

girl scouts 
of virginia skyline

Lynchburg Campbell County
Girl Scout Service Unit

Amherst/Appomattox
January 2024
Update





Super Service Day (Dec. 9) was amazing...really beyond amazing!! This was an event created by Marion Stump 18 years ago that celebrates three service projects that serve the local community. Due to the generosity of Girl Scouts and their families over this period of time, we have

donated approximately 7200 pounds of food to the Lynchburg Area Food Bank, handmade over 3600 *Thinking of You* cards for area nursing homes and decorated and filled more than 1300 birthday boxes for Meals on Wheels. This is a tremendous effort by so many to oversee this outreach program that is both rewarding to our recipients as well as our girls. Another wonderful example of



paying it forward when you do something positive for someone that you do not know and expect nothing in return. Our Girl Scouts know in their hearts that they were doing something good. The girls also made a few take home treasures, decorated and ate sugar cookies and visited with Mrs. Claus and her elf.





The growing season is over at Camp Sacajawea and we now have to clean up what is left. This will pave the way for next year lawns at Sac and make the entire property look good. No one can ignore the green tide sweeping across...tiny seedlings that have sprouted in recent weeks creating a carpet of herbit and chickweed. Controlling this is now much easier than waiting until spring. By spring, these will have dug in and formed a weedy sod of great strength. So we mulch the leaves in the winter and do a lot of pruning. This provides camp with an extra line of defense against all

those weeds. Thank you to Club 51, Ann, Gail, Donna and Rebecca, who spend a good 1½ days at Camp Sac to do just that along with decorating camp with hundreds of solar light that come on around 5:00pm for the holiday season. These Girl Scouts are our Outdoor Education trainers, Day Camp helpers and part of the Camp Sac Volunteer work team.



We had great representation from our local Girl Scouts at the Wreaths Across America Ceremony on December 16 at the Old City Cemetery. There was patriotic music and our girls participated in laying approximately 2000 wreaths honoring the more than 2300 fallen veterans who served in Revolutionary War through the Vietnam War buried there.





Our troops participated in the Christmas Stocking Program as part of the annual Holiday Party that takes place at the Salvation Army. These Girl Scouts collected items to fill our 50 stockings with needed personal supplies and a few toys.

We are at our strongest when we lift other people up.

The eagles are back at Camp Sac and will spend the winter and early spring with us, raising their young. This brings such joy and amazement to everyone who sees these majestic birds. There are 2 viewing spots. One is near the Gay Lodge fire circle (look for the gold rock and trees painted gold) and the second is along the Mama Stump Trail. As the new nest site does not line up with the observation sign, Rebecca will need to guide you to the best place to see them. At the end of the Mama Stump Trail is Amy's Overlooks. These overlooks are a great place to sit and watch the eagles soar and fish along the James River. Use the information in the Mama Stump Trail Activity Tub, located at Sunspot, to learn about the eagles before you venture out toward the trail. There are binoculars to borrow for the adventure. Contact Rebecca for more info and to receive your Mama Stump Trail Patch. (becka6778@aol.com)





Please join us in welcoming Mary Alice Mouk, the new Community Engagement Manager, who will serve the following service units: Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, Floyd, Henry, Lynchburg/Campbell County, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Pulaski, Radford/Montgomery and Roanoke Valley.

Help the Community Engagement Managers spread the word about Girl Scouting...recruiting members and starting new troops, sharing flyers at cookie booths and local festivals, sharing on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, sharing at PTA/PTO meetings and local libraries, etc. Reach out to Mary Alice for assistance and suggestions at info@gsvsc.org.

Adult membership requirements: Council Policy A5: Adult participants attending a Girl Scout (girl) program, trip, or overnight should be registered Girl Scout members and have a cleared background check on file with GSVSC prior to their participation in these Girl Scout activities.

This means: Parents/caregivers must have a membership and cleared background check in order to stay at troop meetings and/or participate with their daughters in field trips, overnights, campouts, cookie booths or other travel experiences. Parents must be registered and be assigned a volunteer role.

Save the dates

- Saturday, January 8 – Service Unit Meeting and New Leader Investiture - 2:00pm at Gay Lodge, Camp Sacajawea
- Saturday, January 20 – GSVSC annual meeting – Icimani Adventure Camp. Registration is required - register online
- Saturday, February 10 – LSU Dance Workshop – First Presbyterian Church – Flyer is out. Check with your troop leader. D, B, J
- Saturday, March 2 – World thinking Day – First Presbyterian Church – Flyer is out. Check with your troop leader regarding participation. Theme: *Our World, Our Thriving Future*
- Saturday, April – Textile Artist/Book Binding Techniques for our older Girl Scouts. A super fun filled trip with lots of hands on activities – Downtown Lynchburg. See flyer. For questions: becca6778@aol.com
- May 17-19 – Junior Jam: Take 2 – Movie themed camporee. For our Junior Girl Scouts. Registration opens in February. <https://www.gsvsc.org/en/sf-events-repository/2024/junior-jam-2024.html>



Girl Scout Sunday, Sabbath/Shabbat, and Jummah give girls an opportunity to attend their place of worship and be recognized as Girl Scouts. If a place of worship is the group sponsor, girls may perform a service, such as greeting, ushering, or doing a flag ceremony, handing out bulletins, provide music, etc. plan to meet with the church representative soon to discuss and plan. Our council will provide a free bulletin insert. You can order troop or SU personalized or generic inserts: www.gsvsc.org/gs-holidays

Mar. 10-16: Girl Scout Week 2024

Mar. 10: GS Sunday

Mar. 12: GS Birthday

Mar. 15: GS Jummah

Mar. 15-16: GS Sabbath



Ready for cookies

Buying Girl Scout cookies is more than just handing over \$6 for a box. It's about the skills and learning a girl gains from interacting directly with you, her customers. It's about the experience of running her own cookie business and working with others. Your purchase means you get some tasty cookies and girls learn a lot!



During booth sales, girls get more involved with her troop mates and the team effort. It is a wonderful opportunity to leave and practice skills. There are some frequently asked questions you, as a leader, might want to help your girls practice to answer. This allows them to be more comfortable in speaking up.

1. What is your favorite cookie?
2. What will you do with the money earned? Some good responses – pay for badges, pins, outings, activities and service projects.
3. What is your favorite about being a Girl Scout?

Consider having the girls make a chart/poster to help deal with customers

1. Poster with pictures showcasing activities and service
2. Poster/sign with boxes and prices

1 box = \$6

2 boxes = \$12

3 boxes = \$18

4 boxes = \$22

Case of 12 boxes = \$72

How to survive Girl Scout cookie season...for those new to cookie and those who are seasoned veterans, here are ways to survive the season as a leader or cookie manager. A lot of work goes into cookie sales. Cookie season gives a whole new meaning to 9½ weeks.

1. First of all, make sure that you have dedicated trustworthy parents. You need a well-oiled program to make it work and it can
2. As a troop leader, make sure that you're taking care of your team meal, meal cards, wine. Check in with the cookie team often. As the troop leader, it's still your troop. So make sure that you're in touch and informed.
3. Remember why you're selling cookies. Some parents have no idea how expensive Girl Scouts can be. But for those that have trips in mind, camping and other adventures, do a lot of badge activities, cookie season could mean all or nothing. A general thought to share: Girl Scout badge and a pin = 1 box of cookies.
4. This is a job. The girls are learning life skills. They will be dealing with some very nice people and some not so nice ones. Make sure that the girls are ready for various people and interactions.
5. Money management is the key to selling cookies. Make sure that each girl is honest and responsible along the way.

6. Cookie sales are voluntary, not mandated. It is hard, however, when you have a top cookie seller and some less enthusiastic girls.
7. Host a mandatory parent meeting. This might be the only time you have all of your parents in one place. This is when you have them sign their agreement, learn about products and hear from the girls about their goals. Some questions to prepare for:
 - How do they re-order
 - When is money due
 - How do they pay
 - Can you return cookies
8. As your girls get older, have them lead the parents' meeting.
9. Staying organized! We cannot stress this part enough. You must stay organized from the start.
10. Setting boundaries and a schedule – Let parents know your availability. Give them a schedule of when and how they can get more cookies when needed. Pick specific days for your cupboard, making bank deposits, distributing cookies and taking payments.
11. If you're feeling overwhelmed, tell someone immediately. You are a volunteer.
12. As a troop leader, help with picking up orders.

Don't be the parent that we have to chase down.

Do be the parent who brings hot chocolate to the booth on a cold day.

This is a great time to introduce your Girl Scout families to the *Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin*. There are simple and fun requirements the family and their Girl Scout can do together so they can be more involved in the Girl Scout cookie season. Go online, select the Girl Scout level to download the activity sheet and get started.

<https://www.girlscouts.org/en/members/for-parents-and-families/cookie-entrepreneur-family-pin.html>



The pin is 5/8", round, gold tone, with a bitten cookie design and word ENTREPRENEUR. There are several helpful YouTube videos to watch.

Cookie challenge

Honest and Fair – Help reach troop goals. Learn about making change. Write down how much a box of cookies costs.

Friendly and Helpful – Say hello to your customer, Say please and thank you when selling cookies. Help your leaders and parent sort cookies.

Considerate and caring – Wish your customer a good day. Make thank you cards. Thank your parents for helping with cookie sales.

Courageous and Strong – Practice your sales pitch. Share your goals. Share with others what you love about Girl Scouts.

Responsible for What I Say and Do – Be polite. When asked to help, do so without complaining.

Respect Myself and Others – Listen to the Girl Scouts Safety Pledge. Use kind words. Wait for time to sell.

Respect Authority – Give cookies to police, fire fighters and first responders. Listen to troop leaders. Write thank you notes to first responders.

Use Resources Wisely – Make/create a craft out of a cookie box. Recycle cookie boxes.

Make the World a Better Place – Encourage others to donate cookies. Plan a service project around your cookie sales. Donate cookies.

Cookie Booths - A Message from Detria, Rebecca and Kalie G

1. As a troop. You need to provide a table, table cover, some kind of sign/banner with the troop number and a sign indicating that cookies are \$6 a box. GSVSC does offer some ideas.
2. You do not solicit monetary funds at your cookie booth. For instance, do not put out a collection jar for “Troop Donations”. Sometimes customers will give a troop a small cash donation. This is acceptable. This money is not included with your cookie sales income but entered separately on your end of the year finance work sheet under Donations.
3. Be courteous at all times. Do not harass store customers. You may politely ask them if they would like to purchase a box of Girl Scout cookies, not run up to them and follow them into the store or block their entrance or exit.
4. No tagalongs or friends should be onsite.
5. All cookie parents helping at a booth must be registered with GSUSA and have a cleared background check.
6. No cookie samples unless in a Ziploc bag.
7. Place sign on table with customer guidelines such as cost per box, troop number, etc.
8. Our corporate partners have designated areas for your cookie booth, usually outside. Plan and dress accordingly. While it may not be practical for the girls to wear their vests/sash/tunic, only to have them covered by a heavy coat, please think how you may present yourselves as Girl Scouts and a troop. If you are indoors, be sure that you are requesting uniforms be worn.

Cookie Booths - A Message from Detria, Rebecca and Kalie G (continued)

8. For your customers not interested in purchasing a box of cookies for themselves, encourage them to consider buying a box from your troop for our military or first responder. (Girls can fix/decorate a box for military/first responder. (Rebecca can collect these boxes later and get them delivered.
9. Begin to pack up your booth 10 minutes before your ending time so that the troop following you can set up in a timely fashion. Booth times are often 3 hours. Remove all trash, including empty cookie boxes and take them with you when you leave. Consider providing the store manager with a thank you note and a box of cookies for allowing you to have a cookie booth at their location.
10. Dates: Saturday, January 13 through Sunday, March 17 providing weekend booth sales. Booth times are usually 3 hours time frame from 9:00 – 5:30.
11. Your cookie booth team are actively working on setting up local cookie booths and are now waiting for confirmation from Kroger (Ward's Road, Timberlake and Boonsboro), Petco, JoAnn's, Lowe's Timberlake, Sam's Club, Home Depot, food Lion (Boonsboro and Timberlake) and City Market. Our council is working directly with Walmart. Remember that you do not approach Walmart on your own. Sign up will take place very soon! Beyond the locations listed, you may secure your own cookie booth location. Reach out to Detria (thepreacherswife@Hotmail.com) with location, date(s) and time(s).

First Day of Cookies

'Twas the day after Christmas
And all through the house
Not a creature was stirring
Except the Girl Scouts.

Visions of Thin Mints and Tagalongs
Danced in their heads
As the rest of the family
Lay tucked in their beds.

Digital Cookie was up
Ebubble as well
Emails went out to the troop
"Hello all, time to sell!"

The presents were gone
The gifts put away
This cookie mom called Santa
To borrow the sleigh.

Customers called
With orders to fill
And Scouts organized it all
Preparing the till.

Cookie booths got scheduled
For the months ahead
And scouts practiced multiplication
By sixes in their heads.

We have your favorites
Lemon Up, Do-Si-Do
Maybe Toffee Tastic, Samoa,
Or S'mores on the go.

Whatever you love
We have them all
Online or the phone
Just give us a call.

And so, ends this rhyme
I beg of you please
Get your orders in early
For Girl Scout Cookies!!!

Troop 60210

This strong Girl Scout Sisterhood
Doesn't need daily conversation,
Doesn't need daily togetherness,
As long as this relationship lives
in our hearts...

This sisterhood will never part.

Club '51



Forms/documents:

<https://www.gsvsc.org/en/for-volunteers/forms---documents.html>

Volunteer Resources Tab for trainers, delegates, troop leaders, service units, info/suggestions on first six troop meetings (D, B, J)

<https://www.gsvsc.org/en/for-volunteers/volunteer-resources.html>

Questions:

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www.lburgccgirlscouts.weebly.com

www/facebook.com/LCCGSSU

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