

# Compass



Your guide to Girl Scout adventures | Sister to Sister Edition 2025



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## Dear Members,

In a world full of challenges and uncertainty, we all need to celebrate the good that is happening around us. I see that in the positive impact being made right here in Maine by our members. Girl Scouts of all ages are making remarkable contributions that inspire and uplift their local communities.

In a demonstration of civic pride and service, **Troop 1411** participated in the Wreaths Across America event, honoring our nation's military heroes. This commitment to community service exemplifies the Girl Scout spirit of gratitude and patriotism.

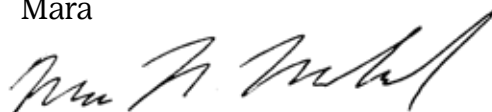
**Troop 227** from Knox County made a tangible impact by preparing and delivering birthday kits to local food banks, ensuring that even those facing hardships can celebrate their special day. And in Hermon, **Troop 1340** compiled hygiene kits for girls in need, each thoughtfully packed with essentials and a message of empowerment.

These stories, a few of many, demonstrate the unwavering dedication and leadership of Girl Scouts in Maine. They are not just learning; they are leading and inspiring us all to do more and support each other as they carry forward our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

Thank you for being a part of our journey, and for your ongoing support of these extraordinary young women. Continue to look for and see the good in yourself, in others, in your community, and in the world.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Mara



## Membership Perks!

Keep your eyes peeled for exclusive opportunities this summer and beyond! Plus, get excited to visit Maine State Parks for FREE on Girl Scouts Love State Parks weekend, September 13 & 14, 2025.

Discover more at [www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/benefits](http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/benefits)



# Girl Stories



## Craft and Tinker at Day's Jewelers

Juniors in **Troop 1794** learned how jewelry is created, designed, stored, and cleaned at Day's Jewelers, an exclusive GSME Program Provider. The Girl Scouts created their own custom jewelry pieces out of both regular and recycled materials and earned their Craft and Tinker badge.



## Wreaths Across America

**Troop 1411** demonstrated their commitment to community service and patriotism by participating in the annual Wreaths Across America event. The initiative, held at national and local cemeteries across the country, honors fallen military heroes by placing wreaths on their graves during the holiday season.



## Exploring Maine's North Woods

**Troops 1627, 907, and 876** brought their energy and enthusiasm for an outdoor adventure of hiking, boating, and exploring Maine's North Woods. The Girl Scouts loved the activities and had added fun with S'mores and star gazing!



# Girl Stories



## Take Action Project - Beds for Dogs

**Troop 1227** loves giving back to animals in need and made five large dog beds using PVC pipe and fittings, outdoor fabric, and screws. They were able to drop off the beds in person at Finally Home and got to meet some of the elder dogs enjoying their retirement.



## Two State Endangered Bird Patch

Gold Award candidate, **Meghan Case** of **Troop 587**, tested out the Two State Endangered Bird patch program she designed and built on **Troop 1227**. Meghan walked the Girl Scouts through all of the steps and activities to earn the patch. The troop loved being led by a fellow Girl Scout and were really impressed with all of Meghan's knowledge and passion for her project.



## Learning to Sew

Girl Scouts in **Troop 1264** used money they earned to learn a new skill. They decided to learn how to sew! Each girl created a new pillow that they were able to take home with them, and they are already planning to go back to the sewing studio in the spring!

## Chickadee Service Unit Teambuilding

The **Chickadee Service Unit** leaders gathered for their monthly meeting and added a little bit of fun with an ornament swap, potluck, and activities to enjoy! The leaders were able to enjoy each other's company, snacks, and cookies while sharing goals for their troops.



## Camden Troop Gives Back

**Troop 227** from Knox County prepared birthday kits with a cake mix, frosting, candles, balloons and more. The Girl Scouts then delivered the kits to their local food bank, AIO, and were able to help make a difference in their community.



## Oatmeal Challenge

**Troop 1775** donated 240 packets of oatmeal to the Bridging the Gap program. The troop decided how much they wanted to spend from their troop account, figured out the cost of each box of oatmeal and did some math for how much they could purchase to stay in budget. They then picked the flavors, added it to their shopping cart, and donated them to Bridging the Gap.

# Girl Stories



## Chickadee Service Unit Cookie Rally

Girl Scouts from multiple troops joined together for an evening of cookie fun. They had several different stations with activities including games, bracelet making and shrinkie art, practice in making change, goal setting, and more. The Girl Scouts sampled cookies and had great conversations with each other!



## Community Stay Warm Action Project

**Troop 1690** focused their project of collecting warm items for people in need, both in their school as well as individuals experiencing homelessness. The Girl Scouts made flyers and were able to collect hundreds of jackets, mittens, socks, and gloves for those in need.

## Pride in Local Parade

Girl Scouts in **Troop 1690** from Washburn marched in their first parade. The Girl Scouts proudly walked and passed out bracelets that read "Spread Kindness!"





## Girltopia Inspired Hygiene Kits

**Troop 1340** from Hermon collected hygiene products and used their troop funds to put together feminine hygiene bags for girls at the Shaw House in Bangor. Each reusable drawstring bag included basic hygiene necessities and a journal with a different inspirational quote on the first page. The troop ended up donating 20 bags to help girls in need.



## Sharing Sisterhood

Girl Scouts from **Troop 1227** “shared sisterhood” with former Girl Scout, Mary, as part of earning the Girl Scout Way badge. Mary shared her favorite memories and songs from being a Girl Scout in the 1960’s and showed them what some of the uniforms looked like.



## A Busy Year for Troop 1227

Girl Scouts in **Troop 1227** toured the Tate House and enjoyed historic activities like butter churning, creating and playing with old-fashioned toys, sewing pocket purses, and more. They also participated in Outdoor Skills Day at Camp Pondicherry, where they learned skills such as knife safety, fire building, and dressing for the weather. Additionally, they attended the Nidoba Cookie Rally and a mini-camp at Camp Pondicherry, where they did archery and slingshot!



# Girl Stories



## Small Town Proud

**Troop 1702** of Eastport has moved mountains in their community. The troop has tripled in size in just over a year and has been able to give back to their community through donations, making May Day and Valentine's Day baskets. Their community has come together to help support them and the Girl Scouts are eager to be involved in everything.



## Exploring Native Plants

To spread awareness about the Plant Native patch, **Troop 1466** put together a 22 Carat Service Unit educational event this past summer at the Fields Pond Audubon Center. With 26 Girl Scouts in attendance, representing four different troops and one Juliette, the turnout was a major success!



## Brownie Elves Spread Cheer

This holiday season, **Troop 1411** made a big impact in their community. Using their hard-earned troop funds, the Girl Scouts shopped for a local toy bank, providing generous gifts for children in need.

After learning about food insecurity, they also helped spread more love by participating in the Lasagna Love program, making three lasagnas for families in need. Additionally, they donated birthday boxes to local food pantries.

## Wreaths Across America

Daisies and Brownies from **Troop 1354** took time to pay tribute to the brave men and women who risked and sacrificed their lives to protect our country. The troop went to South Buxton Cemetery, where they laid wreaths and took a moment to recognize each veteran by name and rank, saying "Thank you for your service."







# Discover What's New at the GSME Shop!



Exciting new arrivals are here! Get ready for adventure with our new colorful camp gear, designed to make every outdoor experience even more fun.

Celebrate moving up with our beautifully designed and updated bridging kits—the perfect way to honor every step of the Girl Scout journey.

And don't miss our stunning gifts to recognize Girl Scouts who have earned their Highest Awards—because such an achievement deserves to be celebrated!



Stop by the GSME shop today and explore what's new!  
Shop 24/7 at [www.girlscoutshop.com/MAINE-COUNCIL](http://www.girlscoutshop.com/MAINE-COUNCIL)



## Thank you to our Cookie Family Entrepreneur Pin Sponsors!

This year, hundreds of Girl Scouts earned the Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin, learning the five skills, including setting goals and people skills. Thank you to Martin's Point Health Care and First National Bank for their sponsorship, which supported girls getting their pin for free!

<https://bit.ly/ForCookieSellers>





# Girl Scouts of Maine 2025 Annual Celebration

Dream.

Achieve.

Inspire.

May 3, 2025

Williamson Performing Arts Center  
Fairfield, Maine

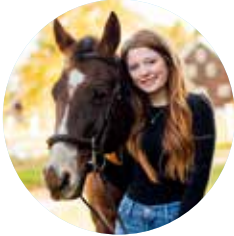
Learn more at [www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/annualcelebration](http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/annualcelebration)



This year, \$10,000 in scholarships are awarded to 8 graduating Girl Scout Ambassadors about to embark on their next journey.

Girl Scouts of Maine is very proud to present our 2025 Joanne Crepeau Future Leaders Scholarships to Girl Scouts who exemplify our goal of leadership development. Congratulations, Girl Scouts, and thank you to all of the exceptional applicants.

## Gold Level



Emma Longanecker

## Silver Level



Elizabeth Smith



Bobbi Guerrette



Serenity Cushing-Trott

## Bronze Level



Acadia Dorgan



Riley Yates



Emily Dube



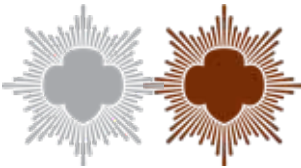
Adelaide Schroeck

# Do you have what it takes to make a lasting impact?



## Going for Gold

Want to make a difference in your community? Improve lives and build your leadership skills? Be eligible for scholarships or even earn college credit? Going for your Gold Award will have a big impact on your life and the lives of those around you. Discover the seven steps to earning your Gold Award at [www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/goldaward](http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/goldaward).



## Bronze and Silver Awards

Want to make a difference before you're in high school? As a Junior, you can earn your Bronze Award; as a Cadette, you can make a positive change by pursuing your Silver Award. Learn more at: [www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/highestawards](http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/highestawards).



## Pinnacle Award

When you earn all three Highest Awards, you've leveled up to earn our Pinnacle Award. GSME honors Pinnacle Award Girl Scouts at our Annual Celebration and they receive a Lifetime Membership with Girl Scouts of the USA, courtesy of Girl Scouts of Maine.

# Congratulations, Pinnacle Awardees!

## Alexyss Baird

Alexyss, and her troop, creatively transformed old tires into a vibrant reading nook, complete with cushions and paint, encouraging a love for books and sustainability for their Bronze Award project.

Alexyss expanded her community impact by designing a flag disposal box for her Silver Award. Set in an accessible location, the box offers a respectful method for retiring worn American flags, fostering civic pride and community responsibility.



## Elizabeth Smith

Elizabeth's Bronze Award project focused on supporting the Bangor Humane Society. She organized a pet supply drive and led workshops teaching how to make dog treats and cat toys, addressing the shelter's need for essential supplies.

Her Silver Award project focused on aiding the homeless through a hygiene bag initiative. She collected essential items to assemble kits for a local shelter, ensuring ongoing support and addressing a critical need in her community.



# Gold Award



## Alexyss Baird Middle East War Memorial

Alexyss created her Gold Award project to help honor veterans from more recent conflicts. In her research, she found that in her town there were only memorials honoring veterans from past conflicts, such as the Civil War, World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. The goal of her project was to create a memorial dedicated to the veterans who served in the Middle East, the Global War on Terror, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

She wanted to acknowledge their sacrifices and bring attention to the often-overlooked impact of these conflicts. The monument is in “Hero’s Park” in Lisbon and was unveiled during a ceremony on Veterans Day and moving forward will be cared for by the town’s Parks and Recreation department.

Alexyss learned valuable leadership skills and effective communication, which helped her navigate the project’s challenges.

## Unlock college credit while earning the Gold Award!

Starting in fall 2025, Seniors and Ambassadors can earn college credit and complete all the requirements for the prestigious Gold Award through a new partnership between GSME and Central Maine Community College (CMCC)! This unique early college course offers three transferable credits, and by the end, Girl Scouts will have completed every step necessary to earn their Gold Award. Don’t miss this incredible opportunity to earn both college credit and the highest award in Girl Scouts—Go for Gold! For additional information, <https://bit.ly/gsmeGoldAwardInternshipFAQs>.

Seniors and Ambassadors earn the Gold Award—the highest award in Girl Scouting—by developing and carrying out lasting solutions to issues in their neighborhoods and beyond.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are rock stars, role models, and real-life heroes. Congratulations to these outstanding young women who have used everything they've learned as Girl Scouts to help fix a problem in their community and make a lasting change in their world.

## Elizabeth Smith Dress For Your Best

Elizabeth was inspired to create her Gold Award project around promoting equity by providing students with access to clean, well-fitting, and professional attire. Elizabeth witnessed the challenges her peers faced in finding affordable prom outfits, securing jobs due to lack of appropriate attire, and the negative impacts this can have on students' mental health and self-esteem.

Elizabeth has created a closet at the Bangor High School that provides formal and professional attire to students. The closet will be maintained by incoming members of the Bangor High School Service Club and supported by the guidance counselors at the school.

Elizabeth hopes her project creates opportunities for students to see beyond their community and know they can better themselves regardless of their financial background.



## Kayleigh Young Teen Mental Health Convention

Kayleigh's Gold Award project focused on Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) in teenagers and how it is often overlooked. She organized the first Annual Teen Mental Health Convention to provide support and resources to teens in Knox and Lincoln County high schools.

In addition, Kayleigh created a workshop on SAD that incorporated Hygge techniques, which is the Danish concept of coziness and comfort. Kayleigh had participants from all 5 local high schools and 8 local organizations.

Throughout the process, Kayleigh developed valuable leadership and project management skills, learning how to run meetings, coordinate tasks, and engage with both local organizations and teens. The Teen Mental Health Convention is now an annual event, with plans to be hosted by Healthy Lincoln County in the future. Her most successful takeaway is knowing she made a positive impact on the participants' mental health and has created an initiative that will continue to help teens for years to come.



# Silver Award



## Knox Boxes for Equitable Animal Care

Avery Bailey & Kloe Maldonado | Troop 191

Taking care of your pets can become very expensive. Girl Scouts Avery and Kloe discovered that in their community many pet owners experienced financial hardships that made it hard for them to provide proper care for their pets. The girls created Knox Boxes and filled them with pet food, toys, grooming supplies, and other essentials. The girls placed the boxes in local food pantries, and other areas that would be easily accessible to those who need help. They reached out to local businesses and had them donate supplies, worked with food pantries to promote their project, and created flyers that they distributed around town.



When Girl Scout Cadettes focus on an issue they care about, learn the facts, and take action to make a difference, they gain the confidence and skills that will catapult them to lifelong success. It all adds up to the Girl Scout Silver Award—the highest honor a Cadette can achieve.

*Congratulations to this year's Silver Award Girl Scouts!*

## Youth Outdoor Skills Day

Lila Nichols | Troop 794

After observing that kids spend excessive time indoors and on electronics, Lila noticed that many local youth lack the necessary skills to participate in outdoor activities safely. She came up with a solution for her Silver Award project, aiming to empower youth ages 5-17 and their families by offering skills stations where they could learn essential outdoor skills, including First Aid, campfire safety, knot tying, navigation, Leave No Trace principles, and more. Throughout the process, Lila gained valuable leadership, organizational, and teamwork skills and equipped local youth with critical skills while deepening their connection to the outdoors that will last a lifetime.



## Honoring Our Flag

Brenna Ashton & Cheyenne Nault | Troop 507

Aiming to remind their community and teach proper ways to handle and dispose of the American flag, Brenna and Cheyenne decided to devote their Silver Award project to that. Their project included creating educational packets, activities, and videos that showcased the history, significance, and etiquette surrounding the American flag. Through their project, community members learned how to properly dispose of the flag and the importance of respecting and honoring the flag.





## Project Literacy

Emily Conlon | Troop 251

After seeing kids excessively use technology, Emily decided to focus her Silver Award project on how the use of screens has contributed to a decline in reading. She noticed a decline in children's enthusiasm for reading, a passion she had as a child, and wanted to encourage young kids to read more and reduce screen time. Her project has three main parts: an interactive sensory path, a little free library, and a literacy garden. She worked with daycares and local food pantries to ensure the project's sustainability and engaged the community through social media. At least 25 families have benefited from the resources Emily created and it has had lasting impacts on promoting literacy, outdoor learning, and reducing screen time in her community.



## Flag Boxes & Lesson Plans

Ami Griffin & Amakehs Mendoza | Troop 2259

After noticing that many community members were unaware of the correct way to handle and dispose of American flags, Ami and Amakehs created comprehensive lesson plans on flag etiquette. The lesson plans were designed to teach students the importance of displaying, caring for, and retiring flags. The girls also constructed a flag retirement box, which was installed at the Pembroke American Legion. This box provides a designated place for the community to dispose of their old, worn-out flags in a respectful and proper manner.







## Lost Doesn't Mean Gone

Tatum Sovetsky & Grace Derosier | Troop 97

Losing something doesn't mean it's gone. Tatum and Grace were noticing the growing issue of overflowing lost and found items at Saco Middle School and recognized how difficult families were finding it to replace lost items. The girls decided to create both a physical and digital lost and found system. The physical lost and found area was set up in the school and the digital was created on Google Sheets. This project allowed students and parents to keep track of lost items and ensured that the system remains functional, organized, and easily accessible.



## Screen Free Summer

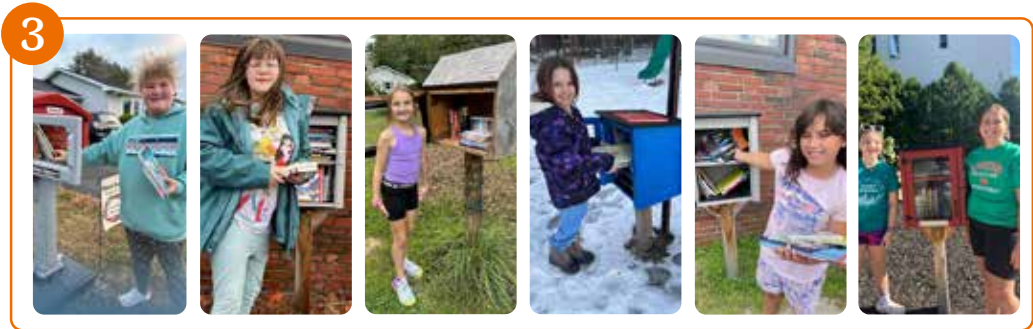
Reilly McGovern-Pizzi & Lilly Northup | Troop 120

Girl Scouts Reilly and Lilly noticed that excessive screen time for teens, particularly during the summer, increased when unstructured time led to more time online. The girls discovered that the root cause of the issue is a sense of boredom and not knowing what else to do. Reilly and Lilly created a display inspiring teens and tweens to take a break from their screens during the summer. The display was filled with helpful tips, activity ideas, and craft kits that people could take home.



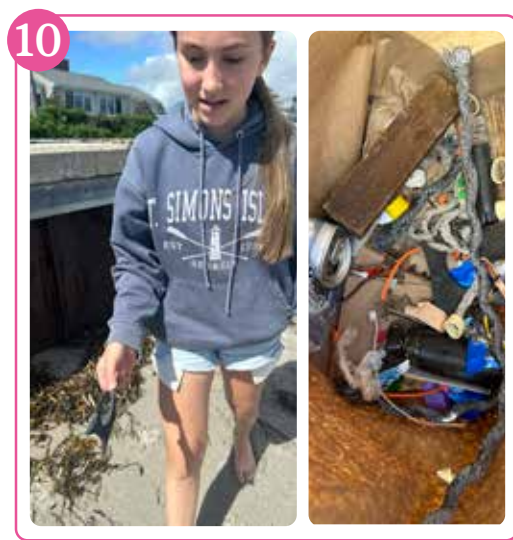
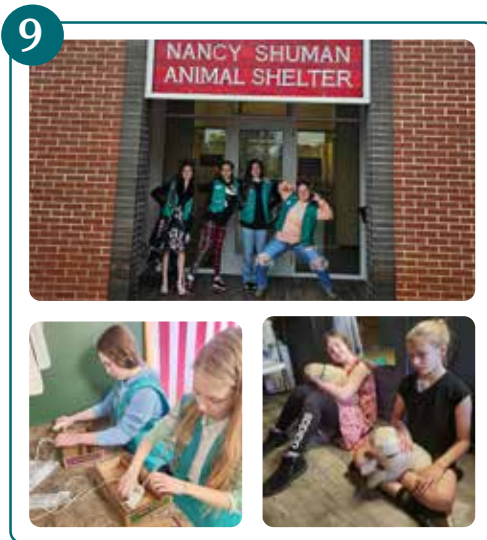
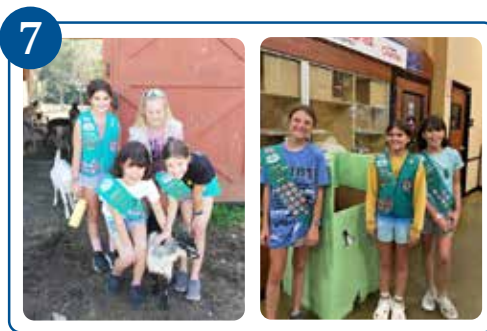
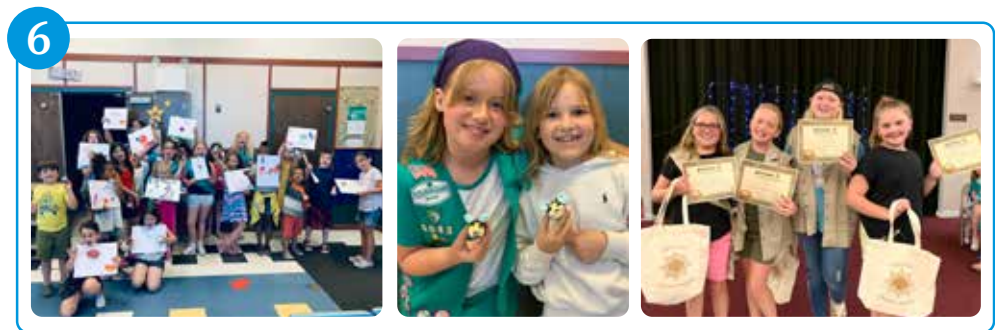
# Bronze Award

- 1 Bee Garden** | Troop 1209 | Liliana Tripp
- 2 Doggy Doo Dispenser** | Troops 1075 & 1775  
Ayanna Noyes, Lana Pratt, Reagan Haas, and Stella Johnson
- 3 Lending Library** | Troop 1049  
Sophia Hatt, Genevieve Montalbano, Kay Pierson, Jasmine Leighton, Sarrena Hutchins, Izabella Lizotte, Isabella Leblond, Bailey Elwell, and Zoe Rosario
- 4 Little Free Library** | Troop 673  
Sophia Lemar, Paris Fitzherbert, Olivia Wallace, Candice Ferreira, and Laney Wing
- 5 Nidoba Bridging Bridge Juliette** | Rose Bily
- 6 Outgoing Art Enrichment for Kids** | Troop 5043  
Ellie Kaufmann, Cassie Asselyn, Evelyn Irish, and Bella Lambert
- 7 Paws for a Cause** | Troop 1806  
Margaret Sandilands, Sofia Crisp Torres, and Hattie O'Neill
- 8 Playground Clean Up Club** | Troop 673  
Ava Adams, Jillian Campbellton, Sophia Aronson, Delanie Kanaris, and Payton Hunt
- 9 Recycling to Lend a Helping Paw** | Troop 143  
Brylee Mullens, Ellanor Franklin, Bridget Feyler, and Aubrey Norton
- 10 Roadside Clean Up & Animal Toy Donations**  
Troop 268 | Maggie D'Angio White, Harper Cunningham, Zoey Valentino, Zoe Norton, Cherry Tun, Sadie Tilney, Saorise Brethauer, Mary Marullo, Nora Killinger, Sophie Medina, and Callahan Halliday
- 11 Safety First** | Troop 1136 | Reese Hull and Onora Ferris



Make your community a better place! The Girl Scout Bronze Award is the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can earn. Juniors team up with fellow Girl Scouts to explore their community, discover a need or issue they care about, and work together to address it. It's a chance to create a plan and make an impact on the community they live in.

To have your Bronze Award featured, be sure to complete the Final Report Form!  
<https://form.jotform.com/91823323869162>





# Your Year of Adventure

- ✓ Cheer on your squad's successes.
- ✓ Bond during a troop sleepover.
- ✓ Find new ways to spread joy.



girl scouts  
of maine  
**Renew  
Today**

Celebrate the big moments and look ahead to even more extraordinary ones with your crew. Join us for another exciting year in Girl Scouts!  
Early renewal opens May 1 and ends June 15.

**Renew by:**

**Your girl will get:**

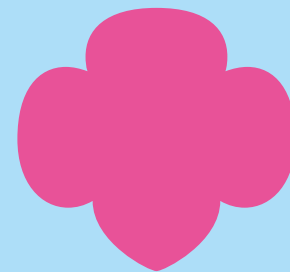
5/29	6/15	
✓	✓	Eligibility to register for Celebrate Camp events*
✓	✓	Free State of Maine patch for girls
✓	✓	Discounted renewal fee: \$45 per girl and \$30 for adults (After June 15, 2025: \$60 per girl.)
✓		2 free decals



*\*Spaces are limited for Celebrate Camp events at Camp Pondicherry and Camp Natarswi and are first come, first served. You must renew to be eligible to register. Registration for Celebrate Camp starts May 1 and closes when full or by June 15 (whichever happens first). Cost for Celebrate Camp is \$20/girl and \$15/adult.*

Need help? Contact our Customer Care team at 888-922-4763 or [customercare@gsmaine.org](mailto:customercare@gsmaine.org).

# Celebrate Camp



Join us for a full day of fun only to be found at camp! Enjoy archery, games, and badge activities. Plus, get a free T-shirt!



**Saturday, September 13, 2025**

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Camp Natarswi, Millinocket

**Saturday, September 13, 2025**

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Camp Pondicherry, Bridgton

## By June 15:

- 1 Renew your membership for next year
- 2 Register for Celebrate Camp
- 3 Get ready for another awesome year in Girl Scouts and Celebrate Camp fun!

**Fee:** \$20/girl, \$15/adult

**Girls in grades:** K-12

**Register by:** June 15, 2025

## Want to start your adventure at Camp Natarswi early?

For Friday night only, share a campsite with sister Girl Scouts and make new friends! \$6 per person. (Please note: Food is NOT included in the overnight fee.)

*\* Severe weather date is the Sunday after each planned event.*

**Renew and register at**

[www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/renew](http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/renew).



For more information, contact:

Customer Care | 888-922-4763 | [customer care@gsmaine.org](mailto:customer care@gsmaine.org)





# Upcoming Travel ADVENTURES

*Registration opens October 1st!*

## GSME Goes to Boston

June 2026

Levels: J/C

*Registration opens October 1st!*

## Girls on the Go

### Our Chalet (Switzerland)

Summer 2027

Levels: S/A

## GSME Goes to NYC

June 2026

Levels: C/S/A

## Plus, plan ahead:

GSME Goes to...

- Washington D.C. in 2027
- Montreal in 2028



## Girls on the Go: Peru

Girls on the Go ventured across the world to visit the mountainous land of Peru for an eleven-day trip this past summer! From rich history to fascinating geography, delicious food, indigenous culture, and so much more—the Girl Scout travelers had a blast exploring a new country together!



# Journey to Our Cabaña

Several Girl Scouts from Maine recently headed to Our Cabaña to celebrate World Thinking Day and for an unforgettable week of sisterhood, travel, and fun.

Our Cabaña is one of the five WAGGGS World Centres and is located in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Cuernavaca means “city of eternal spring.” Troop leaders Jamie Ribisi-Braleley from Auburn and Susan Austin from Westbrook received a scholarship from GSME to attend the events. Troop Leader Tara Molloy, her daughter Shelagh, and husband Mike from Saco also traveled to Mexico.

While there, they all participated in events including a service project to benefit Our Cabaña, campfires, WAGGGS ceremonies and traditions, Secret Sister, a trip to Vallee de Bravo to visit a monarch butterfly refuge, pool party, and an international afternoon. On World Thinking Day, they were joined by more than 140 girls, leaders, and volunteers from Mexico, USA, Scotland, Australia, Canada, and Germany.



## Our Cabaña

Experience the opportunity of a lifetime with a scholarship to travel to Our Cabaña, the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts center in Mexico City, in February 2026!

Join fellow Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from around the world at the 2026 World Thinking Day event, “Our Friendship.” Celebrate 100 years of World Thinking Day while focusing on tackling the climate crisis and reducing inequalities.

Stay tuned on how you can be part of this unforgettable adventure!



# Expedition Acadia

September 27, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Acadia National Park

Open to all levels, adults, and families | \$75 per person

Explore a Maine treasure, Acadia National Park, while earning your Girl Scout Ranger badge through guided experiences in and around the park. Meet Girl Scouts from all over Maine at this special event. Registration includes bus transportation to and from Ellsworth, lunch, T-shirt, and a full day of programming.



Tracks	Description	Girl Scout Level	Max Amount
<b>Paddle the Park</b>	Canoe along Long Pond, the longest in Acadia. Enjoy wildlife sightings and breathtaking views of the surrounding majestic mountains. <i>Additional cost: \$30.</i>	J/C/S/A	24
<b>Acadia Mountain</b>	Conquer a challenging 3-mile hike up Acadia Mountain, then relax with a walk to Somes Sound and enjoy a splendid waterfall view.	J/C/S/A	18
<b>Sea Dawg</b>	Cruise Bar Harbor's coastline aboard the Sea Dawg. Experience historic shoreline views, Acadia's stunning highlights, and vibrant fall foliage. <i>Additional cost: \$25.</i>	All	149

Look for Pebbles with new updates to this incredible event!



Extend your stay overnight and provide 5 hours of service to the park on Sunday.

For more information and registration details, go to [www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/expeditionacadia](http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/expeditionacadia)





Tracks	Description	Girl Scout Level	Max Amount
<b>Camp Beech Cliff</b>	Immerse yourself at Camp Beech Cliff by creating nature-inspired artwork, engaging in outdoor games, and hiking scenic Beech Mountain in Acadia National Park.	All	100
<b>Jordan Pond</b>	Discover Jordan Pond's trails and carriage roads. Encounter local flora and fauna, while watching for beavers or majestic eagles soaring above.	D/B	18
<b>The Summit Project at Cadillac Mtn</b>	Join The Summit Project on a 3.5-mile hike up Cadillac Mountain, honoring Maine's fallen heroes through a powerful "Circle Testimony" at the summit.	S/A	12
<b>Three Stone Bridges</b>	Begin at Brown Mountain Gatehouse and explore Rockefeller's historic carriage roads, encountering three stone bridges and a beautiful waterfall.	All	18
<b>Ship Harbor Bass Light</b>	Visit Bass Harbor Light and hike the Ship Harbor Trail. Learn about Maine's lighthouses and coastal wildlife, capturing inspiring photographs along the way.	D/B	18
<b>Otter Cliff</b>	Rock climb at Otter Cliff, Acadia's premier climbing spot, with guidance from expert instructors. Experience this exhilarating physical challenge. <i>Additional cost: \$65.</i>	C/S/A	24
<b>The Bubbles</b>	Ascend South Bubble for stunning vistas of Jordan Pond and Bubble Rock. Conclude at Bubble Pond, spotting loons and intricate stone bridges.	J/C/S/A	18
<b>Design &amp; Create at Thuya Garden Flower &amp; McAlpin Farm</b>	Sketch inspiring scenes at Thuya Garden and use them to craft unique bouquets at McAlpin Farm's cutting gardens.	J/C/S/A	12
<b>Design &amp; Create at Asticou Azalea &amp; Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden</b>	Explore Asticou Azalea Garden with a scavenger hunt, then visit Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden to create a unique flower arrangement.	D/B	12
<b>Carroll Homestead Open House</b>	Explore 1800's settler life with Acadia's educational staff. Engage in chores, old-fashioned games, and crafts like making corn husk dolls.	All	18
<b>Ship's Harbor Ecology Walk</b>	Walk 1.3 miles exploring diverse habitats and learning about coastal ecology. Enjoy a picnic with views of majestic eagles and eider ducks.	All	18
<b>Whales on Wheels</b>	Assemble a minke whale skeleton while exploring whale behavior, anatomy, and local marine artifacts such as baleen and krill.	All	30

# Volunteer Awards

## GSME Board Approved Adult Recognitions

At Girl Scouts of Maine, we believe in fostering a culture of appreciation, celebrating adult volunteers who exceed role expectations. Locally recognized by troops and service units, these members are annually acknowledged at the state level through GSME board-approved recognitions.

This year, dedicated Girl Scouts from across Maine were nominated for their exceptional efforts in making the world a better place.



## Appreciation Pin

*This award is for those adult volunteers who serve above and beyond with two or more troops.*

### **Clarissa Cote**

#### *Mollocket Service Unit*

Clarissa stepped into the Mollocket Service Unit product program supervisor role with enthusiasm and dedication. She listens intently to make informed adjustments that meet both community and troop needs, working across two troops and multiple committees to implement improvements and provide outstanding service.

### **Donna Kennison**

#### *Mollocket Service Unit*

Adding her personal flair, Donna is renowned for telling impactful stories through service in the Mollocket Service Unit. Her organizational flair shines whether she's co-leading a troop, planning parades, organizing cookie rallies, or crafting event mementos. Her kind leadership inspires everyone around her to see possibilities beyond the ordinary.

### **Heather Pratt**

#### *Cobboossee Service Unit*

Serving as a linchpin for the Cobboossee Service Unit, Heather brings resources, positivity, and innovation. From event volunteering to fostering environments that encourage girls and leaders alike to engage fully, she

exemplifies dedication and warmth, consistently thinking of new ways to build fulfilling experiences for the community.

### **Julie Montalbano**

#### *Saco Bay Service Unit*

Julie's leadership extends beyond her troop to elevate Saco Bay Service Unit events. As a visionary committee member, she integrates Girl Scout values into community service projects and activities like Toys for Tots. Her efforts encourage girls to embrace new experiences and make meaningful contributions to their surroundings.

### **Kait Burke**

#### *Arnold Trail Service Unit*

Kait's curiosity led her to join the Arnold Trail Service Unit and become a GSME learning facilitator and archery instructor. She leveraged training and certifications to create impactful experiences, working with committees to bring exceptional programs and growth opportunities to Girl Scouts across Arnold Trail.

### **Kimberly Reinauer**

#### *Nonesuch Service Unit*

Guiding a troop of fifth-grade Juniors and stepping into key roles post-pandemic, Kimberly

displays unwavering collaboration. Her ability to support the Nonesuch Service Unit, especially in organizing the Camporee and managing treasury responsibilities, showcases her talent for leadership and team collaboration through any challenge.

### **Lindsey Jones**

#### *Midcoast Service Unit*

A pivotal leader within the Midcoast Service Unit, Lindsey orchestrates events that leave lasting impressions. Her leadership transcends her own troop, inspiring others to pursue growth and embrace challenges, ensuring Girl Scouts experience memorable opportunities as they explore life's possibilities.

### **Tara Malloy**

#### *Saco Bay Service Unit*

Tara is pivotal in the Saco Bay Service Unit, displaying commitment through many events, including Veterans Day. Drawing from her veteran background, she organizes engaging activities with female speakers, offering insight into serving the country and inspiring the next generation of Girl Scouts to contribute meaningfully.



## Honor Pin

*This award is for those adult volunteers who serve above and beyond with two or more service units.*

### **Cynthia Crawford** | *Merrymeeting Service Unit*

With over 40 years as a Girl Scout adult, Cynthia extends her influence through Merrymeeting Service Team and beyond. Engaged in local event committees and contributing keen insight, she also volunteers at Camp Pondicherry, assisting wherever needed. Her longstanding service and active involvement at Camp Adventures for Grown-ups embodies the spirit of community and continuous improvement within Girl Scouting, impacting multiple geographic areas deeply and positively.



## Thanks Badge

*This award is for those adult members whose service to Girl Scouts has made a significant impact on the state or the entire movement.*

### **GSME Thanks I Badge**

#### **Valerie Blake** | *Gundalow Service Unit*

Val's exceptional service embodies the true spirit of Girl Scouting through her generous expertise and deep dedication. For more than 20 years, she has served the Gundalow Service Unit in numerous capacities, but her impact extends far beyond. As a GSME learning facilitator, she has enriched Troop Camp Trainings statewide, the GSME Transforming Leadership Conference at UMaine, and both summer and winter Camp Adventures for Grown-ups. Her role as champion and unofficial camp caretaker exemplifies her hands-on commitment to maintaining camp safety and readiness. Val's ability to lead, support, teach, and continue learning while maintaining the perfect balance of serious dedication and fun-loving spirit makes her an invaluable asset to Girl Scouts of Maine.

### **GSME Thanks II Badge**

#### **Suzanne Hand**

Suzanne's remarkable journey, from joining Girl Scouts at age seven to becoming a transformative staff member, exemplifies lifelong dedication to the Movement. After leading a troop of 24 Juniors, she expanded her impact through the Merrymeeting Service Team and became a master trainer following her experience at the Edith Macy Center. Her transition to GSME staff brought vital expertise during crucial organizational changes, particularly during GSUSA's data management system migration. Suzanne's unique ability to balance business efficiency with meaningful human connection has enhanced every aspect of Girl Scouting in Maine. As she transitions to a specialty volunteer role, her legacy of going above and beyond continues to inspire. Her exceptional service and unwavering commitment to colleagues, volunteers, and youth members truly merits this prestigious recognition.



# Commitment to Excellence Pin

*This award is for those adult members who have received either the Honor Pin or the Thanks Badge and continue to serve Girl Scouts above and beyond at that scope.*

## **Amanda Downing** | *Saco Bay Service Unit*

Recipient of the Appreciation Pin, Amanda continues advocating for Girl Scouts in her role as a troop leader and product program supervisor. Her drive to highlight opportunities and constructive feedback helps evolve Girl Scout programming and messaging, ensuring its relevance and strength within the Saco Bay Service Unit. Her dedication and proactive involvement inspire others to maintain momentum for ongoing organizational improvement.

## **Colleen Whitehurst-Hatt** | *Saco Bay Service Unit*

With a history of excellence, Colleen continues impacting Saco Bay Service Unit's direction. From planning local events to coordinating parades and Wreaths Across America, her leadership in organizing multi-unit gatherings, such as Camporees, presents her as a revered mentor. Her consistent efforts ensure a vibrant Girl Scout environment that promotes empowerment and active community engagement.



# The GSME Juliette Spirit Award

*This award recognizes those adult volunteers who have contributed exceptional service for at least 25 years.*

## **Cecilia Cater** | *Cobbossee Service Unit*

With 28 years of commitment to Cobbossee and legacy Sinca Service Units, Cecilia spreads the Girl Scout message through action and kindness. Despite not having been a Girl Scout as a girl, her unwavering service through troop leadership, recruitment, and event support exemplifies lasting dedication. Her behind-the-scenes efforts, from sorting cookies to leading meetings, ensure each year's programming benefits generations of girls, enhancing their experiences and embodying Girl Scout values quietly yet profoundly.



# Excellence in Collaboration

*This award recognizes the collaborative efforts of a service team or cross-unit committee in providing rich Girl Scout programming, using the Girl Scout processes in planning, design, and delivery of that programming.*

## **Dirigo Service Unit**

Emphasizing retention and recruitment, The Dirigo Service Unit collaborates beautifully to enhance Girl Scout programming. By efficiently addressing community needs, they stimulated engagement through open houses, thematic events like trunk-or-treats, and participation in major events like July's award-winning Moxie Parade float. Empowering troop-led initiatives such as Brownie Sleepovers, the Dirigo Service Unit embodies the essence of collaboration, fostering vibrant experiences across multiple service units.

## **The Travel Sisters**

Providing unmatched leadership and cultural learning opportunities, The Travel Sisters troop brings girls the spirit of exploration beyond boundaries. Established in 2023 to close the travel progression gap from the 2020 pandemic, they hold regular meetings and annual travel events. The dedicated leadership team, including Tami Fisher, Michelle Carr, Victoria Noyes, and Susan Austin, ensures comprehensive, inclusive experiences. With 13 girls from diverse locations, the troop's collaborative ethos bridges distance, nurturing adventurous spirits.

# Volunteer of the Month 2024

## January

Jenn Gagne  
*Cobbossee*



## February

Stephanie Michaud  
*Rising Star*



## March

Cheryl Ingersoll  
*Downeast*



## April

Reba Bryar  
*Arnold Trail*



## May

Samantha Sproul  
*Borealis*



## June

Stephanie Lewton  
*Gundalow*



## July

Amy Capone-Muccio  
*Apple Mountain*



## August

Tonia Griffin  
*Downeast*



## September

Julie Webster  
*Nonesuch*



## October

Victoria Flynn  
*Katahdin*



## November

Kait Burke  
*Arnold Trail*



## December

Heidi Rackliffe  
*Diamond*



Celebrate the volunteers in your life.

Do you know an outstanding volunteer deserving of a shout-out or special honor? Check out the many ways to recognize volunteers—including simple eCards you can send straight from our website!

[www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/adultrecognitions](http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/adultrecognitions)



# Camp Adventures for Grown-ups

Connecting. Learning. Playing.

**August 10-12, 2025**

**Camp Natarwi, Millinocket, ME**

Embrace the beauty and wilderness of Camp Natarwi in Baxter State Park. Whether you're seeking relaxation or adrenaline, we have an adventure for you.

## Choose your adventure:

### Archery

Discover the thrill of archery! Whether you're aiming for certification or just sharpening your skills, join us for targeted fun. Certification available with online pre-course. *Certification fee: \$125. Min 4/Max 10*

### Camp Sampler

Experience the joys of Camp Natarwi. Dive into group activities, no experience required. A chance to relive those magical summer camp days. *Min 4*

### Hike Mt. Katahdin

Challenge yourself on the iconic Mt. Katahdin. This hike demands preparation for a physically demanding journey. You are required to demonstrate preparation and be in contact with hike leaders prior to the event. *Min 4/Max 8*

### Just Kick Back

Choose relaxation and unwind at camp. Enjoy solitude or socialize, with group meals as a gathering point. Perfect for those seeking peace.

### Kayak Adventure

Paddle through Togue Pond on a kayaking quest—basic instruction followed by exploration. Camp equipment is provided, and personal gear is welcome. We will paddle rain or shine, except in severe conditions. *Min 4/Max 8*

### Not Quite the Mountain

For those seeking a challenge without the summit. Explore Baxter State Park's beautiful and diverse trails with necessary preparation. *Min 4/Max 8*

### Inside-Out Self Care

Enjoy a more relaxing adventure where you explore taking care of yourself and your mental health with activities such as yoga, meditation, writing, and DIY spa treatments. Take time to create and nourish yourself inside and out with various forms of art and self-care for the VIP of this track- you! *Materials Fee. \$25 Min 4/Max 12*

### Intro to the backwoods

Embark on a wilderness adventure at Baxter State Park, where you can explore by day and camp at Natarwi by night. Engage in activities like fishing, backpacking, outdoor cooking, and navigation. *Min 4/Max 8*

**\$30 discount for all active volunteers.**

### Early Registration by May 31:

Girl Scout Members: \$90

### Register between June 1-July 1:

Girl Scout Members: \$105

*Fees include meals, activities, and accommodations.*

**Secure your spot for an unforgettable summer adventure now!**

Register at [www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/eventlist](http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/eventlist). Have questions? Reach out to us at [customercare@gsmaine.org](mailto:customercare@gsmaine.org).



# Grown-up Girl Scouts Get Outdoors!

This past January, an enthusiastic group braved the wilds of Camp Pondicherry to master Wilderness Remote First Aid. With skills honed and hearts eager, they're ready for anything the great outdoors throws their way! And guess what? You can be next! Join us at Camp Natarswi this June for your turn to become a wilderness warrior.

Flashback to a chilly February at Camp Adventures for Grown-ups at Camp Pondicherry, where about 40 spirited adults gathered to bask in the winter wonderland! Thanks to the culinary magic created by Troop 618, everyone enjoyed delicious meals while delving into snowshoeing, crafting wonders, and thrilling adventures taken from the Great Outdoor Winter Challenge and Snow Climbing badges. One participant shared, "I just loved being around women with whom I share a passion for Girl Scouts, who know how to relax together and create a safe space against the rest of the world."

Our programs aren't just for girls—they're for everyone who wants to step away from the ordinary and into an extraordinary community of adventure and growth. Join us next time!



## What's your Specialty?

We all know the traditional role of a Girl Scout troop leader, which is often viewed as a significant commitment. We recognize that some individuals may not have the capacity to take on that level of responsibility, but are eager to volunteer in other ways.

**GSME now has a role for them, or maybe you! It's the specialty volunteer role.**

This is a **flexible**, non-traditional role where adult volunteers can **share their specific interests, skills, and talents** with just the audience that feels right to them. Maybe they want to teach 5–7-year-olds about hiking or 15–17-year-olds about applying and budgeting for college, or to work with 8–12-year-olds in coastal clean-ups. Working with other adult volunteers, organizing events, or offering time for odd jobs, and supporting office staff members are other options.

This flexible volunteering opportunity lets you decide how much time you give and how, while serving as an excellent resource for our troop and service unit volunteers to get a little extra help! A win-win for Girl Scouts!



Learn more and sign-up (or share with a friend) today at [www.bit.ly/SpecialtyVolunteer](http://www.bit.ly/SpecialtyVolunteer).



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# Registration is closing soon for these exciting programs for Brownies and Juniors!

Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors, and Grown-up Girl Scouts— Don't miss this!



**Transforming Leadership Conference**  
November 8, 2025  
University of Maine, Orono  
Levels: C/S/A and Adults



## Outdoor Skills Day

**Date:** May 31, 2025  
**Register by:** May 7, 2025  
**Levels:** B/J

Join us for the day or for an overnight at Camp Pondicherry as you expand your outdoor skills! Daisies, join us for a half day Intro to Outdoor Skills!

[https://bit.ly/Outdoor\\_Skills\\_Day](https://bit.ly/Outdoor_Skills_Day)



## GSME Amazing Race: Portland

**Date:** June 14, 2025  
**Register by:** May 28, 2025  
**Levels:** B/J

Navigate Portland in the ultimate walking adventure through the city. Start your journey by learning how to use public transportation and then solve clues, visit the sites, and complete challenges—all while you learn important troop travel skills.

<https://bit.ly/gsmeAmazingRacePortland2025>