



April 15, 2022

A promotional graphic with a purple background on the left and a green background on the right. The purple section contains the text "Keep the fun going!" in a large, white, serif font, followed by "Bigger and better things are around the corner." in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Below this is a green button with the text "RENEW TODAY" in white, uppercase, sans-serif font. The green section features a circular cutout of a young girl with dark hair, wearing a yellow shirt and a brown Girl Scout sash with the number "017" on it, standing outdoors with her arms crossed.

Connecting. Testing her strength. Making a difference. Renew today to make sure your Girl Scout continues to shine her brightest.

She's ready to explore, learn, and create. She's ready to come back. Keep the fun going with Girl Scouts and watch her confidence soar.

All members who register from **April 1-June 6, 2022** will receive a free patch AND a double bubble fidget backpack charm.\* Plus, for every day before June 6 you are renewed, your name will be entered into a drawing to win fun Girl Scout prizes! (For example, if you renew April 1, your name will be entered 67 times—that's 67 chances to win.)

Troop leaders: Troops who renew 80% of their girls and 2+ co-leaders will receive a 25% off coupon to use in the GSSI council shop!

*\*Girls who earned a membership through the 2022 Cookie Program will receive all early renewal incentives.*

LEARN MORE



# Highest Awards Celebration May 14, 2022

The 2022 Highest Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 14 at 2:00PM CST at First Christian Church in Evansville. We will recognize the following awardees:

- Gold, Silver, Bronze Awards
- Top 5 Individual Cookie Bosses
- Honor & Golden Honor Troops
- Journey Summit Award
- Community Service Bar
- Service to Girl Scouting
- Program Aide Mentoring Award
- 10 Year Members
- Graduating Seniors

To ensure accuracy and correct spelling, we ask all leaders with girls receiving any of these recognitions to please review the document below. Invitations have been emailed to awardees. If you have a correction to the award list or did not receive an invitation, please contact [cmccord@girlscouts-gssi.org](mailto:cmccord@girlscouts-gssi.org).

AWARDEE LIST

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# Cookie Updates

## 500+ Cookie Boss Celebration

If your girl received an invitation to the upcoming 500+ Cookie Boss celebration event, please be sure to RSVP to [cookies@girlscouts-gssi.org](mailto:cookies@girlscouts-gssi.org) by Monday, April 18.

## End of Program Survey

GSSI is always working to make the Cookie Program better for the girls and volunteers. Please share your feedback and ideas with us by completing our End of Program Survey. As a thank you, there will be a drawing for a sweet treat for those who participate! [Take the 2022 End of Cookie Program Survey](#).

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On Friday, April 8, we were thrilled to host our annual Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony in person for the first time in two years!

Congratulations again to our awardees:

- Dr. Gina Huhnke, Woman of Distinction
- Jacqueline Keneipp Barnette, Rising Star
- CenterPoint Energy, Advancing Women Company

Thank you to all of our sponsors, donors, and participants in the women's leadership panel. Special recognition also goes to Lori Sutton, Mistress of Ceremonies, and Michael Lookebill, event audiovisual producer.

To see a full list of sponsors and photos from the event, visit the link below.

[EVENT PHOTOS](#)

## Introducing Rhonda Tidwell, Troop & Service Unit Support Specialist

GSSI is happy to welcome the newest member of our team, Troop & Service Unit Support Specialist Rhonda Tidwell.

Rhonda has lived in the Evansville area for 12 years. She was a Girl Scout leader when her daughters were younger and now leads her granddaughter's troop in Mt. Vernon. She says it has always been her dream job to work at a non-profit organization, so she is very excited to join our staff!

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## April is Volunteer Appreciation Month!

Because of you,  
they shine.

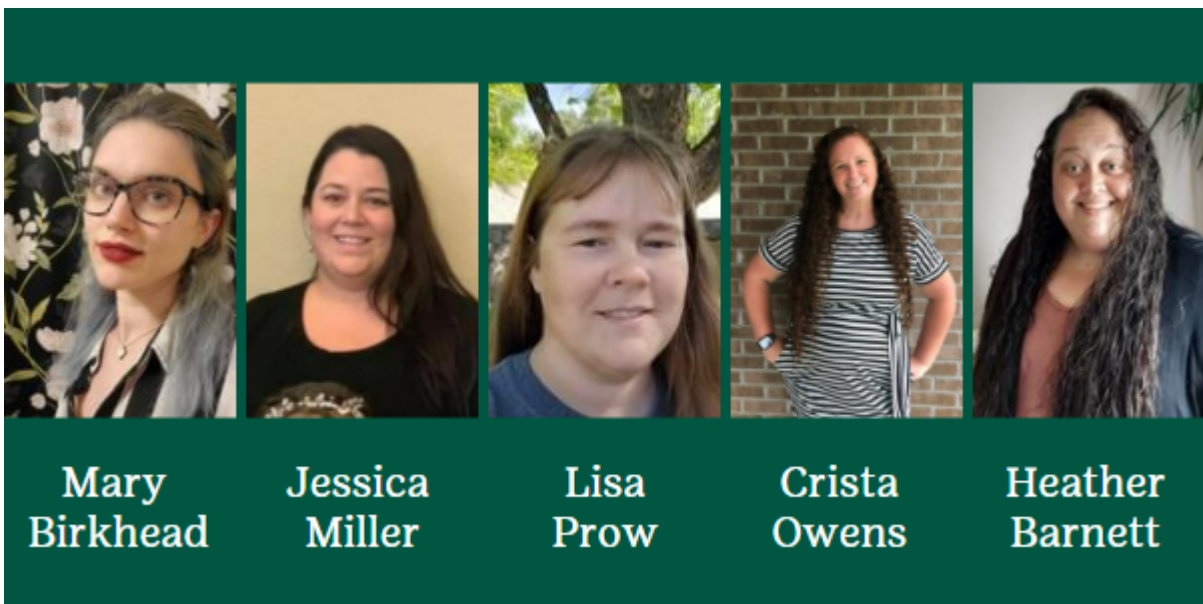
Thank you, volunteers!



April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we're providing tools and tips to help you celebrate all month long! Our incredible volunteers deserve to be recognized often, but during April in particular, we love to let them know just how special they are.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## Announcing Our 2022 GSUSA Adult Awardees



Congratulations to the following volunteers:

- Mary Birkhead, Volunteer of Excellence
- Jessica Miller, Volunteer of Excellence
- Lisa Prow, Volunteer of Excellence
- Crista Owens, Appreciation Pin
- Heather Barnett, Honor Pin

Thank you all for your exemplary service to the Girl Scout movement!

## **We want to hear from you! The Girl Scout Voices Count survey is happening now!**

This month, we are conducting our annual Girl Scout Voices Count national survey of Girl Scouts, parents or caregivers, and troop leaders (service unit volunteers will be surveyed in May). The feedback you provide is so important as it helps us improve Girl Scouts programs and services.

The survey opened April 5; be sure to check your email for an invitation to participate. As a thank you, everyone who completes the survey will have a chance to win one of 20 \$50 gift cards from GSUSA. Additionally, troop leaders who complete the survey will be entered into drawing for \$50 (3 will win) and parents/girls will be entered to win \$25 (4 will win) from GSSI.

We're looking forward to hearing what you have to say!

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# Join us for the Spring Troop Camporee at Camp Koch!



We invite all troops to kick off the summer camp season at the **Spring Troop Camporee on May 7** and enjoy Camp Koch while spring is in full bloom. This session is a perfect opportunity for troops who want to visit camp but don't know where to start. GSSI will organize everything for you; all you do is show up with your girls and have fun! Troops can attend for the day or spend the night and put

their camping skills to the test.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## Resident Summer Camp Programs

In addition to the Spring Troop Camporee, we will offer five different resident camp sessions at Camp Koch this summer; four for CSAs and one for Brownies and Juniors.

[Learn More»](#)



**Save your spot for GSUSA's 2023 Convention!**

Calling all innovators, problem solvers, phenoms, and doers (that's you!) True phenoms find innovative solutions to problems, do things that have never been done before, and make a difference in their communities.

Ready to show the world just how phenomenal you are? Join us for a national gathering of changemakers from across the country in July 2023 at Walt Disney World Resort. Get ready to spark new ideas, make friends, have fun, and create something incredible.

Early bird registration will open this summer, but don't wait—[fill out our interest form](#) to save your spot and stay in the loop on all the fun that awaits! There will be activities and demos in the Expo Hall, special guests, live performances, and much more. This event is open to all, including Girl Scout members, non-members, alums, and families.

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## Take Action for the Environment with Alcoa Foundation



Thanks to a generous grant from Alcoa Foundation, GSSI will again offer mini grants for take action and highest award projects that focus on environmental sustainability and/or environmental education throughout the remainder of the 2021-2022 membership year.

Troops, service unit events, service unit camps, and individuals (registered members grades K-12) must submit a mini grant proposal form for consideration. If awarded, the project will receive \$75.00 towards project expenses.

Project plans and proposed budgets must be submitted to and approved by GSSI before starting. Final project reports and receipts must be submitted by troop/group/individual to GSSI at the completion of the service for tracking. Projects must be completed and submitted before September 1, 2022.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[Join the Fun with the Spring 2022 Event Series!](#)

We have two more community partner events scheduled for May & June! All girls in grades K-5 are invited; you don't have to be a registered Girl Scout to participate. Each program is facilitated by a different community partner at the business location.

The cost for each event is \$15, but if you sign up for both events you will receive a \$5 discount on the June event.

Note: Each event is for girls only; no tag-a-long siblings, please.

### **May 7: Building Friendships Through Yoga with Sift Yoga**

Join Sift Yoga for a special Girl Scout-inspired 45-minute yoga class focusing on the theme of friendship (yoga mats, blocks and bolsters provided). The Program will be taught by Certified Children's Yoga Teachers. Four session times available, maximum 15 girls per session. Registration deadline is April 29.

### **June 4: Girl Scout Night at Newburgh Tumbling**

Join Newburgh Tumbling for a fun opportunity for girls to learn the sport of gymnastics and tumbling with a carnival theme, The Greatest Gymnastics Show. Registration deadline is May 23.

**[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](#)**

## **More Upcoming Events**

### **Tech Event with Vincennes University**

**Saturday, April 23, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM EST**

Join Vincennes University instructors and students for a fun event that will allow girls to learn about a variety of STEM subjects with hands-on activities. Stations will include video game design, coding, robotics, and more!

**[LEARN MORE](#)**

### **Party for the Planet with Mesker Park Zoo**

**Saturday, April 23, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM CST**

Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden will be partying for the planet to honor and celebrate our rich, beautiful planet and the diversity of life that calls it home.



The party will host many fun and engaging activities that will highlight the theme “Spring into Action!” There will be a lot to see and do, including activity stations, animal encounters, keeper chats, entertainment, animal feedings, community vendors and mascots, art contest entries on display, and more. The zoo will help families “spring into action” to save our species and planet through simple, meaningful daily actions! (This is a community event, not a Girl Scout-specific event.)

[LEARN MORE](#)

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## GSSI Shop Updates

### Shop Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM CST

Thursday: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM CST

Tuesday & Friday: Closed

### Can't Make it In?

In addition to in-store shopping, we now offer online ordering with the option of store pick-up or FREE shipping!

[SHOP NOW](#)

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