founder. Even though we lost the personal presence of our founder in 1927, her spirit has led us constantly to greater growth and fellowship. Today there are over three and a half million Girl Scouts in the United States.

Light Candle #2. Juliette Low's heart desired to bring love and understanding to all girls in every land. Her dream is coming true. For today Girl Scouts and Girl Guides have members around the world. I light this candle to all Girl Scouts and Girl Guides the world over.

Light Candle #3. When you became Girl Scouts, you made a Promise. Let us here rededicate ourselves by lighting this candle and repeating our Girl Scout Promise. Make the Girl Scout sign and say the Girl Scout Promise together.

Conclude with the song "When e're You Make a Promise."

When e're you make a promise,  
Consider well its importance.  
And when made,  
Engrave it upon your heart!

## 4. Virtual Conferences

**Leader Low Down** is now live to [register](#) for our virtual training event for volunteers. Join all the fun on Friday night, November 6, 2020, and then choose from 16 topics in a four-session format on Saturday morning, November 7, 2020. From learning how to finance your troop, dealing with bullying, ideas for working on STEM badges, along with sharing ideas, learning about taking girls backpacking, traditions, high awards, and so much more! The registration deadline is October 23, 2020.

**Virtual Learn to Lead** is November 21, 2020. The annual event is planned by the Girl Advisory Committee to bring together the Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador girls for fun, friendship, and interactive learning sessions. Our theme this year is "Achieving Your Full Potential: Mind, Body, and Spirit." [Register](#) by November 11, 2020, to receive the special supply kit.

## 5. Fall Product Program Training

If Troop Product Managers missed the Virtual Fall Product program training held in September, they still have the opportunity to get that training before the Fall Product Program begins on October 2, 2020. The [recording](#) can be reviewed online and includes tips for a contactless sale in 2020.

## 6. Girl Scout 55<sup>th</sup> National Convention Session

Get ready for the 55th Girl Scout National Session October 23 – 25, 2020! The convention happens every three years and is a time for our volunteers to review accomplishments of the last three years, vote on proposals that will impact our work and initiatives, and elect our National Board and Board Development Committee for the 2020-2023 triennium.

Because of the COVID-19 crisis, the National Convention, originally scheduled for Orlando, Florida, will now be held virtually. Our council, Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, is represented by eleven volunteer delegates and three alternatives for the next three-year term. Our delegates would like your [feedback](#) and suggestions on six proposals that will be voted on at the 55th Girl Scout National Session.

Girl Scouts of the USA Board of Directors is pleased to invite Girl Scout members to attend our 55th National Council Session (NCS) virtually as a "[Gallery Guest](#)." By registering, you will receive live stream access to whichever of the NCS meetings that you select.

## 7. Need Looker Training?

If you have any new registrars added to your team or you are a new Service Unit Director and would like to know more about how Looker can enhance your knowledge base, contact [Info@GirlScoutsToday.org](mailto:Info@GirlScoutsToday.org) att: Marsha T.

## 8. Family Halloween

On October 24, 2020, troops and families are invited to Family Halloween at Camp Liberty for socially distanced and spooky fun.

**Troops!** Join the fun with your whole troop by hosting a tent and offering treats for attendees! Learn more details and [register](#).

**Families!** Enjoy an exciting and safe day of Halloween fun with your family! All ages are welcome. Learn more details and [register](#).

We are taking precautions to ensure everyone has a fun and safe time! We ask that families social distance and wear a mask when six feet of distance cannot be maintained between other families.

## 9. Troop Information Update Form

Please encourage all leaders to fill out the [Troop Information Update Form](#) to keep our team informed! Even if a leader has recently completed the form, we ask that she fill it out again. We needed to add new fields before a major systems update occurs. If you have not met in your normal location but are meeting in-person somewhere else, enter your normal location as your “Meeting Location,” and add in the “Additional Information” where you are currently meeting until things get back to normal. If you are meeting virtually, for now, enter your normal location as your “Meeting Location,” but when asked how your troop is currently meeting, choose “virtual.”

## 10. Free Troop Meeting Reservations

Our team is making the final touches on a new reservation system so troops can meet for free at some of our council offices and camps! Please encourage leaders to be on the lookout for an email with reservation instructions — Call 800-798-0833 or email [Info@GirlScoutsToday.org](mailto:Info@GirlScoutsToday.org) with any questions.

## Upcoming Events

[gsLive](#) – October 20

[New Leader Webinars](#) – October 1, 8, 15, 22

[Suffragettes](#) – October 10

[Camp Little Cloud Friends & Family Day](#) – October 17

[govHERment](#) – October 28, 29

[Gingerbread House Architect](#) – November 30, December 4

## Stay Connected

Website – [www.girlscoutstoday.org](http://www.girlscoutstoday.org)

Email – [info@girlscoutstoday.org](mailto:info@girlscoutstoday.org)

Phone – 800-798-0833

gsLive – [www.tinyurl.com/gslivewebinar](http://www.tinyurl.com/gslivewebinar)

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