

on my honor

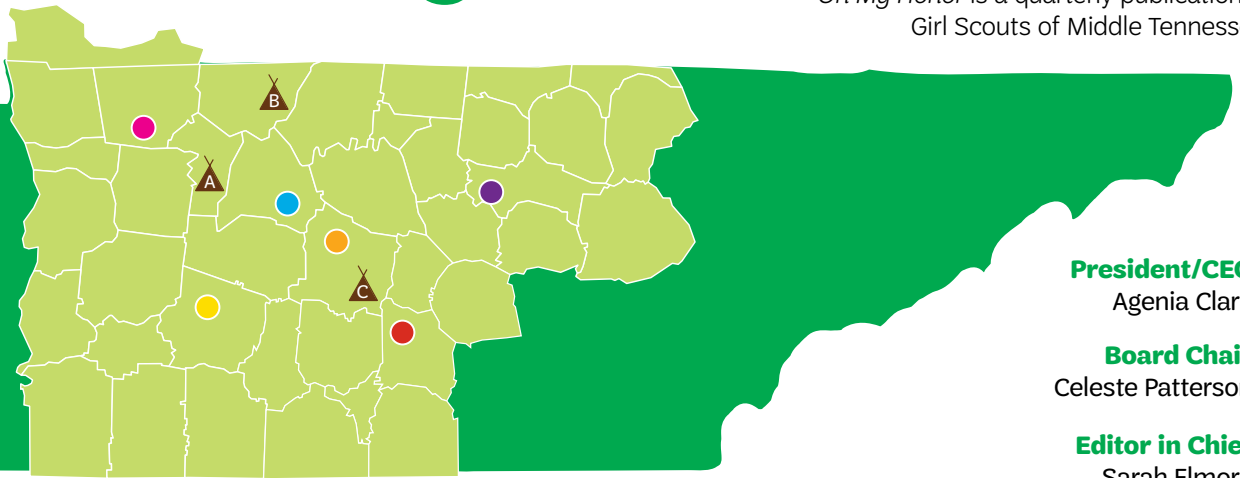
Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee • Spring 2021



**Adventures
Anywhere**

on my honor

On My Honor is a quarterly publication of Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee.



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gsmidtn.org/blog

Want to be included in On My Honor?

All submissions must include:

- Clear, good quality photo (*No text or Photoshop effects, please.*)
- Troop number
- City or county where troop is based
- Short blurb describing the photo

We do not guarantee that all photos or other submissions, such as articles, will be used. Photos and stories can also be submitted through our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages.

Submissions should be sent to
CommunicationsDept@gsmidtn.org.

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Re-register for Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee online at gsmidtn.org/spring-registration!



Cover: Troop 91 spread the love this Valentine's Day by creating cards and delivering them to senior centers.

Left: Nashville Sounds mascot Booster the Rooster surprised Troop 2787 at a booth sale!

CABIN TALK

Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee Shop

4522 Granny White Pike, Nashville, TN 37204
Phone: (615) 460-0222 | Email: NashvilleShop@gsmidtn.org

Cabin Hours

To make an appointment, email Tracy Coleman.

Monday	8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday	8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Wednesday	8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Thursday	8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Friday	8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	CLOSED

Don't Forget Your Service Unit and Troop Volunteers!

The Cabin has a great selection of gifts to thank them for all their help throughout the year.

BRIDGING KITS ARE BACK!

Kit includes: Bag, Bridging Certificate, Uniform Rainbow, Fun Patch, GS Pencil, Hand Sanitizer, Membership Star and Level Disc

\$14.00 each while supplies last

Looking for something fun for your troop to do outside?
Check out our screenprints available through Volunteer Resources! We even have paint!

HAVING A DAY CAMP IN YOUR AREA?

We will bring a mobile shop to your location!
For more information, contact Tracy Coleman at
TColeman@gsmidtn.org or (615) 460-0255.

Coming Soon!

Check out Badge Kits for Troops!
We do the work and you have the fun!

SAVE THE DATE

The Cabin's Annual Inventory Clearance Sale

August 21, 2021
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Stay Tuned!

Keep checking our social media sites
for upcoming live online events
featuring new items in The Cabin.

COVID-19 Update: All GSMIDTN offices are closed to anyone outside of staff (at the time of print). Any retail needs may be served through an appointment or phone and email orders.

Y T D K W A R C H E R Y R H S
H I T W K A P E R S V T X V W
O S U M M E R Z S C A B I N I
R S O N G S R F S J B A R N N
S C F R I E N D S H I P Y K G
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T R A D V E N T U R E Q I B G
M E F L C H O L L O W A Y A E
A S T E F X C K R K J V R B T

ADVENTURE
ARCHERY
BARN
CABIN
CAMP
CAMPFIRE
FRIENDSHIP

HORSES
HOLLOWAY
KAPERS
LODGE
MISCHIEF
POOL

RAPPELLING
SMORES
SONGS
SUMMER
SWINGING BRIDGE
SYCAMORE HILLS
TENT

Troop Scrapbook



Jayla from **Troop 1489** earned her Uniform to Uniform patch while selling cookies!



Booster the Rooster from the Nashville Sounds visited **Troop 1627's** Cookie Booth!



Troop 2801 made Back to School Bags for a 3rd grade classroom at Frank P. Brown Elementary school.



Girls from **Troop 743** were excited to earn their Uniform to Uniform patch this Cookie Season!



Share Your Story!

Tag your posts with #GSMIDTN!

Troop 91 spread the love this Valentine's Day by creating cards and delivering them to senior centers.



gsmidtn Our local Troop 6000 has had a ton of support from the community this year! One Chattanooga local, Abigail, heard about our troop and pulled together orders from friends and family to purchase 492 boxes of cookies! Thank you Abigail and everyone who has purchased cookies through our Troop 6000 cookie link! #GSMIDTN



Girls in Troop 1856 did a Winter Clothing Drive and donated them to Clothe Our Kids, an organization that works with schools and social workers to help kids in Lincoln County.



Troop 4049 earned their Mystery Shopper patch from our friends at Armstrong Relocation! The troop is using their cookie funds to make care packages for kids who have been affected by domestic violence.





Adventures Anywhere



Whether they'll be at camp this summer or not, anyone can participate in Adventures Anywhere!

This is our summer camp subscription box that includes camp activities led by a counselor each day. Make new friends, have some crafty fun, and beat summer boredom!

Learn more and register at gsmidtn.org/adventures-anywhere.



Animal Adventures (June 14-18)

There are so many animals to learn about! Explore animal care, native habitats, and more! You'll learn animal nutrition, how to help animals in our community, and take a virtual field trip to a local rescue organization.

Girl Scout Chefs (June 21-25)

Chop, sizzle, and sauté your way through this week of camp! Learn to make delectable meals, bread, and treats from scratch. Perfect these skills with your Girl Scout sisters and end the week with a timed challenge, complete with mystery ingredients!

Artastic! (June 28-July 2)

Art is all around us, and it is for YOU to create! Paint in a new way, create a with clay, learn new art skills, and meet with virtual artists-in-resident to complete your vision. Complete your week by working toward your outdoor art badges and putting your masterpieces in a virtual Girl Scout art gallery!

Eye Spy (July 5-9)

There is a mystery to solve, and we need YOUR help! Learn to match fingerprints, decode Morse code, and follow the clues with fellow campers. Team STEAM activities will help you solve puzzles and escape a virtual escape room!

Lights, Camera, Action! (July 12-16)

Let your inner performer have the spotlight this week! Learn how to write songs, play theatre games, create your own instruments, and interact with real thespians on the virtual field trip. Finish this week off with a Zoom play written and performed by you and your group!

Muggles Meet Magic (July 18-23)

Hogwarts is sending the magic to you! Make your own magical crafts, make delicious magical treats, learn about magical creatures, and compete with your fellow students in the virtual Tri-Wizard tournament! This week is full of magical surprises.



VOLUNTEER FAQ

with Greg Gressel

We've all heard the phrase "Man Enough to Be a Girl Scout," and Greg Gressel, the leader for Troop 2163, owns that title with pride! Read on below to hear about his experience as a volunteer with Girl Scouts for the past 15 years.

How did you first get involved with Girl Scouts?

I first became involved 15 years ago when my daughter brought home a paper from school wanting to get involved in Girl Scouts. We all got involved as a family, and I became an assistant leader along with several others in our troop. There came a time when our leader had to step away from leading the troop and the other parents encouraged me to be the leader – they promised they would help, and they did.

I may have been an unlikely candidate for leading a Girl Scout troop, but I took it very seriously – reading

everything I could find about Girl Scouts and its history. To this day, I continue to read and educate myself on the organization and what we can do to make it the best leadership and life-forming influence for the girls in our troop.

What is the most rewarding part about being a volunteer and troop leader?

The most rewarding part about being a volunteer and troop leader in Girl Scouts is seeing the difference the program makes in the lives of the girls. It is truly a well-rounded, confidence-and-leadership-building tool for all of them. It builds a team that becomes a family for life. I love to help the girls think deeper as they develop ideas and plans for their Highest Awards – Bronze, Silver, and Gold! I believe it is through Girl Scouts that they master the skills that will shape them for life.

Being a troop leader has required some extra creativity this past year. What are some of the ways that your troop has continued to meet and stay involved?

2020 has definitely been a year of challenge, but I believe we are a stronger troop because we met that challenge head-on! The first couple of weeks of the pandemic lockdown consisted of porch drop-offs to the girls with special treats and things for them to do. Then we began Zoom meetings. At this point, the porch drop-offs consisted of items that we would use in our next Zoom meeting. We meet once a week and definitely do not take the summer off! During our Zoom meetings, we worked diligently on badge work, made gallon jar terrariums, learned the art of canning, made strawberry jam, planted trees for Earth Day, planted home vegetable gardens, and many more things.

Once we began meeting back together, we originally did outdoor activities like Memorial Day Flag Placement at a local cemetery, a flag retirement ceremony, building bat boxes for a local city park, and camping.

After this, we transitioned to meeting indoors with social distancing, hand washing, and sanitizing regularly. Although things have been different, we have managed to meet every week and stay connected with each other through it all. One thing about the year that was very significant was the fact that 2020 was the celebration year of the 19th Amendment and Women's Right to Vote. We had plans to be very active throughout the year with our #2163GirlScoutStrong campaign. I am glad to say that we were able to host ten different activities and events to celebrate this moment in history.



Now speaking of creativity, Troop 2163's Cookie Truck was an awesome idea for this year! Tell us how you got that idea and how it worked for this year's Cookie Season?

We have had our "Troop Van" for about 6 years and use it for all kinds of activities and trips. My older girls, who are now in college, always joked that we were "dealing" cookies out of the Girl Scout van and that we should make it a food truck or something. After joking around with the younger girls in the troop now about it, we came up with the idea to make it a Cookie Truck, like a food truck but for Girl Scout Cookies. We started talking about ideas and playing around with graphics, and came up with this final idea. We had friends at three businesses in town - Nick's Auto & Repair, A&R Glass Company, and Minuteman Press - that helped us with bodywork, creating the window, and creating the magnets and decal work for the "Cookie Truck." Tying other organizations into the iconic event has really increased the visibility of Girl Scouts in our community.

Want to hear more fun volunteer ideas?

Read the full Q&A with Greg Gressel at gsmidtn.org/blog.



Take a look at the impact Girl Scouts can have! GSMIDTN's blog is our online home for girl stories, troop resources, and more.

Read these full stories at gsmidtn.org/blog.



Bridging is an important transition in a Girl Scout's life. It's a defining moment when a girl becomes aware of her achievements and is ready for new adventures and responsibilities. Celebrating this change should be fun, personalized, and memorable for everyone involved. And most of all, it should be designed by the girls in true partnership with adults.

How do the girls want to wrap-up their time in their former level? They may want to pass the squeeze around a Friendship Circle. If there's something that the troop usually does to close their meetings or events, they may want to share a troop tradition with a bigger audience.

BRIDGING

gsmidtn.org/bridging-ceremony

To celebrate [Girl Scout Week], we've asked Girl Scouts and staff to reflect on what the Girl Scout Law means to them.

As a Girl Scout, I believe it is our duty to try our best to be courageous and strong when faced with new opportunities and standing up for what is right when faced with adversity. You don't have to climb mountains to be courageous or move them to be strong. If we can do at least one thing that scares us each day, then that is one less thing that has any limiting power over us and achieving our dreams - so be brave!

GS WEEK

gsmidtn.org/gs-sunday



Navigating troop meetings during a pandemic is tough! Many of our troops hit the pause button in March 2020, some troops have been meeting virtually since then, and others have started to slowly get back into meeting in-person again. Not to mention, since the start of the pandemic, we've gained several new Girl Scouts and troops along the way (welcome)! So, what's best for your troop? And where do you start when it comes to planning troop meetings right now?



MEETING

gsmidtn.org/troop-meetings-101

Girl Scouts has a long history of serving as a platform for all girls' voices, regardless of their background. Here in Middle Tennessee, our history is filled with countless examples of Black pioneers, innovators, and heroes - including the trailblazers at Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church.

Our biggest legacy at Lake Providence has been the establishment of a secure, welcoming environment for the girls (girls from all ethnic backgrounds are welcomed), their families, and volunteers.

LEGACY

gsmidtn.org/lake-providence



FIND US ONLINE

and tag your photos with **#GSMIDTN** to share your story!

 facebook.com/gsmidtn

 instagram.com/gsmidtn

 twitter.com/gsmidtn

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

COVID-19 Update: At the time of publication, we are moving forward with these programs as scheduled. All programs are subject to change or cancellation in an effort to keep our girls, families, and staff safe. In the event of a cancellation by council, all registrants will receive a full refund. Please visit gsmidtn.org/calendar for the most up-to-date program information.

May

Pixies of Sycamore

Date: May 1



Travel to the world of pixies for an adventure of a lifetime! Create your own pixie wings, learn to dance with a Pegasus, go creek stomping for mermaid treasure, and compete in a pirate obstacle course! Bring your own lunch and join us for an adventure of a lifetime! (*Part 1 of the Sycamore Fairy Tale adventurers.*)

Time: 9 AM – 4 PM

Location: Camp Sycamore Hills (Riverview and Red Barn)

Staff: Kathryn Poindexter

Min: 30 **Max:** 80

Girl Scout Fee: \$35

Safe Kids Coalition: Water Safety

Date: May 5



Are you ready to have some fun in the sun and splash in the water and also be safe? We are! Join us and the Vanderbilt Safe Kids Coalition to learn how to be safe around any type of water. Adults must be present for girls who attend this program.

Time: 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Location: Virtual Program

Staff: Lauren Reichstein

Min: 5 **Max:** 20

Girl Scout Fee: \$0

Counselor in Training (CIT): Summer Fun Day and Twilight Camps

Date: May 8



Ready to take your Summer Fun Camp experience to the next level? CIT's support and lead activities for Summer Fun Day and Twilight Camps. These are local, volunteer-sponsored day camp programs provided for girls of all ages throughout our 39 counties.

Time: 10 AM – 2 PM

Location: Virtual

Staff: Elizabeth Homco

Min: 5 **Max:** 15

Girl Scout Fee: \$15

Program Aide Core Training

Date: May 15



Hey Cadettes! Did you enjoy earning your Leadership in Action? Want to learn more skills to help younger Girl Scouts? Program Aides are those Cadettes who are committed to helping out a troop, service unit, or council program. So come build your leadership skills in this first step towards your Program Aide Award!

Time: 1 PM – 4 PM

Location: Virtual

Staff: Elizabeth Homco

Min: 5 **Max:** 20

Girl Scout Fee: \$30

Highschool Hangout: Summer Jobs/Resumes

Date: May 27



Summer is starting soon and now is the time to make summer plans. During this fifth meeting we will discuss different summer options and jobs. We will also learn how to make a resume and fill out job applications. This meeting will also include some games.

Time: 5 PM – 6 PM

Location: Virtual Program

Staff: Elizabeth Homco

Min: 5 **Max:** 25

Girl Scout Fee: \$5

Icon Key:



Equestrian Focused



Works toward a
Badge or Award



Older Girl Training

June

Girl Scout Day at Nashville Shores

Date: June 26



Spend the day at Nashville Shores! Arrive before the park opens to the general public for a water and sun safety program. After the program is over, you and your family can spend the day experiencing all the fun attractions Nashville Shores has to offer. *Fun patch is included with your ticket.*

Time: 9 AM – Close of Nashville Shores

Location: Nashville Shores

Staff: Alice LaBour

Min: 50 **Max:** 400

Girl Scout Fee: \$20

July

Highschool Hangout: Round Table

Date: July 3



Summer time is the time for relaxing and fun. This shorter meeting will only last 30 minutes and will be a time for you to tell me what you would enjoy discussing for the next 5 months. We can discuss past topics and topics that are needed for the future.

Time: 11 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: Virtual Program

Staff: Elizabeth Homco

Min: 5 **Max:** 25

Girl Scout Fee: \$5

August

Last Call Before Fall - Teen Weekend

Date: August 13-15



Teen Girls Scouts, this weekend's for you! Get ready to soak up these last minute rays. We have lots of fun things to do and at night too. No parents around, teenagers only! What activities you do is up to you. Don't miss out on this celebration of the end of summer 2021! *This is a drop off program.*

Time: Friday 7 PM – Sunday 10 AM

Location: Camp Sycamore Hills

Staff: Alison Peters & Elizabeth Homco

Min: 25 **Max:** 100

Girl Scout Fee: \$65

Vaqueras Training

Date: August 21



Spread the joy of horseback riding with others. Vaqueras are trained to prepare horses and assist participants in the various horse programs offered at Camp Sycamore Hills. Vaqueras will also participate in a riding lesson on days they volunteer after training. Girls must be at least 12 years of age and in the seventh grade at the time of training. Adult volunteers are welcome too!

Time: 8 AM – 5 PM

Location: Camp Sycamore Hills

Staff: Ashley Myers

Min: 12 **Max:** 36

Girl Scout Fee: \$25

Highschool Hangout: Goal Setting/Interviewing

Date: August 26



Time to start our monthly meetings again! To kick off our new school year we will discuss goal setting for the rest of the year. We will also tackle how to have the perfect interview. This meeting will have three sections and will include a fun activity to get to know each other.

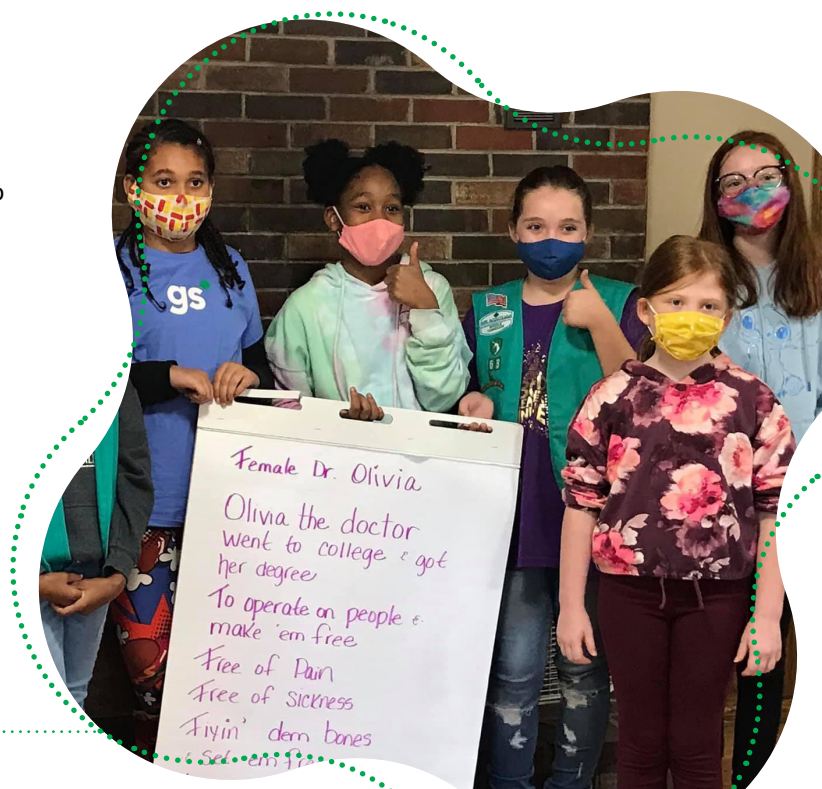
Time: 5 PM – 6 PM

Location: Virtual Program

Staff: Elizabeth Homco

Min: 5 **Max:** 25

Girl Scout Fee: \$5



Equines Inside Out 🐾

Date: August 28



Peek inside our very own Camp Sycamore Hills giants. Make your own paint and use the Girl Scout horses as a living canvas to paint their musculoskeletal structures. Learn about how bones and muscles work together to create motion. It will be an exciting afternoon filled with anatomy and fun!

Time: 1 PM – 5 PM

Location: Camp Sycamore Hills (Riverview)

Staff: Jen Vaughn

Min: 12 Max: 40

Girl Scout Fee: \$30

September Ponies and Pals 🐾

Dates: September 5



Each participant brings mom, dad or an adult friend to spend time with the horses at Camp Sycamore Hills. Meet horses in the barn, groom ponies and try a leadline ride with your favorite adult leading your horse in the arena. This program is especially for Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts but older girls are welcome, too!

Times: 12 – 1:30 PM, 1 – 2:30 PM, 2 – 3:30 PM,
3 – 4:30 PM, 4 – 5:30 PM

Location: Camp Sycamore Hills (Riverview)

Staff: Jen Vaughn

Min: 12 Max: 24

Girl Scout Fee: \$15



Ladybug Picnic

Date: September 18



Dress in your best red and black ladybug outfits and get ready for a yummy picnic! Learn about Tennessee's state insect as you make a ladybug craft, play games, and go in search of our buggy friends. Picnic lunch and fun patch included.

Time: 10 AM – 3 PM

Location: Davidson County

Staff: Elizabeth Homco

Min: 50 Max: 200

Girl Scout Fee: \$20

Highschool Hangout: Career Day

Date: September 23



Meeting eight will be a fun meeting with a few guests to discuss different future careers. This meeting will have 5 to 8 professionals explain their jobs and answer your questions. Feel free to bring all your questions and use this to help you decide what you might like to do in the future.

Time: 5 PM – 6 PM

Location: Virtual Program

Staff: Elizabeth Homco

Min: 5 Max: 25

Girl Scout Fee: \$5



View our full events listing at gsmidtn.org/calendar.



ADULT TRAININGS & ENRICHMENT

Adult Trainings are required to make a property reservation on CouncilAlignMENT and consist of tips to make your camping experience a great one!

Camping Skills 1 & 2

Camping Skills 1 & 2 prepares leaders to camp or travel with their girls.

May 15 • Camp Piedmont
August 21 • Camp Piedmont
August 28 • Camp Piedmont

Camping Skills 3

Camping Skills 3 teaches practical skills while primitive camping. Sites may be without electricity, running water, bathroom facilities, and cell service.

Camping Skills 1 and 2 must be completed before taking this training course.

April 17-18 • Old Stone Fort, Manchester TN

First Aid/CPR/AED Training

July 30 (Part 1, First Aid Training)
Virtual Training Online

August 21 (Part 2, Skills Test)
Nashville Service Center

Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED is designed for those who have never taken a full certification course or who have an expired certification.

Troops must have someone certified in First Aid/CPR/AED on camping trips and when traveling.

Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee is pleased to offer Camping Skills 1, Camping Skills 2, and First Aid/CPR training free of charge to one adult in every troop!
For more details, contact Volunteer Resources at VolunteerResources@gsmidtn.org.

Adult Adventure Day

September 11, 2021 • Camp Sycamore Hills

Have you ever wanted to participate in the adventure programming Girl Scouts get to enjoy?

Now is your chance to play! Adult Adventure Day is an opportunity to try adventure programs and camp activities offered at camp, spend time getting to know other leaders, and trade SWAPS to commemorate the day (if interested). Be on the lookout for weekend details!



WANT TO SEE ALL ADULT PROGRAMS WE HAVE COMING UP?

View our online events calendar at gsmidtn.org/calendar.

Spring Registration gives current Girl Scout members the opportunity to re-register for the upcoming Girl Scout year: October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022.

To receive the GSMIDTN \$10 subsidy per member, register online between **April 5 - June 7, 2021**.

The national membership dues are \$25 per person and these fees go directly to GSUSA. However, for girls and adults who complete spring registration, Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee will subsidize \$10 per member for the 2021-2022 membership year. After June 7, 2021, Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee will collect the GSUSA \$25 membership fee and will not pay the subsidy.

We are excited to share additional opportunities for spring registration!

2022 Spring Registration Patch *(one per girl)*

Spring Registration patches are uniquely designed patches specifically for families that re-register between April 5 and June 7.



GSMIDTN Gift to Girls Patch *(one per girl)*

Gift to Girls is the family partnership program that provides support to girls who need extra assistance to participate in Girl Scouts. Girls can receive full registration fees, uniforms, and program and camp experiences through the support our families give to the Gift to Girls program.

GSMIDTN Cabin Coupons

The Cabin is offering \$1.00 fun patches *(unlimited!)* and pencil packs *(one per girl)* for returning troops.



Volunteers Make the Future!

Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee is excited to honor our volunteers in the following ways:

- GSMIDTN will draw winners from all 01 and 02 leaders for special gifts from The Cabin!
- GSMIDTN will pay the GSUSA registration fees for one 01 and 02 for every troop.
- GSMIDTN will pay for one CPR/First Aid/AED certification, Camping Skills I, and Camping Skills II for each troop.

Re-Register Today! Read More to Learn How.



2022 Spring Registration Instructions for Troop Leaders

Start your registration process today!

Visit gsmidtn.org/CouncilAlignMENT and login with your username/password.

Click on the “2021 Troop Management” box in the bottom left hand corner.

Then, click on “Troop Member Roster (Re-Register Option).”

Utilize check box function to select current girl and adult members who plan to re-register.

At this point, you may add any Gift to Girl donations next to the individual making the donation.
Leaders should enter all donations and click “Add Donation” before checking any of the Xs.

Use your troop debit card to pay for membership fees and Gift to Girl donations.
All items that do not have a green check mark will remain in your Troop Shopping Cart until selected.

Submit online registration by June 7, 2021.

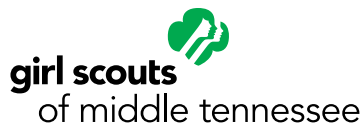
Helpful Reminders

- **Financial assistance is available.** Please contact your Regional Executive for instructions.
- Any Girl Scout who donates \$5 or more to our Gift to Girls program will receive a patch.
- Membership staff will reach out to troop leaders with further instructions on registration benefits. Leaders are encouraged to reach out directly to the adult training department at (615) 460-0252 or VolunteerResources@gsmidtn.org to redeem training benefits.

Need Additional Help?

CouncilAlignMENT registration virtual help is available by the Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee membership team. For assistance contact your Regional Executive by phone or email.

The national membership dues are \$25 per person and these fees go directly to GSUSA. However, for girls and adults who complete spring registration, Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee will subsidize \$10 per member for the 2021-2022 membership year. **After June 7, 2021, Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee will collect the GSUSA \$25 membership fee and will not pay the subsidy.**



4522 Granny White Pike
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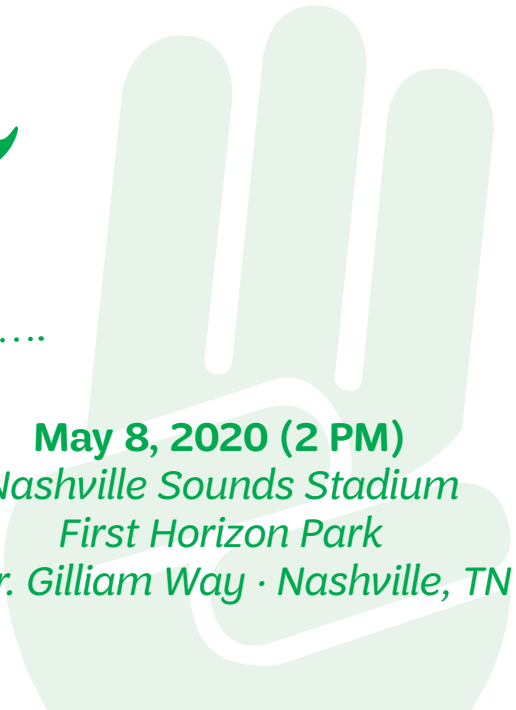
Save the Date for our Annual Awards Ceremony
Honoring the Highest Awards in Girl Scouts



girl scouts
HONORS DAY



The section header features the words "girl scouts" in a green, rounded, lowercase font, with "HONORS DAY" in a yellow, uppercase, sans-serif font below it. The text is centered between two horizontal dotted lines. Above and below the dotted lines are decorative sunburst graphics made of thin, light-colored lines radiating from a central point.



May 8, 2020 (2 PM)
Nashville Sounds Stadium
First Horizon Park
19 Jr. Gilliam Way · Nashville, TN

A large, light green hand icon is positioned on the right side of the page, with its fingers spread. The hand is semi-transparent and overlaps with the event information text.

Learn more and register at gsmidtn.org/GSHD.