

girl scouts 
of southern illinois
**COUNCIL
CONNECTIONS**

February 3, 2025

Recording in Process

WELCOME
Service Unit Managers

Agenda

1. Girl Scout Promise
2. Product Program
3. Community Engagement
4. Adult Education
5. Retail
6. Program Engagement
7. Announcements

PRODUCT PROGRAM

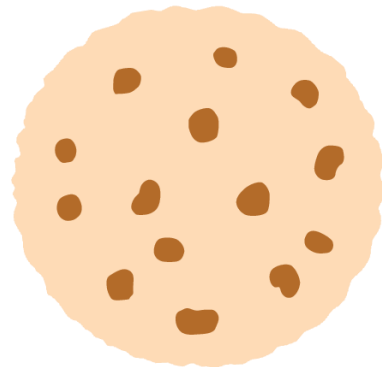
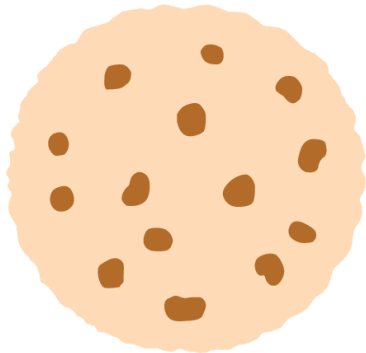


PRODUCT PROGRAM

Cookie Program Updates (as of 2/3/25)

- 58% to Council Cookie Program Goal
- 1937 girls in eBudde with sales associated
- 320 troops selling (out of 446)
- Two service units above SU goal (SU 12, Clay County and SU 111, Collinsville)

Toffee update—As we stated in last week's Thin Mint Newsletter, the high volume of Toffee Tastic ordered through initial orders left us with a small amount available to stock cupboards. So, once a cupboard is out, it is out. Troops should monitor their inventory, and if they cannot get more of this variety, they will have to remember to tell their caregivers to turn this off in digital cookies. The Edwardsville Cupboard is already out.



PRODUCT PROGRAM

Cookie Booth Update – Choosing a council booth

1. Booth sales tab
2. Sign up for a Council Booth
3. Pick up a town
4. Pick the store
5. Pick a date
6. Pick an open time slot
7. Troops do not have to do anything else.



Cookie Booth Update – Schnucks

Open booth slots will be shared in eBudde **Wednesday, 2/5/25, at 5:00PM.**

PRODUCT PROGRAM

Cookie Booth Updates – Wendy’s

- **2/5/25, 5:00PM** – Dates/Times/Locations release in eBudde
- Participating Locations:
 - Benton
 - Carbondale
 - Edwardsville
 - Effingham
 - Fairview Heights
 - Harrisburg
 - Herrin
 - Marion
 - Marshall
 - Paris
 - Robinson
 - Swansea
 - Vandalia
 - West Frankfort

PLEASE NOTE: In order to maintain our nonprofit status, members cannot promote the sale of the Girl Scout Thin Mints Frosty at their cookie booths. Girls are certainly permitted to buy and taste the Frosty product, and they are encouraged to promote their booths at Wendy’s locations, but photographs of the girls holding/eating the Frosty cannot be shared on GSUSA, council, or volunteer social media and external communications materials.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MY25 Membership Goals and Update

Traditional Troop Girls = **5300**; Adults = **3000**

- Girls = 4,497 girls or 85% to MY25 goal

- Adults = 3,144 adults or 105% to MY25 goal

Area	Service Unit Name	New Girls	Retained Girls	YTD Total Girls	Total Girl Goal	Girls needed to Goal	Total Girls % to Goal	New Adults	Retained Adults	YTD Total Adults	Total Adult Goal	Adults needed to Goal	Total Adults % to Goal
1	Area002 SU007_Bond_Fayette_County	19	67	86	90	4	96%	11	47	58	55	(3)	105%
2	Area002 SU101_Alton_Godfrey_Wood_River_Roxana	17	107	124	165	41	75%	10	112	122	125	3	98%
3	Area002 SU102_Granite_City_Madison_Venice	14	83	97	115	18	84%	11	98	109	110	1	99%
4	Area002 SU105_Jervey_Cathoun_County	12	81	93	125	32	74%	4	52	56	60	4	93%
5	Area002 SU106_Bethalto	9	29	38	60	22	63%	2	33	35	40	5	88%
6	Area003 SU108_Edwardsville_Glen_Carbon	42	285	327	400	73	82%	36	212	248	220	(28)	113%
7	Area003 SU109_Troy_St_Jacobs	37	123	160	165	5	97%	23	110	133	135	2	99%
8	Area003 SU110_Highland	24	83	107	105	(2)	102%	17	72	89	80	(9)	111%
9	Area003 SU111_Collinsville_Caseyville_Maryville	16	50	66	100	34	66%	18	62	80	65	(15)	123%
10	Area003 SU102_Chester	29	138	167	225	58	74%	18	113	131	150	19	87%
11	Area004 SU201_OFallon_Shiloh_Farview	87	372	459	455	(4)	101%	58	258	316	270	(46)	117%
12	Area004 SU207_Belleville_Swansea	80	214	294	400	46	89%	49	269	318	305	(13)	104%
13	Area004 SU209_MillsEast_Columbia_Dues_Smithton	21	85	106	200	44	78%	11	84	95	110	15	86%
14	Area004 SU210_New_Athens_Marietta_St_Liberty_Freeburg	9	55	64	85	21	75%	5	37	42	40	(2)	105%
15	Area004 SU211_Waterloo	19	101	120	130	10	92%	17	87	104	100	(4)	104%
16	Area005 SU009_Centralia	4	60	64	80	5	94%	13	41	54	35	(19)	154%
17	Area005 SU015_Clinton_Washington_County	24	66	90	85	(5)	106%	14	31	45	40	(5)	113%
18	Area005 SU021_East_Marion_County	12	29	41	75	34	55%	5	31	36	35	(1)	103%
19	Area005 SU030_Jefferson_County	18	89	107	125	18	86%	6	53	59	50	(9)	118%
20	Area005 SU044_Perry_County	20	65	85	90	5	94%	4	41	45	45	0	100%
21	Area007 SU027_Jackson_County	27	68	95	85	(10)	112%	9	78	87	55	(32)	158%
22	Area007 SU042_East_Williamson_County	4	46	50	105	55	28%	2	45	47	45	(2)	104%
23	Area007 SU007_North_Randolph_County	17	69	86	105	19	82%	8	36	44	35	(9)	126%
24	Area007 SU060_South_Randolph_County	38	102	140	130	(10)	108%	5	71	76	70	(6)	109%
25	Area007 SU090_West_Williamson_County	18	61	79	145	66	54%	9	47	56	55	(1)	102%
26	Area008 SU013_Johnson_Pope_County	4	82	86	60	24	60%	2	12	14	15	1	93%
27	Area008 SU045_Masac_County	15	20	35	60	25	58%	9	20	29	35	6	83%
28	Area008 SU066_Shannon	7	45	52	60	8	87%	7	29	36	35	(1)	103%
29	Area008 SU072_Lincoln_Pulaski_Alexander_County	5	17	22	70	28	60%	1	27	28	35	7	93%
30	Area008 SU085_Wayne_Hamilton_White_County	20	72	92	130	38	71%	4	63	67	80	13	84%
31	Area009 SU012_Clay_County	12	31	43	55	12	78%	3	20	23	20	(3)	113%
32	Area009 SU019_Lawrence_Wabash_Edwards_County	38	86	124	100	(24)	124%	18	47	65	45	(20)	144%
33	Area009 SU051_North_Franklin_County	32	144	176	180	4	98%	3	40	43	40	(3)	108%
34	Area009 SU063_Richland_County	30	52	82	80	(2)	103%	13	22	35	25	(10)	140%
35	Area009 SU087_West_Frankfort	13	17	30	60	10	65%	13	17	30	33	(3)	110%
36	Area010 SU511_Effingham_County	18	106	124	135	11	92%	5	73	78	75	(3)	104%
37	Area010 SU521_Western_Coles_Cumberland_County	14	92	106	145	39	73%	12	68	80	100	20	80%
38	Area010 SU532_Eastern_Coles_County	16	60	76	100	24	76%	6	57	63	60	(3)	105%
39	Area010 SU531_Edgar_Clark_County	35	75	110	95	(15)	116%	8	35	43	40	(3)	108%
40	Area010 SU544_Crawford_Jasper_County	19	69	88	125	37	70%	2	39	41	40	(1)	103%
Report data As of 02-03-25		906	3591	4497	5300	803	85%	465	2679	3144	3000	(163)	105%
*Council Totals show the number of unique individuals and may not equal the actual column total; some members participate in multiple SUs													
Report data As of 01-27-25		883	3583	4466	5300	834	84%	445	2669	3114	3000	(131)	104%



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Spring Renewal Patch Design Contest

- Deadline's today, February 3, 2025
- 18 designs selected
- Open for voting via social media week of February 17th



2025-2026
Spring Renewal Patch
Design Contest



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Recruiting Efforts:



What can \$7 do?

You enjoy cookies.
We change the world.

When you purchase a box of Girl Scout Cookies, you're providing endless opportunities for girls right here in Southern Illinois. Some of us will travel the globe. Others will learn to program robots. Many of us will enjoy the great outdoors through camping, canoeing, and archery. But we will all gain the courage, confidence, and character, to make the world a better place.

Your \$7 does that. Thank you.



girl scouts
of southern illinois



Ready for fun, friendship,
and adventure?

Be a Girl Scout!

Your amazing journey starts here.
Explore local troops with spots available
at gsofsi.org/join or scan the QR code.
Join today!



Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois
gsofsi.org
customer care@gsofsi.org
800-345-6858



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Troop Money Earning Projects - Reminders

- All troop money-earning projects must have prior approval.
- Any activity or project that a troop plans to earn money for the troop has to have prior approval. This does include if a troop is hosting an event where they are planning it as a money-earner.
- Money-Earning Projects can not take place during Product Program season.
- Troops must be in good standing for approval

These guidelines and others can be found on the **Money-Earning Application**. If ever in question on the project or the process, please email Customer Care, and your Community Engagement Manager will be happy to assist.

ADULT EDUCATION



Adult Education

GSofSI Upcoming Adult Training

Adult Outdoor Experience

- [Camping Out / 03-01-25 / Belleville, IL](#)
- [Camping Out / 03-30-25 / Edwardsville, IL](#)
- [Archery / 03-30-25 / Edwardsville, IL](#)
- [Camping Out / 04-26-25 / Mount Vernon, IL](#)
- [Camping Out / 05-17-25 / Edwardsville, IL](#)
- [Archery / 05-17-25 / Edwardsville, IL](#)
- [SCST Flat Water Canoe / 06-07-25 / Carlyle, IL](#)

CPR/AED/First Aid

- [ARC Adult & Pediatric CPR/AED First Aid / 02-24-25 / Mount Vernon, IL](#)
- [ARC Adult & Pediatric CPR/AED First Aid / 03-30-25 / Edwardsville, IL](#)

Leadership Trainings

- [YMHFA / 03-08-25 / Edwardsville, IL](#)
- [Volunteer Training Summit / 03-29-25 / Camp Torqua, Edwardsville, IL](#)
- [YMHFA / 05-17-25 / Mt. Vernon](#)



Adult Education

Registration Open – Volunteer Training Summit

- March 29, 2025
- Camp Torqua
- \$25/adult (includes all Saturday sessions, lunch and patch)
- Financial assistance available, [Adult Financial Assistance](#)
- Free camp overnight stays
 - Friday, 3/28 -- Campfire Chat – S'mores & Hot Dogs,
 - Saturday, 3/29 – Movie Under the Stars
 - Register for Volunteer Appreciation Events:
 - [Fireside S'mores](#)
 - [Movie Under the Stars](#)
- Certification Trainings on Sunday, 3/30



Adult Education

Adult Training

Service Unit Volunteer Training:

Monthly Short & Snappy: **Girl Scout Experience Fund**



gsLearn Updates:

- New Leader Onboarding Series via gsLearn. Use the [New Leader Onboarding Map](#), located on our website, for support.
- Reminder: Please contact Customer Care if having trouble accessing your gsLearn account.

Adult Education

Volunteer Appreciation

[Saturday, April 12th](#)- Have you already been certified in archery but want a little more practice? Come on over to the archery range at Camp Torqua to ask questions and brush up on your archery skills with one of our trainers! Drop in any time between 12:00PM and 2:00PM for this free practice opportunity. Registration End Date: March 31, 2025; Location: Edwardsville, IL.

[Friday, March 28th](#) – Join us at the campfire for smore’s and hotdogs! Join us for a campfire chat as we prepare to kick off Volunteer Training Summit 2025!

[Saturday, March 29th](#) – Movie Under the Stars – Join us for popcorn and a movie at Camp Torqua

RETAIL



RETAIL

New Shop Hours

- Monday, Tuesday and Thursday – 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
- Wednesday -10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- Second and Fourth Saturday - - 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

2025 Cookie Bundle - \$40

- Cookie Fun Finds Megaphone
- Cookie Fun Finds Pom Pom Set (of 2)
- Cookie Tote Bag
- Assorted Cookie Hand-Held Signs (2)
- Cookie Clipboard
- Cookie Pennant Banner
- Cookie Half Apron
- Cookie Post-It Notes



World Thinking Day

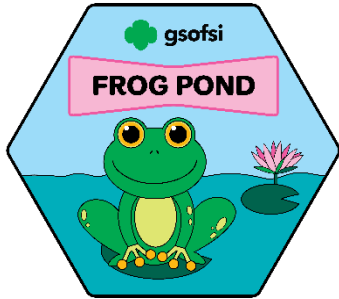
We have World Thinking Day Badges available for sale in the shop. We will also be doing a pre-order to fulfill any remaining orders.

RETAIL

Program Patches Available

For those who ordered the Fireside Reading Patch or the Panda Ventures Patch, they are scheduled to be shipped to the Council Shop the **week of February 17th**. We will notify customer pickup orders as soon as they are available.

The new Frog Pond Patch is now available for purchase, and the Winter Challenge Checklist Patch is available for pre-order until **March 10th**. Please visit the [GSofSI Local Online Shop](#) for ordering.



You shop, We ship!

- MY25 Membership Year, purchases of \$50 or more ship for free
- [GSofSI Local Online Shop](#), use code: **MEMBER25**

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT



PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT

February Patch Point – Roller Skating

- Girls can complete these fun activities to help stay fit and strong, while earning the GSofSI Roller Skating Patch.
<https://www.gsofsi.org/en/members/for-girl-scouts/badges-and-journeys/councils-own-badges-and-patches.html>

NEW: Frog Pond Learning Patch Program

- Activities for all grade levels



Preferred Partner Spotlight

- **Illinois Rural Heritage Museum**
187 Fairgrounds Road, Pinckneyville, IL
illinoisruralheritagemuseum.org
- **Gateway Arch National Park Service**
11 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, MO
<https://www.nps.gov/jeff/learn/education/index.htm>

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT

- **Girl Scout Birthday Week Patch Program**

Daisy – Ambassador

Cost: \$0

<https://www.gssofsi.org/en/sf-events-repository/2025/girl-scout-week-patch-program-d-a.html>

Deadline: 3/3/25

- **March 14 – Women In STEM Webinar #3**

Daisy – Ambassador

Virtual (Zoom)

Cost: \$5/girl (includes patch)

Deadline: 3/3/25

- **March 22 - Cosmic Curiosity Night w/Riverbend Astronomy Club**

Cadette - Ambassador

Greenville

Cost: \$25/girl

Deadline: 3/3/25

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT

- **April 3 – Tree Promise Virtual Kick-Off**

Daisy - Adults

Virtual (Zoom)

Cost: \$0 – Register to receive Zoom link

Deadline: 3/24/25

- **April 12 – Caving at Camp Wartburg**

Junior – Ambassador

Waterloo

Cost: \$35/girl, adult

Deadline: 3/10/25

- **April 12 – InventHER Day at Greenville University**

Daisy – Ambassador

Greenville

Cost: \$35/girl (includes two badges, materials, lunch and activities); \$10/adult

Deadline: 3/31/25

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT

- **April 26 – Wheels and Wonders Automotive Design Badge Day**
Daisy - Junior
O'Fallon
Cost: \$15/girl (includes badge)
Deadline: 4/7/25
- **April 26 – Road Warriors Car Care Badge Day**
Senior
O'Fallon
Cost: \$15/girl (includes badge)
Deadline: 4/7/25
- **May 3– Mindful Morning Free Yoga Sessions**
Daisy - Adult
Edwardsville & Mt. Vernon
Cost: \$0
Deadline: 4/28/25

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT

2025 Council Trips

- **Georgia Getaway: Journey to Savannah, GA**
Date: June 11-15, 2025
Level: Juniors-Ambassadors
Cost: \$850/girl; \$500/adult
Participant Deposit: \$200 due at registration
Deadline to Register: March 3, 2025
Final Payment Due: May 5, 2025

- **Niagara Navigators: Adventure to Niagara Falls, NY**
Date: July 20-25, 2025
Level: Juniors-Ambassadors
Cost: \$950/girl; \$650/adult
Participant Deposit: \$200 due at registration
Deadline to Register: March 3, 2025
Final Payment Due: May 5, 2025

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT

Upcoming Trainings, Info Nights & More

- **2/27 - Visionary Voices - Girl-Led Chat**
- **3/6 – Honor Troop Info Night**
- **3/26 – Trailblazer Troop Info Night**

Program Aide Training - Cadette

4/6/25 – Whittington, IL

Girl Cost: \$40

Deadline: 3/24/25

6/8/25- Red Bud, IL

Girl Cost: \$40

Deadline: 5/27/25

Counselor-in-Training (Training) – Senior & Ambassador

4/5/25 – Whittington, IL

Girl Cost: \$40

Deadline: 3/24/25

6/7/25- Red Bud, IL

Girl Cost: \$40

Deadline: 5/27/25

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT

Summer Programs – Registration Now Open

All Council and Service Unit Summer Day and Overnight Camps are open for registration on our event calendar

<https://www.gsofsi.org/en/discover/activities/event-calendar.html/2025-03>

Financial Aid is available

[Day Camp and Overnight Camp Financial Assistance Application](#)

ANNOUCEMENTS



DATES TO REMEMBER

GSofSI Office Closures (includes the Council Shop)

Thursday, March 13 – All-Staff Meeting

“Death by Chocolate” Event

Friday, March 7, 2025

7:00-9:00PM

Robinson Civic Center

To register please click the link: gsofsi.org/chocolate.

Let's Chat w/Loretta

March 3

May 5

Before Council Connections

6:00-6:25PM



Thank You!

NEXT MEETING:

March 3, 2025

