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girl scouts of california's central coast

Welcome to our February newsletter! ✨
February is all about kindness, connection, and celebrating what makes Girl Scouts special! Whether you're earning new badges, taking part in community service, or sharing sweet moments with your troop, this is the perfect time to spread joy and make a difference. 💚

From fun activities to meaningful projects, let's show the world what it means to lead with heart. ❤️ Here's to an amazing month of friendship, learning, and unforgettable Girl Scout adventures! 🌟

Girl Scout Programs

🌟 Exciting adventures await! Check out our activity calendar for all the upcoming events and start planning your next Girl Scout experience. From badge workshops to outdoor adventures, there's something for everyone! Many events have limited space, so be sure to register early to guarantee your spot and make unforgettable memories. Don't wait—explore the calendar now and join in the fun! 🎉💚

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

It's Girl Scouts Cookie Season - Time to Embrace Possibilities!

February is Friendship month and what better way to celebrate that at a Girl Scout Cookie booth. Booth opportunities begin February 7, so make sure to get your booths selected for the 2025 Cookie Season, they are going fast.

COOKIE CENTRAL

Gold Award Scholarship: GSUSA

Now that you've earned the Gold Award—the highest award in Girl Scouting—did you know that you can apply for a $5,000 scholarship? The GSUSA Gold Award Scholarship will be awarded to one remarkable Girl Scout per council who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and sustainable impact while addressing a national or global issue— and you could be the one! Applications open March 14, 2025.

LEARN MORE

Higher Awards Training Workshops

Curious about earning the prestigious Bronze, Silver, or Gold Awards? Discover how you can make a difference and achieve greatness through our exciting training workshops, available on Zoom or in person. Learn from experienced trainers, get inspired by past projects, and start your journey towards these incredible honors. Don't miss out on this opportunity to elevate your Girl Scout experience!

REGISTER HERE

Troop Cookie Coordinators

All Troop Cookie Coordinators, please make sure to complete the Troop Cookie Coordinator Agreement form. This is how we add you and your troop into SMART COOKIES, which then feeds into Digital Cookie. Also make sure you have chosen the role of: Product Program – Cookies in MyGS, this is how our Girl Scout membership platform talks to SMART COOKIES and Digital Cookie.

VIEW FORM

GSUSA Removed Exception to Lift Fundraising Ban.

The National Board has voted to remove all references to lifting the fundraising ban that allowed troops to temporarily raise money for outside organizations or causes, during a national or international emergency/disaster.

If you have any questions regarding the Fundraising Ban, please reach out to Info@girlscoutsccc.org or 800-822-2427.

New: USA Girl Scouts Overseas Camp Opportunities

USA Girl Scouts Overseas is excited to offer three camp products for Girl Scouts in 2025!

Mini Camps
Three-night camps in multiple locations around the world, designed to prepare Girl Scouts for our full, week-long overnight camps; open to Girl Scout Daisies through Cadettes. Join us in Mexico or Germany!

Adventure Camps
Three-night camps in multiple locations around the world, featuring outdoor adventures distinctive to each destination; open to Girl Scout Juniors through Ambassadors. Join us in South Korea, Slovenia, or Japan!

Week-Long Overnight Camps
Six-night camps in multiple locations around the world—this is your "classic" Girl Scout camp experience in unique overseas locations; open to Girl Scout Brownies through Ambassadors. Join us in Taiwan!

Action needed:
Find more information, including registration.

Looker Access

Coming in April, Service Unit Volunteers with Looker access will need to start logging in using an authenticator app. This is a part of a push by GSUSA to make all of our data more secure, so they are requiring multifactor authentication to login. In the months to come GSUSA will reach out to the volunteers that this change is applicable to with details of how to setup their authenticator app and when the exact change will be made. As always, GSCCC is here to support our volunteers. Please reach out with any questions or concerns you may have regarding this change.

Email info@girlscoutsccc.org if you have any questions.

Wells Fargo Troop Banking

In late 2024 Wells Fargo informed council they would be changing the way we set up troop banking accounts and required us to support this initiative. This has been a very difficult transition, and we have been experiencing long delays and lack of support from the various teams at the bank. We are currently evaluating whether this is the right banking relationship for us to continue.

We are very aware of the frustrations that our members are experiencing, especially new Troop Leaders along with our staff. This is why we are currently evaluating if this is the right banking relationship for our members and are interviewing other banks. Our single focus is to ensure that our troops are supported, no bank charges and electronic account signups for convenience. We appreciate your patience as we navigate this challenging situation.

Email info@girlscoutsccc.org if you have any questions.

AB506 Compliance: Immediate Action Required – Complete Your LiveScan by March 15

Your compliance with AB506 LiveScan requirements is crucial to maintaining safety and support for our Girl Scout members. Completing your LiveScan background check is an essential step in ensuring a secure environment for our girls and meeting California state law requirements.

This is an urgent reminder to complete this process by March 15th to avoid any disruptions to your ability to fully participate as a leader. Your prompt action directly supports our mission to provide a safe and enriching experience for all members.

Steps to Complete Your LiveScan:

1. Find a LiveScan location here.
2. Bring the GSCCC LiveScan Form to ensure your results are sent directly to the council.
3. Submit the reimbursement form for any fees incurred.

For more information, check out the AB506 FAQ or contact us at 800-822-2427 or info@girlscoutsccc.org. Thank you for prioritizing the safety and well-being of our Girl Scouts.

Support for Los Angeles Wildfire Relief

Our hearts are with those affected by the Los Angeles wildfires, especially our Girl Scout family at GSGLA.

- Visit GSGLA's resource page for ways to support those impacted.
- Troops can write letters/cards from home and mail them to (or drop them off at) our Canoga Park, Inglewood, Upland, Long Beach, or Santa Clarita properties. You can also stop by these locations to write letters/cards on-site. Get detailed instructions and tips for writing letters/cards.

Let's come together to support our sister council during this time.

Upcoming Programs

GSCCC Santa Cruz Warriors Game - D/B/J/C/S/A	The Magic of Steinbeck Museum Tour - Salinas - D/B/J/C/A	Girl Scout Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk - Spring Overnight

Get ready for your Santa Cruz Warriors to take on the Oklahoma City Blue's. Secure your ticket now to the February 22nd Santa Cruz Warriors games. Tickets are in section H and will be available to you one week before the game. All registered Girl Scouts attending will receive a fun patch and be part of the half-time tunnel run.

REGISTER HERE

Get Ready to Unlock the Magic with an unforgettable journey into the world of one of America's greatest storyteller, John Steinbeck. Join us for some adventure, exploration, while learning about some of the captivating stories of John Steinbeck.
Session 1: 10:00 - 12:00PM
Session 2: 1:00 - 3:00PM

REGISTER HERE

Register now to sleep in the iconic Coconut Grove at the famous Santa Cruz Boardwalk! Event dates are March 14 – March 15, 2025. Girls must have an adult chaperone, and troops must be in girl to adult ratios.

REGISTER HERE

Girl Scouts Against Substance Abuse – Leading the Change

Girl Scouts Against Substance Abuse: Leading the Change is a dynamic, interactive program designed to empower Girl Scouts to make healthy choices and understand the dangers of substance abuse. Participants will engage in educational sessions, a live K9 demonstration with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office, and creative activities focused on mental health and positive peer influence. This program at Camp Arnaz combines fun, learning, and teamwork to promote life skills and mental well-being

REGISTER NOW

Hospital Tours – St Johns & Pleasant Valley

Step behind the scenes of the medical world with our hospital tours at St. John's! This exciting opportunity gives Girl Scouts an inside look at healthcare careers, from nursing and surgery to emergency care and beyond. Girls will meet healthcare professionals, explore various departments, and learn what it takes to make a difference in the lives of others. Don't miss this inspiring experience—perfect for those interested in STEM or pursuing a future in healthcare!

REGISTER NOW

A Hospital Adventure Day - Pleasant Valley

Ever wondered what it's like to work in healthcare? Join us for hospital tours at Pleasant Valley Hospital and discover the exciting world of medicine! Girl Scouts will get an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at hospital departments, meet medical professionals, and learn about the skills and dedication it takes to care for others. This hands-on experience is perfect for girls curious about STEM and exploring future career paths in healthcare. Don't miss out!

REGISTER NOW

Wilderness Hiking Course – Camp Arnaz – March 2nd, 8:30am – 4:30pm

Take the first step in your wilderness adventure! Designed for individuals, our Wilderness Hiking Course safely takes Girl Scouts and adults out of the campground and into the woods. Wilderness Hiking covers outdoor skills and knowledge and is a prerequisite for the Basic Backpacking and Advanced Backpacking courses. Spend your morning in the classroom and your afternoon on the trail learning about safety, proper gear and equipment, the Leave No Trace ethic, and building independence in Girl Scouts. This class lays a strong foundation for more extraordinary adventures.

REGISTER HERE

Basic Backpacking Course

The second part of our three-step wilderness progression, designed for individuals, teaches everything you need to know to begin a multi-night outdoor adventure. Gain the knowledge you'll need to make important decisions about gear, clothing, and trip planning, then hit the trail to practice and hone your skills.

REGISTER HERE

Celebrate World Thinking Day with Us!

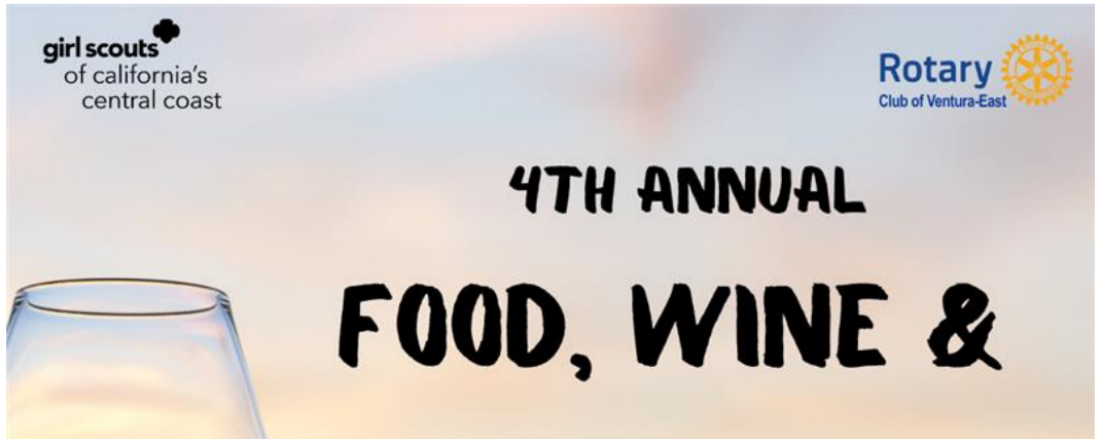
Every year on February 22nd, Girl Scouts around the world celebrate World Thinking Day—a day to honor friendship, take action, and make the world a better place. This year's theme, "Our Story: Reflecting the Symbolism and Values of Our Movement," is all about learning the history and values that connect Girl Scouts and Girl Guides everywhere.

We want to hear your troop's story! Tell us what your troop is doing to celebrate and create a short video, slideshow, or written piece to showcase your celebration of this year's theme. Let us know what you have planned, tag us on social media during your event, and share your photos and videos with us.

Need ideas? Check out the official World Thinking Day page for fun activities and inspiration.

Let's celebrate together and share the stories that make Girl Scouts strong!

Food Wine & Beer Festival – May 3rd, 2025, 4pm-7pm:



Join us for the 4th Annual Food, Wine, and Beer Festival at Camp Arnaz on May 3rd, 2025! This year's festival promises to be the most exciting yet, featuring an exquisite selection of local wines, craft beers, and gourmet food from top chefs. Immerse yourself in a day of culinary delights, live music, and family-friendly activities, all set against the stunning backdrop of Camp Arnaz. Whether you're a foodie, a wine enthusiast, or just looking for a fun day out, this festival has something for everyone. Don't miss out on this unforgettable celebration of flavors and community!

GET TICKETS

Celebrate Our Women of Distinction & Volunteer Recognition Event!

Join us for an unforgettable evening of celebration and gratitude at our annual Women of Distinction & Volunteer Recognition Event on Saturday, April 5, 2025!

Location: The Monterey Plaza Hotel, Monterey, CA
Time: 4:30 PM – 8:30 PM

What to Expect:
Over 175 awards will be presented to our remarkable volunteers.
Enjoy a delightful cocktail hour overlooking the ocean, featuring an exciting raffle and silent auction with exclusive items from across our Council.
Savor a delicious dinner and dessert while honoring those who inspire and empower the future of our Girl Scouts.

Tickets: Tickets are $60 and on sale now! TICKET & REGISTRATION HERE

Valet parking is available for a discounted rate of $25 per vehicle by mentioning you are with Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast

Hotel Accommodations: The Monterey Plaza Hotel is offering a discounted room rate for our volunteers, valid for stays up to three days before and three days after the event. Don't miss this opportunity to make your weekend even more special. BOOK HOTEL ROOM HERE

Important Deadlines:
March 13, 2025: Last day to book hotel accommodations.
April 1, 2025: Last day to purchase tickets

Let's come together to celebrate our amazing volunteers and their incredible contributions. Together, we can EmpowerHer & Elevate Her Future, making the world brighter for all Girl Scouts!

Don't wait – register today and be part of this inspiring evening

GET TICKETS

Save the Date: Tent or Treat - October 25th, 2025

Get ready for the biggest Halloween bash of the year! Camp Arnaz calls all ghouls, ghosts, and goblins for an epic day of festive fun, sweet treats, and spine-tingling surprises. Mark, your calendars now—this is one Halloween party you won't want to miss!

We have an Exciting Lineup of Camp Arnaz Programs!

The year is off to a fantastic start at Camp Arnaz, and we couldn't be more thrilled! Our programs are in full swing, from horseback riding and archery to women-in-construction workshops and more. February is packed with opportunities to explore, learn, and have fun, and we're excited to continue creating unforgettable experiences for all our campers. Stay tuned for upcoming events and be sure to join us as we make 2025 an amazing year together!

VIEW PROGRAMS

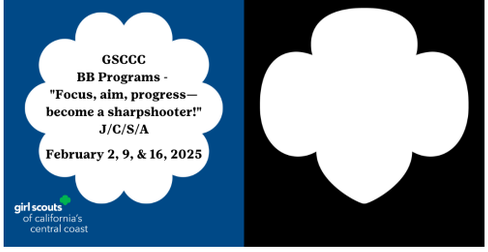
Pony Pastries - Craft tasty creations for our equine companions!

Get ready to roll up your sleeves and create something special in our Pony Pastries program! This hands-on activity lets Girl Scouts craft delicious, healthy treats for our beloved Camp Arnaz horses. Learn about the ingredients that keep our equine friends happy and healthy while adding your creative flair to each treat. It's a fun and interactive way to bond with the horses, explore your crafty side, and contribute to their care. Join us for this unique experience and see the joy in our horses' eyes when they enjoy your handmade goodies!

REGISTER HERE

BB Programs - Focus, aim, progress—become a sharpshooter!

Discover the thrill of precision shooting with our BB Gun Progression Program! Designed to build confidence and skills, participants start with the foundational benchrest position,



mastering stability and aim. As they advance, they'll tackle the challenges of standing, kneeling, and prone shooting positions, each requiring increased focus, technique, and control. Whether you're a beginner or looking to improve, this step-by-step journey is perfect for aspiring sharpshooters!

REGISTER HERE

Hearts and Hooves - Horses, hearts, and happy memories await!

Celebrate Valentine's Day with your favorite four-legged friends at our Hearts and Hooves event! Join us at the Camp Arnaz Equine Center for an afternoon filled with love, laughter, and all things horses. Create heart-shaped treats for our equine companions, enjoy horse-themed crafts, and spend some quality time with our lovable ponies. Don't miss this heartwarming event —it's love at first trot!

REGISTER HERE

Gear Up for Cookie Season: Make Your Booth Shine with Essentials from Our Retail Centers!

Visit our retail centers today to stock up on everything you need to create an eye-catching cookie booth. From 'Girl Scout Cookies Sold Here' yard signs to tablecloths, banners, and other must-have items, we've got everything to help you attract customers and showcase your troop's cookie-selling spirit!

'Girl Scout Cookies Sold Here' Yard Sign

'It's Cookie Time' handheld signs

'Its Cookie Time' Money Pouch

Visit our website to find a Retail Center near you!

Program Center Information

Smart Cookie Support Hours
Need assistance with the Smart Cookie platform? Our dedicated team is here to help! Take advantage of our Smart Cookie Support Hours to ensure your cookie season is a success. Check with your local Program Center schedule for available times.

Multicultural Community Celebration Fun Patch Series
We're excited to announce the launch of GSUSA's Multicultural Community Celebration Fun Patch Series at our Program Centers! This series invites Girl Scouts to celebrate the rich diversity of cultures and communities through fun and engaging activities while earning a unique patch for each celebration.

2025 Celebration Schedule:

- February: Black History Month
- May: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
- June: LGBTQ+ Pride Month
- September/October: Hispanic Heritage Month
- November: Native American Heritage Month

Reserve Your Program Center Space
Our Program Centers are available free of charge for troop meetings, activities, and events. Enjoy access to a welcoming space designed to support your troop's needs. Contact your local Program Center to reserve your space today!

Host a Custom Workshop
Looking for something extra? We offer customizable workshops for badges, patches, or even Journey-in-a-Day programs tailored to your troop's interests. These workshops are available for an additional cost. Reach out to your local Program Center for more information and to schedule your custom experience.

We've Relocated!
The Thousand Oaks Program Center has moved to a new, convenient location at The Oaks Mall!

New Location: Outdoor area, downstairs from the AMC Theater and across from Arhaus Parking
Address: 186 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA

We're excited to serve you in our refreshed space. Visit us today and see what's new!

Have a question? Don't be shy!
Contact us for more information.

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