

## 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 21 6:30 p.m.	Rapides Foundation Building Classroom F (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor) 1101 4 <sup>th</sup> Street Alexandria, LA 71301
Lafayette	Wednesday, October 9 6:30 p.m.	Lafayette Public Library – Main 301 W Congress Street (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor) Lafayette, LA 70501
Lake Charles	Thursday, October 10 6:30 p.m.	VFW Post 7321 2668 N. Highway 171 Moss Bluff, LA 70611
Monroe	Wednesday, October 16 6:30 p.m.	1500 North 19 <sup>th</sup> Street Monroe, LA 71201
Shreveport	Tuesday, October 15 6:30 p.m.	Broadmoor Library 1212 Captain Shreve Drive Shreveport, LA 71105

## **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  
Regional Meeting Updates  
September 19, 2019**

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**The Outdoor Pillar**

From the backyard to the backcountry, Girl Scouts has a long and storied history of getting *every* girl outdoors. In fact, many Girl Scouts tell us “camping trips” are one of the best things about their Girl Scout experience. It’s true: connecting with the great outdoors in a girl-led setting is a big benefit of belonging to Girl Scouts.

Studies show that girls today are not spending nearly enough time outdoors. Technology and structured activities leave less time for girls to get outside and enjoy nature. But as a Girl Scouts, girls have opportunities to create their own outdoor adventures and develop a lifelong appreciation for nature and the out-of-doors—whether with her troop, at camp, or with friends and family.

And that’s great news—because when Girl Scouts get outside, they:

- Discover that they can better solve problems and overcome challenges
- Develop leadership skills, build social bonds, and are happier overall
- Become team players and care more about protecting our environment

When girls spend quality time outdoors and increase their exposure to nature, they thrive physically, emotionally, and intellectually. For these critical reasons, we plan to encourage every Girl Scout to take advantage of the excellent outdoor experiences provided at our two council camp properties, Bon Temps, and Wawbansee.

Approximately 12% of GSLPG’s Membership visited the camps during the 2019 Membership Year. **Consequently, 88% are missing out on valuable outdoor learning experiences.**

With this in mind, we look forward to utilizing our time together at the 2019 Regional Meetings discussing and brainstorming solutions that will provide more girls these experiences. At the same time, we also hope to impact camp utilization positively. And, while we’ve made much progress with improvements and maintenance, there is still more to do, and the properties must continue to be well maintained.

Additionally, revenue from the camp properties is minimal compared to the hefty expenses that continue to grow. Consequently, we must contemplate strategies to increase income that can support quality experiences adequately.



### Example Cost Increases Over Time

General Family Expenditures	2008	2019
College Tuition	\$6,015/Semester	\$9,970/Semester
Movie Ticket	\$6.95	\$9.16
Frist Class Stamp	\$.42	\$.55
Average House Rent	\$800	\$1,641



### Average User Fees for State Park Facilities

Camp Cost Categories	GSLPG Camp	State Parks
Daily Interest Fees	\$2	\$3
Overnight (1 night)	\$2	\$20-\$30
Activity Fee	\$0 Included in entrance fee	\$7-\$15 per hours
Pavilion Use	\$0 Included in entrance fee	\$50-\$100 per day

### Average User Fees for Girl Scouts Councils of Similar Sizes



Camp Cost Categories	GSLPG	Like-Sized Girl Scout Councils
Entrance Fees	\$2	\$30
Overnight Cabin Fees	\$2	\$50-\$75 1-2 nights
Troop House/Lodge	\$2	\$60-\$75 1-2 nights
Activity fees	Included in entrance fees	\$25-\$75 for each activity



## Look at how the cost of our shopping baskets changed over time

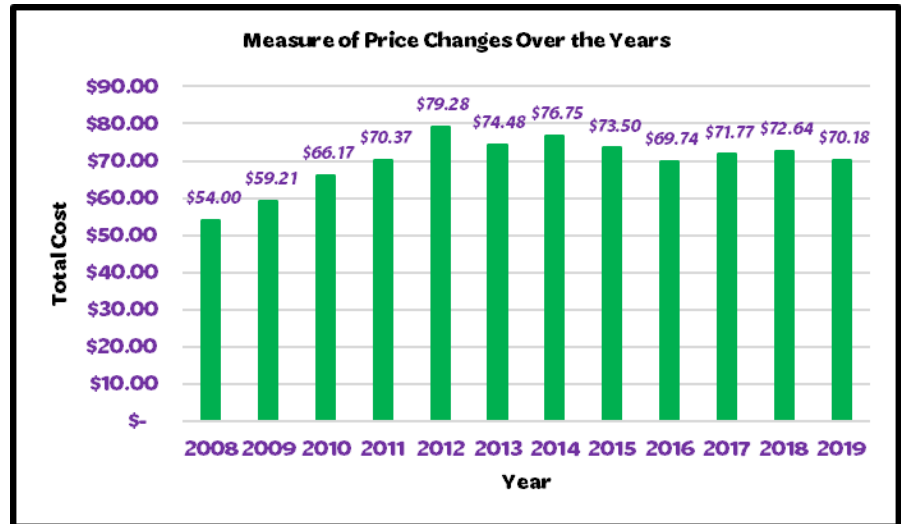
**Check this out.** Seeing as camp user fees have not increased since 2004, we thought it would be helpful to get a picture of how the cost of goods and services have changed over time. See the Price Basket below.

**What's included?** The basket is representative of the goods and services that most of us purchase weekly. It was created to show the effect that inflation has on typical weekly spending. The data was collected between 2008 to 2014 and includes a mix of 30 + items including food, goods and services. One of the many things it shows is inflation as measured by basic food and just 1 gallon. While this data is unscientific, a vast amount research was collected from original sources like local newspapers, history textbooks, old catalogs, and magazines. It provides an excellent picture of the impacts of inflation over the years.

### Shopping Basket + Gallon of Gas



2008 to 2019





**55th National Council  
Session  
October 21-25, 2020**

*Do you want to experience a one-of-a-kind gathering of girls and women from around the world?*

Every three years, Girl Scouts gather together at the National Council Session and Convention to reinvigorate our Movement, celebrate our accomplishments, and chart the future. At the National Council Session, girls experience a large, well-run business meeting and gain a true understanding of how we propel the Movement.

**Why else should YOU be there?**

- Life-changing conversations about issues affecting girls, women, and all of us
- Inspirational speakers
- Chances to learn critical lessons and skills to take back to your community
- Amazing friendships and connections to last a lifetime
- The ever-popular G.I.R.L. EXPO – A Hall of Experiences, offering a variety of enlightening educational opportunities and FUN!

**G.I.R.L. 2020 - October 23-25, 2020**

For three days, girls will dominate Orlando, Florida—and we want you to be there! This October 23–25, thousands of girls and their supporters from around the world will come together for **G.I.R.L. 2020** in Orlando, Florida.

Hosted by Girl Scouts of the USA, the mega event will provide attendees with unforgettable experiences as they gain inspiration, tools to empower themselves, and the know-how to lead change in their communities—connecting with some of the most influential women in the world along the way. So awesome! Mark your calendar now **and don't miss one minute of the fun!**

The council membership will be electing and sponsoring four Volunteer Delegates to represent Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf during the 2020 Annual Meeting. We will also be selecting six girl participants and one adult chaperon.

We will begin accepting applications for all interested persons on October 7, 2019, with a closing date of December 10, 2019. Final selections will be announced and presented at our Annual Meeting in April 2020.

Registration for G.I.R.L. 2020 will open in January 2020. GSUSA has contracted with hotels in Orlando, Florida and negotiated rates and services. Reservations may be made once registration opens in January 2020.

*Stay tuned for more announcements about G.I.R.L. 2020 from us  
and visit [girlscouts.org/girl2020](http://girlscouts.org/girl2020) for updates from GSUSA.*

*See you at the 2019 Regional Meetings!!*

# Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf Council

## Regional Delegate

<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>	Elected position
<b>RESPONSIBLE TO:</b>	Region Members
<b>MAJOR CONTACT:</b>	Membership Specialist
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	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

<b>APPOINTED BY:</b>	Elected position
<b>RESPONSIBLE TO:</b>	Region Members
<b>MAJOR CONTACT:</b>	Membership Specialist
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	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.
- ✓ 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**

- ✓ Delegate Conveners 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 REFERRAL FORM FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE

Persons referred must meet the following criteria:

1. Accept the principles, beliefs, and purpose of Girl Scouting.
2. Understand cultural, social, and economic trends, and their effect on Girl Scouting and its activities.
3. Have the ability to weigh facts and issues for decision making.
4. Be available to attend meetings.

<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs.			<input type="checkbox"/> Ms.			<input type="checkbox"/> Miss			<input type="checkbox"/> Mr.			<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
Last Name						First Name								
Address														
City				State				Zip						
Employer						Title								
Business Address														
City				State				Zip						
Telephone: Home				Business				Fax						
<b>Submitted By:</b>														
Last Name				First Name				Telephone						
Address														
City				State				Zip						
<b>Return to: Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf</b> <b>1720 Kaliste Saloom Rd., Suite C1</b> <b>Lafayette, LA 70508-6140</b>														

GSUSA national policy on selection of adult’s states: “Members of Girl Scout council boards of directors ... shall be selected so that the boards of directors represent diverse population groups and can bring to their deliberations a variety of points of view and life experiences, as well as access to cultural, religious, educational, civic, and economic resources.” (Blue Book of Basic Documents)

We are providing this attachment to assist the nominating committee in fulfilling this requirement. However, this form is optional.

Race:	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> White		
Those Reported Also of Hispanic Origin:						
	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> White		
Age Range:	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-29	<input type="checkbox"/> 30-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 40-49	<input type="checkbox"/> 50-59	<input type="checkbox"/> 60 plus	
Religious Preference:						
	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian Spiritual Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Buddhist	<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic	<input type="checkbox"/> Hindu	<input type="checkbox"/> Islamic	<input type="checkbox"/> Jewish
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____					

# Girl Scouts of Louisiana – Pines to the Gulf Action Proposal

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

From:

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) Address:

\_\_\_\_\_ City:

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Service Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Action Desired:

Reasons:

Suggestions for carrying out action (Be specific):

Support:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

## OFFICE USE ONLY:

Referred to: \_\_\_\_\_

Action taken: \_\_\_\_\_ By Whom: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Notification of action mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTION PROPOSALS:  
PUTTING IDEAS INTO ACTION**

The following material is intended to assist the membership in formulating proposals and use of channels so that communication between members, the board of directors, and the chief executive officer may effectively occur.

There are several channels that are open to the membership. Communicate idea while it is in the early conception state to:

Region Convener  
Service Unit Manager  
Troop Support Specialist  
Chair of the Council  
Chief Executive Officer  
or  
Mail to Council Service Center

It will be processed and sent to the proper group or person for an answer and/or implementation. Proposals concerning Council Policy should be directed to the board of directors and proposals concerning operations should be directed to the chief executive officer.

The individual or group initiating the idea should formalize the idea and submit a written proposal containing:

1. A statement of the action desired.
2. The reason for the action and the anticipated results.
3. Suggestions for carrying out action.
4. The support or the number of people supporting the proposals.

Persons initiating proposals will receive prompt replies to their proposals. Assistance is available from the Region Convener or the membership specialist to an individual or group in formalizing the proposal.

If the proposal involves action at the council meeting, it is advisable to plan a three-month time period between the origin of the proposal and council meeting.