A thick dark blue vertical bar is positioned on the left side of the page. From the bottom of this bar, several thin, curved lines in shades of blue and grey extend upwards and outwards, creating an abstract, grass-like or reed-like effect.

# **Guidebook for Individually Registered Members and Adults (IRMs)**

**GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHERN INDIANA-MICHIANA**

## **Council Information**

Our council spans a 22-county region in northern Indiana and southwest Michigan serving nearly 6,000 girls and 3000 volunteers. Together, we are Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana-Michiana.

## **Service Center Locations**

Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana-Michiana Headquarters

Fort Wayne Leadership and Learning Center

10008 Dupont Circle Drive East

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Michiana Service Center

Walk-in service only, please use Fort Wayne address for mail

1218 East University Drive

Granger, IN 46530

Girl Scout Shops are located at the Leadership and Learning Center & the Michiana Service Center

## **Contact Us**

Have a question? Call the Answer Center!

1-800-283-4812, ext. 2 or 0

Fax: 1-855-422-0084

Email all forms/documents to: [frontdesk@gsnim.org](mailto:frontdesk@gsnim.org)

## **Our website**

<https://www.girlscoutsnorthernindiana-michiana.org>



# Who We Are

We are 2.5 million strong—more than 1.7 million girls and 750,000 adults who believe in the power of every G.I.R.L (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader) to change the world.

Our extraordinary journey began more than 100 years ago with the original G.I.R.L., Juliette “Daisy” Low. On March 12, 1912, in Savannah, Georgia, she organized the very first Girl Scout troop. Every year since, we’ve honored her vision and legacy, building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

We are the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. And with programs from coast to coast and across the globe, Girl Scouts offers every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure, and success.

## Our Mission

Girl scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

## Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:

To serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law.

## Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be

Honest and fair,

Friendly and helpful,

Considerate and caring,

Courageous and strong, and

Responsible for what I say and do

and to

respect myself and others,

respect authority,

use resources wisely,

make the world a better place, and

be a sister to every Girl Scout.



## Individually Registered Members (IRMs)

There is a place for every girl in Girl Scouts! Individually Registered Members (IRMs, also known as **Juliettes** in some Girl Scout councils) are girl members who are not associated with a troop. They mix and match their interests to customize their own unique Girl Scouting experience.

IRMs do not attend regularly scheduled troop meetings. Instead they work on Girl Scout programming with the guidance of a guardian or other registered adult mentor. As IRMs, girls decide what activities to participate in and what badges and /or awards they wish to complete. They may also attend council, service unit, and community partner-sponsored events.

### **Why should I become an IRM?**

By participating in Girl Scouts as an IRM, girls can build their very own Girl Scouting experience and still reap the benefits of being a part of the preeminent leadership development organization for girls.

IRMs:

- Gain leadership experience.
- Develop a sense of belonging.
- Participate in all Girl Scout activities individually.
- Tailor their experience.
- Create a well-rounded Girl Scout experience.
- Complete activities on their own timeline.
- Service their community through service projects and Take Action projects.

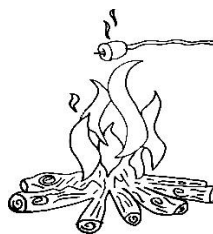


IRMs can complete badges, journeys and earn Awards. Badges include a variety of skill-building activities, many of which complement the Journeys. Journeys guide girls toward becoming leaders in their communities. Choose from different badges and Journeys at each program level. Earn the highest awards, Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards, by leading a Take Action project to improve the community. Working individually or with the Girl Scout community, IRMs make the world a better place. They also pass along what they've learned, gain leadership skills, and earn special mentoring awards by helping younger Girl Scouts at troop meetings, events, camp and more.

Attend events and activities. Meet other girls, work toward badges and Journeys, learn about the outdoors, and more at council-sponsored events. Service Units also offer many events and service opportunities, which are great for IRMs to meet other Girl Scouts in their area. When you go onto our web site, <https://www.girlscoutsnorthernindiana-michiana.org>. Log in, click on [Activities](#) on the green bar and you will see events going on throughout the year that you can attend.



**Cookies and Fall Product programs.** By participating in these two programs, IRMs learn great business skills including: goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. The money earned from these programs goes into an account that we have set up called **Program Credits**. **Program credits** may be used in a variety of ways: at the **Girl Scout Shop** or trading posts, any council activity, camp, approved volunteer-led events, approved expenses for the **Silver** or **Gold Awards**, Destinations, and for Membership renewal fees.



**Attend Camps.** Get outdoors at summer day camp, summer resident camp, council-led weekend campouts, service unit encampments, and more.

On our website, navigate to [Camp](#) and you will find camp activities for IRMs and her family. You can also click on [Activities](#) and find more activities at any of our 4 camps.

**Camp Properties.**

<b>Ella J. Logan</b>	Syracuse, IN
<b>Agnes S. McMillen</b>	Huntertown, IN
<b>Soni Springs</b>	Three Oaks, MI
<b>Wildwood</b>	Logansport, IN

**Volunteer Toolkit: (VTK)** is a free digital resource that supports IRMs and the adults who lead them in planning and executing badge work. Using VTK makes online organization, planning, and curriculum building possible. On our website, <https://www.girlscoutsnorthernindiana-michiana.org/> You can learn how to use this great resource by logging in to your [MyGS](#) on our website. There you will find a video on how to use this great tool.



**Girl Scout Shop.** We have everything you will need to get started on your Girl Scout adventures—badges, vests, and more! Stop in at one of our two locations or go online to our website and click on [Shop](#). If you need to place an order for pickup, feel free to email us at [shop@gsnim.org](mailto:shop@gsnim.org).



Make sure you check out the **Girl Guides to Girl Scouting** handbooks. They have activities and a chart to track what your girl has worked on.



**Welcome to Girl Scouts!!**

## Communication

- Third Sunday of the Month: Event Newsletter is sent to all members by e-mail
- Facebook: Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana Michiana
- Twitter: GSNIM
- Instagram: follow us at GSNI-M (girl\_scouts\_nim)
- Our website: <https://www.girlscoutsnorthernindiana-michiana.org/>
- Mailings of summer programs, Fall Event Guides and more.
- Text: Receive regular text messages from us, with reminders like “it’s time to renew your membership” or “You can now sign up for Summer Camp”. Contact [frontdesk@gsnim.org](mailto:frontdesk@gsnim.org) to get started with texting!

## Dates to Remember

**World Thinking Day February 22**  
**Girl Scout Birthday and Girl Scout Week March 12 & week containing the 12th**  
**Volunteer Appreciation and Leaders Day April 22**  
**Founder’s Day October 31**

## Glossary

**Awards**-A category of achievements earned which include: Journey Awards, Lifesaving Awards, Highest Awards, Leadership Awards, Adult Awards and more.

**Bridging**-When girls advance from one program level of girl scouting to the next.

**Camp** (Resident/Overnight or Day Camp) Resident Camp means an overnight stay (over a week or longer) at a Girl Scout-sponsored camp. Day Camp means attending a camp during the day (under a 12 hour period)

**Council**-One of Girl Scouts of the USA’s local affiliates, with authority over girl scouting in a specific section of the country. Currently, there are 111 Girl Scout councils in the USA.

**Girl Guide to Girl Scouting**-Girl program resources that includes fun activities, an all-in-one badge book, and a handbook. This resource complements the Girl Scout Journeys and there is a guide for every Girl Scout level.

**Girl-led**- Girl Scouts incorporates girl leadership into virtually every component of our program. We encourage girls to take ownership of projects, meetings, and planning opportunities.

**Girl Scout Program Level**- Different programs level are divided by grade level. The levels are: Daisy (K-1<sup>st</sup>), Brownie (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>), Junior (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>), Cadette (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>), Senior (9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>), Ambassador (11<sup>th</sup>-12), and adult.

**Membership year (MY)** The Girl Scout membership year runs from October 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30 of the following year.

**Service Unit**- A geographic area within a council. Different areas within the council are grouped into Service Units which often host leader meetings, trainings, events, and more.