



Council Updates- May

• Early Renewal

- Dates: June 15th- July 31st
- Renew before July 31st to qualify for the following incentives:
 - Girls Incentive- Free Patch!
 - Troop Incentive- an EXTRA 15 cents per box of cookies sold!
 - Daisy- Junior Troops must have 5 girls and 2 adults to qualify.
 - Cadette – Ambassador Troops must have 3 girls and 2 adults to qualify.
 - Service Unit Incentives-
 - July 1st: Service Units at 35% renewal will receive \$100
 - July 15th: Service Units at 55% renewal will receive \$100
 - July 31st: Service Units at 75% renewal will receive \$100
- Lifetime Members: you need to renew your role in the system in order to qualify as one of the renewed adults in your troop!
- Don't want to wait until June? You can renew now and still be counted towards your troop and service unit's incentive eligibility.
- Please note while our offices are closed, we are not receiving mail. If you need help with renewing your troop's memberships, please reach out to our Customer Care team for support at customercare@girlscoutsww.org or 1-800-541-9852.

• Annual Troop Finance Reports

- Reports will be due on **June 30th**
- All troops formed before May 1st must complete a finance report (whether or not your troop has opened a bank account).
- For resources on how to complete your Annual Troop Finance Report, Check out our website at: <https://www.girlscoutsww.org/en/for-volunteers/resources/money-earning--troop-banking/annual-troop-finance-report.html>

• Social Hours

- Join us for an unstructured social hour where you can connect with other Girl Scout volunteers, share your concerns, and brainstorm ideas for how to support your troop as we move through this virtual Girl Scout experience.
- Opportunities are being offered in the evening hours during the weeks of May 4-8 and May 18-22.
- Sign up for these opportunities here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b49aaac2fa5fb6-volunteer1>

- **gsLearn**

- New to gsLearn: Diversity & Inclusion and Event Manager Training!
 - Diversity, equity, and inclusion are core values at Girl Scouts of Western Washington. In this course, you will explore different areas of inclusion. This is not an exhaustive or complete list of ways to be inclusive. It is a reminder to get past the fear of the unknown by embracing and celebrating difference.
 - Have you wanted to become involved in Event Planning & Management for your Service Unit? Learn about timelines, checklists, marketing strategies, finance, logistics, safety, working with a leadership team and developing a quality program. A great workshop for adults who will be part of an event team.

- **Girl Scouts at Home and Virtual Event Opportunities**

- While our Girl Scout community is apart due to social distancing, Girl Scouts is not cancelled. With technology and flexible experiences, we are prepared to navigate the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have not yet visited our [Girl Scouts at Home page](#), we encourage you to check out our catalog of opportunities and resources that we have created and curated for your benefit!
- Check out our [Virtual Events Hot Sheet](#) with awesome digital opportunities for individual girls and troops to engage in unique Girl Scout experiences!

- **Virtual Troop Meeting Safety Activity Checkpoints**

- Holding virtual troop meetings creates an array of new challenges and exciting opportunities to deliver a powerful Girl Scout experience into the lives of girls. Review our new [Safety Activity Checkpoint for Virtual Troop Meetings](#) to gather tips for a successful Troop Meeting and to learn how to protect privacy online.

- **Product Program**

- This year's Cookie Sale looked very different due to COVID-19. We were left with approximately 300,000 boxes of unsold cookies because we ended the sale early in order to protect the safety and health of our girls, families, volunteers and staff. As a result, this has caused extreme financial hardship for the organization. We are one of five Girl Scout councils across the country that GSUSA has approved to participate in an "in-store virtual cookie booth" program in order to sell our inventory. We are so happy to announce that Bartell Drugs will be our partner for this critical effort, which launched today in participating stores across our region.
- GSUSA is calling programs like ours at Bartell's "virtual in-store cookie booths," and realize this could confuse some folks, since we are also doing online sales that are virtual. This program is considered "virtual" since girls cannot be present at Bartell's to sell.

- **Coming Soon! Volunteering at Home Landing Page**

- We have heard from volunteers that you are looking for more volunteer resources about how to navigate this new Girl Scouts at Home experience. We will soon be launching a Volunteering at Home landing page to help address that need.

- **Contact Us!**

- Customer Care: 1-800-541-9852 or customercare@girlscoutswv.org
- Melissa Curtis, Volunteer Support Manager, mcurtis@girlscoutswv.org
- Erin Coffey, Senior Manager of Placement, ecoffey@girlscoutswv.org