

August 2026 Newsletter

Upcoming in August

- Service Unit Summit in El Paso, TX - Saturday, August 8, 2026
- National S'mores Day - Monday, August 10, 2026
- Service Unit Summit in Midland, TX - Saturday, August 15, 2026
- T.W.Y.G in Cloudcroft, NM - Friday, August 21 - Sunday, August 23, 2026
- Fall Product begins - Monday, August 31, 2026

National S'mores Day



@girlscouts

June Shop Raffle Winners

El Paso: Michelle Flores

Midland/Odessa: Crystal Beinhauer



Congrats to our
raffle winners!

Stay tuned for
more fun contests
and prizes!



Girl Scout Updates

Girl Scouts Hit the Big Screen in Cookie Queens on Friday, August 7, 2026!

We're so excited to see the Girl Scout story come to life in theaters with *Cookie Queens*, an observational documentary that follows some of the top Girl Scout Cookie entrepreneurs over the course of a single season.

We're especially proud that one of our own Girl Scout members is featured in the film! The documentary uses cookies as a lens to explore girlhood, ambition, entrepreneurship, and growing up in America today.

Check out the trailer today and get ready for the theatrical release
on Friday, August 7, 2026!



Product Program

Upcoming Fall Product Dates

August

- Monday, August 24, 2026 – Early access for troop volunteers
- Monday, August 31, 2026 – Fall Product Program begins

September

- Monday, September 28, 2026 - Last day for in-person and online girl-delivered ordering
- Monday, September 28, 2026 - Family deadline for entering in-person orders into M2OS
- Tuesday, September 29, 2026 - Deadline for troops to enter or edit order card items
- Wednesday, September 30, 2026 - Deadline for service unit edits to order card items



**Fall Product Program
begins on:**

**Monday
August 31, 2026**



Support Girl Scouts for Less!

We know every dollar matters. That's why we've lowered the retail prices on our Fall Product nuts and chocolate lineup, making it easier than ever to support local Girl Scouts.

Stock up on your favorite snacks and treats while helping girls develop leadership, business, and life skills. Great products, lower prices, and a great cause - it doesn't get much sweeter than that!

Program

Congratulations to Our GSUSA Gold Award Scholarship Recipient!

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest is proud to congratulate Valentina Carrillo of Troop 58551 on being selected as a recipient of the prestigious GSUSA Gold Award Scholarship!

For her Gold Award project, Minds In Action for Mental Health, Valentina was inspired by seeing classmates struggle with mental health challenges. She founded her school's first peer-to-peer counseling program, creating a safe space for students to have open conversations, reduce the stigma surrounding mental health, and connect with supportive resources. By collaborating with school district and regional leaders, Valentina also helped elevate the importance of student-led mental health advocacy and accessible support systems.

Valentina's project exemplifies the spirit of the Gold Award - identifying a community need, creating a sustainable solution, and inspiring meaningful change. We are incredibly proud of her accomplishments and this well-deserved national recognition.



Congratulations, Valentina!

Click to view
full flyer



Monthly Challenge

The August Monthly Challenge
lets you be a Weather Watcher!

https://bit.ly/Weather_Aug2026



Program

Click to view
full flyer

Tues.
August
11



Spotlight on Girl Scouts

Join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest to explore the exciting world of theatre through a fun-filled, hands-on acting adventure! Learn how actors bring stories to life using movement, expression, and imagination instead of words. Along the way, you'll build confidence, unleash your creativity, work together as a team, and experience the excitement of performing on stage.

All Girl Scout Levels (Grades K - 12)

Tuesday, August 11, 2026
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM CDT
Midland Girl Scout Program Center
901 W. Dengar Ave., Midland, TX 79705
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/SpotlightonGSM2026>
Registration deadline: Monday, August 3, 2026

What you will do:

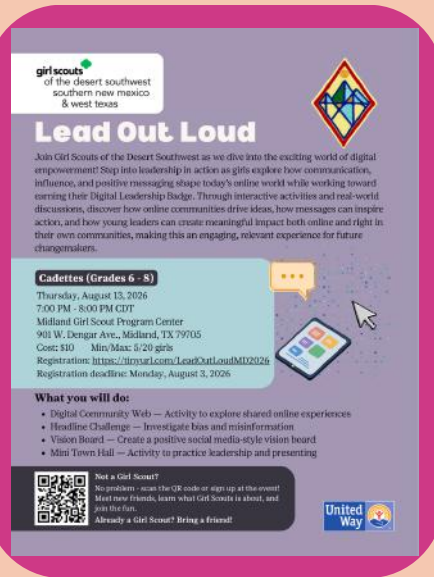
- Theatre Fun Patch — Participate in fun, hands-on theatre activities
- Freeze-frame acting — Use poses and expressions to tell a fun story
- Character mask — Design a mask for your own unique stage character
- Acting games — Bring your character to life with movement, imagination, and play

Not a Girl Scout? No problem — scan the QR code or sign up at the event! Meet new friends, learn what Girl Scouts is about, and join the fun. Already a Girl Scout? Bring a friend!

United Way

Midland, TX

Thurs.
August
13



Lead Out Loud

Join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest as we dive into the exciting world of digital empowerment! Step into leadership in action as girls explore how communication, influence, and positive messaging shape today's online world while working toward earning their Digital Leadership Badge. Through interactive activities and real-world discussions, discover how online communities drive ideas, how messages can inspire action, and how young leaders can create meaningful impact both online and right in their own communities, making this an engaging, relevant experience for future changemakers.

Cadettes (Grades 6 - 8)

Thursday, August 13, 2026
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM CDT
Midland Girl Scout Program Center
901 W. Dengar Ave., Midland, TX 79705
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/LeadOutLoudMD2026>
Registration deadline: Monday, August 3, 2026

What you will do:

- Digital Community Web — Activity to explore shared online experiences
- Headline Challenge — Investigate bias and misinformation
- Vision Board — Create a positive social media-style vision board
- Mini Town Hall — Activity to practice leadership and presenting

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United Way

Midland, TX

Sat.
August
15



Wild About Animals!

Join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest for an unforgettable wildlife adventure where every clue leads to a new discovery! Daisies and Brownies will explore habitats, identify animal tracks, and learn how wildlife depends on nature to survive. With interactive games, outdoor exploration, and creative activities, girls will sharpen their detective skills, connect with the natural world, and discover simple ways to make a difference for wildlife.

Daisy (Grades K - 1) & Brownie (Grades 2 - 3)

Saturday, August 15, 2026
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM MDT
El Paso Girl Scout Program Center
9700 Girl Scout Way, El Paso, TX 79924
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/AnimalsWAP2026>
Registration deadline: Monday, August 3, 2026

What you will do:

- Wildlife Mystery — Identify animals from tracks and other clues
- Habitat Builders — Collect natural materials and build a simple animal habitat
- Track Hunt & Charades — Find animal tracks, then act out animals in a charades game to learn behaviors
- Helping Wildlife — Make a poster showing ways to protect animals and habitats

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United Way

El Paso, TX

Fri.
August
21



Girls, Goals, & Great Outdoors

Join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest for an unforgettable summer adventure where every activity is packed with energy, creativity, and outdoor fun! From exciting games and team challenges to hands-on activities, girls will laugh, explore, build confidence, and create new friendships while enjoying an amazing day in the sunshine.

Juniors (Grades 4 - 5)

Friday, August 21, 2026
8:00 PM - 9:30 PM MDT
Chaparral Park
1059 S. Commercial St., Lovington, NM 88060
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/GSGO2026>
Registration deadline: Monday, August 18, 2026

What you will do:

- Outdoor fitness challenges
- Scavenger hunt games
- Group sports and active play

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United Way

Lovington, NM

Thurs.
September
3



Peaceful Poses

Join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest as we earn the Peaceful Poses fun patch in a calm, creative, and interactive experience! Girls will explore mindfulness through simple movement, guided relaxation, and yoga activities designed just for beginners. They'll watch a guided yoga video, design a personal mindfulness rock, and take part in a fun "Calm Corners" game that helps them better understand and manage their emotions.

All Girl Scout Levels (Grades K - 12)

Thursday, September 3, 2026
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM CDT
Midland Girl Scout Program Center
901 W. Dengar Ave., Midland, TX 79705
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/PeacefulPosesMD2026>
Registration deadline: Monday, August 24, 2026

What you will do:

- Follow-Along Yoga Video — beginner-friendly, guided movement and breathing
- Create Your Own Mindfulness Rock — decorate a calming take-home reminder
- Calm Corners Game — movement-based emotion recognition and discussion

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United Way

Midland, TX

Sat.
September
12



Girl Scouts Love: Bottomless Lakes State Park

Join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest at Bottomless Lakes State Park for an unforgettable outdoor Girl Scout experience you won't want to miss! Set in one of New Mexico's most unique natural areas, girls will explore, discover, and connect with the outdoors while learning from a park research interpreter about the fascinating history, wildlife, and natural features that make this park so special. Take part in fun, hands-on activities that spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and bring science and nature to life in an exciting, interactive way.

All Girl Scout Levels (K - 12)

Saturday, September 12, 2026
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM MDT
Bottomless Lakes State Park
545 E. Bottomless Lakes Rd., Roswell, NM 88201
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/GSLoveRoswell2026>
Registration deadline: Monday, August 31, 2026

What you will do:

- Leave No Trace — Quick tips for protecting nature while having fun outdoors
- Guest Expert Talk — Discover behind-the-scenes stories from a park researcher
- Nature Walk Adventure — Explore the trails and spot the park's hidden wonders

Not a Girl Scout? No problem — scan the QR code or sign up at the event! Meet new friends, learn what Girl Scouts is about, and join the fun. Already a Girl Scout? Bring a friend!

United Way

Roswell, NM

Engagement

Volunteer Conference: Back to Basics

Early registration now open!



Volunteer Conference at Camp Mitre Peak!

Friday, September 18 - Sunday, September 20, 2026

Registration Details:

Early Registration: Now – Sunday, August 9, 2026 | \$50 (Save \$10!)
On-Time Registration: Monday, August 10 – Friday, August 21, 2026 | \$60
Late Registration: Saturday, August 22 – Thursday, September 3, 2026 | \$70
(no t-shirt and class preferences will be assigned)

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/VC2026GSDSW>

Don't forget to redeem your 2026 Volunteer Conference
coupon with the code: VCVA26

Important Troop Forms

- [Bank Account Request](#)
- [Emergency Procedures](#)
- [Health History](#)
- [Opportunity Fund Application](#)
- [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#)
- [Trip and High-Risk Activity Form](#)
- [Troop Disbandment Checklist](#)
- [Troop Disband Form](#)
- [Volunteer Essentials](#)

Service Unit Roundtable

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

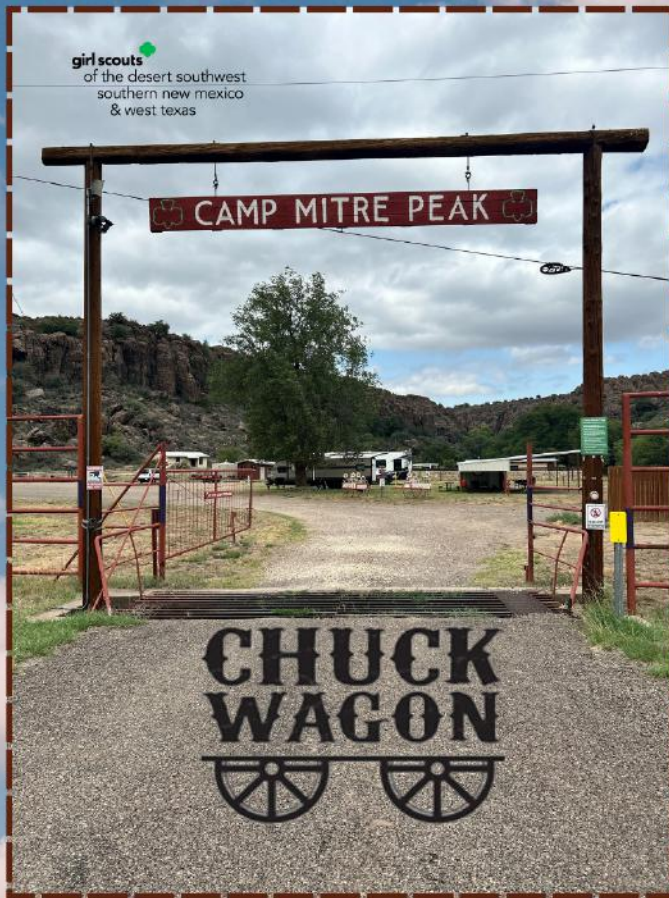
Recruitment Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for a new way to make an impact?

From helping at recruitment events and community outreach activities to supporting special events, there are many ways to lend your time and talents to support Girl Scouts in your area. Explore current recruitment volunteer opportunities and sign up here:

**[Recruitment Volunteer
Opportunities here!](#)**

Resource Development



**You are cordially invited to
join us for a magical evening
under the stars at**

**Camp Mitre Peak
Saturday, November 7, 2026
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
200 Mitre Peak Camp Rd.
Fort Davis, TX 79734**

**Enjoy a delightful dinner
at 7:00 PM followed by
dancing under the open sky.**

Music by Hall's Last Call Band

**To sponsor or buy tickets:
<https://bit.ly/2026ChuckWagon>**

**For questions, contact us at
funddevelopment@gsdsw.org or
(915) 566-9433 Ext.2221**

Sponsorships

Sponsorship Levels	Seating	Logo/Name on Website & Social Media	Logo/Name on Event Banner	Verbal Recognition	Listing in Annual Report
Kiva - \$5,000	Premium 8 Seats				
Kick-a-Poo - \$2,500	6 Seats				
Seminole - \$1,500	4 Seats				
Apache - \$750	2 Seats				
Banner Advertisement - \$200	No Seats				

Council Properties

Council Property Building Rental / Usage

Reminder: Council Property Use Form Required

Planning to use a council property or building for troop meetings, programs, trainings, service unit meetings, or other gatherings? You must submit the Troop/SU Meeting Property Rental Application each program year, even if you submitted one last year.

If your previous form included dates that have already passed, a new request is required for any upcoming use. This helps us keep accurate, up-to-date scheduling and ensures proper support for all users.

Want to use or rent Camp Mitre Peak or any of our program centers for troop or service unit meetings, or special events? Submit your request here:

- [Camp Mitre Peak Rental Application](#)
- [Troop/SU Meeting Property Rental Application](#)
- [GSDSW Members and Troop Mitre Council Property Rental Application](#)



Camp Mitre Peak, Fort Davis, TX
Carlsbad, NM
Deming, NM
El Paso, TX**
Fort Stockton, TX
Hobbs, NM

Las Cruces, NM
Midland, TX
Odessa, TX
Roswell, NM
Silver City, NM
White Spur Hut, El Paso, TX

****El Paso Program Center is currently unavailable for use due to septic issues. We will keep you informed with updates as we receive them. Thank you for your understanding.**

Around the Council

Retail Shops

Council Shop Hours*

El Paso

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM MT
(Closed for lunch 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)
1st Saturday of each month
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM MT

Las Cruces

At the monthly Service Unit event
Pre-orders will also be delivered.

Midland

Tuesdays 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM CT
Thursdays 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM & 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM CT
1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CT

Odessa

2nd & 4th Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CT

For locations, [click here](#).

Shop orders will be placed on the second Thursday of each month for special orders and items not in stock.

*Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest Career Opportunities

Engagement Specialist

- Carlsbad
- Silver City

*Interested candidates
should email*

Program Specialist

- Midland

*careers@gsdsw.org with
resumes and a cover letter.*

Resource Development Specialist

- Midland

Bigfoot Has Arrived!

Something legendary just landed in our shops! Check out the new Bigfoot Collection, featuring plushies, stickers, mugs, and tumblers. We've also added fresh GSDSW-branded stickers!

Shop Refresh Alert

If you visit Midland or Odessa, you'll notice a brand-new look. Both shops have been rearranged and refreshed to create an even better shopping experience. Stop by and see what's new!



If your service unit is organizing an event and you would like to have the GSDSW Mobile Store present, please complete and submit [this request form](#) at least one month before the event.