

# In the Know

Issue 22

July 2023



## Your Year of

## Friendship

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- Fall Kickoff Registration
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# Month of July

## Hello July!

The sun is shining bright, and lighting the way to a summer full of amazing Girl Scout adventures! We've got an exciting lineup of events coming up—have fun at a baseball game with the Traverse City Pit Spitters or grab your helmet and explore space with the Van Andel Institute for education. Grab your Girl Scout troop, unleash your inner adventurer, and make some unforgettable memories!

## Patches to Earn in July



Love the Outdoors Challenge  
[Learn more](#)



Programs On Demand  
[Learn more](#)

## To Do List

- Register for the 2023 Girl Scout Leadership Conference
- Register for Leader Fall Kickoff (see page 5)
- Renew your troop by June 30 to receive a free patch
- Read the important cookie update (see page 4)
- Explore the new GSMISTS website!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Independence Day				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31		August ITK Sent			



**New Shop Item!**

New Girl Scout Council Sisterhood t-shirt! Available at all shops for \$18.



### Program Partner Highlight:



#### Girl Scout Night with the Pit Spitters | Traverse City

Join your fellow GSMISTS members for an evening at Turtle Creek Stadium. This year's Girl Scout night includes special ticket combos for GSMISTS members, family, and friends.

All Girl Scouts, Family, and Friends Aug 4

Game starts at 7:05 pm \$17 - \$23.50

[Purchase Tickets by August 1](#)

# Product Program

## Fall Product Season

September 29 - October 23



Theme is “Own your Magic”

## New Fall Product Items



Cheddar  
Caramel Crunch



New Tins  
x2



Thai Chili  
Max



Tervis  
Tumblers



Bark Box – Dog Treats & Toys  
(non subscription)

## Upcoming Trainings

### Fall Product Program

September 5, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

This will be recorded and placed  
on our GSMISTS website.



## Cookie Updates

- Mascot: Axolotls
- Theme: Own your Magic
- Raspberry Rally delayed for the 2024 Season
- Training: November TBA



# Important Cookie Update

Greetings Girl Scout Volunteers,

We are preparing for our 2023/2024 Product Program Season and look forward to once again partnering with all of you as well as our Girl Scout Cookie vendor ABC Bakers. There are few things to share before we get started.

As you are aware, the cost of goods, from groceries to textiles has risen significantly over the past three years. Council was able to absorb the multiple price increases from our vendors in the 2022/23 season without making any adjustments. We've been informed that there are significant increases again for the coming season. Based on this information, the cookie package cost will rise by \$1/box. Pricing will be \$6 for all 9 flavors. This is the first increase since the 2020-21 season and will put GSMISTS in line with other councils who are already at the \$6 price point.

Since the price is increasing, we will be adjusting troop and girl rewards. Troop proceeds will move up to \$.90/.95 per package sold and many of our girl rewards have been updated to reflect the change. Along with these 2024 Cookie Program changes, we have also offered a 50% increase to our 2023 Fall Program Troop Proceeds plan. A 15% troop proceed will be gained on ALL items sold through the 2023 Fall Product Program. This includes magazine subscriptions, candy and nuts, and all extra items offered.

Through the Girl Scout Product Programs, girls gain valuable life skills that will help them navigate and learn from every experience. Please help them practice living by the Girl Scout Promise and Law and develop the core 5 selling skills. Business Ethics, People Skills, Money Management, Goal Setting, and Decision Making. All very valuable skills to use for a lifetime!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at [customer care@gsmists.org](mailto:customer care@gsmists.org).

Thanks for all you do to help us build girls of courage, confidence, and character!





# You're Invited!

2023 Annual Leader  
Kickoff Meeting

Saturday, August 19  
The Frauenthal Center

**Join us as we prepare to launch a fantastic year of Girl Scouting!**

Learn more about positions at the Service Unit level, which are teams made up of passionate adult volunteers who firmly believe in the Girl Scout mission and are seeking to make a significant difference in the lives of the girls.

You will have the opportunity to hear from subject matter experts on conflict resolution and mental health and how these topics impact our Girl Scouts, families, and volunteers. Our CEO, Vivian TerMaat, will be sharing an update on our council, the design for our future, and how you fit into that vision. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided for all registered attendees.

We look forward to our time together!

**Date:** Saturday, August 19

**Time:** Check-in 9:30 am - 10:00 am  
Programming, Lunch, and Sessions  
10:00 am - 2:25 pm

**Location:** The Frauenthal Center  
425 W Western Ste 200  
Muskegon, MI 49440

**REGISTER**

## Troop Leaders!

Have you thought about leveling up and learning more about higher volunteer leadership opportunities with GSMISTS? If so, you are invited to join us at the GSMISTS Annual Kickoff Meeting!

# Membership

## Finance Reports, Finance Reports, Finance Reports

If you have not completed your Annual Finance Report, log into VTK, complete and submit your annual finance report along with October, January, and April troop bank statements. Please note that these were due June 1 and are required to continue in your volunteer role for the 2023/2024 membership year.

If you need support completing this report, please contact your Community Membership Manager (CMM) or [customer-care@gsmists.org](mailto:customer-care@gsmists.org).

## On-Time Registration

Haven't renewed your membership for Membership Year 2024? It's not too late, renew at least 80% of your girl troop members, and all members of your troop are eligible to purchase this year's exclusive t-shirt and bucket hat! *\*Images shown below are to give you a general idea of how the product will look and are not 100% accurate.*



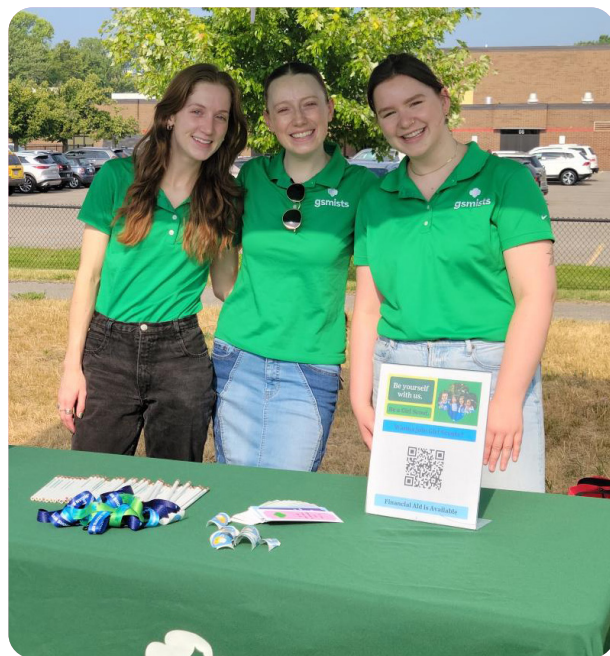
## We're hiring!

Placement and Customer Care Specialist | Traverse City

Membership Recruitment Manager | Muskegon

New Troop Start-Up Specialist | Grand Rapids

[View positions >>](#)



# Volunteer Information

## Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED Blended Learning | Grand Rapids

This course will prepare you to recognize and care for a variety of first aid, breathing, and cardiac emergencies involving adults, children, and infants. This is a blended learning course including an online portion and an instructor-led classroom skill session. Upon successful completion of course Volunteers will receive a digital certificate for Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED valid for two years.

Aug 6

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Red Cross Certification

\$45

[Register](#)

*Registration closes July 30 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.*

**Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED Blended Learning brought to you by:**

FERRIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY



MILLER  
JOHNSON  
Attorneys



## Youth Mental Health First Aider Training | Virtual

GSMISTS is excited to partner with the National Council for Behavioral Mental Health to offer our volunteers Youth Mental Health First Aid. This training includes information on how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 12-18. This training involves pre-work which must be completed prior to the event date. The times listed are for the virtual, live instructor led portion of the training.

Aug 20

1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Free

[Register](#)

*Registration closes August 6 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.*

## gsLearn Course: Delivering Inclusive Program gsLearn Course

Being inclusive really matters. Practice using inclusive and equitable language to support girls. Volunteers, take this 20-minute training by logging into gsLearn through your MY GS account.





# 2023 Girl Scout Leadership Conference



## Discover and Soar!

October 21 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Frederik Meijer Garden & Sculpture Park

Join us at GSMISTS Girl Scout Leadership Conference. Girl Scouts in 5th-12th grades will engage in small group mentoring, make new friends, and earn a patch all while learning how to launch their future.

### New for 2023!

- New women mentors representing a variety of fields and industries.
- New location - stay after the conference and enjoy Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.
- New programming for attending Girl Scout Volunteers. Learn more about the opportunities available for Girl Scout Cadettes-Ambassadors, enjoy roundtable discussions with other Girl Scout volunteers and GSMISTS staff, and amplify your own leadership abilities.

**REGISTER TODAY!**



# Programming

## Community Camp Weekends | Greenville

**D B J C S A**

Community Camp Weekends are opportunities for Girl Scout troops and Juliettes to come together and share a weekend of sisterhood, camp activities, and relaxation in the outdoors with fellow GSMISTS members. No two community camp weekends will be the same – activities vary by what troops bring to share! Participating troops and cabins will be tasked with planning an activity to share with fellow campers to enjoy during the weekend.

Daisies - Ambassadors Jul 14 - Jul 16 \$20 [Register](#)

Daisies - Ambassadors Aug 11 - Aug 13 \$20 [Register](#)

Cadettes - Ambassadors Sep 15 - Sep 17 \$20 [Register](#)

## Plan Your Own Camp Experience!

Plan your own summer adventure with your troop and experience camping in cabins, yurts, or even pop-up tents!

[LEARN MORE](#)



## Flower Badge Workshops with Lavender Hill Farm | Boyne City

**J**

Discover Lavender Hill Farm, one of the prettiest places in northern Michigan. Girl Scouts will make a small bouquet, try lavender lemonade fizz, and eat lavender cookies while learning all about flowers! Complete the steps of the Junior Flower Badge!

Juniors Jul 14 10:00 am - 11:30 am \$25 [Register](#)

Juniors Jul 21 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm \$25 [Register](#)

*Registration closes one week prior to the event or when maximum event capacity has been reached.*

## Gold Award Training | Virtual

**S A**

The GSMISTS Gold Award training is required before girls begin working on their Gold Award. This training will walk the girls through the process of working in Go Gold On-line, requirements and expectations for the Gold Award project and time to answer questions girls may have.

Seniors & Ambassadors Jul 16 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Free [Register](#)

*Registration closes July 9 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.*

## Journey Through a Life in Space Day Camp | Grand Rapids

J

Girl Scout Juniors are invited to join Van Andel Institute for Education for a week of fun that's out of this world! Earn the Space Science Investigator badge as you discover how the human body works differently in space, gain an understanding of the dangers associated with space travel, learn about what robots can do for humans in space, and much more!

Camp activities include:

- Build a scale model of our solar system.
- Build foam rockets and launch them into your solar system.
- Exercise like an astronaut.
- Discover the effect of microgravity on your body.
- Design part of an astronaut suit to stay safe in space.
- See the effect of meteors and micrometeoroids on spacecrafts.
- Talk with an expert from NASA about their work.
- Design a prototype of a robotic arm to pick objects up in space.

Juniors

Jul 31 - Aug 3

\$80

9:00 am -11:30 am

[Register](#)

Juniors

Jul 31 - Aug 3

\$80

1:00 pm -3:30 pm

[Register](#)

*Registration closes July 27 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.*

## Girl Scout Adventures in Aviation | Grand Rapids

JCSA

GSMISTS has partnered with the Michigan chapters of EAA Young Eagles to offer a one-of-a-kind workshop. Alongside pilots and aviation experts, Girl Scouts will explore aviation careers, Aerotech science, and more. Join us for a workshop and take home a patch that shows the sky is the limit!

Rising 3rd graders - Ambassadors

Aug 5

9:00 am -12:00 pm

Grand Rapids

\$12

[Register](#)

*Registration closes July 23 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.*

## Michigan DNR Conservation Stewardship Award

The Conservation Stewardship Award was created to honor Girl Scouts who make a commitment to participating with the DNR in stewardship of Michigan's natural resources. By completing activities and other Girl Scouts achievements and providing conservation stewardship service hours, Brownies and Juniors can earn a stewardship patch and Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors are eligible to earn a stewardship medal. [Learn more](#)

## Save the Date – Girl Scouts Love State Parks 2023 – September 9 & 10

Girl Scouts Love State Parks is back for another exciting weekend this September. With your troop or as a family, celebrate Michigan State Parks with activities at your favorite local state parks.

**Stay up to date!**

Stay up to date on all GSMISTS trainings by visiting our online [Event Calendar](#)

**Check  
it out!**

## Share Your Girl Scout Story

Whether it's a Girl Scout story, a Troop experience, a feel good story, highlighting a volunteer who has gone above and beyond, pictures surrounding Cookie Season, a Girl Scout event, participating in one of our many incredible programs, or any Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award projects!

[Share Your Girl Scout Story](#)

We look forward to reading all of your stories and showcasing more of your hard work as a Girl Scout!

[Click here to  
share your story!](#)



## Shop

### Charm-Its! Sale

Charm-Its! have been in our shops for 1 year. To celebrate, during the month of July, Charm-Its! will be 25% off!



**Summer  
Hours**

## Shop Hours

Curbside pickup is available upon request, contact [customercare@gsmists.org](mailto:customercare@gsmists.org) or 844-476-4787.

### Grand Rapids

Monday: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Tuesday: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Wednesday: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Thursday: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Friday: Shop Closed  
(closed 12:30 pm-1:30 pm)

### Muskegon

Wednesday 8:30 am - 5:30 pm  
(closed 12:30 pm-1:30 pm)

### Traverse City

2nd and 4th Tuesday  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
(closed 12:00 pm-1:00 pm)

**girl scouts**   
of michigan  
shore to shore

Our three Service Centers are not only shops, but also places to connect with GSMISTS staff members, hold meetings, and participate in events. Call one of our Customer Care Specialists with any questions.

**Grand Rapids**

3275 Walker Avenue NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49544  
Telephone: 616.784.3341

**Muskegon**

1201 E. River Road  
Muskegon, MI 49445  
Telephone: 231.744.4774

**Traverse City**

1820 Oak Hollow Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
Telephone: 231.947.7354