



The Patriot Press



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From the District Chair

October just rolled in with some cooler weather, and all of our units are rolling with recruiting, program, and just have some great fun!



Join Scouting Nights are happening all over the Patriot District. Pack 50 and Troop 50 invited me to join their JSN event. They had Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA Scouts greeting their guests and showing them a good time. What a terrific event they put on for their future Scouts.



Pack, Troop and Crew 1345 asked the District and me to be part of the **Burke Festival** that happened the first weekend of September. It was great to see and meet some many current and future Scouts. Thanks to these three units and Commissioner Kate Mattice who made Scouting look and sound so FUN.



I also stopped by a Troop 1346 **Eagle Project** being conducted for their Chartering Organization's Pre-School. It is always nice to see leadership and service in action by a group of Scouts and their leaders.



This past Saturday morning, I headed to Washington National Airport, not to fly anywhere, but to join Pack 1533 to greet 67 World War II, Korean and Vietnam Veterans that were arriving on an **Honor Flight** from Kentucky. What an honor and amazing experience we had in meeting these incredible Vets and all they did for our country.



I also attended the District's **Road To Scouting** on Sunday, October 8, where Webelos and AoL Scouts and their Parents came to learn what Scouts-BSA is all about. These Cubs were able to meet our Troops and their Scouts-BSA Members. 15 of our awesome Troops came out to showcase and help recruit their Troop's next generation of Scouts-BSA from the Patriot District's Cub Scout Packs. A BIG thanks to Providence Presbyterian Church who hosted us for this event a HUGE thanks to Bill Moser who coordinated the whole effort.



Fairfax Fall Festival – Scout Station – Saturday, October 14 – 10 AM – 5 PM: The Patriot, Chain Bridge and George Mason Districts will join together to run a station showcasing Scouting at this huge Festival. Take a walk around this awesome Local Festival and come on by and say hello.

Always have fun and let's keep it safe out there.

Joe Margraf
District Chair

patriot-chair@ncacbsa.org





From the District Commissioner

I write this column a few hours after I had the privilege of attending the annual Patriot District *Road to Scouting* open house, where AoL and Webelos Scouts had the opportunity to meet most of the fantastic Scouts BSA Troops in our District in one convenient location. Many thanks to Bill Moser and his team for putting this fantastic event together! Watching our Scouts, both those nearing the end of their time in Cub Scouting and our Scouts BSA representatives from many Troops, reminded me that the reason we do what we do as Scouters is to offer the best experience we can for all our youth members. Scouting is a great program, and we want as many of our youth to be able to grow and learn from the experience as possible.

Rechartering

Hopefully every unit's recharter coordinator was able to attend [recharter training](#) at last month's Roundtable. The NCAC [2024 Membership Renewal Handbook is here](#) if you don't already have it. Your unit should be working on rechartering NOW. If your unit hasn't logged into Internet Rechartering and started the process, you're already late! Some important points about member registrations during rechartering and year-round:

- THE PROCESS IS LARGELY PAPERLESS – register all new members online. New members joining this fall will directly pay the new member fee and 2024 BSA membership registration fee online, but they don't have to pay the 2024 NCAC Participation Fee. Continuing members should be accounted for in this year's unit recharter, along with both the BSA membership fee and NCAC participation fee. Don't forget to collect unit dues directly from new and continuing members.
- DON'T HOLD NEW MEMBER REGISTRATIONS – Online registrations will be reflected in your unit rechartering roster by the next day, and members added after completion of online recharter will be automatically added. BSA no longer permits back-dating of registration forms. Belated submission of an electronic or paper registration will deny a new Scout the ability to get credit for their advancement work!
- DON'T EMAIL UNENCRYPTED SCANS OF PAPER REGISTRATIONS – BSA prohibits this as a security risk. Unencrypted emails with paper scans will not be accepted by NCAC or the Patriot District. If you need to submit paperwork, arrange for secure delivery to [Lee Cass](#).

If you have any questions about rechartering (or anything else for that matter), feel free to reach out to your Unit Commissioner, Lee Cass, or me. We'll also be working with your unit leadership and COR to complete the [2024 Annual Charter Agreement](#) and [Journey to Excellence scorecard](#).

As always, thank you for all you do to provide a great Scouting experience for your Scouts!

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



Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

October 2023

- 8 Road to Scouting
- 10 Commissioner Meeting
- 12 Roundtable
- 14 YMHFA Training
- 22 OA Bowling Night (Bowl America, Burke)
- 24 PD Committee Meeting
- 28 SFF Sticker Distribution
- 27-29 **Spooktacular** at Camp Snyder
- 27-29 Fall Camporee



November 2023

- 4 SFF Food Collection
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Veterans Day
- 14 Commissioner Meeting
- 18 SM and ASM Position-Specific Training: Pohick Regional Library, Burke
Registration: <https://soutingevent.com/082-76352>
- 23 Thanksgiving
- 25 5K Trot & Ride at Camp Snyder
- 28 PD Committee Meeting

December 2023

- 12 Joint Commissioner/PD Committee Meeting
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 25 Christmas
- 31 New Year's Eve – Celebrate!

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





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

The Purpose of the Roundtable:

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

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

Thursday, October 12, 2023

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

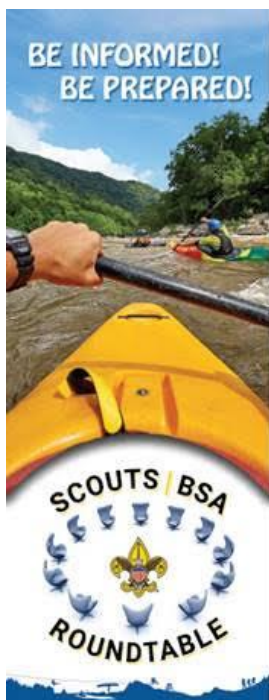
Social: 7:30 PM Midway: 7:45 PM Roundtable: 8:00 – 9:00 PM

Topics: JTE, Campfire Programing, Web Resources

Word of the Month: Helpful

Bring a treat to enjoy while we meet!

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



Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Thursday, October 12, 2023

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

Social: 7:30 PM

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

Midway presentation: NCAC 2024 Camping Opportunities

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

Topics: Recharter Q&A, Patrol Leader Council Meetings

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

Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioners: Vacant



Scouter Interview: Bob Greene

Patrick Ring

Bob Greene currently serves Scouting in the Patriot District as Assistant District Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner. He is a former Cubmaster of Merit for Pack 1533 in Fairfax, earned his Wood Badge beads, and is a past recipient of the Distinguished Patriot Scouter Award. Bob is also an Advisory Board Member to the BSA's National Capital Area Council. Together with his fellow Scouter, Mark Greer, he facilitates Youth Mental Health First Aid training for Scouters in the Patriot District and throughout the NCAC. Prior to his leadership positions in Scouting, Bob served two terms at PTA President for Mantua Elementary School in Fairfax. He is also active in Rotary, where he just completed his term as President of the Rotary Club of Fairfax and is now chairing a Rotary District Task Force on Mental Health Awareness. A father of five (two of whom are Eagle Scouts) and grandpa of two, Bob resides in South Riding, Virginia with his wife, Irma.



Professionally, Bob is a nationally recognized Learning Solutions Architect and principal at RCG Workgroup. He is co-author of a book to help attorneys garner a business mindset, "I'm Not in Sales, I'm a Lawyer." Having graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in political science and organizational leadership, Bob also holds a BMIA certification in intercultural analysis and an Executive Certificate from MIT's Sloan School of Management in Negotiation and Influence.

Patrick Ring (PR): How and when did you first become involved in Scouting, and then later active with the Patriot District Committee?

Bob (BG): I initially became involved in Scouting as a Cub Scout parent in Pack 1533 in Fairfax, VA. I eventually became the Cubmaster for Pack 1533 and stayed in that position for five years. During that time, I regularly participated in the monthly Patriot District roundtables and got to know the District's leadership. Now that my four sons have matriculated from Scouting (two of them as Eagle Scouts), I still wanted to stay involved. As much as I love the Boy Scout program, my heart has always been with the Cubbies. As Assistant District Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner, I am excited to share my Scouting experience with the next generation of Cub Scout leaders in the Patriot District.

PR: Please give us an overview of your activities and goals in your position as Assistant District Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner.

BG: My goal is to make Scouting as much fun for the next generation of Cub Scout leaders as it was for me. I also have a passion project to promote mental health awareness, and I am incredibly appreciative of all the support my initiative has received to certify Scout leaders in Youth Mental Health First Aid. Together with my fellow Patriot District Scouter, Mark Greer, we are working under a NCAC Council-wide endorsement from our Scout Executive/CEO to promote YMHFA training throughout the council. Given the expanding rate of teen suicide, especially post-COVID, this initiative will help save lives. Mark and I were also successful in our role as citizen legislators in introducing legislation through State Delegate, David Reid, that became House Bill 74, signed by Governor Ralph Northam in 2020. The bill

required all Virginia public school districts to provide mandatory mental health training to their full time, student-facing personnel.

PR: What benefits have you received from your experience as a Scouter?

BG: Scouting has undoubtedly provided me with tremendous leadership experiences. Among the many valuable lessons I gained from Scouting, the most meaningful was achieving my Wood Badge beads. Scouting embraces hands-on learning and fosters a spirit of fun. Further, Scouting provides a safe place to fail and to learn from those mistakes. As a corporate leadership trainer, I've integrated many of these invaluable Scouting principles into my executive forums. Without my Scouting leadership journey, I wouldn't have had the privilege of leading a room full of executives at a corporate retreat in an unforgettable rendition of the "turtle song" set to the familiar tune of Pomp and Circumstance. (If you're unfamiliar with it, I encourage you to look it up or simply ask any of my Cub Scouts from Pack 1533).

PR: What do you believe is a pressing issue facing Patriot District units, and what can you recommend to the unit leaders who must address those issues?

BG: Given that Scouting is changing its fundraising model and doing away with Friends of Scouting in favor of a direct financial assessment from each active Scout and leader, I anticipate that there is going to be some initial pushback from parents seeking to understand the value they are going to get from their additional financial outlay. In my opinion, one way that the District can help parents derive value from their additional expense would be for the District to facilitate one outdoor/camping program a quarter that a Pack in the District could use to replace one of its own monthly programs. By leveraging the resources of the District, we can offer meaningful programs at affordable prices so that Packs could save on the time it takes to plan one event each quarter; they would also derive some savings and efficiencies of scale as well. I look at my role as working with Patriot District leadership to help identify, plan, and facilitate those quarterly programs.

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

BG: I think my favorite memories of being a Scouter were the weeks I spent at Goshen with my boys going through their Webelos programs. I have four sons who each attended Goshen for two years; that's eight summers of Goshen experiences for me. At Goshen I could have fun with my boys outdoors in a way that is only possible when you get them away from their screens. I also enjoyed interacting with the rest of the Cubbies, as well as bonding with the other Scouters and the camp staff.

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

BG: For me, Scouting is a way of life. The twelve principles of the Scout Law are truly words to live by and to emulate every day. As Scouters, we need to embrace and embody these principles and lead by example. That means that we should always be in full uniform when appropriate and that we should be the Scout leader that the parents in our Pack or Troop want to be around and want to be like.

*Patrick Ring is a member of the Patriot District Committee
and Vice Chair for Membership*



Patriot District Fall AVIATION Camporee
October 27-29, 2023 - Bridgewater, VA

We will be teaming up with the NEXTGEN Aviators Program for a weekend experience that hits the mark for fun while learning the science of flight, technology in aviation, and aerospace engineering. Troops will camp at the NEXTGEN Airport and Scouts will have the potential to complete the Aviation Merit Badge.

Scouts will never want this thrilling and unforgettable STEM event to end.



Scouts will talk with experts and learn valuable information about the world of aviation. They will experience the thrill of guiding a plane through the skies in desktop simulators.



Experienced aviators will provide hands-on opportunities to practice professional skills used in aviation. Scouts will experience hands-on aircraft maintenance labs learning how aircraft are built and maintained.



Scouts will conduct a preflight inspection with a licensed pilot and learn what aviators inspect on the Beechcraft King Air aircraft before it takes off into the sky. They will fasten their seat belts, put on their headsets, and take off with a professional flight crew, listening to the crew narrate their activities from the flight deck. A smooth landing will put them back on the ground and prepare them to follow their own path based on the experiences and activities. Scouts will recognize the tremendous value and enjoyment of careers in aviation and other STEM fields.



VISIT the NEXTGEN Aviators Website - <https://www.nextgenaviators.aero/> to learn more about this incredible program and opportunity for our Scouts.

COST:

We have been able to get the cost of the camporee below \$200 per Scout. The Adult cost will be \$15. Unfortunately, Adults will not be able to participate in the actual program.

BUT we can lower the cost even more if get more Scouts to sign up.

Here is the COST breakdown:

- 200 Scouts - Cost = \$195
- 210 Scouts - Cost = \$186
- 220 Scouts - Cost = \$179
- 230 Scouts - Cost = \$172
- 240 Scouts - Cost = \$165

240 is the maximum number of Scouts that the program will handle.

Please email Joe Margraf at joedenisemargraf@aol.com with your Troop's final numbers and with any questions.



“The desire to fly is an idea handed down to us by our ancestors who, in their grueling travels across trackless lands in prehistoric times, looked enviously on the birds soaring freely through space, at full speed, above all obstacles, on the infinite highway of the air.”

~ Wilbur Wright (April 1867 – May 1912)

Scouting for Food 2023 – America’s Largest One Day Food Drive



The 2023 Scouting for Food campaign begins on Saturday, October 28. Thousands of Scouts will go door-to-door distributing custom-made stickers. On Saturday, November 4, Scouts return to those neighborhoods to collect the bags filled with canned goods and foodstuffs. The timing of the campaign coincides with the spirit of giving and appreciation associated with the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday season.

What: A Patriot District-wide food drive conducted to support the Capital Area Food Bank.

When: Saturday, **October 28, 2023** – Sticker Distribution Day *OR* participating units can self-organize distribution as they see fit

- NOTE: Stickers *WILL* have the collection date pre-printed.
- Stickers will be distributed at the October 12th Roundtable Saturday, **November 4, 2023** – Food Collection Day
- Trucks will be present from 8:30 to approximately noon

Where: Burke Safeway at 5727 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke VA 22015 (Parking Lot)

- Units deliver food to a central collection site
- Units do not have to consolidate and can send individual vehicles to the drop off point

How: Packs, troops, teams, crews, and posts are given geographic areas in which they distribute bags and, a week later, return to collect bags filled with canned goods and foodstuffs (**NO GLASS**).

Advertise: Units, please advertise the collection day via any means: HOA/Civic Association newsletters, emails, church announcements, school announcements, social media, etc., to include the virtual SFF campaign flyer

Virtual SFF Campaign

This year the Patriot District has added a virtual campaign to supplement our primary door-to-door collection. Go to <https://yougivegoods.com/patriotdistrict-scoutingforfood2023> or see attached flyer.

Safety and other Guidelines:

- Each unit will develop their own plans for safely distributing the stickers and collecting donations. Pay attention to traffic safety and ensure proper adult supervision and youth protection requirements.
- SFF will proceed if rain, and give additional guidance if thunderstorms occur.

- The District will make a weather call on the collection day for staffing the collection point, but units will make the call on distribution day
- Scouts represent the BSA. Don't trample flower beds, etc., as they proceed from house to house
- Be patient during rush periods at drop off. Scouts are courteous and kind in parking lots too!
- Do not block parking lot lanes at the Safeway. Drop off goes quickly, please be patient.
- Actively supervise scouts, especially younger Lions and Tigers in the parking lot. It gets busy and we don't need scouts darting in front of moving vehicles.

Reporting: It is imperative that all units record both your units Scouting for Food Data as well as Community Service Hours.

- Make sure that your district Scouting for Food chair has recorded your participation. Please send an email to Gordon Goetz with the information inputted to the NCAC website.
- You must log your participation at the NCAC Scouting for Food website at
 - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/scouting-for-food-unit-data/>
- Track your Unit's and Scout's Service Hours to include SFF by in whatever platform you use (e.g., Internet Advancement and Scoutbook, Troopmaster, etc.)
- Do your best on weight totals. Estimate 6-8 lbs. for a full shopping bag, one 16 ounce can equals one pound.

Patches: Units may order patches for their Scouts (and Scouters) who participate in the 2023 Scouting for Food Campaign.

- Order patches from the Council Trading Post at the following link:
<https://councilstuff.com/082?item=1464564>
- Place the order by October 20 to ensure they are available for pick-up shortly after the SFF collection dates.

Gordon Goetz
Patriot District SFF Coordinator:
(202) 713-6345, ghgoetz@gmail.com.





National Capital Area Council

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Virtual Food Drive

October 1 - December 16

Join the Patriot District Scouts to help our neighbors who are food insecure – Donate healthy food items today!



It's easy to help!

- ✓ Scan the QR code to visit our online giving event
- ✓ Click on SHOP to purchase the most needed items - please enter the Pack/Troop number you are supporting at checkout
- ✓ You will be emailed a tax receipt at check out
- ✓ All items will be shipped directly to the selected charities

Thank you for making an immediate impact today!

Sponsored by:



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

Patriot District held its third annual Cub Scout “Adventure Day”/Cub-O-Ree at Camp Snyder on Saturday, September 9, 2023. The morning started with an Opening Ceremony led by Eagle Scout Senior Patrol leader Andrew Gandy. It was a warm, sunny, clear day. The Cub Scouts immediately scattered to their activities, including BB gun rifle marksmanship, archery, the climbing wall, kick ball, stomp rockets, and STEM. Everyone had fun. The event was open to all Cub Scouts, family members and potential recruits. Cub Packs were encouraged to use this event as a recruiting event and invite perspective youth who may want to join Cub Scouts. Youth did not need to be registered Scouts to attend this event.

The event was attended by 127 youth and adults, including 59 Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and youth visitors, 65 adults and three young children under the age of five. 52 Youth and adults had planned to camp but only 6 stayed overnight. 24 Adults and youth staff supported the program.

The day went great until about 3:15 PM, when inclement weather arrived. First, we heard thunder and then observed lighting in the distance and within a few minutes heavy rain began. We expeditiously shut down the program areas and moved everyone to the Hylton Center or cars for safety. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the final period of activities. At 4 PM we ended the Adventure Day part of the program and at 5 PM cancelled the outdoor “Movie Under the Stars” scheduled for the evening. By 6:30 PM after three hours of rain most campers who had planned to camp overnight decided to go home for the night. Three experienced families were well equipped for rain and camped overnight. The storm lasted over four hours and the rain finally stopped at about 8:00 PM. Overall, everyone had a great time at the activities but were disappointed when we had to end early and cancel the evening outdoor movie.

The program was ably supported by a staff of 24 adults and youth. Patriot District Committee Chair, Joe Margraf, attended and provided headquarters’ support. Patriot District Commissioner, Ken Gaul, also attended and ran the shooting sports stations. As mentioned earlier, Eagle Scout Andrew Gandy, was the Cub-O-Ree Senior Patrol leader, and he also ran the Kick Ball event. Scout Greene ran the Stomp Rocket event. The climbing wall activity was staffed by John Cavan, Pat Boyd and his son, Tony Waisanen, and Scout Luke Dexter. The archery staff were Mike Stockey, Madi Zatzkin, and Emily Conrad. The BB gun range staff included Jack Oliva, who also served as a Camporee Commissioner, Robert Greene, and Jay Brannon. Scout Ben Hays from Troop 1525 also served on the event staff. He is a nationally recognized Marksman, having won several trophies and medals at numerous competitions. Liam Dexter also assisted. The STEM station was conducted by Mark Blanchard, a retired science teacher from Fairfax County Schools. The headquarters members were Lee Cass, registrar, John Gandy, medic, and Barbra Gandy, headquarters support. Rich Harrington and his daughter who is an Eagle Scout were prepared to show the outdoor movie.

*Bill Dexter
Adventure Day/Cub-O-Ree Director*





Membership Corner



If you have not already done so, you can request to join the Patriot Membership project on Basecamp by emailing me at pring978@gmail.com. This is another way to gain access to the following and more:

- (1) Playbooks for the Cub Scouts, Scout, BSA, and Venturing and Sea Scouts programs
- (2) Guides for Each Cub Scout Rank
- (3) Social Media Guides
- (4) Member Application Forms,
- (5) Share communications regarding membership with your peers

Here is an upcoming recruiting event:

Fairfax Fall Festival – Scout Station

Date: Saturday, October 14; 10 AM – 5:00 PM

Location: Main Street, Fairfax, VA

Comment: Patriot and Chain Bridge Districts will run a station marketing the Scouting program. Come on by and say hello.

Questions: pring978@gmail.com

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



Patriot District Program News

2023 Spooktacular Festival

Join fellow Scouts at Camp Snyder for a Spooktacular Fall Festival!



Calling all Scout ghouls and goblins! Get ready for a frightfully fun weekend at our Spooktacular Fall Festival, October 27-29. This new special Council-wide event will make your Halloween unforgettable! Registration options are at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-70773>.

Hayride Adventure: Enjoy a fun hayride during the day and then a spookier experience after dark for older kids. Climb aboard our haunted hayride and take a journey through the mystical camp woods. As the crisp autumn air fills your lungs, hold on tight as you encounter ghostly surprises lurking in the shadows of the campsites!

Zombie Run: Attention brave souls! Prepare to run for your lives in our hair-raising Zombie Run at the start of the day on Saturday. Dodge the undead as you navigate through the camp. Can you make it to the safe finish line?

Archery: Test your aim and focus on the archery range. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned archer, this activity might create some bullseye moments!

STEM Activities: Immerse yourself in the world of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) with our hands-on activities that offer the chance to learn, create, and explore while having a blast!

Fall Delights: Savor the flavors from food and drink vendors and get your creative juices flowing with our craft vendors.

Unlimited Inflatable Bounce Village: Prepare to bounce, jump, and slide your way into an inflatable bounce village. (Wrist bands will be required at an additional cost to bounce throughout the day.)

Get your tickets now and don't miss out on this Spooktacular Fall Festival! The perfect chance to invite friends and family to a Scout event and have a hauntingly good time outdoors. We can't wait to see you there!

Overnight Camping: Units wishing to camp, bring your decorations and get ready to haunt Camp Snyder! Only 13 units will get to camp at Camp Snyder during the Spooktacular. Decorate your site to be a Halloween fright on the haunted trail! Campers get discounted admission to the Spooktacular and discounted bounce tickets.



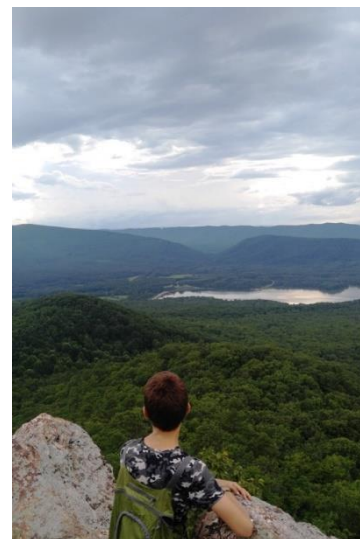
Goshen Registration for 2024 is Now Open

Registration for the five Camps at Goshen Reservation is now open at gotogoshen.org → Registration

The five camps include:

- Camp Olmsted – Scouts BSA Dining Hall
- Camp Bowman – Scouts BSA Patrol Cooking
- Camp Marriot – Scouts BSA Heater Stack or Patrol Cooking
- Camp Ross – Webelos Dinning Hall
- Lenhok'Sin High Adventure – Six days of Backpacking or Canoeing for Scouts at least 13 years old.

Register early to get your preferred dates and camps. NOTE: one week of Camp Ross is already full!

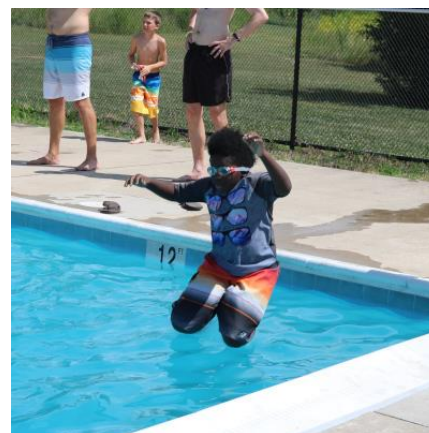


Camp Snyder Registration for 2024 is Now Open

Camp Snyder has multiple Cub Scout options and Scouts BSA options. Many details can be found at gotosnyder.org.

Cub Scout Day Camp: Come experience all the fun that Camp has to offer five days a week. This camp experience runs from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM each day and includes all your summer camp favorites. Lunch is included in the day and cost of camp for Scouts and their adult chaperone.

Cub Scout Weekend overnight Camp: Sleep in a tent, eat in the dining hall, enjoy lots of great program and experience a great a campfire program. The fun is non-stop from morning until night. Sessions run from Thursday at 6:30 PM to Sunday at 9:00 AM and feature three nights of overnight camping. Meals are provided from Friday breakfast through Sunday continental breakfast.



Scouts BSA Merit Badge Camp (Two Weeks in 2024!): There are two attendance options: (1) stay at Camp Snyder from Sunday – Saturday, complete your merit badges, and enjoy a series of fun evening activities, or (2) choose to attend from 9-5 Monday-Friday as a day-only participant for the merit badges class and rank advancement sessions.



NCAC Camp's OPI: Wilderness First Aid Fall 2023

Presented by the NCAC Camps, the Outdoor Preparedness Initiative (OPI) offers Wilderness First Aid certification with CPR/AED. OPI aims to prepare Scouts 14 years of age and older, Scouters, and outdoor enthusiasts for high adventure activities and other outdoor adventures. Certification is provided through the American Red Cross.



Course Dates for the fall are: October 21/22, November 18/19, and December 16/17. This two-day course will offer day-only instruction on Saturday from 7:30 AM – 8:00 PM and on Sunday from 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM. There will not be an overnight stay involved. Participants should bring their own lunch and snacks.

The course has an online component that must be completed before the first class date. This link will be emailed out when course registration is closed one week prior to the class. The online coursework will require 3-5 hours of online learning. The registration link is at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-74480>

All High Adventure Crews require at least one adult be certified in Wilderness First Aid. Plan to register soon as classes fill up quickly.

Scouterhorn Operations Training Fall 2023

Scouterhorn is the NCAC Council's mobile climbing tower. It is used for program weekends at Camp Snyder and can be rented for District events either on-site at camp Snyder or off-site at your event location within the NCAC geographic area. Whenever used, it must be operated under the supervision of a certified "Climb Master." The training includes review of on-line documents and hands-on training. The Hands-on" training is offered at camp Snyder during the Family Camp weekends. This Fall the dates are October 21 and November 18. Two sessions are offered on each date, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. Registration us at: https://scoutingevent.com/082-couterhorn_Operations_Training_2023



Patriot OA Chapter News



Fall Area Ordeal

Congratulations to six Patriot Scouts who began their OA journey by completing their Ordeal, and a Scout and Scouter who achieved their Brotherhood level for full induction into the Order at the Virginia Central Area Ordeal during the last weekend of September. Also, thanks to six members of the Patriot Chapter who served on Staff for that event. We got very fortunate with the weather and were able to provide significant service to Camp Snyder.



October Patriot OA Chapter Event

Instead of our regular meeting on the 2nd Thursday, we are planning a Bowling Night on Sunday, October 22 at Bowl America in Burke. This will be for all Chapter members and serves as a welcome event for our new members who have been inducted so far this fall. There will be a small cost, but the event will be subsidized by the chapter. Watch for confirmation and more details as to cost and time in the OA newsletter. This Patriot OA newsletter is sent to all Patriot OA members who have paid their dues for the year. Note to new members: If you have done your Ordeal this calendar year, your dues are paid for this year. If you completed your Ordeal this fall, your dues are paid through 2024. NOTE: If you or your parents are not receiving emails from the Lodge or the Chapter, contact us at patriotchapter@wipit470.org; We can add and/or update email addresses.



Scouting for Food Central Collection Help

Each year, units in the Patriot District, along with units all across the country, will be participating in a National Service project Scouting for Food. Our Chapter will be helping at the Patriot District Central Collection point at the Burke Center Safeway. We will help the units unload cars, separate the cans and dry goods, and remove the glass. Scouts normally help their units collect from their assigned neighborhoods; when they reach the collection point, they stick around and help others. It is a lot of fun in addition to providing a valuable service. You do not need to be in the OA to help with this project – please encourage older Scouts in your unit to stick around to help the adult volunteers.



*John Merchant
OA Adviser*



“To be true to ourselves, we must be true to others.”

~ Jimmy Carter (b. October 1, 1924)

Advancement News

The air is crisper, and the leaves are starting to fall! I hope that you take lots of time to enjoy the fall weather outdoors.

We have opportunities for more District Eagle Representatives. It is a great way for former Scoutmasters to help our prospective Eagles. If you can offer your mentorship, drop me a note.

Here are some big ideas I use with Scouts when discussing their Eagle Scout project proposal. You may want to consider them for your conferences.

- Ultimately, your project is about taking your vision of success and describing it in steps that your volunteers can do.
- Start with the “why?” Why is your project important?
- Set goals for your volunteers and then determine how you to make conditions for them to be successful.
- Draft your recruitment message to fit the audience (for example, the younger Scouts, the middle Scouts, and the older Scouts). Each one needs a different approach regarding how they will benefit from helping you with your project.
- Try using the EDGE method to teach the goals and skills.
- When you start your detailed planning try organizing your project using the patrol method. By batching your detailed planning tasks into groups with a leader in charge of each group. In this way you are directly leading only four or five people and indirectly leading the rest.
- Consider meeting with your team leaders before starting to explain the project so that all of you share a common vision.
- Always have a question or two to ask if the opportunity arises.
- Start working on your Eagle Scout Rank Application.

*Tom Tyra
Advancement Chair*



***“In today’s world, it’s easy to get lost in the glut of noise around us.
Step up and lead from the front.”***

~ Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt (b. October 27, 1924)

Training Opportunities

Scouters: Would it surprise you to learn that only 64% of registered adults are trained in the Patriot District? Are you or your leaders trained? For Cub Leaders to be considered trained, they need to take Position Specific Training online or in-person. For Scoutmasters and ASMs to be considered trained, they need to take Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills in addition to Position Specific Training.

We have heard a lot of units request training and we are working across the Council to better spread-out training and even offer some online with a live instructor. I encourage you to look at the NCAC calendar regularly (<https://www.ncacbsa.org/calendar/>). **If you have any questions or training needs specific to your unit, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.**

Upcoming Training (as of 9/25/2023)

Cub Scouts Adult Training	Scouts BSA Adult Training
10/7 – Cub Scout Leader Training (Colonial)	10/7 – Scoutmaster (Colonial)
10/10 and 10/11 – Den Leader (Patriot) via Zoom	10/14-15 – IOLS (Goose Creek)
10/14-15 – BALOO (Powhatan)	
10/21-22 – BALOO (WDC)	
10/28 – Cub Scout Leader (Aquia)	
11/4 – Cub Scout Leader Training (Colonial)	11/4 – Scoutmaster (Colonial)
11/18-19 – BALOO (Colonial)	11/18-19 – IOLS (Colonial)
	11/18 – Scoutmaster and ASM (Patriot)
Adult Other Training	Scouts BSA Youth Training
10/14 – Youth Mental Health	10/21-22 – Wilderness First Aid
10/21-22 – Wilderness First Aid	10/16 and 10/21 – Leave No Trace Trainer/Outdoor Ethics
10/16 and 10/21 – Leave No Trace Trainer/Outdoor Ethics	11/18-19 – Wilderness First Aid
10/21 – Scouterhorn (Climbing Wall) Operations (NCAC)	12/2 – Trainers EDGE
11/18-19 – Wilderness First Aid	1/12-15 and 1/27-28 - NYLT
11/18 – Scouterhorn (Climbing Wall) Operations (NCAC)	
12/2 – Trainers EDGE	

Rick Chandler
Training Chair
chandler.rick@gmail.com





YMHFA Training is Coming Back!!

ANNOUNCING A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO BE TRAINED

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

As we are all painfully aware, mental health issues including depression, feelings of helplessness and loneliness, being bullied and thoughts of suicide are no stranger to the youth we support and have been exacerbated by the recent pandemic. As adult volunteer Scout leaders it is incumbent upon us to know how to recognize and respond to the signs of mental illness and duress. This knowledge can literally be the difference between life and death. ***Please*** learn how you can help!!

The next **in-person** class will be held on October 14th from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. The location will be Holy Spirit School (8800 Braddock Rd, Annandale, VA 22003). There is no cost for the training as the county has received a grant for this course, but a \$5 contribution to offset the cost of snacks, water, and coffee is appreciated.

The class limit is 20; please sign up quickly.

- Register with Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net Please include your mailing address and a good phone number.
- All participants will receive a YMHFA certificate of completion and an NCAC sanctioned patch demonstrating the achievement.
- ***Don't miss out! Don't Wait!*** We can only serve 20 students in each class - register now for this essential training. To register, please email Mark Greer; he can also answer any questions you may have.





Michael's Woodshop News

Fall 2023



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

News & Upcoming Events



Michael's Woodshop is Expanding: Michael's Woodshop continues to grow in popularity and we are expanding our footprint to allow us to host more Scout activities. We will need additional volunteers and tools to operate and outfit the additional space. Read our recent article to learn more: [Michael's Woodshop is Expanding!](#)



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



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



Spooktacular: Join us for a Spooktacular Fall Festival at Camp Snyder. Activities for campers or day participants include a hayride, bounce house, zombie run, archery, STEM & Michael's Woodshop. [Register now...](#)



Our Sixth Annual Pinewood Derby Days is just around the corner! We have already begun scheduling Pack & Den Sessions and the Individual Sessions are open for registration. [Learn more...](#)

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

	Upcoming Events and Shop Calendar		View our Activity Slideshows		Click here to see Shop Use Measures
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Recent Activities



Summer Camp: We had a great time this summer hosting 671 Cub Scouts during Day Camps and Resident Weekends. See all the fun in our slideshow: [Summer Camp in Michael's Woodshop 2023](#)



Scout Specialty Week: We had another productive week in Michael's Woodshop with 16 Scouts earning the Woodwork Merit Badge! We are looking forward to hosting additional Scouts in 2024!



Become a Volunteer: Michael's Woodshop is operated and maintained by a group of dedicated volunteers. In anticipation of expanded operations, we are seeking to add new volunteers to the team. Roles are available for experienced and novice adults and youth. [Learn More...](#)

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



Camps & Programs
at Goshen Scout Reservation

Bowman, Marriott, Olmsted
Scouts BSA/Venturing Camps

Lenhok'sin High Adventure
Backpacking & Canoeing Treks

Ross
Webelos Camp

Dates

- Week 1: June 23 - June 29, 2024
- Week 2: June 30 - July 6, 2024
- Week 3: July 7 - July 13, 2024
- Week 4: July 14 - July 20, 2024
- Week 5: July 21 - July 27, 2024
- Week 6 (Ross only): July 28 - August 3, 2024

Fees

Fees and discounts for the upcoming year will be announced this fall.

Mark Your Calendars!

Registration opens to the general public on September 6, 2023.

Early Booking Discount! Units attending Goshen in 2023 will be able reserve their spot for 2024 while at camp and get a discount on their first scout.

www.gotogoshen.org



Save the Dates Snyder Summer 2024

Cub Scout Camp

Rising Tigers to rising Webelos & AOLs.

Day Camp

Session 1: June 24 - June 28, 2024

Session 2: July 8 - July 12, 2024

Resident Weekends

Session 1: June 20 - June 23, 2024

Session 2: June 27 - June 30, 2024

Session 3: July 11 - July 14, 2024

Scouts BSA Camp

Specialty Weeks

Session 1: July 15 - July 19, 2024

Session 2: July 22 - July 26, 2024

Family Camp

All ages!

July 5 - 7, 2024

Registration opens in October 2023.

www.gotosnyder.org

JOIN CAMP STAFF!



Ross • Olmsted • Marriott • Bowman • Lenhok'sin • Post

Every year, the six camps of Goshen Scout Reservation employ close to 300 highly motivated individuals to participate in the experience of a lifetime.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

We are seeking enthusiastic people who enjoy the outdoors. Prior experience with the Boy Scouts of America is not required.

- 21+** Specialty Leadership positions
- 18+** Area & Outpost Directors, other leadership
- 16+** Lifeguards, Lenhok'sin staff
- 15+** Program staff
- 14+** Counselor-in-Training

ABOUT THE JOB

For most positions, the primary focus is delivering program to youth and adult participants, whether in a program area or a wilderness outpost. Other responsibilities include general duties based on the operations of camp.

Room and board are provided. Staff live on site and go into town for their weekly day off.



 Goshen Scout Reservation
www.gotogoshen.org/staff

Summer 2024

Staff Training Week begins June 15, 2024
 and Tear Down ends August 6, 2024.

Interviews start in January 2024.

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

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Vacant	Vice Chair, Program	
Patrick Ring	Vice Chair, Membership	pring978@gmail.com
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Jill Brannam	Vice Chair, Communications	jill.and.jay@gmail.com
Rick Chandler	Training Chair	chandler.rick@gmail.com
Tom Tyra	Advancement Chair	thomas.tyra@gmail.com
John Merchant	OA Adviser	merchantj@verizon.mjnet
Bill Snowden	Editor, Patriot Press	bsnowden419@gmail.com



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA SCOUTER CODE OF CONDUCT

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

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

SCOUT OATH

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

SCOUT LAW

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

