



The Patriot Press



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From the District Chairman

September and October are critical months for our Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign. So far this year, Patriot District has raised \$40,000., but we need to raise an additional \$25,000 in September and October to reach our goal. **We need your help.**

The purpose of the campaign is to raise funds to support National Area Council (NCAC) core operations. To keep yearly membership fees low, NCAC relies on charitable giving with the Friends of Scouting campaign an integral part of its budget. The funds are used to pay utility bills, support salaries, cover insurance and other administrative expenses, and provide the “cash flow” that enables Council to financially run smoothly. Donated funds are spent on expenses within months of being received. None of this sounds exciting but all of it is necessary. Also, Friends of Scouting donations to Council allow NCAC to run programs and camps at a reduced cost since much of the overhead is already paid for. An example is Summer Camps. Fees at Council camps are a bargain compared to similar programs operated by other organizations. At this point, NCAC needs the September and October donations to make sure they can cover pay roll for the remainder of 2022. NCAC operates on a cash flow model and thus needs a continuous inflow of funds

At the family level, donations to Friends of Scouting are completely voluntary. Please, if your family is under financial stress don't feel any obligation to donate. As a young Scout, my family could never donate to Scouts. When I became an adult, things changed, and I now feel thrilled that I have funds that I can use to be part of Friends of Scouting. So, if you are in a difficult financial position, skip this year and join us in the future when you can.

While at the family level, Friends of Scouting is voluntary, we need more families to donate. The participation rate is low. Only one Pack and three Troops have had more than ten families donate. Many Packs and several Troops have not had a single family donate. So far as a District, our participation rate is 7.40%.

Participation in the annual FOS campaign is mandatory at the unit level. Each unit is required to conduct a unit Friends of Scouting Campaign and raise funds for Council. It starts by appointing a unit coordinator, then arranging a presentation from District, and then conducting a follow-up to make sure families considered making a contribution to Friends of Scouting. For units that have not held a presentation or would like an additional one, the unit coordinator should schedule a presentation with Patriot District's District Executive, Bobby Walker, at Bobby.Walker@Scouting.org or by phone at (434) 429-4112. The coordinator should schedule the presentation at a unit event where parents are present, such as a Court of Honor or Special Pack meeting.

We need almost every Pack or Troop to raise an additional \$1,000 during the next two months. Only Troop 1131 has met its goal. Packs 1864 and 1865 are close to their goals and Troops 1346 and 1865 are near their goals.

In summary, please help us bring the 2022 Friends of Scouting Campaign to a successful close. Let's provide vital support to NCAC to keep the costs for Scouting reasonable and the price of Scouting events, especially camping, affordable.

Bill Dexter
Patriot District Committee Chair





From the District Commissioner

I'm going to keep this month's column a bit more focused than usual because there's a rumor you can read more about my broader musings elsewhere in this month's Patriot Press. However, I want to address two very important topics: **Recruiting** and **Rechartering**.

Why do we recruit? First and foremost, because we want to spread the benefits of Scouting as broadly as possible among our area youth. And because we want to maintain healthy, vibrant Packs, Troops and Crews for our youth members, which means bringing in new members. We talked in detail about recruiting techniques at the August Roundtable, so I won't repeat them here. However:

- Please let your Unit Commissioner, me, or our [District Executive Bobby Walker](#), know what your fall recruiting plans are, including dates. Report back how things are going!
- Use all the available recruiting resources. These include not only the typical flyers and yard signs, but also [Facebook geofencing ads](#) and many [other helpful resources](#).
- Get your new members registered and involved in your program right away! Online registration is *strongly* recommended, and will make rechartering a lot easier. Register new members online before October 1 if possible (after October 1 they will be charged National registration fees for 2023 as well as the rest of 2022, and they also may not immediately appear in your recharter roster).

On September 8 at 7:30 PM we have an especially important Roundtable training session at the [Elks Lodge on Arlington Blvd. in Fairfax](#). EVERY unit should send at least one representative. In this special combined training evening, we will discuss rechartering and youth mental health resources. We hope to again [simulcast the session on Zoom](#) for those who cannot attend in person.

In BSA every unit operates with an **Annual Charter**, and the renewal process ensures accurate membership rosters (which are critical for crediting advancement, insurance, fees, and other purposes), and that the chartering organization and BSA agree to operate the unit program under quality standards. At Roundtable you'll get an overview of what you should start doing *now* to ensure a smooth rechartering process for your unit. If you prepare properly *before* logging into the online rechartering system (which I am told has been heavily debugged since last year's difficult experience), you can complete the process quickly and (hopefully) painlessly. We'll keep the discussion moving along at a "project manager" level, because there are [vastly improved detailed instructions](#) available this year and hopefully by the time you read this, even recorded video training (link TBD).

We'll also be discussing the stresses our youth are facing and signs of mental health issues, as well as the incredible **Youth Mental Health First Aid Program** offered in conjunction with the Fairfax County Community Services Board. This is a topic of vital importance to all Scouters and parents. For more details on the YMHFA program, contact [Mark Greer](#).

Ken Gaul
Patriot District Commissioner
patriot-commissioner@ncacbsa.org

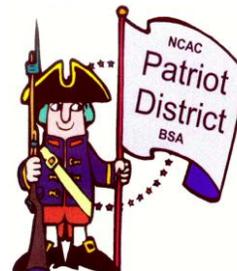


Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

September 2022

- 8 Roundtable (Joint Session)
- 11 Woodwork Merit Badge, Classroom Session (Camp Snyder)
- 9-11 Wood Badge, Camp Snyder (Weekend 1)
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner Meeting
- 16-18 OA Lodge Fellowship (Camp Olmstead)
- 17 Adventure Day / Cub-o-Ree (Camp Snyder)
- 17 Woodwork Merit Badge, Shop Session (Camp Snyder)
- 24 BCOLS Classroom Session (Heritage Presbyterian Church)
- 27 Joint PD Committee/Commissioner Corps Meeting and Awards Ceremony
(6:30 PM at VFW Post 8469 in Fairfax Station)



October 2022

- 2 Woodwork Merit Badge, Classroom Session (Camp Snyder)
- 8-9 Wood Badge, Camp Snyder (Weekend 2)
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner Meeting
- 13 Roundtable
- 15 YMHFA Training (Camp Snyder)
- 14-16 Fall Camporee (Camp Snyder)
- 22-23 BCOLS Outdoor Session (Camp Big Mac)
- 25 PD Committee Meeting

November 2022

- 5 Scouting for Food – Sticker Delivery
- 8 Commissioner Meeting
- 10 Roundtable
- 12 Scouting for Food – Collection
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 22 PD Committee Meeting
- 24 Thanksgiving

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, September 8, 2022

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

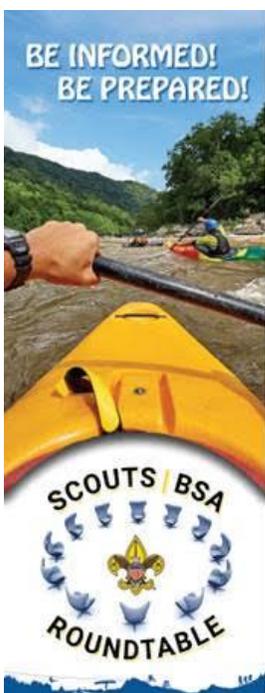
Social: 7:30 PM Midway: 7:45 PM Roundtable: 8:00 – 9:00 PM

**Topics: Joint Session with Scouts BSA RT
Scout Mental Health, Back-to-School Issues and Concerns**

Word of the month: Helpful

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, September 8, 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: Joint Session with Cub Scout RT
Scout Mental Health, Back-to-School Issues and Concerns**

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

Scouter Interview: Ken Gaul

Patrick Ring

Ken Gaul is the Patriot District Commissioner. He has served for more than 25 years as a BSA volunteer at all levels of the program. At the unit level, Ken has held numerous Scouting positions, including Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, and Associate Venture Advisor. At the District level, he has served for two decades in Committee and Commissioner roles, and he is also a member of the Council Shooting Sports Committee. Ken is an attorney who spent over two decades as a Federal prosecutor. He currently holds a headquarters position in a large Federal agency.



Ken has received numerous recognitions for his volunteer service to Scouting, including The Silver Beaver Award, District Award of Merit, Distinguished Commissioner Service Award, NCAC Outstanding Commissioner, Scoutmaster's Key, Unit Leader Award of Merit, Cubmaster Award, and Wood Badge beads.

Patrick Ring (PR): How and when did you first become involved in Scouting, and then later become District Commissioner?

Ken Gaul (KG): I was a Cub Scout and a Boy Scout. For a number of reasons, including heavy involvement in non-Scouting activities, my Scout career wasn't all that long or distinguished, especially compared to a couple of my Eagle Scout cousins. But I really enjoyed the camping, hiking, and canoeing I got to do while active in Scouting as a youth.

Like many of us, I got involved again as an adult because of my children. When my oldest son was starting first grade, my wife took him to a Cub Scout recruiting event while I was out of town on business and "volunteered" me to be the new Tiger Den Leader without telling me. When I got home she explained, "they needed a Den Leader and you were a Scout, so tag, you're it!" The following year I became an Assistant Cubmaster, and shortly after that Cubmaster, a position I held for seven years until my youngest son crossed over. At the same time, I was also an Assistant Scoutmaster in my older son's Troop and became a member of the District Committee coordinating the Cub Scout recruiting program and Cub Scout leader training. The same month I stepped down as Cubmaster I got cornered by the then-District Commissioner in the parking lot after a Roundtable and was talked into becoming a Unit Commissioner. I later spent five years as Scoutmaster and grew the Troop from 65 to well over 100 Scouts by focusing heavily on offering a strong program.

After I stepped down as Scoutmaster, I eventually became an Assistant District Commissioner. In early 2021 I was appointed the District Commissioner for the Patriot District.

PR: Please give us an overview of your activities and goals in your position as the District Commissioner.

KG: Commissioners are often called the "grease and the glue" of Scouting. Commissioners exist to provide unit service. That means being a resource and mentor to unit leaders and connecting them up with other resources to help them provide a good program to their youth members. It means troubleshooting and resolving problems that could impact the experience of our Scouts. Some people just think of the Commissioners as the people who run our monthly District Roundtable training programs, and at recharter time. But Commissioners do a lot more.

My biggest goal right now is to help Scouting in the Patriot District recover from the pandemic and other recent events outside our control. We live in a fantastic area for Scouting, and I've seen a lot of young people grow and benefit from the program. But we can do more to help expose the values and leadership training available in Scouting to the next generation. We also need to replace attrition in the District's Commissioner Corps so we again have a Unit Commissioner for every Pack, Troop, and Crew in the Patriot District. A strong Commissioner team helps our units be strong, and that helps our youth get the most out of Scouting.

PR: Have you experienced any surprises during your tenure as District Commissioner?

KG: It's been one surprise after another. The pandemic deeply impacted Scouting, and it's been an effort to get us back to regular activities. And the problems with the new software during that last year's rechartering season was an unpleasant surprise that took an incredible amount of resources away from delivering the best possible program to our youth. On the positive side, I have been really impressed with how resilient Scouting is in the face of all the things that hit us over the last few years. And as I've gotten to know more of our volunteers, I never cease to be amazed by the fantastic effort and leadership that is going into helping our youth members thrive in the program.

PR: What are some challenges facing the Patriot District and do you have any suggestions for meeting those challenges?

KG: We aren't serving as many of our area's youth as we should be. We have to grow Scouting so more of the next generation can benefit from everything the program offers. Some of that is a demographic challenge – we aren't serving girls, minority or special needs youth as well as we should be. Some of it is a reputational challenge – Scouting's had some negative publicity over the last several years that has sometimes drowned out the many positive things we do. And we have a generational challenge at the District level. We desperately need younger volunteers to help the District support our units the way they deserve to be supported.

PR: What tips and advice might you offer for volunteers who might be thinking about serving as a member of the Commissioner team?

KG: Just do it! Unlike some other volunteer positions in Scouting, the Unit Commissioner's or Roundtable Commissioner's role isn't all-consuming. You can be a good UC or RTC while holding down another position in a Pack or Troop. It's also a good way to keep contributing to Scouting after your own children have aged out. Regardless, unit service as a Commissioner really focuses your efforts where they count the most – supporting the program that directly helps our youth.

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

KG: I've told many people that the best job in the world is Scoutmaster, probably just ahead of Den Leader. Why? Because you get to work directly with young people, help them succeed, watch them grow, and discover you're making a difference in their lives. In the short term it's measured by the Scouts' smiles, and over the longer term by the development of their character and self-confidence as they mature. I've seen it in many contexts, ranging from Den meetings and day camp to seeing young people form high-functioning teams when I served as Crew advisor on high-adventure treks.

But the single most rewarding experiences were probably the two dozen or so Eagle Rank Scoutmaster Conferences I've had the honor of conducting. Eagle SMCs are thought-provoking conversations with young adults. The difference between a discussion with an Eagle candidate versus the same person when they were a Tenderfoot is night and day – you can hear the positive effect Scouting has played in their development and their lives. I've often said that I typically leave an Eagle SMC feeling that, regardless of the problems we're facing as a society, with fine young people like these as future leaders our country will be in good hands. It's why I stay involved in the program, even after my own children have aged out.

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

KG: Always remember why we do what we do – it's all about the youth, about the next generation. It's all about making a difference for the future.

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



Patriot District Program News

Upcoming Events -- Mark Your Calendars:

- Sep 8: Patriot District Roundtable
- Sep 17: Patriot Cub-o-Ree
- Sep 16: 18 OA Fall Fellowship, Goshen
- Sep 30 – Oct 2: OA Virginia Central Fall Ordeal
- Oct 14 – 16: Fall Camporee (Camping Palooza)
- Nov 5: Scouting for Food – Sticker Delivery
- Nov 12: Scouting for Food Collection

Would you like to become certified in an interest you already have?

Whenever the District or Council runs overnight events like Camporees, Family Camps, Order of the Arrow Ordeals and Fellowships, High Adventure trips, or even one-day events that involve Shooting Sports, COPE/Climbing events, or Swimming events, we are required to have staff that possess current certifications for those activities. Even if your unit does these things it is highly recommended, or required by the Guide to Safe Scouting, that you have qualified adults overseeing these activities. If you have interest in any of the areas listed below and would like to become certified to run those activities, please contact the Patriot Program Chair patriot-program@ncacbsa.org, and we will put you in touch with the people that can provide the information to get certified.



- **Shooting Sports:** Range Master for BB's, Air Rifles, Archery, Slingshots, Instructor
- **Aquatics:** Aquatics Instructor, BSA Lifeguard, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Specific training in watercraft..
- **COPE/Climbing:** COPE & Climbing Level II, Climb Master for the Council's portable Climbing Wall, COPE/Climbing Instructor
- Red Cross Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED; Wilderness and Remote First Aid, ARC Instructor-Trainer, Mental Health First Aid, event Health Officer
- ServSafe Manager and ServSafe Food Handler



2023 National Jamboree – The Largest Scouting Event in the Country

We're less than a year away from the National Jamboree, which will return to the Summit Bechtel Scout Reserve on July 19-28, 2023. The National Capital Area Council is planning to send 14 contingent units to Jamboree. The NCAC cost for Jamboree is \$1,725 per person and includes the Jamboree, transportation to and from Summit, a backpack, patches, and more! Camperships are available for youth participants.

Sign up today for the 2023 Jamboree. Learn more at, ncacbsa.org/jamb

*John Merchant
Vice Chair, Program*



Patriot District Cub Scout Adventure Day and Cub-o-Ree

Patriot District’s Cub Scout Adventure Day/Cub-o-Ree will be held on Saturday, September 17th at Camp Snyder. The event will feature a wide range of activities that Cub Scouts enjo, including rifle marksmanship, archery, climbing wall, gaga ball, STEM, and arts and crafts. Additionally, we will show a “Movie Under the Stars” at sunset. This fun-filled event is open to all Cub Scouts, family members, and potential recruits. Cub Packs are encouraged to use this event as a recruiting event and invite prospective youth who may want to join Cub Scouts. Youth do not need to be registered Scouts to attend this event.

Saturday’s schedule is:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
9:00 AM	On-site Check-in begins at the Hylton Center Front Porch
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Morning Activities
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch (Unit or Family provided)
1:30 – 4:30 PM	Afternoon Activities
4:30 – 7:00 PM	Open, Dinner, Campsite set-up
7:00 – 8:30 PM	Movie under the Stars

At check-in Scouts will be assigned to groups based on their Pack, Den, or Family. They will receive their schedule based on their group. Each Scout must attend as part of a Pack, Den, or Family. The District staff does not have the capability to supervise individual Cub Scouts. Each Pack, Den or Family must bring lunch for their group.

Packs or families that would like to camp over Saturday night will be able to do so. Camp sites include access to bath houses that have separate facilities for adult males and females and separate youth facilities for boys and girls. Camp sites also include a pavilion with picnic tables, and a fire pit. Packs, Dens, or families that are camping need to bring their own tents, sleeping bags, cooking equipment and food. There is a Walmart and several fast-food restaurants less than five miles away in the town of Haymarket. On Sunday morning, Packs, Dens, or families can depart at any time by checking out with their camp site Commissioner. Everyone must depart prior to 11:00 AM.

Registration is open on Black Plug on the NCAC Web Site. Families, Dens, or Packs can register. The cost for youth, ages five to eleven who are attending Adventure Day is twenty dollars (\$20) or twenty-eight dollars (\$28) if they are camping overnight. The cost for anyone over eleven that is camping overnight, to include staff, is sixteen dollars (\$16). Children age four and under are free for camping. The address for Camp Snyder is 6100 Antioch Road, Haymarket, Virginia 20169. The Point of Contact for Cub Scout Adventure Day and Cub-o-Ree is Bill Dexter, who can be contacted at wtdexterjr@gmail.com or by telephone at (703) 978-2632 (home) or (703) 344-6317 (cell).

*Bill Dexter
Patriot District Committee Chair*



Patriot District Fall 2022 Camporee – A Palooza

The Patriot District Fall 2022 Camporee will be held October 14-16 at Camp Snyder. Patriot District is partnering with the Order of the Arrow (OA) to present a Palooza. The Palooza will feature a program with over 30 events. Patriot District is sponsoring the BB range, archery range, sling shots, the climbing wall, and Movie Making merit badge. Additionally, the OA will sponsor a parade and an incredible evening show. Also, the OA has arranged for food trucks to be on site.

Schedule of Events

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
Friday	2-9 PM	Camp onsite check in at the Hylton Center front porch
	8-9 PM	Senior Patrol Leader/Scoutmaster Meeting and Cracker Barrel
Saturday	All Day	Palooza (The OA will publish a separate schedule)
Sunday	7 AM	Reville
	8 AM	Breakfast
	9 AM	Camporee wide Environmental Service Project
	10:15 AM	Closing Ceremony
	11 AM	Units depart Camp Snyder

Registration is open on Black Plug on the NCAC Web Site. The cost for Scouts BSA is twenty dollars (\$20). The cost for adults to include staff that are camping overnight is also twenty dollars (\$20). Adults that are not Camping are free

The address for Camp Snyder is 6100 Antioch Road, Haymarket, Virginia 20169. The Point of Contact for the Patriot District Fall 2022 Camporee and Palooza is Bill Dexter at wtdexterjr@gmail.com or telephone for Home (703) 978-2632 or Cell (703) 344-6317.

Cub Scouts at Palooza

While Scouts BSA rules preclude Cub Scouts from camping with Scouts BSA at District Camporees, this year, Cub Scouts can attend Palooza since Palooza is being put on by the OA. Cub Scouts can attend Palooza as a Pack, Den, or family. Additionally, Cub Scout Packs can camp overnight at Camp Snyder but separately from the District. To attend the Palooza Day program, register on Black Pug on the NCAC Web site. The cost for the day is seven dollars (\$7) per Scout. If Packs want to camp at Camp Snyder, they must contact Camp Snyder separately and reserve a camp site. There will be a cost for this. The address for Camp Snyder is 6100 Antioch Road, Haymarket, Virginia 20169, and their phone number is (571) 248-4904. The Patriot District Point of Contact for Palooza 2022 is Bill Dexter, District Committee Chairman, who can be contacted at wtdexterjr@gmail.com or by telephone at (703) 978-2632 (home) or (703) 344-6317 (cell).

Bill Dexter
Camporee Director



Patriot District Training Updates

Welcome to the Fall '22 Scouting season! I hope everyone had a great summer enjoying their various summer activities and most importantly stayed healthy. As usual there are lots of fun Fall activities but hopefully everyone is keeping an eye out for upcoming training opportunities.

IOLS/BALOO: Patriot District will be offering a concurrent session of IOLS and BALOO on the weekend of November 4-6. IOLS will run Friday evening through late Saturday afternoon. BALOO will run Saturday morning through late Sunday morning. Please be aware that the courses are separate and you will not be able to attend both. The registration link will be available soon, and the cost for either course will be \$35.

There are also other opportunities for both classes being offered this fall:

- IOLS – Sept 16/17 – Camp Snyder - <https://scoutingevent.com/082-57350>
- IOLS – Oct 1/2 – Camp Snyder - <https://scoutingevent.com/082-PWDIOLSOct2022>
- IOLS/BALOO – Oct 1/2 – Kings Landing Park (Huntingtown, MD) - <https://scoutingevent.com/082-61544>
- BALOO – Oct 1/2 – Izaak Walton League (Gaithersburg, MD) - <https://scoutingevent.com/082-62080>
- BALOO – Oct 15/16 – Lake Fairfax Park - <https://scoutingevent.com/082-PowhatanBALOO>
- IOLS/BALOO – Nov 4/5 – Gunston Hall - <https://scoutingevent.com/082-Fall22IOLS>

In addition to IOLS and BALOO there will be offering supplemental trainings offered this Fall.

Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS) is an optional course offered to adult leaders who have completed the required training in their Scouting program. This course assists Scouters working with youth in the backcountry by providing the skills necessary to conduct a safe and risk-managed high adventure program in venues outside those supported by BSA infrastructure. It has been continuously designed to address new and emerging issues, techniques, and gear. The Fall edition will be held on Saturday September 24 (full day classroom) and October 22-23 (overnight backpacking trip). Registration is located at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-59004>

Leave No Trace Trainer Course: Participants in the Trainer Course learn Leave No Trace skills and ethics as well as techniques for educating others about these low-impact practices. Research has shown that this course significantly improves participant knowledge and understanding of how Leave No Trace protects the outdoor places we love. The goal of the course is to teach students how to introduce the concept of Outdoor Ethics in a fun and engaging way to a group with little experience in outdoor ethics. It should help youth and adults at all program levels understand the general principles behind Scouting's outdoor ethics program. Graduates of a Trainer Course are prepared to lead Outdoor Ethics Orientation and BSA Leave No Trace 101 courses and to offer Leave No Trace Awareness Workshops to their community. The course is being offered on September 26 and October 1. Registration is located at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-55113>

Den Chief Training: Be A Den Chief! A Den Chief is a youth leader who assists a Cub Scout or Webelos Den. If you are already a Den Chief, would like to become one, or would like to serve as an adult Cub Scout Leader, don't miss this training event. During the course, you will learn the necessary

skills to lead and befriend Cub/Webelos Scouts. You will have fun, learn leadership skills, play games, and participate in activities that help you understand your role in the weekly den meetings. Whether or not you were a Cub Scout, you will benefit from this activity-packed day.

Although this training can be taken by Boy Scouts of any age/rank, we recommend Scouts be active in their troops for at least one year before serving as Den Chiefs. The course is on October 1st and registration is at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-60994>

Akela's Trail: The Fall 2022 edition of Akela's Trail will be held in late November. The council is still working on what it will look like this year, but it is likely to be a half-day online session. Please keep your eyes open for more information.

Wood Badge: Wood Badge is the Boy Scouts of America's ultimate leadership training designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of Scouters in all aspects of the BSA, whether unit, district, or council level – from assistant den leaders to Scoutmasters, from Cubmasters to Venturing Advisors, from committee members to commissioners. It is a fun, energetic and inspiring course guaranteed to infuse your unit with fun and meaning – all designed to fulfill the mission of the BSA, and ensure our youth are getting everything they are promised from the program. The Fall 2022 edition will run on September 9-11 and October 8-9. There are still a few slots open, so if you are interested, please register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-49317>

Finally, if you like teaching and helping other leaders learn about the Scouting program and how it should be implemented, please reach out to me. I will be happy to discuss opportunities where you might be able to help out.

Yours in Scouting,

Justin Day
Training Chair
kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com



Best Practices for Forming New Dens — and Finding New Den Leaders (An excerpt from Aaron on Scouting)

The No. 1 reason Cub Scout families drop out of the program is because they're unhappy with their den. Often, this is the result of a den leader who reluctantly agreed to take the position — perhaps due to the pressure of them being put on the spot to agree to be a leader right then and there.

“When you close the doors and say, ‘somebody has to be the den leader,’ you are really rolling the dice on what you're going to get,” National Director of Cub Scouting Anthony Berger says.

The No. 1 goal should not be to name a new den leader on signup night. The No. 1 goal should be to find the right person to be the den leader, even if it takes a little more time.

The full article and a video may be found at:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2022/08/29/best-practices-for-forming-new-dens-and-finding-new-den-leaders/>



Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS)

Is your unit is planning a high-adventure experience? Are you looking for a place to learn or refresh the skills needed to provide the adult leadership necessary to a successful trek? Do you want to understand how to work with older youth and how interpersonal skills, small group dynamics and team building techniques help manage risk and affect the overall quality of the trek? Do you want to help your youth master trek planning, gear selection, gear requirements; packing, land navigation and terrain awareness, health and hygiene, menu planning, food preparation and clean-up, and field maintenance all within the context of Leave No Trace?

If you answered in the affirmative to any of these questions, then Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS) is the course for you! Through a well-balanced mix of explanation, demonstration, and guided hands-on practice, BCOLS will enable you to become a servant-leader to your youth and prepare them for a memorable and challenging outdoor experience.

The purpose of the course is to provide adults with an understanding of the skills necessary to implement a basic backcountry program. While this course uses backpacking as the training vehicle, the skills are applicable to treks focused on specialized skills such as rock climbing, caving, white water, mountain biking or winter camping. The training is conducted in two parts: one indoor classroom session followed by a weekend outdoor, overnight session.

Prerequisites: (1) Must be a registered adult member of the Boy Scouts of America over age 21. (2) Must have completed Youth Protection, Hazardous Weather, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, as well as the appropriate position-specific training prior to attending this course. (3) Must present a current BSA Annual Health & Medical Record (Parts A & B). This course is NOT recommended for Cub Scout Leaders.

Recognition: Upon successful completion of the BCOLS course participants are awarded a certificate of completion and the BCOLS monkey's fist device, which is worn hanging from the left pocket of the uniform.

Course Size: The course will consist of not more than 32 participants. Preference will be given to leaders actively involved in the BSA older youth programs. Once the course is filled, would-be participants will be given the option of being placed on a waiting list in case of cancellations.

Next BCOLS Offering:

- **Classroom Session:** Saturday September 24, 2022 at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA 22308
- **Weekend Session:** Saturday October 22 thru Sunday October 23, 2022 at Camp Big Mac, 12647 Moss Hollow Road, Markham, VA 22643
- **Participants must attend both sessions to get credit for the course.**

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-59004>

For more information: Dominick Caridi
dscscouting@aol.com or 703-625-4196





In-Person YMHFA Training is Coming Back!!

ANNOUNCING ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO BE TRAINED

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

As we are all painfully aware, mental health issues including depression, feelings of helplessness and loneliness, being bullied, and thoughts of suicide are no stranger to the youth we support, and they have been exacerbated by the current pandemic. 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. ***Please*** learn how you can help!!

The first **in-person** class in over two years will be held at Camp Snyder on Saturday, October 15, from 10 AM – 4 PM. This will be coincident with the Fall Camporee. A lot of leaders will be there, but not all are needed to walk with the Scouts from one event/activity to the next. This is an **ideal** time to get trained.

The class limit is 20; please sign up quickly to reserve your space. The next session will likely be held in December.

- Register with Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net and include your mailing address and a good phone number.
- **The cost is \$0 for all courses this Fall, as the CSB has received some grant funding. However, we are asking (not requiring) all attendees to donate to a local Fairfax County based youth mental health charity an amount equal to the usual cost, which is \$25. More info will be provided on this as you register.**
- All participants will receive a YMHFA certificate of completion and an NCAC sanctioned patch demonstrating the achievement
- ***Don't miss out! Don't Wait!*** We can only serve 20 students in each class - register now for this essential training. To register, please email Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net. Mark can also answer any questions you may have.





Michael's Woodshop News Fall 2022



Our Fall Calendar Fills Up Quickly – Act Soon to Schedule Your Activity
Weeknights are available. Schedule a Den meeting in Michael's Woodshop!

News & Upcoming Events



NEW: Make a Memorable Project with a CNC Engraving: Make your shop project memorable by adding a standard image, a custom image and/or your Unit #. Personalize special projects by adding Scout names. We have just added CNC capabilities information and a gallery of images to our website. [Learn more...](#)



Baloo the Builder & Build It Workshops: These very popular workshops are fun and instructional activities for Bears and Webelos to complete the requirements of the Baloo the Builder Adventure and Build It Elective. For more information, please see the [Baloo the Builder Workshop Description](#) and [Build It Workshop Description](#)

CWBS

Fall Family Camping Weekends: These events are always enjoyable! The fall weekends are scheduled on October 21-23 and November 18-20. A visit to Michael's Woodshop is just one of many fun activities available. [Learn More...](#)



Camping Palooza: Visit Michael's Woodshop & celebrate Scouting at OA's Camping Palooza on October 15. [Learn More](#)



Woodwork Merit Badge Sessions (monthly): Michael's Woodshop offers "[Classroom Sessions](#)" focused on shop safety, first aid and other non-tool requirements and "[Shop Time Sessions](#)" to work on project requirements.



Our Fifth Annual Pinewood Derby Days activity is just around the corner! We have already begun scheduling Pack & Den Sessions and the Individual Sessions will open for registration on October 1st. [Learn more...](#)



Schedule Your Own Event: Michael's Woodshop may be reserved by Scouts or Units for a wide range of activities; Eagle Scout Projects, Troop, Pack or Den Activities. It is easy to [Reserve Michael's Woodshop](#)

	Upcoming Events and Shop Calendar		View Our Activity Slideshows		Click her to see Youth Shop Use Measures
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Recent Activities



Summer Camp: We had a great time this summer hosting 564 Cub Scouts during Day Camps and Resident Weekends. Read all about the fun in our article: [Like Kids in a Candy Store!](#)



We hosted 3 more Eagle Scout Projects this summer! With a great range of tools and work space, Michael's Woodshop is the ideal place for Eagle Scout Projects. Email us for more information.

Scout Specialty Week: We had a very productive merit badge week in Michael's Woodshop with 15 Scouts earning the Woodwork Merit Badge. Read more in our article: [A Scout is...Creative!](#)

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



Patriot District Cub Scout Adventure Day and Cub-O-Ree

Saturday, September 17, 2022

Camp Snyder, 6100 Antioch Road, Haymarket, Virginia 20169

EVERYONE is invited! Cub Scouts, family members, and prospective Cub Scouts – Boys and Girls ages 5 (Kindergarten) to 11 (Fifth Grade).

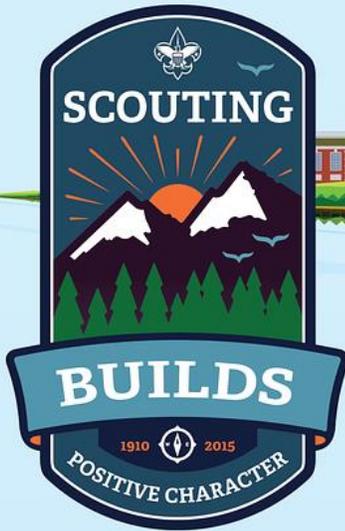
Activities include BB rifle marksmanship, archery, sling shot, climbing wall, Gaga Ball, arts and crafts, STEM activities, and a movie under the stars at sunset. *An optional overnight camping experience is also offered for anyone who would like to camp over Saturday night. Everyone who is planning on camping overnight will need to bring their own tents, sleeping bags, cooking equipment and food.

The cost for youth ages 5-11 who are attending Adventure Day/Cub-O-Ree is \$20 or \$28 if they are camping overnight. Anyone over 11-years of age who is camping overnight is \$16. Children under 5-years of age, there is no charge for camping.

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-Patriotcuboree2022>

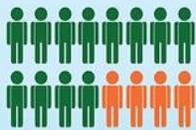
POC: Bill Dexter – email at wtdexterjr@gmail.com, telephone at 703-978-2632 (home) or 703-344-6317 (cell)





DOES SCOUTING WORK?

We all know Scouting's goal is to prepare young people for life, but does it work? Scouting was put to the test over the course of three years, when a research team from Tufts University worked with the Boy Scouts of America's Cradle of Liberty Council to measure the character attributes of both Scouts and non-Scouts — all with a goal of better understanding the character development of youth as it was happening. The project, which was funded by the John Templeton Foundation and led by Dr. Richard M. Lerner, surveyed nearly 1,800 Cub Scouts and nearly 400 non-Scouts under age 12 using both interviews and survey data. **In the beginning, there were no significant differences in character attributes between the two groups. By the end, however, the differences were striking in several areas:**



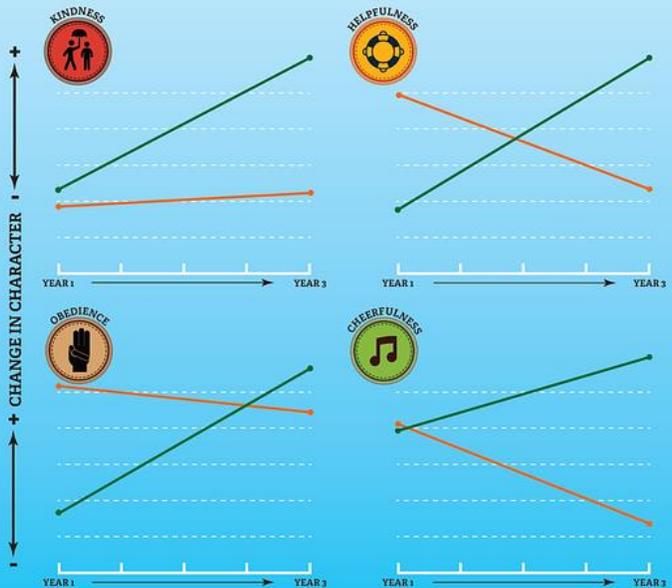
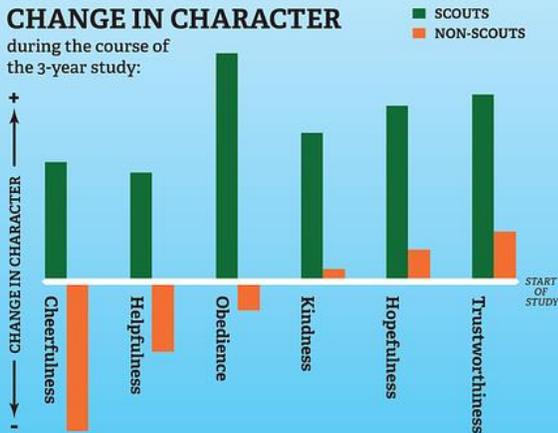
2,000+
Scouts and non-Scouts
aged 6-12 from across the
Philadelphia area were
measured in 6 key areas:



*Hopeful Future Expectations

CHANGE IN CHARACTER

during the course of
the 3-year study:



KEY FINDINGS:

- The more time kids spend in Scouting, the better the outcomes in character development
- Those who attend meetings regularly report higher outcomes virtually across the board when compared to Scouts with lower attendance
- Scouts are more likely to embrace positive social values than non-Scouts
- Scouts who are more engaged in the program report higher outcomes in nearly every category

With fun and discovery at every turn, Scouting makes the most of right now. But what's more, it builds positive character and provides young people a foundation they can stand on to embrace opportunity, overcome obstacles, and make new discoveries.

SCOUTING WORKS.

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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Bill Snowden	Editor, Patriot Press	bsnowden419@gmail.com



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA SCOUTER CODE OF CONDUCT

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

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

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

