



The Patriot Press



Volume 24
Patriot District

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot/press>

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National Capital Area Council

Issue 1
Boy Scouts of America

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Editor's note: In this issue of the Patriot Press, as with many past issues, readers will find that some of the material has been included in prior issues. Although most of the information provided in each issue is new, it is our policy to repeat certain articles considered to be of great importance to our Scouting community, such as recent articles related to maintaining Scouting activities during the Covid-19 pandemic. We also consider it helpful to repeat selected other pieces that involve special upcoming events/activities months in the future to facilitate planning and unit or individual participation, as well as information of particular importance to unit and District operations.



From the District Chairman

As we start the new year, I want to strongly encourage all units to plan on having adult Scouters attend **The University of Scouting** on Saturday, February 27, 2021. This important annual NCAC event will be held via zoom. Adult Scouters will have an opportunity to choose from 150 courses. Courses focus on useful skills such as “How to Conduct a Board of Review” or an “Introduction to Basecamp.” Adult students can earn a Batchelor’s degree, a Master’s degree, or a PhD in Scouting. Many participants just take courses for fun or enrichment. I highly recommend attending this event to learn skills that you can apply as an adult leader. Plus, it is fun. Registration opens on January 8th. As adult leaders of Scouting activities in the Patriot District, let’s all work to improve our Scouting skills by attending this year’s **University of Scouting**.

The District staff is already busy organizing the following events for 2021.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Pinewood Derby | Saturday, May 15 |
| 2. District Awards Celebration | June date TBD |
| 3. Cub Scout Day Camp | July 12 – 16 |
| 4. Scouts BSA Camporee | October date TBD |
| 5. Cub Scout “Adventure Day” | October date TBD |
| 6. Cub Scout Family Campout | October date TBD |
| 7. Ice Cream Social | October date TBD |

Unfortunately, as the Covid-19 pandemic persists, economic challenges will continue for many families throughout 2021. Food Banks in our area have done a great job meeting community needs. However, they will continue to rely on our support to gather large quantities of food for distribution. Several units conducted food drives during the year, and their efforts will continue in 2021. Patriot District will conduct a large District-wide drive in the Spring. For units looking for a food bank to donate food to, in Patriot District we have ECHO (Ecumenical Community Helping Others). ECHO is prepared to receive and distribute food to families in need. Steve Richardson is the ECHO Major Food Drive Coordinator. He is also a Scouter with the Old Dominion District. He can be contacted at ristph@aol.com or by cell at (571) 422-2198. Steve will coordinate with any unit on a food drive for ECHO. Also, units that conduct an independent food drive are asked to notify Pat Ring at pring978@gmail.com or by cell at (703) 674-6178. Patriot District wants to keep track of all units that contribute to food drives.

*Bill Dexter
Patriot District Committee Chair*





From the District Commissioner

Welcome to 2021!! I'm sure everyone is relieved to have 2020 behind us, but we still have many challenges ahead until the Covid-19 pandemic is completely beaten. Let me start the new year by putting on my Council Merit Badge Dean hat and providing a comment about what everyone seems to be discussing...at least at the Scouts BSA level.

The BSA announced in November that Scouts could begin earning the new Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion Merit Badge as of January 1st. That did not happen. So, what has happened? National provided the proposed requirements to all Councils in mid-December for comment. The NCAC, along with other Councils, provided feedback from the field. The comments were many and substantive. National has now established a group other than those putting the requirements together to review the feedback. It's anyone's guess as to how long that process will take or what the result will be. My guess, purely speculation on my part, is the review won't be measured in weeks. Currently, there is no DEI merit badge and we will not be approving any counselors for the badge until such time National releases it. Further, any discussions about what is or what isn't in the requirements is pure speculation. Until further notice, all Scouts working on the Eagle Scout rank should continue to use current rank requirements. Our time is better spent focusing on matters that are not speculative, such as delivering the Scouting program to our Scouts.

Speaking of delivering the Scouting program, National has posted an updated COVID-19 FAQ (dated 1/5/21). I've provided a copy of it for the unit Key 3's in the District Key 3 Basecamp. Others can find it at <https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/>. The changes are essentially allowing for a continuation of some relaxed rank and merit badge requirements to be allowed until some point in time that will be announced with a 30-day notice. It also formalizes the transfer of Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster extension approvals to the local Council. Additional information about that can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/resources/> under general resources at the top of the page.

Our recharter season is complete. Every unit has submitted and we have only a couple who have yet to turn in the forms. Patriot District is typically the first district to get the entire process behind us and we did it once again. A big Thank You to our unit processors who chased down YPT completions, required new member applications, and those final unit signatures.

If we have a fairly mild winter as we did last year, I encourage all of our units to conduct outdoor activities as much as possible. We have some large parking lots around the District that will hold groups of 10 with a significant distance between groups. Be smart and be safe.

David Astle
District Commissioner





From Our District Executive

As we enter 2021, I reflect on the huge recent accomplishments of the Patriot Scouts, Scouters, and our Scouting community. The challenges of 2020 were met with creative solutions. I am incredibly proud of the hard work, dedication, and support we have seen this past year. If you are interested in supporting or volunteering for the District, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers. We sincerely appreciate you.

- ♣ **1800 youth served across the District**
- ♣ **500 adult volunteers helping guide and teach our Scouts**
- ♣ **More than 16,000 pounds of food collected and donated to food banks**
- ♣ **1800 merit badges earned**
- ♣ **Hundreds of community service hours worked**
- ♣ **61 new Eagle Scouts**
- ♣ **One Silver Beaver Award and three District Award of Merit Recipients**

We look forward to resuming our Scouting adventures in 2021!

Stay connected to the District by following @PatriotDistrict on Facebook. Know someone who would be able to create weekly Facebook updates and manage the district's webpage? Have them contact me about a great volunteer opportunity.



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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

Covid Guidance for NCAC Units Chartered in Virginia

As of November 18, 2020, Virginia's Governor Northam has tightened Covid-19 restrictions related to group gatherings:

"All public and private in-person gatherings of more than 25 individuals are prohibited. The presence of more than 25 individuals performing functions of their employment or assembled in an educational instructional setting is not a "gathering." A "gathering" includes, but is not limited to, parties, celebrations, or other social events, whether they occur indoors or outdoors."

We have confirmed with the Virginia Department of Health **this restriction applies to Scout Unit meetings and activities.**

National Capital Area Council provides the following guidance for adhering to this restriction.

1. Continue to consult with your adult committee and chartered organization regarding all in-person unit meetings and activities.
2. Familiarize yourself with local and state COVID-19 requirements.
3. Employ general COVID-19 protocols as part of all Scouting meetings/activities.
 - a. Everyone 5 years of age and above present at the activity wears a face covering.
 - b. Wash hands and sanitize surfaces and equipment frequently.
 - c. Maintain appropriate distance (at least 6 feet) at all times.
 - d. Take participant temperatures before participation.
 - e. Advise participants to stay home if they are sick.
4. If your unit's total participant count (including youth members, adult leaders, and family members) exceeds 25, take steps to be compliant with the restriction on gathering size:
 - a. Conduct meetings that do not require the full unit to gather together.
 - b. When you do have meetings with the full group, hold them online using services like Zoom.
 - c. Here is an acceptable method for unit meetings, according to the Virginia Department of Health: Hold meeting in smaller cohorts, such as Dens or Patrols. If your meeting space permits, try to divide up the location so each cohort has their own space to meet. Cohorts should not intermingle. Do not assemble the full group together at any time. Always be sure each cohort has two-deep leadership.
 - d. If you have enough leadership, consider having cohorts meet at separate times on the same day or on different days.
 - e. Meet outdoors (weather permitting) where it is easier to maintain social distancing.

We understand this 25-person limit may be an obstacle for many large Scout units, particularly when planning full-unit meetings or activities. It is important to find ways to continue to provide the Scouting experience while ensuring the safety of our Scouts, leaders, and families. Please contact your District Executive if you have questions or need assistance solving challenges presented by this restriction.

NCAC will continue to update this situation as new information is made available.

The Checklist That Must be Used Before Holding Any In-Person Meetings



RESTART SCOUTING CHECKLIST

As always, the safety of our Scouts, volunteers, employees and communities is our top priority. This checklist outlines several minimum guiding protocols that adult leaders/volunteers must consider while working with local and state health departments, local councils, chartered organizations and Scouting families on when and how to resume meetings, service projects, camping and all other official Scouting activities.

S = Supervision

- ☐ Understand local and state guidance on preventing COVID-19 exposure.
- ☐ Engage your chartered organization and local council on necessary adjustments.
- ☐ Conduct the “before you gather” protocols.

A = Assessment

- ☐ Identify participants who fall under the CDC’s group of higher-risk individuals. Notify all participants about the risks of participating since COVID-19 exposure cannot be eliminated.
- ☐ Verify that the planned activity, gathering or group sizes are not prohibited by local or state orders.

F = Fitness and Skill

- ☐ Review Annual Health and Medical Records and consider using a [pre-event screening](#) for all participants.

E = Equipment and Environment

- ☐ Verify that handwashing, hygiene and cleaning supplies are available and used properly.
- ☐ Monitor social distancing, interactions and sharing of equipment and food among participants.
- ☐ Monitor participants for changing health conditions.
- ☐ Use the “as you gather” protocols.

SAFE ≠ Risk-Free

As the response to the pandemic shifts to a state-focused, phased approach, the Boy Scouts of America advises local councils to consult with their local and state health departments, as well as local chartered partners, to implement appropriate protocols to help keep our members, volunteers and employees safe.

Precautions and mitigation strategies are important, but they cannot eliminate the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or any other illness when in-person activities resume.

People with COVID-19 may show no signs or symptoms of illness, but they can spread the virus. Some people may be contagious before their symptoms occur. The fact is that someone with COVID-19 may pass the required health screenings and be allowed into program activities.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. If you are in this group, please ensure you have approval from your health care provider prior to resuming in-person Scouting activities.

Every member, volunteer and family must evaluate their unique circumstances and make an informed decision before attending in-person activities.

We hope this information will be helpful as you make that choice.

For updates, please monitor <https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus>

Before you gather:

- ❑ **Consult** your council and chartered organization to understand community standards and protocols in place.
- ❑ **Communicate** to all parents and youth that the Boy Scouts of America recommends that no one in the higher-risk category take part in person. Continue to engage virtually.
- ❑ **Communicate** that anyone who feels sick must stay home. If you become sick or develop symptoms, isolate yourself then go home and seek care.
- ❑ **Educate and train** all participants on appropriate social distancing, cleaning and disinfecting, hand hygiene and respiratory (cough or sneeze) etiquette before meeting for the first time. Periodically reinforce the behaviors as needed.
- ❑ **Before attending**, upon arrival and at least daily for longer events, all participants should be screened for any of the following new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19:
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea
 - Feeling feverish or having a temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - Known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19
- ❑ **As appropriate**, participants should have face coverings available to wear when gathering or when in public areas or venues. Several coverings per person may be needed.
- ❑ **Communicate** that those who take part in person should avoid contact with higher-risk individuals for 14 days after the event.

As you gather:

- ❑ **Minimize group sizes**. Small groups of participants who stay together all day every day, remain 6 feet apart and do not share objects are at the lowest risk. Think of a den or patrol that does not mix or gather with other dens or patrols, with supervision that stays with the small group. *Scouting's Barriers to Abuse always apply.*
- ❑ **Stay local** to your geographic area and groups for unit activities. If you must travel, limit mixing with others along the way.
- ❑ **Minimize mixing** with parents or siblings unless they are part of the unit activity. For example, the same parent picks up and drops off youth, and stays in the car. No guests or visitors who have not been through the pre-gathering protocols and screening should take part.
- ❑ **Have hand sanitizer**, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available for use at meetings, activities and campouts.
- ❑ **Minimize the use** of common areas and shared tools. If unavoidable, they should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- ❑ **Develop dining protocols** (including but not limited to):
 - No self-serve buffet meals or common water coolers.
 - Use of disposable utensils, napkins, cups and plates.
 - Clean and disinfect eating and cooking gear after each use.
- ❑ **Develop tenting protocols** for the group:
 - Minimize use of fans or devices that stir the air.
 - Campers should sleep head-to-toe in bunks or cots spaced as far apart as possible.
 - Individual tents, hammocks and bivvies may be considered.
- ❑ **During program activities**:
 - Equipment that must be shared should be disinfected before and after each use.
 - Where possible, assign activity-related protective equipment for the duration of an event to a single individual (life jacket, gloves, harness).
 - Effective handwashing before and after each program area use.
- ❑ **In case of an injury or illness**, promptly report the incident, including COVID-19 exposures. Utilize Incident Reporting Resources, including COVID-19 instructions.

When you get home:

- ❑ **Avoid contact** with higher-risk individuals for 14 days.
- ❑ **Monitor** for any signs of illness for 14 days, and
- ❑ **Communicate** with your unit leadership should you develop symptoms.

Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

January 2021

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 3 Patriot Press Deadline – January
- 10 Patriot District OA chapter meeting (*virtual*)
- 12 Commissioner Meeting (*virtual*)
- 14 Roundtable (*virtual*)
- 16 OA Lodge Banquet (*virtual*)
- 16-17 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED,
Camp Snyder
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 26 PD Committee Meeting (*virtual*)
- 31 Patriot Press Deadline – February Issue



February 2021

- 9 Commissioner Meeting (*virtual*)
- 11 Roundtable (*virtual*)
- 14 Patriot District OA chapter meeting (*virtual*)
- 15 Presidents' Day
- 20-21 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED (Camp Snyder)
- 23 PD Committee Meeting (*virtual*)
- 27 University of Scouting (*virtual*)
- 28 Patriot Press Deadline – March Issue

March 2021

- 9 Commissioner Meeting (*virtual*)
- 11 Roundtable (*virtual*)
- 13-14 Commissioner College (*virtual*)
- 13-14 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED (Camp Snyder)
- 14 Daylight Saving Time begins (2 AM)
- 14 Patriot District OA chapter meeting (*virtual*)
- 23 PD Committee Meeting (*virtual*)
- 27 Passover begins (sundown)
- 28 Patriot Press Deadline – April Issue

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.

When: Thursday, January 14, 2021

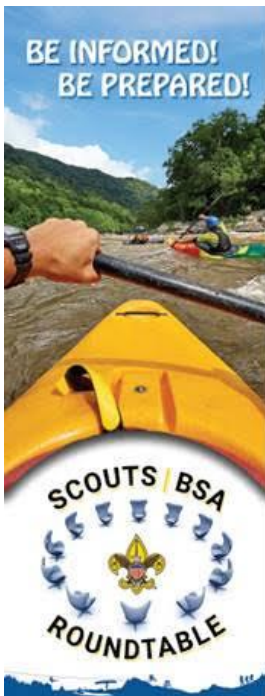
Virtual Meeting via Zoom: *Connection instructions will be sent via email.*

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

Topics: Blue and Gold in the Time of Covid, AOL Crossover,
and Communicable Disease Prevention

Word of the month: Kind

Cory Okouchi, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner
cweskrige@gmail.com



Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Thursday, January 14, 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

Topics: Journey to Excellence, Commissioners
PLC Meetings – Scoutmaster Guidance and Coaching
Covid-19 Corner

Joe Margraf, Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner

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

Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioner: Rick Priest



Patriot District Program News

Wilderness First Aid Offered at Camp Snyder

The Council is offering Red Cross Wilderness First Aid with CPR and First Aid at Camp Snyder several dates over the winter. Class size is limited and there is no overnight component in order to comply with current state, federal and Scout COVID regulations. All High Adventure programs, including the Lenhok'sin High Adventure program at Goshen require that at least one adult in the crew be certified in Wilderness first Aid. More information, including cost, dates offered, and registration details, can be found at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-42855>.



Camp Staff Applications and Interviews Are Now Open

Ask anyone who has spent a summer as a camp counsellor and most often you will hear that it is the hardest job he/she has had but the job that they have most loved. For a young person, spending the summer as a camp counsellor provides unique opportunities for growth, leadership experience and skills found nowhere else. Unit leaders and other Scouters should encourage young men and women to seriously consider the many counsellor opportunities in our council. Generally, Scouts at least 14 years old are welcome to apply as Counsellors-in-training; although they are not paid, they receive room and board and a year's experience that counts for increased salary the following year. Scouts 15 and over can apply for paid staff positions, and those 18 and over can apply for some director positions. Camp and Program Directors and some area directors must be at least 21.



For Goshen visit: <https://www.gotogoshen.org/information/goshen-staff/#jobs>

For Snyder, visit: <https://www.gotosnyder.org/work-volunteer/summer-camp-staff/>

NOTE: July 18 – July 24, 2021 Scout Specialty Camp at Snyder. Snyder is looking for volunteer adults to be provisional Scoutmasters and Merit Badge Counsellors. For more information see: <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/specialty-week/>

Program Ideas and Information—All Levels

The links below provide a wide variety of ideas, and events for Cubs Scouts, Scouts BSA, and Venture and Sea Scouts. For program opportunities for units at all levels, visit the Council's Program Blog at <https://weownadventure.org> and Facebook page at

<https://facebook.com/groups/ncacbsavolunteers/>

Sample stories include:

- Service project ideas
- Youth Leadership Training events
- Adult training opportunities
- Stories of units that have done some great things
- News stories

Cub Scout Day Camp 2021



No one knows what the COVID environment next July is going to be, but the Patriot District is working full-steam with neighboring districts to plan a local, full, in-person Day Camp program for next July 12–16, 2021. Stay tuned for details which should take shape in the next month. We're looking into the normal, popular features like the Climbing Wall, BB's, Archery, Scout Skills and more. We will need both youth and adult staff for the week, including program director positions (BB's, Archery, Climbing Wall, First Aid) that need BSA certifications. Certification classes will be offered at Camp Snyder in the Spring. If interested, contact the Day Camp Director, at patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com, and we'll be in touch.

John Merchant
Vice Chair, Program



Order of the Arrow News Items



Chapter Meeting Sunday Afternoon, January 10, at 3:30 via ZOOM

We will review our Calendar for the year, see where we are scheduling elections, and put some election teams together. Most will probably still be virtual, but we want to hold a unit visit for every Scouts BSA unit whether they have Scouts eligible for election or not. We also need to encourage our members to work with their unit leaders to be sure each unit has a Unit OA Representative and Adviser. We have a few, but each unit should have an OA rep.

Pay Your 2021 Dues

For Scouts who completed their OA ordeal this past fall, your dues are paid through 2021. For the rest of us, dues for 2021 are due now. <https://wipit470.org/dues.html>. Scouts may not wear the sash or participate in OA events unless they are current with their dues. It's a bargain at \$14. If you pay after April 1st, dues go up to \$16. Also, for each Scout who renews their membership by April 1st, the Chapter receives an additional \$2 for its own use. We are looking into T-Shirts at a subsidized cost and as incentives for participation "above and beyond."



"If civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships – the ability of all peoples, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world at peace."

~ Franklin D. Roosevelt (b. January 30, 1882)

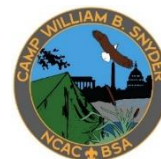
Patriot District Food Drives 2020

Kudos to all of the units who participated in the Patriot District food drives during 2020. The commendable efforts of the Scouts and Scouters who participated in these most worthy activities collected more than 8 tons of food in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Food Drive	Unit Count	Weight (tons)	Service Hours
Scouting for Food (Nov-Dec)	19	5.85	588
ECHO Food Drive 2 (Oct 14)	10	1.10	
ECHO Food Drive 1 (June 20)	7	1.25	
Food Total		8.20	

Seeking Scoutmasters for Camp Snyder Merit Badge Week 2021

Scouters, we're looking for adult leaders with Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster experience to fill 10 positions, to guide up to 100 provisional overnight camping and 50-day camper Scouts BSA during the Camp Snyder Merit Badge Week of July 18-24, 2021. This camp will be conducted with NCAC approved COVID-19 virus transmission precautions.



As a temporary Scoutmaster, you will monitor and guide small provisional groups of Scouts BSA during the day and/or overnight. We need male and female Scoutmasters for the expected male and female mix of Scouts BSA who will be participating. Oversight in monitoring compliance with the camps COVID-19 virus transmission precautions will be particularly important.

During the day there will be adult led Merit Badge classes. Outside of the classroom, Scoutmasters will need to oversee dining inside and outside of the Marriott Dining Hall, as well as the fun activities, like the swimming pool and night-time campfires. Overnight Scoutmasters will camp with their provisional units in the Camp Snyder campsites.

This is an opportunity for former or current Scoutmasters or Assistants with a flexible schedule to serve our youth in a time of need! We desire Scoutmasters who can spend part or all of the week during the day and overnight but will certainly welcome those that can only serve during the day or overnight to fill these 10 around-the-clock positions.

If interested, please contact Rick Ferry, rt.ferry72@gmail.com or Dave Seitz, dbseitz@gmail.com

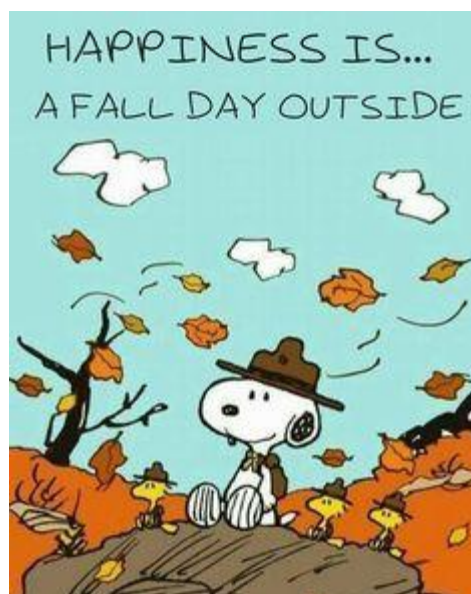
Support Scouting and Our Community

We have an opportunity for a win-win during the pandemic - and that's a rare chance!

If you'll recall, we partnered with Spartans Family Restaurant in Burke back in September. Patriot Scouts and families supported that local business and Spartans supported Scouting. We plan to do many more such events this year.

The next one will also be at Spartans from 18-21 January. Spartans will donate a portion of the proceeds to the Patriot District for every meal ordered when patrons show the flyer in this month's Patriot Press (see page 14); please print a copy and take it with you to Spartans when you go to pick up your carryout order. Starting in February, our hope is to have two of these events per month and work with different restaurants. If you have any ideas for restaurants we can approach, or have any questions regarding such events, please get in touch with Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net.

This approach to fundraising works most effectively if all the families in every unit know about it. Please advertise this to every family in your unit and please encourage everyone to participate in this win-win project!!



**Looking forward to resuming many outdoor Scouting activities
and adventures sometime in 2021**

**Let's FUNdraise &
Show our SPARTITUDE for a
Fundraiser Supporting
Patriot District Scouts**



**Monday, January 18, 2021 thru Thursday,
January 21, 2021**

Bring in this flyer, show us on your smart phone,
or tell us you're supporting the cause to make sure
that proceeds will be donated to the Patriot District
Scouts

**AVAILABLE FOR
CARRYOUT ONLY**

**Spartans Family Restaurant
9542 Burke Rd
Burke VA 22015
703-503-5800**



www.ilovespartans.com #spartitude

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.

Key District Contacts

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Kelly O'Malley	Vice Chair, Development	klomalley@cox.net
VACANT	Vice Chair, Communications	
Justin Day	Training Chair	kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com
Tom Tyra	Advancement Chair	Thomas.tyra@gmail.com
Kelsey St. Louis	OA Adviser	kpstlouis@gmail.com
Bill Snowden	Editor, Patriot Press	bsnowden419@gmail.com



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

