Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania Town Hall Meeting Report—Fall 2025

Board of Directors Recent Activity

Board Meeting, September 2025

- The motion to accept the 2025/2026 budget was passed.
- The motion to accept the 2025 United Way of Beaver County Annual Application was passed.
- The motion to approve the closure and sale of the Greensburg Office was passed.
- The motion to approve the closure and sale of the Johnstown Office was passed.
- The motion to approve the closure and sale of Camp Redwing was passed.

Board Meeting, June 2025

- The motion to accept the Bank Signature Resolution with the new secretary, Coralyn Benhart, passed.
- The motion to accept the Clearfield Area United Way Application was passed.

Annual Meeting, May 2025

• The motion to approve the Board Slate, as presented, was passed.

Referrals for Board and Girl Advisory Committee

We are open to referrals and applications for our Board of Directors, Board Development Committee, and Girl Advisory Committee positions. Position descriptions and applications can be found on the governance page of our website.

Annual Meeting

- The Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2026 at Westmoreland County Community College.
- We will offer a hybrid format with in-person and remote participation.

Membership Stats and Goals

Unofficial Membership Numbers MY25 (as of 9/30/25)

Туре	New	Renewed	Total	MY25 Goal	Difference
Girl Members	3,683	10,240	13,923	15,233	-1,310
Adult Members	1,607	7,201	8,808	8,949	-141

MY26 Membership Numbers and Goals as of 10/1/25)

Туре	As of 10/1/25	Goal for MY26	Difference of MY26 Goals
Girl Members	9,035	12,897	-3,862
Adult Members	6,716	7,142	-426

Volunteer Engagement

- · New membership structure with eight areas and Member Success Advisors
- New Or Recently-Introduced Volunteer Resources:
 - » Volunteer Open Houses—developed last year; held bimonthly at the start of the year and monthly in winter and spring.
 - » Camp So You Wannas—in-person sessions with subject-matter experts on finance, new leaders, programming, volunteer relations, service unit education, and more.
 - » Expanded "Sign-Up" Map on the website—now includes any free, public-facing membership event (staff events, volunteer events, adult meet-ups, community events, etc.).
 - » Bracelets and flyers with QR codes—link directly to the "Girl Scout Community Events" page.
 - » Volunteer Appreciation Course—supports volunteers in nominating colleagues for recognition.
- Updated Or Enhanced Volunteer Resources:
 - » Service Unit Manual—updated.
 - » Role Training—currently being updated.
 - » Recruitment Resources—now easier to access and request via the Recruitment Supply Request form on the website.
 - » Guides for Planning Additional Money-Earning Events—available on the Forms and Documents page of the website.
 - » Let's Go Camping Recertification Track—ongoing updates to improve outdoor safety.
 - » Managing Girl Scout Finances Training—redesigned and updated.
 - » Enhanced New Leaders Guide—coming soon.
 - » Highest Awards Trainings—updated with information on revised leadership awards and expanded prerequisites.
- Delegate season is here! If you're interested in serving as a delegate in 2026, here are the requirements:
 - » Potential delegates may be registered girls 14 or older, or registered and approved volunteers.
 - » Delegates must be elected by the service unit and have their name submitted to staff by November 15. The delegate submission form can be found on the forms page of our website or may be requested from our customer care team or your membership engagement specialist.
 - » Delegates must plan to attend the annual meeting in 2026—this will be held on April 18th.
 - » Elected delegates must complete the delegate training course provided in gsLearn 30 days prior to the annual meeting (this course does not need to be retaken if reelected).
 - » Each delegate must have a unique email and mobile device from which to send and receive information.
 - » This year, we are asking that all names be submitted by November 15, 2025. Membership engagement specialists will let each service unit know how many delegates and alternates to elect based on the girl member population as of September 30, 2025.
- To learn more about volunteer trainings, scan here:



Adult Awards

Several new, council-specific, adult awards will be open for nominations this year. In recent years we have offered one peer-to-peer award, the Volunteer of Excellence Award, as well as four board-approved awards: The Appreciation Pin, The Honor Pin, and The Thanks Badge I and II.

In addition to those awards, starting this year, we will also be offering:

- The Promise Award—a peer-to-peer award for those who have already received the Volunteer of Excellence
- The Shining Star Award—For those who have already received the Appreciation Pin and have continued to provide exemplary service at the service unit level.
- The Sisterhood Award—For those who have already received the Honor Pin and have continued to provide exemplary service to more than one service unit.
- The Trefoil Award—For those who have already received the Thanks Badge II and have continued to provide exemplary service to the entire council or the Girl Scout movement.
- The Pearl Award—For volunteers at any level who have provided at least twenty years of active service.
- The Innovation in Action Award—Given to a volunteer who has developed, implemented, and shared a creative, innovative approach to furthering any aspect of the Girl Scout mission.
- The Friendship Circle Award—Given to a group, organization, business, or non-member individual to recognize their support of the Girl Scout mission.

We are very grateful to the Adult Awards Committee – a group of excellent, long-serving volunteers, who have worked diligently on the development of these new awards. More information, including nomination forms, will be available on our website a little later this year.

Summer Camp

- 894 girls and 177 adults served across 4 camps.
- 60 sessions offered, including troop camps.
- 2025 camp sessions were priced to have one universal fee per camp as opposed to the tiered pricing, which was confusing to our members.
- In 2026, we'll offer more simplified camp sessions for girls to experience the outdoors on our properties. The sessions will be outdoor camp-themed and grouped age appropriately. Girl Scouts will still experience all the same fun traditions and more.

Girl Program

- 99 Silver Award recipients, 35 Gold Award recipients
- \$5,000 scholarship awarded to Gold Award Girl Scout Devon McDonald for her "Big Feelings Story Time: A Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum" project
- 94 participants in travel programs
- 135 council events with ~3,900 girls and ~3,000 adults
- 15 volunteer-led day camps
- 170 girls served through community engagement programs
- 225 troops and service units planned their own trips and high adventure activities that needed approval
- 44 girls and adults trained in FA/CPR/AED

Fall Product Program (Gifts & Goodies)

- Formerly the MagNut Program, renamed to reflect broader product offerings.
- New products this year include several online exclusives: Nut and Caramel Trail Mix, Cherry Almond Clusters, an additional Bark Box, and jar candles.
- · Launched Oct. 1

Cookie Program

Troops continue to have success during the Election Week Cookie Program, so we're bringing it back for 2025! Girl Scout troops will hold booth sales in their community the week of the general election, Nov. 1-9. Customers can stock up on their favorite Girl Scout Cookies, and Girl Scouts help their troop earn proceeds as they get started with the new Girl Scout year. Troops will earn \$1 per package sold.

Order taking for the cookie program starts January 6, 2026, and there's a delicious new addition to the lineup: Exploremores™! Inspired by rocky road ice cream, this sandwich cookie has flavors of chocolate, marshmallow, and toasted almond crème.

The Cookie Finder opens January 6, too, allowing girl-delivered and shipped sales through troop links. In previous programs, troop links weren't open for orders until February.

After reviewing proposals from both bakeries, we have renewed our contract with Little Brownie Bakers for a four-year term beginning with the 2027 cookie program.

Property Updates

Camp Conshatawba:

· Merry Go Round Lodge renovation was completed.

Camp Skymeadow:

• Storm damage was repaired (wells, road, culverts).

Johnstown Office

• The 3-story building in Johnstown exceeds the space we need for council operations. We are looking for a smaller office to lease, and the current building will be listed for sale. Council operations, including the cookie cupboard, will continue in the current location until the building is sold.

Greensburg Office

- We have made the difficult decision to close the retail shop and office and list the building for sale. The last day the Greensburg shop will be open is Wednesday, Oct. 8.
- Council operations, including the cookie cupboard, will continue in the current location until the building is sold.
- While the office is closing, our dedicated mobile staff will still be in the Greensburg area to support Girl Scouts and volunteers.

Camp Redwing:

- After careful review of all options, we have made the difficult decision to permanently close and sell
 Camp Redwing, as costs to repair and maintain the camp have exceeded what the council can sustain,
 and relocating the camp away from the flood area is not feasible.
- The council program team is working to move activities and events to other area locations and to the three remaining council camps.
- The closing ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 2, from 2-4 p.m..

