The Girl Scout Cookie Sale is officially underway and girls in San Jacinto Council are off to a great start to achieving their goals for this year.

Delivery of Girl Scout Cookies begins in mid-February, but if you just can’t wait for that signature taste try your hand at making the original Girl Scout Cookie recipe at home!

The Original Girl Scout Cookie Recipe

**GSSJC’s Just Desserts Cookbook**

**Blend until creamy:**
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar

**Add:**
- 2 eggs
- 1 Tbsp. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. lemon extract

**Sift together:**
- 3 cups all purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt

Add dry ingredients to batter and chill overnight. Roll and cut. Bake at 375 degrees for 8-10 minutes.

This craft project has been wildly popular with Girl Scouts in our Council. If you haven’t had the chance to participate in it at the 2011 National Convention or The B.I.G. Event last September, here’s the instructions so you can try it at home!

1. Turn the shirt inside out and cut off each sleeve.
2. Using a medium bowl, trace a scoop in the neckline, and cut along that line.
3. Sew across the bottom hem. Turn the shirt right-side out, and it’s a reusable bag!

Bring it home and personalize with your own design, using markers, patches, etc. Invite others to do the same!
World Thinking Day: A History

Each year on February 22, World Thinking Day, girls participate in activities and projects with global themes to honor their sister Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in other countries.

The theme for World Thinking Day 2015 is girls worldwide say: “We can create peace through partnerships”. This theme is about all countries working together working together to support global partnerships.

World Thinking Day not only gives girls a chance to celebrate international friendships, it is also a reminder that Girl Scouts of the USA is part of a global community—one of nearly 150 countries—with Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

Troop activity ideas for World Thinking Day

While this year’s World Thinking Day has a theme, troops can also celebrate with general cultural awareness activities. Here are a few ideas to help you get your celebration started.

1. Say It in Another Language!
   Hold a competition, asking girls to write the phrase “World Thinking Day” in as many languages as they can. The person with the most correct translations wins a prize.

2. Watch it Grow
   Have girls ask their local parks, schools, houses of worship or community centers for space to plant flowers and plants that remind them of their sisters in Girl Scouting. Flowers like forget-me-nots or plants that grow in another country make good choices. Make sure they’ll grow in yours, too!

   Girls can also post wooden signs in a garden with the names of WAGGGS member organizations, or display a map reminding them of their connection to the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in all 144 countries around the globe!

3. Host a Girl Scout Worldfest
   It’s become a tradition for many troops and councils to hold festivals or fairs on World Thinking Day, highlighting one or more countries where Girl Scouting also exists. Typically, girls demonstrate crafts or prepare foods of many countries. These events often involve the whole family.

4. Contribute to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund
   World Thinking Day is a time when Girl Scouts and leaders can show their generosity by giving to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund.

   Donations to the JLWFF support Girl Scouting/Girl Guiding around the world by funding: worldwide travel opportunities to Girl Guide/Girl Scout events; activities and maintenance of the Four World Centers; aid to other member countries; and GSUSA’s donation to the World Thinking Day Fund.

   Send donations for the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund to:
   Girl Scouts of the USA
   Juliette Low World Friendship Fund
   P.O. Box 19611A
   Newark, NJ 07195-0611

   Please make checks payable to Girl Scouts of the USA. Note on each check that the contribution is for the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund, or JLWFF.

Looking for activities for your specific level? Visit girlscouts.org/worldthinkingday for downloadable PDFs!

World Thinking Day Friendship Flame Ceremony

MATERIALS:
1 tall candle (multicolored, if possible)
7 candles - all shapes, colors and sizes; candle log or candle holders

PROCEDURE:
The first candle is placed in the holder and lighted by an adult. Girls hold the other candles, light them from the first candle, and place them in the holder. *Note: Girls should have hair tied back and be supervised closely.

FIRST CANDLE: Stars that shine together form a galaxy. Flowers that grow together create a garden. Buildings that stand together begin a city. People who work together make a difference. This is what valuing differences is all about. I light this candle for valuing differences.

SECOND CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all of the people who are older or younger, taller or smaller, richer or poorer than I.

THIRD CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people who worship differently than I.

FOURTH CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people of a different nationality or ethnicity than I.

FIFTH CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people who are of a different color than I.

SIXTH CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people who come from other countries than I.

SEVENTH CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people who don’t run, walk, see, hear, or learn the same as I.

EIGHTH CANDLE: I light this candle for me, for I am unique and special. Watch the flames closely. Please notice the light from each candle is the same as the others even though the outside of each is different. So, too, are all of us in the world. We wear different clothes, speak different languages, follow different religions or beliefs, like different foods and sing different songs. And yet, we all belong to the same human race. Inside we are all the same.

We all wish to be recognized, we all wish to be called by name, we all wish to be loved, we all wish for friends and we all wish for peace. In the spirit of international understanding, we pledge ourselves to world friendship. In the spirit of international understanding, we pledge ourselves to peacemaking. Look wide! and, when you think you are looking wide, look wider still!

ALL: In the spirit of international understanding, we pledge ourselves to accept the challenge to look wider still.