



February 18, 2022



It's National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend!

To celebrate National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend, we invite troops to tell us their FAVORITE part of the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Whether it's learning business skills, having fun at cookie booths, or reaching goals, we want to hear from you! All troops that enter will have the chance to win a gift certificate to the council shop AND NGSCW patches for your whole troop.



To enter, submit your troop's answers in the comments on the Facebook post linked below through Sunday, February 20. We will select the winner by random drawing on Monday, February 21. Submissions may also be emailed to cookies@girlscouts-gssi.org.

SUBMIT HERE

More Cookie Updates

Submit Your Entries for Bling Your Booth 2022

It's time for Bling Your Booth 2022! We invite troops to use their Girl Scout creativity to make a fun and unique cookie booth to attract more customers and show off their artistic skills.

Winners will be selected by online voting and will receive gift certificates to the council shop! Submit your entries by emailing a photo of your booth to lalvey@girlscouts-gssi.org by Thursday, March 10. Please include your troop number in your email. Voting will take place from Friday, March 11-Wednesday, March 16, with winners announced on Friday, March 18. We can't wait to see what you create!

Friday Cookies

An additional Friday Cookies date will be available on Friday, February 25. The same procedures apply, but cookies will be picked up at the council office, NOT at Belmont.

- Friday, February 25, cookie reservations must be submitted by Wednesday, February 23, at 4:00 PM.
- Unopened cases may be returned to the council office and must be received by Monday, February 28 at 5:30 PM.

FRIDAY COOKIE RESERVATIONS

Council Cupboard & GSSI Shop Hours for Cookie Season

The council cookie cupboard located will be open Monday, February 7-Friday, March 4.

Note: The GSSI shop will be open during all cupboard hours.

Hours are as follows: (all times CST)

- Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM-5:30 PM
- Friday: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

- Saturdays February 12, February 19, February 26: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Cookie cupboards in Daviess, Dubois, Knox, and Perry Counties will vary and will be communicated by your SUCC.

Introducing Olivia Blanco, Outdoor Experience Specialist

We are excited to introduce Olivia Blanco, GSSI's new (and first-ever!) Outdoor Experience Specialist. In her role, Olivia will support and grow our offering of outdoor experiences for girls, including creating new council and community partner programs and overseeing resident and day camps.

Olivia moved to Evansville in December from her hometown of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Growing up, she participated in Girl Scouts as a Junior and a Cadette. She graduated from Appalachian State University with a degree in recreation management focused on outdoor experiential education and minored in sustainable development with an emphasis on agriculture.

Before joining GSSI, Olivia worked as a wilderness troop leader in Wyoming for SOAR Adventure Camp, where she facilitated 18-day camp sessions for children with disabilities. During the sessions, the campers would go backpacking, horse packing, climbing, white water rafting, shooting, and visit Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park.

Olivia says, "As a troop leader at SOAR, I loved watching how the outdoors impacted my campers and taught them lessons they could apply to life back home. At GSSI, I look forward to creating many more outdoor program opportunities for girls in our area. I feel that these experiences help girls develop lifelong skills that can benefit them now and in the future!"

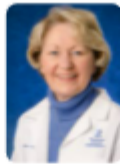
Olivia's biggest life goal is to conquer the Triple Crown of Hiking, which is the Appalachian Trail, the Continental Divide Trail, and the Pacific Crest Trail.

*Girl Scouts of Southwest Indiana
presents*

WOMEN of DISTINCTION 2022

Save the date!

**April 8, 2022
11:30 AM CST
Bally's Evansville**



Woman of Distinction

Dr. Gina Huhnke
Deaconess Health System



Rising Star

Jacqueline Keneipp Barnette
Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation



Advancing Women Company

CenterPoint Energy



Mistress of Ceremonies

Lori Sutton
Alcoa

We invite you to save the date to join us for our Women of Distinction awards ceremony and luncheon on April 8, 2022 at 11:30 AM CST at Bally's Evansville. Women of Distinction is a community-wide annual celebration of successful female leaders in Southern Indiana. All proceeds go to fund the Girl Scout Leadership Program, which in turn helps Girl Scouts grow into the leaders and changemakers of tomorrow.

Sponsorship opportunities are available! For more information, contact Mary Fee at mfee@girlscouts-gssi.org or call (812) 421-4970.

Volunteer Spotlight



This week we're sending CASES of thanks to the **CenterPoint Energy volunteers** who spent time sorting, stacking, and loading cookies at the Evansville cookie docks at Belmont Moving. They braved hours in the cold and icy conditions to make our cookie deliveries as smooth as possible, and we couldn't have done it without them!

Have a leader or volunteer you'd like to recognize for going above and beyond?
Contact amiller@girlscouts-gssi.org.

Mutlicultural Community Celebrations Patch: Black History Month

We're stronger together. By acknowledging the diversity, heritage, and contributions of our multicultural communities, Girl Scouts can find new ways to make the world a better place for everyone.



February is Black History Month, where we honor the incredible contributions, the Black and African American communities have made throughout U.S. history — from civil rights leaders to artists, politicians to inventors. Take this opportunity to learn more about the community's central role in U.S. history and the world. We've got plenty of activities to choose from for all levels, so you can make new discoveries and have tons of fun [while earning your patch!](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

Take action for
the environment
with a mini grant
from



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.

APPLY HERE

In addition to the mini grants, Alcoa Foundation has joined with GSSI on our Local Tree Pledge, which allowing troops to receive free seeds to plant across our communities. The pledge will work to provide healthier air and water for our neighbors, make our communities more attractive, and teach girls to be good environmental stewards. [Request Your Seeds](#)

Introducing the Spring 2022 Event Series

We have an all new series of community partner events scheduled for the spring! 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 multiple events you will receive a \$5 discount on each subsequent event; up to a total discount of \$15!

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

March 5: Koala Art with DIY Studio

Create your own, one-of-a-kind wooden art inspired by Girl Scouts' 2022 Cookie mascot, the koala. Two session times are available.

- Session 1 – 10:30 am – 11:15 am (Max 20 girls, 1 adult may stay)

- Session 2 – 11:30 am – 12:15 pm (Max 20 girls, 1 adults may stay)

Location: 1304 S. Green River Road Evansville, IN

Deadline to register: February 24

April-June Events:

- April 2: Zoobilee with Mesker Park Zoo
- May 7: Building Friendships Through Yoga with Sift Yoga
- June 4: Learn Tumbling & Gymnastics with Newburgh Tumbling

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](#)

Past and Present Camp Staff Members: Join us for the Camp Koch 80th Anniversary Staff Reunion



If you have ever been a member of the Camp Koch staff (paid or volunteer), we invite you to Camp Koch for a reunion celebration of everything you miss and love about camp! It will be a time to reunite with friends, hike to Fox Ridge or Blue Wells, enjoy the lake, make s'mores, share meals in the Dining Hall, and more! The reunion will occur over Labor Day weekend, September 2-5, 2022.

Complete information, including a schedule of events, pricing options, and registration information, is available at the link below. Questions? Please get in touch with Beth (Alvin) Heil at (812)550-7093 or katesmom@hotmail.com OR Karen (Dusty) Selby at (812)457-9339 or ksdusty758@gmail.com. Please put 'Camp Koch Reunion' in the subject line of emails.

LEARN MORE



Join Girl Scouts' Astronomy Club

Do you love all things space? Are you curious about astronomy? Maybe you love anything STEM-related. Then Girl Scouts of Southwest Indiana's Astronomy Club is for you. This girl-led leadership experience allows Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador level Girl Scouts an opportunity to explore the universe. We hold monthly meetings that focus on various fun activities in the world of astronomy, like earning space science badges, performing citizen science, and of course, gazing at the cosmos. The club's meeting schedule is listed below; girls must be registered for the 2022 program year to participate.

Meeting Schedule:

- March 13, 6:00 pm – 7:30 PM CST
- April 10, 6:00 pm – 7:30 PM CST
- May 15, 6:00 pm – 7:30 PM CST

Club Meeting Location:

Bethlehem United Church of Christ
6400 Oak Hill Road, Evansville, IN 47725

Sign up [HERE](#) to get started! Please RSVP for February's meeting by February 10 to ensure supply availability.

GSSI's Astronomy Club is led by Mandy Scurry, NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador. She is looking for additional adult volunteers to help at meetings. If you are interested, please email Mandy at amanjohn@hotmail.com.

World Thinking Day 2022



This February 22, celebrate our global sisterhood by standing up for causes that could improve the lives of girls around the globe. Plus, earn a cool patch!

Observed by 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts worldwide, World Thinking Day has a different theme each year. In 2022, the theme is “Our World: Our Equal Future: The Environment and Gender Equality.” To earn your World Thinking Day Award, you’ll explore how girls and women are disproportionately affected by climate change and participate in the Girl Scout Tree Promise. Check out the activity guides at the link below to get involved and learn about how you can make a difference in the world.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Celebrate National Girl Scout Week with Walther's Golf & Fun Center

From March 7-March 13, troops are invited to celebrate Girl Scout Week with a free round of mini golf at Walther's Golf & Fun Center in Evansville! Simply present the flyer linked below for admission. (Only one flyer per troop needed.) Questions? Contact nick@golfnfun.com.

[DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

