

In the Know

Issue 20

May 2023



Your Year of

Friendship

In this edition

- Highlight: Top Cookie Sellers
- Monthly Snapshot
- Fall Kickoff Registration
- Volunteer Trainings
- Partner Highlight: Michigan Born & Raised

Sponsored by:

meijer


gsmists

**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 offered to the Girl Scouts, 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 all your heart work as a Girl Scout!

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



Top Cookie Sellers



**Arianna,
Troop 8264**

3077 Boxes Sold



Saige, Troop 8125

3047 Boxes Sold



Makayla, Troop 30025

2652 Boxes Sold



Sofie, Troop 4786

2537 Boxes Sold



Gentry, Troop 8264

2523 Boxes Sold

**Great job,
Girl Scouts!**

Month of May

Hello May!

The weather is getting warmer and May is almost here and we have a lot of great activities and events happening. Camping, archery, sewing—there are so many adventures to have! **May is also Mental Health Awareness Month, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month.**

Patches to Earn



**Resilient.
Ready.
Strong.**

Resilient.
Ready. Strong.

[Learn more](#)



I'm a Girl Scout!
Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

**AAPI
Heritage**

[Learn more](#)



**FARE
Food Allergy
Awareness**

**FARE Food
Allergy
Awareness**

[Learn more](#)

To Do List

- Work on Troop Finance Report
- Register for Fall Kickoff (see page 3)
- Share a troop or Girl Scout story with GSMISTS! (see page 1)

Things to Share

- Extended Year has begun (see page 3)
- Shore Shout Out will be sent May 18



**You
lead the
way!**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 ACH Sweep (See pg 4)	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Last Raffle (See pg 3)	16	17	18 SSO Sent	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

Fall Kickoff

Registration is Open!

Spring Renewal Raffle

Must be registered by 11:59 pm the Sunday before the drawing. Troops must renew a minimum of 80% of MY23 Girl Scouts and two leaders.

Troops and individual Girl Scouts are only eligible for one prize.

**MAY
01**

Michigan's Adventure

Troop Drawing x3
Trip to Michigan Adventure
(only for entrance fees up to \$500)*

**MAY
08**

Girl Scout Camping

Individual Drawing x3
Hammock, Sleeping Bag,
& Inflatable Camping Sofa.

**MAY
15**

Camp Experience

Troop Drawing x1
Hammock, Sleeping Bag,
& Inflatable Camping Sofa.

Backyard Camp Experience

Troop Drawing x2
12 Person Tent and Troop
Camping Table

*Must be used by September 30, 2024

Fall Kickoff | Muskegon

Service Unit team members and Girl Scout leaders are invited to join us at the Frauenthal Center to kick off the 2024 membership year!

A variety of sessions will be offered to help prepare us all for the upcoming year and get the most out of the Girl Scout experience. Review the breakout sessions being offered and reserve your spot in the sessions of your choice!

Aug 19

10:00 am - 2:25 pm

Free

[Register](#)

Extended Year Membership

Girls can join Girl Scouts for \$35, and their membership will be active for the remainder of 2023 through September 30th, 2024.

Let's get excited for ON TIME renewal!

Renew your membership by October 1, 2023 and qualify to purchase the MY24 exclusive on time Girl Scout T-shirt and/or Bucket Hat.

Finance Reports due June 1

Need information on how to complete your troop's Finance Report?

[Check out the training!](#)

Passcode: #.4zyu!%

All About Cookies

Important Information

2023 Cookie Season

The 2023 Cookie Season has now closed and the Smart Cookie system is locked.

ACH Sweep

The final ACH Sweep will occur on May 1. Please make sure you deposit all monies due to Council before that date.

If your troop participated after March 20 you may see two different sweeps. One will be through the Smart Cookie system for any remaining balances due to Council, (see Troop Balance Summary for accurate calculations) and the second will be for any discounted packages picked up between April 5 - 21 not listed in Smart Cookie.

Rewards and Bonuses

All Spring Renewal Bonus' have been applied to the troop payment sections. This will be deducted from the final sweep or reverse swept back to the troops if needed after May 1.

Rewards have been ordered and are scheduled to arrive to the SUPPM's by Mid-May.

Higher Level Rewards have been ordered and will arrive via Amazon delivery. Tent bundles will come through Walmart.

Cookie Dough

Online Cookie Dough has been sent to all parents with codes to spend. Enter the code at checkout in the Gift Certificate field, not the promo code field.

Card form Cookie Dough has been ordered and is scheduled to arrive and be processed for a Mid-May delivery or pick up from a local council office by the SUPPM's to distribute to leaders.

Cookie Donations

We had a very successful donation program this season. Helen Devos Children's Hospital, GR Veterans Home, Feeding America, Father Fred's in Traverse City, and Sus Manos Gleaners are just a few of the deserving donation sites who will be receiving Girl Scout cookies in the next coming weeks. This program makes a huge impact in our local community.

Policy Reminders

Please remember, per GSMISTS Volunteer Policy and Procedures, if a girl has participated in fall and cookies with her troop and applies for FA for membership, the troop should be covering those registration fees.

If you receive an email from Sally Ellis regarding this payment issue, please re-register the girl ASAP so we can close the case. The procedure is referenced below.

From page 26 of GSMISTS Volunteer Policies and Procedures:

- Financial assistance for girls and adults is subject to the availability of funds within GSMISTS operating budget.
- Troops who have had the opportunity to participate in the Fall Product Program and the Cookie Program should use troop funds to renew girl and leader memberships.

Fall Program

The 2023 Fall Program is already being planned with a start date of September 29 and end date of October 23.

Two new items are being offered.

This year's mascot is the Ocelot and the theme is "Own your Magic"!



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.

May 7

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Red Cross Certification

Grand Rapids

\$45

[Register](#)

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

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



Troop Leader Grade Level Trainings | Virtual

Troop Leader Grade Level Trainings provide the opportunity for a leader to learn more about the age they are working with or will be working, including programing options, developmental characteristics, how to promote appropriate girl-led planning, behavior management, and much more!

Brownie Troop Leader Training

May 11

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Free

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 4 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Cadette-Ambassador Troop Leader Training

May 18

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Free

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 11 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Troop Camping Skills | Gaylord

This is a hands-on course designed to teach leaders how to guide their girls through the skills necessary for successful early outdoor camping adventures. It includes practice in basic knots, knife skills, fire building, and outdoor cooking on a camp stove as well as an open fire.

May 20

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

\$12

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 11 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

gsLearn Training available for Resilient. Ready. Strong. Patch Program

The Resilient. Ready. Strong. patch will build girls' inner strength, so they are ready for anything! This 15-minute course for troop leaders and volunteers will review activities that work for all grade levels, as well as provide reflective questions for discussion with girls, and links to additional resources. Access gsLearn through your MY GS account.

Small Craft Safety Training | Greenville

Learn and practice small craft safety! This training permits GS volunteers to facilitate canoeing and kayaking with their Girl Scouts.

Please note, this is a HYBRID training. Completion of this course involves:

1. Completing gsLearn video modules (Approximately 30 min in length)
2. Passing online exam prior to in-person training (80% or higher) (approximately 30 minutes total test time)
3. Successfully completing the in-person training and skills assessment with GSMISTS

Participants must demonstrate: Swimming ability, shore-based rescues, on-water rescues, self-rescues, and supported rescues for other boaters. **This training is valid for 2 years after completion.**

Jun 3

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

\$60

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 29 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Programs and Events



First Aid & Safety Pin Workshops | Multiple

DBJ

Hosted by Michigan Born & Raised, each program focuses on the unique safety and first aid requirements by Girl Scout level. Discover safety measures you can take to protect yourselves and your family from harm, then put your knowledge to use through hands activities and exercises. Cost includes earned awards.

Daisies & Brownies

May 13

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

\$50

Grand Rapids

[Register](#)

Registration closes April 29 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Juniors

May 13

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Grand Rapids

\$50

[Register](#)

Registration closes April 29 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Daisies & Brownies

Jun 24

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

\$50

Traverse City

[Register](#)

Registration closes June 11 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Juniors

Jun 24

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Traverse City

\$50

[Register](#)

Registration closes June 11 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Super Sitter! Babysitter Training | Multiple

CSA

Through interactive demonstrations and hands-on skills stations, Girl Scouts will learn everything they need to know to keep little ones from infancy through school age safe and happy while their primary caregivers are away. Cost includes American Red Cross completion certificate, Super Sitter! Kit, and earned Babysitter badge for Cadettes.

Cadettes - Ambassadors

Jun 3

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

\$95

Grand Rapids

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 20 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Cadettes - Ambassadors

Jun 25

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

\$95

Traverse City

[Register](#)

Registration closes June 11 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Stay up to date!

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

Robotics Triple Badge Workshops | Grand Rapids

D B J

Join GSMISTS for hands on, badge earning evenings of robotics FUN! Girl Scouts will design robots, program their robots, and showcase their robots in this two-part workshop. Registration for a program includes both sessions. All earned badges are included in cost.

Daisies & Brownies

May 8

and

May 10

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

\$40

[Register](#)

Brownies & Juniors

May 9

and

May 11

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

\$40

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 1 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Archery Day | Gaylord

C S A

Arrows away! Join GSMISTS volunteers for an introductory workshop in the target sport of archery. Learn about range safety, equipment, and techniques – then perfect your aim to hit a bullseye! Cadettes will complete and receive the Archery Badge.

Cadettes - Ambassadors

May 13

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

\$12

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 6 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

May 15

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Free

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 8 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Girls on Guitar | Grand Rapids

D B J

Discover the world of guitars and string instruments through hands-on activities, practice making your own music, and earn a new badge! Riverside Guitar School has partnered with GSMISTS to offer Girl Scouts small-group introductory music programs. Girl Scout Juniors complete and earn the Junior Musician badge. Daisies and Brownies receive a guitar fun patch.

Daisies - Juniors

May 20

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

\$35

[Register](#)

Registration closes 2 weeks prior to event or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Machine Sewing Workshops | Grand Rapids

B J C

Introduce your Girl Scouts to the lifelong skill of sewing! The Common Thread Studio offers Girl Scouts the opportunity to acquire an independent skill while learning together in community. Girl Scouts will learn machine sewing while also creating homemade pins and/or pom poms to decorate their newly made tote bags.

Brownies - Cadettes

Jun 10

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

\$45

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 28 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Girl Scout Night with the West Michigan Whitecaps | Grand Rapids

D B J C S A

Come to LMCU Ballpark and enjoy a special night as the Whitecaps recognize Girl Scouts, family, and friends. All Girl Scouts and their families will have the opportunity to participate in an on-field parade lap. Stick around for post-game fireworks to wrap up the evening!

All Girl Scouts, Family, and Friends

Jun 10

Game starts at 7:05 pm

\$5 - \$15

[Purchase Tickets](#)

Girl Scout Camporee | Kalkaska

D B J

Spend the day enjoying outdoor FUN! Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors are invited to Camp Kellogg for games, campfires, and crafts. All Girl Scouts receive a patch.

Daisies - Juniors

Jun 10

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

\$5 - \$15

[Register](#)

Registration closes June 1 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

STEM Careers Badge - Think Like an Engineer | Virtual

J C

Have you ever wondered why your lights flicker during a storm? Have you noticed an electrical substation near your neighborhood? Learn how electricity impacts your daily life during this live Zoom workshop. Girl Scouts will work with a professional electrical engineer and a female member of the VicTreeFi team (who also was a former electrician's apprentice) to learn about how electricity impacts their lives. Girl Scouts will act as members of an electrical engineering team to solve common electrical problems during this workshop. This workshop is open to Junior and Cadette Girl Scouts from across the country. Girl Scouts will earn the STEM Career Exploration badge, mailed to participants upon completion.

Juniors & Cadettes

Jun 11

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

\$20

[Register](#)

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

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

Jun 16 - Jun 18

\$20

[Register](#)

Daisies - Ambassadors

Jul 14 - Jul 16

\$20

[Register](#)

Daisies - Ambassadors

Aug 11 - Aug 13

\$20

[Register](#)

Cadettes - Ambassadors

Sep 15 - Sep 17

\$20

[Register](#)

Ocqueoc Overnight Camporee | Millersburg

CSA

Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors are invited to an overnight escape in northern Michigan. This Year's Theme: Girl Scout Traditions! Celebrate your Girl Scout year and share the sisterhood and traditions we love.

Cadettes - Ambassadors

Jun 17 -18

\$20

[Register](#)

Registration closes May 21 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Plan Your Own Campout!

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

[LEARN MORE](#)



Special Ticket Prices for Girl Scouts – Disney's Frozen | Grand Rapids

DBJCSA

Did you know Girl Scout members, family, and friends receive special rate tickets to select performances through Broadway Grand Rapids? Grab your friends and enjoy discounted tickets to Disney's Frozen.

Ages 6+

Jul 20

Show starts at 7:30 pm

\$35

[Purchase Tickets by May 15](#)

Ages 6+

Jul 23

Show starts at 1:00 pm

\$44-\$74

[Purchase Tickets by May 15](#)

General Program Information



Girl Scouts Love the Outdoors Challenge

Get ready for a summer of outdoor fun and adventure! The 4th annual Girl Scouts Love the Outdoors Challenge begins at the end of May and ends with Girl Scouts Love State Parks weekend on September 10. Summer is the perfect time to celebrate our love of the outdoors. Choose from a variety of activities to earn a FREE patch! Share your summer fun by tagging #GSMISTSoutdoors and have the chance to be featured on GSMISTS social media!

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

May is used as a time by those of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage to amplify their voices and concerns, as well as to share their cultural pride. A rather broad term, Asian and Pacific Islander traditionally refers to those who have origins in the East, Southeast, and/or the Indian subcontinent of Asia, as well as the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia.

[Learn more](#)

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Life isn't always easy but dealing with tricky emotions doesn't have to be so hard. Try activities from the Girl Scouts: Resilient. Ready. Strong. program to unlock a patch and strengthen your mental wellness. Nobody can snap their fingers and make the world all sunshine and lollipops, but you can take steps to be ready when things get tough.

[Resilient. Ready. Strong. Activity Guide \(All grade levels\)](#)

May is National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month

The Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE) is the world's leading food allergy advocacy organization and the largest private funder of food allergy research. The Food Allergy Awareness Patch Program requirements give Girl Scouts the opportunity to learn about life with food allergies, with an emphasis on raising awareness of the public health issue.

[FARE Food Allergy Awareness Patch Program](#)

Girl Scout Tree Promise – Plant, Protect, and Honor Trees

In 2021, GSUSA launched a bold tree planting and conservation initiative for Girl Scouts to take 5 million actions to address climate change by planting, protecting, and honoring trees to support wildlife conservation and ease the negative effects of climate change. From Girl Scout Daisies to Ambassadors, to adult members and partners, every member and friend of Girl Scouts is being asked to join in this five-year initiative.

[Learn more](#)

Michigan Big Tree Hunt

Join ReLeaf Michigan and participate in the Michigan Big Tree Hunt. Founded in 1993 to celebrate our state's beauty, this activity is a creative and fun way to gather information about Michigan's biggest trees. All age groups are encouraged to get out and join the hunt!

[Learn more](#)

Citizen Science with SciStarter

From forest diversity to invasive species, support a citizen science project with your Girl Scout Tree Promise.

[Learn more](#)

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](#)

Choose your own adventures!

Explore all of GSMISTS' [Programs on Demand](#) and choose your own adventures.

GSMISTS Shop Return Policy

A refund will be given in the form of payment received within 30 days for:

- Item(s) purchased accompanied by the original receipt provided that:
 - Item(s) are still carried in the store
 - The item(s) are not used, and original packaging are still intact.
- Defective items accompanied by the original receipt may be returned for a replacement.
- Defective items not accompanied by the original receipt may be exchanged within 30 days of purchase.
- A check will be sent for refunds greater than \$25.00 unless a credit card purchase.

Exchanges will be allowed for returns over 30 days, but not to exceed 12 months from original purchase date, provided that they are program related items such as:

- Earned Awards
- Unused Journey Books and Sets
- Unworn Vests, Sashes and Tunics
- Official insignia: Tabs, Membership Pins, World Trefoil Pins, American Flag, Troop Numbers and Council ID Sets.
- Other items, unopened and original packaging

*****Excludes fun patches and special-order Troop/Service Unit Flags, Banners or Tablecloths.**

Shop

Service Centers

Curbside pickup is available upon request.

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

Tuesday 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

(closed 12:30 pm-1:30 pm)

[Online shop is always available](#)

CHARM IT!

Empower Girl Scouts to express themselves with the CHARM IT! collections!

Buy 10 CHARM IT!
GET 1 FREE



Muskegon and Traverse City Shop Sale!

We want you to meet the newest members of our team! Stop in to the Muskegon shop and meet Janet or the Traverse City shop to meet Jennifer.

Say "Hi" and receive 15% off your entire order.

*Excludes custom orders and cookies



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