



The Patriot Press



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From the District Chairman

With the development of several effective vaccines, significant progress is now being made in our country's overall effort to combat the Covid-19 pandemic. We now have some basis for anticipating that in the months ahead we will be able to resume many normal Scouting activities. The Patriot District staff is planning for such a return, with a few restrictions, starting in July with Cub Scout Day Camp. Cub Scouts should be planning to attend Day Camp this summer from July 12-16; the concept for this year's event is described on page 11. Over the years, Day Camp has developed into an exciting, engaging, and fun week. Packs and parents are urged to register soon to take advantage of the early bird special, which saves money and helps to ensure they can get the number of slots they need. Cubmasters, NCAC camperships may still be available for any Scouts who needing financial assistance to attend camp this summer.

I want to congratulate and thank the 37 Scouting leaders from Patriot District who attended the University of Scouting on February 27th. The university held 174 different courses and all participants had a chance to set up their individual schedules and take the courses that they were interested in. Patriot District had the third most attendees from the 20 districts in NCAC, and the two districts ahead of us are far larger. The University of Scouting for 2022 is scheduled for Saturday, February 26, so mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Over the last many months of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, Patriot District Scouts and Scouters have conducted a number of food drives to support the needs of many families in our community. Our efforts have collected more than 8 tons of food, several tons of which were donated to ECHO ((Ecumenical Community Helping Others), a charitable organization supported by 22 churches in our area. The urgent need for food persists, however, and we are once again seeking help from our Scouting families. The Patriot District is organizing a **No Contact Food Drive** to help restock ECHO pantries on Saturday, March 20th, from noon to 4:00 PM, rain or shine. We are asking everyone who is able to do so to contribute to this worthy activity. Let's all step up and make this drive our most successful to date.

Specifically, we are asking Scouts and Scouters to bring food donations from their homes, as well as donations they might request and receive from friends, neighbors, and relatives, to the food drive collection site at Westwood Baptist Church, 8200 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke, Virginia, which is located next to the Cary office building. Scouts can deposit the food on the pavement or pop their vehicle trunk and volunteers will take the boxes/bags from the car. When collecting and delivering these food donations, Scouts are asked to wear their uniform, either Class A or Class B. They should also make every effort to remain safe by wearing masks and practicing "social distancing" during this activity. For donations provided by people outside of each Scout's immediate family, Scouts should ask that these donations be placed at a specified spot near the their home, such as on the front porch or at the mailbox. Donated food items need to be non-perishable and in non-fragile containers (no glass jars, please). Donations of personnel care items such as toothpaste and toothbrushes are also welcome. ECHO's website at <http://www.echo-inc.org> includes various donation suggestions.

The Order of the Arrow (OA) is taking the lead on this project. They will have a team of Scouts at Westwood Baptist Church to receive all donations and another team at the ECHO facility to move the donations inside, weigh and record them. Scouts who want to volunteer to work on either team should do so by sending an email to patriotchapter@wipit470.org

Unit leaders from District Packs, Troops and Crews are asked to notify Pat Ring or their intent to participate by March 16th; contact him via email at pring978@gmail.com. After the food drive, please provide a short report to Pat stating the approximate number of Scout families that participated. While ECHO will weigh the food, Patriot District would like to know the number of Scouts involved in this effort. Participation in this food drive fulfills item #6, Community Service, for Scouts working on the NCAC Scouting at Home Award.

Bill Dexter
Patriot District Committee Chair



From the District Commissioner

I hope I can be indulged to be a bit philosophical for my last contribution to the Patriot Press. Like many in the Patriot District, I have been involved in the Scouting program for a very long time. We grew up in it, raised our kids in it, and are still committed to it. Why would we stick with a program that long? The answer is actually very simple. Scouting, through its various programs, is the best vehicle there is for growing kids with 15-minute attention spans into articulate, balanced, knowledgeable young adults. We should remember that Scouting isn't a program unique to the United States. The Boy Scouts of America is a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM – 171 Scout organizations around the world) whose function is to provide “young people with opportunities to participate in programmes, events, activities and projects that contribute to their growth as active citizens. Through these initiatives, young people become agents of positive change who inspire others to take action.” Probably the best ad I've ever seen about “Scouting” is from South Africa Scouts. Without a single spoken word the ad tells the story of “Learn it Young. Remember it Forever.” I encourage you to view this compelling ad at this YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpMFkcSn5IM> The things we teach our young Scouts ARE carried into adulthood, where hopefully they will pass them on to the next generation.

When my friends and I were Scouts in the 1950s and early 1960s, we were proud to be Scouts. We weren't embarrassed to wear our uniform or beg off of a school function on the weekend because we were going camping. Our program has been under assault for various reasons and by various groups for several years. We've made some changes over the years to accommodate some of the criticism because it was the right thing to do. But there are some today who see the Boy Scouts of America as an anachronism. We aren't, and we're just as relevant today with our noble aims of Scouting – character development, citizenship training, leadership, and mental and physical fitness – as anytime previously.

This pandemic year was particularly difficult for Scouts nationwide and in our Council, as we may have lost about 30% of our Cubs (Council wide). A year of virtual/remote everything wasn't a great way to allow our Scouts to do the many things they joined for. When young Cubs get bored with the program, they elect to leave. Fortunately, we may be able to begin resuming normal Scouting activities in coming months, and not a moment too soon. To see the positive influence Scouting can have, I would encourage you to look at two studies funded by the John Templeton Foundation and conducted by Baylor and Tufts Universities. The Baylor study (2012) looked at adults having attained the rank of Eagle ([Baylor University Research Finds Eagle Scouts Have Positive, Lasting Influence on American Society | Media and Public Relations | Baylor University](#)), and the Tufts study (2015) looked at measuring character attributes of Cub Scout-age youth and a similar non-Scout group ([BSA-Tufts-Study-Councils-FINAL.pdf \(scoutingwire.org\)](#))

Youth of today have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities as they grow, but I would ask parents which of these many activities does the best job at preparing them for adulthood. Those of us who give so freely of our time to make Scouting available to youth believe we know the answer, and that is why we do what we do. To that end, I would encourage each of you to be a Scouting advocate by promoting the program to as many people and as often as you can, particularly in this difficult time as we attempt to recapture those we have lost. What we do today makes a difference for our tomorrow.

*David Astle
District Commissioner*



From Our District Executive

One of the biggest parts of being a Scout is going to camp! NCAC and Patriot District have camps for all ages and it's time to get signed up for summer fun. Go to Goshen Scout Reservation for a resident Scout camp, the highly sought after Webelos Scouts camp, or enjoy the High Adventure Camp, all located around beautiful, 450-acre, Lake Merriweather. Cub Scouts can enjoy Day Camp organized by our very own District volunteers, a week-long camp themed towards Weird Science. Or visit Camp Snyder with your unit, open to Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers. Whether you come to camp or enjoy a high-quality outdoor program, the 350-acres (including a managed wetland) is here for you. Have questions about camp? Join the staff of the different NCAC Summer Camps & Programs for informational webinars (see page 19) and get all your summer camp questions answered! There will be representation from Goshen Scout Reservation, Camp Snyder, District Day Camps, Camp Catocin BSA, and the High Adventure Committee. Let's get camping in Summer 2021! [Upcoming Webinar Series: Summer Camp 2021 – The Scouter Digest \(weownadventure.com\)](#)

March is kickoff time for the newest money-earning opportunity for units – Raisy! Raisy is the new and improved Camp Card program, upgraded to be more convenient and completely contactless. If your unit is interested in raising funds for its program, activities, awards, membership, or other Scouting costs, consider signing up for NCAC's Raisy program! It's super easy, doesn't take much time, and can be a great, no-contact fundraising opportunity for your unit. Think of Raisy as a digital Camp Card. Please see the flyer on page 17 for more information and how to sign up. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Barb Perez at Barb.Perez@Scouting.org and cc me so I can follow-up if needed.

Covid-19 and Scouting: Program Update

On February 24, Governor Northam issued a new executive order relaxing certain of Virginia's pandemic restrictions. The new provisions include a return to the 25-person cap on outdoor group activity sizes, removal of the curfew that effectively prohibited overnight camping, and authorization to reopen summer camps with pandemic remediation precautions.

As of the Patriot Press publication deadline, our Council has not yet issued formal Scout program guidance for Virginia Packs and Troops/Crews based on the Governor's new executive order. We anticipate receiving such guidance by the March 11th Roundtable, and at that time will make announcements about permissible program activities.

Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available!

Yours in Scouting,

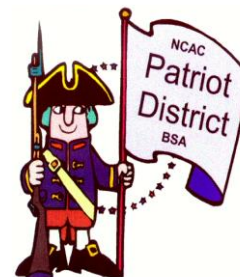
Sarah McKee | Patriot District Executive
C 402-680-7055 | O 301-214-9128
Sarah.McKee@scouting.org | www.NCACBSA.org

Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

March 2021

- 1 Patriot Press Deadline – March Issue
- 9 Commissioner Meeting (*remote*)
- 11 Roundtable (*remote*)
- 13-14 Commissioner College (*remote*)
- 13-14 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED, Session 3 (Camp Snyder)
- 14 Daylight Saving Time begins (2 AM)
- 14 Patriot District OA chapter meeting (*remote*)
- 23 PD Committee Meeting (*remote*)
- 27 Passover begins (at sundown)
- 27-28 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED, Session 3B (Camp Snyder)
- 29 Patriot Press Deadline - April Issue



April 2021

- 4 Easter Sunday
- 8 Roundtable (*remote*)
- 9-11 OA Lodge Fellowship (*remote*)
- 11 Patriot District OA chapter meeting (*remote*)
- 12 Ramadan Begins (at sundown)
- 13 Commissioner Meeting (*remote*)
- 16 "Early Bird" Deadline for Summer Camp Fees
- 17 Life-to-Eagle Seminar (*remote*)
- 17-18 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED, Session 4 (Camp Snyder)
- 24-25 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED, Session 4B (Camp Snyder)
- 27 PD Committee Meeting (*remote*)

May 2021

- 3 Patriot Press Deadline – May Issue
- 9 Mother's Day
- 9 Patriot District OA Chapter Meeting (*remote*)
- 11 Commissioner Meeting (*remote*)
- 11 Ramadan Ends (at sundown)
- 13 Roundtable (*remote*)
- 15 District Pinewood Derby
- 25 PD Committee Meeting (*remote*)
- 31 Patriot Press Deadline – June Issue
- 31 Memorial Day

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, March 11, 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: **Summertime Activity Planning, Camp Coordination, Campfire Planning**

Word of the month: Cheerful

Cory Okouchi, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner

cweskrige@gmail.com



Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Thursday, March 11, 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: **High Adventure Prep, Webelos to Scouts Transition Smart and Simple Ways to Recruit During and After Covid-19 To Do List, Covid Corner and Updates**

Joe Margraf, Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner

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

Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioner: Rick Priest



Patriot District Program News

Small Group Camping is Back at Camp Snyder on March 1st

Small group camping returns to Camp Snyder on March 1st! Units are invited to book campsites to get their Scouts back into the great outdoors. Groups may reserve campsites for 12-13 participants and up to two campsites per unit. Total group sizes must stay under 25 attendees. Reserve your campsite at the following: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-42563>

Cub Scout Day Camp 2021 Theme: Weird Science

Day Camp registration is now open on the Council web site. Details and a link to the registration process can be found here: <https://www.ncacbsa.org/day-camp>. 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 at Occoquan Regional Park. We're planning on most of the normal, popular features like the Climbing Wall, Archery, Scout Skills, Slingshot Range and more. We will need both youth and adult staff for the week, including some program director positions (Archery, Climbing Wall, first aid) that require 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.



No Scout Should Miss Summer Camp Because of a Financial Need: Camperships

Camperships are available from the Council to Scouts with a financial need. The official deadline for Camperships was March 1st, but it may still be worth submitting an application if there is a strong financial need. Often, not all of the available funds are spent, so do not be bashful. Generally, a link to the campership application is found on the registration page for the camp. If you have questions, contact the Camping Office at Council (301) 214-9155.

- Here is a link to the Day Camp application: <https://www.ncacbsa.org/day-camp-campership-application/>
- Here is the link to the Goshen campership application: <https://www.gotogoshen.org/registration/#camperships>
- Here is the link for Snyder Campership. Scroll to the bottom for the link to the application. <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/>
- For Philmont High Adventure Campership: <https://www.ncacbsa.org/philmont-scout-ranch-overview-by-ncac-hac/>

Early Bird Registration Discount Fee Deadlines

The Early Bird Discount is available through Friday, April 16 for all Council resident and Day Camps. A late fee is charged for all registrations after Friday May 14th.

For Goshen, all who pay in full by the Early Bird Deadline will be eligible for the new Goshen hat! If you wish to embroider your hat for an additional cost, you may do so in the registration portal before the early deadline.

Goshen's Deposit Phase ended on March 1. Starting March 1, units can register their remaining campers, and provisional campers can begin to sign up.

District Pinewood Derby

Considering Covid-19 restrictions, the Patriot District Committee decided to move the date for the District Pinewood Derby from early March, the traditional time for this event, to **May 15** when there was a greater likelihood that we could gather in greater numbers. We are still working on the location, but the date is firm, so make sure that the Cubs, Webelos Scouts, and AOLs are making their cars exciting looking and fast – within the acceptable size and weight limits.



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

March Webinar Series: NCAC Summer Camp 2021: The series will include representation from Goshen Scout Reservation, Camp Snyder, District Day & Twilight Camps, Camp Catoctin BSA, and the High Adventure Committee. See the flyer on page 19 for details and to register.

*John Merchant
Vice Chair, Program*



Camp Snyder First Ever Merit Badge Week!

The **FIRST EVER MERIT BADGE WEEK** for Scouts BSA at Camp Snyder will be held the week of July 18 – 24, 2021. 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

Register by April 16 to get the Early Bird rate

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



Order of the Arrow News Items



Chapter Meeting Sunday Afternoon March 14 at 3:30 via ZOOM

Gabriel Cooper, Lodge Vice Chief for Operations, had to miss our February chapter meeting, but assures us he will be at our March meeting. He'll talk with us about some program opportunities in the coming year. We will also review some of the highlights of the recent Section ACT Conference.

Unit Election Status

At the Chapter meeting we will also see where we are with regards to scheduling elections and putting some election teams together. If you can help with an election, please be prepared to let the VC for Elections know which elections you can help cover. We need people who have done it once or twice to work with members have not helped with an election. We also need to encourage our members to work with their unit leaders to be sure your 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."

Spring Ordeal: Late April/May (Virtual)

The Lodge has directed that all Spring Ordeals this year will be using the Virtual format. Training sessions for OA members on how to conduct Virtual Ordeals will take place later this month and a couple of times in April. We will need current members to serve as Elangomats (Friend and Guide through the Ordeal). The Virtual Ordeal format consists of three components:

- A meeting the week before the Ordeal explaining to the candidates how they need to prepare
- A schedule of on-line interactions between Candidate and Elangomat and Video Ceremonies
- An active component where Candidates will perform a variety of tasks to include participate in a service project.

Mark your Calendars

OA Support to Patriot Food Drive, Saturday, March 20. Support the food collection points at Westwood Baptist Church and ECHO. See the flyer on page 21.

Spring Fellowship, April 2 – 4 at Camp Snyder (TBD).

Section Conclave, May 21 – 23, Camp Hensen, DE. 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." Camp Henson is located on the Eastern Shore and it is their 50th Anniversary as a Camp this year.

*Kelsey St. Louis
OA Adviser*



Cub Scout Day Camp 2021 Concept

Overview: Patriot District and Old Dominion District will conduct a joint Cub Scout Day Camp at Occoquan Regional Park from July 12–16, 2021. This camp will be open to Cub Scout packs from both districts. The camp is planned for 200 Cub Scouts attending, 100 from each district. The staff will include adults and Scouts that come from both districts.

Program: The camp will run for five days, and Scouts will be organized by packs into eight groups of approximately 25 Scouts per group. The main program will revolve around groups rotating to six stations per day among the eight stations available. Each group will visit each station about four times during the week. Planned station activities include a climbing wall, STEM projects, archery, gaga ball, sling shot, Scout skills, and trebuchet/catapult operation.

Staff: Zora Sharief, from Patriot District, is the Day Camp Director, who can be reached at zohra.sharief@muslimscouting.org or by cell at (202) 944-0114. She has been attending NCAC planning meetings for this event since December 2020. We are asking Old Dominion District to provide either the Deputy Camp Director or the Program Director. Each district is being asked to provide 12 adult volunteers and 12 youth Scout BSA volunteers age 14 or older. The Point of Conduct for Old Dominion District is their Vice Chair for Program, Adair Petty. He can be reached at ppetty1@cox.net or by cell phone at (703) 913-1124.

Budget: Patriot District already has submitted a budget that has been approved by NCAC. NCAC has signed the use permit for Occoquan Regional Park and paid the deposit. Following NCAC guidelines, the budget will produce a significant surplus. Credit for the surplus will be split proportionally between the two districts based on the number of Scouts that attend from each district.

Registration and Payment: Day Camp registration and payment will be by computer using the NCAC system. Registration is open to all Packs/Cub Scouts from Patriot and Old Dominion Districts. Any Scout or pack from another district must get permission from Zora Sharief, the camp director, before they can register.

Covid-19 Plan: The Day Camp Staff will prepare a Covid-19 safety plan that incorporates NCAC, Occoquan Regional Park and Virginia requirements. Covid-19 requirements are quite stringent at this time but we expect them to be relaxed by July as the infection rate decreases due to vaccination of much of the population. Also, schools are beginning in-person classes and recess at the elementary school level and we can learn new safety techniques from their experience.

Planning: The first Day Camp planning meeting will take early in March. Zora Sharief and Adair Petty will finalize the date. The Vice Chair for Program at Patriot District is John Merchant, and he can be reached at merchantj@verizon.net or by phone at (703) 256-3650.

Prepared by William Dexter,
Committee Chairman, Patriot District
wtdexterjr@gmail.com or (703) 978-2632.



Top 10 Merit Badges Earned in 2020

Scouts BSA has just published the top ten merit badges that Scouts earned in 2020. As you might guess they are all Eagle-rank required. They represent life skills that prepare for life.

RANK	MERIT BADGE	2019 RANK
1	Family Life	10
2	Citizenship in the Nation	8
3	Citizenship in the World	4
4	Citizenship in the Community	11
5	Project Management	7
6	Personal Fitness	5
7	Communication	9
8	Cooking	6
9	First Aid	1
10	Camping	3

I always ask Scouts what merit badge they would add to the list and why. Next month I will give you their most common answer. Right now, though, what would your choice be?

By the way, the new Eagle Scout Service Project workbook was updated, and bugs fixed and posted to the web on February 1, 2021. Check it out at [Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook | Boy Scouts of America \(scouting.org\)](#).

Tom Tyra
Advancement Chair



BSA has discontinued publishing the annual Scouts BSA Requirements Book. The information previously in the book can be found at the BSA website Scouting.org in the Scouting Programs, Scouting Resources, and Awards sections.

Patriot District Training Updates

I hope everyone has had a good February and looking forward to the Spring and getting back to Scouting in the great outdoors. On that note, we will be working to conduct both BALOO and IOLS training sessions over the next few months. Right now, we are tentatively looking at early April for BALOO and late May or early June for IOLS. Please keep an eye on the District Basecamp for announcements regarding dates and registration information.

I was very proud to see that the Patriot District had the third highest registration rate for the University of Scouting, which was held on February 27th. Even though it wasn't the traditional event, with everyone gathering in one location, I hope those who attended learned new things for future use in their Scouting activities. As always, if you have not completed your training requirements, you can complete them via Scouting University online.

Finally, I want to call attention to a couple of upcoming training opportunities that are both exciting and useful for programming at the Troop and District level. This first is an opportunity to become a Level I Climbing Instructor, described below. The second is the opportunity to become a USA archery Level 1 or Level 2 instructor, described in the flyer on the following page.

I appreciate everyone's understanding and we will be working hard to provide as many training opportunities as we can over the coming year.

*Justin Day
Training Chair*

Rock Climbing Instruction Training

Learn how to help Scouts climb on nearby natural rock. The NCAC Climbing Committee will offer April 2021 Climbing Level I Instructor training on Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18 at the Devil's Kitchen climbing area on Maryland's [Sugarloaf Mountain](#). We will meet each day at 8:15AM near the East View Parking Area and conclude by 4:30 PM. Details are available in our [logistics memo](#).

- **Dates:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 and Sunday, April 18, 2021
- **Training Fee:** \$40.
- **Accommodations and Food:** No camping is allowed on Sugarloaf Mountain. No meals will be provided.
- **Location:** Sugarloaf Mountain, Devil's Kitchen climbing area. Devil's Kitchen is a line of cliffs parallel to and a short walk north from the road between Sugarloaf Mountain's [East View Parking Area](#) and [West View Parking Area](#). We will meet at the [parking spaces](#) directly opposite the "Rock Climbing at Your Own Risk" sign just west of the East View Parking Area. Approximate meeting spot GPS coordinates are [39.26021, -77.39142](#).
- **Course Duration:** 26.5 hours of online, in-class and hands-on instruction.

Registration: Contact the Course Director at ncac.climbing@gmail.com to register for the event. Prior to field training and assessment all participants must deliver current health and consent forms and new trainees must submit the fee.

We hope to see you there! Yours in Scouting,

*Bruce Weir
NCAC Climbing Committee Chair*



USA ARCHERY LEVEL 1 & 2 INSTRUCTOR TRAINING SATURDAY & SUNDAY, APRIL 17 & 18, 2021 WALKERSVILLE WATERSHED, FREDERICK, MD

The Level 1 archery instructor course is for adults and youth 16 years of age or older*. It is a one-day (Saturday 4/17 only) course covering how to shoot archery and how to run a range safely. This course requires that you demonstrate how to do a new archer safety briefing and pass a written exam in order to obtain the certification. The level 1 course content includes range safety, range setup, basic equipment setup and repair, and how to teach the basic steps of shooting. Those who successfully complete the Level 1 course will be able to:

- Run a BSA archery range;
- Run a Cub Scout archery range at the District or Council level;
- Teach the BSA Cub Scout Archery Range Officer course, certifying other adult Scouters to run a Cub Scout archery range. i.e., Day Camp, at the District or Council level; and
- Counsel archery merit badge for Boy Scouts.

The Level 2 archery instructor course is a full two-day (4/17 & 4/18) course designed for adults 18 years of age or older who work with a more established archery program such as J.O.A.D., A.S.A.P., college clubs and local clubs with a strong beginner component. The Level 2 course students **MUST** attend both days as they will help instruct the Level 1. Upon completion, the Level 2 instructors can teach and certify Level 1 archers. The Level 2 course content includes basic shooting steps, introduce intermediate shooting steps, safety, range setup, equipment setup and repair, fitting equipment to an archer, how to teach archery and how to teach a Level 1 instructor course. **YOU DO NOT ALREADY HAVE TO HAVE COMPLETED THE LEVEL 1 TO REGISTER FOR THE LEVEL 2.** To be certified as a USA Level 2 archery instructor, you **must** have:

- USA Archery or NFAA membership (you must bring your membership card with you to the course);
- Successful background screen (can be completed later); and
- Completion of all segments of the USA Archery SafeSport Program (can be completed later).

Courses will start promptly at 8 a.m. and will last 8-hours. The cost of the **Level 1 course is \$80.00**, and the **Level 2 course is \$160.00** payable by mail. Your course fee includes all course materials and equipment. Orange juice, coffee, and donuts will be provided. You are welcome to bring your own archery equipment for use during the class. For those who do not own their own archery equipment, it will be provided.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THESE COURSES IS APRIL 1. SIGN UP EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED AND THERE IS NO GUARANTEE YOU WILL GET INTO THE CLASS EVEN IF YOU SUBMIT A REGISTRATION BY THE DEADLINE. Once registered, you will receive an email confirmation with directions to the range, instructions on where to meet and what to bring. This course is weather permitting so dress accordingly. In case of inclement weather, you will be notified 24 hours ahead of time of any cancellation. For questions, please contact Mike Parrish at mparrish19@yahoo.com. **YOU MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED!!!!**

* USA Archery permits 16-year-old level 1 instructors but BSA requires archery range instructors be at least 18 years of age.

Name _____ Age _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Street address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

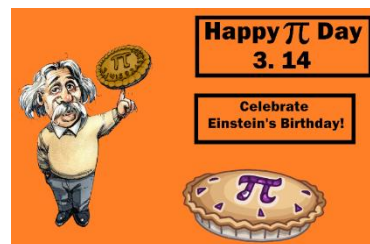
Send registration and Level 1 or Level 2 fee to: **Mike Parrish, 10093 Heron Court, New Market, MD 21774**

STEM CORNER

Upcoming Events

March 14: It's Pi Day!

- This date is known as Pi day because the numerical date 3/14 corresponds to the mathematical constant $\pi = 3.14$
- The date also marks the anniversary of Albert Einstein



March 18: 7:00 PM EST

- BSA is hosting a special edition NCAC STEM Speaker Series with Astronaut **Charlie Duke!** In this event, Astronaut Duke will talk to participating Scouts about his career and follow with a Q&A session with STEM Scouts. The event will be broadcast as a Facebook Live event from National BSA channels.
- Youth are invited to ask questions.
- **Use this link to learn more and to submit questions:**
www.ncacbsa.org/stem-speaker-series



March 30: 7:00 PM EST

- This is the "What is STEM Scouts?" info session. It is appropriate for existing STEM Scouts or Scouts BSA as well as for families who are NOT in traditional Scouting already.
- The program is for girls and boys in grades 3-8, and while STEM Scouts can be "co-registered Cub Scouts or Scouts BSA," they don't have to be.
- Please invite everyone!
- **Facebook event:** please hit attend and share
<https://www.facebook.com/events/244286883891168>



Direct Zoom registration:

https://ncacbsa-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlrdyuspjIsHNTIFI1E2I4I4V3vyx-zH2pU?fbclid=IwAR33N9jiO0TDI8GrYze5dswH2JscPMWBzbQ-1SmS0hEZ6xR_pk-T0KJYdME

Sokhom Kith
STEM Coordinator

Support Scouting and Our Community

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

If you'll recall, we have partnered with Spartans Family Restaurant in Burke several times. 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 on March 8th and 9th. 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 20). Please print a copy and take it with you to Spartans when you go to pick up your carryout order.

Starting later in March, our hope is to have more 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. Some of you have already nominated new restaurants, and we are waiting on answers back from the owners. THANK YOU.

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 encourage everyone to participate in this win-win project!!



March 20



New Fundraising Opportunity: Raisy Q&A

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 will start March 1, 2021, and 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





Michael's Woodshop News Spring 2021 Upcoming Events



Woodwork Merit Badge Sessions (monthly): Michael's Woodshop offers "Classroom Sessions" focused on shop safety, first aid and other non-tool requirements and "Shop Time Sessions" for Scouts to work on their project requirements in the shop. Sign up soon - our sessions fill up quickly!



Woodworking 101 (monthly): Open to Scouts and adults, this class teaches basic woodworking terminology, tools and techniques and walks students through the process from rough sawn lumber to a completed project.

Schedule Your Own Event: Michael's Woodshop may be reserved by Scouts or units for a wide range of activities. Our experienced Shop Stewards are available to help you plan and carry out a successful event.



NEW Baloo the Builder Workshop: Build one fun project! Build one useful project! Developed specifically for Bear Dens this workshop is designed to complete all of the requirements for the Baloo the Builder Adventure. For more details: [Baloo the Builder Workshop Description](#).



Paddlemaking Class, March 13-14: Hosted by the Aquatics Committee, this is a great opportunity to learn the craft of paddlemaking from an expert! Class space is limited. [Learn More & Register...](#)

Scouts BSA Specialty Week, July 18-24: Woodwork Merit Badge is just one of many merit badge opportunities being offered during Camp Snyder's first ever Scouts BSA summer camp program. [Learn More & Register...](#)



[Click here to view our
Upcoming Events and Shop Calendar](#)



[Click here to view our
Covid-19 Safety Guidelines](#)

Recent Activities in Michael's Woodshop



We are wrapping up our third annual **Pinewood Derby Days**. While safety protocols limited attendance, it did not limit the fun! We still hosted a number of Pack, Den and open registration sessions. It was another successful season with 199 cars built!



Michael's Workshop just hosted its 8th **Eagle Scout Project** – and the 9th is already scheduled!!! With a great range of tools and work space, Michael's Woodshop is an ideal place for Eagle Scout Projects. Our volunteers gladly support Scouts in planning and carrying out their projects.



Watch Michael's Woodshop Come to Life! The efforts of volunteers in building Michael's Woodshop have been captured in some very nice slideshows. [Read More & View Slides](#)

To learn more about upcoming events, planning an event or reserving the wood shop, please visit the [Michael's Woodshop web page](#) or email us at MichaelsWoodshop.CWBS@gmail.com



March Webinar Series: NCAC Summer Camp 2021

Join the staff of the different NCAC Summer Camps & Programs for informational webinars and get all your summer camp questions answered! There will be representation from Goshen Scout Reservation, Camp Snyder, District Day & Twilight Camps, Camp Catoctin BSA, and the High Adventure Committee. Let's get camping in Summer 2021!

March 4: Camping & COVID

Camp is going to look a little different this year. Learn what Goshen and Snyder are doing to keep camp both safe and fun this summer.

March 11: Scouts BSA Camping Options

Get information about programs for both Troops and individuals at Goshen's Camps Bowman, Marriott, and Olmsted; Goshen's Provisional Camp program; Snyder's new Specialty Week; and Camp Catoctin BSA.

March 18: Cub Scouts Go to Camp Get all the details on day camps and overnight camps at Camp Snyder, Camp PMI, Camp Ross, and District Day & Twilight Camps.

March 25: High Adventure at Summer Camp Looking for adventure? Check out Goshen's Lenhok'sin High Adventure or one of the High Adventure Committee's trips to a National High Adventure Base.

Webinars will begin at 6 PM EST.

Register in advance at: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

**Lets FUNdraise &
Show our SPARTITUDE for a
Fundraiser Supporting
Patriot District Scouts**



**Monday, March 8, 2021 and
Tuesday, March 9, 2021**

Bring in this flyer, show us on your 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

**GIFT CARDS CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED ONLINE!
Enter CODE: SCOUTS to receive credit!**

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

www.ilovespartans.com #spartitude



**PATRIOT DISTRICT
NO CONTACT FOOD DRIVE
MARCH 20, Noon - 4:00 PM**

Patriot District BSA Scouts will be holding a No Contact Food Drive on SATURDAY, March 20th to help stock ECHO pantries, which are struggling to meet the needs of our residents living in Burke, West Springfield, Springfield, Fairfax Station, and Fairfax City who were affected by the pandemic.

Details are provided in the message
From the District Chairman on page 2.

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

Sarah McKee	District Executive	SarahMckee@scouting.org
Work: (301) 214-9128; Cell: (402) 680-7055		
Bill Dexter	District Committee Chair	wtdexterjr@gmail.com
Dave Astle	District Commissioner	dave.sonia@verizon.net
John Merchant	Vice Chair, Program	merchantj@verizon.net
John Stewart	Vice Chair, Membership	john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com
Kelly O'Malley	Vice Chair, Development	klomalley@cox.net
Rich Harrington	Vice Chair, Communications	rich@thinktap.com
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

