

S'MORE NEWS

for leaders like you

New Leader Newsletter Nov. – Dec. 2018

We hope by now that your troop has been formed and that you are meeting regularly as a group. Please reach out to your parents to make sure that you have a co-leader and a cookie manager for your troop. You should not be doing it all on your own. If you need help, please contact your Community Engagement Manager.

Have you tried signing up for a council event?

There are a lot of great council events that can help you make the most of the Girl Scout experience. Go to the [Girl Events and Adult Learning](#) section of our website where you can find all the listings of program activities that your troop will enjoy. This is also where you will find learning opportunities for your troop leadership. You might try to select two or three events that fit within the troop's schedule and budget and let the girls choose one that they want to do as a troop.

Cookie Season is just around the corner.



During the month of December, most service units will have cookie training at their leader meetings. We hope that you and your troop cookie manager can both attend those trainings. As the leader, you may not be handling the cookies for the troop, but you still might be asked questions. There are [on-line training modules](#) that will take you step by step through the entire cookie season. Your service unit cookie manager can help you with any questions that you might have.

Helpful Hints are in the Volunteer Toolkit

There are a lot of valuable resources on the Volunteer Toolkit. Check out the information under the Cookie Program section. It has GSUSA Cookie FAQs, practical tips for parents, and requirements for the cookie activity pin. These resources can definitely help you as you approach cookie season.

With the Holiday Season Upon Us...

Giving back to your community has always been a great tradition of Girl Scouting. Service projects are a great way to show your community how much girls care. These projects do not have to be large in scale or take a long time to accomplish. As simple as a food item collection within the troop to give to a local pantry or sending Christmas cards to a nursing home are great service projects. Use the Random Acts of Kindness Calendar below to draw some inspiration. You can do one, a few, or all!

Random Acts of Christmas Kindness 2018						
"No act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted." -Aesop						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Make cookies for a neighbor
2 Donate toys to your favorite charity	3 Tell silly jokes to make someone laugh	4 Make a hug coupon for someone	5 Donate food to your local food pantry	6 Make a card for a soldier	7 Thank your teacher	8 Candy cane bomb a parking lot
9 Tape change to a vending machine	10 Call a faraway friend or relative to say hello	11 Take supplies to the animal shelter	12 Do a chore for someone in your family	13 Give a compliment to a friend	14 Take treats to the fire or police station	15 Leave a popcorn surprise on a DVD rental machine
16 Pay for a stranger's coffee	17 Let someone go ahead of you in line	18 Leave a happy note for someone to find	19 Pass out stickers to kids in line	20 Give treats to the mail carrier	21 Smile at everyone you see today	22 Pick up litter
23 Do a secret act of kindness for someone	24 Feed the birds	25 Christmas!				

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Monthly Challenges

- 1.) Has your troop participated in a council event? Sharing your experience is a great networking tool at leader meetings.



- 2.) Did your troop participate in Fall Product Program? How did the girls decide to use the money?
- 3.) Did your troop choose a service project? The holiday season is a great time for girls to learn about giving back to the community.