



The Golden Link

The official publication of Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council. | Volume 49 Issue 1 | Spring 2023

Join us for a great summer!



**Summer and
day camp
registrations
now open!**



Raising Awesome Girls

7 Ways to Be Respectful

(And a One-Step Trick to Getting More Respect From Others)

Listen and be present

If someone else is speaking, give them the courtesy of listening to and thinking about what they've said before responding, forming your own opinions, or dismissing theirs. Your girl may not agree with what's being said, and that's absolutely OK (and sometimes important!) for her to express, but she should wait her turn, pay attention, and avoid jumping to conclusions. You never know, what someone says could surprise her!

Be thoughtful of others' feelings

Talk to your girl about how she might feel angry, sad, or even embarrassed if someone rolled their eyes at one of her ideas or talked over her when she was trying to speak. It might feel even worse to hear that someone was calling her names or making fun of her. Since she doesn't want to feel that way, she should do her best to ensure others aren't made to feel that way either.

Acknowledge others and say thank you

If your girl did half the work on a science project, but her partner took all the credit, how would she feel? Probably pretty upset. Similarly, if she made a gift for another girl in school, and that friend never said thank you, she might feel confused or think the gift wasn't very good. Letting others know that their efforts matter and thanking them for their time, work, and/or thoughtfulness doesn't need to take more than a few seconds, but it makes a big difference.

Address mistakes with kindness

Everyone, even your girl, makes mistakes! Have her think back to a time she messed up a little. Would she want to be called out and humiliated in front of her friends, or would she have felt better if someone pulled her aside, gently told her about the mistake, and then helped her to improve next time? We're all human and we're all going to need a helping hand now and then. Helping others grow from their mistakes with dignity is just the decent thing to do.

Make decisions based on what's right, not who you like

Sometimes it might feel easier for your girl to go along with the crowd and either mimic the behavior of her friends or choose their ideas over those of others out of a sense of loyalty or to gain favor with more popular kids, but that's not smart or fair. Talk to your girl about weighing the pros and cons of the choices she makes in her daily life, about thinking about what's right, and what will lead to the best outcomes for all involved. Sometimes it takes guts to stand up and support less popular views, but that doesn't mean it's not worth doing. Not only do people's feelings get hurt when we play favorites, but we can sometimes make poor decisions that have even bigger consequences.



Respect physical boundaries

Everyone's body is their own, and everyone has the right to decide the level and type of physical contact they're comfortable with. For instance, some people love to be greeted with hugs, some people don't, and that's OK! Talk to your girl about the importance of respecting people's personal preferences and how she should insist on others respecting her boundaries as well.

Live and let live

In this great big world of ours, there are a billion different ways to live life, and that's what makes life interesting! As long as everyone is being respectful and no one is hurting anyone else, it's important to take a step back and accept that there's no one right way to exist on this planet.

And finally, how can your girl get more respect in her life?

Talk to her about the word integrity. Someone who has integrity is honest, is true to their word, does the best they can, and owns up to their shortcomings without making excuses, covering it up, or passing the blame onto someone else. Nobody's perfect, but when your girl lives her life with integrity, she'll earn others' respect and be able to feel good about who she is as a person—and she'll make others feel better in the process.

We want every girl to succeed. That's why GSSJC is happy to bring you Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.'s Raising Awesome Girls, an online publication to help you and your Girl Scout answer questions, face challenges and find solutions to daily life. For more articles like this, visit www.girlscouts.org and find Raising Awesome Girls under the "For Adults" tab.





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and Chair of the Board**
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Mission Statement

GSSJC: Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

DEIB Statement

Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council fosters belonging and respect for all girls. We empower all girls, volunteers and staff to fulfill their potential and make the world a better place. Our Girl Scout Promise drives us to provide diverse, equitable and inclusive experiences where all girls, volunteers and staff are confident they belong. We stand firm in these commitments and united by these ideals.

Circulation

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Deadlines

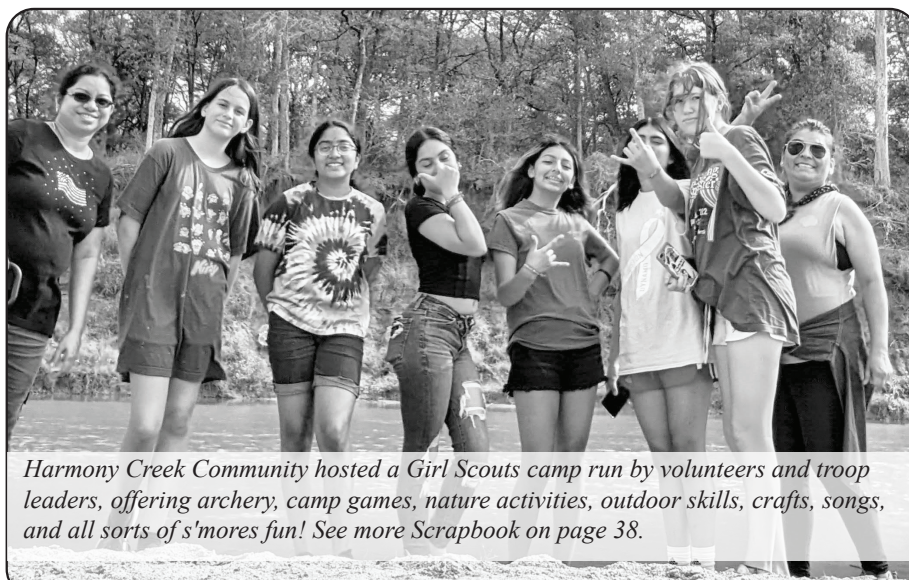
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Harmony Creek Community hosted a Girl Scouts camp run by volunteers and troop leaders, offering archery, camp games, nature activities, outdoor skills, crafts, songs, and all sorts of s'mores fun! See more Scrapbook on page 38.

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Marguerite Woung-Chapman

Chair of the Board and President of the Council



How do I say goodbye to what we had? This is the opening line for a song by Boyz II Men.* If you know me, you know that music - all types of music - forms the soundtrack of my life. Very few major moments in my life have occurred without a song playing in my head.

As I sat down to write what will become my last *Golden Link* article as your president and chair of the board, I could not get this particular song out of my head. How could I say goodbye to the three years that I had the honor and privilege to be your president and chair?

My answer is that I can because I know that our council is stronger for having gone through what we have in the past three years, rebounding on all levels

from the challenges posed by the pandemic. I can because I know that I leave the council in the hands of some amazing stewards such as our CEO Mary Vitek and her team and the new incoming Board Chair and President Betsy Kamin. I can because I know that this type of organizational change is built into our DNA - no single person is indispensable to a council built on the hard work and dedication of tens of thousands of girls and volunteers since our Council was founded over 100 years ago.

The good times that made us laugh outweighed the bad. I thought we'd get to see forever but forever has blown away. It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday.

I cannot pretend that there were not bad times. In my very first "From the Top" in 2020, I wrote about our council, our nation, and indeed the whole world grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic and COVID-19 kept its steely grip on us for nearly all of my term. And our hearts broke again and again over the loss of sister Girl Scouts or their friends and loved ones through acts

of senseless violence. But when I look back on my term, it is the good times that brought light to the dark - the ribbon cutting at the new Hamill Welcome Center, my first awestruck look at the Adventure Park at Camp Agnes Arnold, every Gold, Silver and Bronze Award Girl Scout I was able to honor including a National Gold Award Scholarship Recipient, our new Galveston Bay House, and the pride and joy that swelled inside me all through the past year culminating in the Celebration of a Century at Treelake camps. I could not believe my good fortune that GSSJC turned 100 on my watch!

I don't know where this road is gonna lead to. All I know is where we've been and what we've been through. If it gets me to tomorrow, I hope it's worth all the pain. It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday.

We have been through a lot together - facing challenges from recruiting and retaining our membership to continuously having to be innovative and resilient in delivering Girl Scouting during a pandemic. I don't think I will ever forget the challenge of being a delegate for a three-day virtual 55th National Council Session or my infamous inability to pronounce "epidemiologist" at our last fully virtual annual meeting. I hope what I demonstrated was the power that Girl Scouting gave me to move through the challenges with grace. By grace, I mean moving forward always taking the high road; with goodwill; remembering that none of this is "about me;" with the perspective that this too shall pass and providing that balance when emotions run high and it all seemed like too much. There were many torchbearers of grace over the three years. I hope I did not let them down.

And I'll take with me the memories to be my sunshine after the rain. It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday. I don't think I can top that as the coda to my last "From the Top."

Yours forever in Girl Scouting,

Marguerite Woung-Chapman
Chair of the Board and President of the Council

**If you are as old as I, you will also recognize it as the original theme song for the movie Cooley High.*

Shop Hours

PP for Girls

3000 Southwest Freeway, Houston
713-292-0247
Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Imperial Valley

15800 Imperial Valley Dr., Houston
281-447-8870
Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Lufkin

1202 College Drive, Lufkin
936-634-4688
Tues. and Thurs. 10 - 5 p.m.

Stafford

12300 Parc Crest, Ste 170, Stafford
281-670-5982
Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Bay Area

1300 A Bay Area Blvd., Ste. 106,
Houston
281-282-6077
Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Cypress/Jersey Village

19708 Northwest Freeway, Suite
100, Jersey Village
346-818-3227
Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Beaumont

700 North Street, Suite F,
Beaumont
409-832-0556 Ext. 1500
Tues. to Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Westside

Wednesday pickup only:
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. No in-person
shopping. Please provide
minimum 24 hour notice on
orders by email to
shop@sjgs.org or by
calling 713-292-0247
531 FM 359 South,
Brookshire

We're hiring!

If you are ready to embark on a challenging yet rewarding career, explore working for Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council. View job openings at www.gssjc.org/careers.



Registration Open for Summer Camp!

Online Registration Tips

- Registration for summer troop camping and family camping will be through your MyGS Account.
- Registration for individual day and overnight sessions is through the Summer Camp Online Community. (You must be logged in to view the full site!) <https://bit.ly/3DnmlQQ>
- If your camper has attended summer camp in the past, registration will look just a bit different. We are partnering with a new registration platform this year called UltraCamp. We are excited about this platform, and it will help streamline registration, communication, payments, campership applications, and medical information for summer day and overnight camp.
- Summer camp sessions are based on the grade girls will be entering in the Fall of 2023. For example, a girl who is currently a 3rd grade Brownie would register for 4th grade Junior sessions, since she will have completed the 3rd grade.
- Girls must be members of Girl Scouts to register for summer camp. (Girls who are registered in other councils must request a login code by emailing customerservice@sjgs.org.)
- If you are coordinating girls who wish to attend camp together, make sure the girls are the same level, choose the same date, camp, and session, and include each other's names in the buddy section of the application. We suggest that you register on the same day and time as your camper's buddy. This gives you the best chance for getting buddies together in the same session. Check back with the family after you register to make sure you are signed up for the same session.
- You can check session availability on the registration site.
- If a session is full, you cannot register. Please choose your second choice date or camp.
- You can register for more than one camp or session.
- You will receive an automatic reply email after you register. PLEASE review this email. It will summarize the camp, dates, and session for which you are registered.
- Only girls who participate in the 2022 Girl Scout Cookie Program are eligible to receive a Campership. New this year, the Campership application will be available in the online registration platform!
- Your camper registration may be delayed or placed on hold if any of the following circumstances apply:
 - You are not a currently registered member of the Girl Scouts.
 - The camper age or grade does not match the published eligibility requirements.
 - The camper does not meet the prerequisite skills or requirements for specialty or leadership programs.
 - The required deposit was not paid or your credit card was denied.



Registration is online now! Scan code or go to www.gssjc.org/summercamp.

Free Summer Camp Open House

Camp Open House is a great opportunity to view camp facilities (including living accommodations), tour the camp, and even pet the goats. This is also a wonderful chance to meet some of our staff, learn what and how to pack, what types of meals are served, how camp staff copes with homesickness (and how parents can help prevent it!), what to expect at check in and check out, and ask the camp directors questions. Bring a picnic snack and spend the afternoon at camp! Return campers, this is your chance to get excited about coming back to camp!

The Open Houses are scheduled for:

Sunday, March 19, 2 – 5 p.m. – Treelake (Camp Agnes Arnold and Misty Meadows Ranch)

Sunday, April 2, 2 – 5 p.m. – Casa Mare

Sundays at Summer Camp

Calling all nurses! We are looking for nurses to assist with check in at summer overnight camps. Spend Sunday afternoons from 1 – 6 p.m. this summer at Misty Meadows Ranch, Camp Arnold, or Casa Mare, helping with health screenings and medication intake. Email Kathy Elliott at kelliott@sjgs.org for details.

Camp Agnes Arnold

Camp Agnes Arnold is ready to invite girls to a traditional summer getaway in the woods! Shadow Lake is one of the main attractions at Camp Agnes Arnold, located near Conroe, with 35 acres of cool, refreshing fun for Girl Scouts. Girls this summer will enjoy canoeing, kayaking, corcling and fishing on Shadow Lake, swimming at the pool and in the lake. They will also have fun climbing the triple-level Adventure Park and racing down the double zip line, hiking along trails, shooting archery or riflery, or pedaling through camp on a bike or 4-wheeler.

| Camp Arnold 2023 At a Glance | Week 1 June 18-24 | Week 2 June 25 – July 1 | Week 3 July 5-8 | Week 4 July 9-15 | Week 5 July 16-22 | Week 6 July 23-29 |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Daisy | | Daisy Day | Me & My Gal | Daisy Day | | |
| Brownie | Magical Mermaids Firelight & Fairytales | Camptastic Messy Science | Me & My Gal | Magical Mermaids | Camptastic Messy Science | Magical Mermaids Firelight & Fairytales |
| Junior | Back to Basics | Back to Basics | Me & My Gal | Junior Survivalist Tree Hugger | Back to Basics H2-Whoa! | Back to Basics Messy Scientist |
| Cadette | Tree Trek Night Owl | Water You Doing Tonight | Me & My Gal | Tree Trek Back to Basics Night Owls | Water You Doing Tonight | Tree Trek |
| Senior & Amb. | CIT 2 Canoe / Adventure Aide | CIT 2 (Week 2) Tree Trek | CIT 1 ZAP | CIT 1 (week 2) ZAP (week 2) | Tree Trek Canoe Aide | Adventure Park Aide |

Daisies

Daisy Day

Discover Camp Agnes Arnold during this day-only program. Create your own craft, canoe in Shadow Lake and explore science and nature. This is the perfect introductory program for Daisies to plan future camp adventures with an adult. One adult registration must accompany every two girls for this program. Check in at 9:30 a.m., program ends at 3 p.m.

Me & My Gal

Attention all Girl Scouts! This session is your chance to bring your favorite lady to camp. You can experience all the exciting activities at camp together and create memories to last a lifetime. Spend your days making cool crafts, canoeing, hiking, and more! Each camper must have an adult female family member or mentor accompanying her for this session. Adults may accompany up to two girls per adult. Participants in this session will stay in cabins.

Brownies

Camptastic

Love traditional camp activities? This is the session for you! Experiment with outdoor cooking, sing songs around the campfire, and learn all about the cool things nature has to offer.

Firelight and Fairytales

If you like eating s'mores, singing songs, playing games, swimming, cooking outside, and listening to fairytales, this session is for you! Join us for a week of camp fun and outdoor exploration, taking in all camp has to offer during this mystical, magical time at camp. Enjoy canoeing, arts and crafts, and more! This is a half-week session.

Magical Mermaids

Splish, splash and have a blast while swimming in the pool, canoeing on Shadow Lake, and playing water games! The only thing missing from this session is a tail and gills! Participate in a canoe race and lake scavenger hunt.

Brownie/Junior Sessions

Messy Scientist

Slime, volcanoes, and messes galore are in store for all of our Brownies in this session! Whether you love STEM projects already or are looking to pique your interest, MESSin' around with camp science projects is sure to be the best part of your summer!

Brownie/Junior/Cadette Sessions

Me & My Gal

This session is your chance to bring your favorite lady to camp. You can experience all the exciting activities at camp together and create memories to last a lifetime. Spend your days making cool crafts, canoeing, hiking, and more! Each camper must have an adult female family member or mentor accompanying her for this session. Adults may accompany up to two girls per adult. Participants in this session will stay in cabins.

Juniors

Back to the Basics

Is camp your favorite place? Have you been looking forward to writing letters to the Magic Elf or hunting for Hipper's eggs? Join us for a session full of camp fun! Girls in this session will learn all about Camp Arnold's traditions and history while enjoying all of their favorite camp activities in a schedule they get to build themselves upon arrival. Will you take a dip in the pool? Spend lots of time at archery? Go for a long relaxing hike? The adventures are endless and it's all for you to create!

H-2-Whoa!

If you are looking for a week to splash around at camp, this is the coolest session out there. Whether you like lakes or pools, canoes or swimming, lazy days by the water, or fun water competitions, this session has it all!



Junior Survivalist

Learn the ways of survival in this ultimate camp challenge! Your cellphone is dead, your food has fallen off a cliff, and your water pump is broken. To survive, build a water filter and team up to complete challenges of survival by building shelters and starting a fire. Take a break and splash in the pool, shoot arrows, or kayak on the water! Will you survive the wild?

Tree Huggers

Join us for a week of learning all about environmental issues, exploring nature, and learning about how YOU can make a difference to our planet in your everyday life. And of course, there's always time to swim in the lake, shoot some archery and plenty of trees to learn from!

Cadettes

Goosebumps

Calling all of our spooky fans! Do you love hearing stories about things that go bump in the night? Are scary tales your favorite part of a campfire? Are you curious about urban legends and lores? Join us for an extra fun, extra eerie nighttime week of excitement.

Note: Campers in this session will stay up until approximately 2 a.m. every night and sleep in until approximately 11 a.m.

Night Owl

Not a morning person? We've got the session for you! Sleep late every morning and explore camp during the midnight hours while other campers sleep. Enjoy late night swims and hikes, tell stories around the campfire, visit the lodge for late night activities, and more! Work on the secret society Polar Bear patch and earn the Night Owl badge. Note: Campers in this session will stay up until approximately 2 a.m. every night and sleep in until approximately 11 a.m.

Tree Trek

Climbing near the treetops, discovering adventures in the woods, tree identification, and knot-tying are all waiting for you at Camp Arnold. You'll earn the Snow or Climbing Adventure badge and make lots of new friends. NOTE: Girls must weigh a minimum of 70lbs. and a maximum of 250lbs. to participate at Adventure Park

Water You Doing Tonight?

Do you love doing all things water at camp? Have you ever wondered what it would be like to try them out after dark? If so, this is the session for you! The only thing that can make swimming, canoeing, and paddleboarding more fun? Stars and glowsticks, of course! Note: Campers in this session will stay up until approximately 2 a.m. every night and sleep in until approximately 11 a.m.



Back to the Basics

Is camp your favorite place? Have you been looking forward to writing letters to the Magic Elf or hunting for Hipper's eggs? Join us for a session full of camp fun! Girls in this session will learn all about Camp Arnold's traditions and history while enjoying all their favorite camp activities in a schedule they get to build themselves upon arrival. Will you take a dip in the pool? Spend lots of time at archery? Go for a long relaxing hike? The adventures are endless and it's all for you to create!

Seniors /Ambassadors

Adventure Park Aides

Do you love being in the treetops? Do you want to spend a week getting valuable hands-on experience helping girls learn the "ropes"? In this program our senior and ambassador girls will learn all the ins and outs of running our Adventure Park and will get valuable leadership experience both on and off the course that they can use for years to come! NOTE: Girls must weigh a minimum of 70 lbs and a maximum of 250 lbs, and be able to reach a height of 70 inches while standing flat-footed to participate in this session.

Canoe Aide

Want to spend the week getting valuable hands-on experience leading campers in canoeing and other lake activities? In this program, older girls can gain valuable experience and service hours in the comforts of a camp setting. Girls will start the week with training on how to work with younger girls in a waterfront session and then put their skills to the test! Girls must be 14 years old to attend this session.

CIT I (10-day session)

Are you a camping pro? Do you dream of the day when you can become a counselor? If so, this session is for you! You will spend two weeks at Camp Agnes Arnold learning all about GSSJC's summer overnight camps and the leadership skills required to lead younger girls. You will also get an opportunity to work with camp staff to lead campers in activities! (Must be 15 years old and entering 10th grade or above.)

Tree Trek

Climbing near the treetops, discovering adventures in the woods, tree identification and knot-tying are all waiting for you at Camp Arnold. You'll earn the Snow or Climbing Adventure badge and make lots of new friends. NOTE: Girls must weigh a minimum of 70lbs. and a maximum of 250lbs. and be able to reach a height of 70 inches while standing flat-footed to participate in this session.

Z.A.P. (10-day session)

Would you be prepared for a zombie apocalypse? Here is your opportunity to join an elite Zombie Apocalypse Preparation (ZAP) crew dedicated to survival. Hone your marksmanship with archery challenges, develop your leadership abilities, learn outdoor living skills, and patrol Camp Agnes Arnold while planning escape routes and defensible spaces. NOTE: This session is a 10-night session.

CIT II (Two-week session)

If you've completed CIT I and are ready to take the next step in your camp leadership journey, join us for CIT II. You'll visit other GSSJC camps, do a primitive overnight, a visiting all three of the GSSJC overnight camps, and learn valuable skills that could help them earn a job! Trained CITs are allowed to work at camp starting at age 17, so what are you waiting for? Join the team! (Must be 16 years old and entering 11th grade or above.)

Casa Mare

The warm, salty breezes, the call of gulls and the sight of sailboats gliding across Galveston Bay make Casa Mare a tropical paradise for ocean lovers and landlubbers alike. Whether you are interested in joining our council's sailing program, the Mariners, or simply enjoying a camping trip with your troop, Casa Mare is the perfect venue for seaside fun! Located in Seabrook, Casa Mare features a sand volleyball court near the water, pool, covered pavilion and archery range. All accommodations at Casa Mare are dormitories. The camp also has an air-conditioned galley with classrooms, as well as the Margaret Sheriff Sailing Center which also includes classroom space for sailors and housing for the camp's sailboat fleet.

This summer, in addition to our one-week and two-week sailing sessions, we are excited to bring Troop Camping to Casa Mare! Join us for a full week or a half week of fun camp activities with your troop. Activities include sailing (that's right! We are bringing Taste of Sailing for troops!) and Sea Kayaking on the bay! In addition, troops will enjoy archery, outdoor fun, STEAM activities, and daily swimming (with an option for swimming lessons). Themed weeks will focus on different badges and journeys in this awesome summer of fun! Look out for more details to come!

Insider's tip: the GSSJC Proficient & Advanced Swimmer Card will be required for sea kayaking and sailing. Start working on it now! <https://tinyurl.com/GSSJC-SwimCard>

| Casa Mare 2023 At a Glance | Week 1 June 18-24 | Week 2 June 25 – July 1 | Week 3 July 2-8 | Week 4 July 9-15 | Week 5 July 16-22 | Week 6 July 23-29 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| Daisy | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping |
| Brownie | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping |
| Junior | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing | Troop Camping | Troop Camping | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing |
| Cadette | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing Open Sail | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing Open Sail (Week 2) | Troop Camping Basic Sailing | Troop Camping Basic Sailing (Week 2) | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing Open Sail | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing Open Sail (Week 2) |
| Senior & Amb. | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing Open Sail Sail Aides | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing Open Sail (Week 2) Sail Aides | Troop Camping Basic Sailing Sail Aides | Troop Camping Basic Sailing (Week 2) Sail Aides | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing Open Sail Sail Aides | Troop Camping + Taste of Sailing Open Sail (Week 2) Sail Aides |



Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors

Basic Sailing - two-week session

Embark on your journey to become a Mariner. It's all about sailing for two whole weeks as you and your friends learn knots, rigging a sunfish sailboat, sailing, and more. This is a physical and mentally demanding activity. Be prepared for the challenge yet all the fun. This session includes testing for certification to become a GSSJC Mariner, plus a pinning ceremony for new Mariners! Prerequisites: age 11+ and completed the GSSJC Proficient and Advanced Swimmer Card.

Open Sail - one-week Session

It's time to just sail, sail, sail! This is an opportunity to master your skills for future progression, earn sailing hours, complete ratings, and more. Help new friends who have never sailed by taking them out in the bay. This is a one-week session. Must have completed Basic Sailing prior to registration.

Open Sail - two-week Session

It's time to just sail, sail, sail! This is an opportunity to master your skills for future progression, earn sailing hours, complete ratings, and more. Help new friends who have never sailed by taking them out in the bay. This is a two-week session with the opportunity to do advance sailing over the weekend! Must have completed Basic Sailing prior to registration.

Sail Aides

Want to spend the week getting valuable hands-on experience leading campers in sailing activities? In this program, older girls can gain valuable experience and service hours in the comforts of a camp setting. Must have a minimum rating of Sunfish Mate.

Misty Meadows Ranch

We are excited to welcome campers back to Misty Meadows Ranch this summer where all campers will get to experience the fun of camping at a ranch camp! Campers will get to have a horse experience this summer, visit the chickens and goats, and help tend the garden. If ranching and horses aren't your thing, don't worry. We'll still be offering camp sessions tailored to interests in arts and crafts, glamping, and shooting sports! Misty Meadows has two different sleeping areas, and both are climate controlled so you can relax in the AC after a fun day out and about at camp.

| Misty Meadows Ranch 2023 At a Glance | Week 1 June 18-24 | Week 2 June 25 – July 1 | Week 3 July 5-8 | Week 4 July 9-15 | Week 5 July 16-22 | Week 6 July 23-29 |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Brownie | Brownie Gardener | Little Bits | | Little Bits | Brownie Gardener | Little Bits |
| Junior | You Can't do THAT at Camp! Giddy Up | Field to Fork Ranch Hand | Choose Your Adventure | Field to Fork Ranch Hand Giddy Up | You Can't do THAT at Camp! | You Can't do THAT at Camp Giddy Up! |
| Cadette | Vaulting 1 Ranch Cook Horse Whisperer Equestrian Aide | Crafting Cadettes Horse Sense Boots & Saddles | Choose Your Adventure SPURS Training | Boots & Saddles | Vaulting 2 Glamer Horse Sense Horse Whisperer | Ranch Cook Horse Whisperer |
| Senior & Amb. | Vaulting 1 Horse Whisperer Equestrian Aide | Bits & Bridles Boots & Saddles Equestrian Aide | Choose Your Adventure SPURS Training Equestrian Aide | Boots & Saddles Blazing Bullseye Equestrian Aide | Vaulting 2 Horse Whisperer Wrangler in Training | Misty Fandom Horse Whisperer Wrangler in Training (Week 2) |

Brownies

Brownie Gardener

Calling all nature lovers! Does planting seeds for a garden and learning to plant your own food sound fun to you? Do you want to learn why bees dance and why chickens don't? Join us for this fun-filled half-week session to do just that and so much more at Misty! Round out your time at camp with camp songs, crafts, and swimming. This is a half-week session offered either Sunday through Wednesday OR Wednesday through Saturday.

Little Bits

First-time campers, this one's for you! This is a great introductory session for Brownies who are not quite ready for a full camp session, but still want a taste of what Misty is all about. You will tour the barn, feed the horses a treat, and go on one led pony ride. This is a half-week session offered either Sunday through Wednesday OR Wednesday through Saturday.

Juniors

Choose Your Adventure

This session is perfect for campers with a busy schedule but still want to come to camp during a short week after the Fourth of July. During this session, each camper will get to write their own story as they choose which activities they participate in as an individual during their time at camp. Choose traditional camp activities like archery, riflery, and hiking or maybe you want to see what living life on the ranch is like and you choose to learn about planting seeds and foraging for food in the wilderness. The choice is yours!

Field to Fork

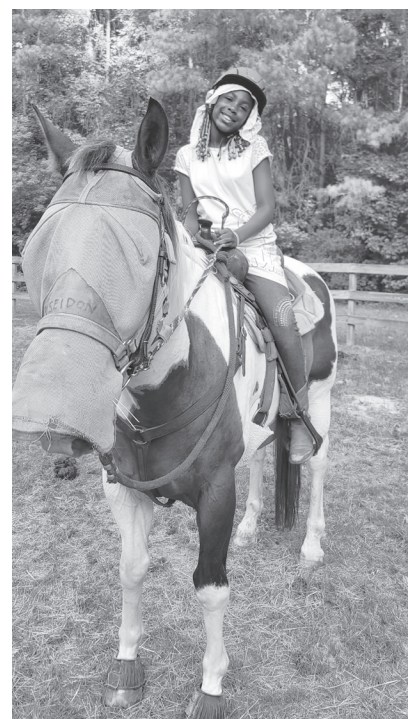
Where does the cleanest food come from? The soil, of course! Learn about gardening and growing your own food, collect eggs from the Misty chickens, and more. You will get real, hands-on homesteading experience while gaining a better understanding of where your food comes from. Add in traditional camp activities like swimming, archery, and hiking, and you've got one amazing week!

Giddy Up

Do you dream of riding a horse, but either don't know where to start or haven't ridden much? Build your confidence in working with our favorite four-legged friends while riding in the comfort of a covered arena. Learn to groom, mount and dismount, control a horse at a walk, and earn the Horseback Riding badge in the process. Get ready to enjoy traditional camp activities such as swimming and archery. This session includes riding in the arena every day and ground school lessons. This session is for campers who haven't come for a weeklong riding session at Misty Meadows yet. No previous riding experience necessary. This session is part of the progressive riding program.

Ranch Hand

Is ranch life your style? Join us for this session just for Juniors! Your days will be filled with hiking around camp, learning about Misty's goats and chickens, and learning about camping out on the ranch. You'll also get to enjoy all your favorite camp activities like swimming and archery, and plan a night under the stars, and cook outside!



You Can't do THAT at Camp!

Do you get excited about trying new things? If the answer is yes, this session is for you! You'll get to participate in non-traditional camp activities like staying up late to watch a movie, making your own face masks, listening to music, making messes, and more as you bust the myths of what you may *think* you can't do at camp!

Cadettes

Crafting Cadettes

Are you bursting with design ideas? Get ready to DIY your heart out this week as you sew, knit, paint, crochet, pound, and create! Take inspiration from the outdoors and take a break from crafting to enjoy a dip in the pool or a round of archery.

Glamer

Do you like to camp, but every so often want something more relaxing that includes movies with your friends, late nights, and both kinds of nail art. If you like to brainstorm new and exciting activities you haven't gotten to do at camp, this session is for you. We can't wait to see what you produce!

Ranch Cook

Learn how to turn fresh produce and fresh eggs into delicious meals over the fire, in the kitchen, or on a camp stove! The possibilities are as endless as your imagination during this session! You'll also learn how to plant your own seeds so you can start your own garden at home and continue your fresh food adventure!

Cadettes/Seniors/ Ambassador Sessions

Choose Your Adventure

This session is perfect for campers with a busy schedule but still want to come to camp during a short week after the Fourth of July. During this session, each camper will get to write their own story as they choose which activities they participate in as an individual during their time at camp. Choose traditional camp activities like archery, riflery, hiking, or maybe you want to see what living life on the ranch is like and you choose to learn about planting seeds and foraging for food in the wilderness. The choice is yours!

Horse Sense

If you're an older girl who is interested in learning to ride or has only ridden a few times, this is a perfect introductory session! Girls in this session will learn how to groom and tack a horse, how to mount and dismount, and how to control a horse at a walk. This session includes riding in the arena every day and ground school lessons. This session is for campers who haven't come for a weeklong riding session at Misty Meadows yet. No previous riding experience necessary. This session is part of the progressive riding program.

Boots & Saddles

Are you a more advanced rider, ready to show off your equitation skills? Spend the week riding in the arena to polish your riding skills, then finish by testing your knowledge in a riding evaluation to see how much you've learned! This session includes riding in the arena every day and ground school lessons. Prerequisites: Must have experience trotting off a lunge line. If you are a Level 2 SPURS or completed Rustlers at Camp Pryor, this session is perfect for you! Contact the camp director at mistydirector@sjgs.org to determine if your camper has equivalent skills to participate in this program. This session is part of the progressive riding program.

Horse Whisperer

Do you have some riding experience but want to go further? Immerse yourself in horses during this session and review basic skills (start, stop, steer), play arena games, and be introduced to trotting. This session includes riding in the arena every day and ground school lessons. If you are a Level 1 SPUR, or went to Giddy Up, Saddle Up or Horse Sense last summer, this session is perfect for you! Contact the camp director at mistydirector@sjgs.org to determine if your camper has equivalent skills to participate in this program. This session is part of the progressive riding program.

SPURS Training

Do you enjoy working with horses and want to share that with other girls? Spend a week at camp learning the theories and hands-on skills needed to join the SPURS (Super People Using Riding Skills) special interest group at MMR while also enjoying classic camp activities such as hiking, archery, swimming, and more. Girls will receive their level 1 SPURS scarf and be ready to work with the weekend riding program during the school year. No previous riding experience necessary. This session is not part of the progressive riding program.

Vaulting Level 1

Are you interested in acrobatics AND horses? Why not put them together? Spend the week learning basic vaulting moves on the ground, on the barrels, and on horseback. When you're not in the barn, you'll swim in the pool and hang around camp. Campers in this session will vault on a barrel and horse every day and ground school lessons. No previous vaulting or riding experience needed, but participants must be physically able to jump, bend, and move into various acrobatic positions. This session is not part of the progressive riding program.

Vaulting Level 2

Have you done vaulting at one of our previous sessions and love it? Spend a week this summer advancing your skills! This session includes vaulting on a barrel and horse every day and ground school lessons. Participants must be physically able to jump, bend, and move into various acrobatic positions. This session is not part of the progressive riding program. Prerequisite: To register for this session, you must have attended a weeklong vaulting session before or have equivalent skills to register. Contact the camp director at mistydirector@sjgs.org to determine if your camper has equivalent skills to participate in this program.

Seniors/Ambassadors

Bits & Bridles

Calling all SPURS and STARS girls who are ready to bring their equestrian skills to the next level! Gain more equestrian knowledge in a classroom setting before having a blast in the barn and advancing your skills both on your horse and on the ground. This session includes riding in the arena every day and ground school lessons. Prerequisite: To register for this session, you must have earned STARS PA or SPURS Level 3 or higher. Contact the camp director at mistydirector@sjgs.org to determine if your camper has equivalent skills to participate in this program. This session is part of the progressive riding program.

Blazing Bullseye

Ready, aim, shoot! Get ready to improve your skills in traditional target sports while also participating in fun games such as slingshot paint ball, paint balloon darts, and more! You will also try your hand at orienteering to sharpen your seeking skills. Don't forget about swimming, hiking, and other camp activities!

Equestrian Aide

Would you love to help teach riding skills to younger girls? Spend the week at the barn as an equestrian aide (EA)! Girls will earn leadership and service hours. Campers must be at least 13 years old and have achieved level 3 SPURS or completed STARS PA training by their registration date to be eligible for this session. Contact the camp director at mistydirector@sjgs.org to determine if your camper has equivalent skills to participate in this program.

Misty Fandom

Are you a Misty fan? Then this session is for you! In this Senior and Ambassador only session, you'll get to share your favorite fandom with new friends at camp - whether you love SciFi, Anime, Comics, Potter, Media, or something else! Combine your passion with your favorite things to do at camp and top off the week by making your own DIY costume. When you're not designing your perfect costume, you'll spend the week living your ideal week at camp with your counselors and fellow campers. You've probably done the basics, like archery and hiking but now you can put creative twists on your favorites activities!

Ambassador Wrangler in Training I

Are you interested in working at Misty one day as a counselor or riding staff member, but you're not sure what it would be like? If so, this session is for you! This is the first level of the Wrangler in Training program, part of GSSJC's CIT program. You will learn skills to lead and instruct campers both in the barn and around camp. Campers who successfully complete the session will earn the CIT Award. To participate in this program, campers must complete an application and short phone interview with the camp director prior to the start of the summer. Campers must have previous experience with horses to participate in this session, preferably as a SPURS or STARS member or by attending at least two weeklong horseback riding sessions at Misty Meadows. Campers will go to the barn during this session and help instruct riding lessons and ground school lessons for younger campers. Contact the camp director at mistydirector@sjgs.org to determine if your camper has equivalent skills to participate in this program.

So, What is Troop Camping?

Casa is doing something different this year. We are offering troop camping. What exactly is troop camping? It's an opportunity to have a summer camp experience with your troop. For one full week or half a week, you can come down to Casa for crafts, games, activities, and can even try sailing. Troops will also have time to work on badges and earn badges while at camp. Think of it as all the perks of summer camp, and with your troop! We are excited to offer this new option to our troops and cannot wait to see you this summer!

Brief FAQs

How much does it cost per girl/adult?

450 per girl for Full Week 200 per adult Full Week
300 per girl for Half week 125 per adult Half week

How long are Half weeks?

They are Sunday through Wednesday or Wednesday Through Saturday.

How do I sign up?

Go to our GS events page. RIGHT NOW!

We will provide more details about it on our S'more You Know Webinars.

S'more You Know Webinars

Want to know everything about camp? First time sending your girl scout to camp? Well, these webinars are for you. S'more You Know webinars are a way to get all the information about camp. Below is a list of our webinars. If you miss them or can't make it, don't worry they are recorded. You can go to our Online Community and watch the webinar from there!

All S'more You knows are at 7 p.m.

March 21- Day Camp and Troop Camping at Casa- We will discuss what to expect with troop camping, and our day camps both volunteer and Katy Mills.

April 4 – Overnight Camp Program Preview. If you're curious about a few programs that we have lined up, this is the webinar for you. We will briefly highlight a few of our new sessions and give a little more detail as to what to expect.

April 18- Health and Safety- This webinar will discuss our health and safety protocols, med check in, how we keep your camper safe, and more.

May 23- Camp is Here!- Our last Webinar before camp starts. We will chat about what to bring, expectations of camp, and more.

Registration is on GS Events, or you can register directly on the Online Community.

Join Us for Day Camp at Katy Mills Mall

We have day camp sessions for Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes. Seniors and Ambassadors, want to spend the week getting valuable hands-on experience leading campers in day camp activities? Plus, hone your leadership skills as you gain valuable experience and service hours. You must have completed Program Aide (or have equivalent experience leading girls). Register at www.gssjc.org/summercamp.

| Katy Mills Day Camp 2023 At a Glance | Week A June 12-16 | Week B June 19-23 | Week C June 26-30 | Week D July 5-7 | Week E July 10-14 | Week F July 17-21 | Week G July 24-28 | Week H July 31 – Aug 4 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Brownie & Junior | Candyland! | Oooey, Gooley! | The Play's the Thing! | Sisters Around the World! | I Spy! | Super Heroes! | Paint Masters! | Build it Up! |
| Cadette, Senior, & Ambassador | Camp Aide | Camp Aide | Camp Aide | Camp Aide | Camp Aide | Camp Aide | Camp Aide | Camp Aide |

Week A - I Spy!

From Harriet Tubman to Julia Child, women spies have helped turn the tides of history. Practice the art of spycraft this week with secret codes, hidden messages, invisible ink, spy obstacle courses, and more as we learn about the impact of some of the most famous women spies.

Week B - Candyland!

Unleash your inner food scientist and discover the STEM behind candy making as we create edible candy gemstones, pull homemade taffy, enhance the flavors of lollipops, and more!

Week C - The Play's the Thing!

Help create a script based on one of your favorite fairytales, then join either the acting or the design team to bring a one act play to life!

Week D - Oooey - Gooley!

Science has never been so messy! Get ready for a week of overflowing elephant toothpaste, exploding watermelons, sprinkler bubbles, bouncing eggs, and more!

Week E - Sisters Around the World!

Did you know that you have sisters all over the world? Explore Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding activities, traditions, and food from different countries as we "travel" to the World Centers in Mexico, India, Switzerland, Africa, and England this week!

Week F - Super Heroes!

Explore and unleash your inner she-ro as you seek inspiration from both real people and fictional super heroes.

Week G - Paint Masters!

Let your inner artist loose this week as you sketch, draw, and paint, and learn all about art. Leave camp with your own keepsake canvas masterpiece!

Week H - Build It Up!

Get ready to use a hammer, nails, and other woodworking tools as you create your own construction projects.

Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors Day Camp Aide

Spend the week honing your leadership skills as you help younger campers complete activities, earn badges, and have an amazing time at camp. Of course, you also get to participate in all the fun at camp as well!

Local Day/Twilight Camps

Local day and twilight camps are coming this summer! Look for registration information online starting in April. Are you interested in helping lead a day or twilight camp in your community? Contact Dejah Covick for more information at dcovick@sjgs.org or 713-292-0254.

Be an International Host Family

Every year Misty Meadows Ranch, Camp Agnes Arnold, and Casa Mare hire five to ten international staff members for each camp. This summer we're looking for Girl Scout families to be host families for these individuals!

One of the reasons GSSJC summer camps hire international camp staff is because they provide a culture experience to our campers. Campers get to meet people from all over the world and learn about cultures different from their own at camp! In 2022, we had international staff from Jamaica, Ireland, Australia, and England, just to name a few. As a host family, your whole family will get to experience the cultures your camper does AND you get to share your culture and the state of Texas with the international staff that is placed with you!

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a host family, the Outdoor Experience Department will host an informational session on Zoom March 28 at 7 p.m. After the informational session, anyone interested in becoming a host family will need to fill out an application to be considered. We will consider all Girl Scout families who apply. Families do not need to have Girl Scout attending camp to be considered, but knowledge of GSSJC summer overnight/resident camp is preferred. Host families are also not required to have girls in Girl Scouts; you can be the grandparents of a Girl Scout, the parents of a graduated Girl Scout, or a graduated Girl Scout yourself to qualify.

Host families **MUST** meet the following requirements:

- Private guest room (or shared with another international staff member)
- All adults in the home must be active GSSJC members with current background checks
- Provide room and board as needed for the staff member
- Provide transportation to and from the airport or other transportation service before and after camp. Staff will arrive in the U.S in late May and leave camp/the country in early August.
- Provide transportation to and from the Social Security Office before staff training starts

Each international staff has different needs; some may want to spend their weekend time off away from camp and need you to pick them up and drop them off at camp, others may want to stay at camp or spend their time off with friends and won't need a place to stay. Camp staff also have a short break for the Fourth of July holiday, so your international may stay with you or they may take a short trip with other camp staff. We ask that host families and their international staff work together to meet everyone's needs as much as possible. Needs may change as the summer goes on, so staying open minded and flexible is a priority!

Register for the Zoom meeting online at <https://bit.ly/CampHostFamily>: March 28, 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Kathy Elliott at kelliott@sjgs.org

Longtime GSSJC Supporter, Gives Back So All Girl Scouts Can Soar

Cathy Wining-Thomas is no stranger to Girl Scouts. She has spent much of her life involved with Girl Scouting, whether as a girl member, volunteer, board member, or a longtime supporter. She is passionate about the organization that helped her become a leader in the oil and gas field and continues to give back to help young girls develop confidence, courage, and character, the three C's of Girl Scouting.

"The three Cs really work," says Thomas. "I love supporting the development of girls, and the three Cs are key to effective leadership."

Thomas has been a Girl Scout of San Jacinto Council supporter for 25 years and has served the council in various roles while also working as the Chief Procurement Officer for Conoco Phillips, formerly known as Conoco. She was a volunteer when her friend and past GSSJC board chair asked her to join the council's Emerald Circle. That opened the doors for other opportunities, including serving as a board member, a member of the Promise and Juliette Low societies, and a delegate to the 2008 Girl Scouts of the USA National Convention.

She also participated in the annual Urban Campout fundraiser and served on the Adult Recognition Team and the Board Development and Pluralism committees. In the early 2000's, she helped the council raise essential funds as an influential member of Troop 365, and was honored with the Appreciation Pin. The award is given for outstanding service to a geographical area or program in a way that furthers the

council's goals beyond expectation for the position. Furthermore, she was an honoree of the annual fundraiser, the Success to Significance luncheon.

Thomas grew up in Hutchinson, a small town in Kansas, where she joined the Girl Scouts and was a member for 12 years. Her mother was a troop leader and so was her grandmother in the 1930s. Cathy remembers enjoying the outdoor experiences like camping and hiking and the activities that encouraged her to learn project management. She earned a First Class Award, now known as the Gold Award.

She has two granddaughters who followed her footsteps and joined Girl Scouts. One of them earned the prestigious Gold Award, too. "As a Girl Scout growing up, I benefitted from the positive Girl Scout experience, I'm grateful for that," she says. "Also, the value system of Girl Scout was that of my family, and that's a big deal."

Thomas says her volunteer work for and support of GSSJC feeds her soul because it's a movement that is flexible and agile enough to change with the current times yet remains rooted in its fundamental values. Plus, the movement is all about girls.

She encourages others to support GSSJC because girls are our future leaders and workforce. "It's not only the right thing to do," she says. "This is a program open to girls of all walks of life, and, to me, that's important."



Troop Creates Food Bank Mural for Bronze Award

Volunteers at the Montgomery County Food Bank now have a colorful, whimsical mural in their sorting workspace to brighten their day, thanks to Girl Scout Troop 107016. The girls collaborated with a local artist to create the mural and then spent several hours painting a one-of-a-kind art piece for their Bronze Award project.

The Bronze Award is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn. Girls are required to work up to 20 hours on a community issue that is important to them. The girls then develop a plan, carry it out, and spread the word about their project.

Troop 107016 asked the food bank how the troop could help the nonprofit organization and was surprised when it commissioned a mural. Many of the girls had never painted, but they were thrilled to accept the challenge, they said. “At first, we were confused about how we would put it all together,” Madi said. “We got someone to draw the picture and we painted it.”

The troop used some of its time at camp to create a concept for the mural. Troop member Angela said everyone agreed the mural should have animals. Each girl drew a picture, and then, as a group, they selected elements they liked from each drawing. The result was an elephant enjoying a picnic with children on a beautiful spring day.

Troop member Claire suggested the elephant idea, troop member Anwen had the idea to include children, and it was troop member Abigail’s idea to paint the tree canopy pink and purple. Molly said the troop wanted the mural “to be mystical, not too realistic.”

The troop collaborated with local artist and former Girl Scout Joy Matherson, who drew an outline of the troop’s picture on canvas. Angela met the artist at Starbucks and explained what the girls wanted. The girls later spent several hours at a local church painting the mural. When the troop presented the mural, the food bank staff was amazed by the girls’ work, the girls said. “They were grateful. We took pictures and signed our names on it,” Molly said.

Troop member Olivia said she liked working on the project because the mural will make the food bank workers and volunteers happy as they work. But her favorite thing about the project was putting it together with her friends, she said. The Girl Scouts who worked on the Bronze Award project are Angela, Molly, Anwen, Oliva, Abigail, Claire, and Madisyn (Madi).



Gold Award Recipient Turns Experience Into Teachable Moment for Children With Epilepsy

When Emily McDonald learned she had epilepsy, she didn’t know anything about the medical condition and her doctor’s jargon-filled explanation only heightened the scary experience. That is why Emily decided to pursue a Gold Award project that focused on increasing the awareness of epilepsy among children. She hopes her project will eliminate the fear and stigma associated with epilepsy.

Epilepsy is a brain disorder that causes recurring, unprovoked seizures. It can begin at any time of life, but it’s most diagnosed in children and people over 60. It is estimated that 3.4 million people nationwide have epilepsy, according to the Epilepsy Foundation.

Emily was diagnosed with epilepsy when she was 12 years old. She experienced her first seizure while on her way to summer camp. Her mother was forced to make a detour to the nearest hospital. Emily says her hospital visit was terrifying. She remembers feeling confused because she did not understand all the medical terms used by the doctor to describe her condition and eventually treatment.

“Children need a way to understand what is going on, so they will feel more comfortable,” Emily says. “Now if another child walks into the same clinic as I did and hears the word epilepsy, they might be handed the brochure about what to expect”

The Gold Award is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. Only Ambassadors and Senior Girl Scouts are eligible to earn the award. Girls chose a community issue that is dear to them. Then, they are required to spend up to 80 hours planning, implementing, and sharing their project with others.

For her project, Emily created brochures and short YouTube videos for children newly diagnosed with epilepsy to help them better understand the condition. She also created coloring sheets with positive messages and collected hundreds of donated crayons for children to use during their doctor appointments. Emily led a team of 11 people to help her with the project. She even received help from her doctor and people who work with the doctor. They helped her with her research and designing her brochure.

Emily, a second-generation Gold Award Girl Scout, also testified before a Texas House committee in 2021 as an advocate for epilepsy awareness. She says it was a gratifying experience. She hopes her testimony will make a difference in how the state addresses epilepsy in the future.



Girls Teach Kids to Protect Wetlands Through Game for Silver Award Project

Concerned about protecting wetlands in their community, three Girl Scouts in Troop 142142 created a presentation and Jeopardy-like computer game to help educate children about the vital role wetlands play in our lives. The girls partnered with the Delores Fenwick Nature Center in Pearland, where their game is available on a touchscreen platform for visitors to play. "We came up with this project because we noticed a lot of trash around the local area wetlands," said Girl Scout Jayla. "We didn't like it."

The girls spoke with staff at the nature center to ask how they could help. The center needed to reach more children, so the girls decided to focus on educating children ages 6-16 because they are the future and easier to influence. If children learn about protecting the environment now, they will grow up respecting it and eventually share their knowledge with their children, said the girls.

The Silver Award is the highest award that Cadettes can earn. Girls are required to spend up to 50 hours on their projects. Girls use this time to identify an issue they care about in their community or beyond, plan and implement their project, and then reflect on what they have accomplished.

With help from staff at the nature center, the girls learned how native plants help the wetlands and how wetlands help humans and animals. They also learned about the many invasive plants that can destroy the ecosystem and hurt the community. The girls then created a PowerPoint presentation and presented it at a nature camp at the center.

They also used their research information to create questions for their game, which Jayla developed on her computer by creating PowerPoint slides to upload to the nature center's touchscreen game system. "It was a lot of hard work researching the facts, but it was also fun to learn them and put together the presentation and game," Jayla said.

Troopmate Alex agreed. She said the team adopted a divide-and-conquer approach to ensure they completed the project. "I'm so happy Jayla did the game. She did it so well," Alex said. "We helped her with the PowerPoint slides and the content."

The girls said they learned a great deal about plants they did not know, and that communication is crucial when doing a group project like the Silver Award. "I was really proud of myself and my troopmates. I learned that you can do anything if you try hard enough." The other Girl Scout who participated in the project is Savannah.



Cookie Program Ends March 26 *You Still Have Time to Participate!*

Ways to Sell Cookies

Door to door

Girls go door to door to homes in their neighborhood selling packages in hand.

Digital selling

Use Smart Cookies e-cards, social media links, QR codes, and more.

Cookie booths

Your troop cookie manager can reserve cookie booths at businesses where girls can set up a table to sell their cookies.

Lemonade stands

Parents and girls can set up a table to sell cookies at their home like a lemonade stand.

Walkabouts

Girls gather with their troopmates and take their neighborhoods by storm in this door-to-door selling method.

Your participation not only helps your troop, but also helps the council by keeping camp, trainings, and activity costs low.



Scan the QR code to access our GSSJC Cookie website! This will be your go to for all things cookies including forms, guides, and details about the program.

Celebration of the Century

If you attended GSSJC's Celebration of the Century on Dec. 3, we're sure you will agree that it was an EPIC event! With more than 100 activities - archery, riflery, bounce inflatables, candle making - there was plenty of fun for everyone to enjoy as the council celebrated its 100th birthday.

More than 2,200 people attended the event. Troops arrived at Treelake as early as 7:30 a.m. full of energy and ready to get the party started. Many troops wore matching T-shirts made especially for the occasion. Girls had a blast petting goats, making s'mores, creating SWAPs, dancing to music, and watching the opening parade and closing fireworks. One of the day's highlights was seeing GSSJC CEO Mary Vitek show off her hula-hooping skills! She's a real pro!

We want to thank the Girl Planning Board and centennial committee that spent a year planning this spectacular event and all the volunteers who made it possible for the event to go on without a glitch. We appreciate you lending us your time for such a milestone event that we all will remember.



Girl Scout Week | March 12 – 18, 2023

March 12



Girl Scout Sunday Girl Scout Birthday

Celebrate Girl Scout Birthday by attending and/or participating in a service at your faith institution.

March 13



Make New Friends Monday

Invite a non-Girl Scout to attend your Girl Scout activities this week so they can experience Girl Scouts.

March 14



Take-Action Tuesday

Give back to your community with a service or Take Action project.



March 15



We ♥ Girl Scouts Wednesday!

It's Girl Scout Spirit Day! Wear your Girl Scout uniform or shirt AND share your Girl Scout experience with friends.

March 16



Find Your Adventure Thursday!

Go outside! Explore your neighborhood. Earn a new badge. Sign up for Girl Scout camp. Do something new and fun!

March 17



Fund Your Success Friday!

Participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program or a cookie booth and tell customers why their purchase is important.

March 18



Girl Scout Sabbath

Take part in a religious service or learn how Girl Scouts celebrate faith!

Celebrate Girl Scout Week

Girl Scout Week 2023 kicks off on Girl Scout Sunday AND Girl Scout Birthday! This is a great opportunity for Girl Scouts to attend a service at their place of worship and be recognized by their congregation as a Girl Scout. You can also commemorate Girl Scout Birthday by bringing a newborn gift basket to a local hospital for a baby girl born on March 12 or putting together a birthday in a box kit for a food pantry or shelter. The Girl Scout Week 2023 calendar offers you activities to do throughout the week to celebrate being a Girl Scout. From Make New Friends Monday to Girl Scout Spirit Day and Fund Your Success Friday, share your experience in Girl Scouts to your family and friends and invite them along on this journey with you.

Service is fundamental to Girl Scouting and providing a service to others is the perfect way for girls to demonstrate their leadership and tenets of the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Girl Scout Week is a great time to incorporate acts of service and complete service projects. If girls complete a service project in the community, we have yard signs that can be displayed for the public to acknowledge the Girl Scouts' efforts to make the world a better place. Be sure to complete a service project form (F-269) and submit it to council. To acquire a service project sign, please contact the Community Engagement and Member Experience Department at 713-292-0213 or thawkins@sjgs.org.



Gold Award Girl Scouts

The Girl Scout Gold Award represents the highest achievement in Girl Scouting. The award recognizes girls in grades 9-12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through sustainable and measurable Take Action projects. Since 1916, girls have successfully pursued the highest award, an act that indelibly marks them as accomplished members of their communities and the world.



Layla Ansari hosted a panel discussion to teach teenage girls about politics, specifically women in politics. She invited several women politicians as panelists to discuss the political landscape. Layla decided to focus her project on politics because she was disheartened by what she saw in political leaders leading up to the 2020 election. She hopes her project will encourage more girls to pursue politics as women.



Katie Gower set out to help older adults affected by dementia with her project. She worked with Village Care Homes to help ease the anxiety experienced by their residents who have dementia by creating various sensory activities for them. She also made a video on how to make a fidget blanket and uploaded it to YouTube.



Adoriam DeWalt educated people about the declining bird population in the United States and involved them in making a sustainable, bird-friendly area. She connected with several nonprofits, including the Glenn Miller Ag camp, YMCA, and the Houston Audubon. She gave presentations at their events and camps to educate young adults and spark their interest in the epidemic. More than 500 people were impacted by her project.



Kavya Malgi focused on the gap in the learning path in the machine learning and artificial intelligence field. Because schools are unable to keep up with advancements, Kavya created a program that attempts to narrow the gap by providing learning opportunities for students in that field. The program, called Machine Learning for High Schools, offers students hands-on machine learning experiences. She implemented the program at her school, Jordan High School.



Suhani Goswami created a website to introduce non-bilingual elementary and middle school students to different languages. The website contains introductions to Spanish, German, French, and American Sign Language. She also created printed materials as a supplement. The website was shared with two public elementary schools, while the print materials were shared with two little public libraries.



Anna Matthews addressed the issue of pet adoption for her project. She made enrichment toys called snuffle mats for the Houston Cares Rescue and a group of pet foster homes to make the lives of animals happier and to improve their behavior. She also gave presentations to volunteers and children in her neighborhood about the importance of pet enrichment and adoption.



Jessica Gower held a volleyball camp at Boys and Girls Country of Houston for her project. Her friends and family helped her teach young girls beginner volleyball skills over six sessions and hosted a fun volleyball tournament. Her project was aimed at promoting sports and a healthy lifestyle. She also made a YouTube video with various volleyball drills to encourage fitness and slow the trend of child obesity.

No Photo
Available

Roma Mudnal gave a presentation at schools and community centers explaining how fast fashion has devastating implications on the environment and explaining the unsustainable processes used to synthesize these products, such as the immense waste of water and how most clothing ends up in landfills or pollutes the environment. She also created a social media pledge that more than 1,000 students signed, promising to follow sustainable wardrobe practices. Additionally, she reduced the impact of fast fashion on the environment through clothing drives, diverting tons of clothes from landfills.



Eliza Noor focused on the decline of the butterfly population due to mass planting of plants that do not benefit butterflies. To help save butterflies, she collaborated with the City of Sugar Land to create a butterfly garden in Sugar Land Memorial Park. The butterflies now have a place to pollinate plants and continue their lifecycles. She worked with 17 volunteers on the project.



Elizabeth Richards wrote a children's picture book to educate children about epilepsy. The book helps them understand the disorder and explains how to prevent bullying. She read her book to children and led a team of five volunteers to complete the project.



Lucy Rixner designed a virtual webinar for high schools to address how to apply to college, how to survive college classes, and how to live on your own. This webinar included seven panelists including a Rice University professor, college students, her school's College and Career Readiness counselor, and the BYU-Hawaii academic advisor. She also created a brochure and a website that has been visited by people living in several different states.



Chole Schueppert created a Junior Conservationist Program, which is a treasure-hunt style, nature exploration, and sustainability education program for elementary-age children. She researched, wrote, designed, and printed a 12-page, hands-on activity guide and created activity backpacks – compass, binoculars, field guides – to complete the activities. She developed the project based on her love and concern for the environment.



Meagan Spates addressed the unrealistic expectations that teens feel they must meet to be accepted on social media. Her project also focused on how social media affects their mental health. She collaborated with the Dove Self-Esteem Project and the Walk in Our Shoes organizations and taught four workshops that educated teens on mental health awareness and how to improve body confidence and self-esteem. She also spoke about her project at her church.



Sarah Spicer created a GPS-enabled map app for Camp Allen to distribute and create self-guided nature hikes. Camp Allen has about 70,000 guests annually, and though not all of them will use the app, Sarah anticipates the impact will be large given that 96% of survey respondents said they would likely use the app. Sarah said she has always had an interest in learning how to code. Her Gold Award project gave her the motivation to do it, she said.



Grace Stephens raised awareness about modern feminism and gender disparity for her project. She created an online interactive educational game/program. Her project addressed common misconceptions about feminism, explained current issues facing women, and provided resources for further information and involvement. She aspires to promote equality among women and men and to motivate girls to pursue careers in computer science.



Soha Sunesara conducted English classes in Gujarat, India, for three weeks. She collaborated with a teacher to create lesson plans for each class. In addition, she trained a volunteer living in Chaya Baug to continue carrying out these classes. These classes helped strengthen the children's ability to read, write, and speak in English. She also gave a presentation to a business in India to raise awareness of this issue.



Ellen Ward started a donation drive to collect sanitary products for homeless women in Missouri City. Many homeless women struggle to find food and shelter, but they also have difficulty buying necessities such as sanitary products. Ellen collaborated with two organizations at her school to organize the donation drive and create product kits. She also created a presentation to educate the community about the needs of homeless women.

**Find information
on how YOU can
earn the Gold Award
on page 28.**

Frequently Asked Finance Questions

Donated Cookies - With cookie season upon us, it is appropriate to mention how troops should handle financial transactions related to donated cookies. Generally, troops are not able to accept cash donations. Theoretically, a cookie booth customer may prefer to give the troop \$20 rather than purchasing the cookies for themselves. Girls should be sure to thank the customer and let him/her know you will be using the money for “Cookies 4 Heroes” and donating cookies to a first responder (or designated recipient).

There are two ways a troop cookie manager can manage the donation transaction.

The troop can determine that the \$20 given at the booth is equivalent to 4 packages sold and can either set aside or use inventory at the end of the sale to donate the cookies to first responders themselves. The funds are deposited into the troop’s bank account and the TCM records the transaction like any other booth sale in Smart Cookies.

Or

The troop can consider the \$20 as a payment for cookie shares and the council will donate the 4 packages to a first responder for them. The funds are still deposited into troop bank account and the TCM will record the transaction in SmartCookies as a cookie share transaction.

What if the cash donation is not evenly divisible by \$5? Accumulate the extra money until you reach \$5 or if that does not occur you can record the excess as a part of the troop cookie proceeds and include a note when completing the Annual Financial Report that the extra cookie money was received during Cookie Booth but less than \$5.

Cheddar Up – Girl Scouts of San Jacinto has adopted Cheddar Up as the approved platform to receive funds transferred electronically from parents for dues, event registration, etc. Cheddar Up is the only Council approved money transfer application. Due to tax reporting complications, Cash-Up, Venmo, PayPal, or Zelle are not approved for payments to or from a troop bank account. Any troop that has utilized these portals in the past should redirect the process to Cheddar Up. Information about Cheddar Up can be found on our www.GSSJC.org website by simply typing Cheddar Up in the search bar.

Cheddar Up should not be used during Cookie Season to process credit card transactions, only ABC Smart Cookies should be used for Cookie purchases by credit card customers. Parents that collect cash for their girls can use Cheddar Up to forward the funds to the Troop. Checks would still need to be submitted to the Troop Cookie Manager along with copies of Cheddar Up receipts. There will be a small transaction fee for each transaction through Cheddar Up for the sender but the Troop will not incur costs.



Questions about Troop Finances can be addressed to your Community financial specialist (CFS) who has received specialized training and is your best source for updated information. If you do not have a CFS or do not know who that would be, you can contact the Council-Wide Financial Management Coordinator: FMC@sjgs.org.

Money-Earning Activities – Another avenue for a Troop to raise funds would be a Money-Earning Activity. The troop must be Girl Scout Junior level or above, in good standing, and have participated in the 2 most recent Council-sponsored Product Sales (Fall Product and Cookie Sale). Permission must be requested in advance. There are activities the troop cannot participate in including, but not limited to, Go-Fund Me, games of chance (raffles), product demonstrations (Mary Kay, Tupperware), etc. Activities that are allowed include, but are not limited to, car wash, garage sale, brownie badge workshop. Refer to Volunteer Essentials, Troop Finances (pages 38-41) for further information. Remember to include girl planning in any and all money-earning activities.

Regardless, whether the Troop is planning to request “In-Kind Donations” or a “Money-Earning Activity” there are time periods when approaching the public should not occur. As noted in Volunteer Essentials, Troop Finances, Additional Guidelines (page 36), “Troops are encouraged to participate in council product programs as their primary money-earning activity; any group money earning shouldn’t compete with the Girl Scout Cookie Program or other council product programs. However, if the money-earning activity is within the Girl Scout Community or Region during council-sponsored product sales (and not open to the general public), the eligibility to conduct workshops or events (such as a brownie badge workshop, Journey in a Day, or a daisy-to-be event) will not be affected.

Girls who are planning to seek financial or in-kind support to work on their Gold Award can seek assistance from the GSSJC Girl Outdoor and Leadership Experience Department by emailing goldaward@sjgs.org.

Questions about troop finances can be addressed to your Community financial specialist (CFS) who has received specialized training and is your best source for updated information. If you do not have a CFS or do not know who that would be, you can contact the council-wide financial management coordinator at FMC@sjgs.org.

Save the Date for the 2023 Annual Council Meeting!

Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council invites members to join us April 22 at 12:30 p.m. for our Annual Council Meeting. The Annual Council Meeting is our yearly business meeting and there is no charge for attending. This year's Annual Meeting will be held in person at the Camp Agnes Arnold lodge and will have exciting council updates and council information. Any registered member in good standing with the council may attend as a visitor. Delegates are required to attend.

Each Community may appoint up to four delegates, and each Region may appoint up to two delegates. Girl members age 14+ may be appointed as delegates. There will be delegate training via webinar prior to the meeting; watch for training details available later this spring. If you are interested in becoming a Community or Region delegate, please contact your Community or Region leadership team members. Additionally, if you have any questions about the 2023 Annual Council Meeting, please contact Karyn Smith at ksmith@sjgs.org or 713-292-0305.

You're Invited! 2023 Adult Recognition

April 22 at Ann Temple Allen Lodge at Camp Agnes Arnold

\$25 per ticket

Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast will be served.

Register online only. Deadline March 31.

Adult Recognition Event is back, and breakfast is served! GSSJC wishes to extend a personal invitation to members and friends of the Girl Scout family to attend the annual Adult Recognition Event. Join us for a memorable day honoring some of San Jacinto Council's most distinguished volunteers and community leaders who have made significant contributions to the Girl Scout Movement. Any individual, group, or family wanting to show support for the honoring of Girl Scout volunteers and community partners is encouraged to attend.

Registration is available online at www.gssjc.org/activities – search for Adult Recognition Event. Communities, families, or groups may want to reserve a Friendship Table for six by completing the 2023 GSSJC Recognition Event Table Reservation Form GSSJC O-631 below or online.

Table placements will be made according to the date the form is received. The table form is ONLY necessary to reserve table placement for persons wanting to sit together; all tickets must be purchased online. Table forms can be mailed to GSSJC Attn: Cassie Robinson, 3110 Southwest Fwy., Houston, Texas 77098 or emailed to crobinson@sjgs.org. For additional assistance or questions about Adult Recognition Event, contact Cassie Robinson at 713-292-0285 or crobinson@sjgs.org.

Recognition event table reservation

Hostess Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Community/Group Name _____

Form ____ of ____ (A max of four tables may be submitted for grouping together.)

Table Guests

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____



Thank Your Volunteers This Spring!

Girl Scout volunteers participate in Girl Scouting because they believe in our mission. They want to feel valued as well with a heartfelt “thank you.” There are many informal ways to demonstrate appreciation to our volunteers. GSSJC has formal awards for volunteers who go above and beyond, who exceed expectations, whose contributions are significant, and whose performance is outstanding. These volunteers, whose efforts are sincerely focused on making the Girl Scout experience impactful for girls, are people to appreciate and recognize.

First, collect Volunteer Service Records (F-122) for each volunteer in your troop every year. This will help you and your local recognition team when it comes time to nominate someone who has been outstanding!

Second, nominate your volunteers locally by submitting forms to your local Region or Community Leadership Team no later than March 15.

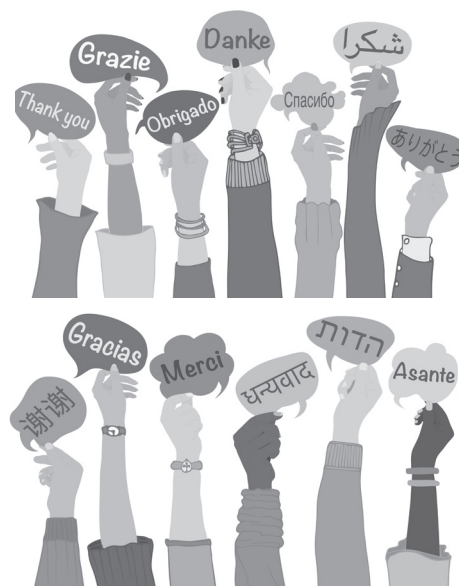
- Outstanding Volunteer form F-59
- Outstanding Leadership Team (Troops/Special Interest Groups) form F-335
- Fearless Leader Patch – available for purchase in GSSJC shops, usually purchased by Community
- Fearless Leader Year Rockers – Community leaders may submit form O-57 to adultrecognition@sjgs.org
- Years of Membership – available in five-year intervals, \$3 each, F-56
- Years of Service – recognizes years of service as a volunteer, F-61

Get inspired by council-wide recognitions by attending the Adult Recognition Event on April 22! Registration is required.

Thank You, RTLs, PLs, and Recruitment Team Members!

A HUGE THANK YOU to all the appointed recruitment team leads (RTLs) and placement liaisons (PLs) listed below for their incredible work to make sure every girl has an opportunity to become a Girl Scout and have a troop experience if desired. We know it takes lots of dedicated volunteers to recruit and place girls and adults in our Communities. We are immensely grateful for the following RTLs and PLs as well as our CLTs, CEMs, and Community volunteers who have managed meet-the-teacher tables, given girl talks, attended recruitment events, and all the behind-the-scenes work for our fall recruitment season.

| <u>Community</u> | <u>Recruitment Team Leads</u> | <u>Placement Liasons</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Blossom Creek | (Doretta) LeChelle Elmore | |
| Cypress Bend | Laura Castanon | |
| Colony Creek | Jan Santoro | Wallis "Wally" Davis |
| Copper Creek Meadows | Sandy Kreps | Crystal Reeves |
| Clear Creek | Nicole Hall | |
| Emerald Pines | Mit Hegler | |
| Firefly Trails | Dawn Jenkins | Brenda Zimmerman |
| Harmony Creek | Angela Martin-Worthington | Angela Martin-Worthington |
| Heart of Texas | Ashley Bennett-Sigmund | Ashley Bennett-Sigmund |
| Island Creek | Jennifer Harris | |
| Klein Trails | Heather Aguilar | |
| Lone Stars | Becky Normand | |
| Lone Star Treasures | Michelle Christopherson | |
| Lone Star Trails | April Paul | Heather Caltado |
| Magic Blossom Trails | Gwen Parker | |
| Shooting Stars | Elva Gamero | Celina Recalde |
| Tannybo | Jamie Arlt | Jamie Arlt |
| TopFlowingTrails | Karen Rexer | |
| Way our West | Margarita Bentley | Naquita Patterson, Robin Newbury, JP Pfeifer |
| Woodland Trails | Regina Woody-Crain | Regina Woody-Crain |
| Wildflowers | Elizabeth Domain | Ashley Petry, Katje McCabe |
| Yellow Rose | Katherine "Katie" Fagundes | Stephanie Contreras |



You are all AMAZING–THANK YOU!

Summer Camp Jobs

We are now hiring staff for overnight camp, day camp, and family weekend camp - if you are a Girl Scout Ambassador or volunteer YOU are likely eligible for the best summer job in the world! Even when it's still cold outside, thoughts of swimming pools, horses, canoes, and sailboats can brighten your day! (Who would have guessed you can actually get paid to go to camp!) Because you have been involved with Girl Scouting, chances are you already have most of the skills we are looking for in a camp counselor or leadership team member. You know about the Promise and the Law, you've probably had some experience in the outdoors, you know about being flexible, and you probably even have lots of old Girl Scout T-shirts that you can wear again! Counselors must be at least 18 years old by the summer; junior staff members must be at least 16.

Plus, if you are at least 18, we are also hiring staff to work on weekends at camp all year round, delivering programs like archery, canoeing, the adventure park, and more!

For more information about jobs at camp, please visit our website at www.gssjc.org/careers

President's Volunteer Service Award

Did you know that GSSJC is a granting organization for the President's Volunteer Service Award? Girls and adult volunteers are eligible to earn this prestigious community service award for any service hours completed in service of Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council. Hours must be completed between Sept. 1 and Aug. 31 of any given year.

Learn more by reading the following guidelines and application documents:

- F-123A President's Volunteer Service Award Guidelines
- F-123B President's Volunteer Service Application

Questions?

- Girls: Alix Reilman, gscommsserv@sjgs.org
- Adults: Dejah Covick, adultrecognition@sjgs.org

Girl and Troop Activities

Register for events under the My Events tab in my Account. Go to gssjc.org and select MyGS, log in at the top right corner, next click My Events in the left-hand menu. If you have a question about your activity, contact 713-292-0370 or 1-800-392-4340. If you have a problem with your login, contact Customer Service at 713-292-0300 or registration@sjgs.org. For all events, bring Permission Slip F-204 and Medical Form F-185 for each girl and the Adult Emergency Form F-22 for each adult.



Attention Daisy Leaders! Look for the Daisy in this section for activities that Daisies can attend.

Look for this symbol in indicate a virtual program offering.



General Activities

GSSJC Gay Straight Alliance Interest Group

GSSJC's Gay-Straight Alliance for Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors, and adults, serves to empower and educate scouts surrounding LGBTQ+ issues. We will lead inclusive, engaging, and educational programming to help create Queer and allied leaders within Girl Scouts. This could include a History of Pride patch, troop leader training, and teaching girls how to confront homophobia. If this group interests you, we would love to have you! Please contact Julia Noble at jnoble@sjgs.org.

Get Ready for GAM!

With the help of the Mariners, we want you to join us for a day of games, prizes, and music. You will have the opportunity to learn cool knots, rig a sunfish, and even enjoy a game of twister, bounce house style. Things could get a little messy with a game of sponge paintball. You do don't want to miss this fun filled day! We can wait to see you by the bay!

Who: ① ② ③ ④ adults
When: March 26, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Where: Casa Mare
Cost: \$20/girl; \$15/adult
Contact: Stephanie Moore, smoore@sjgs.org, 713-292-0299
 Registration: customerservice@sjgs.org

Girltopia

Join Region 16 on the GIRLtopia journey as you create an artistic vision of what an ideal world for girls looks like, and then move the world a step closer to that ideal through a Take Action Project. On this journey, girls will examine their own ideas and values as you learn about the ethics and processes of how to make ethical decisions that are relevant to their life. We will explore leadership and its styles. The girls will need to complete their TAPs on their own. The journey award is not included. TAP is not included.

Who: ⑤
Where: Casa Mare
When: March 31 at 5 p.m. – April 2 at noon
Cost: \$50/girl
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Note: Badges are not included

Wait! Look Here First!

How to Register for an Event

1. Go to www.gssjc.org and click on MyGS. Login with your Girl Scout credentials when prompted.
2. Click on My Events and then Register for Another Event.
3. To search, put in the ZIP code where the event is taking place. Move the search radius to 90 miles. Put the partial or whole title of the event in Keyword, using quotes. Click Search.
4. Click on the event you want. Add the appropriate number of girls and adults. Click Add Events.
5. Choose your registrants and check the credit card box. Follow check out instructions.



Tip: If you are a troop leader registering your group, be sure to toggle over to the Troop radio button FIRST when choosing registrants. This will guarantee you continue to see your troop drop-down list when registering a group.

Babysitting Training

This training covers everything from the business of babysitting (advertising, interviewing, charging, budgeting), to proper activities while on the job (developmental stages for kids of all ages, activities to do with the kids, etc). It also covers how to handle behavioral problems and what to do in an emergency. This is not a first aid/CPR/AED course though some basic information on will be included. Red Cross certification cards will be emailed to the participants following the class.

Who: ② 11 years old and older
Where: Program Place
When: March 12, April 1, May 3, 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Cost: \$13/girl
Bring: Sack lunch
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Note: The Cadette Babysitter badge is NOT earned by completing this training. Participating girls earn the Red Cross Babysitting Certification by completing this course.

Think Like a Citizen Scientist Brownie Camp Weekend

Join our Older Girl Team Captains to earn your Think Like a Citizen Scientist badge. Learn what is citizen science, how to make observations, participate in a citizen science project and have a great time at camp! There are two options for this event: (1) Saturday overnight stay or (2) Saturday day only. Older Girl Scouts will serve as team captains for each group. Program materials and the earned badge are provided. All participants will receive Saturday lunch and dinner plus an afternoon snack. Overnight participants will also receive Sunday breakfast and s'mores supplies.

Who: (b)
When: April 1 – 2
 (Day Only) Saturday from 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 (Overnight) 9 a.m. Saturday – 10 a.m. Sunday
Where: Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe
Cost: (Day Only) \$30/girl, \$10/adult
 (Overnight) \$50/girl, \$25 overnight
Contact: Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300,
 customerservice@sjgs.org

First Aid Badge Workshops

It's Girl Scout tradition to always be prepared – and earning your first aid badge is an important piece of being prepared for any situation. These workshops will give girls an understanding of what to do in an emergency but are not first aid certifications.

Brownies: Audit your first aid kit, talk to a health care professional, find out how to use 911, and learn how to treat & prevent minor injuries.

Juniors: Audit your first aid kit, learn what to do in an emergency, hear from first responders, find out how to handle urgent first aid, and learn how to care for the sick.

Cadettes: Audit your first aid kit, understand how to care for younger children, find out how to prevent outdoor injuries, understand shock, and learn to prevent weather-related injuries.

Seniors: Find out how to perform triage, know how to help a head or neck injury, learn how to make splints out of every day objects, recognize the signs of drug overdose and alcohol poisoning, and how to share your knowledge with others.

When: Check the GSSJC events page for spring dates
Where: Rice University EMS
Cost: \$20
Contact: Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300,
 customerservice@sjgs.org

Christian Youth Theatre presents Big Fish!

BIG FISH tells the story of Edward Bloom, a traveling salesman who lives life to its fullest...and then some! Overflowing with heart and humor, BIG FISH is an extraordinary musical that reminds us why we love going to the theatre—for an experience that's richer, funnier, and bigger than life itself.

Who: (C)(S)(a) adults
When: May 20
Where: The Crighton Theatre, Conroe
Cost: \$15 - \$35

Service to Girl Scouting Older Girl Planning Meetings

Plan and lead activities for Junior Girl Scouts to complete several badges: Detective, Social Butterfly, and Savvy Shopper. Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors must attend planning meetings and Junior Event. Hosted by Region 4.

Who: (C)(S)(a) adults
Where: Cypress Resource Center
When: Four meetings: April 25 – May 4, 6 – 8 p.m.
Cost: \$20/girl, \$8/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Note: Will receive Service to Girl Scouting Pin.

Girls, Become a Green Angel

This is your opportunity to honor the Girl Scout volunteers and community leaders who graciously give of their time and themselves to improve the Girl Scout experience. We are looking for dedicated girls who are willing to volunteer their time as Green Angels to serve adult volunteers and their families at the annual Adult Recognition Event. If you are interested in serving as a Green Angel, register via the My Activities tab in MyGS. Requirements: Be in uniform and willing to serve food and assist with clean up after the event, plus have a positive attitude and willingness to give back to Girl Scout volunteers.

Who: (C)(S)(a)
When: Fri., April 21, 6 p.m. – Sat., April 22, 1 p.m.
Where: Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe
Cost: \$5
Contact: Cassie Robinson at 713-292-0285 or
 crobenson@sjgs.org.

Harriet Potter's Magical Mystery: A Spark Event

It will take all your wizarding wits to solve this mystery! Who stole the magic dragon egg? To learn the answer, you will need to paddle across the enchanted lake, try your hand at some STEM-spells, practice your hand-eye coordination at the range, and create a few magical crafts. Wrap up the night with some s'mores before the dragons arrive to see if you solved the puzzle, and perhaps they'll even transform our campfire into dragon flames!

Join us at Camp Pryor for this overnight Spark event! Camping is included, and lunch and dinner on May 6 is included. Troops should plan to bring breakfast as needed. Wizarding wardrobe is optional.

Troops are welcome to stay Saturday night at no extra charge but will be solo troop camping after the closing campfire on Saturday night. Camp site assignments will be assigned two weeks before the event. If your troop has a specific medical need related to units, please let us know at least two weeks before the event.

Who: ① adults
When: May 5 – 6
Check in: 6 – 9 p.m. Fri., or 8 – 9 a.m. Sat.
Where: Camp Pryor, Nada
Cost: \$70/girl, \$30/adult (includes two meals and overnight accommodations)
No tagalongs are allowed at this event.

Seniors and Ambassador Spark Assistants

Are you interested in a fun way to earn leadership and service hours? Do you love planning and hosting fun activities for younger Girl Scouts? We are looking for a few troops or groups to help run activity stations at Spark events. Your troop could lead a game, a craft, or some other fun activity. Please contact the manager over the Spark Event you'd like to help with for more details and to see if they still need assistance.

Junior Badge Workshop Earn Three Badges!

Plan and lead activities for Junior Girl Scouts to complete several badges: Detective, Social Butterfly, and Savvy Shopper. Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors must attend planning meetings and Junior Event. Hosted by Region 4.

Who: ① adults
Where: Cornerstone United Methodist Church, Houston
When: May 8, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Cost: \$25/girl \$6/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Note: Badges included- Detective badge, Savvy Shopper badge, and Social Butterfly badge

Use QR Code
to go directly
to events page.



Brownie Quest Journey

Brownies will complete all activities to earn their Brownie Quest journey, except for their Take Action project. This is not a drop off event. At least one adult must be in attendance if two or more girls from the same troop attend. Individual girls must have an adult attend. Hosted by Region 4.

Who: ②
Where: Cornerstone United Methodist Church, Houston
When: Event: April 15, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Cost: \$25/girl \$8/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Note: Items provided: Brownie Quest Award; One Brownie Quest girl book per troop or adult for individually registered girls

Brownie Quest Journey Leadership in Action Planning Meetings

Join Region 4 plan and lead activities for Brownies to complete their Brownie Quest Journey, except the TAP. Must be able to attend planning meetings and Journey event.

Who: ③
Where: Arnold Junior High, Cypress
When: Planning meetings: April 4, 6, 11, 13
Event: April 15
Cost: \$20/girl \$8/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Note: Brownie Quest LiA Award and lunch provided

Brownie Outdoor Journey

Join Region 4 for a fun camp experience while earning your Brownie Outdoor Journey and spend the night at Camp Robinwood. Take Action Project will not be completed at camp.

Who: ②
Where: Camp Robinwood
When: June 10 – 11
Cost: \$35/girl, \$25/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Note: Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Sunday breakfast to be provided. Brownie badges provided (Hiker, Cabin Camper and First Aid)

Brownie Outdoor Journey Leadership in Action (LiA)

Join Region 4 and earn your LiA while planning and leading badge activities for Brownie badges for the Brownie Outdoor Journey.

Who: ③ adults
Where: Cypress Resource Center
When: Four meetings starting June 6
Cost: \$25/girl, \$20/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Note: Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Sunday breakfast to be provided. LiA award provided.

Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy

VicTreeFi will be hosting an array of on demand and live virtual workshops offered every month. See our website for details.

Contact: Jasmine Green, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

On-Demand Workshops and Events:

Who: Sessions available for (d) (b) (j) (c) (s) 

Cost: \$5 per Girl Scout

On-Demand Democracy Badge Events

When: March 31 – April 2

On-Demand Digital Leadership Events

When: April 14 – 16

On-Demand Financial Literacy Events

When: April 28 – 30

Sports Badge Workshop (Live)

Who: (j) (c)

When: March 26, 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$20/girl

Junior and Cadette Girl Scouts are invited to join VicTreeFi and a group of collegiate athletes to earn sports-related badges. Juniors will earn the Staying Fit badge and Cadettes will earn the Good Sportsmanship badge. First, girls will interview an athlete panel about the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship. Then athletes will lead Girl Scouts in warmups and cooldowns to properly prepare for athletics.

Design Your Own Patch

Who: (j) (c)

When: April 23, 5 p.m.

Cost: \$50/girl

Juniors and Cadettes, learn the basics of graphic design and then practice what you learn! Girls will learn how to develop design concepts and use designs to create their own patch! Girls will initially focus on design basics to create and submit patch designs. Girls will use simple design software to create their unique patch. The cost of the patch is included with purchase and will be mailed to each Girl Scout following the event.

Moneyville Town Council

Who: (j) (c)

When: June 25, July 2, July 9, and July 16 at 4 p.m.

Cost: \$40/girl

Juniors and Cadettes will serve on the Town Council of Moneyville, a fictional Girl Scout-led town. Over four meetings, the town council will make all fiscal and policy decisions for the town. Working together, Girl Scouts will respond to letters from concerned citizens, plan and budget for major city projects, and more! Girl Scouts will learn about how municipalities spend and earn money. Juniors will earn the Democracy, Digital Leadership, and the My Money Plan badges. Cadettes will earn the Democracy, Digital Leadership, and My Money Habits badges. All Girl Scouts will earn the Moneyville patch.

(d)-Daisy (b)-Brownie (j)-Juniors (c)-Cadettes (s)-Seniors (a)-Ambassadors

Book a workshop directly with our wonderful, GSSJC-approved vendors! Check the Events Page for more information. Badges are not included but may be purchased at any Girl Scout Shop

Fine Arts

The Jewelry Instructor's Bead Bar – Jewelry and Collage

Young Rembrandts – Drawing and Fine Arts

The ARTZ – Aerial and Fitness

Houston Center for Photography – Digital Photography

STEM

Offerings include robotics to coding to cybersecurity to engineering to space science.

Idea Lab – Central-Houston

Idea Lab – Woodlands

Idea Lab – Pearland

Idea Lab – Spring Branch

Mad Science of Houston

Backpacking

Day Hikes with the Backpackers

Step out and enjoy a day in nature and get away from the city! Join and meet fellow Girl Scouts and explore a nearby forest or park. You will take a leisurely hike and start to learn some backpacking skills and tips along the way.

Who: (j) (c) (s) (a) Adults

When: March 25 – Terry Hershey (updated)

May 6 – Brazos Bend State Park

Time: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Cost: \$20/girl; \$20/adult (includes lunch)

Contact: Kathy Elliott, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Environmental

Grants Available for Environmental Projects

GSSJC offers troops and individuals a chance to apply for a mini-grant to complete environmental project. This could be a service project, Take Action project associated with a Journey or even a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award project. Amounts awarded depend on the number of girls involved and the nature of the project. If interested, contact Rachel Archer (rarcher@sjgs.org) for more information or to receive an application. Projects must not be completed yet. This is not a reimbursement fund.

Use QR Code
to go directly
to events page.



Houston Arboretum Badge Workshops

Girl Scouts can work toward a variety of badges or journeys while they investigate the fascinating ecosystems at the Houston Arboretum. Badge workshops are conducted by staff naturalists and use their nature sanctuary as a field laboratory for hands-on experience.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Who: | ⓑ ⓙ Ⓒ |
| Where: | Houston Arboretum |
| Cost: | (2 hour workshops) \$23/girl (3 hour workshops) \$28/girl |
| Contact: | Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org |
| Junior Geocacher | March 25 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. |
| Brownie Bugs | March 25 2 – 4 p.m. |
| Junior Flowers | April 1 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. |
| Brownie Hiker | April 1 2 – 4 p.m. |
| Junior Flowers | April 15 1 – 4 p.m. |
| Brownie Wonders of Water | May 6 9:30 – noon |
| Brownie Outdoor Art Creator | May 20 1 – 3 p.m. |
| Cadette Night Owls | May 20 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. |

Equestrian

Misty Meadows Ranch and Camp Pryor Waiver and Release

All girls and adults visiting Misty Meadows Ranch are required to complete a new waiver, Form O-1146A. This waiver is required for overnight camping, participating in day activities, or touring the property. This waiver is also required for anyone visiting Camp Pryor, for any reason, while horses are present on the property.

Form O-1146A is available on the council's website and must be completed and submitted for each visit to camp. Parents or guardians must sign the waivers for girls. Troop leaders are not allowed to sign the form for anyone other than themselves or their own daughters. If a girl shows up for any activity at these camps and does not have a signed waiver, she will not be allowed to stay on the property. This form is a requirement to ensure that GSSJC maintains compliance with a recently passed Texas law.

Vaulting

If you love gymnastic and horses, this 1.5-hour session is for you! Vaulters will learn compulsories on a barrel before trying them out on a horse! Appropriate attire includes legging-type pants and water shoes/swim socks. Vaulting shoes will be available for the session. Limit of 12 girls per session.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Who: | Ⓒ Ⓢ Ⓐ |
| Where: | Misty Meadows Ranch March 18: 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m. April 22: 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m. |
| Cost: | \$35 |
| Contact: | Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org |

Horseback Riding

This session is for Juniors and above! Demonstrations and rides last one hour and take place in either the arena or on a trail touring the ranch, depending on the skill of the riders and/or the weather. Girls must arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled ride time to be fitted for boots and helmets. Appropriate attire includes long pants and boots with a smooth sole and ½ inch heels. Boots and helmets are provided. Limit of 12 girls per session.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Who: | ⓙ Ⓒ Ⓢ Ⓐ |
| Where: | Misty Meadows Ranch |
| Dates: | Sat. times: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. Sun. times: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. Dates: March 25, March 26, April 1, April 2, April 29, April 30, May 13, May 14 |
| Cost: | \$35 |
| Contact: | Mariah Balmert, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org |

Use QR Code
to go directly
to events page.



Love, Hug, and Groom

Love, Hug, and Groom is a non-riding activity to introduce girls of all ages to horse care. In this one-hour session, girls will receive a barn tour, introduction to horse care, and participate in hands-on grooming with camp horses. Don't forget the opportunity to take lots of pictures! Limit of 24 girls per session.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Who: | ⓓ ⓑ ⓙ Ⓒ Ⓢ Ⓐ |
| Where: | Misty Meadows Ranch |
| When: | Sat. times: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. Sun. times: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. Dates: March 18, March 19, March 25, March 26, April 1, April 2, April 15, April 16, April 22, April 23, April 29, April 30, May 13, May 14 |
| Cost: | \$12 |
| Contact: | Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org |



Pasture Portraits

Ever wanted to take that perfect horse photo but never had the chance? In this session, you will meet the horses in the paddocks and take as many pictures as you'd like with them! Appropriate attire includes closed-toe shoes and your favorite outfit! Limit of 15 girls per session.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Who: | ⓑ ⓙ Ⓒ Ⓢ Ⓐ |
| Where: | Misty Meadows Ranch |
| When: | March 18: 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. March 19: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. April 22: 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. April 23: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. |
| Cost: | \$10 |
| Contact: | Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org |

Pony Rides

This one-hour session combines the best of both riding and love, hug, and groom! Rides are for 30 minutes and take place in the arena. The remaining 30 minutes of the session include hands-on grooming with camp horses. Girls must arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled time to be fitted for boots and helmets. Appropriate attire includes long pants and boots with a smooth sole and ½ inch heels. Boots and helmets are provided. Limit of 20 girls per session.

Who: (b) (j) (c) (s) (a)
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch
When: April 15: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
 April 16: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost: \$35
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Just Horsin' Around Workshop

This is an all-day, non-riding session geared for Brownies! You will learn horse safety, parts of the saddle and bridle, how to groom and tack, make a stick horse, and do an obstacle course! Limit of 60 girls per workshop.

Who: (b)
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch
When: May 6 at 9 a.m. – noon
Cost: \$40
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

STARS at Camp Pryor

This is a progressive program for girls interested in learning about horseback riding. Level I (Saddlehorns) includes grooming, leading, equine nutrition, horse colors, basic horse safety, and riding at a walk. Level II (Rustlers) includes learning to saddle a horse, clean and maintain tack, and horse anatomy. Riding skills and horse safety will also be reviewed and performed at a walk and a trot. Level III (Wranglers) includes learning how to bridle, exploring equine health and conformation, horse safety, and riding skills performed at a walk and a trot. Level IV (STARS) includes Program Aide training and learning to teach equitation skills to younger girls, as well as an option to join the Equitation Special Interest Group (SIG).

Who: (j) (c) (s) (a) (5th grade and up) adults
Where: Camp Pryor
Cost: Girls \$75* Adults \$25
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 731-292-0332, mbalmer@sjgs.org
When: March 31 – April 2 - Level 3 Wranglers (6th grade and up)
 April 14 – 16 - Level 4 STARS PA Training (7th grade and up) *Girl cost is \$65 for this event
 April 21 – 23 - Level 2 Rustlers (6th grade and up)
 April 28 – 30 - Level 1 Saddlehorns (5th grade and up)

Fine Arts

For more information, contact Julia Noble, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Arts Badge Workshops

Join Izzie's Jewels at our Girl Scout locations for these fun, in-person workshops! Badge is included, so do not miss out on all the fun!

Cost: \$25

| Workshop | Date | Time | Location |
|------------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Cadette Screenwriter | March 11 | 10 a.m. – noon | PP |
| Junior Scribe | March 25 | 10 a.m. – noon | PP |
| Brownie Painter | April 8 | 10 a.m. – noon | PP |
| Cadette Public Speaker | April 22 | 10 a.m. – noon | PP |
| Brownie Snacks | May 27 | 10 a.m. – noon | PP |
| Junior Simple Meals | May 27 | 1 – 3 p.m. | PP |
| Brownie Potter | May 20 | 10 a.m. – noon | PP |

Brownie Painter badge workshop - Artists take what they see and make it beautiful. Learn to paint and color your world in super strokes and see what your imagination can do.

Brownie Snacks badge workshop - Calling all Brownie chefs! Earn your badges in this fun, hands-on workshop. Girls will learn how to make yummy snacks for themselves, their family, and friends!

Brownie Potter badge workshop - Learn to make pottery of your very own as you work your way through the steps to becoming a clay artist in this fun, hands-on workshop!

Junior Simple Meals badge workshop - Calling all Junior chefs! Earn your badges in this fun, hands on workshop. Girls will learn how to create delicious, healthy meals for themselves, their family, and friends!

Cadette Public Speaker badge workshop - Work on your stage presence and develop your onstage skills. Find your inner performer and be unafraid to speak up!

Cadette Screenwriter badge workshop - Are you ready for the big screen? Let's explore what makes great scripts and how you can create your very own. You have what it takes to be a great screenwriter, so let's get started!

Junior Scribe badge workshop - Your writing is powerful. Create characters, plots, and settings for your very own story. Learn about different story techniques and exercise your imagination by putting your thoughts down on paper in this fun and imaginative workshop!

Use QR Code
to go directly
to events page.



Outdoor Art Badge Workshops

Where: TBD, Cy-Fair West area
When: March 30, 6 – 8 p.m.
Cost: \$18/girl
Contact: Jasmine Green, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Bring some device that can take pictures during the workshop. Hosted by Region 4. Registering adults will be asked to monitor groups and ensure the working groups stay focused on tasks.

Ambassador Outdoor Art Expert Badge Workshop

Let's get our creative imagination going while earning the Ambassador Outdoor Art Expert badge! See art outdoors and get inspiration by the different aspects of nature in its purest, natural form. Girls will bring art and the outdoors together and get inspired by the beauty in nature. When she has earned this badge, the Girl Scout will have explored nature and created several different kinds of outdoor-themed art.

- 1 - Explore outdoor art
- 2 - Make something!
- 3 - Find music in nature
- 4 - Be a nature photographer
- 5 - Design with nature

Who: (a)

Senior Outdoor Art Master Badge Workshop

Let's get our creative imagination going while earning the Senior Outdoor Art Master badge! See art outdoors and create different forms of eco-friendly art. Learn to see nature with an artist's eye and create something helpful to the environment. When she has earned this badge, the Girl Scout will have learned how to create art outdoors with a focus on the environment.

- 1 - Explore art outdoors
- 2 - Make something!
- 3 - Create or share music inspired by nature
- 4 - Capture nature digitally
- 5 - Design outdoors

Who: (s)

Cadette Outdoor Art Expert Badge Workshop

Let's get our creative imagination going while earning the Cadette Outdoor Art Expert badge! See art outdoors and create different forms of eco-friendly art. Learn to see nature with an artist's eye and create something helpful to the environment. When she has earned this badge, the Girl Scout will have learned how to create art outdoors with a focus on the environment.

- 1 - Explore art outdoors
- 2 - Make something!
- 3 - Create or share music inspired by nature
- 4 - Capture nature digitally
- 5 - Design outdoors

Who: (c)

Our Planet: Live in Concert

Join us for Student Night! The landmark Emmy-nominated Netflix documentary series Our Planet has been reimagined into an immersive film experience with live orchestra. Specially developed by the series producers, World Wildlife Foundation, Silverback Films, and Oscar®-winning composer Steven Price, Our Planet Live in Concert is narrated on screen by legendary broadcaster David Attenborough. Special pre-show activities in the lobby begin at 6 p.m. Register using the link on the Events page!

Who: (c) (s) (a) Adults
Where: Jones Hall, Houston
When: March 22, 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$15

Ask the Experts: Performing Arts

Hear from professionals across the Performing Arts field about their career stories. Six successful women in the Houston area will be featured on a panel hosted by GSSJC, answering questions about how they got where they are and offering career advice for older Girl Scouts.

Who: (c) (s) (a)
When: April 1, 10:– 11:30 a.m.
Cost: \$5

Highest Awards

Older Girl Take-Action Workshop

Curious about how to start a Silver or Gold Award project or complete a Girl Scout Journey? Join us for a take-action workshop where we'll cover the differences between community service and take-action and how to best plan a take-action project. We'll also learn from each other by sharing examples and ideas! Come ready to brainstorm!

Who: (c) (s) (a) Adults
Where: Online
When: April 30; 3:30 – 5 p.m.
Cost: \$5/person
Contact: Alix Reilman at areilman@sjgs.org



Silver Award Training for Adults

This virtual webinar training is designed for troop leaders, advisors, and parents who are looking to support Cadettes through the Silver Award process. Topics to be covered include project guidelines, submission deadlines, coaching tips, and how to navigate pursuing the Silver Award despite the impacts of COVID-19. The webinar will include a presentation, service vs. take action activity and Q&A.

Who: Adults
Where: Virtual
When: April 1; 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Cost: \$5/person **Max.:** 50
Contact: silveraward@sjgs.org



Gold Award Orientation

The self-directed online Gold Award Orientation provides girls and adults with a comprehensive overview of the Gold Award steps and forms, tools for identifying and developing Gold Award projects that fall within the national guidelines, and GSSJC's process for Gold Award applicants. Orientation is required for all girls who plan to earn their Gold Award and must be completed prior to submitting their Gold Award Project Proposal. The online orientation is broken into sections, takes approximately 90 minutes to complete but does not need to be finished in one sitting. Girls may also refer to it after it's been completed.

Who: (S) (a) adults
Where/When: Online
Contact: goldaward@sjgs.org



Silver Award Training for Cadettes

Silver Award training is now available on gsLearn! If you are not able to attend one of our Silver Award trainings live online, you can now take it as a self-directed training on gsLearn. Silver Award training offers girls and adults a comprehensive overview of the Silver Award steps and forms, tools for identifying and developing Silver Award projects that fall within the national guidelines, and GSSJC's process for Silver Award applicants. The training takes approximately 90 minutes to complete but does not need to be finished in one sitting. Taking Silver Award training prior to starting the Silver Award process is strongly recommended.

Who: (C) Adults
Where: Online
Contact: silveraward@sjgs.org



Juniors Take-Action Workshop

Curious about how to start a Bronze Award project or complete a Girl Scout Journey? Join us for a take-action workshop where we'll cover the differences between community service and take-action and how to best plan a take-action project. We'll also learn from each other by sharing examples and ideas! Come ready to brainstorm!

Who: (J) Adults
Where: Online
When: April 16; 2 – 3:30 p.m.
Cost: \$5/person



Volunteer-in-Training

This award is for girls who would like to mentor a Daisy, Brownie, Junior, or Cadette group outside of the camp experience. This in-person leadership course completes one of three requirements to earn this award (1. Find an adult Mentor, 2. Take VIT Training, 3. Create and implement a Journey project). Please see the Senior or Ambassador Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting for more information on this Teen Mentoring Award.

Who: (S) (a)
Where: Program Place, Houston
When: March 26, 1 – 5 p.m.
Cost: \$10/girl
Contact: Alix Reilman at 713-292-0300

(d)-Daisy (b)-Brownie (j)-Juniors (c)-Cadettes (s)-Seniors (a)-Ambassadors

The Next Step: A Workshop on How to Proceed After Gold Award Orientation

Now that you've completed Gold Award Orientation, you might be wondering what to do next. Join GSSJC Gold Award Girl Scouts and mentors to hear about successful projects, brainstorm project ideas, and get all your questions answered so you can take your next step in your Gold Award journey. NOTE: This workshop is optional and intended for girls who have already completed the required Gold Award Orientation and does NOT replace it.

Who: (S) (a)
Where: Virtual
When: March 26; 2 – 3:30 p.m.
Cost: \$5/girl **Max:** 50
Contact: goldaward@sjgs.org



History

Taste of History

A small group experience while at camp for the morning. Girls will be cooking and tasting a few recipes from the past. Hint, it has been said Juliette Low as a child enjoyed sweets especially taffy. Includes a fun patch.

Who: (b) (j)
Where/When: Camp Robinwood: March 25, 9:30 a.m. – noon
 Camp Pryor: April 29, 9:30 a.m. – noon
Cost: \$18/girl
Contact: Shannon Crider, 713-292-0370, registration@sjgs.org

Juliette Low Tea Party

A touch of history in your teacup. The girls will learn how to brew the perfect cup of tea, table manners, tea sandwich, tips, and, a favorite of Juliette Low's, fan etiquette. You may wear your favorite tea party dress or hat and join this unforgettable afternoon hosted by the Council History Committee Program team in partnership with the Kappa Delta Sorority. A fun patch and special token are included. This is a girl only event.

Where: Program Place for Girls, Houston
Cost: \$20/girl
Contact: Shannon Crider, 713-292-0370, registration@sjgs.org

| Date | Time | Who |
|----------|---------------|-------------|
| March 16 | 1 – 3 p.m. | (d) (b) (j) |
| April 1 | 1:30 – 3 p.m. | (d) (b) |
| May 6 | 1:30 – 3 p.m. | (d) (b) |



Sailing

How Do I Obtain my GSSJC Proficient and Advanced Swimmer Card?

We have made it really simple! All you will need to do is go to our website, www.gssjc.org. Once on the site, you will find the form needed under the "Volunteer hub" tab. When you click on "Forms and Documents," you can search "Swim test" and the form will appear. Print that form out and take it to your local community pool, recreation center, or swimming pool for the required professionals to administer the test. Please note that girls will still be re-tested at the time of the activity and could be requested to leave if they do not pass the test. If your Girl Scout has participated in American Red Cross swim lessons in the past and has obtained a Level 4 swim card, she can still use that as the requirement.

We need Dorm Moms!

To help our program to be fun and safe, we need your help! Dorm Moms is an awesome group of women that assist with meals, serve as watchers during sailing, and ensure the girls are having fun during their weekend stay. Because the Mariners are girl-led, most of the activities will be led by our older girls. Consider this a small weekend getaway with some supervision! Enjoy a stress- and worry-free stay for the weekend by the bay helping girls have their best time sailing! Please contact sailing_coordinator@gmail.com or Stephanie Moore at smoore@sjgs.org for additional details!

Intro to Sailing

Are you curious about sailing? Do you want to feel the wind on your face and hear the water splashing around you? You will work alongside our Mariners (Special Interest Group) as they ready the boats to take you on a sailing adventure on the open seas! Sign up to be a "sailor" for the weekend. You must attend the entire weekend. Introduction to Sailing is a general sailing activity and is not a prerequisite to the Mariner program. Must pass the GSSJC Proficient Swimmer and Advanced Swimmer Test. Requirements are available on gssjc.org. Please see section on swim test requirements. Cards can be submitted to sailing.coordinator@gmail.com. Girls without cards will not be allowed to remain at camp.

Who: Girls 11 and older.
When: May 5 – 7
Where: Casa Mare, Seabrook
Cost: \$60

Use QR Code
to go directly
to events page.



Instruction and Mariner Weekends

Some courses are held over two weekends. Girls must attend both. Due to the commitment and nature of the courses, we cannot make special schedule adjustments or accommodations. If a girl is unable to attend both weekends in their entirety, she will be encouraged to enroll at another time. Please note that the success of sailing is based on the weather. Although we will do our best to ensure girls get as much sailing time as they can, weather simply will not allow it. Because of this, girls may not meet the requirements of completion and will be asked to repeat the course. There are opportunities to enroll in sailing during resident camp or to try again in the upcoming season.

Basic Sailing

Want to learn how to sail the open seas? Are you interested in being a Mariner? This is the activity for you! Learn how to rig and sail a Sunfish sailboat. You will learn boat safety, injury prevention, knot tying, and more. This is a physically and mentally demanding activity. Be prepared to be challenged and have fun. Basic Sailing is a two-weekend course, and you must attend both weekends, no exceptions. Girl Scouts must be at least 11 years old. Also, they need to successfully pass the GSSJC Proficient Swimmer and Advanced Swimmer Test. Requirements are available on GSSJC.org. Please see section on this page on swim test requirements.

When: April 28 – April 30 and May 12 – May 14
Both weekends are required attendance
Cost: \$120
Where: Casa Mare, Seabrook

Mariner and Mariner Weekends

If you have completed Basic Sailing and you want more sailing with like-minded girls, then the Mariners Special Interest Group is for you! What is the benefit of being a Mariner? You will learn leadership through instructing others, gain the experience to advance your sailing skills, and acquire service hours that can go towards school and troop requirements. Not to mention, it is a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and tell them all about how awesome it is to go sailing. Register as a Mariner today!

Mariner Special Interest Group Fee: \$10

Where: Casa Mare, Seabrook
Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed and passed Basic Sailing

Mariner Weekends

You have completed Basic Sailing, registered as a Mariner, and now you are officially a Mariner! Part of being in this awesome special interest group is you will have the opportunity to hang out with other girls on weekends just for Mariners. You will have the chance to practice your sailing skills in a relaxed and fun environment. These weekends are typically themed, which adds to the fun! Mariners head to Casa Mare where they eat, sleep, and sail. You must already be a registered Mariner to attend and have successfully completed and passed Basic Sailing. Please reach out to our Mariner coordinator at mariner.coordinators@gmail.com for additional information.


When: April 21 – April 23
May 19 – May 21 *Two different weekends*
Cost: \$50 (meals included)
Where: Casa Mare, Seabrook

STEM

For all STEM events, contact Rachel Archer,
rarcher@sjgs.org, 713-292-0233 for more information.

Daisy Think Like an Engineer Badge Workshop

Join the Society of Women Engineers and Chemours for a STEM-tastic morning of fun engineering challenges! Find a way to stay cold, make a mini robot, and creatively soar over your obstacles. Participants will earn the badge portion of the Daisy Think Like an Engineer Journey.

Who: (d) 
When: March 25, 9 a.m. – noon
Where: Program Place, hosted by SWE and Chemours
Cost: \$5/girl
Contact: Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300,
customerservice@sjgs.org

Brownie Think Like an Engineer Badge Workshop

Join the Society of Women Engineers and Chemours for a STEM-tastic morning of fun engineering challenges! Make ice cream, build a pipeline, and find a safe way to help astronauts land their spacecraft. Participants will earn the badge portion of the Brownie Think Like an Engineer Journey.

Who: (b)
When: April 15, 9 a.m. – noon
Where: Program Place, hosted by SWE and Chemours
Cost: \$5/girl
Contact: Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300,
customerservice@sjgs.org

Think Like a Citizen Scientist Brownie Camp Weekend

Join our older girl team captains to earn your Think Like a Citizen Scientist badge. Learn about citizen science, how to make observations, participate in a citizen science project, and have a fun time at camp! There are two options for this event: Saturday overnight stay or Saturday day only. Older Girl Scouts will serve as team captains for each group. Program materials and the earned badge are provided. All participants will receive Saturday lunch and dinner plus an afternoon snack. Overnight participants will also receive Sunday breakfast and s'mores supplies.

Who: (b)
When: See online registration page for finalized weekend
EITHER April 1 – 2 OR April 15 – 16
Day Only: Saturday from 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Overnight: Saturday 9 a.m. – Sunday, 10 a.m.
Where: Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe
Cost: Day Only: \$30/girl, \$10/adult
Overnight: \$50/girl, \$25 overnight

Career Exploration Badge Workshops

Get more familiar exploring different career opportunities that make a difference! Registering adults will be asked to monitor groups and ensure the working groups stay focused on tasks. Hosted by Region 4.

Where: Barbara Bush Branch Library
When: March 28, 6 – 8 p.m.
Cost: \$8/girl free for adults
Contact: Jasmine Green, 713-292-0300,
customerservice@sjgs.org

Ambassador STEM Career Exploration Badge

Find out how a career with STEM will help Girl Scouts shape the world for the better. When girls earn this badge, they will have explored how they want to change the world and understand how a career in STEM can help her make a difference.

Senior STEM Career Exploration Badge

Girl Scouts will explore how they might want to impact the world and how STEM can help them do it. Then, take the next step toward her goal for their future and start to make their mark. When girls earn this badge, they will know how STEM can support the goals for the future and help build a better world.

- 1 - Explore how you want to make a difference
- 2 - Discover your career possibilities
- 3 - Learn about the day-to-day
- 4 - Find your career pathway
- 5 - Take the next step

Cadette STEM Career Exploration Badge

Explore careers that make a difference. Then, the Girl Scouts will map out how they will help others and change the world! When girls earn this badge, they will know about STEM careers and how they can make the world a better place.

- 1 - Explore how you want to make a difference
- 2 - Discover your career possibilities
- 3 - Learn about the day to day
- 4 - Brainstorm your next steps
- 5 - Map your career path

Junior Gardener Badge Workshop

Join the Fort Bend Master Gardeners for this fun and interactive workshop. Girls will learn more about how to help plants and flowers grow. They will explore gardens, garden design, how to choose plants, seeds, and more! Juniors will receive the Junior Gardener badge. A snack is included for this event.

Who: (j)
When: March 25, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Where: Bud O'Shieles Community Center
Cost: \$18
Contact: Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300,
customerservice@sjgs.org

Use QR Code to go directly
to events page.



Robotics Competition Team Informational Meeting for Adults

This informational meeting is for adults and troop leaders of girls who have not competed in a Girl Scout robotics competition team before, or who are progressing a level. Competing on a robotics team is a fantastic way for girls to explore collaboration and fun science topics while honing their engineering and coding skills. Although we will form teams from girls whose parents don't attend this meeting, it is recommended and highly encouraged for parents or leaders to attend this meeting to understand the commitment and content of the program. This meeting will go over timing, commitment, content, what girls do, what a typical season looks like, and more! We ask that no girls attend, as this is strictly informational.

Who: Adults/Leaders of Daisies – Ambassadors
Where: Virtual
When: May 17, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Cost: Free (all adults must register)
Contact: Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org



Travel

GSSJC Travel Page

The Travel section of the GSSJC website is being revamped! Your new “go-to” place for all info on Troop Travel guidelines/processes, Council Trips, Destinations, and more can be found at www.gssjc.org by clicking About > Our Program > Travel.

Phenom By Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts and troop leaders who are ready for long-distance travel are encouraged to plan a troop trip to attend this special event in Orlando, Florida! The Girl Scout National Convention is slated to take over Walt Disney World Resort from July 18 – 22. The convention is where Girl Scouts embrace the grand sisterhood by convening with Girl Scouts from all over the country, and where delegates vote on issues in Girl Scouting. The convention will also host Phenom, the world's largest girl-led event for girls from July 20 – 22, 2023. The mega event will provide attendees with unforgettable experiences as they gain inspiration, tools to empower themselves, and the know-how to lead change in their communities—connecting with some of the most influential women in the world along the way! Phenom by Girl Scouts consists of exciting experiences in the Expo Hall and other fun and enriching programming. Meet special guests, attend the National Bridging ceremony and Gold Award celebration, take part in amazing activities and demos in the Expo Hall, and much more.

Visit the 2023 Girl Scout Convention page at www.girlscouts.org to get all of the details!

Who: (C) (S) (A) Adults
When: July 20 – July 22
Contact: GSUSA, convention@girlscouts.org

Council Trip to New York 2023

Explore the city that never sleeps in this fun, action packed trip to NYC! The Council trip to New York is a travel opportunity for registered Cadettes and above at the time of the trip. Girls must be in seventh grade to individually register. This council trip is in partnership with Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey.

Who: (C) (S) (A) Adults
When: June 18 – 23
Cost: \$2,000
Contact: Julia Noble, jnoble@sjgs.org

Council Trip to Germany and Switzerland 2024

From Munich and Montreux to Lucerne and Zurich, spend time at a W.A.G.G.S World Centre, Our Chalet, and take part in a pinning ceremony. Learn the art of fondue and Swiss chocolate making, scale snow-capped mountains, take a summer toboggan ride, join in on Bavarian music and dance, enjoy scenic train rides, experience charming villages, medieval castles, baroque architecture, high adventure, breathtaking views, and absorb rich history! The council trip to Germany and Switzerland is a weeklong travel opportunity for registered Seniors and older at the time of the trip. This trip is organized by World Strides tour company.

Who: (S) (A) Adults
When: June 6 – 14
Cost: \$4,800 (approx)
Contact: Julia Noble, Jnoble@sjgs.org

Girl Scout Destinations Program

Girl Scout Destinations are the ultimate adventure for individual Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors! Make friends from all over the country as you travel with Girl Scouts from different states. There's a unique, life-changing experience for every girl. Please note: Early acceptance has ended and applications are open on a rolling basis until each Destination is full. For more information visit, www.girlscouts.org/destinations. Girls traveling on a Destination are eligible to receive a scholarship from Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council to assist with the cost of the Destination. To qualify as a recipient, you must participate in the Girl Scout Fall Product and Cookie program. You must also agree to remain active in Girl Scouting for the next registration year and share your Destinations experience with the council when requested. For scholarship applications and more information, please contact Julia Noble, 713-292-0269, jnoble@sjgs.org.

Council Trip to Austin

Join us for a fun trip that's a little rugged, a little urban, and a lot Texan! The council trip to Austin is a travel opportunity for Girl Scouts currently registered as Juniors and above. This three-day council trip includes things like hiking, exploring caverns, relaxing in limestone pools, visiting the State Capitol, watching the bats take off, strolling downtown, arts, music, and more! Planning is still underway; join us to participate! Register today on gssjc.org under Events.

Who: (J) (C) (S) (A) Adults
When: June 9 – 11
Cost: \$650 (Approx)
Contact: Julia Noble, jnoble@sjgs.org

Training

Announcing Spring Recruitment and Placement Training! Saturday, June 24 at the Girl Scout Center

Recruitment team leads (RTLs) and placement liaisons (PLs) have slightly different terms of appointment than many Community Service Team members. Recruitment and placement begin in the spring with planning and troop opportunity development necessitating a term that begins mid-spring. CLTs begin the appointment process by submitting their recommendations to the council-wide Community Engagement volunteers by Feb. 1 (see the Community Handbook for details) for the appointment term of March 1 – Feb. 28. School liaisons and waitlist IRG specialists term is June 1 – May 31.

Training these essential volunteers is also on a slightly different schedule. In 2023, Community Engagement will host an In-person training day Saturday, June 24 at the Girl Scout Center. Mark your calendar now. You will not want to miss the classes, the recruitment displays, the interaction and sharing with volunteers across our council.

Tentative Classes include:

Recruitment Overview– Updated for 2023! Create excitement and get your recruitment team charged up to meet the challenges of back-to-school recruiting. An overview of recruitment materials, proven techniques like girl talks, marketing strategies, tips for recruiting volunteers, and an updated “mock” troop formation event are all included in this workshop.

Placement Liaison– The goal of a placement liaison is to have no girls on the waiting list for troops and all girls placed in a troop that fits their needs. This course fulfills the training requirement for Community placement liaisons. Topics include how to manage the online troop opportunity list, tracking current membership and openings, and strategies for encouraging adults to step up to troop leadership and the troop committee.

Recruitment Team Lead– This course is required for appointment to the role of Community recruitment team lead and is appropriate for other volunteers assisting with recruitment. Learn how to build successful year-round

recruitment strategies for your Community. Topics include planning successful recruitment events, building your recruitment team, and how to best collaborate with volunteers in other recruitment and placement roles.

School Liaison– Harness the power of volunteers already associated with individual schools to benefit both organizations. School liaisons can collect important dates, smooth the way for a positive relationship, and provide opportunities for Girl Scouts to shine at their school.

Waitlist IRG Specialist– Your role is to offer opportunities for girls on the waitlist and individually registered girls to participate in Girl Scout program. Learn how to access templates and resources for waitlist meetings, need a troop leader meetings, and build a team to deliver successful waitlist meetings to girls.

Individual courses for RTL and PL will be held on Zoom in April and July.

GSSJC Camp Certification Program

Previously
Certified?



Good to go! Just submit the names of your camp certified adult plus First Aider (must be current volunteers) with your reservation request. Have fun at camp!

Need to get
Certified?



See the two courses below! Start with Camping and Overnight Basics (COB) then, add the in-person Volunteer Camper Certification (VCC)

Camping and Overnight Basics (COB)

- Self-paced, online course
- Required for all overnights
- Reserve a camp unit or have a backyard overnight
- No charcoal or wood fire (propane okay)
- Complete through gsLearn under MyAccount

Volunteer Camper Certification (VCC)

- In-person at camp (~6 hour)
- Required for open flame fires
- Pick up your fire flag at check in and display it at your reserved camp unit
- Register through gsEvents



Questions or issues with registration? Email or call Customer Service at customerservice@gsjs.org or 713-292-0300



SAVE THE DATE! Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Membership Kickoff 2023 Inspired Leadership August 12, 2023

Prepare for a year of inspired experiences for your troop, Community, and Region! Membership Kickoff highlights the newest programs, resources, council updates, and Girl Scouts of the USA news to make your Girl Scout experience is the best ever! Past topics included: A History of Camp Arnold, What's New in Product Sales, Attitude of Gratitude, Mental Health and Well-Being Program Options, Travel – Girl Scout Style, and so much more! This event will provide you and your team with many great ideas and tips for planning well-rounded program for girls and volunteers at any level of involvement.

Event and workshop registration will be available in June 2023.

Summer Train-In

Your ticket to troop success!

All aboard! Train-In is a troop volunteer's opportunity to gain new skills over the summer. We'll have program level training for every level as well as a variety of enrichment trainings to learn new skills to use with your troop. Save the dates and look for detailed registration information online in the Events tab. Level training described below will be available on both dates, but enrichments will vary.

Program Level Training (offered at both Train-Ins):

Daisy and Brownie Program Leadership

This course is designed for leaders who are new to the troop leadership role working or new to working with girls grades K-3 (in the Daisy or Brownie program levels). Leaders will learn how to work with girls in a girl-led, learning-by-doing environment that will incorporate Girl Scout program. Participants can see the progression in characteristics of each age group and learn about earned awards, troop governance, field trips and service project readiness, ceremonies, the girl/adult partnership, tips on girl planning, and more with the use of available program resources. This course includes information about the National Program Portfolio, including badges and Journeys.

Partnering with Juniors

Adults new to the Junior leadership role are encouraged to attend this course. This course is designated to provide specifics on working with girls in grades 4-5. It includes various forms of troop government, characteristics of the girls, the girl/adult partnership, tips on girl planning, and more.

Partnering with Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors

This training is highly recommended for NEW leaders working with Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador program levels or leaders moving to Cadette leadership. Gain insight on how girls this age think, guide them in girl planning and when to step back so girls can develop leadership skills. Discover ways to become teen savvy, how to talk to girls about the 3T's (Touchy Teen Topics) and the importance of maintaining confidentiality with troop members.

Safety and Training Month for Adults

Join us for our revised Health and Safety Month! We are re-envisioning our event to provide more opportunities to train in multiple things. This May, our adult volunteers will have the opportunity to train in canoeing, range safety officer training, archery, lifeguarding, CPR, and more. Some dates are still being confirmed. Registration will open March 1. More information to come.

Contact: Stephanie Moore, smoore@sjgs.org, 713-292-0299 **Registration:** registration@sjgs.org, 713-292-0370

Lifeguard Certification (\$200) 12

This is a great option for troops or Communities that have girls that love to swim! Participants learn skills that will allow them to fulfill the lifeguard requirement for girls' water adventures. On Friday, preliminary swim testing is done through a front crawl, breaststroke, treading water, and underwater item retrieval.

Duration: Online prerequisite course + Friday evening, full day Saturday, full day Sunday

Archery Instructor Track (\$90) 10

Following archery instructor certification, you will be able to facilitate archery for your troop, Community, Region, or council event. Earn USA Archery Level 1 certification and be ready to facilitate girls to have fun safely on the archery ranges at GSSJC.

Duration: 4-hour session. Times are 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Canoe Facilitator Training (\$65) 12

This training will give you the skills needed to take girls kayaking so you can expand your troop's outdoor expeditions! Adults taking this course will need to take the Safe Boating Swim test Friday night.

Duration: Friday evening, full day Saturday, Sunday morning

SUP(Stand Up Paddle Board)-Kayak Training (\$90) 12

We are excited to offer the opportunity to be trained as stand-up paddle board facilitator! In combination with kayak training you will learn how to maneuver on a stand-up paddle board, safety while on the board and kayak, and more!

Duration: Friday evening, full day Saturday, Sunday morning

Range Safety Officer Training (\$120) 12

Conducted by a chief range safety officer, this course content consists of range safety officer roles and responsibilities, range standard operating procedures, range inspection and range rules, firearm stoppages and malfunctions, and range safety briefings, which include procedures to follow in the case of an emergency. Our training also includes training for facilitating Girl Scout programs on the rifle range, including Introduction to Rifle, and Rifle Marksmanship.

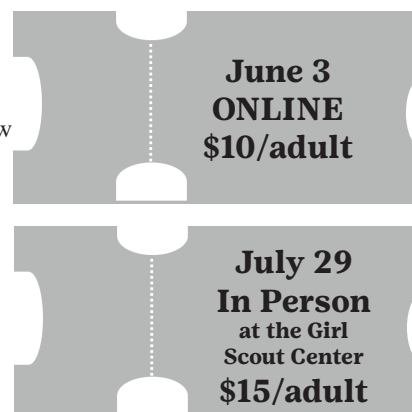
First Aid Training

This adult and pediatric first aid/CPR/AED course helps you recognize and care for a variety of first aid emergencies such as burns, cuts, scrapes, sudden illnesses, head, neck, back injuries, heat and cold emergencies, and how to respond to breathing and cardiac emergencies to help victims of any age. Certifications are good for two years.

Duration: online prerequisite course + Half Day 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

When: May 13

Where: Girl Scout Center



Training Calendar March – July 2023

| Day | Date | Training | Prerequisites | Where |
|-----------|----------|---|--------------------------------|-------|
| Saturday | March 11 | Volunteer Camper Certification | Camping/Overnight Basics | TBD |
| Saturday | March 18 | Red Cross First Aid CPR/AED Blended | Online videos with certificate | GSC |
| Saturday | April 1 | Volunteer Camper Certification | Camping/Overnight Basics | WAM |
| Thursday | April 13 | Red Cross First Aid CPR/AED Blended | Online videos with certificate | GSC |
| Saturday | April 15 | Volunteer Camper Certification | Camping/Overnight Basics | ATC |
| Saturday | May 6 | Volunteer Camper Certification | Camping/Overnight Basics | ATC |
| Saturday | May 13 | Red Cross First Aid CPR/AED Blended | Online videos with certificate | GSC |
| Wednesday | May 17 | Community Leadership Team Training | | Zoom |
| Saturday | May 20 | Volunteer Camper Certification | Camping/Overnight Basics | ATC |
| Saturday | June 3 | Partnering with Cadette, Seniors, and Ambassadors | | Zoom |
| Saturday | June 3 | Partnering with Juniors | | Zoom |
| Saturday | June 3 | Daisy Brownie Program Leadership | | Zoom |
| Wednesday | June 7 | MYGS - VTK -Online Community - gsLearn | | Zoom |
| Saturday | June 10 | Community Leadership Team Training | | GSC |
| Saturday | June 10 | Event Basics | | Zoom |
| Saturday | June 10 | Weekend Event Planning | Event Basics | Zoom |
| Saturday | June 17 | Community Financial Specialist | | Zoom |
| Saturday | June 17 | Community Mentoring Team Lead | | Zoom |
| Saturday | June 17 | Community/Region Treasurer | | Zoom |
| Saturday | June 24 | Community Leadership Team Training | | Zoom |
| Saturday | July 15 | Community Financial Specialist | | GSC |
| Saturday | July 15 | Community Mentoring Team Lead | | GSC |
| Saturday | July 15 | Community/Region Treasurer | | GSC |
| Saturday | July 15 | Event Basics | | GSC |
| Saturday | July 15 | Community Renewal Specialist | | GSC |
| Saturday | July 15 | Community Roster Specialist | | GSC |
| Saturday | July 15 | Weekend Event Planning | Event Basics | GSC |
| Sunday | July 16 | Community Leadership Team Training Part A | | Zoom |
| Sunday | July 23 | Community Leadership Team Training Part B | | Zoom |
| Saturday | July 29 | Partnering with Cadette, Seniors, and Ambassadors | | GSC |
| Saturday | July 29 | Partnering with Juniors | | GSC |
| Saturday | July 29 | Daisy Brownie Program Leadership | | GSC |

Key

ATC- Adult Training Center, Conroe

GSC- Girl Scout Center, Houston

AA- Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe

WAM-Wind-A-Mere, Alvin

CWP- Camp Whispering Pines, Nacogdoches

WC-Welcome Center, Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe

Does Your Troop Want to Host a Carousel?

Carousels are weekend events planned and hosted by groups of older Girl Scouts. They are a fun opportunity to earn leadership hours and earn funds, while helping younger girls experience a fun, themed weekend at camp! Registration is done through the MyGS system, and participating troops bring their own first aiders and meals, so you can focus on planning the program activities!

If your Cadette, Senior, or Ambassador troop is interested in hosting a Carousel weekend, please contact Natalie Jares at njares@sjgs.org, or 713-292-0386, for more details. We'll be reserving the 2023-24 dates and locations soon!

Around Camp

Why Girl Scout Camping is so Much FUN

When you hear that you're going camping with your troop or family, what is the first word that comes to your mind? Most girls think about all the fun they are going to have in the outdoors.

The benefits of camping, especially for young children, helps them develop a sense of adventure, experience a new environment, and see and hear unfamiliar sights and sounds. They can meet and play with other young girls, learn outdoor survival skills, see wildlife in their natural habitat, and explore the beautiful camps maintained by the council. Here are seven tips that will make your next camping trip more enjoyable, and to easily remember them they all start with a C like camping.

- **Care** - Care about how you camp by being considerate of others.
- **Caution** - Use caution when cooking on a grill or lighting a fire in a fire circle so as not to endanger others or yourself. Improve your camping skills, knowing the right way is the safest way.
- **Courtesy** - Practice politeness because it improves the camping experience. Respect the privacy of others.
- **Cleanliness** - Practice good, clean, camping habits. Pick up litter no matter who left it and be proud of the campsite you leave behind. Remember that Girl Scouts leave a place better than they found it.
- **Cooperation** - Observe all camping regulations and rules established to protect our enjoyment of the outdoors. Work cooperatively with others to make it better for everyone.
- **Conservation** - Protect the environment in which we enjoy camping and help those whose job it is to guard and wisely manage our camps natural resources. Endeavor to leave a better outdoors for those who follow us.
- **Common Sense** - Apply common sense to every situation, knowing that reason, understanding, and humor makes camping better for us and others.



Do your very best to follow the seven C's of Camping. Have lots of fun and we hope you make lots of new friends while camping at our Girl Scout camps.

Respecting Wildlife While at Camp

Wildlife is a gift to all of us and it's important to respect wild animals found in our camps. Do you know that birds, squirrels, raccoons, hogs, opossum, coyotes, fox, bats, spiders, snakes, turtles, rabbits, and even skunks live in our council camp forests?

Depending on the time of day or night and how quiet you are, you may see one of these animals. It's awesome to see these critters in their natural habitat; however, do NOT approach, attempt to feed or touch any wildlife. Our camp wildlife is more frightened of you and will usually run and scamper away back into the forest when they see or hear you. Always view wildlife from a safe distance. In the event you encounter a dead animal, or a live one acting strangely, notify the staff ranger or reserve ranger immediately. They will determine the appropriate steps in dealing with each situation. Leave things the way you found them, but if you see something that is a mess, please clean it up. Leave things as naturally as you can. Don't leave trash, food, or anything else for wildlife to get into. When people pollute nature, it impacts animals more than anyone could ever imagine.

Adults, please drive carefully and slowly watching for deer and our dear girls. The four-legged variety is more likely to run right at your vehicle if they are frightened or panicked.

Remember that during the short time you spend at camp, you are visiting the home of these animals. Many of these animals were born and have lived in council camps for several years. Be respectful and thank you for helping us take care of our camps.

Next time you're at Misty Meadows Ranch, hike on over to the Doll House and read all about the history of the unique building.



Philanthropy

Be a part of the Juliette Gordon Low Society

Our founder Juliette Gordon Low descended from an extensive line of strong and independent women. Her vision lives on through Girl Scouts across the globe who continue her legacy. You can also help ensure the future of the Girl Scout movement by becoming a member of the Juliette Gordon Low Society.

Anyone who makes a legacy gift to Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council is automatically a member of the Juliette Gordon Low Society. Making a legacy gift can be remarkably simple. You can name GSSJC as a partial beneficiary in your will. You can opt to leave a flat amount or a percentage of a specific asset, such as a retirement plan or life insurance, and there is NO minimum requirement. You can also give anonymously. We keep all information strictly confidential.

Legacy gifts are crucial to helping the council maintain our beautiful camp properties, provide quality programming for girls across Southeast Texas, offer training to our dedicated volunteers, and stay relevant with up-to-date technology to support our work. When you give to GSSJC through legacy giving, your generosity changes the lives of the girls in our community. No gift is too small, and every gift counts.

To make a legacy gift, or if you or your financial advisor would like additional information on the Juliette Gordon Low Society, please contact Connie Chavez at cchavez@sjgs.org.

Juliette Gordon Low Society member testimonial

As I think about investing in the future of women's leadership, I always start with Girl Scouts. I was a Girl Scout growing up in New Mexico and earned the highest award, now called the Gold Award. I learned how to explore new things, set goals, overcome obstacles, work together with others, and make a difference in my community.

Decades later I got involved as a volunteer in Houston. My volunteer experience has included committee and board work for Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council. Over the past 15-plus years, I have had the opportunity to work closely with the council's senior leadership team, board of directors, and volunteers. The dedication to the mission of Girl Scouts in Southeast Texas, as well as across the country, is key to girls becoming leaders in our communities. That is why I was inspired to include GSSJC as a beneficiary in my will. Every girl should have the opportunity to be a Girl Scout, and this is one way I can impact the future of our movement.

-Juliette Gordon Low member and past Board Chair Mary Ryder



Thank You, GSSJC Donors!

For any questions about the donor list, contact Ruth Delaunay at 713-292-0273 or rdealaunay@sjgs.org. Honorariums listed are \$250 and above.

\$50,000-\$99,999 - Bronze

H-E-B
Madison Charitable
Foundation, Inc.

\$25,000-\$49,999 - Ambassador

Entergy
The Vivian L. Smith
Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999 - Senior

Anna and Fred Charlton
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Insperty Services LP
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Texas Children's Hospital
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K. McGee, Jr. Family
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\$5,000-\$9,999 - Cadette

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\$1,000-\$4,999 - Junior

Amegy Bank of Texas
Cadence Insurance
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Gensler Houston Principals
David Harris
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\$250-\$999 - Brownie

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Sandy Judson
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Walker
Vicky Landin
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Janet McMasters
Michele McNichol
April and Jason Moncrieff
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Way
Anne Neeson
RSM US Foundation
Vanessa Skrabanek
Karen Slack
Fiona Stephan
Ellen Stickney
Charlene Tennison

Texas Instruments
Foundation
The Kroger Company
United Way of Greater
Atlanta
United Way of Greater
Philadelphia and
Southern New Jersey
United Way of Midland
County
Amanda S. Vavilala
Katherine Warren
Kenneth R. Wieschuegel
Genevieve Winter

Honorariums In Honor of Camp Robinwood Staff 1978

Janet McMasters

In Honor of Karen Soh
Kenneth Wiesenhuegel

In Honor of Amanda Vavilala

Lori and Bill Dawson

Scrapbook

Send your photos to communications@sjgs.org. Put your troop number in the subject line.

Hi troops! We are looking for pictures of your troop meetings. You might see them on this page or in other council materials. Please include your troop number and community name. Send them to communications@sjgs.org and put troop meeting in the subject line.



Troop 147085 collected more than 100 books and donated them to the Books Between the Kids, non-profit organization.



Troop 136001 volunteered for the American Heart Association's Bay Area Heart Walk in Kemah. They handed out water to tired participants along the three-mile route and cheered them on!



Troop 114182, Troop 114032, and Troop 114097 all camping at Misty Meadows making the best of the rainy and cold weather.



Troop 114204 spent two months collecting 1,000 cans of food for the Houston Food Bank. The girls all set goals and made posters and asked friends and family for support and surpassed their goal to help feed 100 families for the holidays.



Troop 130458 had a food drive for a local pantry and volunteered, sacking 500 bags of groceries for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.



Troop 108031 collected items and made holiday gifts for seniors for Meals on Wheels Montgomery County.



Kolter Elementary Daisy Troop 147213 made lunches for Kids Meals while completing the considerate and caring petal.



Junior Troop 139154 donated a portion of their cookie funds to the League City Police Department's Blue Santa program to help provide children in need with the joy of Christmas.



Troop 122292 partnered with the Grace Methodist Church Food Pantry for the second year to help collect donations to serve our community. Last year we collected items for a "birthday in a box" and this year they collected items to create Thanksgiving meal kits. They collected enough food items to provide 18 families with all the ingredients they need to make all the sides and fixings for a Thanksgiving meal. They also collected 14 \$10 gift cards to help cover the cost of a main course.



Troop 136001 members who attend Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in the Vocal Department performed with the Houston Symphony for their "Home Alone" film with a live orchestra. They sang two shows to sold out crowds!



Magnolia Blossom Hills troops 105016, 105005, 105134, 105121 and a Juliette scout got together to decorate a float and participate in the Magnolia Christmas Parade.

Troop 147041 finished the Cadette Book Artist badge with The Printing Museum





Troop 4343 had a busy fall. They participated in South Bridge Community's S.T.R.I.D.E.R.S. event and they came in second place. They also went to the Celebration of a Century event and help get more than 1,000 meals ready at the Houston Food Bank.



Troop 11139 volunteered at Kids Meals in Magnolia to prep trail mix, package sack lunches, and decorate paper lunch sacks for the kids and families served by the organization.



Troop 138109 picked out new books, wrote inspiring messages, and donated them to the local little free library!



Troop 105121 and one girl from Troop 105138 all participated in the Animal Badge journey work. They crafted some dog toys and blankets and donated them to Tiny Paws rescue. Then the shelter owner came to talk to the girls about animal care while the girls got to pet and play with some shelter dogs. And finally, they did a poster project to help prevent pet gift giving during the holidays (posters to put up and around the area).



Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, leaders, volunteers, and a couple of tag-alongs participated in the CluedUp Alice in Wonderland Experience. They hiked all over downtown Beaumont searching for clues and interacting with virtual characters to save Alice from the Queen of Hearts.



Troop 131098 participated in the local fall fest. The girls ran a free game booth and gave out candy and prizes. This fall, they also participated in a couple parades and a carnival. They also helped place flags on veterans' graves for Veterans Day.



Troop 143027 sang Christmas carols to the residents at Village on the Park Senior Center.



Troop 3033 from the Brazos Valley Community rode on the Houston History Bus to learn about several well-known Houston figures while viewing the beautiful Christmas lights in River Oaks. They hope to take the bus for his tour during Women's History Month.



Troop 18963 voted to make 100 Feminine Hygiene Packs for the GSSJC 100th Birthday Service Project Challenge. The packs, benefitting SEARCH Homeless Services, included 15 tampons and 5 overnight pads. The girls decorated brown paper bags and included inspirational messages. They also added other things to the packs such as non-perishable treats and travel-sized toiletry products.



Troop 130036 celebrated the Winter Holiday with engineering and team building challenges, decorating bells, and playing games with their troop sisters.





Troop 139149 made blessing bags for the homeless for Christmas.



Troop 21721 held its annual troop holiday party.



For Martin Luther King Day of Service 2023, Girl Scouts from Troop 136001 interacted with residents at Vista Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and helped them with a bingo game.



Troop 130337 of Port Neches participated in a wreath laying ceremony for veterans at Oak Bluff Cemetery in Port Neches. They helped place over 100 wreaths on veterans' graves.



Girl Scouts from different troops of the Golden Coast came together to bring holiday cheer and promote Girl Scouting by entering a parade and decorating a trailer with festive lights and a candy theme and passing out Girl Scout information along the parade route.

Camp Packs 2023

Get ready for the summer with a camp pack!
Available for day camp and overnight camp.
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