

The Patriot Press



March 2023 National Capital Area Council

Boy Scouts of America

In this Issue of the Patriot Press

From the District Chair	2
From the District Commissioner	3
Patriot District Events	4
Cub Scout and Scouts BSA Roundtables	5
Patriot District Pinewood Derby 2023	6
Friends of Scouting 2023	9
Patriot District Recruitment & Marketing	11
Patriot District Program News	12
West Springfield District Scout Night	14
Patriot Chapter OA News	15
Advancement News	16
Some Useful Links	16
Training Updates	17
STEM Corner	18
Patriot District Spring Camporee	19
Michael's Woodshop News: Spring 2023	20
Cub Scout Day Camp Flyer	21
Camps Flyer	22
Encourage Scouts to Join our Camp Staff Flyer	23
Lenhok'sin High Adventure Flyer	24
Wood Badge Registration Open Flyer	25
Wood Badge Flyer	26
NYLT Flyer	27
B-P Wants and Needs You!	28
Key District Contacts	28
BSA Scouter Code of Conduct	29
Scout Oath and Scout Law	30













From the District Chair

It was good to see so many of you at the University of Scouting and/or the Patriot District Pinewood Derby these past couple of weeks. The Patriot District had over 48 leaders attend the 2023 University of Scouting! A trained and informed leader is so important for our units and our Scouts. Thanks for taking the time. Congratulations to Bill Moser, Justin Day and Dave Astle who earned their Scouting Doctorate in their respected college. [ed. note: And to Joe Margraf as well]



Our District holds one of the best Pinewood Derby events in the entire Council, and 2023 was no different. Over 150 Cub Scouts came out this past Saturday, March 4th, to race or show their amazing cars. What a terrific day of sportsmanship and fun we all had. A Big thanks to our long-serving Pinewood Derby Chair Pete Griffiths, who again pulled off a great event for our Scouts.



Have you and your PACK signed up for these District Events?

- College of Commissioner Service: March 11 (in-person) & March 12 (virtual) (it's not just for commissioners)
- Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Training: May 13-14 Camp Snyder
- Patriot & Old Dominion District Cub Scout Summer Day Camp: June 26th- 30th

Our theme this year is OFF TO THE RACES and our location is at the Occoquan Regional Park in Lorton **Adults:** If you have a full week of free time available, why not be a full time staff Day Camp member & Your Scout will attend camp for *FREE*! (\$200 value)

<u>Cubmasters & Committee Chairs</u>: If you would like an individual <u>Summer Day Camp Presentation</u> at your Pack Meeting, please contact us at: patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com

Have you and your TROOP signed up for these District Events?

- College of Commissioner Service: March 11 (in person) & March 12 (virtual) (it's not just for commissioners)
- **Spring Camporee:** April 14-16 Harper's Ferry
- Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS): May 13-14 Camp Snyder



Have you scheduled your Unit's Friends of Scouting Presentation?

• Email Bob Sweeney at robertsweeney2@gmail.com to do so. About a third of our Units have already had or scheduled their presentations. Don't wait too long. I think you will enjoy it and may even learn something new about FOS!



2023 Patriot District Court of Honor is BACK: May 23 at Burke Lake Park; this is where we will honor all our Unit and District leaders.



My Challenge to all of you this month is get **OUTDOORS** and have fun. Remember the word **OUTING** is in the word **SCOUTING**. Always have fun and let's keep it safe out there.

Joe Margraf Patriot District Committee Chair





From the District Commissioner

Commissioners are Troubleshooters for Your Unit

One of the core aspects of Commissioner service is troubleshooting problems our units are having. Whether it's a registration that wasn't processed properly, questions about Pack programs or leadership, mediating parent complaints, or solving potentially catastrophic issues like a Troop losing a Chartering Organization, Commissioners are here to help. Every Commissioner loves when things are going well, but we're also here to serve our units and our Scouts when the going gets rough. If we don't know the answer to your question, we'll find someone who does!

Important Camping Rules Change

BSA just made a change to the Guide to Safe Scouting that may affect how units conduct campouts. The change is intended to help ensure BSA's Barriers to Abuse even more effectively protect our youth members. I'm told that the promise of these changes played a role in the Bankruptcy Judge's willingness to confirm the BSA's Plan of Reorganization, by assuring her BSA is serious about preventing child abuse. The change, effective Sept. 1, 2023:

- All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered in an adult fee required positions as listed or as an adult program participant. Limited exception below for Cub Scout overnight Programs.
- Cub Scout parents or legal guardians taking part in an overnight Cub Scout program with their own child or legal ward are not required to register as leaders... In addition, the parent or legal guardian must be accompanied by a registered leader at any time they are with youth members other than their own child/ward. All other overnight adults must be currently registered in an adult fee required position.

We are waiting for further guidance on how these rules will be implemented and whether there will be any flexibility. At first blush, the rule impacts non-registered parents or guests overnighting with a Troop, family members such as grandparents at a Pack overnighter, and Cubs from different families "sharing" one Cub's parent on a campout. Note that Merit Badge Counselor is not a "fee required position," but Scouter Reserve is.

In my Commissioner troubleshooter role, I'm happy to discuss concerns you have about this change and to brainstorm ways for meeting everyone's needs within the confines of the rules, but I can't guarantee we will be able to develop good workarounds for every situation.

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



Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

March 2023

- 4 District Pinewood Derby
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner College
- 14 Commissioner Meeting
- 25-26 Wilderness First Aid (Camp Snyder)
- 28 PD Committee Meeting

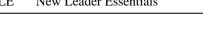
April 2023

- 9 Easter
- 11 Commissioner Meeting
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14-16 District Spring Camporee (Harper's Ferry)
- 21-23 Spring Family Camping (Camp Snyder)
- 22-23 Wilderness First Aid (Camp Snyder)
- 28-20 OA Spring Ordeal

May 2023

- 9 Commissioner Meeting
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13-14 BALOO and IOLS (Camp Snyder)
- 14 Mother's Day
- 20-21 Wilderness First Aid (Camp Snyder)
- 23 PD Committee Meeting
- 29 Memorial Day

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









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

The Purpose of the Roundtable:

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

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

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Location: St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke

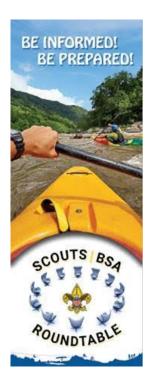
Social: 7:30 PM Midway: 7:45 PM Roundtable: 8:00 – 9:00 PM

Topics: Annual Planning, Technology Resources

Word of the month: Brave

Bring a treat to enjoy while we meet!

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





Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Location: St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, Burke

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!

join us at Roundtable:

Topics: Games, Knots

Greg Wagner, Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner wagner89usna@verizon.net

Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioners: Rick Priest



Patriot District Pinewood Derby 2023

"I pledge allegiance, to the flag, of the United States of America..." This was my Pinewood Derby (PWD) moment this year. 2023's Patriot District Pinewood Derby was the eleventh Derby I've run as the District Pinewood Derby Chair and Race Director. And each year I come away with a moment that sticks with me well after the track is stowed and the electronics are boxed and shelved. It is in these moments when I am reminded about why we do this thing called "Scouting."

While running the Derby, I am typically positioned right in front of the track and I am able to observe not only the cars and track but also the competing Scouts. Each year I always see something profound that sticks with me. This year, before the Tiger Den's races started, two young Cub Scouts sitting next to each other were reciting the Pledge of Allegiance together. They knew we were going to begin their competition shortly and they knew we were going to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to start things off. To my amazement, they were practicing so that they got it right! I was taken in by that moment and wanted to share it with you all with the hopes that it offers you inspiration and confirmation about why we indeed do this thing called "Scouting."

We held the annual Patriot District Pinewood Derby – the Super Bowl of Cub Scouting – on Saturday, March 4, at Living Savior Lutheran Church in Burke. The event was another smashing success, with 152 Cub Scouts from 18 Packs competing. Following the COVID-years, seeing the entire room filled with whooping and hollering Scouts, parents, and siblings was truly a welcome sight – though most of the parents had fingers in their ears as some protection from the staggering volume.

As for the noise, laughter, joy and dash of mayhem again this year, I'll just say simply that ... "It's Joe's fault." Yes, returning again was our very own Patriot District Chair, the world-renowned Entertainer-in-Chief, our own Master of Mayhem, Keeper of Costumes, our own Pinewood Patriot, Joe Margraf, as our MC. Joe was joined again this year by Justin Day, and the two of them tagteamed throughout the day in providing the necessary commentary, continuity, and energy needed to keep the competition flowing. It appeared, from the smiles and sheer volume of cheering, clapping,



screaming (at times, yikes!), and general Scout-pandemonium that everyone from the youngest Cub Scout to the most "seasoned" of Scout leaders and adults, had a memorable time. Oddly though, we were once again visited by several unusual characters showing up wanting to race, including the Mr. Scruffy-Long-Beard-Scout-Wannabe, Darth Vader, the Monk Scout (with Gregorian chanting over the speakers for ambiance), and the Mickey Mouse-like Cub Scout Cleaner. In retrospect, they all seemed to resemble Joe Margraf for some reason

The Cub Scouts competed in either Speed or Show categories within their respective Dens: Lions, Tigers, Bears Wolves, Webelos Scouts, and Arrow of Light Scouts. Throughout the day, our Cub Scouts exemplified good sportsmanship, and it was again inspiring to see these amazing future leaders together competing with the utmost fairness and respect.

For the speed competition, we raced each car on three lanes of the track, with the lowest average time was used to determine first, second, and third place winners for each of the six Den types. As is the case each year, times were amazingly close! In one race, two cars were separated by less than one tenthousandths of a second (that's 0.0001 seconds which, at the speeds of these cars, works out to be the width of a single nickel); try to see THAT with the naked eye! During the races, the Cub Scouts enjoyed cycling through as "starters" of each heat using the official Pinewood Derby "Plunge-o-matic," an indestructible (I double-dog-dared them all to try and break it!) TNT-detonator-like device that triggers the start as Scouts push down on the "T" handle; it's still intact!





Providing invaluable assistance with the Derby throughout the day were Scouts from Troops 1346, 1345G, and 1347B. These Scouts helped with registration, moving cars from registration to the "Impound Lot," and shuttling cars from the finish line back to the start between races. The Scouts also judged the Show competition, making decisions based on outstanding creativity and craftsmanship of the cars for each Den type. These Scouts were key helpers and essential in keeping the Derby running efficiently. I thank all of these Scouts for their great help throughout the day.

Like many other Scouting activities, the Patriot District Pinewood Derby is a major undertaking that could not succeed without the help of many capable and dedicated volunteers. My thanks go out to Joe Margraf and Justin Day for MC

excellence; Bill Dexter and John Merchant for helping with registration; my son, Max Griffiths, for running the starting line with Bill Smith from Pack 1101, who was our official starter and track transporter; Steve Smith for managing "Pit Row" (the place for Derby car tweaks and repairs with such help needed throughout the day); and my best-girl, Terry Dykeman, who helped with just about everything. We also extend our appreciation once again to Pack 1101 for the use of its most excellent track, as well as its precise and reliable timing hard/software and the instant replay (always a hit!). Lastly, a special thanks to everyone who participated in the setup the night prior and those who stuck around after for takedown and clean-up late on Saturday afternoon after the roar of the races had subsided and the crowds gone.

The 2023 Patriot District Pinewood Derby again provided us all with an extremely rewarding day and a steady stream of excitement, laughter, and typical Scouting-goofiness. But we were all also blessed to witness frequent reminders of the ideals and values that make this thing of Scouting such a powerful and lasting growth medium for our young women and men. It was a good day!

So, as we take our cars from this year's Derby, glue them onto a pedestal, fondly gaze at a medal or trophy from this year, let us all be mindful of the need to stock up again quickly on graphite (seriously, did ANY of the graphite actually stay on any of the cars?), ethyl cyanoacrylate (AKA "superglue"), sandpaper, paint, and pinewood car kits for next year. We look with a distant eye to the future, but do keep your pencils and sketchpads close to capture the ideas and creativity that will undoubtedly come for next year's 2024 Pinewood Derby when you build your child's car for them (just kidding!). We look forward to seeing you all in March 2024!

Pete Griffiths
Patriot District Pinewood Derby Chair





Patriot District Pinewood Derby 2023 Overall Trophy Results



Spe	ed 1st Place		2nd Place		3rd Place		
(2)	Lion Den	Breccan S.	Pack 1101	Peter L.	Pack 698	Jaxon L.	Pack 1344
-	Tiger Den	Gus L.	Pack 698	Ella Y.	Pack 1965	Mark S.	Pack 41
	Wolf Den	Luke Y	Pack 698	Cooper Q.	Pack 1346	Gio F.	Pack 1344
	Bear Den	Tyler M.	Pack 1344	Sawyer L.	Pack 1967	Flynn M.	Pack 1131
4	Webelos Den	Rylan S.	Pack 1101	TJ S.	Pack 1967	Paxton B.	Pack 1346
**************************************	AOL Den	Levi P.	Pack 698	Jonathan S.	Pack 1865	James H.	Pack 41

Show		1st Place		2nd Place		3rd Place	
Lion Der	า	Isaac K.	Pack 1967	William G.	Pack 1533	Declan G.	Pack 873
🌼 Tiger De	en	Callum C.	Pack 1965	Alden F.	Pack 1345	William S.	Pack 1347
Wolf Den		Joseph H.	Pack 873	Henry S.	Pack 1345	Henry S.	Pack 1965
Bear Den		Deacon L.	Pack 698	Gavin C.	Pack 1131	Gabriel M.	Pack 1347
♦ Webelos	Den	Caiden J.	Pack 1345	Brandon N.	Pack 1865	Clara P.	Pack 1346
AOL Den		Edan H.	1347/1346	Holden R.	Pack 1967	Huch W./Lara Z.	Pack 698/1346

Derby Day Photos: The Arena, Show Cars, Some of the Winners, Scout Show Judges



















Friends of Scouting 2023

An Important Message for All Unit Leaders and Committee Chairs

My name is Bob Sweeney and I am a member of the Patriot District committee, where I serve as Vice Chair, Finance. I have two Life Scouts who first drew me into Scouting when they were Tiger Cubs many years ago. I am a former Den Leader and Cubmaster, a past Assistant Scoutmaster, a retired Scoutmaster, and I am having a blast on the current staff of Wood Badge!

I am writing to you as a volunteer Scout leader on behalf of the 2023 Friends of Scouting campaign. Friends of Scouting is the annual giving campaign of the National Capital Area Council and the Patriot District that helps provide critical funds that help to ensure we can provide a quality Scouting program for every participating youth.

We (NCAC & Patriot District) depend on the Friends of Scouting campaign for over one-third of the funding needed to provide the values Scouting brings to young people throughout the Council and our District. In fact, Friends of Scouting is the largest single source of funding for the Scouting program.

Here is where I need your help: The FOS Team would like to visit your unit to talk to you, your families, and your Scouts to encourage everyone to invest in Scouting and become a Friends of Scouting contributor. Our goal is to have everyone make a contribution — no matter how small. Simple right, just 100% participation, can you imagine?

I think you will agree Scouting is truly an important part of our lives. The principles that Scouting teaches are as relevant today as when the Boy Scouts first began more than 100 years ago. By investing in our youth through the Friends of Scouting campaign, you can help direct young men and women into a program that stands for what is good and right in today's world.

What does a Friends of Scouting contribution provide us?

- Local programs and activities throughout the National Capital Area Council and the Patriot District
- Camp scholarships, uniforms, and registration fees for youth who otherwise could not afford to participate
- A Scout Service Center/Scout Shop that coordinates Scouting activities and provides customer service to members
- Accident and liability insurance to protect both youth and adult members
- Professional Staff (our District Executive) to counsel, guide, and inspire volunteer leadership
- Opportunities to attend summer camp and high-adventure events at Goshen; Camp Bowman, Camp Marriott, Camp Olmsted, Camp Ross, and Camp Lenhok'sin
- Advancement programs where Scouts are recognized for learning and achieving goals
- Leadership training for young people who will become our future community leaders
- Positive, value-based youth programs and activities

- Unit website support, council newsletters, and adult training courses and professional staff guidance
- Camps and facilities available to reserve for year-round camping and Cub Scout family outdoor events
- Support for Patriot District Cub Scout Summer Day Camp and Camp Snyder
- And more...

I believe it is our responsibility as parents, community leaders, and caring adult Scout leaders to ensure that every young person has the chance for a positive future. A well-funded program is essential to achieving that objective.

Now that you have read all that, the FOS Team would welcome the opportunity to give a short 15-minute presentation on Friends of Scouting at your upcoming Pack meeting, Troop meeting, any outdoor event, Court of Honor, Blue & Gold Banquet etc. Preferred venues are ones where many parents are expected to attend.

Please email me with a date and time so we can add you to our FOS schedule. We promise to make it short, fun and lively.

Thank you for all that you do in helping to make the Patriot District a stronger and a better district. And thank you for all you do for your units, your parents, and your Scouts!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you.

Bob Sweeney Vice Chair, Finance robertsweeney2@gmail.com (202) 271-1740



"We have been endowed with just enough intelligence to be able to see clearly just how utterly inadequate that intelligence is when confronted with what exists. If this humility could be imparted to everybody, the world of human endeavors would become more appealing."

~ Albert Einstein (b. March 14, 1879)



Patriot District Recruitment & Marketing



The Patriot District is stepping up its recruitment and marketing efforts for our Scouting program. Here are some events in which your unit can assist with this effort while simultaneously marketing your unit.

Fairfax HisTree Day, Saturday, April 22

This is a free event hosted by the City of Fairfax celebrating Fairfax history and conservation at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim. The City of Fairfax has invited Scouts to set up a main Scouts BSA station accompanied by mini-stations sponsored by different scouting units. The scout stations will display the various Scouts BSA conservation awards and recognitions (i.e., BSA Distinguished Conservation Service Award Program, World Conservation Award, Conservation Good Turn Award, National Outdoor Badge—Conservation, Keep America Beautiful Hometown USA Award, etc.) and showcase how the scouting program supports, advocates, and contributes to conservation. Please let Patrick Ring know if your unit wants to participate by March 31. Patrick will coordinate with Fairfax City as well as provide you with more details. There is no registration form.

Link to the event: https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/historic-resources/fairfax-history-day#ad-image-4.

City of Fairfax Independence Day (July 4th) Parade

Marching in the Independence Day Parade is a wonderful piece of Americana and an easy summertime activity for Packs (it is also an event that counts towards the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award, please see https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-december-10">https://www.scouting.org/outdoo



environment/conservation-awards-and-recognitions/ for more information) while marketing your unit and the scouting program. You just show up in uniform and march, it's that simple! Of course if your unit wishes to be more creative and elaborate, you can decorate a float, ride bikes, display your unit banner, etc. Your unit must register through the City of Fairfax, but it is free. The only restriction is that kids under age 6 must ride in a decorated vehicle. You must complete an application, which is due by April 1.

If your unit can't or isn't participating, individual Scouts are encouraged to march as part of a contingent of Patriot District Scouts with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8469 in Fairfax Station, VA. Please notify Patrick Ring of your desire to march in the parade.

Link to the event: https://www.fairfaxva.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/20345/638092216676000000

Link to the rules: https://www.fairfaxva.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/20349/638092216681630000

City of Fairfax Fall Festival, October 14

Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available for the Patriot District's recruitment and marketing efforts for this hometown festival in historic downtown Fairfax.



Please let me know if you have any questions regarding any of these events.

Patrick Ring Vice Chair, Membership pring978@gmail.com; (703) 674-6178



Patriot District Program News

Climbing Instructor Training 2023

Learn how to help Scouts climb on nearby natural rock and become a resource for your unit. This year the NCAC Climbing Committee offers four Climbing Level I Instructor class sections:

- April 15-16 at Great Falls Park, 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Logistics memo
- May 6-7 at Sugarloaf Mountain, 8:15 AM to 6:00 PM. Logistics memo
- Sept 16-17 at Sugarloaf Mountain, 8:15 AM to 6:00 PM. Logistics memo
- Sept 23-24 at Great Falls Park, 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Logistics memo



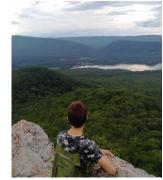
Contact the course director at ncac.climbing@gmail.com to register. Register in and attend only one weekend section. \$40 fee.

Goshen Registration is Now Open

... and popular weeks are filling up fast.

Goshen Scout Reservation is Located about 20 miles West of Lexington, surrounded by the Goshen Wildlife Management Reserve. It offers three Scouts BSA camping/dining options:

- Camp Marriott: Heater stack or Patrol Cooking food plans with tent camping.
- Camp Bowman: Patrol Cooking with tent camping.
- Camp Olmsted: Dining Hall with tent and a limited number of Adirondack shelter camping



All camps offer a full program of aquatics, shooting sports, ecology, handicraft/culture-craft and other merit badges. Goshen also has a COPE/Climbing area available to all three BSA camps.

Webelos Camp at Camp Ross offers a full program for Webelos and AOL Scouts.

Lenhok'sin High Adventure (LHA) is a unique, highly rated High Adventure Camp. It offers a backpacking opportunity for crews of up to 12 Scouts who are at least 13 years of age by the beginning of their trek. Crews backpack to outposts located around the reservation, where they participate in the program and spend the night. Each morning they head out to their next outpost. See a description of the outposts and additional requirements at the Goshen web site, and then select Camps and Programs and then Lenhok'sin High Adventure. For information on all camps go to https://gotogoshen.org

Patriot / Old Dominion Day Camp 2023: June 26-30



The Day Camp Theme for 2023 is *Off to the Races*. It will be a fun-filled week with lots of learning and challenges for the Cub Scouts. If you would like to invite someone from the District to do a presentation at your Pack Meeting to get the Scouts and Adults excited about Day Camp and have some fun, send an email to districtdaycamp@gmail.com.



Registration is now open at https://scoutingevent.com/082-65238

Staff Opportunities for Adults and Older Scouts This Summer – The Best and Hardest Job You Will Ever Love

Scout Camps are like most experiences – they are not principally about the location or facilities but more about the people you meet and work with. Our Scout Camps, Goshen, Snyder, day camps and Catoctin all need Scouts and Adults who enjoy the outdoors and working with people. It is a wonderful opportunity for Scouts 15 years old and older to learn leadership and responsibility, share their knowledge and get paid. Older Scouts, at least 18 are needed to fill some of the Directorships: e.g. Handicraft, Scoutcraft and Scouters at least 21 are needed to fill directorships for aquatics, shooting sports, COPE/climbing and ATV. Opportunities and requirements can be found at:

https://www.gotogoshen.org/information/goshen-staff/

https://www.gotosnyder.org/work-volunteer/summer-camp-staff/

For information on volunteering for Patriot Day Camp: patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com

National High Adventure Base Registrations Now Open for 2024



High Adventure Opportunities for Individual Scouts and Units



The Council puts together a number of High Adventure crews each year to accommodate units that cannot raise a crew and leaders of their own. They still have room for some Scouts in the crews for 2023.

Council also provides training to units planning high adventures.



John Merchant Patriot District Committee



West Springfield District Station Scout Night

Officers from the West Springfield District Station will be hosting a **Scout Night** on **Tuesday, March 14, between 5:30 – 7:00 PM.** If your Den or Troop would like to visit the police station and speak with officers, please contact them for available times.

Officers will give a presentation to the Scouts in the community room, provide a video tour of the station, and then present a hands-on tour of the police car outside. Space is limited to one den/troop every half hour. Slots are 5:30 PM, 6:00 PM, 6:30 PM, and 7:00PM. If older Scouts need specific requirements for a badge, arrangements can be made.

Please contact either PFC Liam May at (703) 277-2357 or MPO Tony Capizzi at (703) 277-2363 for scheduling or further questions.

Gordon Goetz Committee Chair – Pack 1967 Member-At-Large, Cub Scout Coordinator – Patriot District



Patriot Chapter OA News



Order of the Arrow Induction Weekend April 28 - 30, Camp Snyder

Patriot Chapter is joining George Mason and Old Dominion to put on the Spring Order of the Arrow Ordeal to induct newly elected members into BSA's National Honor Society at Camp Snyder the last weekend of April. This is a meaningful event for both those Scouts newly elected and those who are already members of the OA. The Ordeal consists of ceremonies, symbolic "tests" and service to the camp. Please encourage all those in your units who have been elected but have not yet completed their induction to register at https://scoutingevent.com/082-68176 and participate. The fee for candidates includes their sash, first year's dues, OA Handbook, and pocket patch.

Becoming a member of the OA provides Scouts and adults leadership training, opportunities for leadership, high adventure, and service beyond the unit. However, a Scout's first duty is back to his/her unit. If a Scout or adult candidate cannot make our chapter's date, there are other opportunities to which we can refer them. Have them contact pateriotchapter@wipit470.org if they have questions.

Spring Offerings of Wilderness First Aid at Camp Snyder

If your unit is planning a High Adventure of their own or at one of the National or Regional High Adventure bases, you will need at least one adult trained in Wilderness first Aid. The Council is offering Red Cross Remote and Wilderness First Aid at Camp Snyder. See article in the Council's program magazine, "We Own Adventure" at https://weownadventure.com/spring-wfa-courses-at-camp-snyder/

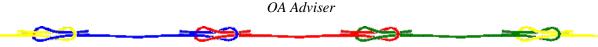
Job Openings for Older Youth and Adults Are Still Available at Both Camp Snyder and Goshen Reservation

 See article in the Council's on-line magazine at https://weownadventure.com/camp-staffopen-positions/

Lodge 2023 Dues Are Now Due

To remain active in the OA, you must pay your annual dues. The cost is only \$14.00 if you pay before April 1st; after that, it is \$16.00. Another advantage of paying early is that the Chapter is credited with \$2.00 for each member who pays their dues before April 1st. **NOTE:** If you completed your ordeal in the Fall of 2022, your dues are already paid through 2023.

You can pay your dues and/or buy the Passport online at https://wipit470.org/dues.html



John Merchant

"Excellence is not a singular act, but a habit. You are what you repeatedly do."

~ Shaquille O'Neal (b. March 6, 1972)

Advancement News

Fellow Scouters,

Now and again we see an advancement question regarding religion. Did you know that there are 37 faiths recognized with a religious emblem? You can find the chart at:

https://www.scouting.org/awards/religious-awards/

Regarding advancement, we always start with the Guide to Advancement (GTA) off the web. When referring to Scout spirit, the GTA says: "In evaluating whether this requirement has been fulfilled, it may be best to begin by asking the Scout to explain what Scout spirit, living the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and duty to God means to them."

...and

"From time to time, issues related to advancement call for an understanding of the position of the Boy Scouts of America on religious principles. The Boy Scouts of America does not define what constitutes belief in God or practice of religion. Neither does the BSA require membership in a religious organization or association for membership in the movement. If a Scout does not belong to a religious organization or association, then the Scout's parent(s) or guardian(s) will be considered responsible for religious training. All that is required is the acknowledgment of belief in God as stated in the Declaration of Religious Principle and the Scout Oath, and the ability to be reverent as stated in the Scout Law."

The Declaration of Religious Principle:

The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God and, therefore, recognizes the religious element in the training of the member, but it is nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and organization or group with which the member is connected shall give definite attention to religious life.

If you have questions please drop me a note; someone else may have the same question. Thanks for all you do to deliver the Scouting program.

Tom Tyra Advancement Chair



Some Useful Links

BSA Social Media Guidelines - Scouting Wire: Scouting Wire

Social Media (webdamdb.com)

BSA Branding graphics: https://scouting.webdamdb.com/bp/#/

Winter Scouting: https://scouting.webdamdb.com/bp/#/lightbox/1689339/

Jill Brannam Vice Chair, Communications



Training Updates

Happy almost Spring! While we all love winter camping, I'm sure you are all as excited as I am to get to warmer temperatures and the wonderful Spring camping season. University of Scouting was held in February and it sounds like it was a successful return to an in-person event. It will be back in 2024, likely the last weekend of February again, so mark your calendars for next year.

Upcoming Events:

May 13-14: The Spring 2023 editions of both IOLS and BALOO are scheduled and registration is live. Both courses will be held at Camp Snyder again this year. We are aware this is Mother's Day weekend but we had to select this weekend due to scheduling difficulties. We will endeavor to make sure everyone is out before noon on Sunday so that families can celebrate Mother's Day in the afternoon. The registration link for both courses is:

National Capital Area Council - Patriot - Spring '23 Outdoor Leader Training (scoutingevent.com)

Please note, you should only register for one of the courses...we do not offer double credit as they are separate classes and you cannot attend both as they are running concurrently.

Wood Badge: NCAC will be presenting 3 courses this year so there will be lots of opportunities to attend the premier adult leadership training in scouting. Registration for all 3 courses can be found at:

Wood Badge - National Capital Area Council (ncacbsa.org)

The course dates are:

- Spring 2023: March 31-April 2 and April 22-23
- Summer 2023: May 5-7 and June 3-4
- Fall 2023: September 8-10 and October 7-8
- Registration for the Spring and Summer courses are open and the Fall course will open in February.

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT): NCAC will again be presenting four courses this summer. NYLT is an exciting opportunity for your troop's youth leaders to explore their leadership styles and grow as leaders. Registration for all 4 summer courses can be found at

National Capital Area Council - NYLT Summer 2023 (scoutingevent.com)

The course dates are:

- Course 23-2: June 18 to June 23
- Course 23-3: June 25 to June 30
- Course 23-4: July 23 to July 28
- Course 23-5: July 23 to July 28

There are a lot of training opportunities for all programs listed on the NCAC calendar, so if a Patriot date doesn't work please check the calendar and see what other offerings are available. You can attend any training offered by BSA, whether it is in our district, another district, or even another council.

Justin Day Training Chair



STEM Corner

Radio Astronomer for A Day

Do you want to "see" the Milky Way Galaxy up close?

On the weekend of April 21-23, 2023, the Green Bank Observatory has a special program for Scouts who are of 5th grade age and older, the Radio Astronomer for a Day (RAFAD) program. The Scouts and accompanying adult leaders must stay overnight to participate in the program as they are guided to operate the Forty-Foot Radio Telescope to investigate the Universe!

The Green Bank Observatory is located in Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in the heart of the National Radio Quiet Zone. Surrounded by the Monongahela national forest, it is said to be a scenic place for many outdoor activities. While staying in the area, participants in the RAFAD program must turn off all non-medical Wi-Fi or Bluetooth devices. and cell phones or digital cameras cannot be used, to help minimize radio signals that interfere with the radio telescopes. **Note that there is no cell service around the facility.**

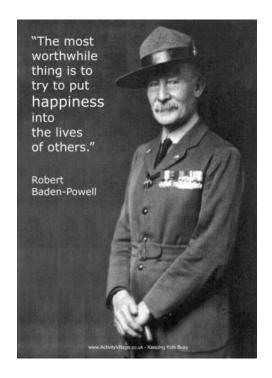
More information can be found at:

https://greenbankobservatory.org/education/educational-overnight-trips/

Did You Know that Supernova Awards mentors are BSA positions? Mentors do not have to pay a registration fee but they must fill out a BSA Adult Application for position code 52 and complete BSA Youth Protection training.

Sokhom Kith STEM Coordinator





Patriot District Spring Camporee

The Patriot District spring camporee will be held at Camp Manidokan, 1600 Harpers Ferry Road, Knoxville, Maryland on April 14-16. 2023. Troops and Crews are invited to gather in a meadow surrounded by trees where the Shenandoah River meets the Potomac River near Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, for a weekend of fun and outdoor adventure. On Friday night, units will arrive and set up camp. The program on Saturday will be unit-led, with Scouts hiking, biking, canoeing, or using rafts on whitewater to enjoy the beauty of this scenic place in America. Scouts may also visit Historic Harpers Ferry or walk the Civil War Battlefield at Antietam. The camporee staff will offer the American Heritage Merit Badge at the camporee for Scouts that will focus on either Harper's Ferry or Antietam.

Units choose which adventure they want to accomplish. Hiking is incredible in this area. There are numerous trails to explore including hiking parts of the Appalachian Trail, walking along rivers, or exploring historical sites. One famous hike is along the Maryland Heights Trail. Alternatively, units might want to canoe, whitewater raft, tube, or kayak for the day. There are many possible trips with different levels of difficulty Scouts can canoe. Units that are going to Philmont or Northern Tier this summer can include a shakedown or training activity at the camporee.

Each unit that is conducting a water adventure (canoe, whitewater rafting, tubing or kayaking) must conduct a safety program prior to the camporee and submit a Safety Afloat Plan to Bobby Walker, District Executive, for Patriot District at bobby.walker@scouting.org or (434) 429-4112 prior to the Camporee. Bobby Walker will disseminate the Safety Afloat Plan to appropriate persons at Counsel. The River and Trail Company is a major outfitter in the Harper's Ferry vicinity. They regularly support Scouts BSA and Camp Manidokan programs. Besides renting equipment, they also have several buses to provide group transportation. Their Point of Contact is Jenn at 1-888-446-7527. Additionally, there are several other outfitters in the area. All contracts for activities are agreements between individual units and outfitters, and units will directly pay the outfitters for any services.

The Camporee will feagure traditional Camporee activities, inclduing Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Friday night Senior Patrol Leader/Scoutmaster meeting and cracker barrel, Saturday night campfire and religious services.

Scouts BSA and Crews of Patriot and Old Dominion Districts are invited. Troops and Crews from other districts also are invited to the Camporee. Unfortunately, Cub Scout Packs cannot attend due to Scouts BSA rules. For units registering on Black Pug, registration will be opening soon and will be reachable from the NCAC calendar or a link we will send by Wednesday, April 12. When registering by April 12, the cost for the camporee is \$32 for all attending Scouts and adults who are camping overnight. The cost for people registering on Thursday, April 13 or later increases to \$35 per person. There is no cost for adults not camping overnight at Camp Manidkan.

The Point of Contact for the camporee is Pat Ring, who can be contacted by email at pring978@gmail.com or by phone at (703) 674-6178. As soon as units decide to attend the camporee they are asked to notify Pat Ring via email that they are attending with an estimate of how many people will come. Formal registration and payment will then be done on Black Pug. We request you give Pat an estimate early so we can use the numbers for planning purposes.

Bill Dexter Camporee Director wtdexterjr@gmail.com (703) 978-2632



19



Michael's Woodshop News



Spring 2023

Upcoming Events



2023 Woodwork Merit Badge Sessions (monthly): Michael's Woodshop offers "Classroom Sessions" focused on safety and other non-tool requirements and "Shop Time Sessions" for Scouts to work on project requirements.



STEM Nova Activities: Michael's Woodshop can support the woodworking project requirement of the Townes Supernova Award and we are also happy to arrange shop tours to support NOVA Swing! **Learn More...**



Spring Family Camping (April & May): A stop in Michael's Woodshop is just one of many enjoyable family activities available during the Spring Family Camping weekends. **Learn More...**



Baloo the Builder & Webelos Build It Workshops: Two popular workshops designed to help youth complete these electives. For more details, see the **Baloo the Builder** and **Webelos Build It** workshop descriptions.



Plan Now for Summer Camp at Camp William B. Snyder

A Summer Camp Mystery: Day Camp & Resident Weekends (June & July dates): Enjoy all the summer camp fun and activities at Camp Snyder, including a visit to Michael's Woodshop! **Learn More...**



Scouts BSA Specialty Week, July 16-22: Woodwork Merit Badge is just one of many merit badge opportunities being offered during Camp Snyder's third Scouts BSA summer camp program. **Learn More...**



Upcoming Events and Shop Calendar



View our **Activity Slideshows**



Click here to see **Shop Use Measures**

Recent Activities in Michael's Woodshop

1,873!

2022 was another great year for Michael's Woodshop, with 1,873 youth attending sessions in the shop! Please click on the Shop Use Measures link above to see how the shop is being used.



Our 5th Annual Pinewood Derby Days season was a huge success with 619 cars built! Click on the Activity Slideshows link above to see the fun.



Michael's Woodshop has hosted its first two Eagle Scout Projects of 2023 (with 3 more on the calendar). See Eagle Project Information to learn how to reserve the shop for your project.

Volunteer in Michael's Woodshop

Michael's Woodshop continues to grow in popularity and offers great programs for Scouts of all ages. We are always looking for new volunteers. Learn how you can Join the Michael's Woodshop Team.

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

2023 Patriot & Old Dominion District Cub Scout Summer Day Camp

OFF TO THE RACES - June 26th - 30th



Join us as we set out on a five day *High Speed Adventure!*We will race to Archery, Sling Shots, S.T.E.M. Scout Skills, Climbing Wall, Arts & Crafts & so much more FUN.







Cub Scouts love to go to Camp! The number one reason boys and girls join Scouting is to go to camp. Let's help them do that by having your Scouts attend the Patriot & Old Dominion District Day Camp.

Day Camp is for registered Cub Scouts entering the 1^{st} -5th grades the following school year. Those entering the 1^{st} grade must be accompanied by an 'adult partner' during their participation.

The camp will again be held at the Occoquan Regional Park, Lorton, Virginia. A one adult to five scout ratio is required to guide our "racers" through camp,

Camp Dates: Monday, June 26th - Friday, June 30th

Registration Fee: \$200 per Cub Scout

SIGN UP HERE: https://scoutingevent.com/082-65238

<u>Adults</u>: If you have a full week of free time available, why not be a full-time staff member. Your Scout (*one Scout only*) will attend camp for **FREE**!

Cubmaster & Committee Chairs: If you would like an individual Summer Day Camp Presentation at your Pack Meeting, please contact us at: patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com

The only thing needed for this adventure is **YOU!**

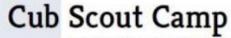
Zohra Sharief Patriot District Day Camp Director

CAMP

2023 Camp Snyder



Save the Dates Snyder Summer 2023



Rising Tigers to rising Webelos.

Day Camp

Session 1 Patriot: June 26-30, 2023

Session 2: July 10 - July 14, 2023 (Camp Snyder)

Resident Weekends

Session 1: June 22 - June 25, 2023

Session 2: June 29 - July 2, 2023

Session 3: July 6 - July 9, 2023

Session 4: July 13 - July 16, 2023

Scouts BSA Camp

Specialty Week:

July 16 - July 22, 2023

Registration is Now Open

www.gotosnyder.org

Encourage Scouts to Join our Camp Staff



We are actively recruiting camp staff right now. If you have Scouts who will be 14 years of age or older by this coming summer, encourage then to have the experience of a lifetime by joining our staff! Every year, the camps and programs that make up the Goshen Scout Reservation and Camp William B. Snyder employ highly motivated individuals to be a part of something huge.

Don't let your Scouts miss out!

Learn more about Goshen Scout Reservation:

https://www.gotogoshen.org/information/goshen-staff/

Learn more about Camp William B. Snyder

https://www.gotosnyder.org/work-volunteer/summer-camp-staff/

Backpacking Trek at Lenhok'sin High Adventure



The NCAC High Adventure Committee is sponsoring a Provisional backpacking trek at Lenhok'sin High Adventure (Goshen Scout Reservation), July 2 – 8, 2023 (Week 2 Session)!

Lenhok'sin High Adventure is NCAC's very own high adventure base, located at the Goshen Scout Reservation. Offering week-long backpacking and canoeing treks, Lenhok'sin is a platform to "plan your own adventure" and train for future high adventure opportunities, including Philmont and Northern Tier.

Backpacking Trek: Looking for Campers! – We Own Adventure https://weownadventure.com/backpacking-trek-looking-for-campers/

Wood Badge Registration Open



Spring Wood badge registration is now open! The spring course runs over two weekends: March 31- April 2 & April 22- 23. This premier leadership training is for Scouters in all BSA programs.

Wood Badge draws upon the most current leadership models used by corporate America, academic circles, and successful organizations throughout the country. Participants can expect to develop skills in many areas, including leadership theory, team building, problem-solving, communication, project planning, and more. These skills can be taken back to packs, troops, crews, and ships to help leaders guide youth in dynamic Scouting programs. Scouters will find these skills invaluable in their business and personal lives as well. Register today!

February 2023 Volume 26 Issue 3



Wood Badge

By taking Wood Badge, Scouters will acquire valuable tools such as listening, communicating, conflict management, project planning and leading change. Participants will better learn to understand and appreciate diversity and differences in our society. They will learn skills that will make them better Scout leaders.

t leaders.

Confidence in the confidence in the

Wood Badge was begun by Baden Powell in 1919 as a way to ensure Scouters were properly trained. Since then Wood Badge has been held worldwide, providing advanced leadership training to thousands of Scout leaders.

Wood Badge builds upon the best traditions and experiences of the Boy Scouts of America and also draws from a wide range of courses within and beyond the bounds of Scouting to present the latest in leadership theory and team development.

Wood Badge is designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of all Scouters.

All Courses at Camp William B. Snyder

Spring 2023

31 March - 2 April & 22-23 April Course Director: Maria Cooper

Summer 2023

12-82-23-2 5-7 May & 3-4 June Course Director: Bobby Tran

Fall 2023

12-82-23-3 8-10 Sept & 7-8 Oct Course Director: Jai Evans





REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION:

bsa.org woodba



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 Joe Margraf: joedenisemargraf@aol.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

Bobby Walker III	District Executive	bobby.walker@scouting.org
Work: (301) 214-9128	Cell: (434) 429-4112	
Joe Margraf	District Committee Chair	joedenisemargraf@aol.com
Ken Gaul	District Commissioner	kgaulbsa@gmail.com
Vacant	Vice Chair, Program	
Patrick Ring	Vice Chair, Membership	pring978@gmail.com
Bob Sweeney	Vice Chair, Finance	robertsweeney2@gmail.com
Jill Brannam	Vice Chair, Communications	jill.and.jay@gmail.com
Justin Day	Training Chair	kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com
Tom Tyra	Advancement Chair	thomas.tyra@gmail.com
John Merchant	OA Adviser	merchantj@verizon.m]net
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

