

CONNECT

your guide to GSSEM for 2017-18




girl scouts
of southeastern
michigan

and enjoy a snack!



WELCOME

to the 2017-2018 edition of CONNECT Magazine and another great year of Girl Scouts!

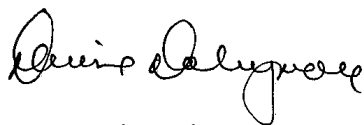
We are so excited to announce new Journeys and badges just in time for the start of this membership year. Girls will have new adventures in outdoor and STEM education with Journeys like “Think Like an Engineer,” and the Engineering: Robotics badges. There is a new badge earning or Journey experience available for all Girl Scout levels, Daisies to Ambassadors. Be sure to read more about these and updates to the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK) in the October section of this edition of CONNECT Magazine.

CONNECT Magazine is your year-at-a-glance view of events, GSSEM news, and tips that help our dedicated volunteers and parents throughout this Girl Scout year! Each month includes handy “Important Dates” lists so your girls don’t miss out on any of the great happenings at GSSEM. Plus, there are feature articles about product program opportunities, Girl Scout traditions, and special tips for troop leaders to help make running the troop easier. Our hope is that you will find CONNECT useful as a planning and reference tool throughout the year.

We suggest that you keep this issue of CONNECT in a safe place for future reference since it contains just about everything you need all in one place. One copy of CONNECT is mailed to the address you’ve provided. Additional copies are available at any service center. CONNECT will also be available online at gssem.org/connect.

We’re excited for another outstanding year for our girls, and every adult who supports and mentors them. Let us know what you think about CONNECT by emailing us at communications@gssem.org. Thank you for your important work that creates girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.

Yours in Scouting,



Denise Dalrymple
CEO



**PICTURED L TO R:
GSSEM CEO Denise Dalrymple, longtime
GSSEM Board Member Rhonda B. Orr, and
GSSEM Board Chair Heather Rivard**

WHY GIRL SCOUTS?

Hey Parents! You know your girl loves the friends she makes and the great experiences she gets to have just by being a Girl Scout.

But do you know why Girl Scouts is the best girl leadership experience in the world, period?

In Girl Scouts, your girl gets a one-of-a-kind, proven leadership development program that pairs girls with strong, caring female role models and mentors who prepare her to take the lead from age 5 to 18 and into adulthood.

Everything Girl Scouts do—from troop meetings, cookies sales and camping, to STEM and beyond—is done in a girl-only, girl-lead, girl-inclusive space where she's free to be herself without the pressures and social anxiety that can exist in a mixed-gender environment. When girls learn with one another, they are more apt to take healthy risks, try new things and take on leadership roles.

And there are some real, practical outcomes only Girl Scouts achieve!

Did you know Girl Scout Gold Award recipients stand out in college admissions, earn college scholarships, and enter the military one rank higher than their peers? And women who were Girl Scouts have more successful careers, earn higher household and personal incomes, and are more active mentors and community volunteers.

More information about why and how Girl Scouts make a real difference for girls is available at gssem.org/WhyGirlScouts.



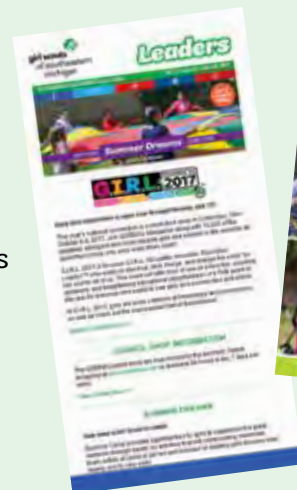
COMMUNICATIONS OUTLETS

GOT A GS STORY? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We love to see stories about the great things our Girl Scouts are doing to help their communities. If you have a story to share, email us at communications@gssem.org.

Reminder! Tell us your girls' event, service project, or other newsworthy thing your troop is doing at least two weeks in advance, and always take pictures. Even if its after the event, go ahead and email us a picture and the details. News coverage isn't guaranteed, but GSSEM can share your story in Latest News on our website and our Facebook!

Like, follow and view GSSEM!



**Are you ready to GO GOLD
(or Bronze, Silver)? (pg 9)**



Great ideas for raising girls! (pg 35)



Table of Contents

Communication Outlets 4
We want to hear from you

What every New & Returning Leader needs to know 6
Follow the checklist

Volunteer Resources 7
Tips, guides, and valuable information

High Awards 9
Get Ready to Go Gold, Silver, or Bronze



GSSEM by the MONTH

October-September 10-35
Hey, Parents! Make sure you check out the month-by-month guide for great activity ideas your Girl Scout will love!

Business Listings 48

GSSEM Locations 49
Check out our new Detroit Service Center

girl scouts 
of southeastern
michigan

1333 Brewery Park Blvd.
Suite 100
Detroit, MI 48207



facebook.com/gssem



twitter.com/gssem



youtube.com/gssem1



pinterest.com/gssem



**Moxie Talks delivers
outstanding opportunities
for older girls (pg 11)**



**Be a Cookie Pro this
Cookie Season (pg 18)**



**In-School Troops:
More Girl Scouting
to more girls (pg 35)**

Getting the Troop Year started!

Congratulations—You're going to love being a Girl Scout Leader! You will introduce girls to new and awesome experiences and show them numerous ways to unleash the G.I.R.L within! To get the fun started, let this be your guide to make sure you're ready to make memories that will last a lifetime. Use this checklist to guide you as you get started:

✓ Checklist for NEW Leaders:

- ☐ Register to be a GSSEM Troop Leader at gssem.org/volunteer.
- ☐ Complete your background check online. Once your background check is approved, you will receive an email confirmation prompting you to log into MyGS (your Girl Scout Member Community) on gssem.org and outlining your next steps including proper training. You will receive your troop number once you register and have an eligible background check. You will also be assigned a Troop Support Specialist.
- ☐ Visit gssem.org/learning and check out the Getting Started section.
- ☐ Invite girls and other adults to join your troop!
- ☐ Log into **MyGS** and check out the Volunteer Toolkit! VTK has detailed plans and a calendar outline to help you have a successful year.
- ☐ Set up the days, times and location for troop meetings on VTK. Be sure to attend a District Leaders' Meeting in your area. Your Troop Support Specialist will provide more information on meeting dates and times, or you can find your meeting at gssem.org/calendar.
- ☐ Meet with your other Troop Volunteers to make plans for the next year and assign roles.
- ☐ Reach out to parents via a meeting or other communications to solicit support for the troop. After the meeting, make sure to log into **MyGS** and update your new troop information.
- ☐ Open your Girl Scout bank account: Visit gssem.org/learning and check out the Group Finances section.
- ☐ Host your FIRST GIRL SCOUT MEETING!



✓ Checklist for RETURNING Leaders:

- ☐ Make sure your login information for **MyGS** is up to date.
- ☐ If your troop is under 12 members, your troop will automatically be displayed in our Opportunity Catalog for new members. When new girls select your troop, you will begin receiving emails.
- ☐ Be sure and watch for GSSEM email newsletters for Troop Leaders.
- ☐ Make sure your training is up to date: Check out gssem.org/learning.
- ☐ Schedule a meeting with parents to get them involved in the troop!
- ☐ Attend a District Leaders' meeting: check gssem.org/calendar for dates and locations.
- ☐ Host your FIRST GIRL SCOUT MEETING of the YEAR!

Remember, we're here for you every step of the way! If you need help, simply reach out to your Troop Support Specialist. If you don't know who your Specialist is, call **(800) 482-6734**, and select the option for Troop Support. We'll get you connected!

Great volunteer resources



GSSEM has many resources that will be helpful when running your troop throughout the year:

Supplemental Learning Modules (SLaM): SLaMs are online volunteer learning opportunities in the form of short videos and interactive modules that help you better understand a process or procedure—from help with managing your Member Profile to Demystifying the Volunteer Relations Process, to how to use the Volunteer Toolkit. Check them out at gssem.org/learning.

Volunteer Essentials: This valuable guide includes information about engaging girls, safety requirements, managing finances, and volunteer policies. There's even a glossary of Girl Scout terms! Check it out at gssem.org/ve.

Safety Activity Checkpoints: These help volunteers plan activities with girls. You should check to see if the activity you are planning has specific requirements covered in the Safety Activity Checkpoints. This will help ensure that you put on a safe event in compliance with Girl Scout policies. This list is found on page 14 of the Volunteer Essentials document.

GSSEM Online Directory: Have a question and need to contact us? Find the staff directory at gssem.org/stafflist.

Case Management System: Anytime you contact us through the Contact Us Form on gssem.org/contact, a case is created that will be viewed by multiple staff members to ensure your inquiry is resolved quickly.

Raising Awesome Girls: Visit the For Adults section of girlscouts.org for great resources to help you support girls in almost every facet of their lives.

What volunteers need to know about troop finances

Bank Account: All troops must establish a bank account with two unrelated adult signers for collection of payments of troop supplies and activities, and for the fall and cookie sales. Check out the Troop Banking Information at gssem.org/bankaccount.

Financial Assistance: Financial assistance is provided to help girls and adults participate in Girl Scouting. Any member needing financial assistance for membership can request it during the online registration process. Other financial assistance exists for books, badges, uniforms, and programs. The Financial Assistance application can be found at gssem.org/forms.

Money-Earning Activities: The Cookie program is the primary money-earning activity for a troop. You can also request a limited number of additional fundraising activities. The Money Earning Project Request form can be found at gssem.org/moneyearning.

Reporting and Receipts: Every troop should report out the troop finances to parents at least three times a year.

Remember, the SLAMs at gssem.org/learning are there to help you with the financial process!



Volunteer Toolkit gives you more time with your girls!

Wish there was a way for you to keep everything for your whole Girl Scout year in once place? This is it: The Volunteer Toolkit (VTK) is the #1 tool every Leader needs for a successful Girl Scout year! It has detailed plans for the troop year and outlines everything you need so you can concentrate on your girls:

- Choose a year plan or design your own
- Set meeting locations, dates and times
- Includes meeting plans, agendas, and material lists
- Communicate easily with everyone in your troop
- Track troop finances, badges earned, Journeys completed, attendance
- See important Council dates right in your year plan
- Changes are as easy as “drag and drop”

It's a full year of Girl Scouting accessible from your computer or mobile device and it's easy to get started: Log on to **gssem.org**. If you are an approved troop volunteer and have registered or renewed your membership, click on **MyGS** in the green navigation bar. Follow the log-in instructions and you can access VTK from a landing page. **Check out the Video Trainings at gssem.org/vtk.**



The Volunteer Tool Kit is now loaded with all-new year plans for the 2017 Journeys and Badges! See page 10 for more information.

High Awards help girls find their spark, ignite change

Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards represent the highest honors a Girl Scout can earn at each level! These three awards allow girls to select an issue they care about and inspire others to make changes. Girls can make a difference in their corner of the world—and maybe even beyond!



Bronze Award: This is for Girl Scouts in 4th or 5th grade who have completed a Junior Journey. Bronze Award Projects must be done as part of a team. Bronze awards are approved by the troop leader. No paperwork is submitted to GSSEM.



Silver Award: This is for Girl Scouts in 6th-8th grades who have completed a Cadette Journey. Girls can work on their own or build a team of no more than 2 - 4 girls. Silver Award final reports are approved by the troop leader and submitted to GSSEM for review.



Gold Award: This is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. Girls in the 9th - 12th grade who have completed a Silver Award and one Senior or Ambassador Journey or have completed two Senior or Ambassador Journeys are eligible to earn their Gold Award. A Gold Award project is earned independently by a girl who is mentored by a GSSEM Volunteer Gold Award Committee Member. Each Gold Awardee receives a GSSEM \$500 scholarship.

All Silver and Gold Final Reports must be submitted to GSSEM by March 1 to be included in the 2018 Honor Reception.

GSSEM Precious Medals P.I. Patch Program: This patch program is available for girls to learn more about the highest awards in Girl Scouting. Have fun being a Precious Medals Private Eye and discover mysteries surrounding the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards. Activities are available for each program level!

GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction: Each year, GSSEM selects a Gold Award recipient whose final project demonstrates extraordinary leadership and addresses a global issue with measurable and sustainable impact. This candidate receives additional scholarship money.

National Young Woman of Distinction: Each year, GSSEM selects three exceptional recipients of the Gold Award to be considered: by GSUSA. Ten outstanding Gold Awardees are selected nationwide whose projects demonstrate extraordinary leadership, has measurable impact and sustainability, and addresses a local, national or global issue.

Other GSSEM Awards

Be sure and check out all the great awards online like the Tammie Murray and Jennifer Barnum Spirit Awards, Precious Medal Award, and more.

Ready to get started earning a high award?

Each award has specific guidelines and requirements. Visit gssem.org/highawards or the Council calendar at gssem.org/calendar for in person Silver and Gold Award trainings. If you can't attend one of our dates, try our new online Silver and Gold Award training and High Award chats! **Contact Caroline Feathers at cfeathers@gssem.org.**



For her Gold Award project, 2017 YWOD Madeline Burgin helped young girls have fun while learning science, technology, engineering, and mathematics!

OCTOBER

New Badges, Journeys designed to unleash the G.I.R.L. within!

New Journeys and Badges have rolled out this year to help make everyone's Girl Scouting experience more robust! Combined with existing STEM and outdoor programs, as well as programming in life skills and entrepreneurship, these new Journeys and badges are designed to help girls unleash their inner G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)[™] as they achieve the five outcomes of **The Girl Scout Leadership Experience**: sense of self, positive values, challenge seeking, healthy relationships, and community problem solving.



Outdoor Journey

Outdoor: Anchored by the Troop Camping badge, this new Journey will deepen girls' outdoor skills and inspire an interest in environmental stewardship.

(Daisy through Ambassador)



Badges

Engineering | Robotics: Girls design their own robots after learning how they're built and programmed. "Unplugged" activities allow girls to earn badges without buying kits.

(Daisy through Junior)



Engineering | Mechanical Engineering: Girls complete hands-on engineering activities, such as building and testing roller coasters, race cars, and jumping robots!

(Daisy through Brownie)

Girls' Choice | Troop Camping: This year, girls from across the United States had the chance to vote for their favorite badge category and topic. And the winner is...Troop Camping!

(Daisy through Ambassador)

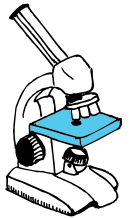
Two New Daisy Badges: Outdoor Art Maker and Good Neighbor give Daisies a chance to get in on the creativity other Girl Scouts already enjoy and discover all about their school, city or town, and state!

(Daisy)

STEM Journeys

Engineering | Think Like an Engineer:

Girls learn how to think like a designer by participating in hands-on design challenges.



Computer Science | Think Like a Programmer:

Girls participate in interactive computational thinking activities to learn how programmers solve problems.

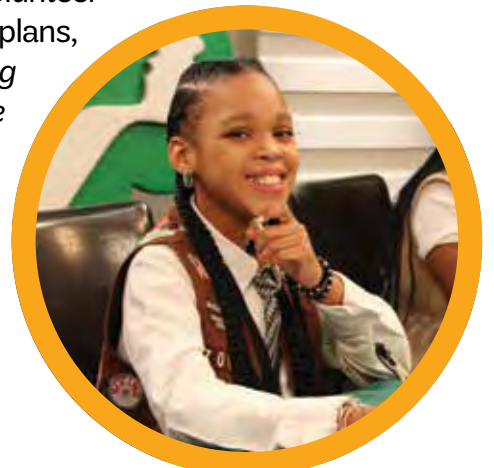
Outdoor STEM | Think Like a Citizen Scientist:

Girls learn the scientific method by undertaking a citizen science project that involves making observations, collecting data, and working with scientists.

(Daisy through Junior, Multi-Level K-5)

More details about the new Journeys and Badges can be found at gssem.org/new and in the Volunteer

Tool Kit year plans, too! *Not using VTK yet? See page 8 for more information about getting started!*



Fall sale gets your Troop year started: Oct. 2-Nov. 1

GSSEM's annual Fall Sale is an opportunity for girls to make sure they can pay for their Scouting year's must-do list by selling candy, nuts, and magazines. Girls not only learn vital skills when selling and managing their product sales, they can also earn money for things like camping, programs, and more. Girls will be able to sell magazine subscriptions AND candy/nuts online using their own avatar created with M2Media! They can also choose to sell the candy and nuts with a paper form. Girls can sell one or both products.

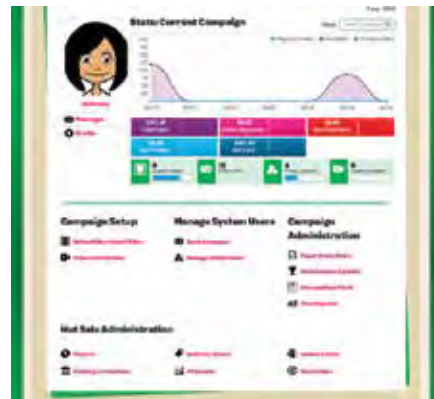
Our partner for the candy and nut portion of the fall sale is Trophy Nut Company and our partner for the magazine sales is M2 Media Group. **Troops earn 95 cents per candy and nut item sold and \$1.50 for each magazine subscription.**

For 2017, the fall sale program is once again short enough to allow everyone to wrap up the program before Thanksgiving and have more of a break before Girl Scout Cookie season begins:

- Troops should have received packets in the mail by mid-September
- Sale Dates: Oct. 2-Nov. 1 (Enter and Submit Troop Candy and Nut in-person and booth extras into online fall sale system by 11:59 p.m. Nov. 1)
- Products & Rewards Pick Up: Nov 16, 17, and 18

Get Started!

GSSEM is offering three Fall Product Training Webinar sessions. You must register for each by email at productsales@gssem.org. Check out gssem.org/fallsale for all the information you need including more dates and times.



2017 Fall Retail Promotion

Spend \$75 or more on a single purchase from Aug. 21- Oct. 16, and receive a \$10 coupon valid from Nov. 1-22 on a \$25 minimum purchase. Available in-store only at all of our locations, except Detroit (new store opening soon!).

Give the gift of Girl Scouts

Consider the Girl Scouts when celebrating a birthday or honoring a loved one. Check out the GSSEM donation page at gssem.org/donate or contact the Fund Development department at (313) 870-2545.

Mobile Council Shops near you this Fall

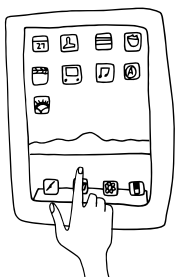
Can't make it to a Council Shop? Be sure and check out GSSEM Mobile Council Shops around town this fall! The shops will carry core uniform items, books, and badges only.

Southland Mall: Monday & Thursday from 11 am - 6 pm & Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm

Laurel Park Mall: Monday & Thursday from 11 am - 6 pm & Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm

Port Huron Service Center: Thursdays from 11 am - 6 pm

Email productsales@gssem.org to check inventory before heading out!



Important Dates:

Aug. 21-Oct. 16: Fall Retail Promotion

Oct. 2: Fall Product Sale begins

Oct. 7: Harvest Festival, Camp Hawthorn Hollow

Oct. 14: Girls' Fast Track Sponsored by Ford

Oct. 22: Moxie Talks

Oct. 28: Girls' Fast Track Races

Oct. 31: Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

GSSEM's community service project: 2017 Scouting for Food

GSSEM is once again teaming with Boy Scouts of America Great Lakes Council from Nov. 4-11 for **Scouting for Food**. This community service project addresses the problem of hunger in the communities where we all live and work. Gleaners Community Food Bank is our collaborative partner to distribute the food. Gleaners' distributes more than 34 million pounds of food to area residents each year. This year's goal for the Scouts is to collect 225,000 pounds of food!

Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts will distribute specially marked food donation bags in neighborhoods throughout their service areas including communities stretching from Wayne to Oakland and Macomb Counties, and Sanilac and Monroe Counties. Individuals who receive Girl Scout or Boy Scout Scouting for Food bags, and would like to donate can leave non-perishable canned or boxed foods in the bags and place them on their porches for Scouts to pick-up on Saturday, Nov. 11. Food in glass containers will not be accepted.

Participating is easy and fun! Just log on to gssem.org/scoutingforfood to get more information and sign up to volunteer at drop-off sites.



Let's Help Feed the Hungry!

**2017
SCOUTING
FOR FOOD**

**Girl Scouts
of Southeastern
Michigan**



Get your Scouting for Food collection bags

Scouting for Food bags can be picked up at any GSSEM Service Center location or Council Shop!

Explore the world with Destinations!

Girl Scouts love to explore and experience new adventures! Girl Scout Destinations offers the ULTIMATE adventure program for girls 11 and older. Make friends from all over the country as you travel with sister Girls Scouts and experience new things. With a ton of different trips around the world every year, there's something amazing for everyone to experience:

- Hit the trails with your friends in the beautiful mountains of Northwest Georgia!
- Challenge yourself to soar to new heights in a Hunt seat Equitation focused Destination!
- Journey to the equator and explore the wonders of Ecuador, including the Galapagos Islands!

Keep checking **gssem.org/destinations** to find a trip that sparks your WOW! But, hurry: Submit your application to GSSEM by Nov. 15!



Nominate a great GSSEM Volunteer!

GSUSA National Volunteer Awards are presented to volunteers whose outstanding performance and contributions are vital to the success of our programs, projects, and events. Nominate a volunteer for 2018 before Dec. 15 at **gssem.org/volunteerrecognitions**.

Calling all girls in grades 6-12!

Meet new friends, offer opinions, have fun, and be the first to get the inside scoop on what's going on in the world of Girl Scouts by joining the Girl Advisory Board (GAB)! Learn more about this great opportunity for older Girl Scouts at **gssem.org/GAB**.



Girl Scouts at Lions Game – Nov. 12

Cheer on the Detroit Lions as they take on the Cleveland Browns! Special ticket prices are available for GSSEM. Girl Scout ticket packages will include a Girl Scout patch, a TD run after the game and more! Get your tickets at **detroitlions.com/girlscouts**.



GSSEM Fun Patch Design Contest

Show your funny, creative, kooky, quirky or seriously artistic side! Let it shine and your design could be the official 2018 GSSEM Council Fun Patch available for purchase in all GSSEM Council Shops! Visit **gssem.org/funpatch** for contest rules and to download the entry form.

2017 Winning Design!

Brownie **Annabelle S.** was GSSEM's first-ever Council Fun Patch design contest winner in 2016!



Important Dates:

Nov. 12: Interfaith Service

Nov. 12: Girl Scouts at Detroit Lions

Nov. 15: Destinations applications due

Nov. 18: 2017 Chemistry Day

Nov. 23: America's Thanksgiving Day Parade:

Watch 100 of our Girl Scouts march and dance down Woodward Avenue—an annual GSSEM tradition!

Visit **gssem.org/calendar** for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

2018 Cookie Season: Girls learning and earning

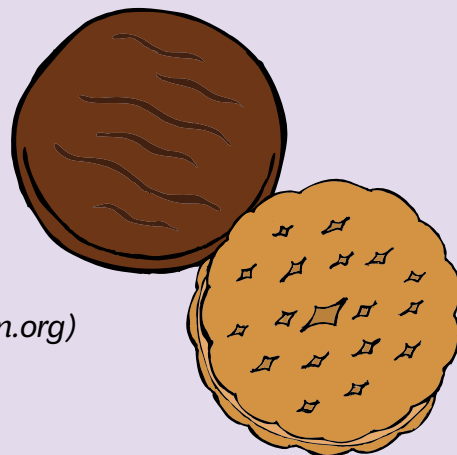
There is SO much yummy goodness to celebrate for the 2017 Girl Scout Cookie Season! The Girl Scout S'mores™ cookie, our crunchy graham sandwich with a chocolate and marshmallowy filling, is back again! Besides being delicious, the cookie sale helps fuel awesome adventures for girls, while helping them learn valuable skills.

When a Girl Scout sells cookies, she's building a lifetime of skills and confidence. Selling cookies teaches goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. All of these things are essential skills for successful leaders ... and life! And the cookie sale helps girls pay for their next amazing adventure and opportunities to try something new and find the G.I.R.L. within!



Keep an eye out for your 2018 Cookie Season mailing and save these important Cookie Season dates:

- **Troop Cookie Trainings start Dec. 4.**
(Check gssem.org/calendar for dates and locations!)
- **2018 Cookie Season Dec. 18 - April 8**
- **Troop Cookie Orders due Jan. 25**
- **Troop Cookie Delivery Feb. 13-17**
- **Cookie Cupboards Open Feb. 17 - April 9**
(Cupboard start dates vary by location. More info at gssem.org)
- **Troop Reward Orders Due April 9**
- **Cookie Celebration events from May 7 - May 21**
(Invitation-only for girls who sell 600+ packages)



In-Person Cookie Training for New Troops!

In-person cookie program training will cover all the basics you need to know to run a successful cookie program for your troop. This training is geared toward volunteers working with the cookie program for the first time. Dates, locations and times for in-person trainings will be available on the website in early November. Returning volunteers are encouraged to attend a webinar that will cover new information for returning volunteers, or view the on-demand online training. More information is available at gssem.org/cookieprogram.



Year-End Giving: Invest in Girls. Change the World!

With your support, we will help girls become leaders of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Make your year-end, tax-deductible contribution to the largest fundraising campaign for girls in history. **ToGetHerThere campaign's goal is one billion for girls by 2020.** Watch your inbox and mailbox! All donations received benefit Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan. For more information contact Marc Berke, GSSEM Chief Development Officer, at (313) 870-2569 or mberke@gssem.org. Secure donations can also be made online at gssem.org/donate.

It's not too early to think about 2018 camping season!



It's always a good time to think about camping—even in the winter! Watch your mailboxes this December for the newest edition of **Compass: Your Guide to Camping and Outdoor Education**. It's packed with important information about GSSEM's camp offerings throughout the year and everything you need to know to get ready for OUTDOOR fun! Compass is always available online at gssem.org/compass.

Hour of Code introduces girls to Computer Science

Dec. 2

Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics. Hour of Code is part of Code.org's annual Computer Science Education Week.

Core Camps are weekend FUN all year long!

GSSEM core camps are a chance for girls to have fun with a purpose at Camp Hawthorn Hollow. Each has a theme based on the Journey or badges the girls will be earning. Core camps are listed in gssem.org and more information can be found in GSSEM's annual publication, COMPASS, at gssem.org/compass.

Important Dates:

Dec. 2: Hour of Code

Dec. 3: GAB Meeting

Dec. 4: Troop Cookie Trainings Start

Dec. 15: Nomination Deadline for GSUSA National Volunteer Award

Dec. 18: Cookie Season begins

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

JANUARY

Here's your chance to be on a box of Girl Scout cookies!

Girl Scouts of the USA's Cookie Pro Contest is an exciting opportunity to highlight the amazing skills and experiences that girls gain through participating in the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Join us in celebrating the cookie entrepreneur skills of Girl Scouts nationwide—unlock an awesome, limited-edition Cookie Pro 2018 patch while earning a chance to be featured on a Girl Scout Cookie package (not to mention going on an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City!).



One girl per Girl Scout grade level will be selected as a Top Cookie Pro 2018 and will join GSUSA in New York to participate in an incredible cookie box photo shoot and to talk business with GSUSA professionals!

Who can participate in this contest? All registered Girl Scouts from participating councils who are selling cookies during the 2017/2018 cookie Season.

When can girls participate? January 2–April 30, 2018

How can girls participate? By submitting their personalized Cookie Pro Résumé along with a photo.

A Cookie Pro résumé should include:

- A photo of herself
- Cookie badges and skills she's earned
- Memorable troop and customer experiences
- What her troop has done or plans to do with its cookie earnings
- Her best-selling tips for crushing cookie sale goals like a PRO!

Find out more at gssem.org/cookies!



Let 'em know it's Girl Scout Cookie Time!

Let 'em know they can buy cookies without even saying a word. New 2018 Girl Scout Cookie merchandise is available in GSSEM Council Shops or online at gssem.org/store. Shop in store or online today!

Turn up the heat on your cookie sales!

The direct sale portion of GSSEM's annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale runs Feb. 16 through April 8, 2018. Thousands of Girl Scouts will sell cookies at booths in grocery stores, home improvement centers and more locations throughout the region. Looking for ways to get more out of booth sales, and increase earnings? Here are a few ways to boost your sales.



National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend

National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend is time to celebrate all the fun, learning, and excitement that selling cookies has powered for girls! During Girl Scout Cookie season, each amazing young G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)[™] is not only selling delicious cookies but also building essential life skills, such as goal setting, people skills, and business ethics—which are essential for 21st century leadership.

This weekend offers go-getter girls a chance to show off their cookie-selling skills by participating in booth, door-to-door and digital sales throughout the country. During this year's cookie weekend, hungry customers will be able to get their hands on their favorite Girl Scout Cookies!



Year of Yum offers customers Girl Scout Cookies for a year!

Girl Scout Cookie Time is the yummiest time of year, right? The only thing better than a box of Thin Mints (or the new S'Mores) is 52 BOXES of Girl Scout Cookies! The Year of Yum promotion is a great way to boost sales by asking customers who are already buying four boxes to purchase five! Simply let the customer know that when they purchase five boxes of cookies, they could enter to win 52 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies—A Year of YUM! Visit gssem.org/cookies to download Year of Yum cards with details on how to enter, and distribute the cards to customers who buy five or more boxes of cookies. GSSEM handles all the entries, conducts the drawing and ships the cookies to the winners!



Super Bowl Booths

Did you know that the Saturday before Super Bowl Sunday is the most popular day of the year to buy snack foods? This year, fans can make Girl Scout cookies part of their Super Bowl Sunday snack list. GSSEM troops can enter a lottery to be selected to sell cookies early, on Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018. More information, including how to enter the lottery, will be available on the gssem.org in November.



GSSEM's Bling Your Booth Contest

Once you've put the finishing touches on your awesome Cookie Booth, click on gssem.org to enter your Blinged Booth to win up to \$300.00 in GSSEM program credits. One winning troop and their 'blinged-out' booth from each of GSSEM's 12 communities will be selected to receive \$100.00 in program credits. Those 12 finalists will be entered in the grand prize contest. The winner of that contest will get an additional \$200.00 in program credits! To enter, you'll submit a photo of your girls in action at their 'blinged out' cookie booth to GSSEM via our Facebook page. For more information, visit gssem.org/cookieprogram.

Cookie Pop-Up Shops

GSSEM is once again offering Girl Scouts the ability to sell cookies at pop-up shops at the Detroit Experience Factory Welcome Center in Detroit. These shops offer another way for cookie entrepreneurs to get out there and sell and be more accessible to the public. More information will be in the cookie packet mailed to everyone in November.



Mall Kiosks

More than 14 mall kiosks are scheduled around southeast Michigan this year as a way to give girls additional visibility and cookie sales opportunities! More information will be in the cookie packet mailed to everyone in November, including how to reserve a booth online for a mall kiosk.



Start the Cookie Season with awesome Cookie Rallies!

Jan. 13
10 am - 2 pm
The Henry Ford



Jan. 20
10 am - 2 pm
Sloan Longway



GSSEM offers two excellent Cookie Rallies to help girls get pumped get pumped for the sale! The Historically FUN Cookie Rally and the NEW Sloan Longway Cookie Rally will have 6 activity stations, Shop merchandise, and all the FUN HISTORY that comes with two awesome museums: one is in Dearborn and the other in Flint!

Get more details at gssem.org/calendar.

Moxie Talks

Jan. 28

Moxie Talks is a series of short, thought provoking, prepared talks that are focused around leadership principles that will motivate girls to change the world.

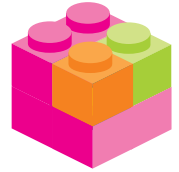
Moxie Talks are for Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors. Keep checking gssem.org/calendar for the quarterly Moxie Talks dates!



I can be anything STEM

Girls can be anything and do everything with a career in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Girls will learn about various STEM fields, and participate in hands-on activities. Girls will have the opportunity to work together and learn about basic engineering concepts in a supportive environment.

Jan. 20
Oakland University
\$10 (Patch and snack included)



Watch gssem.org/calendar for details and registration information.



Important Dates:

Jan. 13: Historically Fun Cookie Rally

Jan. 20: Sloan Longway Cookie Rally, Flint

Jan. 20: I Can Be Anything with a STEM Career!

Jan. 27: Lead and Learn

Jan. 28: Moxie Talks

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

FEBRUARY

Get ready for camping fun!

Got an interest in going on outdoor adventures? There's a camp for that. How about watching wildlife? There's a camp for that, too. In fact, there are LOTS of camping opportunities for girls in 2018! GSSEM's Outdoor Education program offers core camps, troop camping, day and summer camps, and even special outdoor events.

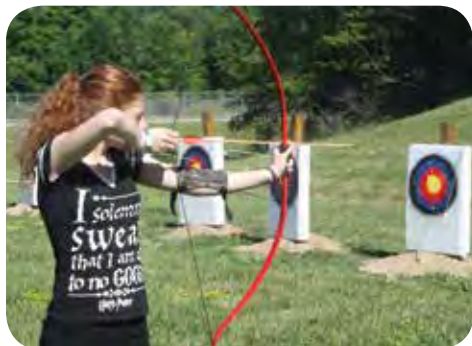
Being a Girl Scout is most fun when friends are together learning new skills and having fun swimming, creating crafts, riding horses, charting the stars, navigating the high ropes, or singing songs and making s'mores around the campfire.

Camp is where girls meet and make lifelong friends and learn lifelong skills. Summer camp programs are held on 330 acres of the beautiful Camp Hawthorn Hollow, and troop camping is available at both Camp Playfair and Camp Hawthorn Hollow. Visit gssem.org/compass to check out all of GSSEM's outdoor programming and get started planning! Summer will be here before we know it!

Show off those Outdoor Skills!

What better way for girls to show off their skills in the great outdoors than with Outdoor Skills patches? The Outdoor Skills patch program is a fun way for girls to collect patches for doing the things they love including archery, backpacking, fishing, cooking outdoors and so much more. There is one large main patch with smaller mini skill patches which adhere to the main patch with strong velcro. Girls can earn and collect as many as they want.

Girls can earn patches by attending Outdoor Skills events held by Council, a District or Community Event, a local business or organization's outdoor event, troop activity, or by simply doing the outdoor skill with family. As long as a girl has learned about the Outdoor Skill (Discover), and practiced the skill (Connect), she has earned the Outdoor Skill mini patch. All she has left to do is Take Action by getting outdoors, using her skills, and possibly sharing with others what she has learned.



Junior, Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts who volunteer to assist or facilitate at a Council or Community event like Outdoor Skills Day, an Outdoor Skills Builder event, or Outdoor Skills Adventure event, also have the opportunity to earn level star patches for their part in working the event. The level star patches are not available for sale. They can only be earned by working an event.

Each mini patch is \$1.20 and the main patch is \$5.00. For more information about the Outdoor Skills Patches Program, and to purchase them, visit gssem.org/outdoorskills.



Kaleidoscope of Science Fun!

Feb 10

Enjoy this annual event at Cranbrook Institute of Science with special science workshops, table top activities and auditorium programs. During this special fun filled science evening, Girl Scouts and their families will enjoy exploring the museum and participate in 10 special Girl Scout only activities. Special tabletop activities and workshops are for ages 5-12, but ALL ages will enjoy the special auditorium program, and museum exhibits! Please note: only scouts and siblings with wristbands may attend workshops and auditorium programs. Girl Scouts and their families will leave with many fun science projects and ideas for more science fun! Patch, gift, and admission to special Girl Scout only activities included.



Juliette Gordon Low Society

Have you already named GSSEM or would like to name GSSEM, as the beneficiary of a planned gift? We will welcome you as a Juliette Gordon Low Society member!



If you would like more information about how you can become a member—in a manner that benefits you, your heirs, and Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan, please contact Marc Berke, GSSEM Chief Development Officer at (313) 870-2569 or mberke@gssem.org.

World Thinking Day is Feb. 22

Girl Scouts and Girl Guides across the globe celebrate World Thinking Day (WTD) each February. WTD is a great opportunity to support girls as they travel internationally, connect with sister Girl Guides, and take action globally. The World Thinking Day Challenge for 2017 was a journey of growth, supporting Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting groups as we introduce our Movement to new members.

WTD is celebrated by both Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from 146 countries around the world! That's a huge network, right? By participating in World Thinking Day, girls will join millions of fellow Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in a day of building awareness and education. Use World Thinking Day as a reason to take action and fundraise for different projects around the world. Keep checking gssem.org for more information about what you can do to keep the momentum going throughout the year. Patches are available for purchase online or at Council Shops. For more information about World Thinking Day 2018 and upcoming unveiling of the 2018 theme, visit girlscouts.org.

Send a girl to camp: Summer Dreams!



Who doesn't love Girl Scout camp?

The fun, the hiking, the swimming, the laughs. There are so many girls who would love to experience Girl Scout camp, but they simply can't afford it. Help GSSEM make summer dreams come true for those girls who would like to attend summer camp. Go to gssem.org/donate and give what you can to help send her to camp and make her Summer Dreams come true! Please consider giving at the \$500 level, which would give her a full week of camp.

My Promise, My Faith for Older Scouts



Feb. 5 from 6-8:30 pm

Holocaust Memorial Center

28123 Orchard Lake Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Join dozens of Cadette, Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts in this annual event filled with fulfilling and interactive opportunities to learn about different world religions. Girls of all grade levels can now earn the **My Promise, My Faith pin**, which complements existing religious recognitions and allows girls to further strengthen the connection between their faith and Girl Scouts. Once each year, a girl can earn the My Promise, My Faith pin. Requirements for this pin are included in The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting for all levels. This evening includes Docent led tour, Kosher Pizza Dinner, Ann Frank Presentation, Craft and your MPMF pin.

My Promise, My Faith Day for Daisy, Brownie, and Junior Scouts is April 28, 2018.

Keep checking gssem.org/calendar for updates.

Cookie Cupboards Reminder

Need more cookies? Cookie Cupboards have the all varieties until April 9.



Important Dates:

Feb. 4: GAB Meeting

Feb. 5: My Promise, My Faith Evening for Cadette, Senior and Ambassador Scouts

Feb. 9: Destinations Application Deadline (Round 2)

Feb. 10: Kaleidoscope of Science Fun

Feb. 16: Direct Sale portion of Cookie Sale starts

Feb. 13-17: Troop Cookie Delivery

Feb. 22: World Thinking Day

Feb. 24: The Game of Life

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

What's more delightful than a Girl Scout Cookie?

The 2018 Cookie Gala on March 28 at the MGM Grand!

Be a part of the excitement as GSSEM returns to the MGM Grand once again for this truly decadent event. Talented culinary artists from some of Detroit area's best restaurants will prepare desserts featuring Girl Scout cookies for the GSSEM Cookie Gala. Last year, eight of the Detroit area's finest bakers and chefs competed against each other for several awards in a tasty competition of desserts that use the beloved Girl Scout cookies.

Attendees get to taste the delicious creations, bid on great silent and live auction items, and have a truly unique experience that benefits girls! Cookie Gala proceeds benefit girls in southeastern Michigan by helping to provide them with unmatched, Girl Scout leadership experiences. Girl Scouts is where girls can be G-I-R-LS: Go-getters, Innovators, Risk-takers and Leaders!

Awards are given to the participating chefs each year for People's Choice, Judges' Choice, Girls' Choice, and CEO's Choice. You won't want to miss the signature "cookie cocktails," and cookie photo booth. Don't miss out on this deliciously unique event! Please visit gssem.org/cookiegala for updates.

Wonderful sponsorship opportunities are available! Contact **Jeni Carino**, GSSEM Development Director at (313) 870-2545 for more information!



Don't miss MALL FRENZY 2018!

Check gssem.org/calendar for the date!
Lakeside Mall

Girl Scouts in grades 4-12 know that Mall Frenzy is a MUST to attend each winter. Scouts in grades 4-12 spend the entire night (into the morning!) locked in Lakeside Mall with a whirlwind of friends, music, shopping, food, fun and activities! Nearly 1,900 Girl Scouts attended our "Girls Night Out"

themed party in 2017! Girls had a blast hanging out with their friends and earning badges while learning about women's health, staying fit and eating for beauty. Female doctors, nutritionists and experts in women's health were role models to girls while earning their badges.

Everyone enjoyed getting pampered by mini-make-overs, hair chalking, airbrush tattoos and having their nails done. Whether they sang the night away or danced the night away, photo booth pictures captured it all. Other fun activities included being a fashion designer for the night, using toilet paper during the Toilet Paper Fashion Show, and applying their detective skills during the QR Code Scavenger Hunt.

Girls aren't going to want to miss all that is in store for 2018 Mall Frenzy! Stay tuned to gssem.org/calendar for the date, new theme, and the opportunities that exist for volunteers.



GSSEM FIRST Robotics Expo

March 3
Oakland Mall

Nearly 100 teams will show off their hard work and creative STEM skills at the GSSEM FIRST Robotics Expo in 2018!

This year, the FIRST of the FIRST teams will take on water-based challenges: **Hydro Dynamics** for FIRST Lego League (FLL) teams and **Aqua Adventure** for Junior FIRST Lego League (JFLL) teams. These teams have FUN with STEM: JFLL teams are for girls in grades K-3, and FLL teams are for girls in grades 4-6. Adult coaches are needed, too.

Girls have been challenged to think like scientists and engineers by choosing and solving a real-world problem using LEGO technology. The FLL/Hydro Dynamics teams will make a splash by learning all about water--how we find it, transport it, use it, and dispose of it. The JFLL/Aqua Adventure teams are navigating uncharted waters to find out where the water in our daily life comes from, and what happens on its way to us!

FUNDING AVAILABLE

Thanks to funding from our generous sponsors, GSSEM will purchase a newly formed JFLL and FLL team's registration and LEGO materials and returning teams are eligible to receive additional supplies. To learn more about forming a team, please visit gssem.org/FIRST or contact **Chris Nichols** at cnichols@gssem.org for additional information.



Girl Scout Week is March 11-17!

Girl Scout Week is celebrated each March, starting with Girl Scout Sunday and ending with Girl Scout Sabbath on a Saturday. It is always marked with the celebration of Girl Scouts' birthday on March 12. Girl Scout Sunday and Girl Scout Sabbath gives girls an opportunity to attend their place of worship and be recognized as Girl Scouts!



Mark your calendars for the 2018 Annual Meeting

March 17, 2018
Michigan State University
Management Education Center, Troy

The GSSEM corporate membership, comprised of board members, board development committee members, and council delegates will elect officers, directors at large, members of the Board Development Committee. Delegates and alternates to the national convention will also be elected. Learn more at gssem.org/annualmeeting.

Important Dates:

- Mar. 1:** Deadline to submit Gold/Silver Final Reports
- Mar. 3:** GSSEM FIRST Robotics Expo @ Oakland Mall
- Mar. 4:** Moxie Talks
- TBD:** Mall Frenzy
- Mar. 11-17:** Girl Scout Week
- Mar. 17:** Annual Meeting
- Mar. 28:** Cookie Gala

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!



Let's hear it for Girl Scout volunteers!

The month of April is all about recognizing Girl Scout volunteers! Without volunteers, the fun, adventure and wonder of Girl Scouting could not exist. Volunteers give countless hours to mentor, inspire, and help girls discover the world around them. Whether in direct service to girls as Troop Leaders or Co-Leaders, or as volunteers who help to support and guide Council operations by service as board and committee members, volunteers make significant impacts on the Girl Scouting experience and in the lives of girls.

GSSEM is thankful for the invaluable contributions and dedication of our volunteers to Girl Scouting and the thousands of girls we serve. A BIG thank you to all our volunteers for helping fulfill our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who help make the world a better place.



Join the celebration

Celebrate the accomplishments of our Silver and Gold Award recipients and special recognitions of graduating seniors, and recipients of the Tammie Murray and Jennifer Barnum Spirit Awards at our **Honor Reception** on April 29, 2018. Join us as we announce the 2018 GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction. Each Gold Award recipient will be awarded a \$500 scholarship and the GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction will be granted a \$2500 scholarship. All Silver and Gold Final Reports must be submitted to GSSEM by March 1, to be included in the 2018 Honor Reception.

Save the date for the Volunteer Recognition Awards Luncheon

Don't miss the celebration of all our recipients of GSUSA Volunteer National Awards at our annual recognition luncheon on March 17. Check gssem.org/calendar for details.

Our Chalet—A Victorian High Tea

April 21, 2018

12-3 pm

**St. John Fisher University Parish
3665 Walton Blvd.
Auburn Hills, MI 48326**



This three-course Victorian High Tea Luncheon benefits Our Chalet in Abelboden, Switzerland and is sponsored by Friends of Our Chalet, USA and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and Girl Scouts. WAGGGS is a diverse voluntary movement dedicated to girls and young women from 146 countries around the world. WAGGGS holds advocacy and leadership events at Our Chalet in Abelboden, Switzerland and four other centers around the world. **Keep watching gssem.org/calendar for details including announcement of the 2018 speaker!**

Camp Open Houses offer a sneak peak of summer fun!

Need a little help deciding which camp to attend? Tour the facilities and get the scoop on all the fun that awaits you. Don't miss the Camp Hawthorn Hollow or the Camp Playfair Open Houses this spring! They will be listed in the 2018 Compass (mailed to all homes in the winter and found online at gssem.org/compass) and on the GSSEM calendar at gssem.org/calendar.

Camp Playfair:

Scenic Camp Playfair is located in Lexington, Michigan on the beautiful shores of Lake Huron and offers troops a uniquely different troop camping experience.

- Tour the grounds, cabins, and A-Frames
- Walk the beach of beautiful Lake Huron
- Play GaGa Ball, Tetherball, and outdoor games
- Campfire, S'mores, Crafts, Games, & Songs
- FREE EVENT - No pre-registration required

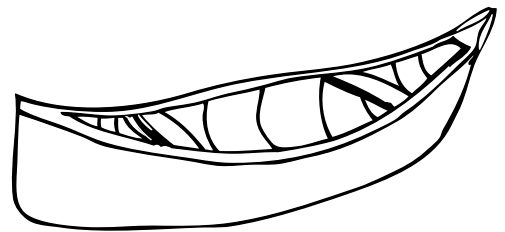
Camp Hawthorn Hollow:

Spend some time exploring the 330 acres of wetlands, forests, fields, and adventure!

- Meet the summer camp counselors
- Tour the grounds, cabins, villages, and Handi Hall
- OPEN SWIM at the pool (K-Adult)
- Play GaGa Ball, Giant Checkers, Giant Tic Tac Toe, outdoor games and rest in the Hammock Village
- Campfire, S'mores, Crafts, Games, & Songs
- FREE EVENT - No pre-registration required

If you can't make it to the Open House, don't worry! Personal tours of Camp Hawthorn Hollow or Camp Playfair are available upon request. To schedule a tour of Camp Hawthorn Hollow, contact Camp Director Mary Beffa at mbeffa@gssem.org. To schedule a tour of Camp Playfair, contact Site Manager/Ranger Jeff Grattan at jgrattan@gssem.org.

More information about Camp Open Houses and GSSEM Camps can be found annually in *Compass: A Guide to Camping and Outdoor Education Programs*. *Compass* is in every GSSEM service center, mailed to homes, and online at gssem.org/compass.



Important Dates:

Apr. 9: Cookie Season ends (Troop Rewards due!)

Apr. 21: Our Chalet Victorian Tea

Apr. 22: Moxie Talks

Apr. 28: My Promise, My Faith Day for Daisy, Brownie, and Junior Scouts

Apr. 29: Honor Awards Ceremony

Apr. 29: Camp Playfair Open House from 1-4 pm

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

Let us hear you! Join the Girl Advisory Board

GAB Meeting on May 20, 2018

Girls in grades 6-12: Here's your chance to be the voice of more than 24,000 girls throughout southeast Michigan! GSSEM's Girl Advisory Board (GAB) was created to give older girls the opportunity to develop leadership skills, have fun, and represent girls throughout southeast Michigan!

GAB girls provide girls' voices to GSSEM's operations, programs, and policies in support of Council goals. Check out a GAB meeting and share your creative ideas, your passion for Girl Scouts, and help ensure that Girl Scout programs continue to be what today's girls want and need! Not sure if you can make the commitment? GAB meets only about four times a year (on Sundays!), and participates in program support, and represents girls at Board meetings and events. Best of all, make new friends and HAVE FUN!

Keep checking gssem.org/calendar for the latest GAB happenings or contact Caroline Feathers at cfeathers@gssem.org.



Early renewal kicks off May 1!

Let's keep this Girl Scout party going! Get a jump on the upcoming Girl Scout year and renew early. Early renewal starts May 1 and runs through June 12, 2018. Renewing your troop's memberships is easy and quick. You can renew all members of your troop online, in one place and in the same transaction.

Need help? Visit gssem.org/learning and view the Supplemental Learning Module (SLaM) on Managing your Member Profile for step-by-step instructions.



**THERE IS POWER
IN EVERY
G.I.R.L.**

Unleash it at Girl Scouts.

Cookie Rewards are coming!

Girls who participate in the cookie program are eligible to earn rewards, based upon individual sales. A full list of reward items and levels can be found on the back of each cookie order card. You may also download this from the forms section at gssem.org. Cookie rewards will be available in late May and will be mailed to the troop leader's home address. More information will be sent out via eBudde (the online system that troops use to manage the cookie sale).



2018 Girl Scouts Day at Comerica Park

Bring the whole family and cheer on the Detroit Tigers at Girl Scout Day at Comerica Park! You're going to want to arrive early since girls and their families can show their Girl Scout pride with banners, waves and cheers as they march on the field before the game. A special pre-game ceremony in recognition of the 2018 Gold Award honorees will also be held (the Young Woman of Distinction even throws out the first pitch!). Each Girl Scout package includes a 2018 Detroit Tiger Girl Scout Day patch! For more information and to find out the 2018 date, keep checking gssem.org/calendar.



Meet me at the Zoo!

May 19

The Detroit Zoo is home to more than 2,500 mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates representing 280 different species. Girl Scouts can explore all 125 acres of naturalistic exhibits from aardvarks to zebras while completing a passport of activities to earn Girl Scout recognitions and awards. It's a great annual event for hundreds of Girl Scouts and volunteers alike! For more information, go to gssem.org/calendar.



Special offer for graduating seniors

Become a lifetime member of Girl Scouts by September 30, 2018 and save! This offer is available only to girls who are graduating high school in summer 2018, and completing their Ambassador years in Girl Scouting. Take advantage of this great savings today! For more information, please call 800 482 6734 or contact us at gssem.org/contact.

Important Dates:

May 1: Early Renewal Period starts!

May 19: Meet Me at the Zoo

May 20: Camp Hawthorn Hollow Open House from 2-6 pm

May 20: GAB meeting

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

Wrap up your Troop year!

Congratulations on completing another year of Girl Scouts! From bridging to year-end financial reports, here are things you need to know to end your year with ease:

- Troop Leaders are responsible for ensuring accurate and complete financial records are maintained for each troop and open for review at any time by parents of girls, district or community volunteers, or council staff.
- Supplemental learning modules (SLaMs) are available to help you complete your Troop Finance Report: Visit gssem.org/learning and look under the Group Finances section.
- Bridging ceremonies mark a girl's move from one level of Girl Scouting to another! Keep checking gssem.org/calendar for District meetings and trainings that cover bridging ceremonies or contact your Leader Support Coordinator if you need assistance.
- Is your Troop coming back next fall? Be sure to renew your volunteer role by accessing your Member



Profile through the Girl Scout community or “**MyGS Sign In**” on gssem.org.

PRAY Awards can be earned at each level

Girl Scouts has a long-standing relationship with the organization PRAY, which provides curricula for earning religious awards at all Girl Scout grade levels. Girls earn PRAY (Programs of Religious Activities with Youth) awards under the guidance and leadership of their faith community leader and parents. For more information about PRAY and training, visit praypub.org.

Find out more about GSSEM's faith-based program activities at gssem.org/faith.



Reach for the Bronze or Silver or Gold!



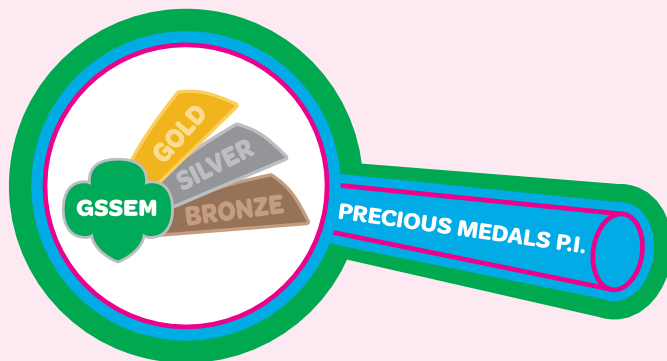
Girl Scouts have been earning their high awards since 1916! These high awards mark important milestones in a girls' journey through Girl Scouts. Whether as a Junior earning the Bronze, Cadette earning the Silver or Senior/Ambassador earning the Gold, girls get more out of Girl Scouting when they earn high awards. Earning these awards helps girls to discover what they really care about, and learn to build a team to take action toward making real change in their communities, and even the world. Our Precious Medal award provides recognition to girls who have earned all three highest awards (Bronze, Silver and Gold).

GSSEM honors medal and special award recipients at a Honor Award ceremony. Each year, GSSEM recognizes one outstanding Gold Award recipient as the GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction, who has excelled in creating a measurable and sustainable outcome in her take action project. The 2017 YWOD is **Madeline Burgin** of Warren for her Gold Award project entitled, "STEM Workshops at Green Acres Elementary School."

"Nationwide, there is an extreme shortage of women in STEM. Women make up approximately half of the U.S. college-educated workforce, but only 28.4% of science and engineering jobs are filled by women (National Science Foundation)," said Burgin who implemented an after-school STEM program at Green Acres Elementary School. "One of the most important goals for my project was to ensure that every girl had fun and was able to see STEM in a fun and positive light. On the surveys, 100% of girls from each session said that they had fun. To me, this fun aspect of my project was a huge success, because it is important in today's society that girls know STEM subjects are fun inside and outside of school."

Burgin attended Warren Mott High School and the Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center. She is a member of Troop 30877. As the GSSEM Young Woman of Distinction, Burgin also earns an additional \$2,500 scholarship provided by the generosity of the Nancy L. Philippart and Thomas F. McGrail Fund.

Ready to go for Gold? Find out more at gssem.org/highawards.



GSSEM Precious Medals P.I. Patch Program

Become a Precious Medals Private Eye! Discover and explore some of the mysteries of the Girl Scout High Awards: Bronze, Silver and Gold. In this program, Girl Scouts of ALL ages must complete five activities to earn a program patch to show that they have gained awareness and knowledge about the Girl Scout High Awards. Activities include:

- The Promise and Law Relay
- Traits-What are Private Eyes good at? (Identifying strengths)
- How do you Investigate the World? (Identifying issues)
- Explore the Awards-Bronze, Silver and Gold
- Ready, Set, Go! Envisioning the Future!

For more information visit our website at www.gssem.org/preciousmedals.

Important Dates:

- June:** Host a Bridging Ceremony!
- June 12:** Early Renewal Registration Ends
- June 30:** Troop financial reports due

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

LEGO Robotics Teams are forming now!

Girls in grades K-5 can join or create FIRST Lego League teams. Girls in grades K-3rd will form JLL teams consisting of 3-6 girls and at least two adult coaches. From August through March, teams work on their LEGO model in order to present it at GSSEM's FIRST Expo.

Girls in 4th and 5th grade can join or create FLL. FLL teams work August through October to develop their project to submit to a FIRST of Michigan qualifying tournament in November. FLL teams consist of 6-10 girls and at least two adult coaches.

Teams will show off their hard work and creative STEM skills at the GSSEM FIRST Robotics Expo in 2019!

FUNDING AVAILABLE

Thanks to funding from our generous sponsors, GSSEM will purchase a newly formed JLL and FLL team's registration and LEGO materials and returning teams are eligible for additional materials. Teams are forming now, so please visit gssem.org/FIRST or contact **Chris Nichols** at cnichols@gssem.org for additional information, or to form a team.



Make Girl Scout camp part of your summer fun!

The lazy days of summer don't have to be so lazy with Girl Scouts! In fact, summer is a great time for Girl Scout camps! Camping and outdoor education give girls opportunities to try new things, improve skills, overcome fears, and help each other. Girl Scouts' research has found that outdoor experiences increase self-esteem, sense of empowerment, accomplishment, and allow girls to step back, unwind, and let go of stress.

Whether girls choose day camp, core camp, summer resident or even troop camping, there's a camp experience for just about every girl. Find out more about available GSSEM outdoor experiences for summer at gssem.org/calendar or gssem.org/compass.

VTK – Year Plan Archived

It's time to start planning for the upcoming Girl Scout year through the Volunteer Toolkit. All VTK plans for 2018 will archive on July 1. After this date, you will see the 2019 plan, where you can start to set your new meeting dates, times, locations, and activities. You can still access previous plans through VTK after logging into **MyGS** and selecting the "Year Plan Archive" feature where you can view any past year plans you have created.



Girl Engagement Initiative provides awesome Girl Scout Experiences to thousands of girls!

GSSEM's Girl Engagement Initiative (GEI) has recruited nearly 3,000 girls to join Girl Scouts since its formation in 2015! GEI is a program for girls in K-8 to get a full Girl Scouting experience during regular school hours and receive the resources needed to participate in awesome adventures like camping. One of those great Girl Scouting adventures includes participating in the annual **Girls' Fast Track Races, Powered by Ford**—a derby car event with Ford that brings more STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) experiences to more girls.



GSSEM Brownie **Damaris Z.** is part of Girl Scouts thanks to the GEI program, and thanks to her engineering genius during Girls' Fast Track Races last year, she was one of four Girl Scouts from around the nation to race her derby car live on NBC's Today Show in New York City! Damaris and more than 200 GSSEM Brownies and Juniors, went through weeks of hands-on lessons in aerodynamics, friction, weight distribution and design from female Ford engineers. They competed at the Girls' Fast Track Races, powered by Ford, at Oakland University last October.

Not only did Damaris show off her sparkly purple car with bright pink stripes and triple exhaust pipes, she and all of the girls on the Today Show received \$5,000 scholarships from Ford to pursue their STEAM educations!



GSSEM remains committed to providing all girls the opportunity to participate in Girl Scouts. With GEI, Girl Scouts are in communities that have few traditional troops and where there may be significant barriers to joining a troop. We can bring the Girl Scout Leadership Experiences right to them!

"The Girl Engagement Program provides the resources and leaders needed for girls to participate in Scouting and fun programs like Girls Fast Track Races," said **Sara Sanders**, GSSEM Manager of Girl Engagement. "Damaris is a great example of how the program works and how Girl Scouts enables girls to practice skills in science, technology, engineering, art and math, while having a blast!"

The Girls' Fast Track Races, Powered by Ford, are held in the fall. To find out more about the Girl Engagement Initiative, contact Sanders at 313-870-2535 or ssanders@gssem.org.

Council shops close for the summer

GSSEM Council Shops will be closed from July 1-Aug. 20, 2018, but you can shop online anytime! Visit the online store at gssem.org/store.



Important Dates:

July 1: VTK year plans archive

July 1: Council Shops close for inventory

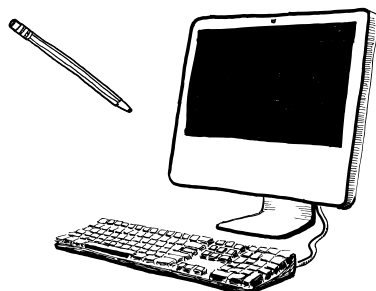
Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

Ready. Set. Lead and Learn!

Aug. 25, 2018

Lead and Learn is where volunteers who work directly with girls get charged up and ready for the new Girl Scout year. Lead and Learn are held periodically throughout the year. Attendees participate in a breakout session on a topic of their choosing, discuss a Girl Scouting value, and learn practical ways to bring that value to life in their Girl Scout role. Sessions will be held at all GSSEM Service Centers.

For details check out Lead and Learn on the calendar of events at gssem.org/calendar.



Save the date for the 18th Annual FORE! the Girls Golf Classic!

Aug. 20, 2018*

GSSEM's annual golf outing returns on Monday, Aug. 20, 2018. Grab your colleagues, friends, fellow Girl Scouts. The outing features an 18-hole scramble, lunch, silent auction and dinner. Prizes and awards for longest drive, closest to the pin and more will also be presented. Come enjoy a great round of golf in the great outdoors—all FORE the Girls!

Wonderful sponsorship opportunities are available! Contact **Jeni Carino**, GSSEM Development Director at (313) 870-2545 for more information!

*Date subject to change. Check gssem.org/calendar for current information.



There's so much C,S,A Girl Scouts can do!

As girls progress through their Girl Scouting experience, so do the opportunities and awards! Now is the time for Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors to shine and earn scholarships, explore passions, show off leadership skills, and make a real difference in the world.

Girl Advisory Board (GAB): Develop your leadership skills and represent more than 24,000 girls throughout southeast Michigan!

High Awards: Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards are the highest achievements that Girl Scouts can earn. Check gssem.org/calendar for training dates to get started on creating Take Action projects that help change the world!

Cadette Program Aide (PA): To earn the PA award, Cadettes must earn at least one Leadership in Action award, take a training course, and work directly with younger girls over the course of six sessions.

Volunteer In Training (ViT): To earn a ViT award, Seniors/Ambassadors work with a mentor and Daisy, Brownie or Junior scouts for 3-6 months. Complete a council-sponsored leadership course and create a journey or badge-based activity for younger scouts with 4 or more sessions.

Counselor In Training (CiT): To earn a CiT award, Seniors/Ambassadors mentor younger girls in a camp setting as they build skills toward becoming a camp counselor. Take a leadership course and work with younger girls over the course of the camp season. Watch COMPASS for more information.

Destinations: Travel the nation or the globe representing Girl Scouts! The Destinations program offers troops and girls many ultimate adventures. Keep checking <http://forgirls.girlscouts.org/travel/take-a-trip/destinations/> for this year's exciting locations and start packing!

Moxie Talks: Moxie Talks is a series of short, thought provoking, prepared talks that are focused around leadership principles that will motivate girls to change the world.



Important Dates:

Aug. 20: Golf Classic FORE! the Girls

Aug. 21: Council Shops reopen

Aug. 26: Lead and Learn

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

Get ready for another year of Girl Scouts

Back to school time is back to Girl Scouts time. Before long, troops will be meeting again and leaders will be helping girls plan their year of adventure, discovery and fun in Girl Scouts. Here are a few things you can do to get off to a great start:

- Update your troop information – Log in at **MyGS Sign In** on gssem.org. Choose the ‘Troops’ tab and select ‘View/Edit Troop information.’ You can edit the troop information by updating any of the information in white boxes. Click save when you are done. Need help? Visit gssem.org/learning and view the Supplemental Learning Modules (SLaMs) on Managing your Member Profile for step-by-step instructions.
- Refresh any necessary trainings – Most of the required and optional trainings for GSSEM volunteers are available online. Just visit gssem.org/learning. There are training videos and SLaMs on everything from Girl Scouting 101 to opening a troop bank account to troop organizing.
- Set up your new year in the Volunteer Tool Kit (VTK) – Just visit the **MyGS Sign In** and choose Volunteer Toolkit to get started. Need help? Find loads of SLaMs with step-by-step instructions at gssem.org/learning.



It's Back to Troop time!

School is back in session and it's also time for another year of Girl Scouts fun to begin anew! As you head back to troop, remember that GSSEM offers plenty of resources for new AND returning Troop Leaders. Be sure and check out page 6 of this issue of Connect for a full run-down. Any questions? Call your Troop Support Specialist or find one at (800) 482-6734, and select the option for Troop Support.



International River Crossing: Creating international friendships for more than 50 years!

Sept. 29, 2018

For more than 50 years, Girl Scouts have enjoyed the international day of friendship at International River Crossing! It is GSSEM's premier legacy event! Join THOUSANDS of sister Girl Scouts and Canadian Girl Guides as they fill the banks of the St. Clair River in Marine City. This family-friendly event in Nautical Mile Park is open to girls of all program levels and is filled with power-packed programs.

Highlights of the River Crossing each year include the parade of banners and of course, SWAPS! What's a SWAP? Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere (SWAP) are all the rage each year, as girls exchange their creative keepsakes!

Once you register for this event with GSSEM, crossing the border to Canada is FREE—with the proper documentation. (Adults need a passport, or enhanced driver's license; children under 16 only need a birth certificate). Whether you cross the border or not, there's fun to be had on both sides!

More information about the 2018 event can be found at gssem.org/rivercrossing.



GSUSA offers awesome parenting resources, Back to School tips!

Parents are exposed to many Back to School tips this time of year, but Girl Scouts offers some online resources that you DEFINITELY want to bookmark. There is straightforward, realistic, and proven parenting advice on everything and anything you might deal with when raising girls.



For instance, did you know a study showed that one in ten American girls had been catcalled before her 11th birthday? (They offer tips to protect her against this behavior). Think about when you were in school. Remember when reports were sent home? It can be a pretty emotional time (good or bad) for her and the site offers tips about having important and constructive conversations with her that will make that school year milestone less tricky.

The website offers these and other topics including:

- **Raising Girls With Confidence:** In a World of Boys' Clubs, Give her One of her Own
- **Raising Girls to Be Leaders:** 3 Ways to Unleash Her Inner Woman
- **Help Your Daughter Be Happy & Healthy:** Exploring the Great Outdoors (No matter where you live)
- **Help Her Succeed in School:** Your No-Rush After-School Plan
- **Stand With Your Girl Against Bullying:** Is She Being Bullied? Listen for These Signs

Go to girlscouts.org and click on FOR ADULTS at the top and Parent/Raising Awesome Girls on the left hand side!

Important Dates:

- Back to School Recruitment events all month
- International River Crossing this month
- Fall Product Sale Training begins
- Troop Camping

Visit gssem.org/calendar for details and to register for these and more great events and happenings this month!

The Element of ...

15 24.7.365
W
Wonder!



What's **YOUR** Element?

2016-2017 Girl Scout Workshops:

- Daisies Entertainment Journey Quest
- Brownies
 - Wonders of Water! Journey Quest
 - Bugs
 - Senses
 - Inventor
- Juniors
 - Get Moving! Journey Quest
 - Digital Photography
 - Flowers
 - Detective
 - Entertainment
- Cadettes Breathe! Journey Quest
- Seniors Sow What! Journey Quest



www.Mi-Sci.org

CALL 313.577.8400 x428 TO BOOK TODAY!



MI.Science.Center



mi sci



mi sci

The Michigan Science Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Gingerworks

Arts and Crafts Classes

Janine Herron

Enrichment Director

j9herron@yahoo.com

(586) 219-4491



We come to you and bring all supplies needed!

All classes are 1 hour long

\$13 per child

Enrichment Classes

Private Parties/Birthday Parties

Scout Troops

Classes:

Gingerbread Houses with

Halloween, Christmas or Easter Themes

Stained Glass

Plaster Playtime

Wood Toys

Sweet Eats

Presto Magic

Create a Candle

DISCOVER **SCIENCE.**
DISCOVER **HISTORY.**
DISCOVER **YOU.**

Spark girls' curiosity in science, history, and technology with touring exhibitions and immersive planetarium shows. Choose from a variety of badge workshops and overnight programs.



**SLOAN MUSEUM
LONGWAY PLANETARIUM**

Register online at SloanLongway.org
or call 810.237-3409

MICHIGAN BALLET THEATRE presents THE NUTCRACKER

December 15 - 17, 2017



*Girl Scout Discounted Ticket Prices:

Adults/Leaders: \$16.00

Seniors & Children 12 and under: \$14.00

Group rate 20 or more: \$12.00, Girl Scouts: \$10

SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL OFFER FOR GIRL SCOUTS

Purchase a ticket at discounted Girl Scout rate of \$10 and receive a festive Nutcracker Patch and a complimentary ballet class at the Rochester School of Dance, 1800 S. Livernois, Rochester, MI 48307

For Ticket Information Call (248) 652-3117
M-F 4:30-8:30 PM

Avondale Performing Arts Center, Auburn Hills, MI

Join us on stage immediately following the Saturday matinee performance for the "Kingdom of Sweets Walk" Bring your camera and enjoy this photo and autograph opportunity of you and your favorite Nutcracker dancer. "Kingdom of Sweets Walk" is \$5.00 per ticket



Bring Your Troop Roller Skating!!



The New Rink

Roller Sports Complex

50625 Van Dyke ~ Shelby Twp.
(586) 731-5006 ~ www.thenewrink.com



- Roller Skating
- Regular/Inline Rental
- Fun Patch
- Bounce Zone
- Arcade
- Banquet Center



Customized
Packages for groups
Large
or Small

For pricing information & available dates call Denise Koziara 810-923-8003



Produced by Feld Entertainment



EXCLUSIVE SCOUT DISCOUNTS
OCTOBER 12-15



Little Caesars
arena

To purchase tickets
or for more information, contact

313.471.3099 • Group.Sales@OlyEnt.com

..... SAVE THE DATE



JANUARY 25 - FEBRUARY 4, 2018



Give Your Troop The Gift of Great Manners!

Daisy Brownie Junior Cadette Senior Ambassador

This is the perfect opportunity for your girls to meet the requirements for their petals, try-it badges or badges while having fun! For more specific class details please visit the website at www.TheEtiquetteGuru.com and review the 'Scout It Out' section under the Class Options Tab for the class best suited for your troop. Please note that the all important one hour '**Dining Etiquette**' course is appropriate for any age group and will prepare the girls to dine properly in public.

Girl Scout Daisies: 'Traditional Manners' with an emphasis on 'Respect of Self and Others'

Girl Scout Brownies: The focus of this class is 'Making a Good First Impression', 'Proper Handshakes', 'Friendships' and 'Telephone Manners'

Girl Scout Juniors: The many and varied aspects of becoming a 'Social Butterfly' are explored...like 'Party Protocol and Poise'

Girl Scout Cadettes: We discuss 'Verbal/Non-verbal Communication', 'Electronic Etiquette' and 'Social Media'

Girl Scout Seniors: 'Business Etiquette' where we discuss 'Interviewing Techniques' and 'Dating Protocol'

Girl Scout Ambassadors: 'The Dinner Party' with instruction on 'American/Continental Dining Styles' and 'Basic/Formal Dining Situations'

Call **The Etiquette Guru, LLC** at 1-866-273-0728 to schedule your appointment today. Classes will take place wherever/whenever is most convenient for you.

Great Manners are the key to future success!

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF **SCIENCE**

Michigan's Museum of Natural History **Girl Scout Workshops at Cranbrook**

Cadette Workshops
Special Agent (CSI)

Junior Workshops
Flowers
Jeweler
Detective (CSI)

Brownie Workshops
Bugs
Hiker
Home Scientist
Potter
Senses
Water

Daisy Workshop
Use Resources Wisely

Overnight Workshops
All Scout Science
All Scout Astronomy
Junior/Cadette CSI



For more information about
the Cranbrook Institute of
Science workshops contact:
248.645.3229

or visit
science.cranbrook.edu/
Click on *Explore Programs*



39221 Woodward Ave. • Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303

THE PARADE COMPANY DETROIT Studio Tours



Experience a behind-the-scenes look at
America's Thanksgiving Parade® presented by Art Van,
one of the Motor City's most treasured traditions.

Fun for kids of all ages!

For tour reservations, contact:

tours@theparade.org or call 313-432-7833!

www.theparade.org

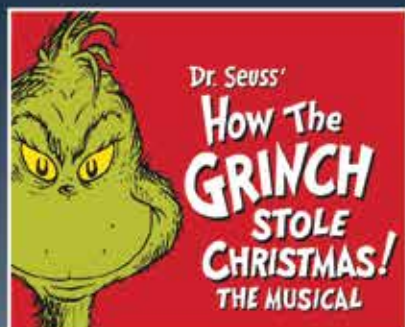
The Parade Company
9500 Mt. Elliott,
Studio A
Detroit, MI 48211



PATCHES
Available for
Scout Troops

GIRL SCOUTS EVENTS

WITH OLYMPIA ENTERTAINMENT



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18
5:00 PM



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25
2:00 PM



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26
6:30 PM



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30
7:30 PM



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3
2:00 PM



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21
7:30 PM



FRIDAY, MARCH 16
7:30 PM



FRIDAY, MARCH 30
7:30 PM



SATURDAY, APRIL 28
2:00 PM

*MISS NELSON IS MISSING IS AT THE CITY THEATRE

All tickets include a patch.
For pricing and details, call 313.471.3099
OlympiaEntertainment.com/ScoutEvents

Earn your badges with Oakland County Parks



Badge Days offered for Daisies, Brownies, Jr. Girl Scouts and Cadettes



- Offered on Saturdays
- Morning and afternoon sessions
- \$7/scout, \$3/adult
- Pre-registration with payment suggested – sessions fill quickly!
- Hands-on activities
- Fulfills all requirements for the badge
- Most programs include snack & craft
- Badge Field Trip dates can be arranged, including Girl Scout Journeys



Complete schedule at
OaklandCountyParks.com



**OAKLAND
COUNTY PARKS**

Geiser-Weaver Crafts

Your Mobile Art Solution

Roxie Geiser-Weaver will come to your meeting location, at the time & day you desire to provide your girls with a fun workshop.

- For Brownies: Potter & Painter badges
- For Juniors: Jewelry & Drawing badges
- Pottery lessons for all ages
- New holiday themed workshops

See our website for additional information:

www.geiser-weaver.com

Email us:

geiserweaver@gmail.com

Call us:

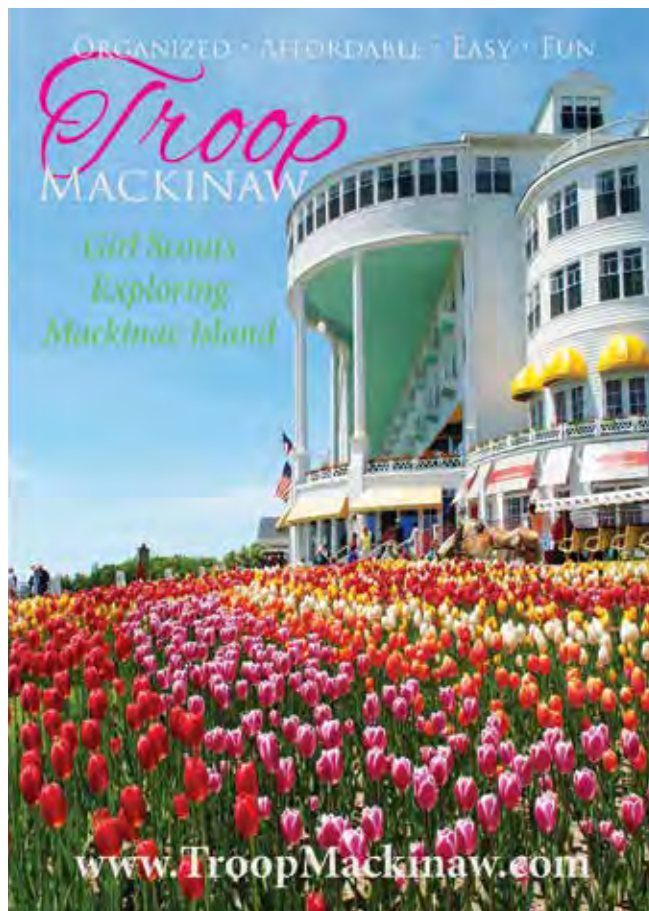
616-745-9624



ORGANIZED • AFFORDABLE • EASY • FUN

Troop MACKINAW

Girl Scouts
Exploring
Mackinac Island



www.TroopMackinaw.com

Belightful.

mobile yoga we come to U.

Yoga
Meditation &
Mindfulness
Programs



Customized for • Daisies • Brownies •
• Juniors • Cadettes • Multi-age Troops •

Discover Yoga • Have Fun • Receive a Patch

Reserve a Date for Your Troop
Day, Evening & Weekend Times Are Available

(248) 560.7744 ext. 3
www.belightfullyoga.com

Be light. Be full. Be U.

It's all about the Socializing!

DAISIES - Being responsible, Respect myself and others, Respect authority

BROWNIES - Making friends & being a friend

JUNIORS - Social Butterfly - Special occasions

CADETTES, SENIORS, AMBASSADORS

ALL
IN
ONE } • Socializing Meet / Greet
• Appearance and Image
• Social Etiquette
• Dinner Dates with friends

We are celebrating our
20th Anniversary
Book Early for 20% OFF
of your Workshop

WE BRING
THE FUN
TO YOU!

CharmElle School

(810) 695-9458

charmelleschool@comcast.net

CERTIFIED ETIQUETTE INSTRUCTOR

Business listings

Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan would like to thank all of the organizations and businesses who purchased advertisements. Their support helped make this book possible!

As with all activities, when patronizing these advertisers, please check the Safety Activity Check Points & Volunteer Essentials concerning programs and adult/girl ratio. Council authorization for participation may be required.

The inclusion of these paid advertisements featuring non-Girl Scout organizations, businesses and activities, products, and opportunities does not reflect an endorsement by or collaboration with Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan.

All American Tshirt Printing Field Trip!

Do something exciting and fun! All American will teach your group about the art of custom Screen Printing! Each guest will print their own T-shirt. The T-shirt design printed will be specifically created and personalized for your group! Nobody else in the world will have a shirt exactly like yours! T-shirts are oven cured and will be ready to take home that same day! We also provide a snack and beverage for our guests! Fun, education, snacks too!! Leaders/Trip Planners FYI Groups of 12-24 field trip duration 30 minutes. It's fast but it's a Blast! **www.AATshirts.com • 586-997-2400.**

Charmelle School

Charmelle School workshops are tailored to help your Girl Scouts meet the standards of life's important skills. Lessons on Friendship, Respect, Social Skills, Etiquette, and Inner-beauty are essential in their everyday life, as well as a successful future.

We bring the fun and supplies to your meeting location. Please see our ad to find out what badge your troop will earn with our workshops. FUN PATCH INCLUDED. Please call **810-695-9458** to schedule your workshop.

Cranbrook Institute of Science

Our natural history museum offers many badge workshops and overnight events. We accommodate groups up to 150 people. Customized workshops are available for scouts of all ages. To learn more about scouting opportunities at the Cranbrook Institute of Science, visit our website at **science.cranbrook.edu/explore/programs/scouts-cranbrook** or contact our Scout Coordinator at **248-645-3229**.

Geiser-Weaver Crafts

Geiser-Weaver Crafts - your Mobile Art Solution, will come to your meeting location, at the time & day you desire to provide your girls with a fun workshop. For Brownies we offer the Potter & Painter badges, for Juniors we offer the Jewelry & Drawing badges. Pottery lessons for all ages. New holiday workshops. See our website for additional information: **www.geiser-weaver.com**, email me at: **geiserweaver@gmail.com**, or call me: **616-745-9624**.

Howell Nature Center

The Howell Nature Center is the largest facility of its kind in the state of Michigan! Spanning over 270 acres, the center features opportunities to explore Livingston County's only zoo, high adventure programs, and multiple camp experiences. Visitors of all ages enjoy extensive day use areas which include our 1,500 sq. ft. Alexandria's Treehouse and Nature Scape in addition to numerous hiking trails, all while connecting with Nature. Scout badge workshops, adventure outings, overnight lodging are also offered. Scouts can customize a program to suit their needs. Girl Scouts badge workshops are offered year-round. Visit **howellnaturecenter.org** or call **517-546-0249** for more information.

Meadow Brook Hall

Visit Meadow Brook Hall and step back in time as you tour this National Historic Landmark. Meadow Brook Hall inspires and educates with its gracious rooms and collections of fine and decorative art. Programs are offered weekdays after school and Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., and may be available on half days or days off from school. For more information or to book a tour, please call **(248) 364-6252** or e-mail **MByouth@oakland.edu**.

Michigan Ballet Theatre

The Michigan Ballet Theatre is an energetic, young company committed to bringing cultural enrichment to audiences throughout Michigan. It is made up of talented dancers drawn from an open audition, and its home is the Rochester School of Dance. In addition to regular performances with local symphonies and an annual performance of the Nutcracker, MBT offers lecture demonstrations and performs for civic and cultural organizations. For information regarding auditions and classes at the Rochester School of Dance, please call **248-652-3117**.

Michigan Science Center

The Michigan Science Center (MiSci) inspires curious minds of all ages to discover, explore and appreciate science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in a creative, dynamic learning environment. The Science Center offers a full array of scouting programs and overnight adventures for both boys and girls from fall through spring. Visit **www.Mi-Sci.org** for a complete list of programs.

Olympia Entertainment

Olympia Entertainment is one of the country's most diverse sport and entertainment companies in the mid-west. The company owns and operates Detroit's Fox Theatre, the intimate City Theatre, books and operates Joe Louis Arena and books Comerica Park. Olympia Entertainment also handles business operations for the Detroit Red Wings and collaborates with the Detroit Tigers. For more information on group tickets please call **313-471-3099**.

Sloan Museum & Longway Planetarium

Discover history, science, and technology with immersive hands-on learning experiences on the campus of the Flint Cultural Center. Spark your girls' curiosity with touring exhibitions, including *Adventures with Clifford The Big Red Dog* in Fall 2017 and *Be The Astronaut* in Winter 2018. Earn a badge in a few hours, or spend the night in the museum or planetarium for more fun! Register online at **SloanLongway.org** or call **810.237.3409**.

The Parade Company

Come to The Parade Company and take a magical journey through the Parade studios. You will experience a behind-the-scenes look at America's Thanksgiving Parade® presented by Art Van! Learn about the Parade's interesting history and traditions; see all of the floats up close; and see the unique collection of papier-mâché heads. You will also get to pass by the costume shop and see where characters come to life. For more information visit: **www.theparade.org** or call **313.923.7400**.

Troop Mackinaw

Troop Mackinaw is the premiere Mackinac Island Girl Scout event. This fun & affordable weekend is the complete Mackinac Island Scout package. No other package offers so much for so little. Bring the whole troop or just mother & daughter! For more information visit **www.TroopMackinaw.com**.

TWO Nature Centers - Oakland County Parks & Recreation

Red Oaks Nature Center in Madison Heights and Wint Nature Center in Clarkston offer hands-on exhibits, activities, field trips and educational programs. Both also offer Scout Badge Days – interactive sessions designed specifically for scouts of all ages and ranks. Scouts complete all requirements to earn their badge. Sessions are offered on Saturdays with choice of morning or afternoon, and include hands-on activities and snack. Badge Day Field Trips can be arranged for groups of 10 or more if the scheduled programs are not convenient. Visit **OaklandCountyParks.com** for details.



Sneak a Peek of the Past

Explore a secret passage, bring a teddy bear to tea, or plan a visit during the holidays. No matter what they choose, your girls will have a great time at Meadow Brook Hall.

For more information or to book a tour, please call (248) 364-6254 or e-mail mbyouth@oakland.edu



A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK



Meadow Brook

meadowbrookhall.org

GSSEM locations

GSSEM is the provider of premier leadership experiences for girls all over southeast Michigan. We serve more than (check number) girls and adults in Oakland, Macomb, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Sanilac, and parts of Wayne, Monroe, and Livingston Counties. ***For the most up-to-date information about what's happening at GSSEM, visit gssem.org.***

Service Centers, Council Shops & Camps

Clinton Township Service Center / Council Shop

42800 Garfield
Clinton Township, MI 48038
800-482-6734

NEW! Detroit Service Center/Council Shop

1333 Brewery Park Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48207
800-482-6734

Flint Service Center / Council Shop

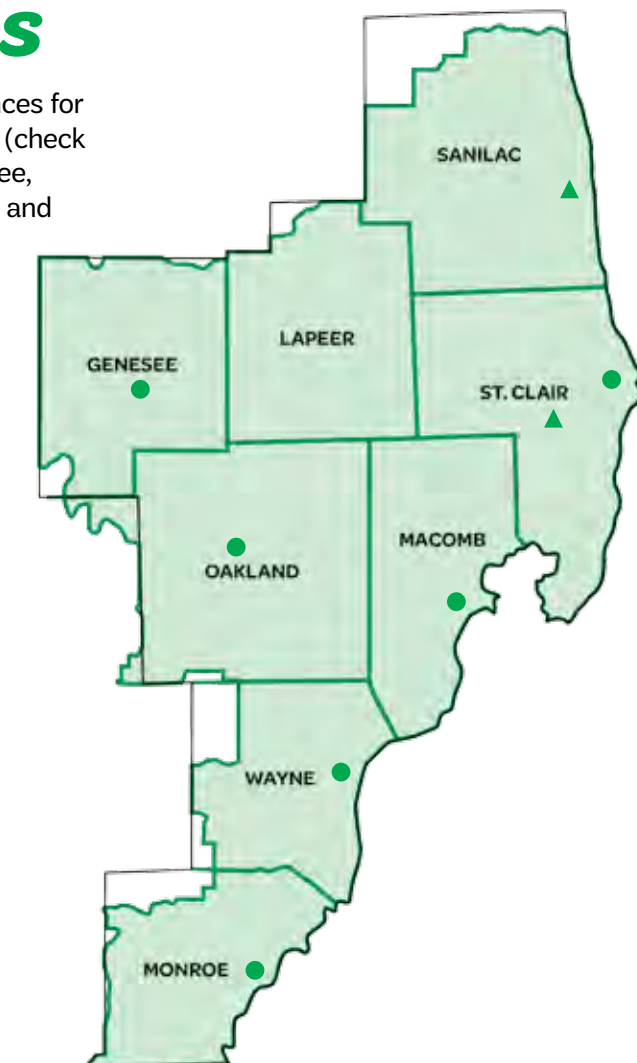
Plaza One Building
111 E. Court Street, Suite D
Flint, Michigan 48502
800-482-6734

Port Huron Service Center / Council Shop

2186 Water Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
800-482-6734

White Lake Service Center / Council Shop / Museum

8545 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48386
800-482-6734



Monroe Outreach Office

28 S. Macomb Street
Monroe, MI 48161

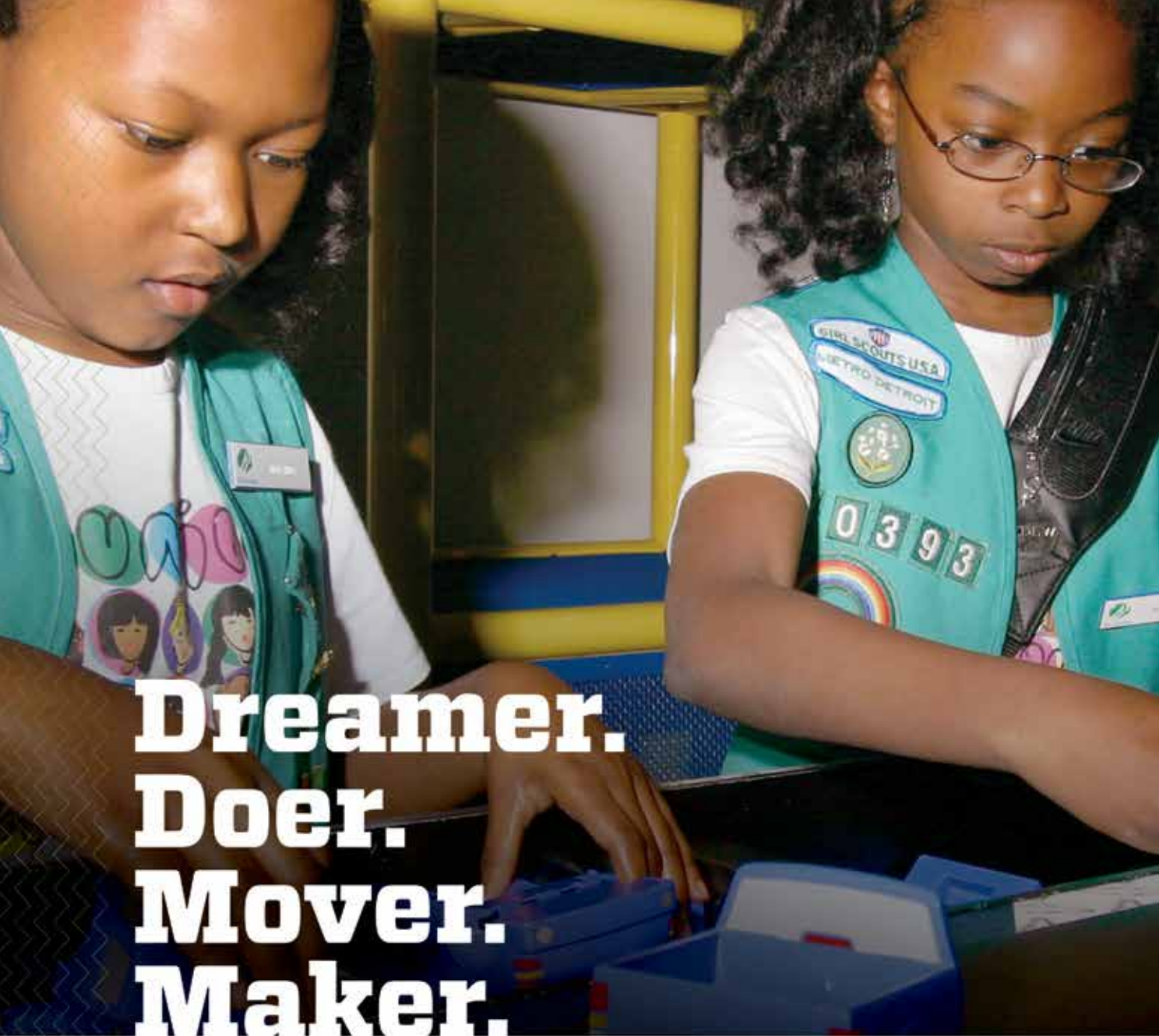
Camp Hawthorn Hollow

1046 Mayer Road
Columbus, MI 48063

Camp Playfair

3135 Lakeshore Road
Lexington, MI 48450

To reach any of our offices, please call 800-482-6734.



Dreamer. Doer. Mover. Maker.

Inspire your Girl Scouts to help make the world a better place.

For life-changing experiences that build courage, confidence and character, plan your next adventure to the place that celebrates ordinary people who did extraordinary things. At The Henry Ford, your troop will discover America — its culture, inventions, people and can-do spirit — and hundreds of hands-on ways to explore it.

For group reservations, contact 313.982.6001, press 1, or email reservationcenter@thehenryford.org.

» Get going today at thehenryford.org.

*Take it forward.**

the
**Henry
Ford**



1333 Brewery Park Blvd.
Suite 100
Detroit, MI 48207

**Visit us
online at
gssem.org**



www.facebook.com/gssem



www.twitter.com/gssem



www.youtube.com/gssem1



www.pinterest.com/gssem