

Girl Talk Newsletter

A Message from Nikki: Confidence, Cookies, and Big Goals Ahead!



Hi! I'm Nikki Iagnemma, Senior Director of Product Program and Retail—more commonly known as the “cookie lady.” I love leading initiatives that empower girls through hands-on, real-world learning. Through participation in the Girl Scout Cookie Program, girls build essential life skills such as goal setting, decision-making, money management, people skills, and business ethics.

I'm passionate about ensuring every Girl Scout has access to meaningful program experiences that foster confidence, leadership, and entrepreneurial spirit—helping girls develop skills they'll carry with them far beyond the cookie season. The 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Program is officially underway, giving Girl Scouts the opportunity to set goals, run their own businesses, and make a meaningful impact in their communities.

I also encourage families and supporters to explore the Girl Scout Retail Shop, where you can find fun gear, uniforms, badges, and Girl Scout-branded items that celebrate the Girl Scout experience and help girls show their pride year-round.

The Must-Read Guide for Cookie Season Success



The Cookie Family Connection Guide is packed with helpful tips, safety reminders, and step-by-step guidance to support families throughout cookie season. It highlights how the Girl Scout Cookie Program builds essential life skills like goal setting, decision-making, and people skills, all while keeping proceeds local to power troop adventures and council programs.

Cookie sales are officially live now and run through March 15, giving Girl Scouts plenty of time to grow their entrepreneurial confidence. And mark your calendars, cookie booths open February 20, offering girls even more opportunities to shine in their communities.

[READ MORE](#)

Help Us Improve Volunteer Training—Your Feedback Matters



Girl Scouts of South Carolina—Mountains to Midlands is partnering with Kelly Wuest Consulting to identify ways to improve the training and support of our volunteers. As part of this effort, we are asking all volunteers to respond to a brief online survey.

Your responses will provide valuable insight that help inform our volunteer onboarding and training. All responses will remain anonymous, but you will have the opportunity to indicate if you would like to provide further information at the end of the survey. The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete and will close at 11:30 p.m. on Sunday, January 25. Please [submit your feedback here](#) and thank you for your continued commitment as a volunteer with GSSC—MM!

Also, Kelly will be hosting an online focus group to discuss volunteer training on Monday, January 26, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. For those interested in joining the meeting, please register below!

[REGISTER](#)

Learn about our Summer 2028 international trip to London & Paris



We are excited to announce an upcoming interest meeting for our Summer 2028 international travel experience to London and Paris! This unforgettable trip will include visits to iconic landmarks, cultural excursions, and a meaningful stop at the Girl Scout World Center, Pax Lodge. It's a wonderful opportunity for older Girl Scouts to broaden their horizons, strengthen their independence, and experience the world of international Girl Scouting firsthand.

The interest meeting is open to current girls in grades 7–10 and their caregivers. During the session, participants will learn about the trip itinerary, cost, timeline, and expectations. Girls eligible to travel will be those in grades 9–12 during Summer 2028. A Zoom link will be sent out the day before the meeting.

Click the button below for full details and registration.

[LEARN MORE](#)

2026 Camp Book and Website



★ We're wild about camp—how about you? ★ Our [2026 Camp Book](#) and our [camp website](#) are live!

Now, you can read more about our themed sessions (zombies 🧟, mermaids 🧜, and more 🍀) for all three of our properties: Camp Cathy, Camp Mary Elizabeth, and Camp WaBak. You can also learn about our camp directors, what to pack, and other topics. Registration for camp will be available on February 4.

Whatever your girl's interests, we have a week of camp for her!

[LEARN MORE](#)

Save the Date: Annual Business Meeting & Volunteer Appreciation on April 18



Mark your calendars! Our merged Annual Business Meeting (ABM) and Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony (VAC) will take place in Columbia on April 18, and everyone is invited to attend one or both of the day's events.

We'll kick off the day with the Annual Business Meeting from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center, where members will come together to reflect on our progress and look ahead to the future of our council.

The celebration continues across the road as we shift to The Hall at Dupre's for the Volunteer Appreciation festivities from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Join us for fun, food, and heartfelt recognition of the volunteers who make Girl Scouts possible.

Nominations for volunteer and years of service recognitions will be opening next week! This is your chance to honor the incredible individuals who go above and beyond. [Read more about the awards here](#) and consider nominating a volunteer for one of our distinguished awards.

Whether you attend the Annual Business Meeting, the Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony, or make a day of it and join us for both, we can't wait to celebrate with you! Learn more about Volunteer Awards, Years of Service reporting, and more below.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Girlz Gear Shop Hours



Reminder: We've updated our Girlz Gear Shop hours for 2026 to better reflect seasonal needs and shopping trends—based on what we learned from past sales data. These changes help us serve you when you're most likely to shop!

- January 5-30: Tuesday–Thursday from 12:00–5:00 p.m.
- February 1–March 6: Tuesday–Wednesday from 12:00–5:00 p.m.; Thursday from 12:00–6:00 p.m.; Friday from 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- See full schedule [here](#).

Thank you for supporting the Girl Scout Shop, your purchases help power amazing experiences for girls!

Girlz Gear Shop

Girlz Gear Hours

The Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center and Greenville Service Center Girlz Gear Shops are open on Tuesdays through Thursdays from 12:00–5:00 p.m. starting January 5 through January 30.

Orders for Camp Mary Elizabeth in Spartanburg are delivered once a week from the Greenville Service Center on an as needed basis.

Complete an [order request for CME delivery here](#).

[Learn more here.](#)

Our [Girlz Gear shops](#) are open 24/7 online.



Have a question? Don't be shy!
[Contact us](#) for more information.

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