

## Troop News: June 2024



Why go outside? Whether it's five minutes of outdoor sketching, having a picnic, or paddleboarding, getting outdoors is a great way to help improve mood, focus, and confidence. This summer, we have 50+ fun outdoor activities for you to choose from as part of the Girl Scouts Love the Outdoors Challenge. Girl Scouts who participate unlock a fresh patch. Download our free activity page (available in English and Spanish) and venture outside!

### LEARN MORE

This issue includes great opportunities for you and your troop, as well as some updates and reminders. Read on for more!

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## June Highlights:

Summer is here! Time to celebrate summer fun, as well as reflect on Pride Month and Juneteenth that are key parts of this month.

- **LGBTQ+ Pride Month:**  
This is an annual celebration of the achievements, impact, and contributions of the LGBTQ+ community in the United States. We encourage all Girl Scouts and their leaders to earn their [LGBTQ+ Pride Month Celebration Fun Patch](#) to honor, celebrate, and learn about the contributions of the LGBTQ+ community. We also encourage everyone to be their true self!
- **Juneteenth:**  
June 19 marks Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day. We celebrate the continued fight for freedom and pay tribute to the ones who encourage us to dream! How are you commemorating Juneteenth? Share your stories and traditions [here](#).

## Important Web Maintenance & Early Bird Update

Systems down June 21-23 | All Current Members

We will undergo system maintenance starting June 21 at 7pm to June 23 which will impact myGS, VTK and gslearn. During this time, you will not be able to renew memberships, have new members join your troop, take training, or use the Volunteer Toolkit. Due to this, we have *extended* the deadline for Early Bird Renewal to Wednesday, July 10.

Don't forget, early renewed youth automatically get an exclusive early bird collectible patch! Plus, if your troop reaches 70% of youth membership, you get an extra \$0.10 for every box of cookies sold in the 2025 cookie program. Get a head start today!

### CONTINUE MY GIRL SCOUT ADVENTURE

## Summer Break at Rainbow's End Day Camp

Camp Session: July 15-19 | San Jose | All Youth

From engaging nature walks along picturesque trails to imaginative arts and crafts sessions, campers come together to explore, create and play!

### UNLOCK SUMMER FUN

## Extended Year For New Members

Offer valid until July 31 | New Members

Know someone who's interested in joining Girl Scouts but hasn't joined yet? Now is the perfect opportunity to join with our special extended year membership deal! Why? New youth and adults can purchase a Girl Scout membership (includes the remainder of the current membership year + 2025 year) at a discounted rate to start their Girl Scout experience! Encourage new friends and families to seize this opportunity. Financial aid is available too!

### SPREAD THE WORD

## Cookie Updates and More

June 17 | Virtual | All Members

A reminder that eBuddy closes on June 30, but Digital Cookie is not changing. We will also be hosting a virtual Cookie Town Hall on Monday, June 17 to share the cookie transition plan, including proceeds and rewards, resources, training, and to answer any questions you have.

### REGISTER

## Girl Scout Experience Box for New Daisies



Free Resource for New Daisy Troops  
Complimentary Girl Scout Experience Boxes for new Daisy troops are here to support you every step of the way! Starting in August, new Girl Scout Daisy troop leaders will receive a monthly supply box filled with step-by-step instructions and ready-to-go supplies that follows the Daisy First Year Troop Plan.

### LEARN MORE

## Safety Activity

### Checkpoints

As you're planning your troop adventures for summer and beyond, please remember to use the Intro to Safety Activity Checkpoints as a planning resource to ensure you're meeting all safety requirements for your activity! Please email [travel@gsnorcal.org](mailto:travel@gsnorcal.org) with any questions.

### LEARN MORE

## Certificate of Insurance

### Requests Update

We are currently renewing our council liability insurance for the 2025 Girl Scout year. As a result, if you have submitted a Certificate of Insurance (COI) request, it will be put on hold until July 1, 2024. All new COI's released on July 1, 2024 will be valid until June 30, 2025.

If you need a certificate for an event before July 1 or have questions, please email

[insurance@gsnorcal.org](mailto:insurance@gsnorcal.org).

## Get Ready: Troop Finance Reports

Due June 30 | All Troops

It's almost time to submit your 2024 Troop Finance Report! This year, all troops must account for income and expenses from June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024. Follow the [Troop Finance Report Instructions](#) to start this process! If you should still have unanswered questions, register for our [Q&A on June 18](#).

## Fundraising Ban Lifted to Support Those Impacted by the Israel-Gaza War

GSUSA received a council request to extend the fundraising ban lift to support those affected by the Israel-Gaza War. Per *Blue Book* requirements, National CEO Bonnie Barczykowski and National President Noorain Khan have approved a three-month lift of the fundraising ban. Girl Scouts may now raise funds through September 5, 2024. Contributions be made to charities that have been identified by [Charity Navigator](#) or [CharityWatch](#).

## Reminders:

With so many events and updates happening, we want to make sure you're informed of the latest news! Here's a quick look at some more reminders for you to know about:

- **Let's Get Planning:**  
Update your troop meeting plans for the summer in myGS. Get a head start on the year by [checking out the troop year plans](#) to start planning for next year.
- **Girl Scout Retail Shops Update:**  
For the latest shop hours and updates at our various Girl Scout Retail Shop locations, [visit our website](#). The Santa Rosa Retail Shop will be taking pre-orders for the third Tuesday of the month, through summer. Please email your order to [shop@gsnorcal.org](mailto:shop@gsnorcal.org), three business days prior to date.
- **Now Available: Brand Assets**  
[Free Girl Scout brand assets](#) are now available for troop leaders and service units!
- **Fall Festival Workshop Leader Sign Ups:**  
As the Fall Festival Retreat, a weekend learning event for Troop adults, is still being planned, we invite you to join the [Fall Festival Facebook group](#) for upcoming updates. If you have a skill or hobby that you'd like to teach, please fill out the [Fall Festival form](#).

## Upcoming Events

Spring has sprung, and so have our fabulous events! There's something for everyone to enjoy!

- [Cookie Town Hall](#), June 17 | Virtual | All Members
- [STEM Career Day with UC Berkeley's W\(i\)CSE](#), June 23 | Berkeley | Grades 4-6
- [Girl Scout Nights: San Jose Earthquakes](#), June 29 (a chance to win a spot to hold the pre-banner on the field) | Stanford | Everyone
- [Girl Scout Nights: San Jose Earthquakes](#), July 7 (includes pre-game Women's Leadership panel) | San Jose | Everyone
- [BroadwaySF: Mrs. Doubtfire Musical](#), July 10 | San Francisco | Grades Everyone
- [Girl Scouts Day at the Capitol: Welcome Breakfast](#), August 8 | Sacramento | Grades 5-12
- [River Rangers Adventure](#), August 31-September 2 | Somerset | Grades 6-12
- [Water Works Park](#), September 7-8 | Redding | All Grades

## Looking Forward

A quick sneak peek into some of the happenings for next month, and some reminders:

- Disability Pride Month | July
- Independence Day | July 4
- [Mandatory LiveScan Fingerprinting](#) | Free until April 2025 | Volunteers

## Share Your Story

Calling all Girl Scout adventurers, leaders, and trailblazers! We are on a quest to uncover and feature the most incredible, feel-good stories from your experience as a Girl Scout. Whether it's a moment of triumph, a lesson learned, or a cherished memory, we want to hear it! [Submit your story](#) now!

## Have a question or need help?

Check out our [gsHelpCenter](#) with articles and resources for volunteers and members.