



# The Patriot Press



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## From the District Chairman

My message this month is focused on the annual Friends of Scouting (FOS) fundraising campaign. For those families who can contribute – we ask for your help. The Covid-19 pandemic has affected our Scout families in different ways. This FOS appeal is directed only to those families fortunate enough to still be receiving sufficient income to support the campaign. **Families suffering financial difficulties should ignore this appeal and focus on meeting their families' immediate needs.** Scouting will survive the pandemic and continue as an organization committed to supporting our children well into the future.

NCAC survived 2020 financially by reducing expenses and expanding fundraising efforts. Unfortunately, our funding challenges continue in 2021. On the positive side, NCAC will receive another Federal Paycheck Protection Program loan/grant for \$825,000 to help support payroll costs, and an additional \$624,000 from the Council Endowment Fund to support selected other expenses. But in addition, NCAC is depending on the 2021 FOS campaign to raise \$1,245,500 across all districts to help meet this year's budget.

In a special FOS presentation to unit leaders last month, Bill Snowden, editor of the *Patriot Press* and a member of the District Finance Committee, noted that since the pandemic started NCAC's reliance on FOS resources increased from 15% of its total income in 2019 to approximately 23% in 2021. All (100%) FOS contributions stay in our area to support the Council operating budget, to include operations at the Marriott Scout Service Center in Bethesda, and operation and maintenance of NCAC's two major camps at Goshen and Snyder. FOS contributions provide critical cash flow funds for Council. They are typically spent within two to three months after they are collected. None of the FOS funds are involved in the National BSA bankruptcy proceeding, and since FOS resources are spent quickly, none would be left to supplement any final bankruptcy settlement fund.

NCAC has requested that Patriot District raise \$76,000 through its 2021 FOS campaign. The bottom line: we need each family that can afford to do so to donate to this worthy cause to help ensure that we can fully fund NCAC activities throughout this year. I ask units that have already had their FOS presentation to have their campaign coordinator contact families that can contribute and ask them again to make a donation. Units that have not yet had their presentation are asked to contact Sarah McKee, our professional District Executive, at [Sarah.McKee@scouting.org](mailto:Sarah.McKee@scouting.org) or by phone at (402) 680-7055, to schedule one. Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, and Unit Committee Chairs, please make this a priority item for your units and support this important fundraising activity.

Donating to NCAC is now easy to do online. On the front page of the NCAC web page is a red button that says Donate. Just click on the button and follow the instructions. Remember to enter your unit number and Patriot District under district so that our District gets credit for your donation. Another way to reach the site is just to click on this link: [www.ncacbsa.org/friends-of-scouting/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/friends-of-scouting/). If you have any questions regarding your donation, please contact our District Executive, Sarah McKee. Also contact her if you would like to donate by an alternative means, such as by contributing appreciated stock, or by using a required minimum distributions from a retirement account.

In summary, thank you for reading this message. Please donate if you can. Even if you have not contributed to the Friends of Scouting campaign in the past, please consider giving at least \$20 to help us reach our goal. Every donation will make a difference. Thank you in advance for your help.

*Bill Dexter*  
*Patriot District Committee Chair*



## From the District Commissioner

As everyone knows, Dave Astle has stepped down as our District Commissioner. Dave's years of outstanding service to Scouting in the Patriot District and National Capital Area Council will be greatly missed as he (literally) sails off to new retirement adventures later this year. Dave was recognized as the outstanding Commissioner in the National Capital Area Council when he was presented with the annual Mack Award at the recent College of Commissioner Science. He leaves very large shoes to fill, but he also leaves us with one of the strongest Districts in the NCAC and a Commissioner corps that is second to none.

I took over for Dave as the Patriot District Commissioner on April 1. In recent months I made brief presentations at the [Cub and Scouts BSA Roundtables](#) about how the Commissioner corps is the liaison between Scout units and the Scouting hierarchy. Our Unit, Roundtable, and Administrative Commissioners are mentors, troubleshooters and resources for our most important volunteers – the Pack, Troop, Crew, and STEM Lab leaders who directly deliver the promise of Scouting to our youth. Commissioners conduct monthly Roundtable programs for unit leaders, encourage unit success, quality and continuity through the Journey to Excellence and rechartering processes, and generally help fulfill BSA's mission. Our objective as Commissioners is to help *every* member of the BSA to have a great Scouting experience! Like all Scouting volunteers, we believe that what we do has an impact beyond just the next den meeting or campout. As Larry Chase, one of BSA's National Commissioner Service Team leaders recently explained, "we work with the kids of today so the adults of tomorrow can have a better life."

We have some challenges ahead of us in Scouting. We must continue to be both resilient and resourceful in coming months and years. We will be restarting quality in-person Scouting programs in our units as the pandemic subsides, while still keeping all participants safe. We also need to ensure that Scouting in our community remains strong, and that we do everything we can to make the benefits of our programs available to every boy and girl who might want to experience what it means to be a Scout. At the District level we will do everything we can to help you as unit leaders meet these challenges, so that Scouting can emerge even stronger than before.

I was asked to "introduce myself" to our Scout leaders who don't already know me. I'm reluctant to use much ink (or pixels) talking about myself, because serving your needs is really what's important. But here goes: I was a Cub Scout and a Boy Scout. For the last 24 years I've held most unit-level volunteer jobs in Scouting, from running a Tiger Den, to Cubmaster, to Scoutmaster, to Associate Venture Crew Advisor. I've also been a member of the District Committee since 2003 and the Commissioner corps since 2006. I'm a member of the NCAC Shooting Sports Committee, and I volunteer in youth programs at the Izaak Walton League in Centreville. My wife Joyce and I are the parents of two grown sons and live in Burke Centre. Like you, I know first-hand just how hard it can be to get psyched up to run a high-energy Den or Pack meeting after a long day of work, and what a great feeling it is when you realize the Cubs are having a blast! I know the satisfaction of finishing an Eagle Scoutmaster Conference for someone you've watched grow from a timid fifth grader into a fine young adult and future leader in our society. Oh yeah, I also have a day job – I'm a former Justice Department prosecutor and now oversee aspects of litigation for a bureau of the Treasury Department.

I look forward to working with all of you in coming months and years. If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to talk about how to deliver the promise of Scouting, please feel free to reach out to me.

*Ken Gaul*  
*District Commissioner*



## From Our District Executive

The National Capital Area Council (NCAC) annual fundraising campaign, Friends of Scouting, is well underway. Your support makes a difference. The Friends of Scouting campaign is vital in helping to provide the necessary funds so critical to ensuring a quality Scouting program for every participating youth in our area. The Patriot District has a goal of raising \$76,000 for 2021. Thanks to the generous support of our Packs, Troops, families, volunteers, and local businesses, our District has raised \$26,000 in the first 3 months of this year's campaign! This is a great start! Let's maintain the momentum!

Your donation provides:

- Camp scholarships, uniforms, and registration fees for youths who otherwise could not participate.
- Upkeep and maintenance of camps and facilities that are available for year-round camping.
- Leadership training for young people who will become our future community leaders.
- Adult training opportunities and development of training literature.

To make a donation and help us meet our goal, please visit this website:

<https://www.ncacbsa.org/friends-of-scouting/>

In completing the pledge/pay form, be sure to enter Patriot District and your unit number on the left side to ensure that our District is credited with your donation.

Yours in Scouting,

**Sarah McKee** | Patriot District Executive  
C 402-680-7055 | O 301-214-9128  
[Sarah.McKee@scouting.org](mailto:Sarah.McKee@scouting.org) | [www.NCACBSA.org](http://www.NCACBSA.org)

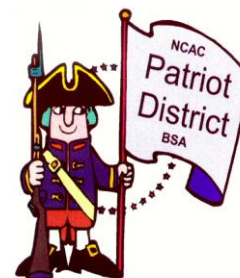


**Patriot District Events**

Web Calendar: [www.ncacbsa.org/patriot](http://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot)

**April 2021**

- 4 Easter Sunday
- 8 [Roundtable \(remote\)](#)
- 9-10 [BALOO Training, Camp Snyder](#)
- 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
- 16 CPR Training, Camp Snyder
- 17 STEM@Home (remote)
- 17-18 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED, Session 4 (Camp Snyder)
- 23-25 Camp Snyder Family Camping
- 24-25 Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED, Session 4B (Camp Snyder)
- 27 PD Committee Meeting (remote)
- 30-May 1 OA Ordeal (virtual/remote)
- 30-May 2 Wood Badge, Spring Course, 1st session



**May 2021**

- 1 16<sup>th</sup> Annual NCAC Scout Orienteering Meet
- 1 YMHFA Training (remote)
- 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 Life-to-Eagle Seminar (remote)
- 21-23 Camp Snyder Family Camping
- 25 PD Committee Meeting (remote)
- 31 Patriot Press Deadline – June Issue
- 31 Memorial Day

**June 2021**

- 5-6 Wood Badge, Spring Course, 2<sup>nd</sup> session
- 8 Commissioner Meeting (remote)
- 10 [Roundtable \(remote\)](#)
- 13 Patriot District OA Chapter Meeting
- 18 (remote) 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)

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, April 8, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom:** [Sign up here](#)

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

**Topics:** **Campfire Planning, Camping, Spring Recruitment**

**Word of the month:** Thrifty

*Cory Okouchi, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner*

[cweskrige@gmail.com](mailto:cweskrige@gmail.com)



**Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable**

**Not just for Scoutmasters**

**Thursday, April 8, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting:** [Sign up here](#)

**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:** **Preventing Leader Burnout  
Adult Training**

**To Do List, Covid Corner and Updates**

*Joe Margraf, Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner*

(703) 314-1622, [joedenisemargraf@aol.com](mailto:joedenisemargraf@aol.com)

*Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioner: Rick Priest*



## **Scouter Interview: Sarah McKee, Patriot District Executive**

**By Patrick Ring**

After joining Scouts, it may take a while to figure out what a District Executive is and to actually identify the individual. A District Executive is a professional Scouter hired by the area Council to support the units in a particular District. I recently interviewed Sarah McKee, the current National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Patriot District Executive, who provided many details regarding the District Executive position.

**Patrick Ring (PR):** What are the roles and responsibilities of a District Executive?

**Sarah McKee (SM):** I am the one paid Scouting professional dedicated to serving the Patriot District, supporting 1,600 Scouts and 500 volunteers in Fairfax County, Fairfax City, and Burke. I work with a volunteer board of directors (the Patriot District Committee and Commissioners) to help ensure successful program development, volunteer recruitment and training, fundraising, and membership recruitment.

**PR:** How did you become interested in being a District Executive?

**SM:** I thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail in 2019. Throughout my hike I frequently met and hiked with Boy Scouts, and many other thru-hikers were Eagle Scouts. When two bears wreaked havoc on a campsite I was at in the Smokies, it was two Eagle Scouts who stayed calmed, formed a plan of how to keep not only the other thru-hikers there safe, but also a group of 20 young adults who did not know how to properly react to bears in camp. On many hiking nights sitting around the campfire, Scouts were teaching hikers how to build different types of fires or demonstrating a proper bear-bag hang. I had not been involved in Boy Scouts prior to my hike, but the more I learned about the program and saw the skills that adult Scouts had, I wanted to be part of Scouting and decided to pursue Boy Scouts of America as a career.



**PR:** Now that you have been in the position for more than a year, how has your outlook changed?

**SM:** I see the value of Scouting even more. I am constantly impressed by Scouts' initiative, leadership qualities, and ability to positively interact with their peers and adults. Through Scouting programs and activities, I see youth develop self-confidence and high self-esteem, a commitment to helping others, and an appreciation for the outdoors and dedication to caring for the wilderness. One of my favorite facts is that 11 of the 12 astronauts who have walked on the moon have been Scouts.

**PR:** What are some Scouting program challenges facing the Patriot District?

**SM:** We are working on building our volunteer base this year. There are many openings within our committee, and we are also looking to add a few more committee member positions under the vice chairs. Updating programming during COVID, while still reflecting the Scouting mission, has been a challenge. So much of the program is designed around interpersonal interactions and those feel very different through a screen. The District is working hard to return programming, including Day Camp, Fall Camporee, and a Cub Scout Day. These activities will look different for a while going forward, and many will be adapted to reflect a hybrid meeting of in person and remote.

**PR:** Do you have anything else you would like to share with the Patriot District Scouters.

**SM:** The District is always looking for new volunteers. One of BSA's favorite sayings is volunteering takes "just one hour a week." Please reach out to me to get involved and I will work with you to find the right fit for your interests, one that matches the amount of time you have to give. My email is [sarah.mckee@scouting.org](mailto:sarah.mckee@scouting.org). Thanks, Pat for the great questions!

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



### 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](mailto: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





## Astronaut Kjell Lindgren Joins Pack 1864 Blue & Gold Ceremony



On March 1, Eagle Scout, NASA astronaut, and Artemis Program member Kjell Lindgren surprised Pack 1864 Scouts and families by appearing as Guest Speaker for their annual Blue & Gold Ceremony. Dr. Lindgren shared his experiences as an astronaut and tied his many successes in life back to the values he learned early on in Scouting. Before taking some very insightful questions from the Scouts, Kjell went on to lay out his Top 10 Ways Scouts are Just Like Astronauts.



### Kjell Lindgren's Top 10 Ways Scouts are Just Like Astronauts

#1: Scouts and Astronauts are always learning. There is ALWAYS more to learn in Scouting just as there is always more to learn about space.

#2: Love to explore. Scouts and Astronauts both love to explore. Scouts love to explore the outdoors while Astronauts love to explore space.

#3: Both Scouts and Astronauts sleep in a sleeping bag.

#4: Scouts and Astronauts both eat dehydrated food. Both appreciate light weight nutritious food that has a long shelf life.

#5: Both spend time away from home... and love to come home.

#6: No running water. Scouts and Astronauts have to get by without running water. Scouts when they are camping and Astronauts when in space.

#7: Hygiene. Scouts and Astronauts are clean. Even without running water, Scouts and Astronauts stay clean.

#8: Both Scouts and Astronauts have the opportunity to see beautiful views. Astronauts get to see the entire Earth out their window while Scouts get to see beautiful natural vistas and forests. Both may get lucky and see the Arora Borealis (Northern Lights).

#9: Both get to be part of something bigger than themselves. Scouting is an international movement for good around the globe. Just as the space program is an international effort to explore our universe.

#10: Fun! Both Scouts and Astronauts get to do stuff that's FUN!

Dr. Lindgren is the most recent of three Scouts to come out of Fairfax County Public Schools and go on to become a successful astronaut. Kjell earned his **Eagle rank** at the age of 15 from Troop 404 in Burke and graduated at the top of his class from **Robinson Secondary School** before attending the **U.S. Air Force Academy**. After completing deployments to the Middle East to serve his nation and advancing his education by earning multiple masters' degrees and a Doctorate of Medicine, he was selected to **NASA Astronaut Group 20** in 2009. And, in July 2015 he launched into outer space to the **International Space Station** aboard a Russian Soyuz rocket. Kjell has logged 141 days in space and 15+ hours of spacewalk time. More recently, Kjell was selected to the **Artemis Program**, a select group of astronauts charged with returning humanity to the Moon in 2024 and to learn how to live on other worlds for the benefit of all. And in February he was assigned the pilot position for the **SpaceX Crew-4 mission**. This will be the fourth Crew Dragon spacecraft mission to the International Space Station. The long-duration-stay mission is expected to launch in 2022 on a Falcon 9 rocket from Kennedy Space Center.



## Patriot District Program News

### Hit a Bulls Eye! - Snyder Spring Camping 2021

Family Camping with many program options is again being offered at Camp Snyder on two weekends this spring, April 23 – 25, and May 21 – 23. Program offerings include BB's, Climbing Tower, Fishing, Geocaching, and others, including a Drone Pilot Class for older scouts. A full list of program options, COVID protocol instructions, and Registration is now open and can be found at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-45030>.

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### 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](mailto:patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com) and we'll be in touch.



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

Camperships are available from the Council to Scouts with a financial need. Each year the Endowment Committee releases a portion of the endowment money to help families in need send their kids to camp. 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/>

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## **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 14<sup>th</sup>.

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.

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## **District Pinewood Derby - Cancelled**

After exploring several options to run a District-level Pinewood Derby Championship, the District Committee came to the conclusion that we could not find a way to safely run the event without completely taking the fun and fellowship out of it. Also, we could not commit the money to buy trophies and medals when we had no assurance that State, local and Council restrictions would allow us to hold the event, or that venues would be willing to host it.



However, we encourage Packs to conduct races if they have not already done so, if they can do it safely, and if your Key 3 and Charter Organization will permit it. If you have held or will hold a Pack-level Pinewood Derby, and have photos or video clips of the event, please let us know. [Patriotdistrict.program@gmail.com](mailto:Patriotdistrict.program@gmail.com). We are considering putting a “Highlights Reel” together to share.

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## **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
  - News Stories
- Also, check out the following for lots of opportunities in the Council.  
<https://weownadventure.org>

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*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	<b>Early Bird Rates</b>
Resident Youth: \$440	Day Youth: \$255	Adults: \$185	<b>Paid by May 14</b>

**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](mailto:rt.ferry72@gmail.com) or Dave Seitz, [dbseitz@gmail.com](mailto:dbseitz@gmail.com)





## Order of the Arrow News Items

### Chapter Meeting Sunday Afternoon April 12 3:30 via ZOOM

We will be discussing and planning the upcoming Spring Ordeal.



### Unit Election Status

The Chapter is in the final push to schedule and complete unit elections. To schedule an election or a Chapter visit with your troop, please contact the Patriot Chapter leadership team: patriotchapter@wipit47

### Pay Your 2021 Dues

If you have not yet paid your 2021 dues, please do so. <https://wipit470.org/dues.html>. It's one of the best bargains in Scouting at \$14. If you pay after March 31, it goes up to \$16. Also, for each Scout who renews their membership 1 April, the Chapter receives an additional \$2 for its own use.

### 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 3 components:

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

### Mark your Calendars

**Spring Fellowship, April 9–11 (Remote).** Check the following link to register.  
<https://wipit470.org/spring-fellowship.html>

**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,” featuring beach volleyball, boat races, a Hawaiian shirt contest, and a Saturday night luau. Camp Henson, located on the Eastern Shore, is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a camp this year. Stay tuned for registration information and COVID updates.

*Kelsey St. Louis*  
*OA Adviser*





## Cub Scout Day Camp 2021 Concept Updated

**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:** Zohra Sharief, from Patriot District, is the Day Camp Director. She has been attending NCAC planning meetings for this event since December 2020. Steve Richardson, from Old Dominion District, is the Program Director. Each district is being asked to provide 12 adult volunteers and 12 youth Scout BSA volunteers age 14 or older to serve as staff for the event. Spread the word and reach out at [patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com](mailto:patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com) with your questions.

**Budget:** Patriot District has already 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:** Online registration and the payment information can be found at <https://www.ncacbsa.org/day-camp/>. 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 Zohra 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.

**Points of Contact: For Patriot District –** Zohra Sharief, Day Camp Director, can be reached at [patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com](mailto:patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com) or by cell at 202-944-0114. John Merchant, Patriot District Vice Chair for Program, can be reached at [merchantj@verizon.net](mailto:merchantj@verizon.net) or by phone at 703-256-3650. **For Old Dominion District –** Steve Richardson, Day Camp Program Director, can be reached at [ristph@aol.com](mailto:ristph@aol.com) or by cell at 703-913-0638. Adair Petty, Old Dominion District Vice Chair for Program, can be reached at [ppetty1@cox.net](mailto:ppetty1@cox.net) or by cell phone at 703- 913-1124.

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



## Largest Increases in Merit Badges Earned in 2020

Something new for us regarding merit badges. Scouts BSA has just published the top ten merit badges with the largest increases in the number of Scouts earning them in 2020 compared to 2019. As you might have expected, they are all Covid-19 safety friendly. And it's not surprising that the Public Health merit badge is at the top of the list.

MERIT BADGE	2019	2020	INCREASE
Public Health	2,507	11,510	359%
American Business	1,468	4,987	238%
Safety	3,208	6,305	97%
Gardening	1,440	2,782	93%
Pets	5,310	8,333	62%
Collections	4,060	6,429	58%
Genealogy	4,096	6,020	47%
American Labor	1,298	1,892	46%
Stamp Collecting	918	1,278	39%
Scholarship	5,442	7,287	34%

Last month I mentioned asking Scouts what merit badge they would add to the list of required merit badges to earn Eagle Scout. The most common answer is Wilderness Survival. Their reasoning centers on learning outdoor improvising skills (building shelter, starting a fire without matches, making water potable, etc.), spending a night outside, and the satisfaction from the unique experience. I think that learning that things may not go as planned and that you have the knowledge, skill, attitude to adapt is being "Prepared. For. Life." Next month I'll offer some other merit badges for life skills for you to consider.

By the way, the new Eagle Scout Service Project workbook has been updated. Check it out at [Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook | Boy Scouts of America \(scouting.org\)](https://www.scouting.org/eagle-scout-service-project-workbook/).

Also check out the upcoming Camp Snyder Scouts BSA Merit Badge Week 18-24 July 2021. Details are provided on page 12 of this issue of the Patriot Press.

Tom Tyra  
Advancement Chair



*"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."*

*~Thomas Jefferson (b. April 13. 1743)*

## Patriot District Food Drive for Echo

The No-Contact Food Drive conducted by the Patriot District on Saturday, March 20, resulted in collecting more than 1400 lbs. of food for the Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO) organization despite many unit activity conflicts. Participating units included Troops 1100, 1131, 1524, and 1865; and Packs 50, 1131, 1346, 1967, and 1968. Thank you for your great efforts. And thanks are extended as well to the following individuals who helped ECHO collect, transport, and sort the donated food items: Steve Richardson (Old Dominion District), Bill Dexter, John Merchant, Patriot District Executive Sarah McKee, Mark Blanchard, Denise Steene (Troop 1865), and Order of the Arrow Scouts Henry Steene, Evan Odell, and Cameron Adams.



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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**



## YMHFA Training is Back!!

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 ever happening in your, or another, unit ever again. The time to make that vow is **NOW** - before something happens!!



We are pleased to announce the next two dates that Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) training will be available virtually/remotely. 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 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 are again partnering with the Fairfax County Community Services Board (CSB) to offer a training course in Youth Mental Health First Aid to help prevent teen suicide. This 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.

We're excited to report that our next virtual/remote session will be held on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, from 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM. There will be a break for lunch. The next date after that will be Saturday, 26 June, also from 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM. Please note the following:

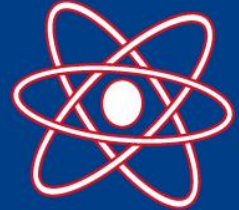
- Register with Mark Greer at [mfgreer@verizon.net](mailto:mfgreer@verizon.net) and include your mailing address and a good phone number.
- The cost is \$26. Once you register, you'll be told where to send the check.
- There is a mandatory 2-3 hours of prep reading that **MUST** be completed in advance 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](mailto: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/](http://WWW.NCACBSA.ORG/STEM-SPEAKER-SERIES/)



*Sokhom Kith  
STEM Coordinator*



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bsnowden419@gmail.com).

#### Key District Contacts

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Work: (301) 214-9128; Cell: (402) 680-7055		
<b>Bill Dexter</b>	<b>District Committee Chair</b>	<a href="mailto:wtdexterjr@gmail.com">wtdexterjr@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ken Gaul</b>	<b>District Commissioner</b>	<a href="mailto:kgaulbsa@gmail.com">kgaulbsa@gmail.com</a>
<b>John Merchant</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Program</b>	<a href="mailto:merchantj@verizon.net">merchantj@verizon.net</a>
<b>John Stewart</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Membership</b>	<a href="mailto:john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com">john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com</a>
<b>Kelly O'Malley</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Development</b>	<a href="mailto:klomalley@cox.net">klomalley@cox.net</a>
<b>Rich Harrington</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Communications</b>	<a href="mailto:rich@thinktap.com">rich@thinktap.com</a>
<b>Justin Day</b>	<b>Training Chair</b>	<a href="mailto:kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com">kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Tom Tyra</b>	<b>Advancement Chair</b>	<a href="mailto:thomas.tyra@gmail.com">thomas.tyra@gmail.com</a>
<b>Kelsey St. Louis</b>	<b>OA Adviser</b>	<a href="mailto:kpstlouis@gmail.com">kpstlouis@gmail.com</a>
<b>Bill Snowden</b>	<b>Editor, Patriot Press</b>	<a href="mailto:bsnowden419@gmail.com">bsnowden419@gmail.com</a>





## **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/](http://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/)
  - The Guide to Safe Scouting: [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss](http://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss)
  - The Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety: [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/sweet16](http://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

