New Beginnings

Dear Girl Scout Family,

Memorial Day marked the unofficial start to summer, a season we relish here on the beautiful Jersey Shore. It is also a special time of the year for our Council. We are pleased to welcome the newest members to our family on their start to becoming Daisies and honored to celebrate our graduating Ambassadors on their way to new and exciting adventures.

Girl Scouts is proud to support the development of girls and help them become women of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. As both our Daisies and Ambassadors embark on new paths, we know they will be well-guided by Girl Scout values and leadership skills that are integral to the Girl Scout journey.

Our newly elected Board Chair Teri O’Connor points to the Girl Scout mission as a guiding force in her life. She joined Girl Scouts as a Brownie and attributes her Girl Scout experience with instilling self-confidence and a belief in herself to take on challenges. She now serves as Country Administrator for Monmouth County, the first woman appointed to the position. We are grateful for her leadership and vision to extend our reach to more girls and to keep them connected to our Council.

Here’s to exciting, new beginnings!

Eileen M. Higgins
Chief Executive Officer
Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore

Introducing Board Chair Teri O’Connor

Meet Teri O’Connor, the new chair of Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore Board of Directors and a proud Girl Scout alum. Teri was recently appointed to lead the Board after serving for four years, including two as first vice chairperson.

A lifelong resident of Monmouth County, Teri serves as the County Administrator, managing the day-to-day operations of 65 county departments comprised of more than 3,000 employees. She was appointed in 2010, the first woman to take on the role, and at the time one of only two women county administrators in New Jersey.

Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore recognized Teri’s leadership, honoring her as a Woman of Distinction in 2011. She was “honored and humbled” to receive the award and credits Girl Scouts with shaping leadership skills that led her to non-conventional roles in her career.

“Girls Scouts instills a belief in yourself and a sense of confidence to do whatever you want to do knowing that your sisterhood is always there for you, to support you. Girls are an awesome force and enact incredible change together,” Teri said.

Teri embraces change, believing it is essential to both personal and organizational growth. Impacts of the pandemic have ushered in new programs for Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore, such as virtual badges and digital cookie booths, which will likely continue to reach more girls who otherwise might not have access to Girl Scouts, she said.

“The impacts of the pandemic will be long-lasting,” Teri noted, adding that the overall health and well-being of children is of utmost concern. “We will need to restore a sense of security for children and make sure our girls feel supported by our team,” she said.

She looks forward to working with the Board on a new strategic plan to guide the Council’s future. “The current landscape is certainly challenging us to look at things differently,” she said.

In addition to a new strategic plan, she hopes to increase involvement of both girls and men in the Council, as well as develop a deeper connection to Girl Scout alum to strengthen the organization.

Teri has come full circle with Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore, developing the next generation of Girl Scouts in her own family. She is a volunteer for her granddaughter’s Brownie Troop in Holmdel and delights in their weekly meetings.

Teri and her husband Deane Reade live in Monmouth Beach and enjoy spending time with their two grown children and three grandchildren. They are excited for...
grand baby #4, expected in November.
We are truly fortunate for Teri’s leadership and commitment to Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore.

GIRL Thoughts

What are you most looking forward to this summer?
Some of our Wall and Manasquan Girl Scouts answered this question. Here are their thoughts.

Reagan, Troop 61455
I am most looking forward to going to the beach and surfing. I got a new board last year and I really did not get to use it a lot. I am looking forward to going to the beach and seeing all my friends. We like to walk to Playa Bowls and sit on the picnic benches and see everyone. I also like to go camping with my family. I am looking forward to earning some badges this summer when I camp too. Allaire State Park just said we can start camping on June 30, and I can’t wait to go!

Kettler & Harper, Troop 60970 & 61473
We are looking forward to blowing up our new outdoor slide! We just got it delivered and it is still in the box and we can not wait to use it! We need a hot sunny day soon! We also really want to go to the beach and use our boogie boards. We see our friends on Zoom, but we miss just being with them. We want to go to Main Scoop Ice Cream and see them all there soon!

Renew your Girl Scout membership today!

Girl Scouts is still happening; from home and online, for as long as needed. Because while we must remain physically apart, connection is more important than ever. We’re working hard to ensure your girl has access to the Girl Scout experience she knows and loves in a fun, safe and accessible way.

Whenever you’re ready to renew your Girl Scout membership, we’ll be here for you. When you participate in our Spring Renewal campaign by June 30, you’ll receive this year’s Early Bird patch, PLUS an invitation to participate in exclusive virtual activities this summer.

Renew When You Are Ready
Give a Box of Love

Every box of Girl Scout Cookies purchased helps fund one-of-a-kind opportunities for our girls.

Support our girls and give a Box Of Love to those who need it most. Put a smile on the face of hospital workers, police and local front-line volunteers.

Share the Cookie Relief link - GSFun.org/CookieRelief - with your family, friends and coworkers and donate a Box of Love!

Virtual Cookie Booths

Still looking for your favorite tasty treats? This is your LAST chance to get your hands on Girl Scout Cookies; our Virtual Cookie Booth Sales end this week.

Share the Virtual Cookie Booth link - GSFun.org/VirtualCookieBooth - with anyone looking to purchase cookies. It's simple to use; search the map for a troop selling cookies and place an online order for contactless delivery.

Council will accept returns on all unsold cookies.

Camp Song Contest

Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore is hosting a Camp Song Contest and it’s your opportunity to BE THE STAR! After all, who doesn't love to sing around the campfire?!

No matter your connection to Girl Scouts (a troop, summer camp, individual programs and activities, or even if you’re new to Girl Scouts), this contest is for YOU! Participants will receive a custom patch and digital songbook! PLUS, the first 50 families to register will receive one free combo meal from Jersey Mike’s Subs. Our Grand Prize Winner will receive a bag loaded with CAMP SWAG or a S'MORE'S KIT; it's your choice!

Submit Your Camp Song

Dance Party

Join Miss Susu and professional dancers from the Fred Astaire Dance Studio as we bring the dance party to your living room!

Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies and Juniors Zoom in Tuesday, June 2, at 4:00 p.m.; Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors, at 5:00 p.m.

Register Now!

Disney Trivia

M-I-C-K-E-Y M-O-U-S-E!! Join us for another round of Disney fun! Enjoy musical games, test your Disney princesses knowledge and much more!

Register early; we'll need to mail out materials, including a fun patch. Then Zoom in Friday, June 12, at 6:00 p.m. and make sure to dress in your Disney best!

Register Now!

Census 2020

Your Voice Matters - Census 2020

Cadette Trees Badge in a Box
Do you know what the U.S. Census is and how it is used? Work at your own pace to discover the importance of the 2020 Census. This program is open to ALL levels. Girls will have access to videos and workbooks. You can also purchase the Census Fun Patch at GSFun.org/Shop.

Let nature be your inspiration as you explore, create, research and design with our NEW Cadette Trees Badge in a Box. Our Badge in a Box kits include almost everything you’ll need, from easy to follow instructions to the badge itself!

Please note, kits do not include required perishables items including an apple and tablespoon of butter.

Discover Our "Girl Power Can't be Quarantined" Patch Program

Discover Our Badge Box Opportunities

Register Now!

Girl Power Can't Be Quarantined

What steps have you completed? Each of our three interconnecting patches can be earned in just five fun-filled steps! Our patch duo is open to ALL levels. The middle patch was designed exclusively for older girls.

Discover Our "Girl Power Can't be Quarantined" Patch Program

Register Now!

Girl Scouts At The Ready

Girl Scouts are always prepared…right? So let’s make sure you are at the ready and prepared with what you need for immediate use! Don’t forget to purchase our custom Girl Scouts at the Ready Fun Patch!

Discover Our Badge Box Opportunities

Register Now!

Register Now!

Upcoming Programs

Daisy, Brownie & Junior

- Dance Party for Daisies, Brownies & Juniors  
  - June 2 (DBJ)
- Disney Trivia  
  - June 12 (All levels)
- Your Voice Matters - Census 2020  
  - All levels
- Badge in a Box Programs  
  - Daisy Space Science Explorer
  - Brownie Household Elf
  - Cadette Trees

Cadette, Senior & Ambassador

- Adulting 101  
  - Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. (SA)
- Girl Scouts at the Ready  
  - Now through August 30 (CSA)
- Virtual Gold Award Workshops  
  - June 1 (SA)
- The Cadette Entrepreneur Badge  
  - May 28 (C)
- Dance Party for Older Girls  
  - June 2 (CSA)

Volunteers Opportunities

- Sensitivity Training for Girl Scout Volunteers  
  - June 15, Volunteers
- Mental Health First Aid  
  - October 10, Volunteers

Check Out the Updated Online Activities Calendar

Girl Scouts in Action

Casey, a first-year Girl Scout Daisy, enjoyed our Mad Scientist program with Miss Susu.

The ENCON team delivered cookies to staff at Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus in support of our Cookie Relief Fund.

Long-time Girl Scout volunteer, Kathleen, shared her thanks for Girl Scout Cookies with her holiday Mickey in her front yard.