

## April Volunteer Meeting Summary

- As of Monday, April 13, our membership numbers are as follows:
  - 4,845 girl members
  - 1,882 adult members
  - 1,669 lifetime members
  - Overall retention rate: 70%
  - Girl retention rate: 64.6%
  - Adult and lifetime retention rate: 77.9%

### Council news:

- One of the proposals for National Council Sessions aims to amend the first paragraph of the Solicitation of Contributions part of the Policies section of the Blue Book
  - This would enable Girl Scouts working on their Highest Awards to solicit donations and in-kind gifts towards their projects
  - This seeks to allow Bronze and Silver candidates to fundraise for their projects in the same way Gold Award candidates can
    - Currently only Gold Award candidates can with written permission from council
    - Bronze and Silver candidates typically fund their project through troop funds
  - Additionally, Girl Scouts must abide by their own council's policies and procedures
- Let us know if your community, troop, and/or Service Unit would like a National Council Delegate to come to speak at a meeting about these proposals
- There will be a Rallyhood drop-in session for volunteers
  - We'll be answering questions

### Membership & Volunteer Support news:

- Next volunteer meeting is May 12
- Information for volunteer appreciation has gone out
  - We are offering free training or \$20 off Farnsworth Weekend
  - The free coupon will apply at checkout and is valid until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026
  - The list of courses this can be applied to are:
    - First aid/CPR

- Basic Outdoor Living Skills
  - Bridging and Rededications
  - Positive Behaviors, Interventions, and Support
- If you choose Farnsworth Weekend, there is a form where you can use
- Get Ready with Girl Scouts is back this April
  - Open to new girls starting kindergarten or 1<sup>st</sup> grade in Fall 2026
  - They will need to join with an Extended Year Membership
  - They'll receive 3 activity books and a special gift
- The National Head Start partnership is back
  - For those going into kindergarten this fall
  - They are eligible for a complimentary MY26 membership
  - As well as a free renewal for MY27

## Girl Experience news:

- Training opportunities are open to volunteers
  - Including First Aid, BOLS, archery, boating, and lifeguard training
  - We will have more before those volunteer appreciation coupons expire
- Registration for camp is still open
  - Find all the information and register on our website
  - Open houses for our day and overnight camps are coming up
    - Open to new campers, returning campers, and troops/families who might utilize the camp in different ways, like renting the property or doing an event
    - Those open houses go hand in hand with the Helping Hands Days at each of the camps
    - Registration is encouraged but you can walk in
- We're still looking for camp staff
  - Apply online
- Family and troop camping weekends are on our website
- A lot of upcoming programs over the next few months for all levels
- There are still some dates available for the STEM Van
- We will be holding a Young Women of Distinction Ceremony in Colchester, VT after FutureFest on May 30
  - If you are working on your highest award, we encourage you to get in those final reports soon so you can register
- FutureFest is May 30 at St. Micheal's College in Colchester, VT

