

In the Know

Issue 19

April 2023



Sponsored by:





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Share Your Girl Scout Story

We are just scratching the surface in sharing all the amazing stories happening around our 30-county wide Girl Scout council and we want to make sure we give everyone the opportunity to spread the good news!

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, and especially 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!

Letter from the CEO

Spring Forward

Now that we have adjusted our clocks, we are able to enjoy more daylight in the evenings. Every new day brings a few more moments for us to enjoy the beauty of western and northern Michigan. Many of us look forward to spending more time outdoors as the temperature warms up. Our Girl Scouts in particular, have much to be excited about in the coming weeks and months.

As cookie season winds down, our program offerings continue to expand. When I look at the latest Shore Shout Out, I'm inspired by the quantity and quality of offerings available to the 5,000 Girl Scouts in our council. Partners, large and small, help us deliver engaging and meaningful programs that fall under one of the four Girl Scout Pillars:

• Life Skills

Now

Introducing!

- Outdoors
- Entrepreneurship
- STEM Education

Active participation in these programs along with troop meetings and additional activities, make up the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, which encourages development of the Girl Scout Values of:

- Self-expression
- Community
- Inclusion
- Integrity
- Discovery

Our girls will benefit tremendously through their GSMISTS experiences, setting them up to be women of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. These outcomes are made possible, in part, by the superb volunteers who give of themselves to ensure that every girl who is interested, can participate in Girl Scouts. This month is National Volunteer Appreciation Month, which gives us pause to reflect and give thanks for the 2,700+ individuals who we count as partners in our mission-driven focus. We appreciate each of you! Thank you, on behalf of all our Girl Scouts.

In gratitude,

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Vivian TerMaat CEO at GSMISTS

MY24 Spring Renewal Incentives! April 10 - May 15 | Mondays at 1:30 pm





Spring Renewal Patch

Renew between April 1–June 30 and earn the 2024 Early Bird Patch!





Backyard Camp Experience Troop Drawing x 2 12 Person Tent and Troop Camping Table



Raffle Drawing Details

STEM Fun

Individual Drawina x 3

Terrarium Kit and Microscope Kit

Girl Scout Camping

Individual Drawing x 3

Hammock, Sleeping Bag, and Inflatable Camping Sofa

- Must be registered by 11:59 pm the Sunday before the drawing (Will be eligible for that week's drawings and all following drawings.)
- To be eligible for troop drawings troops must renew a minimum of 80% of MY23 Girl Scouts and a minimum of two leaders
- Troops and individual Girl Scouts are only eligible for one prize
- All Troop Leaders are responsible for coordinating with GSMISTS staff to receive prizes.

Welcome to the Team



Jess Edinger Community Membership Manager in Traverse City

Reminders

Pre-K Registration

Registration for Pre-K begins April 1 with Extended Year Membership.

Extended Year Membership

New Girl Scouts can join for \$35, and their membership will be active from April 1, 2023- September 30 2024.

On the Horizon

It's time to start thinking about Finance Report. Finance Reports are due June 1.

Save the Date

Fall Kickoff

Saturday, August 19 | Doors open at 9:00am The Frauenthal Center in Muskegon



All About Cookies

Important Information

2023 Cookie Season Extended

The 2023 Cookie Season has been extended by two weeks due to popular demand. Sales will continue until April 3.

ACH Sweep

The first scheduled ACH bank sweep occurred on March 14 and the second on March 28.

A final sweep will occur on April 11 to include all remaining balances due to Council.

Rewards

- You must create a Main and Troop Rewards package before you can manage it.
- There are some larger Rewards selection items at the higher level of packages sold that may also need your attention to close out the rewards sections. Please be sure that your troop is a part of this selection process so they can select the items that they want. Once the Smart Cookie system is closed, no future changes can be honored.
- Rewards are still on target to arrive in Mid-May. Even with the Extension.

Closing Smart Cookie System

When closing out the Smart Cookie system, please remember to add all patch needs under the Main rewards section, Extras. Girl Scouts will also need to decide if they would like Online Cookie Dough (spent through GSUSA online shop items only) or card form Cookie Dough (Can be used for camp, Membership renewal, GSMISTS Shop items and Council Events). These choices must be in fully earned denominations and cannot be reverted after the Smart Cookies system closes.









Volunteer Information

National Volunteer Week and Girl Scout Leader Day

April 16-22 is National Volunteer Week and April 22 is Girl Scout Leader Day. GSMISTS appreciates all our volunteers during these celebrations and the rest of the year!

OWLS Adult Resource Weekend | Greenville

Join Girl Scout Volunteers for a day of hands-on and engaging training at Camp Anna Behrens. New and veteran volunteers will come together to share their experiences, ask questions, and share ideas. Sessions offered include: Wilderness First Aid, First Aid/CPR (American Heart Association), Troop Camping Skills, STEM Art, Camp Bucket Sit-Upons, and so much more! Overnight accommodations available.

Apr 28 - 30 \$50, some sessions will have additional fees <u>Register</u>

Registration closes April 12 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

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.



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:











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 prep-work which must be completed prior to event date. The times listed are for the virtual, live instructor led portion of the training.



Registration closes March 30 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

Volunteer Information

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!



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

Cadette Leader Chat | Virtual

Meet via Zoom for an open discussion on being a Cadette Leader in today's world. This chat is facilitated by Judy Koronka, Program Coordinator with GSMISTS.

May 2 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Free <u>Register</u>

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

Junior Leader Chat | Virtual

Meet via Zoom for an open discussion on transitioning your Girl Scouts from Juniors to Cadettes. This chat is facilitated by Judy Koronka, Program Coordinator with GSMISTS.

Apr 11 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Free Register

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

May 9 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Free Register

Registration closes May 2 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.





Programs and Events

	Super Sitter! Babysitter CSA Training Grand Rapids
MICHIGAN BORN & RAISED	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	Apr 22 10:00 am - 5:00 pm \$95 <u>Register</u>

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

First Aid & Safety Pin Workshops | Grand Rapids

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	<u>Register</u>	
Registration closes April 29 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.					
Juniors	May 13	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	\$50	Register	

Learn more or schedule your own troop workshop with Programs on Demand!

Girl Scout Day at the Zoo | Grand Rapids

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DBJ

Girl Scouts, family, and friends are all invited to join GSMISTS for a special day at John Ball Zoo. Discover Math in Nature and work toward a new badge with the plants and animals found throughout the zoo! Older girls will have the opportunity to learn about Wildlife Biology careers. **Registrations received by April 1 are guaranteed a patch.** Those received after may receive patches while supplies last.

All Girl Scouts, Family, and Friends May 6 10:00 am - 2:00 pm \$12 <u>Register</u>

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

Girl Scout Day at the Zoo Sponsored by



Girl Scout Specials and Broadway Grand Rapids | Grand Rapids

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*.



Woodworking Workshops | Grand Rapids

Try your hand at building a birdhouse or toolbox with Heritage Woodworks! Discover woodworking, practice using tools, and take home your very own project. Girl Scout programs include all materials and a patch or badge, depending on the program. Check out our <u>Event Calendar</u> for opportunities in April.

Badge Workshops with Humane Society of West Michigan | Grand Rapids

Join Humane Society of West Michigan to complete a Girl Scout badge! Daisies and Brownies are invited to learn all about animal shelters and how HSWM makes a difference in the lives of animals. Girls receive a HSWM fun patch at event.

Daisies	Apr 15	9:00 am - 10:30 am	\$14	<u>Register</u>
Daisies	May 13	9:00 am - 10:30 am	\$14	Register
Brownies	Apr 15	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	\$14	Register
Brownies	May 13	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	\$14	<u>Register</u>

Registration closes 1 week prior to event or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Machine Sewing Workshops | Grand Rapids

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.



Registration closes April 2 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Self Defense for Women | Traverse City

Learn the skills to keep you safe from certified female martial arts instructors. This workshop will teach various self-defense techniques in an exclusive Girl Scout environment.

\$35

Register

Cadettes - Ambassadors Apr 15 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

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

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Girls on Guitar | Grand Rapids

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	Apr 15	2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	\$35	<u>Register</u>
Daisies - Juniors	May 20	2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	\$35	<u>Register</u>

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

STEM Careers Badge Workshop with WTS | Grand Rapids B J

Transportation is part of our daily lives, though the design, planning, and implementation of street safety is something we don't often think about! Join guest speakers from WTS (Women's Transportation Seminar) as they share their experiences as women in STEM careers. Girl Scout Brownies and Juniors will hear from experts in the fields of transportation, complete activities, and participate in a Q&A to earn the STEM Careers Badge.



Registration closes April 13 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Cooking Badge Workshops | Muskegon

Join T. Rex & the Rabbit Foods, LLC for Girl Scout badge workshops to earn a cooking badge! Discover new culinary skills and practice making a tasty treat alongside your Girl Scout sisters. Workshops include all supplies, ingredients, and earned badges.

Registration closes April 16 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Brownie Budding Entrepreneur & Daisy Toy Business Designer Workshop | Gaylord

Both Daisies and Brownies will complete badge requirements in this hands-on workshop with Challenge Island. Girl Scouts will design their businesses, share their ideas, then give and receive feedback to make their ideas the best they can be! Cost includes earned badges.



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

Safe@Home by Safe Sitter® | Grand Rapids

This 90-minute program designed for 4th and 5th graders teaches skills of independence and how to care for themselves when home alone for short periods of time. Girl Scouts will learn safe habits, how to prevent injuries, and how to handle weather and home emergencies. Cost includes all materials and take home workbook.

Register

 Juniors
 May 3
 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
 \$60

Registration closes April 19 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

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Tree Promise Planting Days | Newaygo

Kickoff the 3rd year of the Girl Scout Tree Promise! Nationwide, Girl Scouts are planting, protecting, and honoring trees with a goal to plant 5 million trees in 5 years. Learn more about the Tree Promise and how to take part on your own or join Girl Scouts from across the council at an upcoming Tree Promise Planting Day.

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

Think Like an Engineer Journey in a Day | Multiple Locations J C

This multi-level workshop will engage girls in the Engineering Design Process to understand a real-world issues, create three separate STEAM design built around each topic, and have the opportunity to show off their go-getter ingenuity to their fellow Girl Scouts. *Program completes the three badges of the Think Like an Engineer Journey, though Girl Scouts are responsible for completing the Journey's Take Action project on their own following this event.*



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

Mechanical Engineering Badge Workshops | Multiple Locations DBJ

Earn all three Mechanical Engineering badges through a hands-on workshop with Challenge Island! In this Girl Scout exclusive workshop girls will design and build leap bots, fling flyers, board games, and more. Cost includes all earned badges.



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

Meijer LPGA Classic

CSA

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GSMISTS is partnering with Meijer to offer Girl Scouts an opportunity to be a part of the behind-thescenes of the Meijer Classic LPGA tournament and volunteer at a world class event that promotes women's professional sports. As a volunteer, you will be provided with 4 tickets for you and your family to enjoy the tournament. Meals will be provided on your scheduled volunteer shifts. All individual Girl Scouts who are participating must be accompanied by an adult (who is also volunteering). Troops who are participating must meet adult/girl ratios (girls and adults all volunteering).

Cadettes - Ambassadors and Adults	Jun 15, 16, 17, or 18	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	<u>or</u>	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Free <u>Register</u>				

Registration closes April 12 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.

Robotics Triple Badge Workshops | Grand Rapids

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.



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

Archery Day | Gaylord

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! All Girl Scouts receive an archery patch. Cadettes will complete and receive the Archery Badge.

Brownies and Juniors	May 13	10:00 am - 11:30 am	\$7	<u>Register</u>
Cadettes - Ambassadors	May 13	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	\$12	<u>Register</u>

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

Community Camp Weekends | Greenville

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	More Information
Daisies - Ambassadors	Jul 14 - Jul 16	\$20	More Information
Daisies - Ambassadors	Aug 11 - Aug 13	\$20	More Information
Cadettes - Ambassadors	Sep 15 - Sep 17	\$20	More Information

Registration begins March 15

Highest Awards Trainings | Virtual

Looking for more information on how to complete the Bronze or Silver Awards? Join GSMISTS for a virtual training to learn more. The trainings are geared for Girl Scouts, but Troop Leaders are encouraged to attend.

Bronze Award Training	Apr 16	3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Free	<u>Register</u>		
Registration closes April 9 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.						
Gold Award Training	Apr 23	4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Free	<u>Register</u>		
Registration closes April 16 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.						
Seniors and AmbassadorsMay 156:30 pm - 8:30 pmFreeRegister						
Registration closes May 8 or when maximum event capacity has been reached.						

JCSA

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D B J C S A

BJCSA

General Program Information

April is National Diversity Month | Earn the D.I.V.E.R.S.I.T.Y. Patch

Created by Silver Award Girl Scouts Grace and Mia, the purpose of this patch is to help girls to learn about D.I.V.E.R.S.I.T.Y. (Different Individuals Valuing Each other Regardless of Skin, Intellect, Talents, or Years). With this patch, Girl Scouts have the opportunity to learn about various cultures and interact with the diversity in their communities. They will be able to expand their circle by interacting with new people while learning to appreciate their distinct customs. The participants will become more understanding of other backgrounds and become more culturally sensitive.

D.I.V.E.R.S.I.T.Y. Patch Program

New Financial Literacy Badges | April is Financial Literacy Month

The Financial Literacy badges have been modernized to support modern Girl Scouts as they explore the world of entrepreneurship. This new content includes:

- Newly designed badge content for Daisies through Ambassadors
- New badge booklets for girls, including a full volunteer guide
- Hands-on, age-appropriate activities that provide the opportunity to think about Financial Literacy from an Outdoor, STEM, Life Skills, Entrepreneurial, and Global lens.
- · Content mapped to education standards for easy reference developed with a DEIA lens

Check out all the new badges in the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK)! Access the VTK through your MY GS account.

National Park Week | Free Admission to US National Parks on April 22

Celebrate National Park Week (April 22 to April 30)! Entrance fees will be waived on April 22, 2023, to kick off National Park Week. Michigan is home to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Glen Arbor.

Did you know Girl Scouts can become Junior Rangers?

Complete the NPS patch program whenever you visit Sleeping Bear Dunes! While visiting the park, stop by the Philip A. Hart Visitor Center in Empire, the Dune Center Bookstore at the Dune Climb, or the Glen Haven General Store to get your FREE copy of the Junior Ranger Book. Complete the listed activities and requirements and a ranger will review your book with you.

Learn more about the Junior Ranger Program

Stay up to date!

Stay up to date on all GSMISTS events and programs by visiting our online Event Calendar

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

Council Delegate Announcement

The Annual Meeting Voter Packet was emailed on Wednesday, March 22, please plan to review this prior to the annual meeting that will be held at Camp Anna Behrens on Saturday, April 22 at 10 am. Your attendance is required to vote on behalf of your SU. Registration will close on April 7.

<u>Register</u>



GSMISTS Leader Appreciation Sale!

Leaders receive 10% off their orders, and if they spend \$200, they have the chance of getting another 5%, 10% or 15% off.

Phone orders will receive 10% off for the April Leader Appreciation Sale.



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