



# The Patriot Press



Volume 23  
Patriot District

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National Capital Area Council

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Boy Scouts of America

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## From the District Chairman

The nominating committee for Patriot District is currently working to develop a slate of officers for 2021, which will be presented to the Patriot District Committee at our District business meeting to be held on Tuesday evening, November 27, at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be held via Zoom. The nominating committee is looking to identify candidates for our Vice Chair of Finance and other important positions, including Deputy Vice Chair for Membership, Friends of Scouting Coordinator, Training Chair, and Merit Badge Dean. Steve Smith leads the nominating committee and anyone interested in volunteering for the Patriot District Committee should contact him at [smithfamilyzoo@cox.net](mailto:smithfamilyzoo@cox.net) or (703) 203-6007.

The nominating committee also is required to recommend a person for the position of District Commissioner to NCAC. Our District makes a recommendation but Council makes the final decision. Dave Astle, our current commissioner, will be travelling extensively next year so we need to recommend a replacement. Please forward any recommendations to Steve Smith.

So far, our region that includes the Burke, West Springfield, Springfield, Fairfax Station and Fairfax City communities has been able to survive the pandemic in part due to the hard work of ECHO (Ecumenical Community Helping Others). Over the last few months, ECHO has provided food for over a thousand local families. ECHO depends on local organizations to support them and we, Patriot District, are going to conduct a food drive for them on Saturday, October 17. As a large organization with over 60 units and 1,800 Scouts we are well organized to provide this service and make a difference to the community. See the article on page 10 for details.

**Advance notice:** On Veteran's Day, November 11, NCAC will salute our Service Members and their Families at a virtual ceremony. Details are provided in a letter from the Council Executive that is included in a separate document being distributed with this issue of the Patriot Press. That document also includes a registration form for individuals wishing to participate in the event, which is also a special Friends of Scouting activity. Any funds donated go directly to the annual NCAC Friends of Scouting campaign. If you donate funds, please notify Sarah McKee, our District Executive, so that she can make sure your donation is credited to Patriot District. Her contact information is [Sarah.McKee@scouting.org](mailto:Sarah.McKee@scouting.org) or (402) 680-7055.

*Bill Dexter*  
*Patriot District Committee Chair*





## **From the District Commissioner**

This month I'm going to put on my Council Merit Badge Dean hat and discuss the recent changes to Scoutbook regarding Merit Badge Counselors. Most, if not all, counselors recently received an email from Scoutbook that was confusing and even misleading. On 9/21/20 changes were made to Scoutbook that allow ScoutNET (master BSA data base) to do a daily synchronization with Scoutbook. Counselors who were registered when we had an organic registrar did not have their approved merit badges entered into ScoutNET when they were initially registered. With the initial sync with Scoutbook, these counselors had no merit badges to sync with Scoutbook, which is why they received an email saying they were now in Scoutbook with no merit badges to counsel. We've heard from some counselors that their list in Scoutbook is incorrect. Merit Badges listed in Scoutbook for a counselor could be incorrect for a number of reasons. Registered counselors who were registered through Member Data Shared Services (the National registrar we've been using for several years) and either already or not already in Scoutbook may have added to their list of merit badges after their initial registration and their updated Counselor Information Form never made it to MDSS to update their profile and those badges would not have been placed into Scoutbook with this initial sync. We, Council Advancement, are in the process of trying to update Scoutbook via a Council upload into Scoutbook of the current information on counselors held in the Districts. This will take some time however.

There seems to be a bit of misunderstanding by a lot of counselors that they counsel for a particular troop or two. All counselors serve in a Council position that is managed by their Districts. If they were to print out their membership card, it would say they are a merit badge counselor in the NCAC. As of 9/21/20, all counselors are available to counsel throughout the Council. Those not wishing to be available Council wide or even within the District need to fix it themselves by going into Scoutbook, opening my account, my positions, and then merit badge counselor. This will present a screen where they can annotate whether they're available to counsel or busy, and then select how they wish to be seen in a search. They can choose Council, district(s), unit(s), or not listed. Even though some counselors were informed they were not on the Council list and were no longer listed in Scoutbook (I was actually one of those), everyone who was in Scoutbook on 9/20/20 is still in Scoutbook along with every currently registered counselor who was not yet in Scoutbook.

With this daily ScoutNET sync with Scoutbook comes units no longer being able to add counselors and make any changes to the badges they counsel. All of this data now comes from the daily sync or changes made to the Scoutbook MB list by the Council. Also, there are a number of volunteers listed in Scoutbook who are not registered as a counselor. These counselors will remain in Scoutbook until February 1, 2021, at which time they and their connections with Scouts will be removed. So how can a counselor determine whether they're currently registered? Open "my profile" in the my.scouting.org website menu. If you are registered, it will be shown there. If you are not registered, you have four months to get registered or be removed.

I hope this answers the many questions Scoutbook emails have generated. If you still have questions, please contact me.

*David Astle*  
*District Commissioner*





## From our District Executive

Patriot District has had a great Fall start! All our Packs have been busy recruiting in so many creative ways — virtual ice cream socials, socially distanced hikes, Zoom bingo. Troops have been busy with their own impressive recruitment efforts, with Troop 1131 hosting a Haunted Walk. Recruitment signs are still available; you can email me if you would like any. Meetings are in full swing, with many adjustments but still impactful and meaningful for youth. Units are going strong and continue to find ways to camp, advance, and do good turns. There is a District-wide good turn opportunity coming up: a Patriot District Food Drive. Our last District-wide food drive in June saw almost two tons of food donated to ECHO! Both Packs and Troops have been excelling in Popcorn sales, with Pack 1865 leading the District in sales.

Friends of Scouting 2020 is finally wrapping up, and Patriot District is so close to reaching our goal with \$8,000 to go. If you are able to do so, please consider making a yearly contribution. To donate online: [ncacbsa.org/ways-to-give/](https://ncacbsa.org/ways-to-give/)

Another exciting donation opportunity is approaching. National Capital Area Council is hosting a virtual Salute to Service Members and Families to honor our Military Services and personnel. This virtual ceremony will be held on Veterans Day, this November 11, as a way to observe Veteran's Day, honor our military and also help our youth. Our event will feature Lieutenant General L. Scott Rice, former Director of the Air National Guard, who will be delivering our keynote address; Brigadier General Charles McGee (Ret), a recent recipient of the Silver Buffalo award; General David L. Goldfein (Ret), a recent recipient of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award (DESA); and Captain John R. Rotruck, former Commanding Officer of USNS Mercy, our Operational Pandemic Honoree.

Patriot District donations for this event will help support our District.

Yours in Scouting,

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



## Patriot District Events

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

### October 2020

- 2 Online Rechartering Window Opens
- 2-4 Virginia Central OA Ordeal
- 3 Popcorn Distribution #2
- 3-4 Wood Badge ("Spring" Course, Weekend 2)
- 8 Roundtable (*virtual*)
- 11 Patriot District OA Chapter Meeting (*virtual*)
- 12 Columbus Day
- 13 Commissioner Meeting (*virtual*)
- 17 Patriot District Food Drive
- 17-18 Wood Badge ("Fall" Course, Weekend 2)
- 17-18 Wilderness First Aid (Camp Snyder)
- 23 Popcorn Final Order Due
- 23-25 Cub Scout Fall Family EXPO Camping (Camp Snyder)
- 23-25 V3 Hike-0-Ree (*cancelled*)
- 24 Council Court of Honor (*virtual*)
- 24 Life-to-Eagle Seminar (*virtual*)
- 27 PD Committee Meeting (*virtual*)



### November 2020

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Patriot Press Deadline – November</li> <li>7 Scouting for Food – Distribution*</li> <li>7-8 Wilderness First Aid (Camp Snyder)</li> <li>8 Patriot District OA Chapter Mtg</li> <li>10 Deadline for Recharter Submission to UC for on-time Processing</li> <li>10 Commissioner Meeting (<i>virtual</i>)</li> <li>10 Veterans Day</li> <li>12 Roundtable (<i>virtual</i>)</li> <li>14 Scouting for Food - Pickup*</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14 Popcorn Final Distribution</li> <li>20-22 Webelos/Scouts BSA Fall Family Camping EXPO (Camp Snyder)</li> <li>21 Pow Wow</li> <li>21-22 Wilderness First Aid (Camp Snyder)</li> <li>23 Popcorn Final Order Due</li> <li>24 PD Committee Meeting and Annual Business Meeting (<i>virtual</i>)</li> <li>26 Thanksgiving</li> <li>29 Patriot Press Deadline – December</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

### December 2020

- 8 Commissioner Meeting\*
- 10 Roundtable\*
- 10 Hannukah Begins (sundown)
- 12-13 Wilderness First Aid, Camp Snyder
- 13 Patriot District OA Chapter Meeting\*
- 15 PD Committee Meeting (*virtual*)
- 25 Christmas
- 26 Kwanzaa Begins
- 27 Patriot Press Deadline - January

\* *Status to be determined*

BALOO Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation	NYLT National Youth Leadership Training
BCOLS Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills	OA Order of the Arrow
CPST Cubmaster Position-Specific Training	SPST Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training
IOLS Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills	VAPST Venture Advisor Position-Specific Training
JSN Join Scouting Night	VCPST Varsity Coach Position-Specific Training
NLE New Leader Essentials	VOA Venturing Officers Association



All Cub Scout Leaders, Come Out and Join us for Fun & Fellowship  
and to Pick-Up some New Ideas for your Pack and Den Programs!

**The Purpose of the Roundtable:**

To provide the skill to do – skills, techniques, information, program ideas –  
and the know-how that makes for successful unit operation.

To provide unit leadership with the will to do – the morale, enthusiasm,  
inspiration, and vision that periodically renew the desire to serve youth.

**When:** Thursday, October 8, 2020

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

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

**Topics:** Welcoming New Families, Family Involvement in the Virtual World, and Uniform Inspections

**Word of the month:** Helpful

*Cory Okouchi, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner*  
[cweskrige@gmail.com](mailto:cweskrige@gmail.com)



**Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable**

**Not just for Scoutmasters**

Thursday, October 8, 2020

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

**Social:** 7:30 PM (get signed in to Zoom)

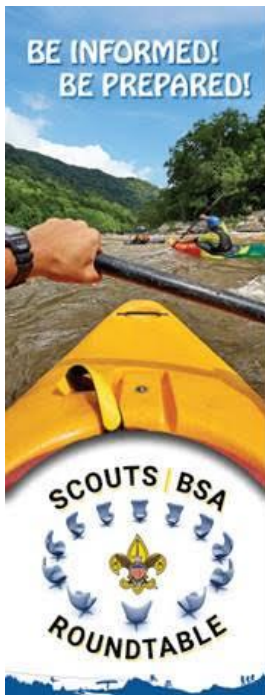
**Midway:** 7:45 PM

**Roundtable:** 8:00 - 9:00 PM

**Topics:** Girl Troop Successes/Challenges  
Winter Activities. Cold Weather Training  
Courts of Honor, Covid-19 Corner

*Joe Margraf, Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner*  
703-314-1622, [joedenisemargraf@aol.com](mailto:joedenisemargraf@aol.com)

*Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioners: Justin Day, Rick Priest*





## RECHARTERING FOR 2021

Successful rechartering is all about preparation. If the proper groundwork is laid, on-line rechartering is a simple exercise. If not, it becomes both a hassle and error-prone. In the September issue of the Patriot Press, everyone was urged to organize their rosters for the coming year, to make sure that everyone in the unit is registered, to identify everyone who is or is not going to re-register, and to collect the fees for the coming year. Hopefully, all of that has been accomplished.

If you have not already done so, please submit any pending registrations now. Registrations submitted with the recharter slow down processing at every level, which increases the chance that the entire recharter submission will be held up because of problems. Resolving a problem with an individual registration is much easier than dealing with one in the middle of a recharter submission.

YPT is going to be a problem this year. Before submitting adult registrations for your unit, be prepared to drop someone who doesn't respond. They can re-register later if they want to stay in the unit.

Finally, please submit your rechartering package to your unit commissioner by November 10th. The submissions receive careful review by the district, and we need to get them to council as soon as possible to make sure that they are processed before your charter expires after December 31st. Late submissions are going to be going to the registrar in a virtual "tsunami" of paperwork arriving all at once, and can expect to be processed in the order received.

*Lee Cass*  
*Assistant District Commissioner*



## YPT: It's a Safety Issue

### ARE ALL OF YOUR ADULTS CURRENT WITH YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING?

Youth Protection Training (YPT) is not simply an administrative requirement. It is a keystone of BSA's program. The youth protection rules and procedures are intended to protect both our Scouts and our Scouters. For the sake of your youth, your unit leadership, and your chartered organization, please make every effort to ensure that the adults in your unit stay current with their Youth Protection Training.



*"The true purpose of education is to prepare young men and women  
for effective citizenship in a free form of government."*

*~Dwight D. Eisenhower (b. October 14, 1890)*

## NCAC and Patriot District Program News

### High Adventure 2022

Attention all NCAC Units planning High Adventure trips in 2022: Here are Important Facts To Know about Unit Reservation Dates and Procedures for booking 2022 adventures:

**Lotteries:** Only Philmont continues to operate a lottery system to reserve expedition dates in 2022. Northern Tier and Sea Base are first-come, first-served open registrations.

**Dates:** Philmont Lottery System opens early in October and closes December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Lottery selections will be made randomly by computer after December 1<sup>st</sup> (i.e., reservations will **not** be assigned in the order that requests are made). Units may now enter the Philmont lottery in consecutive years. Go [here](#) to download a 2022 registration info packet with explicit instructions and processes.

Northern Tier Open Registration opens in early October for 2022 Summer Treks (all bases) and January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for Winter (2021-22) Treks. There are limited numbers of treks available on each date, so having backup dates when making a reservation is essential. Reservations are first-come, first-served; you will know immediately if your request is available and must pay a \$250 deposit. Go [here](#) for registration information.

Sea Base also operates on a first-come, first-served basis – but the opening date is coming soon, as of early October. Reservations are immediate and so is the deposit due (\$250). Go [here](#) for 2022 reservation details; check back frequently for when the system will open – also check their Facebook page [here](#).

\*NOTE: as of late Wednesday, September 23rd National BSA is looking at pushing these registration dates to something later. Check the Base websites for up-to-date info.

**Goshen 2021: Registration is now open** for Scouts and Webelos Camps. It is likely that the numbers participating on any week will be limited, so **register early** to ensure you can get your preferred week.

### Camp Snyder Fall Activities

Camp Snyder is offering activity filled family camping weekends for family camping! Enjoy climbing, woodworking, STEM, shooting sports, handicrafts and more. All activities will be scheduled to provide the safest possible environment for you and your family.

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-2020SnyderFallFamilyCamping>

As we transition to fall Scouting, many uncertainties still remain. With some events in-person and some still remaining virtual we will continue to Scout on! Check out the upcoming fall events on the NCAC website and register today!



*John Merchant  
Vice Chair, Program*





## Patriot Chapter OA News



### Fall Induction Weekend

The first weekend in October the Patriot Chapter participated in the Virginia Central “Double-header” Ordeal at Camp Snyder. As this goes to press, we had 37 Candidates registered, about half for Friday-Saturday and the rest for Saturday-Sunday. Congratulations to those who completed their ordeal. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, candidates to the OA elected in 2020 will have two years to complete their Ordeals. We will be planning another ordeal for late April or early May 2021. Hopefully, by then we will be in an environment where we can more comfortably gather together.

### OA Election Season is approaching

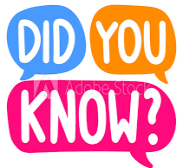
In the next few weeks, our Vice Chief for Elections will be reaching out to units with rosters of OA members in the unit and asking for each unit to appoint a youth OA Representative and an adult adviser. Working with these points of contact will make the process of scheduling and conducting elections a whole lot smoother and will allow the youth to accept some of the responsibility for this effort. Look for information coming out soon.

### A Gentle Reminder

The OA is not an organization apart from Scouting. It does not have its own dedicated youth or adults; its members are members of the Troops and Crews. It should be thought of as an extension of the unit’s programs. An individual cannot be a member of the Order of the Arrow unless he/she is currently registered with a Scout unit. Unit leaders should encourage OA members to participate in OA activities if it does not conflict with a Unit commitment. Let’s work together.

### Mark your Calendars to Help Support a Patriot District Food Drive on Saturday, October 17

The Patriot District will sponsor a Food Drive to collect canned goods and staple products for ECHO. Patriot OA members have been asked to staff the collection point at Westwood Baptist Church and the unloading at ECHO. We will need at least 5-10 Scouts at each location and a youth leader to supervise.



**PROBLEMS WITH SCOUTBOOK?** BSA has sites dedicated to information and questions about Scoutbook. One has links to a series of articles and videos on using the features of Scoutbook: <https://help.scoutbook.com/article-categories/scoutbook/> Another is a link to Scouting Forums, where many questions and problems for the different scouting programs (including Scoutbook) are shown, with solutions provided: <https://discussions.scouting.org/>

## **Update on STEM Scouts Laboratory Units in Patriot District**

STEM Scouts was developed by scientists at Oakridge National Laboratory in 2014, and it has since been taken around the country wherein educators design 20 activities/year for girls and boys in grades 3-8 to explore STEM through hands-on learning! Activity kits, lab journals, and curriculum are packaged and provided to the families who participate in STEM Scouts.

Starting on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, youth in the Patriot District will be able to register for the following STEM Scouts Laboratory (Lab) Units:

- Junior Lab Unit #605 for elementary school Grades 3 to 5
- Technology Lab Unit #6022 for middle school Grades 6 to 8

Both Labs are tentatively scheduled to meet on Mondays for 22 sessions from October 2020 through June 2021, 7:00 – 8:00 PM.

- The 2020-2021 Modules for Junior Lab (Elementary School):
  - Reaching for the Stars (Science: Astronomy, Physics)
  - New! Animation: (Technology: Stop Motion, Animation)
  - It's Not Magic, It's Magnets: (Science: Physics, Electromagnetism)
  - Meet Your Earth: (Science: Earth Sciences)
  - Get Under Your Skin: (Science: Anatomy)
- The 2020-2021 Modules for Technology Lab (Middle School):
  - New! Animation: (Technology: Stop Motion, Animation)
  - That's Showbiz, Baby: (Technology: Film Production, Engineering Sound Effects)
  - New! Simple Machines – They Run the World: (Engineering: Physics)
  - New! Circuits – Light it Up: (Science, Technology: Electrical Engineering)
  - APPventures: (Technology: Mobile Application Development)

**To learn more** about the STEM Scouts programs:

Please attend the *Join STEM Scouts night* on September 29<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM EST via ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkdeytrDIjGNZpZLAdPqUEhfn6SmXgvo10>

**To sign-up for STEM Scouts** apply through the following link:

- **Join Lab 605** (girls and boys grades 3-5)
- **Join Lab 6022** (girls and boys grades 6-8)
- *The fee for all 20 activities (including all supplies) is \$250/year.*

**Contact for Questions:** Justin Day: [kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com](mailto:kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com)

*Sokhom Kith  
STEM Coordinator*



## **Patriot District Food Drive in Support of ECHO**

Patriot District is again supporting ECHO (Ecumenical Community Helping Others) by sponsoring a food drive on Saturday, October 17, from noon until 4 PM. Parents and Scouts are asked to drop off their donated food at the Westwood Baptist Church, 8200 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. The church is next to the Cary office building. Scouts can place the food on the pavement or pop the trunk and volunteers will take the box/bag from the car. Scouts are asked to wear their uniform, either Class A or Class B, when delivering the food donation. The food drive will take place rain or shine.

Scouts should bring food from their home and possibly from friends, neighbors and relatives. When collecting food, Scouts should remain safe at all times. They should practice “social distancing” by asking others to place their donation at a specified spot near the Scout’s home, such as on the front porch or at the mail box. The food needs to be non-perishable in non-breakable containers (no glass jars please); donations can also include personal care items such as tooth paste and toothbrushes. Visit ECHO’s website at <http://www.echo-inc.org> for suggestions on what to donate.

ECHO is a charitable organization supported by 22 churches in the Burke, Springfield, West Springfield, Fairfax Station, and Fairfax area that provides help for families. Currently, they are providing support to over 1,000 families. There is hunger among a significant portion of the population, and families in need of food turn to ECHO for support. **This is us supporting our local neighbors.** The children getting food will likely be sitting in the same classrooms as our Scouts will be when regular school resumes. The ECHO facility is located at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, Virginia 22150.

Unit leaders from packs, troops and crews are asked to register with Pat Ring by Tuesday, October 13, to let us know their unit will participate. Just send him an e-mail at [pring978@gmail.com](mailto:pring978@gmail.com). After the food drive, notify him of the approximate number of Scout families that participated. While ECHO will weigh the food, Patriot District would like to get an idea as to how many Scouts participated. Participation in this food drive fulfills item #6, Community Service, for Scouts working on the NCAC Scouting at Home 2020 Award.

The Order of the Arrow (OA) will take the lead on this project. They will have a team of eight Scouts at the Westwood Baptist Church receiving the food donations and another team at the ECHO facility to move the donations inside, weigh and record them. Scouts who want to volunteer to work on either team should send an email to [patriotchapter@wipit470.org](mailto:patriotchapter@wipit470.org)

Steve Richardson is the ECHO volunteer in charge of the project. His e-mail is [ristph@aol.com](mailto:ristph@aol.com) and his phone numbers are: (703) 913-0638 (home) and (571) 422-2198 (cell). Steve will be wearing a Scout uniform during this event because he is also an adult Scout volunteer who serves as the Committee Chairman of Old Dominion District. I am the director for the project, and I can be reached by email at [wtdexterjr@gmail.com](mailto:wtdexterjr@gmail.com) or by phone at (703) 978-2632 (home) or (703) 344-6317 (cell).

**As a district, let’s make this food drive for ECHO a great success.**

*Bill Dexter  
Patriot District Committee Chair*



## Fall Recruiting

It's not a very large patch, but the Recruiter patch is one of the most important ones that a Cub Scout, Scout, Venturer, Explorer, or Sea Scout can earn. Your simple invitation to a meeting may result in huge dividends—a Scout for Life. Whether it is a virtual meeting (via computer), or a “socially distant” meeting (masks on or off and six feet away), you can still invite and encourage friends and neighbors to participate in your Scouting meetings.



This Fall is a great time to extend an invitation to others so that they can join in on the fun and adventure of Scouting. Best wishes to you as you consider who you might invite to your next meeting or outing.

*John R. Stewart*  
*Vice Chair for Membership*  
*john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com*



## WEBELOS 2/AOL Scouts: Adventure Awaits

Hello WEBELOS 2/AOL Scouts! You are almost to the end of your AOL Trail and about ready to start up the Trail that Leads to Eagle in Scouts BSA. Take a look at the websites of your local Troops to find out when you can attend a Troop Meeting (Requirement 2 of the Scouting Adventure) and to participate in an overnight campout with a Troop (Requirement 4 of the Scouting Adventure).

Each Troop is the same in that they all apply the same Scouting methods and follow the same leadership model, but each Troop has their own “personality”. Find a Troop that is a good “fit” for you and your family as you seek to grow your knowledge of the out of doors, Scouting, and the world around you. At this point there may be many competing activities for your time efforts so remember that Scouts BSA is youth led and adult advised—you and the youth leadership of a Troop will determine the direction your Troop goes for activities and challenges.

Choose to stay connected to Scouting by joining a Scouts BSA Troop after you complete your Arrow of Light, and climb the Trail that Leads to Eagle!



*John R. Stewart*  
*Vice Chair for Membership*  
*john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com*



## **Patriot District Eagle Scout Accomplishes Incredible Feat!**

Troop 1346 Eagle Scout Michael Volkman of Burke has become the first Patriot District Scout to earn all available merit badges. Michael, a senior at Lake Braddock Secondary School, recently completed his 138<sup>th</sup> merit badge, concluding a quest that took over six years. In the long history of the BSA, fewer than 500 Scouts have been able to earn all available merit badges.

Michael began his Scouting journey in 2009 as a Tiger Cub in Pack 1346 where he earned the Arrow of Light. He crossed over to Troop 1346 in 2014. In Troop 1346, Michael served in a series of Troop leadership positions, including Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and Troop Guide. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and completed National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT).

Michael would be an exceptional Scout even without his merit badge feat. He completed his Eagle Board of Review in July. Michael earned the Charles L. Sommers Grand Slam of National High Adventure Award for completing treks at all four BSA National High Adventure bases: Philmont, Sea Base, Northern Tier, and the Summit Bechtel Reserve. In 2018, Michael also participated in the inaugural session of Okpik-Kapvik, Northern Tier's newest cold weather winter camping program in Muskegon, Michigan. He attended the 2019 World Jamboree, as well as the Transatlantic Council's Camporee in Normandy, France commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day. Michael also earned Scouting's highest Roman Catholic religious award, the Pope Pius XII Religious Medal. Along the way, Michael racked up nearly 140 camping nights, almost 350 miles of hiking, four STEM Nova awards, numerous aquatics awards, the Japanese Interpreter's Strip, and other recognitions too numerous to list.

At Lake Braddock, Michael is a member of the National Honor Society, Computer Science Honor Society, Math Honor Society, and Japanese Honor Society. Michael intends to study computer engineering in college. In his spare (?) time, Michael also enjoys baseball, playing the piano, and video gaming.



**138 MBs**



**At Philmont**



**Climbing MB**



**France 2019**

**Michael Volkman, Troop 1346: Taking Scouting to the Limit**

*"Unless a man is master of his soul, all other kinds of mastery amount to little."*

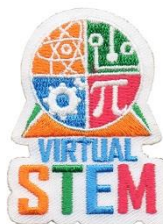
*~Teddy Roosevelt (b. October 27, 1858)*



## Pack 1967 Summer Activity Club and NOVA Awards Program

In response to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the National Capital Area Council encouraged all Scouts to stay home and be Scout Safe throughout the crisis. The Council created a special award, called the “Scouting at Home 2020 Award,” to recognize the unique challenge this presented to our Scouts and their families, encourage them to live the Scout Oath and Law even when typical Scouting activities are disrupted.

Cub Scout Pack 1967 heeded this call and developed a robust program of socially-distant activities to further promote Scouting during the summer. First, the Pack established a “Summer Adventure Club,” where Scouts completed virtual National Park Service Junior Ranger programs, served their community, and participated in fun STEM activities (including a marshmallow-shooter competition!). Each week had a different theme. For eight weeks, Scouts and guests participated in an interactive, virtual meeting each Monday, completed a variety of fun and educational activities during the week, and then met again on Thursday to share their experiences. The Summer Adventure Club averaged 28 participants for each week of the program. Through their participation and completion of activities, the Scouts could earn up to four patches: one for each type of activity and one summer bucket list patch for doing at least one of each.



In addition, Pack 1967 offered three NOVA Award programs to Wolves, Bears, Webelos Scouts, and AOL Scouts. Through these programs, Cub Scouts learned how math affects their life each day, explored the wonders of archaeology, and learned about computer coding. Finally, the Pack hosted several fun Pack events, including a virtual ice cream social and virtual campout.



Scouts were encouraged to “bring-a-friend” (virtually, of course) to all of these events, and Pack 1967 worked closely with Pack 1968 to ensure all Cub Scouts in the Kings Park West neighborhood had the opportunity to participate in the Summer Adventure Club and NOVA Award programs. The final attendance numbers are impressive. The grand total summation of all Scouts and guests at all Pack events this summer was 348!

*Gordon Goetz  
Pack 1967 Committee Chair*







**Boy Scout Troop 1131**  
**Burke, Virginia**  
Scouting since 1970

**Halloween Ghost Tour in Old Town Alexandria**

**When:** 7:00 pm, Wednesday, 28 October 2020

**Where:** Meet in Old Town Alexandria-Market Square  
(Corner of King Street and N. Fairfax Street)  
Park on side streets or Parking Garage in City Hall

**Who:** Webelos and AOL Scouts are Invited! All Older Scouts, Siblings, Parents, and Friends are welcome, too.

**What:** Follow an 18th century costumed guide by lantern light through the streets of Alexandria's historic district known as Old Town to hear ghost stories, legends and folklore. Learn about unsolved mysteries, tales of romance and angry ghosts looking for revenge. Wear masks and costumes (optional).

**Cost:** \$10 per person for tour due at check-in in Old Town Alexandria.

**Sign-Up:** On-line sign-up. Cub Scout Packs with Webelos and AOL: Please email with list of attendees.

**Contact:** Philip Sternberg <phil.sternberg@gmail.com>  
703-960-0205 (leave a voice mail message)

SCOUTING'S SALUTE TO  
**SERVICE MEMBERS & FAMILIES**

VETERANS DAY  
NOVEMBER 11, 2020  
NCACBSA.ORG/MILITARY



BOY SCOUTS  
OF AMERICA  
NATIONAL CAPITAL  
AREA COUNCIL

11:30AM  
VIRTUAL RECEPTION  
12:00PM - 1:00PM  
VIRTUAL PROGRAM



LT. GEN.  
L. SCOTT RICE

Keynote  
Speaker  
Former Director  
of the Air  
National Guard



BRIG GEN  
CHARLES E. MCGEE

Silver Buffalo  
Award  
Retired fighter  
pilot and one of  
the last living  
members of the  
Tuskegee Airmen.



GEN  
DAVID L. GOLDFEIN

Distinguished  
Eagle Scout  
Award  
Former Chief  
of Staff of the  
U.S. Air Force,  
Washington, D.C.



CAPT.  
JOHN R. ROTRUCK

Operational  
Pandemic  
Honoree  
Commanding  
Officer, Medical  
Treatment Facility  
USNS Mercy

**Details regarding this special Scouting Salute event are provided in a separate document being distributed with this issue of the Patriot Press.**

## B-P Still Wants You!



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

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

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

Contact Bill Dexter: [wtdexterjr@gmail.com](mailto:wtdexterjr@gmail.com)

#### *The Patriot Press*, Patriot District National Capital Area Council

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

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

#### Key District Contacts

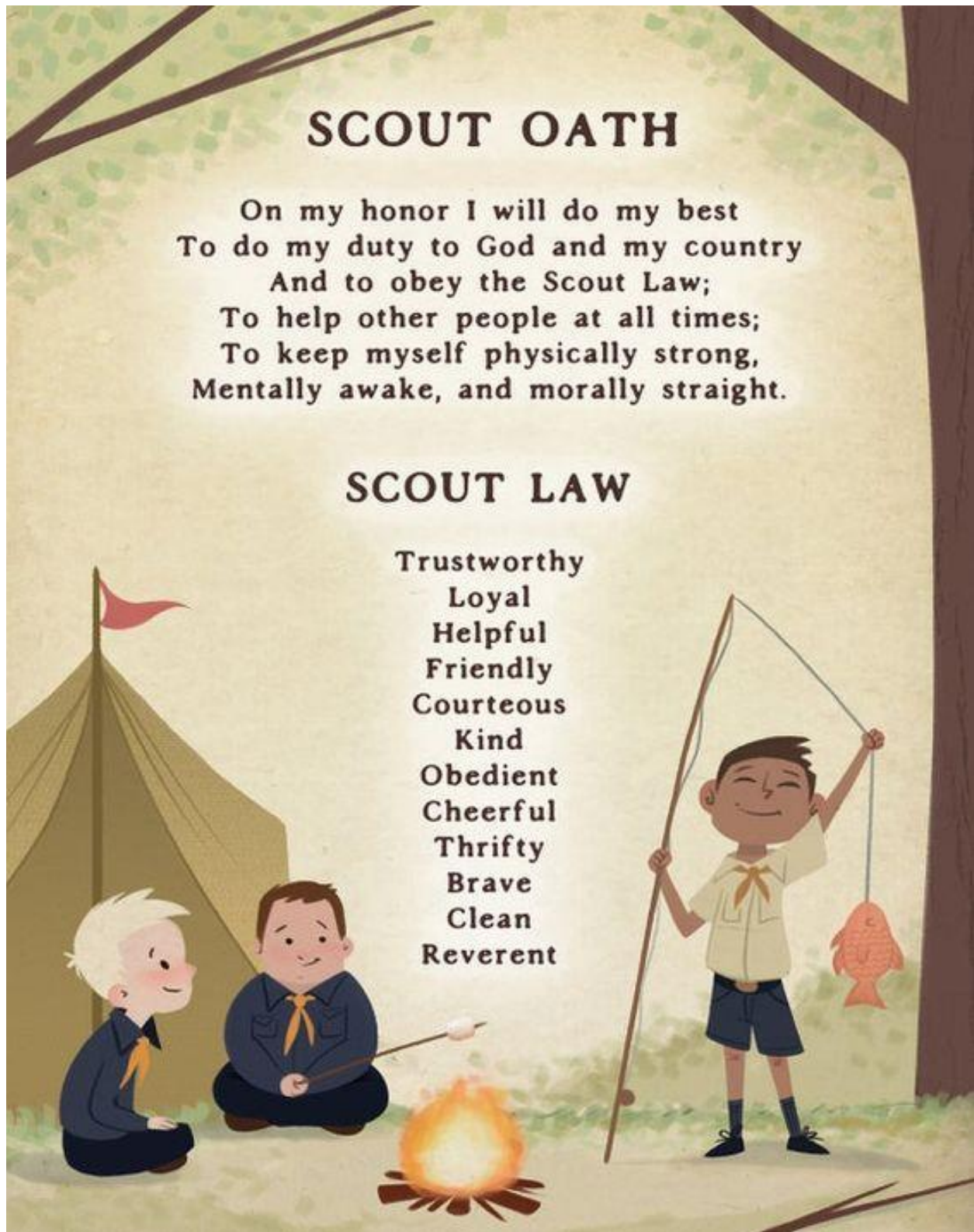
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<b>VACANT</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Development</b>	
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<b>Justin Day</b>	<b>Training Chair</b>	<b><a href="mailto:kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com">kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com</a></b>
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<b>Bill Snowden</b>	<b>Editor, Patriot Press</b>	<b><a href="mailto:bsnowden419@gmail.com">bsnowden419@gmail.com</a></b>



## **BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA SCOUTER CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

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



## SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country  
And to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
Mentally awake, and morally straight.

## SCOUT LAW

Trustworthy  
Loyal  
Helpful  
Friendly  
Courteous  
Kind  
Obedient  
Cheerful  
Thrifty  
Brave  
Clean  
Reverent