

What's in this month's issue:

- Council Holiday Closure
- Product Program
- Cookie Dates
- Yule Stories Around the World
- Adult Trainings
- Careers
- Property Update
- And so much more!



**Council Holiday Closure
End of Year Holidays**

**Friday, Dec. 22, 2023 -
Monday, Jan. 1, 2023**



December 2023 Troop Scoop



Product Program



2024 Looking Ahead at Cookies

- Interested in helping troops during the Cookie Program?
- Want to make your own schedule?
- Enjoy counting?

We are looking for Council Cookie Cupboard helpers in El Paso, Midland, and Odessa. If interested, email info@gsdsw.org for more information.



Cookies Dates

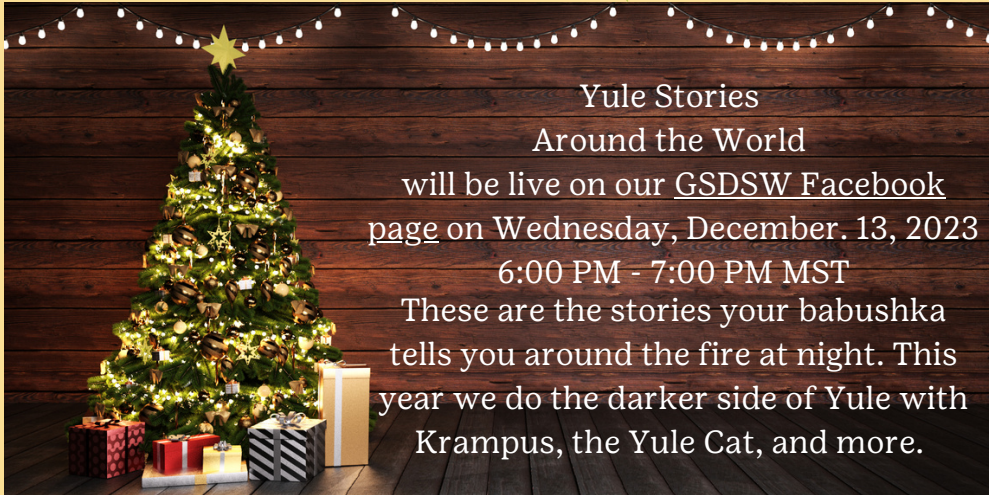
- First Week of December - Volunteers that have completed all requirements gain access to Smart Cookies.
- Thursday, December 7, 2023 - Troop ACH information due in Smart Cookies.
- Monday, December 11, 2023 - Troop initial cookie order and initial order rewards.
- Thursday, December 14, 2023 - Reward Opt-Out forms due to info@gsdsw.org.
- Monday, January 1, 2024 - Troops & Girl Scout families gain access to Digital Cookie.
- Monday, January 8, 2024 - Council booths due in Smart Cookies.
- Saturday, January 13, 2024 - Mega Drop in El Paso, Midland/Odessa region.
- Sunday, January 14, 2024 - In-person Cookie Program begins.
- Tuesday, January 16, 2024 - Early Bird booth selection.
- Wednesday, January 17, 2024 - Booth selections begin.
- Saturday, January 20, 2024 - Booths begin.
- Thursday, February 1, 2024 - ACH #1 - 50% Balance Due as of Monday, January 29, 2024.

All trainings are live in gsLearn. Please contact info@gsdsw.org to request access to the trainings needed if they are not in your dashboard.

Final Fall Product Class

- Saturday, December 16, 2023, at 10:00 AM MST - Digital Camera Reward Class

Program



Yule Stories
Around the World
will be live on our [GSDSW Facebook page](#) on Wednesday, December 13, 2023
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM MST
These are the stories your babushka tells you around the fire at night. This year we do the darker side of Yule with Krampus, the Yule Cat, and more.

December Monthly Challenge



Ugly Sweater Challenge



**Virtual Troop
schedule is on
our website.
Check it out!**

Council will support any Service Unit wanting to host their own Cookie College. Service Units have had increasing success with hosting cookie rallies in the past few years. Council will be able to provide advertising on council website, links to all the ABC cookie rally information and activities, answer questions, and other support as available. Questions, contact info@gsdsw.org
Attn: Cookie College

Outdoor Training

This training is required every three years.
Troop funds can be used to cover the cost of training.
Min 5 / Max 20 Deadline is 5:00 PM MST on day indicated.



Carlsbad

Sunday, December 10, 2023
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM MST
Carlsbad Program Center
409 S. Alameda, Carlsbad, NM 88220
Registration begins October 19, 2023
Registration closes December 4, 2023
https://bit.ly/OutTrainCB12_23

Las Cruces

Sunday, January 7, 2024
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM MST
Las Cruces Program Center
225 E. Idaho, Ste. 9, Las Cruces, NM 88005
Registration begins November 2, 2023
Registration closes December 25, 2023
https://bit.ly/OutTrainLC1_24





Engagement



REALITY FAIR+



4TH - 12TH
GRADERS
\$10 per girl

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023
10 AM - 3 PM

Important Troop Forms

- Bank Account Request
- Emergency Procedures
- Extra Insurance Enrollment Form
- Health History
- Key Dates Calendar
- Opportunity Fund Application
- Renew your membership!
- Safety Activity Checkpoints
- Trip and High-Risk Activity Form
- Troop Disbandment Checklist
- Troop Disband Form
- Volunteer Essentials

We wish you a Happy Native American Heritage Month.
Learn more about the Native American Heritage Month patch and how you can get yours!



Key ★ Dates



Parade reminders from Safety Activity Checkpoint.

Renew Your Membership

Minimum of five (5) girls and two (2) unrelated adults in leader and coleader roles to keep your troop in compliance.

Older Girl Scout troops (Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors) may have three girls, if they are from at least two different families, and with council approval.



Council Properties

Council Property Building Rental / Usage

All property / building rentals and usage must follow the process below:

- Submit request to info@gsdsw.org.
- Complete the rental agreement and submit it to info@gsdsw.org.
- Once approved and placed on our property calendar you will receive an email with further instructions.
- No rental / usage of GSDSW properties / buildings are approved without going through the complete process.
- If you are found to be using GSDSW property / buildings without council approval all future rentals / usage will be denied.



If you are interested in using or renting Camp Mitre Peak or any of our program centers for troop/service unit meetings or an event, contact us at info@gsdsw.org.

- If you rent or use any of GSDSW's buildings, you are responsible for checking all areas to ensure they are clean.
- Be sure you are wiping tables down to remove crayon/glue/etc., sweeping or vacuuming, and make sure trash is put in the trash cans and clean recyclables are put in the recycling bins.
- Please make sure that there is no trash in the recycling bins.
- Painting and messy projects should be done over tile or outside. Do not do these projects on carpet or on chairs with fabric covers.
- Please check the restrooms to be sure toilets are flushed before you leave. It has been found that the toilets are not being flushed or are being stuffed with toilet paper.
- If after your rental or usage it is found that a cleaning crew or plumber needs to be brought in, you will be financially responsible and future usage will be denied.

Camp Mitre Peak, Alpine, 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

Around the Council

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest Career Opportunities

Placement Specialist - Odessa

Fund Development Specialist - El Paso

Director of Engagement - El Paso

Staff Accountant - El Paso

Customer Engagement Specialist - Roswell

Community Engagement Specialist - Odessa

Interested candidates, please click on the
career/location or send your resume to
info@gsdsw.org.



Retail Shops

Council Shop Hours*

El Paso

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM MST

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM MST

(Closed for lunch 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

1st Saturday - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM MST

Las Cruces

By Appointment Only

Midland

Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM CST

1st & 3rd Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CST

Odessa

Wednesday and Friday 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM CST

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

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.

Happy Holidays



from the bottom of our **Girl Scout green** hearts!