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**To:** Alice Benefiel  
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Here's the important news your service unit needs to know this month.

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**Dessert First is coming to your kitchen this year!**

Since we can't hold our signature fundraiser in the traditional way, we're going digital. With the Dessert First At-Home Edition, you will get a live cooking demonstration by a Tampa Bay area chef streamed right to your kitchen while you create their one-of-a-kind, Girl Scout Cookie-flavored dessert in the comfort of your own home.

Act fast! **You must register by Nov. 5 to have cookies shipped to you.** This ensures you have enough time to receive your dessert kit and purchase all necessary ingredients. **Anyone who registers after Nov. 5 must pick up their cookies at the Tampa Leadership Center.**

[\*\*LEARN MORE\*\*](#)

**Welcome Back To Camp!**



We are so happy to have spent the last month and a half welcoming troops back to camp to hold their in-person troop meetings, and we are excited to announce our next phase of reopening.

**Starting Wednesday, Oct. 21, at 9 a.m., troops will be able to reserve spaces at our camps for limited day-use activities.** Day-use reservations will allow troops to book meeting space for small group activities (like working on badge requirements). Additionally, we will have limited program availability, including access to archery ranges and pools for troops that can provide the required facilitators. Troops are required to follow CDC guidelines for face coverings and social distancing.

**We have availability at all four GSWCF camps on the following Saturdays:**

- Nov. 7
- Nov. 14
- Nov. 21
- Dec. 5
- Dec. 12

**Please note the following when making reservations:**

- Individual sites have reduced capacities based on space available to allow for adequate social distancing.
- Archery ranges and pools are available for rental with limited capacity.

Troops will still need to provide the required facilitators. Certification verification will need to be done via email with the camp ranger prior to arriving at camp

- Our Rental Terms and Conditions have been updated to include a COVID-19 Safety Acknowledgement

**We have new information, guidelines and instructions in our reservation confirmation packet including details on:**

- Bathroom access is limited to the facilities assigned to your rental
- Contactless check-in and check-out process
- Cleaning Kapers have been updated with additional cleaning/sanitation standards
- Rangers will only be available in person for emergency maintenance and safety issues

**We also have a limited number of in-person events being offered at our camps.** Visit our [events page](#) to register for an event to combine with your visit to camp!

Stay tuned for more updates coming soon including options for overnight family camping to start in January!

**[RESERVE NOW](#)**



## **Council-Wide Virtual Troop Meetings**

New or renewing girls who want to participate in a virtual space or are waiting for their in-person troop to begin can start learning about Girl Scouts and earning badges in our council-wide virtual troop meetings led by volunteers.

Meetings are held every other week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays at various times. Registration is open now, and meetings officially kick off during Girl Scout Spirit Week on Tuesday, Oct. 27.

There are meetings available for each program level (no multi-level groups). The registration form has all meeting dates and times, or you can contact your recruitment manager for a detailed schedule.

We can always use more volunteers to lead these virtual troop meetings! All program plans are provided. Contact your recruitment manager for more information.

[Register Now »](#)

## A New Way to Support the Equestrian Program!



With the overwhelming success of the Carrot Club adopt-a-horse program, we are excited to have a new way for troops and individuals to support their favorite horses at Camp Wildwood.

Our herd needs new curry combs, brushes, hoof picks, and other grooming supplies. When you sponsor a Glamorous Grooming Kit for just \$75, these essential supplies are purchased and assigned to the horse of your choice.



Plus, Glamorous Grooming Kit donations count towards Family Partnership goals, so this program can help your service unit earn the CEO Award of Excellence. Hurry, kits are limited to one kit per horse and they are going fast!

[DONATE NOW](#)

## Troop Leader Blueprint: First Content Released

Our Troop Leader Blueprint provides a “home base” for accessing national and local resources and tools created to help troop leaders continue to serve their girls—both virtually and (safely) in-person.

The first batch of content includes eight brand new pages on our website, enhancements to the Volunteer Toolkit, more than 40 adapted meeting plans, and updates to Girl Scouts at Home. Additional content will be released in late November and early February.

[See the changes](#)

## Sweets & Treats Update



2020 Sweet & Treats is open! We are happy to announce we are progressing toward our goals, and we want to express our appreciation and gratitude for all of your hard work.

**Here are a few reminders:**

- Continue to communicate with all troop volunteers, instructing them to log into gsLearn in order to complete the Troop Fall Product Manager training.
- Continue to reach out to all Juliette Girl Scouts to let them know about the Fall Product Program and how they can participate.
- Please make sure all troop and Juliette fall product managers are registered for the 2020-2021 membership year with a complete background check.
- Communicate with any new troops or troops who are opening or having problems with their troop's bank account.
- Continue to be a great mentor to girls and volunteers!

**Live Chats:**

Join the Product Program team for live, online chats. We will feature a 15 minute review on important topics and upcoming deadlines, followed by a live Q&A.

Sweets & Treats Chat sessions will be held on select Wednesdays at noon and 7 p.m. through Dec. 2. You can view all chat dates and times and register for your selected sessions [on our website](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Below are the next two Sweets & Treats Chats:

- **Oct. 21-** How to check Girl Delivery orders – reports, Entering/verifying Paper Orders and Selecting pickup location, date & time [noon](#) or [7:00 p.m.](#)
- **Nov. 11-** How to print Delivery tickets, Pickup Procedures and How to make out Receipts [noon](#) or [7:00 p.m.](#)

**New! Sweet Starters Patch Program**

First-time sellers can learn the ropes of Girl Scouts Sweets & Treats with this patch program. Sweet Starters helps teach girls goal setting, gives tips for working with customers, and shows them how to participate. Girls who complete this program will earn a Sweet Starters patch. Please share this information with troops. You can find full details under the resources tab of the [Sweets & Treats Volunteer page](#).

## Save the Date for the 2021 Service Unit Cookie Manager Training!

We are happy to announce the Service Unit Cookie Manager Training will take place Wed., Nov. 18 via Zoom. There will be two sessions, so you can choose the time that works best for your family's schedule. More information will be shared once all the details have been finalized.

For any questions, please contact the [Product Program team](#).

Thin Mint Sprint 5K  
Tagalong Trot 1 mile  
girl scouts

Presented by pbx-change Tampa Bay Fiber

**Virtual Race, Jan. 9-31, 2021**  
**Live Event, Jan. 9, 2021, Safety Harbor**

THIN MINT SPRINT RUN LIKE A G.I.R.L. 2021 5K  
TAGALONG TROT RUN LIKE A G.I.R.L. 2021 1 MILE

Register by Nov. 15 for the virtual or live race to receive a medal!



## CEO Award of Excellence

We are ready to get started towards a year of excellence. Each year, the CEO Award of Excellence recognition for service units spotlights the most prestigious units in our council. The award requires service units to accomplish ten components around membership culture, program, family partnership, membership recruitment, and retention. Last year, we honored 26 service units for their outstanding performance.

Service units that achieve this honor in the coming year will enjoy incentives as



well as public acknowledgment at Membership Kick-Off 2021. Share the criteria with your service unit now and create your plan to become one of the best in 2021!

[See the full requirements »](#)

## Catch The Spirit: Celebrate Girl Scout Spirit Week!



Celebrate all things Girl Scouts by getting your service unit to place a spotlight on the organization. The membership team will host GSWCF Spirit Week **Sunday, Oct. 25 – Saturday, Oct. 31**, ending the week on our founder's birthday. We encourage everyone to show how much we love Girl Scouts!

Here are some suggestions on how to share in the celebration:

- Get with your recruitment managers to secure some yard signs to post
- Decorate a tree in your yard with green lights
- Create posters and post on Facebook, don't forget to tag GSWCF
- Paint rocks with Girl Scout emblems and scatter at your favorite park or in your neighborhood
- While wearing your uniform, donate non-perishable food items to Feeding

Tampa Bay on Tuesday, Oct. 27

- Girls wear their uniform and adults wear their vest or favorite Girl Scout shirt on Wednesday, Oct. 28
- Decorate a front door or window
- Create a Girl Scout themed costume for Halloween, post on Facebook, and tag GSWCF

### **Girl Scout Spirit Week Scavenger Hunt:**

We've partnered with Let's Roam to create a Girl Scout scavenger hunt. This digitally guided scavenger hunt will have girls creating videos, taking pictures, solving clues, and finding treasures. Two age group options (5–11 and 12– 18) ensure all girls get a challenge! Text JOINTHEHUNT to (855) 980-0305 to get started!

The scavenger hunt is \$5/girl with a special rate of \$4/girl for groups of 10 or more. This is open to all girls, regardless of Girl Scout membership. Participants must download the free Let's Roam app in order to participate.

[Download the app from the Google Play Store](#)

[Download the app from the Apple App Store](#)

## **Uniforms In Action – Council Wide Cause**

Continue in the Girl Scout Spirit Week celebration with service to our communities. Girl Scouts have been actively providing service to our communities for over a century. Get involved in our Council Wide Cause this year. During Girl Scout Spirit Week, we ask all Girl Scouts to make a donation to Feeding Tampa Bay or First Step Food Bank in Marion County on Tuesday, Oct. 27. After you donate, you can earn a patch for your efforts!

[Learn More »](#)

## Zoom Licenses are Here!

Service unit accounts are covered by the council this year and troops will be able to purchase a license at the national discount of \$36 annually. Each service unit will determine one contact for the license who will be responsible for the Zoom user agreement and assigned credentials.

To gain access to a service unit account or troop account, use one of the blue buttons below.

[SERVICE UNIT ZOOM ACCOUNT](#)

[TROOP ZOOM ACCOUNT](#)

### Girl Champions - Older Girl Scout Service Opportunity

Calling all Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors - we need you!

You can earn service hours and a Girl Champions patch by hosting a virtual recruitment event. The event requires two Girl Scout adult volunteers and two girls to participate.

Work with your recruitment manager and schedule a day and time that works best for the girls and adults in the troop.

[Learn More »](#)



## Adult Learning News

### Adult Learning

The [Adult Training Schedule](#) for in-person classes during our NEW membership year is out! It's full of new and exciting courses for you to take to begin awesome Girl Scout adventures with your girl!

**gsLearn:** gsLearn is our new Learning Management System. Access it through your MyGS tab, and find webinars, videos, in-person training, and other learning opportunities for registered GSWCF volunteers (current Girl Scout membership required for access).

### Find it in gsLearn!

**GSUSA Foundation 3: Well-Being and Development** – This webinar has great information on creating a safe and encouraging environment, inclusive troop, and advocating for girl's safety.

### In-Person Course Spotlight!

**320 Coastal Paddle Board Facilitator training** – required to take girls paddle boarding at Camp Wai Lani. Pre-requisite, Small Craft Safety and Open Water training. Upcoming dates: Nov. 7 & 14 (two-day training).

*Learn more about prerequisites, and more courses offered, in [gsLearn](#).*

## More Trainings

### Girl Scout Store News

**Oct. 24- 31:** Celebrate Juliette Gordon Low's birthday and all things Girl Scouts in her honor during GSWCF Spirit Week! Save \$5 off purchases of \$40; \$10 off purchases of \$60; \$20 off purchases of \$100 (no exclusions).

**Girl Scout SPIRIT WEEK EXCLUSIVE BUNDLE** at the Tampa store—Buy any Girl Scout rainbow plush and a Girl Scout T-shirt and you'll receive a FREE exclusive Girl Scout face covering available in youth or adult sizes (while supplies last).

**Patch of the MONTH: Make Freedom Count!** Learn the history of voting in Florida and earn the Make Freedom Count patch. Available for purchase for \$2/patch online or in the Tampa Girl Scout Store.

#### **SHOP ON THE ROAD: Saturday, Oct. 24 at 10 a.m.**

- We can bring ANYTHING from the Tampa Girl Scout Store for you to pick up at Camp Wai Lani & Camp Dorothy Thomas! Note: camp trading posts are not open—this is a parking lot pick up event.
- Let us know what you need by Thursday, Oct. 22 [via email](#) and we will have your order waiting for you at camp.
- Include name, cell phone number, and location you'd like to pick up.
- Prepay over the phone prior to pick-up .
- Arrive at camp, Saturday, Oct. 24 at 10 a.m. and we will run your order to your car in the front parking lot of camp.
- Girl Scout Spirit Week Savings and Exclusive Bundle promotions apply!

#### **Wildwood Store**

Beginning in November, the Wildwood store will only be open the second Saturday of the month. We will be open the following Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 3



p.m.: Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 13, Apr. 10, May 8. No appointment necessary for now but please note there is an occupancy limit of four customers at a time, face coverings and social distancing are required. Please [email us](#) for details.

[STORE HOURS, LOCATIONS, AND 24/7 ONLINE SHOP](#)



**Have a question? Don't be shy!**  
**[Contact us](#) for more information.**

This email was sent to: [jbarringer@gswcf.org](mailto:jbarringer@gswcf.org)

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