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| New Troop Leaders,  We are so glad you’re here! New Leaders mean more and more new girls and that gets us all excited for the fun and adventure ahead! Each month for your first year, you will receive this monthly newsletter with up-to-date info about what’s ahead in Girl Scouting.  If you have questions about anything in the newsletter reach out to [newtroop@gsnetx.org](mailto:newtroop@gsnetx.org).  **SEPTEMBER TROOP LEADER NEWSLETTER** |
| **TOPICS**   * Membership * Volunteer Learning * STEM Center * Programs, Events, and Activities * Patch of the Month * Troop Leader Resources |
| **MEMBERSHIP**  **GSUSA_Press Play_Social Media_RenewGrowing Your Troop**  Whether you are putting together a brand new troop with all newly registered girls or starting your leadership journey in an existing troop, growing your troop to a healthy size is important for your experience and that of the girls in your troop! You have a lot of options on how to grow the troop. Try having each girl invite a friend to attend an activity with the troop; ask your Placement Specialist if there are any girls in need of a troop in your area; host an event at your school or in your area with the help of your Membership Manager!  If you already know girls who are interested in joining follow the steps below.  **How to Register New Members Directly to Your Troop.** Use the “Invite Friends to Join Your Troop” feature located in your [My GS](https://mygs.girlscouts.org/my-account) account on the bottom of the page of the My Troop(s) tab. Your new members will be able to join directly into your troop regardless of whether the troop is listed online.  [**Kite Festival**](https://www.ultracamp.com/info/sessionDetail.aspx?idCamp=702&idSession=317173&campCode=gnt) **Date and Time: Sat September 25, 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM**  **Level: All, Family-friendly**  Re-engage your existing Girl Scout families and invite new members looking to join your troop to see what Girl Scouts has to offer! With the help of their families, girls will design, engineer, and fly their very own kites. A kite kit will be provided upon arrival at The STEM Center of Excellence. Outdoor activities can be added for an additional cost.  ***Check out*** [***ultracamp.com***](https://www.ultracamp.com/info/upcomingsessions.aspx?idCamp=702&campCode=gnt) ***for more workshops, events, and activities.*** |
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| **VOLUNTEER LEARNING**  Explore the content in gsLearn! Log into gsLearn, our new learning management system from within your [My GS](https://mygs.girlscouts.org/my-account) account. Click on the course catalog and view classes and video tutorials, as well as registration for upcoming webinars.  **gsLearn – GSUSA 2021 New Badges:** Twenty-eight new badges have been added providing 28 new ways to create an exciting and engaging experience for your troop! Each module in this training supplies ideas and goals for approaching each step and choice plus examples for keeping the experience girl-led. |
| **STEM CENTER**  Featuring a perfect mix of outdoors and STEM, The STEM Center of Excellence provides year-round opportunities in robotics, computer coding, botany, chemistry and more.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **STEM CENTER WORKSHOPS**  These workshops are designed to develop both hard and soft skills critical for STEM, college, and career readiness helping to prepare girls to be the next generation of scientists, engineers, innovators, and leaders. | | | | | [National Video Game Day & She-Roes](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/sf-events-repository/2021/national_video_game_.html)  Date: Sat, Sep 11  Time: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Level: Daisy, Brownie, Cadette | [Outdoor Adventures at STEM](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/sf-events-repository/2021/outdoor_adventures_a_1369682630.html)  Date: Sun, Sep 12  Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  Level: Junior | [Virtual STEM Series -Brownie Automotive Engineers](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/sf-events-repository/2021/virtual_stem_series__360851520.html" \t "_blank)  Date: Thu, Sep 16 Time: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM  Level: Brownie | [Fine Design Workshops at STEM](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/sf-events-repository/2021/fine_design_workshop3.html)  Date: Sat, Sep 18  Time: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Level: Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette |   ***Find detailed descriptions of the workshops listed above at*** [***gsnetx.org/events***](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gsnetx.org%2Fen%2Fevents%2Fevent-list.html&data=04%7C01%7Cmfletcher%40gsnetx.org%7C433f58bfc4914808574a08d91d79c77d%7Cd9e560d9675b46ccb79ae391d058aed3%7C1%7C0%7C637573231150409918%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=BwPMdrlPMc5DkfSiVapOOR4Gx7dTlPyLyjpov%2BXkkKo%3D&reserved=0)***.*** |
| **GSNETX PROGRAMS**  [**Camp In, Camp Life 2021**](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/sf-events-repository/2021/camp_in_camp_life_20_284439499.html)  **Date: Sat, Aug 28**  **Time: 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM**  **Program Grade Level: All**  Join us for this exciting program and earn a free patch! This semi-virtual and family-friendly event is a great way to kick off the Girl Scout year, have fun camping 'in', and learn about storytelling.  ***Find a detailed description of the program listed above at*** [***gsnetx.org/events***](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gsnetx.org%2Fen%2Fevents%2Fevent-list.html&data=04%7C01%7Cmfletcher%40gsnetx.org%7C433f58bfc4914808574a08d91d79c77d%7Cd9e560d9675b46ccb79ae391d058aed3%7C1%7C0%7C637573231150409918%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=BwPMdrlPMc5DkfSiVapOOR4Gx7dTlPyLyjpov%2BXkkKo%3D&reserved=0)***.***  **Robotics Teams**  Girl Scouts, from Daisies to Ambassadors, can now register for a [Robotics Team](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/girl_experience/SpecialInterestGroups/robotics-teams-.html). Girl Scouts will learn valuable life and employment skills through ideation, solving problems, and overcoming obstacles.  **Robotic Teams: The Basics** - <https://youtu.be/z2Tu1TXoUZQ>  **How to Start a Team as a Troop** - <https://youtu.be/tWXVWOvAD5c>  **Badge and Journey Workshops**  9/18 MEdia Journey in a Day at JoAnn Fogg Service Center  9/19 Brownie/Junior Friendship Fling at JoAnn Fogg Service Center  ***More info and registration coming soon to*** [***gsEvents***](https://mygs.girlscouts.org/my-account)***.***  **Program Partner Events**  **Girl Scout Weekend with the** [**Texas Rangers**](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/sf-events-repository/2050/texas-rangers-baseball-club.html)  **Date: Friday, August 27 – Sunday, August 29**  **Level: All, Family-friendly**  Choose from three great games to watch your Texas Rangers take on the Houston Astros. Those attending the Sunday, August 29 game will be able to take part in a pregame parade on the field. All tickets purchased with the special-order form will receive a commemorative Girl Scout patch, while supplies last. Purchase Girl Scout Weekend tickets [here](https://offer.fevo.com/girl-scout-weekend-54194d3?fevoUri=girl-scout-weekend-54194d3%2F).  ***Click*** [***here***](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/events/program_partners.html)***for more opportunities provided by our approved Program Partners.*** |
| **PATCH OF THE MONTH**  **Hispanic Heritage Month**  This program is designed to help Girl Scouts of all cultures develop an understanding and appreciation of the richness, diversity and similarities of the Hispanic and Latin culture through Discover, Connect and Take Action.   [#HispanicHeritage](https://www.gsnetx.org/content/dam/NE_Texas/documents/prog_Hispanic_Heritage_Patch_Program_English.pdf)  ***You can find additional free patch programs*** [***here***](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/our-council/patch_program.html). |
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| **TROOP LEADER RESOURCES, TIPS, AND REMINDERS**  **Reminders**   * **Troop Financial Report (TFR):**  Last day to submit your 2020/2021 report is **September 30**. Log into [My GS](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmygs.girlscouts.org%2Fmy-account&data=04%7C01%7Cmfletcher%40gsnetx.org%7C433f58bfc4914808574a08d91d79c77d%7Cd9e560d9675b46ccb79ae391d058aed3%7C1%7C0%7C637573231150469893%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=8hpSgM75gPX8EzjmsE0DdJq3kzCw68cyW0ik9uCzwn4%3D&reserved=0), click on **My Account**, and select the **Volunteer Toolkit** (VTK). Once you are in the VTK, click on the **Finances** Tab. * If you haven’t done so already, [renew](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/Join/Renew.html) your troop leader role, your adult volunteers and your returning girls in [My GS](https://mygs.girlscouts.org/my-account). * Fill out the[Change Signers on an Existing Bank Account](https://secure.gsnetx.org/bankaccountopen/)form if you need to add or remove signers on the troop bank account. * Update your troop’s profile by submitting the Troop Update Form that will be emailed to you or the one at the following link - <https://gsnetx.formstack.com/forms/troopupdate2021>.   **Tips**   * When searching for events in **gsEvents**, use the JoAnn Fogg service center zip code 75252 and select 90 miles from the drop-down menu under “Search Radius”.   **Planning for Membership Year 2022**   * View the most up to date [GSNETX In-Person Activity Guidelines](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/for-volunteers/Safety.html). * **Volunteer Toolkit Year Plan for 2022:** Select badges and create a year plan. * [Tax Exempt Form](https://www.gsnetx.org/content/dam/NE_Texas/documents/finance_Tax_Exempt_Form.pdf) – utilize when purchasing supplies for your troop. * [gsZoom Troop Request & Payment Form](https://gsnetx.formstack.com/forms/troopgszoom) * **Best Troop Year Ever** **2021-2022 Patch Program**: Check out the requirements, check 8 things off the list, and submit your form here: [https://gsnetx.formstack.com/forms/btye2122](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgsnetx.formstack.com%2Fforms%2Fbtye2122%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3Fp4ibW5iiLNbIDD6sB7ylGTGwHDEFRqWF6Lg7bbcfgNQ3jOo0IPAvtz0&data=04%7C01%7Cmfletcher%40gsnetx.org%7C2cfe34c4a1a2477c10bd08d95b592be9%7Cd9e560d9675b46ccb79ae391d058aed3%7C1%7C0%7C637641260807619859%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=t%2Frgp55HxzOJ8hrbl%2BvE9pgLCR9W5a4kd8vM2fe2AMM%3D&reserved=0)   ***You can find the resources listed above and many more at GSNETX’s*** [***Troop Leader Blueprint***](https://www.gsnetx.org/en/for-volunteers/troop-leader-blueprint.html) ***page!*** |

Thank you,

Email signature