



The new Girl Scout cookie has something to say!

by Janine Rojas

When the 2020 Girl Scout Cookie Program begins on Sunday, January 26th, local Girl Scouts will roll out a brand new cookie: Lemon-Ups™! Each zesty, crispy cookie will include a message of leadership like “I am an innovator” or “I am strong” to inspire girls and cookie customers.

Those affirmations resonate with the Daisies, Brownies and Juniors of Murphy Canyon Girl Scout Troop 4839 (pictured above from left to right): Seirenety, Shayna, Vanessa, Kimberly Thomas (Leader), Melanie, Riley, Sierra Yingst (Leader), and Aubrii. Briana-Grace (not in photo) is also a member. Lilo, far right, is Aubrii’s service dog in training.

The troop is excited about introducing the Lemon-Ups cookies to customers, and appreciate how cookie funds support community service projects, outdoor adventures, and other troop activities.

“We use our cookie money for everything!” reports Yingst. “Our girls are currently planning a group camping trip, and a project to help both service animals and people who benefit from them, including two girls in our troop.”

Yingst and Thomas say they encourage a girl-led approach to Girl Scouting, and keep the focus on family, as most of the troop members are military.

“We understand—and constantly adapt to—the needs of families with deployed parents,” reports Yingst. “One of the challenges we face is managing the constant ebb and flow of Girl Scouts in and out of our troop due the military lifestyle. The lyrics of the Girl Scout song ‘Make New Friends’ has become our mantra. Our troop members stay in touch with sister Girl Scouts who have moved away and forge ties with newcomers.”

Troop 4839 is a proud supporter of Operation Thin Mints (OTM), a local service project through which cookie customers can support the U.S. military with “a taste of home and a note to show we care.” Since OTM’s inception in 2002, the public has donated more than 3 million boxes of cookies and countless handwritten notes of support to deployed military troops and local veterans.

By participating in the cookie program, Girl Scouts will practice goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics, and are preparing for their futures as the next generation of female leaders.

All net cookie revenue stays local to fund programs in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), outdoors, life skills, and entrepreneurship. Cookie proceeds also support the financial assistance that keeps Girl Scouting available and affordable for all.

For the sixth consecutive year, Thin Mints, Samoas, Do-si-dos, Trefoils, and Tagalongs are \$5 per package, as are the new Lemon-Ups. Two specialty products—Girl Scout S’mores and gluten-free Toffee-tastic—are \$6 each because of higher production costs.

Girl Scouts is the best place for girls (#BestPlace4girls), preparing them for a lifetime of leadership. All girls in grades K-12 and adult volunteers are welcome to join Girl Scouts at any time during the year. Registration for Girl Scout summer camp starts on Monday, February 3rd. Learn more by visiting sdgirlscouts.org or contact Tierrasanta/Murphy Canyon Membership Recruiter Elena Savignano at 619-610-0706 or esavignano@sdgirlscouts.org