



# What's New @ GSVSC and Volunteer Essentials

## Volunteer Essentials 2017-18

### Connect with GSVSC through Social Media

- ▶ [Facebook: GSVSC](#)
- ▶ [Pinterest: gsvsc1](#)
- ▶ [LinkedIn: Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline](#)
- ▶ [Instagram: gsofvaskyline](#)
- ▶ [YouTube: gsvsc1912](#)
- ▶ [Twitter: GSVSC @GSofVASkyline](#)
- ▶ Additional Facebook groups can be located – pg. 3

**Get to Know the DNA of G.I.R.L.:** Go-Getter, Risk-taker, Innovator, Leader – pg. 4

### Who Can Join Girl Scouts – pg. 5

Annual membership dues

- ▶ \$32 for girls
- ▶ \$25 for adults
- ▶ Adults have the option to purchase a lifetime membership for \$375

Reminder! Membership year is October 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30.

- ▶ Troop leaders can register new girls and adults online at any time throughout the year
- ▶ All girl & adult memberships are to be renewed annually by October 1<sup>st</sup> or prior to participating in first troop meeting of the year whichever occurs first
- ▶ Troops not renewed annually by Dec 1<sup>st</sup> are to close bank account and submit remaining troop funds to council – see policy VF4, pg. 111

### Open Council Dialogue Meetings – pg. 7

- ▶ Saturday, Oct. 14, Radford
- ▶ Saturday, Oct. 28, Lynchburg
- ▶ Saturday, Nov. 4, Harrisonburg
- ▶ Saturday, Nov. 18, Charlottesville
- ▶ Tuesday, Nov. 28, conference call

### 2018 Annual Meeting – pg. 7

- ▶ Saturday, January 27, 2018

### Get to Know the Volunteer Toolkit – pg. 9

## **Troop Co-Leaders**

Position title of troop leader has been changed to **Troop Co-Leader**; all troops are to have a minimum of two troop co-leaders so that volunteers have a partner to help lead and supervise girls.

## **NEW! CEI Troop Co-Leader Onboarding Process**

In order for a troop to have a their first official meeting, two non-related Troop Co-Leaders must register, get cleared background checks, and complete two required online trainings. Once these requirements are met and there are a minimum of 5 girls registered, the troop can have their first official troop meeting.

Here are the basic steps:

- ▶ Register as adult GS members online at [www.gsvsc.org](http://www.gsvsc.org) and click Volunteer Today!
- ▶ Select a troop co-leader volunteer position in the volunteer opportunity catalog. Volunteers can now search for opportunities by a specific troop number or by their zip code and can search within 0, 5, 10, 15, or 20 miles of their zip code
- ▶ Once registering in a troop role, the system will then send an automated email asking them to complete a back ground check with Verified Volunteers
- ▶ After their background check is deemed eligible, Troop Co-Leaders will start receiving emails as other parents find and register for their troop.
- ▶ They should also look for an email from a GSVSC staff member welcoming them and providing access to the required training materials.
- ▶ Troop Co-Leaders should welcome the parents of girls joining new troop and begin planning the first parent meeting to discuss troop meeting times and look for potential co-leaders and recruit parents to help with the troop
- ▶ After both troop co-leaders have cleared background checks, completed the online *New Leader Orientation and GS102 Finance Training*, and have 5 registered girls, they are ready to have their first troop meeting!

## **NEW! CEI Background Check Process**

- ▶ Register/renew as an adult GS member
- ▶ Renew a current troop volunteer role in the member profile or select a new troop volunteer role from the opportunity catalog. Search by your zip code and be sure to increase the search radius miles if nothing shows up.
  - To view area volunteer roles, widen your zip code search to 15-20 miles
- ▶ Appointed volunteer roles (service unit or area coordinators) must be assigned by council staff. Contact Council at [info@gsvsc.org](mailto:info@gsvsc.org) for volunteer roles not listed in the volunteer opportunity catalog.
  - Council staff will assign the role which will trigger a Verified Volunteer background check email ---if the volunteer role is a direct primary role.
- ▶ Complete a background check via the link sent in the Verified Volunteer email triggered by your renewal.

## **NEW! CEI for Lifetime Members**

Lifetime members are to log into their membership profile through My GS to add/renew roles from the opportunity catalog, which will also trigger background checks ---if the volunteer role is a direct primary role.

### **Learning Opportunities – pg. 22**

- ▶ Learning Opportunities chart updated to reflect training requirement changes
- ▶ \*GS102 required training will be provided through council staff Troop Support until the GS102 training can be made available online in mid-October to early November 2018
- ▶ GS103 is highly suggested learning enrichment, but no longer “required” to start a troop.
- ▶ GS201 Trips & Overnights (formerly Group Trips) available online
  - Required before taking girls away from regular troop meeting place

### **Know “What Girl Scouting Does for Girls” – pg. 29**

- ▶ Fun with purpose – pg. 30
  - Girl Led
  - Learning by doing
  - Cooperative Learning
- ▶ New Girl Scout Outcomes – pg. 31
  - Strong Sense of Self
  - Positive Values
  - Challenge Seeking
  - Healthy Relationships
  - Community Problem Solving
- ▶ New program materials available – pg. 34-35
  - New Program Pillars – which are the foundation of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience: <http://www.girlscouts.org/en/our-program/our-program.html>
    - STEM
    - Outdoors
    - Life Skills
    - Entrepreneurship

### **Make Your Own Badge is no longer available through GSUSA**

### **Know “Girl Scout Group Size” – pg. 49 – CEI troop/group default is 12**

- ▶ Girl Scout Daisies: 5-12 girls
- ▶ Girl Scout Brownies: 10-20 girls
- ▶ Girl Scout Juniors 10-25 girls
- ▶ Girl Scout Cadettes: 5-25 girls
- ▶ Girl Scout Seniors: 5-30 girls
- ▶ Girl Scout Ambassadors: 5-30 girls

### **Early Bird Renewal Procedures – pg. 61**

- ▶ April 1 – June 30, 2018
- ▶ Troop Co-Leaders report troop openings for renewal annually by March 31<sup>st</sup> to [info@gsvsc.org](mailto:info@gsvsc.org)

### **NEW! Requirements for Seeking Council Permission – pg. 101**

GSVSC requires permission for trips/activities that involve:

- a)** a day or overnight trip that includes non-registered participants
- b)** an overnight trip outside council boundaries (refer to council map)
- c)** trips or overnights of 2 nights/3 days or more
- d)** travel outside the continental US
- e)** camping activities, including backyard camping, campfires, outdoor cooking and cabin camping
- f)** programs that include human sexuality and related health issues

**g)** activities that present a greater risk than usual to participants (refer to Safety Activity Checkpoints)

Submit Activity and/or Trip Permission Application for a Troop (#2129) to [info@gsvsc.org](mailto:info@gsvsc.org) for approval.

**[Chart updated] Troop Training needed for Camping, Events, and Trips – pg. 102**

**GSVSC Policy P1 updated to reflect council permission changes – pg. 107**

**GSVSC Annual Finance Report Changes – pg. 110**

- ▶ A GSVSC Annual Finance Report is required to be completed for all Girl Scout troop/group accounts. Annually, the report is completed by the designated troop/group leader to justify all account activity for the year. The designated troop/group leader submits the report to GSVSC **by June 30**.
- ▶ A GSVSC Finance Report must be completed for all Girl Scout troop/groups that are disbanding and should be submitted **within 30 days of their final troop/group activity**
- ▶ SU Finance Reports due annually to GSVSC **by June 30**

**GSVSC Policy A5**

- ▶ Adult participants attending an event, trip or overnight should be registered Girl Scout members and have a cleared background check on file with GSVSC prior to their participation in these Girl Scout activities.

**New Resource! Raising Awesome Girls – pg. 139**

**New council contacts: [info@gsvsc.org](mailto:info@gsvsc.org) or 540-777-5100 or 1-800-542-5905.**