



The Patriot Press



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From the District Chairman

May is **Program Launch Month** in the Patriot District. We anticipate conducting normal Scouting activities during the summer with limited COVID-19 modifications and regular activities in the fall with only some restrictions. The District staff is planning accordingly and adding new events.

Our first upcoming District event is Cub Scout Day Camp. It will be held July 12-16 at Occoquan Regional Park. The theme is Weird Science, and Scouts will experience and learn things they do not teach in school. Additionally, the camp will feature many fun activities to include archery, sling shots, gaga ball, a climbing wall, and other events. Day Camp provides adventure and fun for Cub Scouts and makes parents wish they were eight again. Additional information regarding Day Camp is provided on pages 13 and 14 of this issue of the Patriot Press.

A new event for Cub Scouts is Adventure Day and overnight camping. The event will be a Cub-O-Ree held at Camp Snyder on September 25-26. Adventure Day will be like Cub Scout Day Camp and will include activities such as BB- gun marksmanship, archery, climbing wall, gaga ball, sling shots, and other events. The camping will be in the wooded permanent campsites with bath houses. Camping can be by Den, Pack or Family. At noon on Saturday, there will be an Ice Cream Social. Also, after dusk on Saturday, we will have a Movie under the Stars that will be open to everyone.

Scouts BSA will hold its Fall Camporee at Camp Snyder on October 15-17. The theme is Escape Room. Scouts working in small groups will have to solve a series of challenges, including some COPE events, to master the Escape Room. There will be an additional separate Super Escape Room challenge for groups brave enough to volunteer. Also, Scouts will also have an opportunity to engage in a wide range of other fun activities, including the climbing wall, archery, rifle marksmanship using competition-grade air rifles, gaga ball, volleyball, and catapult launching. Additionally, we will offer ten different stations focusing on Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, and 1st Class requirements to support rank advancement. In the evening, we will conduct outdoor church services, a Camporee Campfire, and then show a movie under the stars.

On April 1- 3, 2022, the Patriot District will partner with the Prince William County District to conduct a "Fish-O-Ree at the Smith Family Lodge in Syria, Virginia. The site contains two small rivers and three stocked ponds teeming with fish. Rumor has it that an adept angler does not even need bait; they can just hold an iron skillet near the surface of the water and fish will jump in! Scouts will have an opportunity to take fishing and fly-fishing merit badges. In the afternoon, Scouts will have an opportunity to engage in fun activities such as the climbing wall, archery, gaga ball, volleyball, and catapult launching. The Smith Family Lodge is located near the back entrance to Old Rag, so units that would like to climb Old Rag can add that to their program.

In October 2022, Patriot District Scouts will camp on the New Market Battlefield with hundreds of other Scouts from six other districts and three states. During this camporee, Scouts will walk the battlefield, visit the Museum of the Civil War, take part in a battle reenactment, and parade in a Grand Review.

Scouting in the Patriot District will be exciting, fun challenging, and educational as we get past the restrictive COVID-19 period and return to our usual range of activities. Make plans to join the action.

Bill Dexter
Patriot District Committee Chair



From the District Commissioner

This month, the [Patriot District's virtual Roundtable on Thursday, May 13](#) features our annual Program Launch session. Program Launch is your Pack, Troop, Crew or STEM Lab's opportunity to get information, materials, and tips about how to plan your unit's 2021-2022 program. While the format this year will be a little different because Roundtable is on Zoom, It is critically important that EVERY unit in the Patriot District be represented at Program Launch to receive this important information.

All units should hold a program planning meeting for the upcoming Scouting year before school ends and everyone disperses for the summer. This means our Troop PLCs and Crew Officers should meet to make major decisions about their unit's activities starting in August and running through at least the end of the next school year. Likewise, our Pack and Lab adult leaders should meet to decide on the basic content and timing of major program events for the upcoming Scouting year.

Why is it important to do at least high-level planning for the upcoming Scouting year by June? Because if you wait until the end of the summer to figure out campouts, meeting dates and locations, as well as other major activities, you may find that reservations for all the best venues are already full. Having a well-planned program calendar available well in advance also helps your Scout families with their own activity planning, so that they can accommodate their Scouts' schedules along with all the other competing pressures on family time. And having major events decided well in advance gives both unit leaders and PLCs the luxury of adequate time to do the further detail planning to make events and activities a success. Other useful discussions during a unit program planning meeting can include leadership succession planning, Committee assignments for the next Scouting year, and a review of things the unit would like to do better in delivering the promise of Scouting to its youth members. We strongly recommend using the [2021 Journey to Excellence scorecard](#) as a roadmap for discussing areas for improvement. It's also good to invite your Unit Commissioner to the planning meeting, because our UCs have a wealth of experience, and know how to find answers to all your questions, even if they aren't able to answer on the spot.

Careful planning is ESPECIALLY important this year. As the pandemic winds down and it becomes safe to have more live meetings and activities, it is essential that our units carefully consider what sort of programs they want to have over the next year. Safely restarting a more typical Scouting program is likely to take more thought – and more work – after the last year of restricted activity and program improvisation than it did in other years when you could at least partially recycle the previous year's calendar.

Finally, every Pack, Troop, Crew and STEM Lab needs to plan for a special focus on recruiting during the upcoming Scout year. This means not only having the usual open houses and outreach to prospective members, but just as important, letting those Scouts and families who dropped out over the last year (often because of "screen fatigue" with too many virtual activities) know that the value proposition in Scouting has returned, and that they will be warmly welcomed back into a fantastic program! Get the word out early and often to your former Scouts and their parents that Scouting is still the best year-round, youth-growth opportunity and fun activity out there!

Ken Gaul
District Commissioner



Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

May 2021

- 1 16th Annual NCAC Scout Orienteering Meet
- 1 YMHFA Training (*remote*)
- 3 Patriot Press Deadline – May Issue
- 9 Mother’s Day
- 11 Commissioner Meeting (*remote*)
- 11 Ramadan Ends (at sundown)
- 13 Roundtable (*remote*)
- 15 Life-to-Eagle Seminar (*remote*)
- 16 Patriot District OA Chapter Meeting (*remote*)
- 21-23 Camp Snyder Family Camping
- 21-23 NE-6A Section Conclave 21-23 May (*remote* OA event)
- 25 PD Committee Meeting (*remote*)
- 31 Patriot Press Deadline – June Issue
- 31 Memorial Day



June 2021

- 5-6 Wood Badge, Spring Course, 2nd session
- 8 Commissioner Meeting (*remote*)
- 10 Roundtable (*remote*)
- 13 Patriot District OA Chapter Meeting (*remote*)
- 18 CPR Training, Camp Snyder
- 20 Father’s Day
- 20-25 NYLT, Camp Snyder
- 24 PD Committee Meeting (*remote*)
- 25-27 Camp Snyder Cub Scout Resident Camping
- 26 YMHFA Training (*remote*)

July 2021

- 4 Independence Day
- 11 Patriot District OA Chapter Meeting (*remote*)
- 12-16 Cub Scout Day Camp (Occoquan Regional Park)
- 12-16 World of Weird Science Week (*remote*)
- 18-24 Scouts BSA Merit Badge Week (Camp Snyder)

BALOO Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation	NYLT National Youth Leadership Training
BCOLS Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills	OA Order of the Arrow
CPST Cubmaster Position-Specific Training	SPST Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training
IOLS Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills	VAPST Venture Advisor Position-Specific Training
JSN Join Scouting Night	VCPST Varsity Coach Position-Specific Training
NLE New Leader Essentials	VOA Venturing Officers Association



All Cub Scout Leaders, Come Out and Join us for Fun & Fellowship and to Pick-Up some New Ideas for your Pack and Den Programs!

The Purpose of the Roundtable:

To provide the skill to do – skills, techniques, information, program ideas – and the know-how that makes for successful unit operation.

To provide unit leadership with the will to do – the morale, enthusiasm, inspiration, and vision that periodically renew the desire to serve youth.

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Virtual Meeting via Zoom: *Connection instructions will be sent via email.*

Midway: 7:30 PM (via Zoom) **Roundtable:** 8:00 – 9:00 PM (via Zoom)

Topics: Program Launch, Summertime Activities, Sun Safety, Summer of Service

Word of the month: Brave

Cory Okouchi, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner

cweskrige@gmail.com



Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

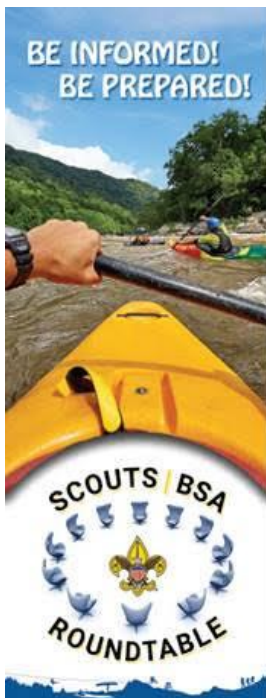
Thursday, May 13, 2021

Virtual Meeting: *Connection instructions will be sent via email.*

Social: 7:30 PM (get signed in to Zoom)

Midway: 7:45 PM, **Roundtable:** 8:00 - 9:00 PM

Please invite another leader from your Troop to join us at Roundtable!



Topics: Program Launch, Annual Planning - August for Success; Sample Troop Planning Tips & Online Annual Planning Conference Resources; To Do List, COVID Corner & Updates

Joe Margraf, Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner

(703) 314-1622, joedenisemargraf@aol.com

Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioner: Rick Priest

Scouter Interview: Tony Ryan

Patrick Ring

Tony Ryan has been a strong supporter of the Scouting program in the National Capital Area Council (NCAC), both with the George Washington District and the Patriot District, for many years. He is a former Scoutmaster, Patriot District Committee Chair, Boy Scout Roundtable Commissioner, Unit Commissioner, Assistant Council Commissioner, and Patriot District Commissioner. We are fortunate to have Tony discuss some of his Scouting experiences and enlighten us on the roles and responsibilities of the Commissioner Corps, how its members support individual Unit operations, and Commissioner interactions with the Patriot District Committee.



Patrick Ring (PR): How and when did you first become involved in Scouting, and then later active with the Patriot District Committee?

Tony Ryan (TR): I became an Eagle Scout in 1962 in the Watchung Area Council in New Jersey. As an adult I served in Councils in North Carolina, Norfolk Virginia and Germany before my son and I joined a Pack in the NCAC in 1985. I served as a Scoutmaster in two Troops in NCAC and beginning in 1993 was part of the training team in GW District. In 1998, when NCAC decided to split GW District, I was asked to be the chair of the Patriot District organizing committee. I have held several positions in Patriot District's committee and Commissioner Corps ever since.

PR: What led you to volunteer as a Commissioner in several positions and now serve as a Unit Commissioner?

TR: Scouting was an important part of me while I grew up. I want to do what I can to help ensure that Scouts get the best experience that is available. We have great unit leaders that need support from the District and I wanted to help with that.

PR: What are the principal similarities and differences with respect to roles and responsibilities between a Unit Commissioner and the District Commissioner?

TR: Unit Commissioner is the principal link between a Scouting unit and the District. The District Commissioner recruits, organizes, and guides the team of Unit Commissioners. That requires a somewhat different focus. The District Commissioner is also the link between the Council Commissioner and the District Commissioner corps. Both kinds of Commissioner are focused on assisting units to have the best Scouting program.

PR: In what ways do Unit Commissioners interact with the Patriot District Committee?

TR: Unit Commissioners need to provide support to units in many ways. Most of those ways touch on functions of the District Committee such as membership, program, advancement, Merit Badge Counsellors, and others. To provide the most current information about these topics and help units

develop, the District Committee is the best source to tap. The Unit Commissioner assesses a unit's needs and links up unit leadership with the correct member of the District Committee.

PR: What are some of the challenges facing the Patriot District Commissioner Corps today?

TR: I think a major challenge that we all face is the constant shift from paper based systems to Scouting's on line systems. I find myself constantly challenged to help manage the connection between units and the online systems. Units tend to operate informally and online systems can be pretty formal in a way. Of course, we all know that online systems don't always work easily to begin with and sometimes break down. That requires a little careful diplomacy and coaching from the Commissioner staff.

Recruiting Scouters to Commissioner service requires constant effort. Scouters with some experience and the desire to help others on the Scouting path are just the kind of folks we need. Unit Commissioner is a super way to combine continued Scouting with real service to units.

PR: What are some of your most memorable and rewarding experiences as a Scouter?

TR: Wow! That's a tough question. Participating in my son's Eagle Court of Honor was certainly one of them. Participating in the Eagle Scout ceremony of a young man who had been extremely ill and still managed to achieve Scouting's highest rank is another one. Working with Scouts and Scouters from other countries is always a blast. Having a young man hidden behind a beard making my sandwich at a shop reintroduce himself and tell me how much my being his Scoutmaster years before had contributed to his life was a real stunning moment. Scouting has provided many such moments and that is why I continue to serve. Most such moments may be unknown to others at the time while still putting a lump in my throat. Maybe its those moments that mean the most to me. Seeing a young Scout's eyes widen and hear his surprise at a new Scouting experience is the most rewarding such event for me.

PR: Is there anything else you would like to share with fellow Patriot District Scouters?

TR: Enjoy Scouting! Do a good turn daily – as a Unit Commissioner!

Patrick Ring is a Member At Large of the Patriot District Committee.



*“In my early days, I was eager to learn and to do things, and therefore I learned quickly.
Each man is good in the sight of the Great Spirit.”*

~ Chief Sitting Bull (b. 1831)

Remembering Jack Campbell

Captain Weldon “Jack” Campbell, Jr., retired U.S. Naval officer and a member of the Senior Executive Service with the Defense Intelligence Agency passed away on April 1, 2021 while fighting his last battle with cancer. Jack was a longtime Scouter well known to many of us in the Patriot District, where he served as District Committee Chair from 2014-2016 and in prior years held other Committee positions, including Vice Chair for Program. While serving as a Scouter in the Patriot District and the National Capital Area Council for many years, Jack was a recipient of the National Eagle Scout Association Outstanding Eagle Scout Award, the Distinguished Patriot Scouter Award, and the BSA Silver Beaver Award.



Jack was born in North Carolina on July 12, 1958. It was there where he first joined Scouting as a member of Cub Pack 542, and where in May 1973 he attained the rank of Eagle Scout as a member of Troop 542. As a Scout, he experienced the challenges and adventure of Philmont Scout Ranch; served as a junior Scoutmaster for Troop 542; was a member of the Order of the Arrow; and served on the staff at Camp Raven Knob, operated by the Old Hickory Council in Surrey County, North Carolina. In 1995, as a Scouter in the Old Hickory Council, Jack was awarded the Vigil Honor, Order of the Arrow, for service to Camp Raven Knob, his troop, and Crew #89. Most recently, Jack mentored a young lady from North Carolina who was among the first females to attain the rank of Eagle Scout, supporting her goals even while he was hospitalized; she was the first female Eagle Scout in the nation to receive the National Certificate of Merit.

Jack spent his college years at North Carolina State University, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Wake Forest University, where he earned his B.S. degree in Political Science in 1981. He then joined the U.S. Navy, where he served for 27 years before retiring in 2008; notably, he celebrated his Navy retirement by serving on the Old Hickory Council Crew at Philmont Scout Ranch. While on active duty, Jack served as a Naval Intelligence Officer, Operational Intelligence Officer, Photographic Intelligence Officer, Management Analysis and Control Officer, Scientific and Technical Intelligence Officer, as well as other positions. During this time, he also studied economics at the University of Oklahoma and earned a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies at the Naval War College. Jack’s intelligence work made an impact in the Kuwait Liberation, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, and the Global War on Terrorism. From 2008 until his passing, Jack continued his work in the military intelligence arena as a senior executive with the Defense Intelligence Agency, serving as the Defense Intelligence Officer for South Asia. His Navy and civilian service awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the 2017 Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Distinguished Civilian Service Award.

Jack filled his private life with Christian-based service organizations, their charities, and his many friends within those organizations. He was a Master Mason; a life member of the Oasis Shriners in Charlotte, North Carolina; an Endowed Life, 32nd Degree Member of Valley of Winston-Salem, NC Scottish Rite; and he held many other positions of this nature. For a life lived well and to the fullest, a Scottish blessing in remembrance:

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you, and remain with you forever.

Seeking Scout Help for a Special Project

The Fairfax Villa Neighborhood Association in Fairfax is seeking the help of Patriot District Scouts for a special project in their neighborhood. The project involves clean up and restoration of an historic cemetery dating back to the late 1700s. The Neighborhood Association is working with the DAR and the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association to delve into the history of the plot and to bring some attention to its significance in area history. The cemetery, located at 4422 San Carlos Drive in Fairfax, has previously had work projects conducted by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in years past, although nothing has been done there since 2012 when Scouts from a local troop did cleanup work.

The cemetery is very overgrown, although volunteers from the neighborhood have recently completed the first stage of clearing the lot. The next stage, where Scout participation would be very helpful and much appreciated, is multi-faceted and will include additional clearing of the upper section of the lot, removing many stumps of small trees, and perhaps adding some steps and benches. The Association is working with an historic arborist and putting together a Preservation Plan.

This effort would be a great community service project for a Patriot District Scouts BSA troop, or it could also serve as a worthwhile Eagle project. Please contact Pat Tarasek at tarasekpat@msn.com to learn more about this project and to volunteer to help. The Neighborhood Association would like to complete this project soon. The work can be done anytime that is convenient for the Scouts.



Scouts Working at the Cemetery in 2012



Historic Cemetery in Fairfax



Pack 1344 Webelos Scouts Shed Painting Project

The playground at Cherry Run Elementary School in Burke looks a little bit nicer this spring, thanks to Cub Scouts in Pack 1344's Webelos Den. Two storage sheds had been in need of fresh paint for some time, so the Cherry Run PTA asked Pack 1344 for assistance. The PTA funded the project, but the Scouts provided the necessary labor, and they were more than up to the task.

On Saturday, May 1st, seven members of the Webelos Den turned out to paint the storage sheds. They also repaired shingles on the roof. They did a great job! Originally scheduled to be completed last spring, the project was postponed for one year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Pack 1344 Webelos Scouts Special Project at Cherry Run Elementary School



Patriot District Program News

Calling all Adult Volunteers with Special Skills and Certifications

NCAC and Patriot District have always been diligent with respect to planning high quality events and recruiting qualified people to staff the events – particularly those that require special certifications. We need to continue to do this, and to that end, we need your help. If you see yourself or someone you know in any of the categories below and would like to help out with a couple events a year, please let us know.

- Licensed Medical Professionals
 - Licensed physician
 - Licensed nurse practitioner
 - Nurse RN, LPN, or LVN
 - Licensed physician assistants
 - Paramedic
 - Emergency medical technician
 - Emergency medical responder
- Wilderness First Aid
- Basic or Advanced Life Support
- Licensed Dietitian
- Range Safety Officer
- ServeSafe® Manager
- Lifeguard

Send a note indicating your interest to patriot-program@ncacbsa.org

It's not too late to Sign up for Summer Camp

Most units have made their commitments for their summer camping experience. For those who may just now getting back into planning and meeting, there are still spots available at Goshen for units. Check out gotogoshen.org for weeks that still may have openings.



Can't go to Summer Camp when your Unit Goes?

Camp Snyder is offering a special Scouts BSA Merit Badge Week July 18 – 24. Check it out at <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/specialty-week> and see the article on page 12 of this issue of the Patriot Press. Lots of merit badges are being offered. There is the option of camping all week or Scouts can just come out for the Day program.

John Merchant
Vice Chair, Program



Camp Snyder First Ever Merit Badge Week!

The **FIRST EVER MERIT BADGE WEEK** for Scouts BSA will be held the week of July 18 – 24, 2021 at Camp Snyder. A wide range of Trail-to Eagle and Outdoor Merit Badges, up to 50 in all, will be offered, including Cooking, Swimming, Soil and Water Conservation, First Aid, Archery, Rifle Shooting, Geocaching and more. A number of Specialty Merit Badges (e.g., Woodworking, Aviation, Search and Rescue, Photography, Weather, Archeology, and more) will also be offered. Classes will be small, limited to no more than 10 Scouts per session.

There are two ways to participate: Individual Scouts or Units can either (1) stay at Camp Snyder all week and camp overnight, or (2) be a day-only participant while staying overnight at home. The entire program, to include dining, camping, merit badge classes, and fun activities (the swimming pool, climbing tower, air rifles, craftwork and campfires) will be conducted using strict COVID-19 virus precautions.

The number of participants in this specialty week event will be limited to 100 Scout campers and 50 day-only Scout participants. Scouts BSA units can sign up one adult leader for FREE for every five paying Scouts. Sign up now at <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/specialty-week/> Sign-up for specific Merit Badge classes will be during Spring 2021 once the class schedule has been finalized!



Merit Badge Week Costs:

Resident Youth: \$400	Day Youth: \$230	Adults: \$165	Early Bird Rates
Resident Youth: \$440	Day Youth: \$255	Adults: \$185	Paid by May 14

Early Bird rates no longer available.

Scoutmasters and Merit Badge Counselors are Needed to Support this Event

Adult leaders with Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster experience are needed, both male and female, to monitor and guide the expected male and female mix of Scouts BSA who will be participating in this event. Oversight in monitoring compliance with the camps COVID-19 virus transmission precautions will be particularly important. We desire Scoutmasters or Assistant Scoutmasters who can spend part or all of the week during the day and overnight, but we also welcome those who can only serve during the day or overnight to fill these 10 important positions. Overnight Scoutmasters will camp with their provisional units in the Camp Snyder campsites. **Merit Badge Counselors** for the MBs cited above, as well as others expected to be added to the list, are also needed to lead the various Merit Badge classes that will be held during each day.

If interested and able to support this important Scouts BSA activity, please contact Rick Ferry, rt.ferry72@gmail.com or Dave Seitz, dbseitz@gmail.com



Cub Scout Day Camp 2021
July 12 - 19
Occoquan Regional Park

Have you registered for the Cub Scout Day Camp yet? If not, hurry to do that because time is running out for the early bird registration! We have an exciting program planned for this summer where Cub Scouts will play, learn, and grow in a safe and COVID-19 friendly environment.

We are looking for energetic and enthusiastic Scout BSA youth age 14 or older and adult volunteers to staff various program areas. Spread the word and reach out at patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com with your questions.



Please see the Cub Scout Day Camp flyer on the next page for additional details.

Zohra Sharief
Day Camp Director, Patriot District
patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com
(202) 944-0114



An Arrow of Light (AOL) Scout working to complete the Dr. Charles Townes Supernova Award must be currently active with a den. AOL Scouts working toward this award must complete their work before officially crossing over to a Scouts BSA Troop.



PATRIOT DISTRICT
AND
OLD DOMINION DISTRICT

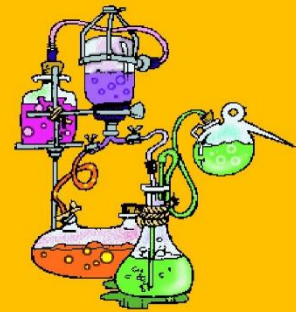
2021 Cub Scout Day Camp



JULY 12 - 16
OCCOQUAN REGIONAL
PARK, LORTON



WEIRD SCIENCE



Register Today:
GOTODAYCAMP.ORG

Select: Patriot District &
Old Dominion District

Early Bird Registration
Ending May 15 - \$190

Regular Registration
\$210

Late Registration
Starting June 2 - \$230

Contact: patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com

Patriot Chapter OA News Items



Chapter Meeting Sunday Afternoon May 16th at 3:30 PM via ZOOM

We will be finalizing unit elections and discussing Chapter Leadership nominations/elections. Any Chapter member interested in a great leadership opportunity should dial in!

Unit Election Status

We are wrapping up unit elections for 2021! Our final 3 units are scheduled for elections in May. If any unit leader has a question about the status of their OA candidates from 2020 or 2021, please contact Chapter leaders at patriotchapter@wipit470.org. We can provide a current member status update and the status on their nominated OA candidates.

Pay Your 2021 Dues

For Scouts who have not yet re-registered for 2021, it's not too late! You can still register at <https://wipit470.org/dues.html>. It's one of the best bargains in Scouting at \$16.

Spring Ordeal

Patriot Chapter, paired with George Mason Chapter, held a successful virtual/remote Spring Ordeal April 30 – May 1. Patriot Chapter inducted 18 new Ordeal members! Patriot Chapter's Vice Chief for Elections did an amazing job serving as the Ordeal Master. The Chapter staffed two youth and one adult serving as Elangomats (Guides for the Ordeal). The inductees were very creative in performing their day of silent service completing projects in the community.

Mark your Calendars

MAY CHAPTER MEETING. Sunday, May 16th at 3:30 PM via Zoom. Note the date shift due to Mother's Day on May 9th.

NE-6A SECTION CONCLAVE. Section NE-6A will be hosting a virtual Conclave May 21-23, and registration is open now here: <https://www.ne6a.org/conclave.html>. The Section Conclave is a fellowship gathering of the three Lodges in Section NE6A: Nentico (Baltimore Area Council), Nentego (Del-Mar-VA Council), and Amangamek-Wipit (NCAC). The theme is "Beach Blast."

LODGE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE (LLDC). The LLDC and Lodge Executive Council meeting will be held on June 5th. TBD if it will be held in person or virtually/remote. Details to follow.

LODGE ORDEAL. The Lodge is tentatively planning to hold a Lodge Ordeal August 4-6 at Camp Snyder. Details coming soon.

FALL ORDEAL. VA Central will host the Fall Ordeal October 1-3 at Camp Snyder.

*Kelsey St. Louis
OA Adviser*



Re-Start Your Scouting Program

As numerous folks get the COVID-19 vaccine and as we continue to follow the appropriate protection guidance against COVID, it looks to be a great time to “re-start” your Scouting unit activities. Some ideas for restarting Scouting safely include:

- (1) Insure you stay up-to-date on current guidance Get into your local school(s) to recruit. Using flyers, signs, booth if possible at parent/family events.
- (2) Reach out to families that stopped coming to re-invite them back to unit activities.
- (3) There is a Cub-o-ree in late September that would be a great event to bring a friend to.
- (4) Conduct “hybrid” meetings that allow participation in-person as well as folks required to stay at home due to quarantine/exposure issues to be able to connect via computer/smart phone under parental/guardian supervision.
- (5) Use multiple communication means to get the word out on your unit’s activities, such as FaceBook, Email, BaseCamp, even the Patriot Press... Stay connected with your Chartered Organization on any specific concerns/guidance/limits they may have to stay in sync. Check out NCAC’s quarterly guidelines with links to other COVID resources at <https://www.ncacbsa.org/covid-19/>.

Best wishes for having great outings in Scouting, and for enjoying safe and productive meetings.



John R. Stewart
Vice Chair for Membership





Scouting continues during the virus pandemic.

However, the Council is committed, as its top priority, to the health and safety of our youth, parents and volunteers as we engage in activities.

Quarterly Guidance

The Council issues quarterly guidance to units, districts and the council, consistent with local government guidelines, on which types of scouting activities can be conducted indoors and outdoors in light of the virus.

The current guidance can be found [here](#).

- [COVID-19 FAQ from Scouting.org](#)
- [Digital Safety and Online Scouting Activities](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources from Scouting.org](#)
- [Restart Scouting Checklist](#)
- [COVID-19 Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist](#)



Local Guidelines

Parents and Scout leaders can find current local government guidance at these websites:

- [Virginia](https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus/) – <https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>
- [Maryland](https://governor.maryland.gov/covid-19-pandemic-orders-and-guidance/) – <https://governor.maryland.gov/covid-19-pandemic-orders-and-guidance/>
- [Washington, DC](https://coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo) – <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo>
- [U.S. Virgin Islands](https://www.vi.gov/covid/) – <https://www.vi.gov/covid/>
- [State-by-state](https://www.aarp.org/politics-society/government-elections/info-2020/coronavirus-state-restrictions.html) – <https://www.aarp.org/politics-society/government-elections/info-2020/coronavirus-state-restrictions.html>

Virus Risk Management Plan

Scout leaders desiring approval to conduct a District or Council level in-person event can find the Virus Risk Management Plan checklist and Approval Template with points-of-contact here.

- Link to the [VRMP Checklist](#)
- Link to [NCAC Event Planning Guidelines](#)



NCAC Response to COVID-19

As always, your safety and the safety of all our members, volunteers, and employees is our top priority. We know there are questions and concerns about how COVID-19, commonly known as the coronavirus, could affect local Scouting programs in National Capital Area Council. Please know that we are monitoring developments regarding COVID-19 both locally and through the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#).



“We must remember that we cannot insulate our children from the uncertainties of the world in which we live or from the impact of the problems which confront us all. What we can do and what we must do is to equip them to meet these problems, to do their part in the total effort, and to build up those inner resources of character which are the main strength of the American people.”

~ Harry S. Truman (b. May 8, 1884)

Advancement: More on Merit Badges

Last month I mentioned asking Scouts which merit badge they would add to the list of required merit badges to earn Eagle Scout. The most common answer was Wilderness Survival.

A few days ago, I participated in an Eagle Scout Board of Review. The Scout recommended Canoeing or Kayaking as options for the requirement that includes Swimming, Hiking and Cycling. Her reasoning was that they are just as challenging and most importantly are fun to earn. Both merit badges are good to earn during warm weather.

Learning that you have the knowledge, skill, attitude to adapt is being “Prepared. For. Life.” This month I offer two groups of merit badges for life skills for you to consider. The first group is for fixing things that all of us eventually will encounter. That would include Automotive Maintenance, Home Repair, and Plumbing merit badges.

The second group includes merit badges related to STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics), ones that could contribute to preparation for a career. Some of the more interesting STEM merit badges include Animation, Digital Technology, and Robotics.

For our more senior Scouts, please note that an online Life-to-Eagle seminar is scheduled for Saturday, May 15th. Check out the flyer and consider signing up!

Also check out the upcoming Scouts BSA Merit Badge Week July 18-24 at Camp Snyder.

Tom Tyra
Advancement Chair



*“When at some future date the high court of history sits in judgment on each of us...
our success or failure...will be measured by the answers to four questions:
First, were we truly men of courage...? Secondly, were we truly men of judgment...?
Third, were we truly men of integrity...? Finally, were we truly men of dedication...?”*

~ John F. Kennedy (b. May 29, 1917)

YMHFA Training Continues!!

If a Scout in your unit committed suicide you would be devastated. No doubt you would vow to do everything in your power to stop such an event from happening in your, or another, unit ever again. The time to make that vow is **NOW** - before something happens!!



Our most recent virtual/remote Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) training session was held on Saturday, May 1st. We are pleased to announce the next YMHFA training session, again available virtually/remotely, will be held on Saturday, 26 June, from 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM, with a break for lunch. As we are all painfully aware, mental health issues including depression, feelings of helplessness and loneliness, being bullied and thoughts of suicide are no stranger to the youth we support, and they have been exacerbated by the current crisis and remote education. As adult volunteer Scout leaders it is incumbent upon us to know how to recognize and respond to the signs of mental illness and duress. This knowledge can literally be the difference between life and death.

We continue to partner with the Fairfax County Community Services Board (CSB) in offering a training course in Youth Mental Health First Aid to help prevent teen suicide. The course is similar to the training that Fairfax County School System teachers, administrators and staff members receive. The same instructors from the CSB have agreed to provide that training.

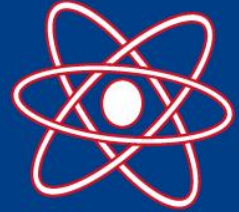
If you are interested in attending the June YMHFA training session, please note the following:

- Register with Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net and include your mailing address and a good phone number.
- The cost is \$26. Once you register, you'll be told where to send the check.
- There is a mandatory 2-3 hours of prep reading that **MUST** be completed in advance of attending the class.
- Registration provides you access to the national web-site for the YMHFA Foundation where all course materials and the prep reading will be found.
- You must use a full-size computer/laptop with a camera, mic, and speakers. You are expressly asked not to use a phone or other handheld device. Please no multi-tasking.
- All participants will receive a YMHFA certificate of completion and an NCAC sanctioned patch demonstrating their achievement

Don't miss out! Don't Wait! We can only serve 20 students in each class - register now for this essential training. To register, please email Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net. Mark can also answer any questions you may have.



STEM CORNER



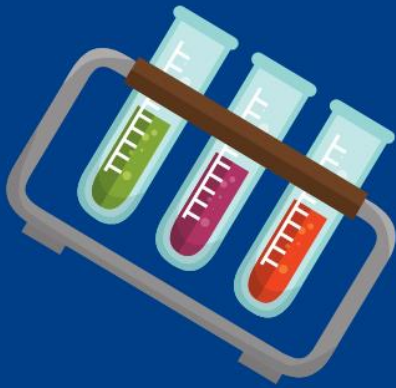
NCAC STEM PRESENTS

WORLD OF WEIRD SCIENCE WEEK!

Activities are indoors and outdoors - we send you the activity materials!

JULY 12 - 16, 2021 | FROM YOUR HOME | GRADES K-5

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT WWW.NCACBSA.ORG/STEM-SPEAKER-SERIES/



*Sokhom Kith
STEM Coordinator*





World of Weird Science Week

15 ACTIVITY KITS MAILED TO YOU!
FOR INDOOR AND OUTDOOR **STEM**
AT YOUR OWN PACE!

GRADES K-5

www.scoutingevent.com/082-WOWscience



+ 5
special

SPEAKERS
TOURS
COMPETITIONS
JULY 12-16, 2021
12-1 PM EST



Patriot District STEM Scouts Lab Units

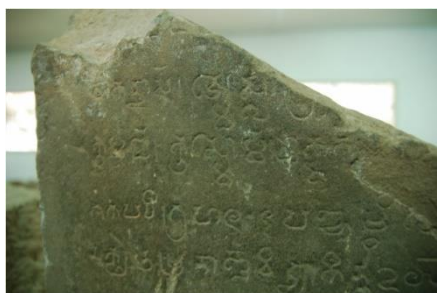
Did you know we have two STEM Scouts Lab units in the Patriot District?

Yes, in the Patriot District we have two STEM Scouts Lab Units: Unit 605 for students in grades 3-5 and Unit 6022 for students in grades 6-8. But have you ever wondered why the numbers 605 and 6022 were chosen for the STEM Lab Units? It was because they have great significance in the fields of mathematics and science. Here are the stories behind how the numbers 605 and 6022 were chosen.

Number 605

The popular numbering system used in most of the world today is based on “Hindu-Arabic numerals,” now often called “Indo-Arabic numerals.” This system of symbols originated in the central Indian city of Gwalior and has been dated back to the year 876 CE. One of the outstanding mathematical features of this system is the introduction of the symbol “0” as a placeholder within a string of digits.

But for years the story circulated that the Gwalior zero was not the first zero placeholder, that a predecessor existed in Cambodia. Further details were lacking and the status of the “first” zero remained a mystery. In a dogged research project lasting over four years, Amir Aczel (1950-2015) located and documented the existence of this zero, a Khmer zero used in a stone inscription denoting the Khmer year 605 (683 CE). The photo images below were taken in Cambodia and provided to *Convergence* by Amir Aczel and his wife, Debra Aczel. The chronological inscription is contained on a stone stele (an upright stone slab or column typically bearing a commemorative inscription or design) first discovered in 1891 and designated in archaeological coding as K-127. Can you spot the Zero in the string 605 in the photo?



**Mathematical Treasure:
Stone Stele K-127**



**The symbol of Khmer year 605
(683 CE)**

We chose the number 605 for one of our STEM Lab units because it represents the significance of the year in which zero, the most important digit in the number system, was first engraved in stone.

Number 6022

Avogadro’s number is the number of molecules of any substance in one mole of that substance (solid, liquid, or gas), defined as its molecular weight in grams. There are about 6.022×10^{23} molecules of any substance in one mole. Since the number 6022 is universally related to all the elements in the Periodic Table, it is one of the most important constants in the world of science.

A bit of heavy reading for something in the Patriot Press, right?

Sokhom Kith
STEM Coordinator

Raisy Fundraising Opportunity: Sales Through May

What is Raisy™ ? Raisy™ is the platform that allows Scouts to sell Entertainment Digital Savings Memberships. Raisy™ is an alliance between the National Capital Area Council, Entertainment Group, and the All American Card Company. Raisy™ is a NO COST program for Scout units. Scout units do not handle any money and there is no product inventory to manage.

What is an Entertainment Digital Savings Membership? Think of the Entertainment Digital Savings Membership as a *digital Camp Card*. The Membership offers access to thousands of Dining, Things to do, Shopping and Service discounts throughout the USA and Canada. If the Customer changes locations, they now have access to offers at their new location or they can manually select a new location. This makes the Entertainment Digital Savings Membership ideal for out of town friends and relatives.

***WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RAISY™ OFFERS?
CLICK HERE!***

How much does a Membership Cost, and how long is it good for? Each Membership costs \$20.00. The Membership is valid for 12 months from the date of activation.

Do I have to sign up as a unit? No. Individual Scouts can sign up to fundraise for camp fees, High Adventure opportunities, Day Camp, or MISC Scouting expenses.

What is the Commission Structure? For each \$20 subscription sold \$12.50 is returned as an investment in local Scouting. NCAC chooses to split the return to Scouting with participating units. **\$6.25 goes to the Scout Unit** and **\$6.25 goes to Council** to help maintain Goshen Scout Reservation and Camp Snyder. This sale is similar in structure to the Traditional Camp Card Program and the Popcorn Program. It is a Council supported **UNIT FUNDRAISER**. All Commission earned by Scout units will be deposited into an NCAC unit account at Council by July 31, 2021. Each Scout unit committee determines how these funds are used.

What are the Important Dates? Sale started March 1, 2021, and will end May 31, 2021. Starting in March 2021 the All American Card Company will send funds from the sale to the NCAC Quarterly. After those funds are received, NCAC will put sales Commission in each unit's Scout Shop Accounts. Each unit committee determines how those funds are used.

How do I get started? Each Scout must set up an Account. If you have multiple Scouts, each one may require a separate email. Go to this link for the National Capital Area Council: <https://fundraising.entertainment.com/boy-scouts-of-america-national-capital-area-council-082> Then follow the instructions.

Questions: Contact Barb Perez @ Barb.Perez@Scouting.org or (757) 570-5067



Youth Protection and Barriers to Abuse FAQs

Additional FAQs: [General Health and Safety](#), [Annual Health and Medical Record](#), [Shooting Sports program](#), [Family Scouting Information](#)

Updated 3/11/2021 – ♦ indicates latest updates

Adult Supervision

Q: The Barriers to Abuse say that there must be two registered adults present for all Scouting activities and meetings. Does that include merit badge counseling? Fund-raising events?

A. Yes. However, the parent or legal guardian of the Scout may serve as the second adult. This parent or legal guardian does not have to be a registered leader.

Q: Why is a female adult 21 years of age or over required whenever female youth are present, but not the other way around?

A. The requirement to ensure that a registered female adult is present at activities serving girls is not dissimilar to policies we've enacted in the past for Venturing when male and female adult leaders were required for certain co-ed activities. At this time, we believe that these are the best, most appropriate measures for our movement. We hope you understand that these requirements were given substantial and thorough consideration.

Q. Do Lion and Tiger Den meetings require two-deep leadership since adult partners are present?

A. Yes. A Lion or Tiger adult partner is not considered a registered leader for meeting two-deep leadership requirements. Lion or Tiger partners, as well as other pack leaders, provide a pool of adults who could be registered as an assistant den leader to meet this requirement.

Q. If only one leader shows up, does that mean we have to cancel the meeting or activity?

A. Yes. This policy is in place to prevent abuse in and out of Scouting. Adults should never be alone with youth who are not their children.

Q. The Barriers to Abuse states “One-on-one contact between adult leaders and youth members is prohibited both inside and outside of Scouting.” What does ‘inside and outside of Scouting’ mean?

A. The BSA has adopted its youth protection policies for the safety and well-being of its members. These policies primarily protect youth members; however, they also serve to protect adult leaders. All parents and caregivers should understand that our leaders are to abide by these safeguards. Registered leaders must follow these guidelines with all Scouting youth outside of Scouting activities. There are careers that may require one-on-one contact with youth, however aside from those roles, volunteers must abide by the youth protection policies of the BSA even outside of Scouting activities.

This policy is in place to prevent abuse in and out of Scouting. Adults should never be alone with youth who are not their children.

Q. Does this mean my son cannot have a sleepover if I am the only adult present?

A. Yes, if any of the children other than your own child is a Scout, we strongly encourage all adults to use the Barriers to Abuse in and out of Scouting.

◆ **Q. Are there times when youth can gather, meet or conduct activities without adult supervision?**

A. No. Two-deep adult supervision by registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required for all Scouting activities and must meet the leadership requirements outlined in Scouting's [Barriers to Abuse](#). This includes patrol activities.

Accommodations

Q. Our council camp has Adirondack shelters that sleep 8 youth, should we treat them as tents or lodging?

A. Lodging.

Q. Why do youth tent separately from parents outside of Cub Scouting?

A. Scouts BSA, Sea Scouts, and Venturing are youth led programs. The Cub Scout program is family-oriented.

◆ **Q. Can I share a tent with my son or daughter who has special needs?**

A. Youth and adults tent separately in the Scouts BSA, Sea Scouts, and Venturing programs. Youth who have a special need or disability who may require a parent or legal guardian to tent with them must develop a plan in conjunction with their local council Scout Executive to address their specific needs.

Transportation

Q. How do the Barriers to Abuse apply to transportation?

A. An adult may not drive or be alone in the car with a Scout unless that Scout is their own child. An adult may drive two or more Scouts.

Q. Can 18-year-old Scouts transport other Scouts, if so, what are the qualifications for this?

A. Yes. Drivers must be currently licensed and at least 18 years of age. **Scouting youth (under age 18) are not insured under the Boy Scouts of America commercial general liability policy.** Transportation guidance can be found in the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#).

◆ **Program Requirements**

Q. Can buddy pairs be co-ed in Scouts BSA?

A. No. Scouts BSA program integrity requires single gender units and single gender buddy pairs.

Q. Can a leader bring their Scouts BSA son or daughter to an opposite gender troop activity?

A. No. Scouts BSA program integrity requires single gender units and single gender buddy pairs.

Q. Can any Scouts BSA member attend camp on their own?

A. Yes, as part of a provisional unit at camp. Contact your local council for availability.

Q. Can Scouts BSA girl and boy troops share a campsite?

A. Yes, if the campsite's layout and amenities meet all the requirements of Scouting's [Barriers to Abuse](#), including privacy and separate accommodations. Each unit must also meet supervision requirements.



B-P Still Wants You!



To Join the Patriot District Committee Great Jobs for Great Volunteers

Take your Scouting leadership to an exciting and rewarding new level.

Work with other great Scouters providing great programs for great Scouts.

Contact Bill Dexter: wtdexterjr@gmail.com

The Patriot Press, Patriot District National Capital Area Council

The Patriot Press is the monthly newsletter of the Patriot District, NCAC, Scouts BSA. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the official policies of the National Capital Area Council or Scouts BSA. This newsletter is provided eleven times each year (not in July) and posted at <http://www.ncacbsa.org/PatriotPress>

Deadline for articles to be included in *The Patriot Press* is two Sundays prior to Roundtable. Articles for publication, in MS Word, may be emailed to the editor at bsnowden419@gmail.com.

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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA SCOUTER CODE OF CONDUCT

On my honor, I promise to do my best to comply with this Boy Scouts of America Scouter Code of Conduct while serving in my capacity as an adult leader:

- 1. I have completed or will complete my registration with the Boy Scouts of America, answering all Questions truthfully and honestly.**
- 2. I will do my best to live up to the Scout Oath and Scout Law, obey all laws, and hold others in Scouting accountable to those standards. I will exercise sound judgment and demonstrate good leadership and use the Scouting program for its intended purpose consistent with the mission of the Boy Scouts of America.**
- 3. I will make the protection of youth a personal priority. I will complete and remain current with Youth Protection training requirements. I will be familiar with and follow:**
 - BSA Youth Protection policies and guidelines, including mandatory reporting: www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/
 - The Guide to Safe Scouting: www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss
 - The Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety: www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/sweet16
- 4. When transporting youth, I will obey all laws, comply with Youth Protection guidelines, and follow safe driving practices.**
- 5. I will respect and abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America, BSA policies, and BSA-provided training, including but not limited to those relating to:**
 - Unauthorized fundraising activities
 - Advocacy on social and political issues, including prohibited use of the BSA uniform and brand
 - Bullying, hazing, harassment, and unlawful discrimination of any kind
- 6. I will not discuss or engage in any form of sexual conduct while engaged in Scouting activities. I will refer youth with questions regarding these topics to talk to their parents or spiritual advisor.**
- 7. I confirm that I have fully disclosed and will disclose in the future any of the following:**
 - Any criminal suspicion, charges, or convictions of a crime or offense involving abuse, violence, sexual misconduct, or any misconduct involving minors or juveniles
 - Any investigation or court order involving domestic violence, child abuse, or similar matter
 - Any criminal charges or convictions for offenses involving controlled substances, driving while intoxicated, firearms, or dangerous weapons
- 8. I will not possess, distribute, transport, consume, or use any of the following items prohibited by law or in violation of any Scouting rules, regulations, and policies:**
 - Alcoholic beverages or controlled substances, including marijuana
 - Concealed or unconcealed firearms, fireworks, or explosives
 - Pornography or materials containing words or images inconsistent with Scouting values
- 9. If I am taking prescription medications with the potential of impairing my functioning or judgment, I will not engage in activities that would put youth at risk, including driving or operating equipment.**
- 10. I will take steps to prevent or report any violation of this code of conduct by others in connection with Scouting activities.**

SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
And to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
Mentally awake, and morally straight.

SCOUT LAW

Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty
Brave
Clean
Reverent

