

From: Girl Scouts of West Central Florida, Inc. <Girlscoutswcf@email.girlscouts.org>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 1:10 PM
To: Alice Benefiel
Subject: [Parent June]Girl Scout Leaders, here's what you need to know this month.

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With so much uncertainty surrounding the months ahead, we have temporarily suspended our "5 Things..." video and Month-At-A-Glance features. To access virtual activities for your family, please visit [the Girl Scouts At Home page](#). To keep up with the latest news and information surrounding the council's response to COVID-19, please [visit our blog](#).

You can also sign up for council text alerts by texting "BEPREPARED" to 855-980-0305.

2020 GS Cookie Program Wrap Up



2020 Cookie Program

The 2020 Girl Scout Cookie Program wrapped up on March 8. We wish to thank the many girls, parents, and cookie volunteers for the hard work that they put in for this cookie season.

Here are some quick statistics:

- Packages sold by troops – 2,034,710 packages
- Troop proceeds retained - \$1,707,600
- Girls Selling – 9,413
- Troops Selling – 1,086
- Per girl average (selling) – 216
- Council Gift of Caring cookies donated – 46,848 packages
- Home Town Hero Cookies donated – 14,160 packages
- Service Unit Bonus earned: \$101,735.50

Cookie Rewards

Troops should have received the girl's cookie rewards from the Service Unit Cookie Mangers. Below is the status of the remaining cookie rewards:

- **Cookie Techie patches** are being mailed directly to girls and should be received by June 6.
- **Council Dough** is also being mailed directly to girls based on addresses in our membership system. Due to the COVID-19 shutdown, there was a delay in the printing and mailing. We are now in the process of mailing council dough and girls should be receiving their earnings from now through mid-June.

- **LEGOLAND & Adventure Island** experiences are still being determined. The product department is working with LEGOLAND and Adventure Island on alternate ticketing options. Girls/parents who earned this reward will be emailed directly with updates.
- **GS Uniform Certificate** will be received in the mail by mid-June.
- **S'mores Club!** Congratulations to the 115 girls and 42 troop product volunteers who met the requirements for the S'mores Club. Those who earned this honor will be receiving their S'mores club bracelet and patch in the mail soon after receive the custom bracelets from the vendor. We expect bracelets to arrive by mid-June.



When Can My Troop Meet Again

While many of our communities are beginning to lift restrictions, for now, GSWCF's COVID guidelines remain the same to ensure the safety of our girls and volunteers.

Girl Scouts of the USA is working on updated guidelines to help troops get back together safely and experience all the fun of the program we know and love.

We know its hard, and our girls and leaders really miss being together (we miss seeing you, too!).

For the most up to date information, continue to [check our blog](#).

Fall Troop Camping and Encampments - Update

As there is still so much uncertainty surrounding how soon we can safely have activities on our camp properties, we have some key updates to our scheduling plan for troop camping reservations and updates to existing reservations.

- **Troop Camping** - This is the biggest change. Reservations for fall will be postponed to August 3 (they were previously scheduled to open on June 16.)
- **Service Unit Encampments** - At this time, there is no change to existing reservations for the fall and beyond. As we get closer to September, we will reevaluate the situation and make a determination on what is safe and reasonable to have at camp. We will be sure to communicate with any affected service units well in advance.
- **Challenge Course and Equestrian Programs** - The request process for these programs, which is currently underway, will finish as scheduled. As event dates draw nearer we will be able to confirm whether we can move forward as planned.

Look for more communications in the coming months. If you have any questions, please contact [Evan Krueger](#), Director of Outdoor Program.

Trip and Travel Plans- Graduating

As a reminder, GSUSA is requesting all trips for Girl Scouts be rescheduled. It is unfortunate, but we know a safe measure in compliance with ongoing federal and CDC safety guidelines.

If your troop or your girl had to cancel a Girl Scout extended trip planned for spring/summer 2020 please review the following information.

Girl Scouts in twelfth grade will be allowed a one-time extension to use the money-earned funds to reschedule these cancelled trips into the next membership year (the recommendation is to postpone until next spring break or summer and have a "reunion" trip). The new deadline to use the funds will be Aug. 31, 2021. Troop should follow all procedures for disbanding troops by Aug. 31, 2021, including financial reconciliation and closing bank account.

All participants must have a current membership at the time of the trip. Graduating girl members can take advantage of the “young alum” discount by purchasing a Lifetime Membership or purchase an adult annual membership for the 2020-2021 membership year. Adults working with the young alums must also have active membership.

All activities and use of funds must be directly tied to the mission of Girl Scouts and be permitted Girl Scout activities by your council. All funds “must be used for the purposes of Girl Scouting.” (Ownership of Assets Policy, Blue Book p. 22).



Events

World Oceans Day - June 6 at 11 a.m.

Celebrate World Oceans Day by learning why water is important, what a watershed is and see a demonstration of how it works. Keep Pinellas Beautiful will explain marine debris, including micro plastics, and how we can protect our oceans starting right here in Tampa Bay! Girls will receive a patch in the mail upon completion. This event is for all grade levels open to Girl Scout families and friends.

[Register Now>>](#)

Awesome Girls: Living Our Faith in Uncertain Times- June 4 at 6:45 p.m.

Join leaders of diverse faiths for a free webinar to learn how different religions are responding to COVID-19 and how your faith can support and help you serve others. We'll also cover ways that Girl Scouts supports girls' faith as part of their leadership journey.

This event is for girls in 6th through 12th grades (or older) and their families.

[Register Now>>](#)

Special Scholarship Opportunity

The Tampa Post Society of American Military Engineers has a scholarship available for qualified students in engineering or architectural programs.

Scholarships are open to high school seniors with a demonstrated interest in engineering or architecture, AND college students who are currently enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited engineering or architecture curriculum.

The application deadline is June 15.

[Apply Now »](#)

Adult Learning News

gsLearn is here!

Introducing our new learning management system where all Girl Scout Adult Learning will start! Within gsLearn, you can register for on-demand webinars, live streamed training events and in-person training. You will find gsLearn under the MyGS tab of our website.

After you log in to gsLearn, check out the "Content Library" to see all the trainings available. (Note: The in-person training schedule for the new school year will be posted by the end of July.)

Adult Awards:

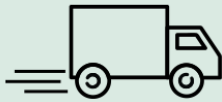
Due to issues related to COVID-19, it has been decided that the Adult Awards Ceremony will not take place this membership year, but special celebrations for awardees and honorees will! More info to come soon.



[More Trainings](#)

Girl Scout Store News

We've got you covered.



Shop safely from the comfort of your home with **free standard shipping on all online orders, no minimum.**

[SHOP NOW](#)

SUPER SATURDAY STUFF THE BAG!

Talk about using your resources wisely! Purchase refillable tote bags and fill it with everything you need and save 15% on everything including the bag! Offer good only for pre-orders and curbside pickup on Saturday, July 18 at our Tampa Store from 9-1 pm or Camp Wildwood Store from 12/noon-3 pm (excludes clearance items). *Pre-order by Wednesday, July 15 for Tampa and Saturday, July 11 for Wildwood*

Watch for Lots of New Items Coming Soon! Including new badges!

[Leader Gear](#) Check out all the latest gear for Girl Scout Leaders including our new leaders t-shirt. Did you know that you could order a Personalized Official Name Badge through your local Girl Scout shop to wear at Girl Scout events? [Email](#) or call the Tampa Girl Scout Store for details.

Summer Hours at the Girl Scout Store

Both the Tampa and Wildwood Girl Scout Stores will be opening for in-store shopping by appointment only after June 16. There will be safety protocols in

place* (see below) to ensure a safe shopping experience for customers and staff. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Note: The Saturday Shops at the Camp Dorothy Thomas and Camp Wai Lani trading posts are closed until further notice.

Tampa Store

Tuesday– Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

Closed: Saturday - Monday

Curbside pickup available

Please call 813-262-1793 or email us gsstore@gswcf.org to make an appointment or to place order for curbside pickup.

Camp Wildwood Store

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

Closed: Sunday - Friday

Curbside pickup available

Please call 813-262-1790 or email wildwoodstore@gswcf.org to make an appointment or to place order for curbside pickup on Saturday only.

**Please Note the following guidelines for in-store shopping at the Girl Scout Stores:*

- *In store shopping is available by appointment only and must be scheduled in advance.*
- *Only one customer may be in the store at a time (no children or other guests allowed).*
- *All customers and retail staff are required to wear face masks while in the store.*

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



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

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