



Volume 26
Patriot District

The Patriot Press

September 2023
National Capital Area Council



Issue 8
Boy Scouts of America

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From the District Chair

I hope all of our Scouts and their parents had a successful back to school experience and are getting adjusted to their new schedules.

Speaking of Schedules, the Patriot District has an exciting FALL Schedule for our Scouts!



I was thrilled to meet so many of our Cub Scouts at the Patriot District Cub Scout “Adventure Day” Cub-O-Ree” held this past weekend at Camp Snyder. This is just some of the fun and excitement that our Cubs will be able to experience in the Cub Scout program. A BIG THANKS to Bill Dexter and his team for putting on this amazing event.



Road To Scouting - October 8: Calling all Webelos & AoL Scouts and their Parents! Learn what Scouts-BSA is all about! Meet area Troops and Scouts-BSA Members! *See more information below in Membership Corner:*



Road To Scouting - October 8: We need YOUR Troop for “The Road to Scouting” to Help recruit your Troop’s next generation of Scouts-BSA from the Patriot District’s Cub Scout Packs! *See more information below in Membership Corner:*



SCOUTS
BSA

Fall Camporee – October 27 - 29 - AVIATION Camporee – Bridgewater, VA. This Camporee will be dedicated to the world of AVIATION. We are collaborating with NEXTGEN Aviators for an experience that hits the mark for fun while learning the science of flight, technology in aviation, and aerospace engineering. Featuring hands-on aircraft maintenance, flight simulators and *actual* flights: your Scouts will never want this thrilling and unforgettable STEM event to end. *Many details are provided on pages 8-9.*



AND for our LEADERS – TRAINING – the District has been busy building a great Fall Training Schedule- From Cub Scout Leader Training, Scoutmaster Training, BALOO - Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation, IOLS - Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, Youth Mental Health 1st Aid Training and *MORE.* *See page 15 for dates.*



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

Joe Margraf
District Chair

patriot-chair@ncacbsa.org





From the District Commissioner

Welcome back to another year of Scouting! All our Troops and Packs have a lot of fantastic events planned for this school year. This month I want to focus on two items that, while perhaps not as exciting as our recent Cub-o-Ree or upcoming Fall Camporee, are of vital importance to our success: **Recruiting** and **rechartering**.

Why do we Recruit?

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

- Please let your Unit Commissioner, me, or our [District Executive Bobby Walker](#), know what your fall recruiting plans are, including dates. Report back on how things are going!
- Use all the available recruiting resources. These include not only the typical flyers and yard signs, but also Facebook geofencing ads and many [other helpful resources](#).
- Get your new members registered and involved in your program right away! *PLEASE* use online registration – it's instantaneous, prevents errors that paper forms can cause, and will make rechartering easier.

Recharter Training

Rechartering is the annual process of confirming our membership rosters and re-registering our Scouts, leaders, and units for the upcoming year. It's one of the most important things we do. Without rechartering, Scouting would cease to exist. At our **September 12 Roundtable at 7:30 PM at St. Stephens UMC** we will have an especially important recharter training session. EVERY unit needs to send at least one representative who will be involved in the recharter process. As you know, there have been some changes this year, and we'll review best practices for rechartering in detail. If you're prepared for rechartering, it should go fairly quickly and smoothly this year. If you're not... well... Come to Roundtable and **BE PREPARED!**

We'll also be returning to our regular Roundtable program breakouts for Scouts BSA and Cub Scouting right after recharter training is done, so come and learn how to make your Scouting program better, more fun, and safer!

I look forward to seeing all of you – and especially your Scouts – at Scouting activities throughout the fall. Check out Joe Margraf's column and the articles in this issue of the Patriot Press for a list of all the things that are going on!

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



Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

September 2023

- 9 Cub Scout Adventure Day *Cub-o-Rec*
- 12 Commissioner Meeting
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 26 PD Committee Meeting



October 2023

- 8 Road to Scouting
- 10 Commissioner Meeting
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 24 PD Committee Meeting
- 28 SFF Sticker Distribution
- 27-29 Fall Camporee

November 2023

- 4 SFF Food Collection
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Veterans Day
- 14 Commissioner Meeting
- 23 Thanksgiving
- 28 PD Committee Meeting

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





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

The Purpose of the Roundtable:

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

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

Thursday, September 14, 2023

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

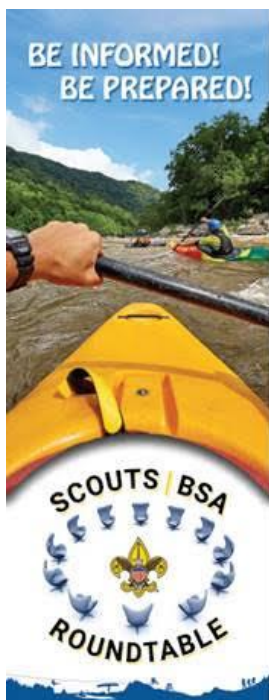
Social: 7:30 PM Midway: 7:45 PM Roundtable: 8:00 – 9:00 PM

Topics: Rechartering, Welcoming New Families, Cub Camping, Youth Mental Health

Word of the Month: Loyal

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, September 14, 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!

Topics: Youth Mental Health, Troop Summer Experiences – Meetings & Campouts

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

Asst. Scouts BSA RT Commissioners: Vacant



Scouter Interview: Sam Sharp

Patrick Ring

Sam Sharp currently volunteers in Scouting as the Cubmaster of Pack 698 and on the Patriot District Committee as the Awards Chair. He has previously served as a Venturing Advisor, Den Leader, Assistant Scoutmaster, Roundtable Commissioner, and Camp Staff member. In addition to Scouts he serves as a volunteer supporting softball, swimming, and religious education activities. A US Army Reserve Instructor, he was recognized as Instructor of the Year in 2021.



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

Sam Sharp (SS): I joined Scouting as a Tiger Cub in 1989. I was a proud member of two packs and three troops, including Troop 697 here in the George Washington District, which is now the Patriot District. As an adult, I moved back to this area in 2013, went to my old troop to see how they were doing, and was invited to co-lead a reinvigorated Venturing Crew. When I showed up at Roundtable in a green shirt asking about Venturing, one thing led to another and I followed in the footsteps of my dad and volunteered to facilitate the Venturing Roundtable, bringing together more experienced leaders to share with newbies like me. While doing that, the call went out asking for assistance with the annual Court of Honor, which led eventually to taking on the Patriot awards program. My more important role is as Cubmaster and formerly a Den Leader in Pack 698, though. It all starts at the unit level!

PR: What are some of your duties as the Awards Chair of the District Committee?

SS: The committee focuses on adult recognition. The types of awards for adults in BSA can be summed up as training awards, heroism awards, nominative service awards, and earned awards. The training awards (including the key) go through the Training Chair. Information on the earned awards (like Messengers of Peace) usually comes through advancement channels. Heroism awards and the nominative awards (District Award of Merit, Distinguished Patriot Scouter) require nomination forms to be submitted, and I help process those. The biggest role, though, is publicizing awards, managing our nominations for annual awards, and overseeing the annual Patriot District Court of Honor.

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

SS: The thing I have enjoyed the most is having the opportunity to interact with people who are very dedicated and proficient at what they do. We are all volunteers (except for our District Executive Bobby Walker, but even he is a cut above your average DE) and seeing how much enthusiasm folks have is uplifting. I love hearing about how other units work, how old scouters have done things before, and seeing better ways to help my scouts and my unit.

PR: Have you experienced any surprises during your Scouter career?

SS: Any time I get recognition it is a surprise. As a Venturing leader I was awarded the Council-level Venturing Leadership Award, and while I have suspicions I've never pinned down who wrote the

nomination. We put in our time and energy, and getting that positive reinforcement helps make it feel like it is doing some good. So nominate your leaders for awards!

PR: What guidance might you offer to individuals considering joining the Patriot District Committee?

SS: Just do it! There are lots of seasonal and short-term gigs: supporting OA ordeals, District Pinewood Derby, camporees, Scouting for Food, etc. Many hands make light work. I know I couldn't do the awards work without the help I get from scouters like Bill Moser and Jason Mann.

PR: What lesson(s) learned would you offer to individuals considering being the Awards Chair of the Patriot District Committee?

SS: If you've ran a Den Meeting, you meet all the qualifications. Keeping the nominee information organized and the timetables straight is the hardest part.

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

SS: Day Camp, 2021. The look on my kiddo's face when they made it to the top of the Scouterhorn the first time. That's what it is all about.

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

SS: When you look at the District Leadership, you might think that only a certain demographic are allowed to be in the positions of responsibility, but we desperately need millennial leaders like myself and a handful of others to support Scouting. If you're reading this, you're the right person for a job. Just come hang out and we can help you find the right fit!



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.

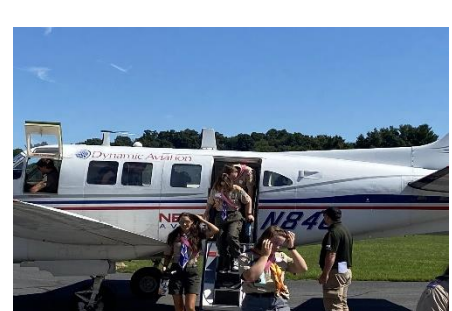
Scouts will never want this thrilling and unforgettable STEM event to end.



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 were 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)

A Message to Scouting Families from NCAC

Greetings NCAC Scouting Families!

Your National Capital Area Council (NCAC) works daily to fulfill BSA's mission: *"To prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law."*

NCAC works tirelessly to deliver a safe and high-quality Scouting program to our families in a cost-effective manner, and to support this work NCAC announced on June 30, 2023, the introduction of a Council Participation Fee. That announcement included this information:

"Beginning January 1, 2024, an annual Council Participation Fee of \$80.00 will be assessed to all youth participating in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts programs."

- *For Scouts currently registered, the Council Participation Fee will be collected as part of your unit's next annual re-registration, often referred to as "rechartering."*
- *Families with three (3) or more Scouts will be capped at paying three (3) Participation Fees.*
- *Scouts participating in more than one program will pay one (1) Participation Fee.*
- **No youth will be turned away for an inability to pay the Participation Fee.** *NCAC has always provided financial assistance when needed and will continue to do so".*

NCAC remains committed to making Scouting available to **ALL** youth. In support of that commitment, we are pleased to share NCAC's updated application for requesting financial support. As we heard through our Council Participation Fee listening sessions earlier this year, and through feedback from our Scouting families and leaders, having a simple, straightforward, and single process is key to connecting families with this financial assistance.

Use this link to request submit your NCAC Financial Support request -- for youth and adults – to help have an ideal year of Scouting!

Thank You to all of the individuals and organizations that have graciously given financial gifts to ensure that NCAC has the ability to offer this critical support.

Additional information about the Council Participation Fee, including a guide, one-page overview and FAQs, is available on the NCAC website at: ncacbsa.org/participation-fee

Yours in Scouting,

Council President Morgan H. Sullivan
Council Commissioner Julia Mae-Shen Lesko
Scout Executive/CEO Mario A. Pèrez



Patriot District Scout Earns Paralympic Gold!

Eagle Scout Ben Hays of Troop 1525 in Annandale recently took first place in two national paralympic rifle championships. He earned gold in 10-meter precision air rifle and 50-meter smallbore rifle in the paralympic division of the U.S. Junior Olympics in Colorado Springs in April, and repeated the feat in the same events at the USA Shooting National Championship at Fort Moore, GA in June.



Ben Competing at the USA Shooting National Championship



Ben at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Ben is a senior at Woodson H.S., where he is co-captain of the rifle team. He’s also a leader in his Troop, where he has served as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. For his Eagle project, he improved the path between the parking lot and the indoor air rifle range at the Izaak Walton Leage in Centreville, so that wounded warriors and other wheelchair users could more easily access the range.

Ben credits Scouting for his success in competitive rifle. He had never fired a rifle of any sort until a weekend Troop shoot when he was a new Scout. Ben decided he liked rifle shooting so much that he signed up for the merit badge the following year at summer camp. However, he was unable to finish the merit badge at camp. An Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 1525 who was also an assistant rifle team coach at Woodson introduced Ben to an experienced paralympic rifle coach who knew how to adapt the sport to Ben’s disability. Ben not only quickly completed the merit badge, but he also learned how to be an effective competitor. Five years later, he won two national championships!



Ben Leading his Eagle Project

When asked the secret of his success, Ben said “don’t look back and don’t let mistakes wear you down – be brave, move on, and find new solutions that will let you succeed. And most of all, ‘Be Prepared.’”





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 are some upcoming recruiting events:

Webelos to Scouts, BSA Transition, aka “Road to Scouting”

Troops showcase their units to Webelos Scouts

Date/Time: Sunday, **October 8** (Changed from Original Date of Oct 1). 3:30 – 5:30 PM

Location: Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA

We have indoor and outdoor spaces reserved.

Troops: Set up begins at 3:00 PM (6 ft by 6 ft station)

Webelos: Program begins at 3:30 PM

Questions: pring978@gmail.com

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

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 Oct 21 and Nov 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-Scouterhorn Operations Training 2023](https://scoutingevent.com/082-Scouterhorn_Operations_Training_2023)

Order of the Arrow VA Central Fall Induction Weekend September 29 – October 1, Camp Snyder

Patriot Chapter is joining the other Virginia Central chapters to put on the Spring Order of the Arrow Ordeal to induct newly elected members into BSA's National Honor Society. This is a meaningful event for both newly inducted 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 who have not yet completed their induction to register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-74712> and participate. The fee for candidates includes their sash, first year's dues, and pocket patch.



Membership in the OA offers 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 patriotchapter@wipit470.org if they have questions.

Patriot OA Chapter News September 2023



Patriot OA Chapter Meeting/Fellowship Thursday, September 14



The Chapter leadership wanted to do a bowling night, but Bowl America, Burke is completely booked with leagues on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Therefore, we will try again to hold a campfire with s'mores at **St. Stephens** (our usual meeting location) on our usual date and time: Thursday evening, September 14th (District Roundtable night) from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM. All OA members are welcome; Unit OA representatives and advisers are strongly encouraged to attend as monthly meetings are

one of our primary means of communications.

Virginia Central Ordeal September 29 – October 1

Patriot Chapter is participating with the other chapters in the Virginia Central Area to hold an Induction weekend on September 29 – October 1 at Camp Snyder. Our chapter is responsible for the meals, so we need help with the cooking for the weekend. If you have been an Ordeal member for at least six months you can also complete your Brotherhood. In addition to a **Cook Crew, we need Ceremonialists, Health and Safety Team members, and Elangomats.** Registration for this Ordeal is at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-74712>.



Encourage those Scouts who are candidates in your unit to register as candidates and encourage other members to register to help out. The number of candidates is limited, so have them register soon.

*John Merchant
OA Adviser*



Training Opportunities

There are many great training opportunities for adult and youth leaders in the months ahead. The many courses listed below are – or soon will be – posted on the NCAC calendar. I encourage you to look at it 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 9/4/2023)

Cub Scouts Adult Training	Scouts BSA Adult Training
9/9 – Cub Scout Leader (Colonial)	9/9 – Scoutmaster (Colonial)
9/23 - Cub Scout Leader (Powhatan)	9/15-16 – IOLS (Old Dominion)
9/24 and 9/25 – Den Leader (Patriot) via Zoom	9/23 – Scoutmaster (Powhatan)
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) PENDING	
10/28 – Cub Scout Leader (Aquia)	
	11/18-19 – IOLS (Colonial)
11/18-19 – BALOO (Colonial)	11/18 – Scoutmaster (Patriot)
Adult Other Training	Scouts BSA Youth Training
9/9 – Scouterhorn (Climbing Wall) Operations (NCAC)	9/9 – Outdoor Ethics Guide (NCAC)
9/9 – Outdoor Ethics Orientation (NCAC)	9/30 – Den Chief (Powhatan)
9/16-17 – Climbing Level 1 Instructor	9/30 – Leave No Trace Trainer/Outdoor Ethics
9/23-24 – Climbing Level 1 Instructor	10/21-22 – Wilderness First Aid
9/23, 10/21-22 – Back Country Outdoor Leader	10/21 – Leave No Trace Trainer/Outdoor Ethics
9/30 – Leave No Trace Trainer/Outdoor Ethics	11/18-19 – Wilderness First Aid
10/14 – Youth Mental Health	12/2 – Trainers EDGE
10/21-22 – Wilderness First Aid	1/12-15 and 1/27-28 - NYLT
10/21 – Leave No Trace Trainer/Outdoor Ethics	
10/21 – Scouterhorn (Climbing Wall) Operations (NCAC)	
11/18-19 – Wilderness First Aid	
11/18 – Scouterhorn (Climbing Wall) Operations (NCAC)	
12/2 – Trainers EDGE	

Rick Chandler
 Training Chair
chandler.rick@gmail.com



Scouting for Food – 2023

“Help other people at all times...Do a Good Turn...”



Every state and county in the United States is home to people experiencing food insecurity, defined by the nonprofit Feeding America as “a lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life.” Fairfax County is no exception, with nearly 75,000 county residents experiencing food insecurity. Food insecurity affects our most vulnerable populations – women, infants, and children.

The way Scouts BSA/Boy Scouts of America supports those with food insecurity in Fairfax County is by participating in the annual [Scouting for Food](#) (SFF) drive during the month of November. SFF is one of the largest annual food drives in the metropolitan area normally held every fall prior to Thanksgiving. Local food banks rely on it to stock their shelves for the upcoming holiday months when food demands are the greatest.

This year’s NCAC Scouting for Food campaign supporting local food banks and pantries is no different than our previous efforts where Scouts go into the communities, door-to-door, and notify residents of the SFF campaign through the use post-its, door hangers, or other messaging means provided by Council or individual districts on a Saturday and then collect food contributions the following Saturday.

The Patriot District is partnering again this year with the [Capital Area Food Bank](#), the [Safeway Foundation](#), and the [Order of the Arrow Amangamek-Wipit Lodge #470](#). **New for 2023**, a virtual SFF campaign has been added for the Patriot District to supplement our primary door-to-door collection. Access to the online food drive is with www.YouGiveGoods.com, a company whose mission is to provide online charitable giving services, promote community involvement, and inspire social responsibility. *The virtual campaign is not a replacement for your unit’s physical participation, but rather a compliment to the overall SFF drive.* It allows scouts to solicit support from family, friends, etc., beyond the district (i.e., family and friends who reside in another state or country).

Our NCAC advertised dates are **October 28th for notification** and **November 4th for collection** although collection may occur between October 1st and December 16th. This is the primary method of collecting food donations. Other collection methods that place the Scouts in the community maybe used.

Some units may partner with a local food bank/pantry as part of an established relationship or connection with their Chartering Organization. This is commendable and encouraged. These units can still distribute the YouGiveGoods.com virtual SFF campaign information. *However, please note that we are limited by our partner YouGiveGoods.com to only one food bank or pantry per district as their platform is simply not set up for districts to designate multiple recipients. Therefore, all online orders will benefit the Capital Area Food Bank and not your local food bank/pantry.*

Our goal is 100%-unit (physical) participation – 54 Units! Many neighborhoods within the District overlap with other Scouting units. In order to achieve the widest coverage and 100%-unit participation, units that cannot cover their local neighborhoods are strongly encouraged and respectfully requested to venture out of their comfort zones and volunteer for a different neighborhood. Don't let a lack of familiarity or antipathy prevent you and your unit from participating in the Council's largest community service project.

Stay tuned for additional information the closer we approach SFF on important topics such as the distribution of routes, safety, recording unit participation, and reporting requirements.

- Sticker Delivery to Units: Thursday, October 12 @ Roundtable
- Sticker Distribution: Saturday, October 28
- Food Collection: Saturday, November 4, 8:30 AM to 12 Noon
- Food Delivery/Drop-Off: Safeway Burke Center Parkway, 5727 Burke Centre Pkwy, Burke, VA 22015

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



Cub-O-Ree Adventures

With Great appreciation to all the Scouters who supported this event.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS





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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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

