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girl scouts of northern illinois

Around GSNI

News for Families

May 2024

Upcoming Closures: All GSNI Resource Centers and the Build-A-Bear Workshop located inside our South Elgin location will be closed and GSNI staff members will be unavailable on Wednesday, May 8, due to an all-day staff meeting and again on Monday, May 27, for Memorial Day. Our Freeport Resource Center will be closed on Saturday, May 18, due to a council event. The Build-A-Bear Workshop will also be closed for an event on June 1.

A Note from Kari

Hello, GSNI! A huge thank you to everyone who attended our 2024 Annual Meeting! I loved spending time with our dedicated volunteers and was happy to see so many youth Girl Scout members in attendance. I also want to take a moment and recognize our 2024 class of Gold Award Girl Scouts and GSNI Scholarship Recipients. We are so proud of their tremendous accomplishments and cannot wait to see how they will continue to make the world a better place for years to come!

Please don't forget our camp payment deadline has been extended which means you still have time to register your Girl Scout for an amazing summer experience at Camp Dean and Camp McCormick.

Yours in Girl Scouting,
Kari L. Rockwell

Volunteer Spotlight

"I'm a female engineer in my career, so it's important to me for girls to see that they can do anything they want to in life. Volunteering gives me that opportunity. As a bonus, volunteering has also allowed me to make new friendships as an adult, and I am having so much fun!" Hear more from Pamela Whitfield, our most recent Volunteer Spotlight Award recipient.

HEAR MORE

2024 Cookie Program Updates

Congratulations to the top three GSNI entrepreneurs in our 2024 Girl Scout Cookie Program!

Zoey C., Cadette, Troop 1960, Arapaho – 4,075 packages
Lydia M., Junior, Troop 2055, Kaskaskia – 3,761 packages
Liliana P., Senior, Troop 1821, Spring River - 3,726 packages

See our website and Rallyhood for more top Girl Scout entrepreneurs, top entrepreneurial troops, and service units that met and exceeded their cookie goals.

READ MORE

Resource Center News

Visit any of our Resource Centers and check out the new Spring line of clothing from Girl Scouts of the USA. We've got all the bright and fun colors you are looking for to welcome the Spring season! Come in between May 6–10 and "pluck a duck" to receive a special discount on your whole purchase.

SHOP NOW

AANHPI Fun Patch

May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month! The Girl Scout AANHPI fun patch is designed for Girl Scouts of all levels and their leaders, to celebrate the cultural richness of all people in the U.S. whose ancestors came from the Pacific Islands, Hawaii, or the Asian diaspora, and to acknowledge the many contributions of the AANHPI community to our nation!

EARN PATCH

Bring a Friend to GSNI's Summer Camp & Save

Camp Buddies have s'more fun outdoors! Bring a friend to camp this summer for a special deal. Campers will receive $25 off their final payment towards camp (or a GSNI program credit), and their Camp Buddy will receive $25 off their new camp registration final payment!

Camp Buddy promo excludes troop camp, family camp, and Camp Dean day camp. A Camp Buddy must complete a new registration for the 2024 GSNI summer camp season. This discount is for one session only, and credits will be applied after camper registers. All parties will receive credits at the same time. All campers must be registered Girl Scouts. GSNI's Camp Buddies promotion is valid through May 10, 2024.

SAVE NOW!

Seasonal Programs

GSNI's Program Team and Preferred Partners have created amazing seasonal programs for Girl Scouts. Registration is now open! Spotlight on: STREAM Girls – June 22, 2024. Register by June 7, 2024.

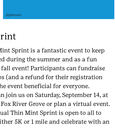
REGISTER TODAY!

2024–25 Renewal Incentives

Early Girl Scout Membership Renewal is open! Each Girl Scout youth and Girl Scout adult who renews their membership by May 31, 2024, will receive a free fun patch! Patches will be mailed directly to troop leaders with a list of recipient names. Juliette patches will be mailed directly to Juliettes.

RENEW TODAY!

National Mental Health Awareness Month



GSNI is excited to have you join us in supporting mental wellbeing during May, and we hope throughout the year. We continue to provide information, resources, and opportunities to advocate healthy choices and to encourage mental wellness practices! Please visit our Flourish webpage for more information.

LEARN MORE

20th Annual Thin Mint Sprint

GSNI's Thin Mint Sprint is a fantastic event to keep troops engaged during the summer and as a fun back-to-troop fall event! Participants can fundraise for their troops (and a refund for their registration fee) making the event beneficial for everyone. Supporters can join us on Saturday, September 14, at Lions Park in Fox River Grove or plan a virtual event. The 20th Annual Thin Mint Sprint is open to all to walk or run either 5K or 1 mile and celebrate with an after-party!

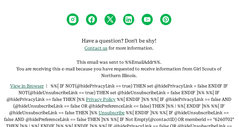
Take advantage of early bird registration and save! It's just $35 per person through July 31, which includes a t-shirt, patch, medal, swag, and (of course!) a delicious box of Girl Scout Thin Mints®. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to have fun while supporting your troop!

REGISTER NOW!

Volunteer Led Camp Committees Thank You

GSNI would like to extend appreciation and visibility to the dedicated volunteers who plan and implement a Volunteer Led Camp each summer! The unique and inclusive setting each committee creates to bring love for the outdoors, a sense of curiosity, and respect for others to each camper allows our young people to bond with others outside of their typical Girl Scout group. For more information on the available 2024 camps still open for registration, please email customercare@girlscoutnai.org.

Meet Our Summer Camp Leadership Team



Hi, I'm Honey! I love spending time in nature and wearing bright colors. In my free time, I like to read, color, do crafts, and take hikes with my dogs. I'm always looking for ways to make the world a better place and help others reach their full potential. I will be one of the Assistant Directors at both Camp Dean and Camp McCormick this summer.

Hello! I'm Unicorn! I am so happy to announce I will be one of the Assistant Camp Directors floating between Camp McCormick and Dean this summer. I've been going to camp since I was in second grade and have been a counselor and CIT counselor for the past two summers. I love working with kids and want to continue to do so for the rest of my life. At camp, I am known for having a fun time at the archery range, kayaking, and making lanyards. I cannot wait to sing my favorite camp song again!

This is me—Lady D, GSNI Program Manager and Camp McCormick Director. A lifetime of camping, hiking, kayaking, archery, high adventure (and everything else camp has to offer) throw in some STEM, crafts, and a lot of creativity, and you've got what I bring to summer camp! I am so excited to spend this summer at camp and look forward to getting to know counselors and campers alike.

I'm Cubby! I'm GSNI's Director of Program, and this summer I'll be the Camp Dean Director. I was once a Girl Scout leader and have now made a career out of working for Girl Scouts. I've had many jobs, but running camp events has always been my favorite. I'm becoming a pro at owl calling, enjoy hanging with the baby goats at Camp Dean, and love Taylor Swift.

Have a question? Don't be shy!
Contact us for more information.

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