

May

Newsletter

girl scouts 
of montana
and wyoming



► Troop 1865 | Cooking Skills



► Lander Girl Scouts | Lander First Responders



► Troop 1450 | Building Bird Houses



Contact Us!

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[facebook.com/GSMWcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/GSMWcouncil)



[@girlscoutsmtwy](https://www.instagram.com/girlscoutsmtwy)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/gsmw>

Facebook Groups

GSMW - Billings, HDQ

GSMW - Northeastern Wyoming

GSMW - Eastcentral Wyoming

GSMW - Southeast Wyoming

GSMW - Southwest Wyoming

GSMW - Southcentral Wyoming

GSMW - Southwest Montana

GSMW - Northcentral Montana

GSMW - Southcentral Montana

GSMW - Northwest Montana

GSMW - Central Montana

GSMW - Eastern Montana



► Troop 3539 | Archery



FEATURED

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► Troop 3494 | Eureka Rendezvous Parade

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Combines a unique overnight camp with opportunities to support girls in our Montana and Wyoming communities



2025 Spring Renewal

April 1 - May 31, 2024

Renew 80% of your Troop and required number of volunteers to receive:

- **Renew by May 15th:** the Troop will receive the exclusive Spring Activity Box (supplies for all renewed Troop girls), all required leaders will receive a free membership,* and all girls and adult volunteers will receive the 2024-2025 girl designed renewal patch.
- **Renew by May 31st:** all required leaders will receive a free membership* and all girls and adult volunteers will receive the 2024-2025 girl designed renewal patch.

**If required leaders currently have a Lifetime Membership, they may gift their free membership to another adult in the troop.*








↖
Create
Chia Seed
Windchimes
and Wildflower
Seed Bomb
Paper!

Exclusive Spring Activity Box!



Girl Designed
Spring Renewal Patch!
Congrats Adelyn H. from
Troop 3896 in Helena, MT!

| Current Girls | 80% |
|---------------|-----|
| 6 | 5 |
| 7 | 6 |
| 8 | 6 |
| 9 | 7 |
| 10 | 8 |
| 11 | 9 |
| 12 | 10 |
| 13 | 10 |
| 14 | 11 |
| 15 | 12 |
| 16 | 13 |
| 17 | 14 |
| 18 | 14 |
| 19 | 15 |
| 20 | 16 |

| Renewal Date | Exclusive Spring Activity Box | Free Leader Membership | Everyone Gets a Girl Designed Patch |
|--------------|---|---|---|
| By May 15th |  |  |  |
| By May 31 | |  |  |

Volunteer

Recognitions

Each year, GSMW formally recognizes those Girl Scout adult members whose accomplishments are significant. Awarded recognitions provide the means to acknowledge individuals for their unique and outstanding service. All **Volunteer Award** recipients were nominated by parents of Girl Scouts and fellow Girl Scout volunteers.

Outstanding Volunteer

Abbi Reames - Wamsutter, WY
Alta Scott - Great Falls, MT
Amber Rustad - Belgrade, MT
Billie Alexander - Casper, WY
Brianna Sessions - Byron, WY
Carly Bruntmyer - Casper, WY
Catrina Sparrow - Green River, WY
Elizabeth Moon - Casper, WY
Elizabeth Neal - Gillette, WY
Grace Collister - Casper, WY
Hannah Jacoby Reese - Bozeman, MT
Heather Gabriel - Great Falls, MT
Jennifer Sonnichsen - Bozeman, MT
Jesse Apland - Casper, WY
Kathy Handelin - Bozeman, MT
Kayla Tinnell - Libby, MT
Leshia Brock - Gillette, WY
Mandy Goodwin - Saratoga, WY
Rosy Hunt - Casper, WY
Taylor Jessee - Casper, WY
Teresa Gonzalez - Butte, MT

Thanks Badge I

Gail Miller - Belgrade, MT

President's Award

Belgrade Service Unit - Gail Miller, Jennifer Thomson, Marilyn Ridder, Tennia Lode

Volunteer of Excellence

Amber Rustad - Bozeman, MT
Amy Carrano - Gillette, WY
Bertun Sanchez - Cheyenne, WY
Christina Krasovich - Gillette, WY
Erika Shafto-Segura - Evanston, WY
Jess Rodell - Gillette, WY
Kathy Fleming - Casper, WY
Kent Johnson - Belgrade, MT
Sara Wilson - Great Falls, MT
Tiffany Marsh - Casper, WY
Wendy Conner - Casper, WY

Appreciation Pin

Alyssa Strauch - Missoula, MT
Andy Bennett - Dillon, MT
Barb Betchi - Helena, MT
Bob Cannady - Dillon, MT
Elizabeth Washington - Cheyenne, WY
Hailey Botts - Evanston, WY
Jennifer Thomson - Belgrade, MT
Kelly McQuiston - Cody, WY
Kodi Laird - Dillon, MT
Lianna Waller - Missoula, MT
Marilyn Ridder - Belgrade, MT
Rosy Hunt - Casper, WY
Sara Oedekoven - Cheyenne, WY
Shay Kidd - Dillon, MT
Tennia Lode - Belgrade, MT
Vanessa Dendinger - Cheyenne, WY

Honor Pin

Christiana Weiss - Belgrade, MT
Gail Miller - Belgrade, MT
Kathy Handelin - Bozeman, MT
Melissa Meissner - Townsend, MT
Suzie Hockel - Bozeman, MT



Girl Scout

Cookie Program

That's a Wrap !

Congratulations on having a MAGICAL 2024 Cookie Program. The Girl Scouts in Montana and Wyoming have made those cookies go “POOF” and we hope your girls have lots of fun plans for your troop proceeds. We had 108 camp credit earners and 287 Membership Earners for 2025! A BIG Congratulations!

At this time, there are a couple of things to wrap up:

1. Do you have girls who earned a charm and need a bracelet to show off their new bling? [Click on this link](#) to order Charm Bracelets for girls in your troop.
 - BONUS: If you order the bracelets by **May 10th**, (shipped with Final Rewards) it is \$3 per bracelet! (after May 10th, it is \$3.95 per bracelet).
2. Because Shoes Troop Donations: If your troop heard about Because Shoes and would like to donate additional pairs of these shoes, please purchase those donations through [this form](#) by May 15th.
3. Gift of Caring (Cookie Share) Donation Requests: Donation requests were due by April 30th and you will be notified by May 10th regarding cupboard pickups. We will do our best to provide cookies from your local cupboard, but that largely depends on availability. If you do not want to distribute donations, not a problem! We will make sure they are donated on your behalf.

Some BIG Announcements

Tune in on May 31st at 3:30 PM on the GSMW Facebook Page to hear all about our GSMW Top Entrepreneurs and our Level Up Promotion Winner! You don't want to miss this Facebook announcement where we'll reveal the Fall Program mascot.

Cookie Rewards Update

Rewards are shipping quickly this year and hope they will arrive by the middle of May. Your Initial Order Troop PGA rewards were figured manually offline, so we will email you list of earners for reference.

As a reminder, the Initial and Final rewards will all be arriving together! Please run the Recognition Order Summary by Girl report for Early and Main rewards to view girl distribution.

Cookie End-of-Year Financial Reports

To help you complete your end-of-year financials, follow these steps to save the Troop Balance Summary Report from Smart Cookie:

1. Visit the reports tab – click on Current.
2. Select the Finance Category of reports.
3. Select the Troop Balance Summary Report or Troop Balance Summary Report Snapshot.
4. Save this report as a PDF to use on your end-of-year financials You can download this report now or after your final ACH sweep has been completed.

Final Cookie Sweep

Final Cookie Program ACH Sweep will occur May 14th. Thank you for all your great communication this year. Please be sure any **Outstanding Balance Forms** for caregivers are submitted by May 6th.

Cookie Questions?

If you have questions or need assistance, please email customercare@gsmw.org. We are here and ready to assist you! Thank you for helping Girl Scouts own their magic!



Bling Your Booth Winner

As we gear Troop 1989 made a splash and owned their magic this Cookie Season!

Congratulations for winning the drawing for this years #2024gsmwbling challenge!

With 24 fantastic entries, we're grateful for everyone's hard work!



**Troop 1989
Bling Your Booth Winners!**

Register by
May 8th
for \$25 off!

GSMW Summer Camp Registration

As we gear up for an unforgettable summer, all of us here at GSMW are thrilled to invite and welcome you to “Find Your True North”. View the [online camp guide](#) and see what your favorite summer camp themes might be!

Here's a sneak peek at just a few of the amazing offerings waiting for you at Timbercrest Camp:

Mighty Mountaineers | Grades 4-12

Get ready for an adrenaline-pumping adventure with white water rafting, climbing, and more!

Picasso Pioneers | Grades 2-12

Explore the world of special effects makeup and produce unique art projects that unleash your

Naturalist Navigators | Grades 2-8

Uncover the secrets of nature with owl pellet dissection and explore the wonders of the natural world with hands-on projects and experimentation!

Wilderness Warriors | Grades 4-8

From fire-making to shelter-building and compass navigation to outdoor cooking, become a true wilderness expert and conquer the wild with your new outdoor survival skills!

Contact Info & Registration

Wednesday, April 24 – Early Bird registration opens

Wednesday, May 8 – Full price registration

Sign up before May 8th to save with early bird registration and join us for an unforgettable summer experience! For more info, visit gsmw.org/camp.



Naturalist Navigators

Grades 2-8



Mighty Mountaineers

Grades 4-12



Wilderness Warriors

Grades 4-8



Picasso Pioneers

Grades 2-12

Outdoor Cookout Training

If your troop wants to go hiking, have an outdoor cookout, or go on an overnight trip, one participating adult volunteer must complete GSMW's Outdoor Trainings. The first step in the training is available through gsLearn. The second part of the training is an in-person Outdoor Cookout Training.

Check out our current **Outdoor Cookout Training** offerings and get registered to attend. Don't see a training scheduled in your area yet? Please **complete this form** to indicate that you are interested in receiving Outdoor Cookout training. We will then work to coordinate training opportunities from April 15 – June 30 based on requests.



Volunteer-Led International Travel

A GSMW-based troop has planned two trips with EF Tours, and they want you to travel with them! They are still offering spaces for their European extravaganza in June of 2025. And you and your troop or family can now get-in on the ground floor for a tropical adventure to the Dominican Republic in the summer of 2026. Both trips are open to Girl Scouts, adult volunteers, and family members. GSUSA's Travel Progression recommends international travel for well-traveled Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts.

First, consider the European Showcase, starting mid-June 2025, and lasting 17 days (about 2 and a half weeks). This tour will include sites in England, France, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, and Turkey. The link has all the information about the program, what's included, and the itinerary: <http://www.eftours.com/2716689CF> There is already a strong group of travelers in the planning process, but you are welcome to jump on-board!

The same troop has also begun planning their community service and adventure-based trip to the Dominican Republic in the summer of 2026. The volunteer leader would like to invite any interested travelers to a virtual meet-up with EF Tours and other potential travelers.

The meeting will occur on Wednesday, May 15th at 6:00PM. EF Tours will answer questions about the trip's activities, travel logistics, how high school travelers can earn college credit and service hours, payment options, and how to enroll. Register to attend the meeting or ask for more information using this link: <https://rsvp.eftours.com/n2u8wv9>

If your troop is interested in traveling with this volunteer-led travel group, GSMW can put you in touch with the troop leader. Email GSMW at customercare@gsmw.org for more information.



Community Days

June 1st - June 8th, 2024

Community Days Across Council this Spring

This June, Girl Scouts, their friends, and their families will gather to create positive change in their communities during our annual Community Day events. This year's events will take place over one week starting on National Trails Day, June 1st, and ending on June 8th.

Check-out the council-sponsored Community Day events on GSMW's events page: www.gsmw.org/events. Community Day events are open to Girl Scouts of all ages, their friends, and their families.

For troops, households, and service units hosting their own Community Day events, GSMW wants to know who's out there helping their communities! Use the **Community Day Independent Group Form** to share your project overview and participant numbers. When planning your service project, first review the **Safety Activity Checkpoints** starting on page 65. You can also use the form to order your Community Day stickers for \$1 each and custom patches for \$2 each. Independent Community Day events can occur anytime in June.

Registration for council-sponsored events and independent event patch & sticker orders close on May 19th. GSMW will ship independent event patches and stickers by the end of May.



Highest Awards Ceremony

A 2024 GSMW Highest Awards Ceremony will be hosted on Friday June 14th at 2:00 pm in Helena, MT. The deadline to submit Bronze, Silver or Gold paperwork to attend is May 31st. If your group would like to attend, please RSVP by June 5th.

Questions? Please email customercare@gsmw.org.



Camp Castle Rock Open House

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, August 17th, in Butte MT, GSMW will be celebrating 100 years of Camp Castle Rock with an open house. Camp Castle Rock is GSMW's most historic resident camp property, and we've been working hard to make some much needed improvements.

2024 Outdoor Challenge

The GSUSA Outdoor Challenge is back again! Girls, families, or troops can complete these activities with a goal of completing 25 activities. Once you've completed your Summer Outdoor Challenge, don't forget to order your patch! Find the challenge on our website [here](#).



Bridging Kits

The adventure continues as girls Bridge to the next level of Girl Scouting! Order your bridging kits today to ensure your girls are ready for the next level.

Kits are \$8-\$10 and include a Girl Scout bridging certificate, bridging arc patch, Girl Scout membership star pin and disc, bridging pencil, bridging fun patch, and brownie wings (only for bridge to Junior) in a clear plastic bag.

Call 406-252-0488 or email shop@gsmw.org to place your order today!



FreeWill

FreeWill provides free online estate planning for Girl Scout supporters including:

1. Complimentary Will Creation Tool

Girl Scout supporters can create a will or trust online using this complimentary tool and include a charitable bequest to GSMW.

2. Beneficiary Designation Planning Tool

Girl Scout supporters can use this simple tool to name GSMW as a beneficiary of a non-probate asset.

3. Girl Scout Planned Gift Notification Form

Girl Scout supporters can complete this form to notify GSUSA of a planned gift to GSMW.





Peaks and Pines

September 7th - September 8th, 2024



Peaks and Pines Weekend Retreat and Fundraiser

Join us for a memorable weekend at our Peaks and Pines Fundraiser on Saturday, September 7th, and Sunday, September 8th at Timbercrest Camp in Red Lodge, Montana.

This women-only retreat combines a unique overnight camp experience with opportunities to support girls in our Montana and Wyoming communities.

Nestled among picturesque mountain valley views, our Timbercrest Camp property provides the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable weekend getaway. With lodge accommodations, cozy cabins, and ample outdoor space, you will experience the ultimate mountain retreat while making a meaningful difference and leaving a legacy that inspires and empowers girls.

Wish to stay in the loop? [Click here](#) to receive updates about event tickets, activities, and more!

