

Top 10 | August 2021



Updates for Service Unit Teams

It's August, so as school opens, our troops will begin to meet again. We have been working hard to get our troops renewed and inviting new members to join. Recently, 41 adults registered with extended membership, so please make time to welcome new volunteers.

We are wrapping up the 2020-21 Plan of Works and will be reviewed to see which Service Units have achieved the President's Award.

Represent your Service Unit at the annual Service Unit Director Retreat August 20-21, 2021, at Camp Liberty. This year's retreat will offer personal and professional development opportunities for you, our highest-level volunteers. We will have several session topics, including:

- Delegation
- Developing your leadership skills
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion within Girl Scouts
- Recruitment planning

And much more! Come prepared for a weekend of networking, learning, and developing action plans for your Service Unit.

Our new online training platform, gsLearn, will be available soon! All online volunteer training will be housed in this platform that is accessible through My GS. Monthly, Looker will be able to pull by Service Unit all trainings that have been completed. The first set of training will be about the new branding and onboarding for new leaders. We will keep you updated as more training is added.

What's Ahead

Please share with leaders the below information through email and social media and add it to your leader meeting agenda.

- New badges will be released from Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) on August 3, 2021. Badge content will be in the Volunteer Toolkit, and badges will arrive to our shops soon after.
- In August, all online training for volunteers will move to a new platform called gsLearn. This is accessible through My GS. All volunteers will have access, and the first time you use the platform, you will need to "register" by setting an email and password. New leader onboarding will be in gsLearn and any newly registered volunteer will be directed to the training module. We will keep you updated as new training is added to gsLearn.
- Financial reports need to be submitted in the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK) on August 31, 2021. Call 800-798-0833 or email Info@GirlScoutsToday.org with any questions.

- Has your troop met this past year, virtually or in-person? Have the girls completed a service project? Did your troop participate in the Fall Product and Cookie Programs? Then you might be eligible to become an [Honor Troop](#)! Your troop will receive patches and a shout-out on social media.
- An adult with First Aid certification is required for overnight troop activities. Join us for a certification course through the Red Cross! Seniors, Ambassadors, and adults are invited to join. [Find an upcoming training](#).
- If a troop encounters an emergency that requires council CEO or staff response, please call 800-798-0833 during office hours and 563-328-4718.
- Last year was unique, with some troops meeting in person and some virtually. As we move into back-to-school time, we would like a volunteer from each troop to fill out the [troop information update form](#), so we know when, where, and how troops are meeting in our region.
- Come to GLAMP! Invite your friends and family to experience a fun-filled weekend of summer camp activities for adult women at Camp Liberty. September 25-26 GLAMPers are invited to choose their adventure and relax in the beautiful outdoors. [Find out more about the fundraising event!](#)

Upcoming

2021 Fall Product Program

- September: Fall Troop Product Manager trainings online
- September: Attend Service Unit Meeting, pick up materials, service-unit-specific information
- October 1: Fall Product Program Begins (in person and online)
- October 17: In-Person Sales end
- November 10-12: Snack Delivery to Service Units
- November 21: Last day to deliver the product, online ends

2022 Cookie Dates

December: Online cookie training

December: Attend Service Unit Meeting to get service-unit specific info and new cookie samples

January 7: Digital Cookie and Pre-orders begin

January 25: Troop Initial Order due

February 12, February 14-17: Cookie Delivery to Service Units

March 27: End of Cookie Program

2021-2022 Save the Date

October 23: Family Halloweekend, Camp Liberty

November 5-6: Leader Low Down, Camp Liberty

January 15: Empowering Girls, Empowering Change, Waterloo

May 14: Girl Expo/Leading the Way/Honoring Excellence, Coralville