



The Patriot Press



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From the District Chairman

We are finally into Spring – Winter is behind us, and Patriot District is on the go. After having an exciting Pinewood Derby and an amazing Trout-O-Ree, our Scouts are ready for summer camp. Regarding training, many Patriot adults attended the University of Scouting and Commissioner’s College via Zoom, and participated in BALOO in person. Now on to even more fun.

Cub Scout Day Camp: The biggest event of the year in the Patriot District is Cub Scout Day Camp, and now is the time to register; the Day Camp flyer on page 16 provides details. Day Camp will be held from Monday, July 11, through Friday, July 15, at Occoquan Regional Park. The theme is “Superheroes.” Major activities are the climbing wall, archery, sling shot, STEM experiments, arts and craft projects, and special activities. The camp has 140 slots and registration is open. If your Pack is planning to attend but not yet ready to register, please contact the Day Camp Director, Zohra Sharief at patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com or (202) 810-5843 to let her know of your intentions. Zohra also is recruiting adults and Scouts to staff the camp. Come out and help. The staff enjoys camp as much as the Cubs.

IOLS: Patriot District will conduct an Individual Outdoor Leader’s Course (IOLS) for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters on Saturday and Sunday, June 4-5, at Camp Snyder (see on page 14 for a registration link). It is important that every troop continue to make sure they have a cadre of trained leaders.

Friends of Scouting (FOS) Status: For 2022, Patriot District has a goal of \$66,000. This is the lowest goal that we have had in the last ten years. So far, we have raised \$25,000 and have another \$3,000 that are pledged. To date, 21 of our units have hosted a presentation from the District Staff and 24 units still need to schedule their presentation. Units that have not held a presentation need to have it before May 26th for it to be effective.

A team from Patriot District will come out a give the presentation. Which typically takes only about 10 minutes. At the presentation, we request families make a pledge or donation either electronically or using the pledge card. In the week following the presentation, the unit coordinator, needs to follow-up with families and report what additional pledges/donations have/will be made. We need every unit to schedule their presentation and conduct their event by the end of May. To schedule the presentation, contact our District Executive, Bobby Walker, at Bobby.Walker@Scouting.org or by phone at (434) 429-4112. Also, you may contact me by email at wtdexterjr@gmail.com or by phone at (703) 978-2632.

There are several ways to donate. You can mail in a check or give it to you unit FOS coordinator. Another way is to pay on-line using an electric check or credit card. Additionally, NCAC has the capability to accept donations from the United Way or the Federal Combined Campaign. Also, NCAC accepts donations of appreciated stock, and donations made from “required minimum distributions” or from a “Donor Advised Fund”. **No matter how you donate, please make sure to notate that you are part of Patriot District so that we get credit for your contribution.**

*Bill Dexter
Patriot District Committee Chair*



From the District Commissioner

Finally, we're going to be meeting in person for District Roundtable! Our **April Roundtable** will be at 7:30 PM on Thursday, April 14, at the [Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge](#), 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. We hope to be able to offer a simulcast on Zoom for those who cannot make it in person. [Register here for the Zoom simulcast](#). No need to register if you're coming in person. Our **May Roundtable** will be the annual Program Launch session, where our unit leaders can get lots of useful information to help plan 2022-2023 Scouting programs. All Packs, Troops and Crews should of course begin planning the upcoming Scouting year by June. We're hoping to be able to hold this year's Program Launch outdoors to minimize Covid concerns and maximize attendance. Every unit should have representatives at Program Launch. Stay tuned for an announcement about the location.

Cub leaders and parents: It's time to register for 2022 Cub Scout Day Camp. From July 11-15 we'll be back at Occoquan Regional Park, along with our partners from the Old Dominion District. [Registration is now open](#). Register soon to get the discounted early bird rate. This year's theme is Superheroes, and there are rumors that the Cubs will be meeting some of our community's own SUPER Heros, including first responders and others. Who knows, maybe that slightly confused, masked whatever-he-was who wandered into the District Pinewood Derby last month will stop by too!

On April 1-3 we had our first-ever spring "Trout-o-Ree" Camporee with the Prince William District at the base of the Shenandoah in Syria, VA. This event, which had been in the works for three years, was unique because it included fishing in two outstanding trout streams at the beginning of the season, several merit badge courses, and a lot of other fun activities. From my perch on the archery range, it looked like the roughly 400 Scouts in attendance were having a great time. While it was unfortunate that Fairfax County Public Schools changed spring break week after we had already locked in the reservations, the event was still such a success that we have already begun planning for a rematch with the trout in two years (and this time, hopefully *not* at the beginning of FCPS spring break).

We held our first-ever spring Scouts BSA recruiting event, "#AdventureON 2022" at Burke Lake Park on March 20. We had a great turnout of Webelos who visited a dozen of the best troops in the Patriot District. We welcome feedback from attendees on what we can do to make this an even better event the next time.

I want to thank everyone for their hard work and patience getting through a rechartering season that was made more difficult by the new and untested software BSA deployed. All units in the Patriot District were registered and posted before the deadline. Now we can all focus exclusively on what's most important: providing the best possible program for our Scouts.

Finally, as the weather gets warmer, let's get our Scouts at all levels outdoors as much as possible. Putting the "outing" in "Scouting" makes the best program!

Ken Gaul

Patriot District Commissioner

patriot-commissioner@ncacbsa.org



Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

April 2022

- 1-3 Spring Camporee (Trout-o-Ree)
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner Meeting
- 14 Roundtable
- 17 Easter Sunday
- 22-24 Family Camping (Camp Snyder)
- 26 PD Committee Meeting
- 29-May 1 OA Ordeal (Camp Snyder)
- 30 NCAC Climbing Level 1 Instructor Training



May 2022

- 8 Mother's Day
- 10 Commissioner Meeting
- 12 Roundtable
- 15 OA Chapter Meeting – Welcome New Members
- 20-22 Family Camping (Camp Snyder)
- 24 PD Committee Meeting
- 27-30 Goshen Family Camp
- 30 Memorial Day

June 2022

- 4-5 IOLS (Camp Snyder)
- 9 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Flag Day
- 14 Commissioner Meeting
- 19 Father's Day
- 21 First Day of Summer
- 28 PD Committee Meeting

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 14, 2022

Location: [Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge](#), 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax

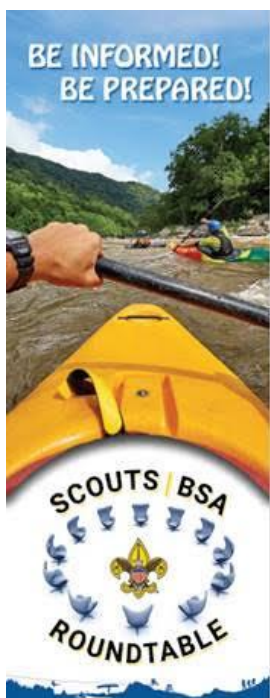
Social: 7:30 PM Midway: 7:45 PM Roundtable: 8:00 – 9:00 PM

Topics: [Scout Technology](#), [Scoutbook](#), [Aquatics Safety](#), [Service Projects](#)

Word of the month: Brave

Bring a treat to enjoy while we meet!

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



Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Location: [Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge](#), 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax

Social: 7:30 PM

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

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

Topics: [Leaders Feeling Overwhelmed – Preventing Leader Burnout](#)
[Adult Training](#)

Joe Margraf, Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner
(703) 314-1622, joedenisemargraf@aol.com
Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioner: Rick Priest



Scouter Interview: Becky Clark

Patrick Ring

Becky Clark is the Committee Chair of Troop 1965B and Troop 1965G. Becky started here Scouting adventures as a youth in Girl Scouts. She recognized the value of Scouting and encouraged both her children as they rose through the ranks of Scouts BSA and Girl Scouting (GSUSA), each earning the highest ranks their organizations had to offer. While her children were in Scouting, she strived to be actively involved with their journeys as a leader in both organizations, which she continues to this day.



Patrick Ring (PR): How and when did you first become involved in Scouting, and then later as Committee Chair of Troops 1965B and 1965G?

Becky Clark (BC): Like many parents, I joined the BSA organization when my son joined Cub Scouts in 2007. We lived in Hawaii and my husband (Eagle Scout) was deployed. That meant I needed to accompany him to his meetings. We moved to Kansas, then Oklahoma, and eventually my son crossed over to Boy Scouts and I enrolled as a Merit Badge Counselor. The first badge I taught was Geocaching, a badge I still enjoy teaching. Upon moving to Burke and joining Troop 1965B, eventually there came a need for a new Committee Chairman (CC). The current Scoutmaster asked my husband, an Assistant Scoutmaster in the Troop, if he thought I'd be willing to take the job. My husband answered: "You know that if you ask her, she's actually going to do it, right?" Because I was familiar with both of the BSA and GSUSA programs, learning the duties of CC was not that difficult. In 2017/18, BSA announced that girls would be joining the older Scouting programming formerly known as Boy Scouts. An ASM in our Troop, Erica Hosken, had two girls who were immediately interested in forming a Troop. When BSA announced the concept of "Linked Troops" with shared committees, I jumped right on board as the Committee Chairman.

PR: What do you think attracted the potential Scouts in Troop 1965G to join Scouts BSA?

BC: There many contributing factors that attracted Scouts to Troop 1965G when we were newly forming. Because we were going to be a "Linked Troop" taking advantage of the many trained, knowledgeable, and enthusiastic leaders in the B Troop, we were able to have a solid plan for the first year already in place and able to answer many questions about structure and stability to interested potential Scouts. The other factor was the Scouts who immediately were interested already knew leaders or Scouts in the B Troop. Those Scouts brought their friends, those friends brought their friends, and all of a sudden we had 23 Scouts on the inaugural date of 1 February 2019.

PR: What are some challenges you faced with helping to establish Troop 1965G?

BC: The biggest challenges we faced all dealt with keeping up with the ever-changing decisions put out by BSA. Because we already had trained leaders and Scouts, we were fast and furious in trying to make choices based on assumptions prior to actual guidelines released by BSA. In the end, everything came together. There are choices we wish we had made differently, but we made the best decisions based on current information.

PR: What is one challenge facing either Troop 1965B or Troop 1965G, and how can the Patriot District assist your Troops in addressing that challenge?

BC: One challenge we are facing in both Troops is recruiting enough adults to help make the wishes of the PLC and Scouts come true. While I have taken courses over the years in many different organizations

pertaining to attracting volunteers, the unique positions we need in Scouting are a challenging sell to parents. This is doubly compounded with the need for trained FEMALE leaders in the G Troop. While the B Troop can function with any gender leaders, the G Troop must have at least one female leader at every single event. While half of our ASMs are female, their Scouts are aging out over the course of the next few years. We need to focus on recruiting new leaders of all genders to make sure we stay the high functioning Troop we are today. I am open to hearing best practices from other Troops!

PR: What has been your Troops' experience with recruiting?

BC: Both Troops are small to medium in size and we like it that way. We have a small meeting space. If you put more than 40 Scouts in the room at once, it gets very loud! Because of our small size, we have found that the best way to recruit new members is through Pack Den Chiefs, siblings or friends already in our troop, or Scouts moving in to the area and learning about us word of mouth. We do participate in District recruiting events from time to time. We do participate in back to school events at our local elementary schools. But Scouts just seem to find us and we welcome everyone!

PR: Do you have any words of advice for a new Committee Chair?

BC: When taking over as a Committee Chair, make an assessment before implementing any changes. Inevitably there will be things you'd like to change because of your personality and past experiences. Learn to listen to the reasoning behind choices the Troop has made in the past. Past decisions and polices have merit. I'd also like to ask that the rest of the adult leadership be open to new ideas presented by a new Committee Chair. Change is not something we should steer away from. The entire goal of the adult leadership should be to make the dreams and wishes of the Scouts and the Patrol Leadership Council come true. With all adults focused on that goal, change and new ideas along with historical knowledge and practices are welcome in my Troops.

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

BC: There is not just one memorable experience I have as a Scouter. All my fond memories center around the joy Scouting brings to the Scouts. I have seen the joy on the faces of Scouts who light their first fire. I've seen Scouts cheer each other on as they accomplish simple tasks that they struggled to perform such as tying a knot or catching a fish (the hardest requirement of the Fishing Merit badge!!). Over the past eight years, I have seen 37 Scouts earn their Eagle rank and currently have three Life Scouts with completed projects and six Life Scouts in various stages of completing their projects. While that might not seem like a lot to other larger Troops, we average 35-40 Scouts in the B Troop and 25 scouts in the G Troop every year. To me, this is a huge feat for our Scouts. Seeing their faces when they are sweating while completing their Eagle projects on a hot day and the smiles and pride at their Eagle Courts of Honor is reward enough for me.

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

BC: We are all in this for the Scouts. That should be the focus. While they absolutely need to be in charge of their Scouting journey, I hope we can all agree that Scouters make the difference for those who succeed and reach their goals.

Patrick Ring is a Member at Large of the Patriot District Committee



Spring Trout-o-Ree: Another Great Scouting Event

After over three years of planning, Prince William District and Patriot District conducted a very successful Trout-O-Ree/Spring Camporee at Graves Mountain Farm and Lodges in Syria, Virginia, on April 1-3, 2022. This joint camporee was led by Prince William District. Scouts BSA units camped for the full weekend, while participating Webelos Scouts only visited on Saturday because they are not allowed to camp overnight at camporees with older Scouts.

More than 400 Scouts, Webelos Scouts, and adult Scouters participated in Trout-O-Ree fishing and other fun activities. Several thousand trout also were present at the event, but even enthusiastic Scouts couldn't catch all of them. Many trout swam safely past us in the Rose and Robertson Rivers, but a lot of the fish ended up on our hooks and later in our frying pans and stomachs.

The camporee program consisted of three main parts: conventional fishing and fly-fishing, a merit badge midway, and Adventure activities. The primary focus was on conventional fishing and fly fishing in the facility's streams and ponds. Scouts learned how to fish, including how to clean and cook a fish. The camporee also included a fishing derby, and Scouts also had an opportunity to earn Fishing and Fly-fishing merit badges.

The merit badge midway provided Scouts additional learning opportunities. The merit badges offered were Bird Study, Energy, Environmental Science, Mammal Study, Nature, Plant Science, Reptile and Amphibian Study, and Soil and Water Conservation. About 100 Scouts opted to take a merit badge, and on Saturday afternoon you could see them grouped around different picnic tables diligently working on their requirements. Many Scouts were able to complete all of the requirements for their selected merit badge, while other Scouts received partials and will complete the work later.

Patriot District was responsible for running the Adventure activities, archery, sling shot, the climbing wall, trebuchet firing, gaga ball, and pancake flipping. While these activities were scheduled to run all day, it was late morning before a high level of participation was reached as many Scouts fished early in the day before turning to other activities.

The pancake cooking station was open in the morning. Several Scouts who had burned their pancakes at breakfast came over to learn the secret of cooking a great pancake. In 15 minutes, they learned all the secrets, and cooked themselves a great pancake. Also, they got to eat the pancake, and it was free. Richard Russel and Howard Kaye from Troop 1965 ran the station. Howard Kay later served as the Jewish Chaplain for the camporee.

The archery range was phenomenal. Set up in a beautiful open field, it featured 12 shooting lanes. Because of its size it could accommodate all the Scouts who wanted to shoot. The range was run by Ken Gaul, Patriot District Commissioner, assisted by Alice Nelson from Prince William District and Jay Brannam of Patriot's Troop 1346.

Pat Ring, Kelly O'Malley and Jack Oliva organized the sling shot and trebuchet ranges. As always, the Scouts enjoyed shooting on both ranges. Scouting events are the only times they get to fire trebuchets and sling shots.

Fortunately, the winds calmed down and we were able to operate the climbing wall, effectively run by John Merchant and John Cavan. Tony Waisanen from NCAC COPE was on site and helped out all day. The Scouts enjoyed themselves and some climbed numerous times.

The gaga ball was noteworthy in that it demonstrated the value of Scout ethics and teamwork. A rudimentary gaga ball arena was constructed using four overturned banquet tables and, armed with a bag of balls, energized Scouts played gaga ball on their own for six hours. They made sure all Scouts got to play, they played without a referee, and they had a lot of fun. Finally, at 5:20 PM, twenty minutes after all the other stations shut down, we had to walk over and call “Sudden Death” to end the game. It still took another ten minutes to wind down the activity. Given a chance, I think the Scouts would have played through dinner until dark because they were having so much fun. Afterwards they moved the equipment to the truck and policed the game site.

Trout-O-Ree followed the usual traditions of Scout camporees. The Trout-O-Ree started on Friday evening with a Senior Patrol Leader/Scoutmaster/Staff Leadership meeting, followed by a great Cracker Barrel sponsored by the NCAC Endowment Committee, which was organized by John Merchant and Pat Ring. Saturday activities started with a morning flag ceremony, included an OA *Brotherhood Walk* later in the day, and ended with an evening campfire – a huge bonfire – with skits and songs followed by an *OA Call Out*. The NCAC Endowment Committee then sponsored another Cracker Barrel for all OA members, again set up by Pat Ring.

David Seitz, the Committee Chair for Troop 851, Prince William District, was the Camporee Director, with Jerry Kosa, Troop 851 Scoutmaster, serving as the camporee Program Director. Bill Dexter, responsible for Patriot District’s participation at the Trout-O-Ree, was the Camporee Co-Director.

*Bill Dexter
Patriot District Committee Chair*



Scouts and Scouters Having Fun at the Spring Trout-o-Ree

*Gary Black
Photography*



AdventureOn 2022 Recruiting Event

On Sunday afternoon, March 20th, a large group of Scouts, Scout leaders, Webelos Scouts and visitors attended the inaugural **Patriot District #AdventureOn 2022** at Burke Lake Park. This activity was a new spring event geared toward the recruiting of the next generation of Scouts for Patriot District Troops from our Cub Scout Packs. In addition, the District was reaching out to Burke and Fairfax girls and boys who have never participated in Scouting or who had left the program and but might be considering returning.

The event was an opportunity for our Troop's to introduce our Webelos Scouts and visitors to Scouting, tell them the story of Scouting, show them the FUN of Scouting, and give them all a sense of the adventure that awaits them in Scouts BSA!

The hard work, the weather, the outdoors, the backdrop – all came together. The energy and fun between the visiting Cubs and our District's Scouts, and the conversations between the leaders of different units and the visiting parents, was pretty amazing. What a terrific event for our Cubs and visitors at Burke Lake Park. The event was a huge success, with a great turnout of Scouts BSA Troops as well as Webelos Scouts and their parents and Den Leaders.

The Webelos Scouts learned about the major differences between the Cub Scouting and the Scouts BSA program while their parents were able to review the many Scouts BSA Troop displays and visit with Scouts BSA members and adult leaders. Overall, the event provided a great opportunity for Scouts BSA members to share why it is important to strongly consider continuing with or joining Scouting.

Our Troops put together some amazing displays, games, and cooking demos for all the visitors. The events included building a wilderness survival shelter, a propane camp stove demo, picture displays of Troop activities, a packed backpack with gear for a campout, knot teaching, two trebuchets, pancake flipping, Dutch oven cooking, tasty grilled cheese sandwiches and homemade cookies, setting up tents, desserts, hot apple cider, make your own first aid kits (to keep), and so many awesome games for the Webelos Scouts to play.

Thanks to all of our Troops for helping create this environment. Almost half of the Troops in the Patriot District came out to support this recruiting event: **Troops 50B, 1100B, 1131B, 1345G, 1345B, 1346B, 1347G, 1524B, 1532B, 1533G and 1965B**. Thanks also to Rich Harrington, Ken Gaul, Bobby Walker, Joe Margraf, Pat Ring, and Jill Brannam for helping put this event together, and to Gary Black for photography.



Scouts and Scouters at the Burke Lake Recruiting Event

Patriot District Program News

Family Camping Dates: Camp Snyder

- April 22 – 24
- May 20 – 22
- Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-BullsEyeFamily>

Program elements include shooting sports, archery, arts and crafts, climbing wall, and more.

Goshen Family Camp

- May 27 – 30 (Memorial Day Weekend)



COPE Game Days

Are you looking for ways to get your youth working as a team? Have they had leadership training, but when the time comes to get something done, no one steps up? Are they focused only when there's a clear task? When the task is done, do they chat or pull out their smartphones? You could use COPE.

The Council COPE committee is hosting monthly Games Days, once a month, from 9:00 AM to noon. The games on a Game Day will focus on a purpose for that day, such as problem solving, self-esteem, decision making, communication, planning, leadership, teambuilding, and trust. You'll see the game, play the game, then reflect on what happened, why it happened, and what you could do in the future. Then we'll play the game again (to cement what was learned) or play another game. The registration link is https://scoutingevent.com/082-Game_Days. Older youth are welcome.



May Program Launch

The May Roundtable will primarily consist of Program Launch for Program Year 2022-2023. We hope to hold it outdoors to minimize Covid concerns and maximize attendance. The various Patriot program committees are encouraged to develop a display for your program and be available to encourage others to not only participate in the many offerings, but to help develop and deliver them, and to answer questions. We would like to see displays about **Training, Camping, Aquatics, COPE/Climbing, Health and Safety, Shooting Sports, Religious awards programs, STEM programs, and our Council Camps – Goshen and Snyder.** Is there a program area you would like to see more of? Let us know.

Service Opportunity for Older Scouts and OA Members – Be a Superhero



The Theme for Patriot/Old Dominion Cub Scout Day Camp, July 11 – 13, at Occoquon Regional Park is Superheroes. Older Scouts and OA Members are welcome and encouraged to be a Superhero to the Cub Scouts this summer. Help with Scout skills areas, arts and crafts, sports, climbing wall, archery and slingshots, nature, and possibly a special event. Please let us know by sending a note stating your name, days you can help, and areas where in which you would like to help to patriot-program@ncacbsa.org.

Climbing Certification

Become a climbing mentor for your unit and give Scouts the adventure of climbing on nearby natural rock. The NCAC Climbing Committee will offer April 2022 Climbing Level 1 Instructor Training on Saturday, April 30th and Sunday, May 1st at the Devil's Kitchen climbing area on Maryland's Sugarloaf Mountain. Contact the Course Director at ncac.climbing@gmail.com for details and to register for the event.

Climbing Wall

Are you looking for a "hands-on" way to promote your programs? Consider using our 24' mobile climbing tower, the Scouterhorn. Unit leaders can become trained tower operators, then rent the Scouterhorn for unit and District events. Contact NCAC.COPE@gmail.com for details. Please put Scouterhorn in the subject line.

Camps at Goshen and Camp Snyder Still Have Opening for Counsellors.

Applicants must be at least 14 to apply for positions as Counselors in training(CIT), 15 for most paid counselors positions, 18 for positions as Commissioners and some Director positions and at least 21 for some Program Director positions, such as Aquatics and Shooting Sports. More information can be found at <https://www.gotogoshen.org/information/goshen-staff/> and <https://www.gotosnyder.org/work-volunteer/summer-camp-staff/>.

Near-Term Calendar

- April 10: OA Chapter Meeting
- April 29 – May 1: Order of the Arrow Ordeal, Camp Snyder
- May 12: Patriot District Roundtable – Program Launch
- May 15: Patriot OA Chapter Meeting Ice Cream Social – Welcome new members

*John Merchant
Vice Chair, Program*





OA NEWS ITEMS



Patriot Spring Ordeal April 29 – May 1 at Camp Snyder

Invitations have been sent out to the 53 Scouts elected as candidates to the OA and to 32 Scouts elected last year who have not yet been inducted by completing their Ordeal. All current, active OA members are encouraged to register and participate in one of the roles, such as Ceremonies, Cook Crew, Health and Safety, and Elangomat. Registration is open at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-57651>. An active Order of the Arrow member is one who is currently registered with BSA and has paid 2022 Lodge dues. If your dues are not current you can pay them online: <https://wipit470.org> and select “Pay Your Dues.”

Notice to Elangomats: You have a reduced cost, but as an Elangomat you agree to volunteer to lead candidates during the entire Ordeal weekend.

May Chapter Meeting the 3rd Sunday of May

The meeting will be held on Sunday, May 15th. This is a change from our normal monthly meeting date of the second Sunday of the month. In May, the second Sunday is Mother’s Day, and we do not want to interfere with that. The May Chapter Meeting is an Ice Cream Social at Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Rd., Burke. It is primarily to welcome the newest members, have some fun, share some information, and eat some ice cream.

Chapter Elections

A big thanks to all those who helped with the unit visits and OA Elections this year; it went very smoothly. We still have a few more to do, but we are almost done and a lot of you volunteered to help, which is great. “Many hands make light work!”

Patriot OA Chapter Recognized as a “Thriving” Chapter

Patriot Chapter was one of six chapters awarded “Thriving” Chapter for 2021 at the Annual Banquet celebrated at the Lodge Fellowship on April 2. Congratulations to Patriot Chapter members, especially Cameron A, our Chief from May 2020 to May 2021 and Madi Z, our Chapter Chief from May 2021 to present. A special patch was awarded to the Chiefs and Advisers. Our efforts, along with other chapters helped the Lodge achieve the level of “Thriving.” In order to receive this recognition level, we must achieve goals in elections, membership, and retention. Our membership at the end of 2021 was actually higher than 2020 despite the challenges of COVID.



“The cornerstone of democracy rests on the foundation of an educated electorate.”

~ Thomas Jefferson (b. April 13, 1743)

Patriot District Training Updates

Happy April to everyone. I am happy to report that we had a very successful BALOO in March with 14 newly trained Scouters ready to help their packs put on great camping weekends. We will be offering another BALOO in the Fall, but don't forget you can always take it with another district or council if you still need to find a course.

For the Scouts BSA program, IOLS will be on June 4-5, with the cost of the course again being \$30. The registration for the course is at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-PATRIOTSPRING22IOLS>

We are also happy to announce that there will be an in-person Scoutmaster specific training on May 22nd. The training will be in the afternoon starting at 1pm and will last a couple hours depending on how many questions are asked! This is a great opportunity to learn from experienced former scoutmasters and share ideas and questions with fellow scouters. The course is open to anyone interested in learning more about the Scouts BSA program and registration will be going live soon!

Don't forget that many summer camps will often also offer training opportunities for adults so if you are heading to camp, check to see what may be on offer.

As we all know, training isn't just for the adults. Our youth deserve amazing training opportunities as well and I am happy to say that the council is busy putting together four courses of NYLT (National Youth Leadership Training). I'm also very excited to say that one of Patriot's own Scouts is the Senior Patrol Leader for one of the courses this summer. Registration for the Summer '22 courses opened on March 5th and can be found at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-49373>

As with the adults, the training opportunities don't stop with NYLT. The youth also have a course similar to the Leadership Challenge called NAYLE (National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience). NAYLE takes the concepts introduced in NYLT and challenges the youth with real world scenarios to try and practice those leadership concepts. As with the Leadership Challenge, it is offered at both the Summit and Philmont. For 2022, the Summit is running two courses on June 19-25 and July 3-9. Philmont is running six courses weekly from June 19 to July 24. For more information on NAYLE, the links are:

Summit: <https://www.summitbsa.org/programs/training/seven-day-conferences/nayle>

Philmont: <https://www.philmontscouttranch.org/ptc/nayle/>

Finally, don't forget that you can attend training put on by any district so if one of our trainings doesn't work for your schedule, be sure to check out the council's calendar to see what is available. The calendar can be found at the following link: <https://www.ncacbsa.org/calendar/>

Yours in Scouting,

Justin Day
Training Chair
patriottrainingbsa@gmail.com



Advancement News

Scouting in summertime is coming up as the cold weather slips away. I had a question the other day about earning the mile swim in a pool instead of the usual way at summer camp.

The aquatics guide has all you need for water safety questions. I encourage you to download the whole guide for reference on water activity safety. The link is available at:

<https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/mile-swim/>

Now, the mile swim is quite the achievement. So yes, swimming the mile in a pool is permitted as outlined on page two in the appendix. Note that the requirements are more involved than just the mile and that Council must approve the counselor.

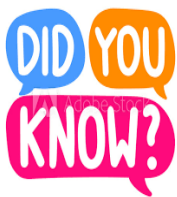
For the adventurous, the requirements are:

1. Explain how regular exercise contributes to good health and why swimming is one of the best forms of exercise.
2. Tell what precautions and procedures a swimmer and escort must follow for distance swimming over open water.
3. Under the supervision of a currently qualified counselor, participate in four hours of training and preparation for distance swimming (one hour a day maximum).
4. Swim one mile over a measured course that has been approved by the counselor supervising the swim

As a reminder, as of March 1, 2022, all temporary changes made to Scouts BSA advancement requirements to address the COVID-19 pandemic will expire, and there will be a return to the standard rules for Scouts BSA advancement. This includes deferment of some swimming requirements for First and Second class, virtual activities for Tenderfoot, Second and First Class, and requirement 9b of the Camping merit badge.

We also have a new merit badge. Presently the Citizenship in Society merit badge will be available for Scouts to earn on an optional basis. However, the badge will become required for the rank of Eagle Scout on July 1, 2022, allowing Life Scouts to continue working on current requirements until June 30, 2022. Starting July 1, 2022, Eagle Scout candidates must earn the new Citizenship in Society merit badge. That will be 21 merit badges in total – 14 required and 7 elective.

Tom Tyra
Advancement Chair



Updated Safe Swim Defense Training Released: In collaboration with the BSA National Aquatics Subcommittee, ScoutingU has released an updated version of “Safe Swim Defense” online training that is mobile compatible. Adults supervising a swimming activity must have completed Safe Swim Defense training within the previous two years. To access the updated training, log onto my.scouting.org and search the BSA Learn Center catalog for “Safe Swim Defense.” Additional resources on BSA aquatics programs are also available.



Patriot/Old Dominion Cub Scout Day Camp

JULY 11 – 15, 2022

Occoquan Regional Park
9751 Ox Road, Lorton, VA 22079

Archery, Slingshots, Climbing Wall, STEM, Scout Skills,
Nature, Arts & Crafts AND much, much more!

Camp Staff Incentives
(Must camp five days)
14+ Youth – \$100 Camp credit
toward Goshen, NYLT
Adult – *FREE* with registered
Cub Scout

Register at:
gotodaycamp.org
Click: "Patriot/Old
Dominion"

Early Bird Registration
Ending May 15 - \$190
REGULAR REGISTRATION
May 16 until online
registration closes - \$230
Late Registration
July 04 - \$260

Contact: patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com



**BE A SUPERHERO
STAFF AT**

Patriot/Old Dominion Cub Scout Day Camp

JULY 11 – 15, 2022

Occoquan Regional Park
9751 Ox Road, Lorton, VA

Contact: patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com

Lead & INSPIRE
Activity of your choice

Archery*, Slingshots*,
Climbing Wall*,
STEM, Scout Skills,
Nature, Arts & Crafts
AND much, much
more!

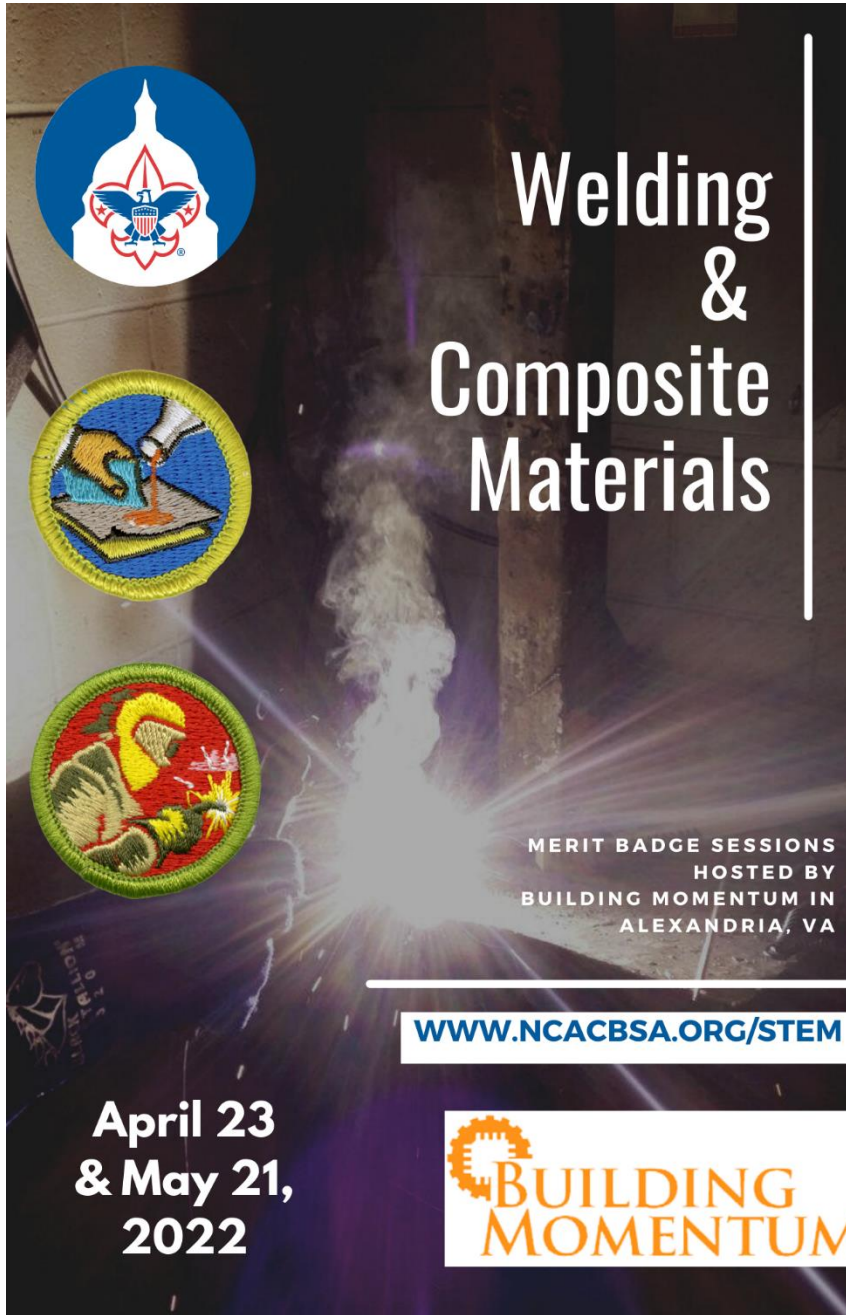
Camp Staff Incentives
(Must staff 5 days)

14+ Youth - \$100
Camp credit towards
Goshen, NYLT OR
earn service hours

Adult - One **FREE**
registered Cub Scout

TRAININGS
*Additional required
training available

STEM Flyer: Merit Badge Opportunity



The flyer features a dark background with a bright, glowing light source in the center, creating a lens flare effect. On the left side, there are three circular merit badge patches: the top one is blue with a white torch and eagle, the middle one is yellow with a blue background showing a hand welding, and the bottom one is green with a red background showing a yellow and red bird. The text 'Welding & Composite Materials' is written in large white font in the upper right. Below it, in smaller white font, is 'MERIT BADGE SESSIONS HOSTED BY BUILDING MOMENTUM IN ALEXANDRIA, VA'. At the bottom left, the dates 'April 23 & May 21, 2022' are listed. At the bottom center, the website 'WWW.NCACBSA.ORG/STEM' is displayed in a blue box. At the bottom right, the 'BUILDING MOMENTUM' logo is shown, featuring a gear icon and the text in orange and white. On the right side of the flyer, there is a circular logo for the National Capital Area Council of Boy Scouts of America, with 'SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS' around the perimeter and 'NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL' and 'BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA' in the center.

Building Momentum is hosting four sessions in April and May providing an opportunity for Scouts BSA to earn Welding and Composite Materials merit badges!

The sessions will be held on Saturday, April 23, and Saturday, May 21, at the Building Momentum workshop/facility in Alexandria, VA. Details are available at the following link: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-buildMoSTEM>



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

2021 Highlights

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Service Hours	379,358 total hours of community service
Hours per Scout	11.6 hours per Scout
Eagle Service Hours	228,932 (included in total hours)
Value of Service Hours	\$10,826,877 – based on data provided by Independent Sector at \$28.54 per hour
Scouting For Food	667,632 pounds collected and donated to local food banks

ADVANCEMENT & RECOGNITION

Cub Scout Ranks	11,944 (Includes Bobcat through Arrow of Light)
Scouts BSA Ranks	9,241 (Includes Scout Rank through Eagle Scout)
Eagle Scouts	1,331 – Including 62 new female Eagles
Merit Badges	45,937 earned including 1,254 badges through remote merit badge at home program
STEM	Provided programs to 15,820 participants including Inventing MB day with USPTO
STEM Supernova Awards	82
Silver Beavers	30
Outstanding Eagle Scouts	9

CAMPING

Goshen Scout Reservation	4,594 youth & adult in-person summer campers
Camp William B. Snyder	1,035 youth & adult in-person day & overnight summer campers – 13,500 annual total

TRAINING

Wood Badge	76 participants in two courses
University of Scouting	752 remote participants
NYLT	147 participants

FINANCIAL

Popcorn Sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$1,776,445 raised for local Scout units despite continued Covid restrictions! ● 263 Scouting units selling ● \$56,000 of product donations for the military
Fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Generated nearly \$3.2 million in Council/District Fundraising ● Safe, in-person Council Special Events raised \$986,000 ● Raised over \$873,000 through District Family and Community campaigns
Endowment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$289,378 in new cash gifts to the endowment fund

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Largest youth membership Council in the nation! ● Recruited 5,778 new youth in fall – 1 of only 24 Councils (9.6%) to reach goal!
Total Youth Served	32,645
Youth Retention Rate	71.5 % of youth members renewed their membership despite Covid
Total Units	1,037 – second most in the nation. Unit retention rate of 91.7%
New Units	27
Total Volunteers	14,429

B-P Wants and Needs You!



**To Join the Patriot District Committee
Great Jobs for Great Volunteers**

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

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

Contact Bill Dexter: wtdexterjr@gmail.com

The Patriot Press, Patriot District
National Capital Area Council

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

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

Key District Contacts

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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

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

