



CALL TO REGIONAL MEETINGS

Participation in regional meetings is the “open door” to greater understanding and participation in Girl Scouts of Louisiana - Pines to the Gulf.

Who? Every registered member 14 years and older is encouraged to attend.

Why? The purpose of the regional meetings is to provide the membership with a direct link to the board of directors so that members may have the opportunity to:

- Give input and reaction to proposed plans/policy matters being considered by the board of directors.
- Initiate, and submit to the board, proposals directed toward the fostering and improvement of Girl Scouting within the council.
- Identify external and internal trends for the board’s use in formulating corporate goals.
- Perform such other duties as may be delegated by the board of directors, including electing delegates to the Annual Meeting.

When & Where?

Alexandria	Monday, October 23 6:30 p.m.	Rapides Foundation Building Classroom F (2 nd Floor) 1101 4 th Street Alexandria, LA 71301
Lafayette	Wednesday, October 11 6:30 p.m.	Lafayette Main Branch Library 301 West Congress Street, (2 nd floor) Lafayette, LA 70501
Lake Charles	Thursday, October 12 6:30 p.m.	VFW Post 7321 2668 N. Highway 171 Moss Bluff, LA 70611
Monroe	Tuesday, October 17 6:30 p.m.	Lea Joyner United Methodist Church 4390 Old Sterlington Road Monroe, LA 71203
Shreveport	Monday, October 16 6:30 p.m.	Asbury United Methodist Church 3200 Airline Drive Bossier City, LA 71111 Use entrance near bank

Topics to be discussed:

- Marketplace Competition (Permission will be requested to amend agenda to allow for discussion on Marketplace Competition)
- Changes to the 2019 Cookie Program, include implementation of Automated Clearing House (ACH) Network Debit Payments
- Property Update
- Customer Engagement Initiative (CEI) Q & A



Property Update **October 5, 2017**

Camp Bon Temps

The foundation for the Lodge was leveled in late October. All buildings that flooded last August were sprayed, cleaned of mold, and repainted. New flooring has been put in and all are back in service. Additionally, a mission group from Texas A&M assisted with many other small camp improvements, including building a new handicap ramp.

Following the August flood, staff had a difficult time finding qualified contractors to begin work on the new bathhouse. Many contractors were contacted, but most were working on larger flood related projects in Lafayette and Baton Rouge through early spring.

Due to concerns of future flooding, staff consulted Domingue and Szabo, and Paul Lemaire for guidance on the bathhouse construction. Both agreed to donate their services. The property was surveyed and new plans were created and delivered to the contractor for a revised bid. Modifications were needed to meet current building code guidelines.

The bathhouse project is now underway with the demolition of the old one and the new foundation already laid. There was initially a delay in the bathhouse construction project due to difficulties acquiring a satisfactory completion bond. The contractor now estimates the project will be completed in November, weather permitting.

Several repairs were made to the main lodge. A new handicap ramp was completed. All bathrooms have new floors and laminate tile. Also, the hole in the entryway has been repaired, the wood flooring has been sanded, and a new clear coat has been applied. The first aid room has been painted, as well as the utility room.

The inside of K-hut 2 has been completely redone. New insulation, walls, and flooring was installed. K-Hut 1 was painted and a new A/C unit was installed. All loose stones around the edge of the pool were re-cemented to decrease risk of an accident.

The site manager held several volunteer clean-up days this year. The first few clean-up days were not well attended, but the family clean-up day held in September was a great success. The Camp Ranger reported sixty volunteers came out to help.



Camp Wawbansee

A new Site Manager, Meredith Frasier, was hired. Paula Spillers, retired Camp Bon Temps Site Manager, was brought in to help temporarily and to help evaluate needs. Meredith spent her first few weeks cleaning out the camp. All cabins now have new roofs, screen doors, porches, and rails on them. The cabins have also been freshly stained on the outside.

We are also pleased that the McDonald Foundation donated \$4,000 to assist with building the new archery pavilion that was completed in September. See photos below. They also generously provided an additional \$2,000 for assistance with camp fees.

A donation from Brookshire's helped to purchase two new refrigerators and a new freezer, and plans are being made to update other outdated kitchen appliances. A donated washer and dryer were also set up for summer camp use.

Troop House repairs were started this year. All rotten wood was removed and replaced. Repairs were also made to the front porch. Old stairs were removed and replaced, and the entire exterior was repainted. Plans are being made to repair the Troop House bathroom and plumbing, as well as have the electrical wiring evaluated in the upcoming year.

The tarps on Fern and Pine cabins were replaced. Pool cleaning and repairs were started, and several plumbing repairs were made.

Much time was spent dealing with temporary plumbing fixes. The site manager worked to acquire quotes for permanent plumbing fixes for several areas of the camp. We also had issues with the pool's plumbing, but it has since been repaired.

The site manager spent a great deal of her time ensuring that the camp was cleaned up and ready to go for the summer. Work was begun on path cleaning and clearing of the grounds this quarter. This effort will open more areas of the camp for tent camping use by our members.

Staff continued consultations with local vendors for bids on bathhouse and Troop House plumbing improvements, as well as several other 2018 capital improvements projects.

Volunteer spring clean-up days have been scheduled and advertised however they were not well attended.

Day Camps were also successfully held at Wawbansee in June and July, and staff was able to complete a great deal of clean up and preparation of the camp and facilities ahead of the girls' arrivals.



2018 Projected Camp Improvement Projects

October 5, 2017

Camp Bon Temps

- Climbing Wall
- Splashpad
- Purchase Five Kayaks and AED
- AC installation, Cajun, Creole Hut and Big House
- Covered deck connecting Creole and Cajun
- Roof repairs and cool sealing
- Tree cutting and path clearing
- Canoe dock reinforcement
- Leveling and raising of the cabins

Camp Wawbansee

- Climbing Wall
- Splashpad
- Continue path clearing
- Continue dining hall equipment replacement
- Permanent repair for road to lake
- Complete dock project by grounding dock and adding a roof over it
- Replace plumbing in Fern/Pine and Persimmon Bathhouse
- Continue Troop House winterization
- Purchase five Kayaks and am AED



ACH (Automated Clearing House) FAQs

What is ACH?

ACH stands for Automated Clearing House and refers to an electronic banking network used for direct deposit and electronic bill payment. If your paycheck is direct deposited into your bank account then you are already using ACH. ACH is employed by many different institutions and is already in use by many Girl Scout councils around the country.

2019-2020 ACH Program

Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf is implementing a Council-wide ACH Program for the 2019-2020 Membership Year.

How does ACH work?

ACH works by allowing a third party to either debit or credit a troop's account. The ACH Debit/Credit Authorization Form that will need to be filled out by the troop will authorize these actions. This paperwork includes information such as the troop's bank account and bank routing numbers and is supported by a voided check from the troop's bank account. Troops will simply deposit all money collected from Product Programs into their troop's account. A calculation is made to determine the amount due to Council and is communicated to the troop in advance for review. Then on predetermined dates, the amount is "swept" from the troop's bank account into GSLPG's bank. The troop does not need to use special deposit tickets nor locate GSLPG's banking information and plan a special trip to the bank. The amount of money that is pulled is based on proven percentages from orders, such as the percentage of an initial cookie order.

Will the troop need to fill out the authorization form every year?

No, as long as the bank account and the signers stay the same. If the bank information changes or there is a change in signer, a new ACH form will need to be filled out and sent to Council.

Does my troop have to have a bank account to participate in ACH?

Yes.

Is ACH mandatory for my troop or service unit?

Yes, participation in ACH is required for all Troops.

Will a troop be notified before the money is swept out of the account?

Yes. Troop leaders and troop product program chairs will be notified via emails with the balance that will be withdrawn from their troop account for each sweep.

What are the benefits of ACH?

- Less work for the Troop Product Program Manager. They will not have to deal with deposit slips or have to make deposits into both the troop account and then into GSLPG's account.
- No worries for the troop about over depositing money into the Council account and then needing to wait for a refund.
- It's greener. Less paper mailings for refund checks and no deposit slips for the Council account.
- All troops can participate easily and bank at their neighborhood bank.



Marketplace Competition Update October 5, 2017

According to various sources, including those directly involved in Boy Scouts of America (BSA) policy at a high level, BSA is strongly considering expanding large portions, if not all, of its programming to include girls. Our current information suggests that BSA is positioning these changes as enhancements to its program to better serve families and provide more adventure, outdoor, STEM, and challenge experiences to girls.

As Girl Scouts, for more than 100 years we have worked in a respectful and complementary manner with BSA, and we have been mutually supportive of one another's mission to serve America's youth. We have each developed the expertise to serve our constituents better than anyone else. That's why Girl Scouts is and remains the best leadership development program for girls in the world. As Girl Scouts, we've spent over a century developing a program uniquely tailored to girls. Our mission is to help girls develop into leaders, just as Boy Scouts' mission is to help boys do the same.

Although Boy Scouts' goal of inclusivity is commendable, substantial research affirms that girls need girl-only spaces that offer safe environments and connect them with female role models. Studies by the Girl Scout Research Instituteⁱ and others show that girls value girls-only "safe spaces" where they can confide in trusting adults and other girls. In girl-only settings, girls feel free to talk about issues they wouldn't necessarily talk about with boys, try out new activities without a fear of failure, and experience less pressure to look or act a certain way. Single-gender environments benefit both girls and boys. Compared to coeducational settings, single-gender settings:

- Help lessen the impact of gender stereotypes that can dictate the activities and subjects children choose to pursue
- Help children learn better
- Provide a more well-rounded and satisfying learning experience.

The result is a more confident, enthusiastic, and high-achieving young person.

ⁱ GSRI: *Exploring Girls Leadership* (2007)

GIRL SCOUTS OF LOUISIANA – PINES TO THE GULF CONFUSED ABOUT REGIONS, DELEGATES, AND ANNUAL MEETINGS?

Here are some WHO's, WHAT's, and WHY's to help answer your questions.

WHAT are Regional Meetings and WHY are they important?

Regions are geographic areas within the council jurisdiction established by the board of directors. Regions fulfill two major functions of the council's democratic process.

1. Provide the structure for the election of delegates, formation of the corporation, and a formal channel of communication from the board of directors to the membership.
2. Allow the membership a way to participate in council business, enabling them to influence board decisions and the council's strategic plan, react to and give input on matters that may be referred by the board of directors, and initiate proposals to the board of directors on matters of importance to the total membership.

WHY are delegates elected and WHAT do they do?

In Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf, delegates are elected through regional meetings to be members of the corporation (or to be the delegate body).

Delegates must attend the Annual Meeting where they have an opportunity to fulfill the following responsibilities:

1. Give direction for Girl Scouting within the council's geographic area.
2. Receive the stewardship report from the board of directors, including a report on the council's financial status.
3. Hear any other pertinent reports.
4. Take part in discussions about major areas of concern or future actions that will have an impact on the total council.
5. Take action on proposals that have been approved by the board of directors.
6. Amend the council articles of incorporation and bylaws.
7. Elect the officers and members of the board of directors and nominating committee and the delegates to the National Council.

Delegates need to be informed of the issues to be discussed at the Annual Meeting before the meeting day. The council will provide training and/or an informational packet to meet this need of the delegates.

THE DELEGATES HAVE THE AUTHORITY BOTH TO GIVE GUIDANCE TO THE OVERALL POLICY DIRECTION OF THE COUNCIL AND TO ELECT THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR ONGOING POLICY DECISIONS – THE CORPORATE OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS.

As delegates participate in the official business of the corporation (council), they become members of the select group of individuals who are fulfilling our founder, Juliette Low's dream that the representatives from every community be involved in making decisions about the future of the Girl Scout movement in the United States of America.

WHY are Annual Meetings important?

The Annual Meeting is a Girl Scout council's deliberative assembly – the factual reality of its democratic principles and practices. It is important for several reasons.

1. The corporation (council) is required by state law to meet at least once a year.
2. The annual meeting provides the opportunity for delegates to become involved in the council's planning process and be informed on the anticipated future of Girl Scouting in the council.
3. The business conducted by the council at the annual meeting – the election of its volunteer leadership and discussion of major policy issues – legally enables the corporation (council) to continue its work.

WHO may attend the Annual Meeting?

1. It is the responsibility of the elected delegates to attend the meeting.
2. Any registered Girl Scout 14 years or older is also invited to attend.

Note: Only elected delegates have the power to vote.

Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf Council

Regional Delegate

APPOINTED BY:	Elected position
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Region Members
MAJOR CONTACT:	Membership Specialist
PURPOSE:	To act on behalf of their region in regard to the business of the council

Regional Delegate

ELECTION OF DELEGATES

Delegates are elected by majority vote at the Regional Meeting. The number of council delegates from each region shall be determined by a formula based upon girl membership as of August. Alternate delegates shall be elected and certified by the region at the same time as the delegates.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Attend and participate in Annual and Regional Meetings during his/her term of office.
- ✓ Review and discuss items of business with other delegates and their region prior to the annual meeting.
- ✓ Report to his/her region following the annual meeting.
- ✓ Elect the officers of the council, the members-at-large of the board of directors, board development committee, and delegates and alternates to the National Council of Girl Scouts of the United States of America.
- ✓ Determine the general lines of direction for Girl Scouting locally, by receiving and acting upon reports of the board of directors and by giving guidance to the board.
- ✓ Amend the council articles of incorporation and bylaws.
- ✓ Take all action requiring membership vote, within the responsibilities of the council.
- ✓ Conduct such other business as may, from time to time, come before him/her.

COMPETENCIES

- ✓ An understanding and acceptance of GSUSA and council policies and of your responsibility to Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf Council.
- ✓ Be a currently registered member of GSUSA, at least 14 years old in region from which elected.

- ✓ An understanding and acceptance of the Girl Scout Promise, Law, Mission and four program goals.
- ✓ Be an active member in region elected.
- ✓ Be interested in the business of the council and willing to participate in council, regional, and service unit meetings.
- ✓ Be willing to report and share the business of council with the region.

BENEFITS

- ✓ Being a part of the democratic process by voting on behalf of your geographic area in areas concerning policy and the election of new board members.

TIME REQUIRED

- ✓ Delegates are elected for one year.
- ✓ Attendance at Regional Meeting, Annual Meeting and Service Unit Meetings prior to and after Annual Meeting.

Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf Council

Regional Delegate Convener

Regional Delegate Convener

APPOINTED BY:	Elected position
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Region Members
MAJOR CONTACT:	Membership Specialist
PURPOSE:	To act on behalf of their region in regard to the business of the council

ELECTION OF DELEGATE CONVENER

Delegate Conveners are elected by majority vote at the Regional Meeting.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Convene, as necessary, the delegates elected by the region to inform them of issues to be considered at the annual meeting.
- ✓ Fill vacancies in delegate roster from the alternate delegate roster and notify the council office of the change.
- ✓ Attend and participate in Annual and Regional Meetings during his/her term of office.
- ✓ Review and discuss items of business with other delegates and their region prior to the annual meeting.
- ✓ Report to his/her region following the annual meeting.
- ✓ Elect the officers of the council, the members-at-large of the board of directors, board development committee, and delegates and alternates to the National Council of Girl Scouts of the United States of America.
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