



POGO stands for Prince William Older Girls Organization. It is for Girl Scouts in grades 6-12. POGO was formed in 1982 by adults to provide an opportunity for girls from different troops to network and try different activities.

If you have girls that will be bridging next year and would like to join our POGO Rallyhood, please email Judy Bauer at [Jabpoohbear@aol.com](mailto:Jabpoohbear@aol.com) and she will invite you to this rally. In this rally, activities for older girls are posted. When you send an email to Judy, please note what your role is with Girl Scouts and what Service Unit you are with. Parents of teens may join this rally as well.

Each September, we have a POGO Walkabout, designed for networking, fun and adventure. At the first Walkabout, two girls who were locker-mates discovered they were both Girl Scouts -- and did not even know it! The Walkabout has about 30 activities, and each girl prioritizes 6 activities. Girls will only be placed in one high-adventure activity, which could include canoeing, kayaking, archery, whitewater rafting, bike riding, challenge course, backpacking and rock-climbing wall. High-adventure activities change depending on which camp we use for the Walkabout: May Flather, Potomac Woods and Coles Trip. We rotate these camps yearly. Ambassadors are placed first in the Walkabout activities.

At the POGO Recognition Ceremony, we also recognize girls that have earned their Bronze Award (will be new for 2019), Silver Award, Gold Award and Silver Trefoil. Graduating Seniors are also recognized at the ceremony as well, and they receive a purple and white graduation cord if they attend this ceremony. This is always held on a Sunday in April. The girls fill out a personal profile that goes into a booklet that they as well as their families can keep.

POGO has Service Unit Representatives from most Service Units who meet once a month from September through April to discuss various topics pertaining to the teen girls.

One loose subgroup that stemmed from the Walkabout is the POGO Backpackers. This group was started because many adult advisors are not interested in backpacking, but girls in their troop would like to try it. If a girl tries beginning backpacking at the Walkabout -- or at summer camp, with her troop or at a GSCNC core camp -- she can participate in one of the two beginning backpack trips offered each year. Based on the interests of the girls, additional trips are planned. There is no membership per se in the Backpackers; it is a loose association of girls from various trips. The group makes use of council-provided gear so that the cost-per-girl remains low.