



# The Patriot Press



Volume 22  
Patriot District

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot/press>

November 2019  
National Capital Area Council

Issue 10  
Boy Scouts of America

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## From the District Chairman

Scouts and Scouters of the Patriot District,

We are now midway through the Fall season and Winter will soon be here, bringing even colder weather and new opportunities for outdoor adventures. And now that it is November, it's time to start getting into the Holiday Spirit! It all begins with Thanksgiving on November 28 as we gather with our families and friends to give thanks for our many blessings. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

Our annual Scouting for Food activity is underway this month. Stickers were distributed on November 3rd, and the food collection effort will be completed on November 10th. This important Scouting activity provides a great opportunity to help others and build some service hours as we pack up the tuna mountain and many other food items and send the thousands of pounds of collected contributions off to feed the homeless and others in need. Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's event!

Are you ready for Unit re-chartering! We're looking forward to seeing the numbers and welcoming many new members into our troops and packs. Please work with your Unit Commissioner to get everything correct and submitted to Council on time.

As always, thank you for what you do for our Scouting movement. And thank you for your continuing support of the Patriot District's Scouting program.

Yours in Scouting,

Steve

*Steve Smith  
Patriot District Committee Chair*



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## From the District Commissioner

After chasing adults to complete the new Youth Protection Training last year for recharter, I thought this year would be one of the easiest ever. I seem to have been more than a bit mistaken. I've had numerous questions about a variety of things involved with rechartering, so let me use my comments this month to review the changes that have been thrown at us.

Mike Surbaugh, Chief Scout Executive, sent notice on September 20<sup>th</sup> that registration fees would be increasing by a yet undetermined amount as of January 1, 2020. He stated that "This prospective change is being driven by the significant cost increase of the liability insurance we must carry to cover all official Scouting activities." He also said the increase had to be approved by the national executive board and would be available to the membership by October 23<sup>rd</sup>. On that date, it was announced that registration for youth would be raised from \$33/year to \$60/year, and for adults from \$33/year to \$36/year. Also, the annual unit recharter fee would be raised from \$40/year to \$60/year. There were no changes to the cost of Boys Life.

During this same period, the BSA announced that a new Disclosure and Background Check Authorization was being issued and that every renewing adult must complete this form to be renewed for 2020. The BSA general counsel has stated the rationale for this: "Starting in 2020, rechecks will be performed every five years, but it will take several years to recheck all leaders. Unfortunately, technical limitations and changes in the law over the last five years prevent us from using existing authorizations from older applications. As such, new disclosure had to be sent and new signed authorization forms obtained. Rechartering provides the best window to collect and verify they have been received before the council processes the recharter application."

At the Council Key 3 meeting on Sep 5<sup>th</sup>, it was announced that the Council was raising the cost of the local insurance to \$7/year from \$6. After National announced the registration increases, the Council elected to rescind that raise. On Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, it was announced local insurance would now be \$2/year for 2020. Here are some of the questions I've received, along with answers:

**Q:** If I'm registered in multiple positions and the guidance from National is only one Background Authorization needs to be collected, why am I being asked to provide one for each position? **A:** Only one form "needs to be collected and retained by the Council." The problem is the unit/district rechartering processor needs to ensure that each adult being renewed has completed the form. Providing each unit or the district (merit badge counselors, District Committee and Commissioners) with a form makes this process the least complicated.

**Q:** Looks like there are two versions of the new Background Check form. One has California on it and the other doesn't. Does it make any difference which one I use? **A:** No.

**Q:** After telling us the local insurance needed to be raised to \$7/year, how did we get to \$2/year? **A:** The Council insurance cost covered both liability and accident insurance. The increase in National's fee includes liability insurance for the Council, so the Council's insurance will now be sickness and accident and affords the opportunity to reduce the cost to \$2/year.

David Astle  
District Commissioner



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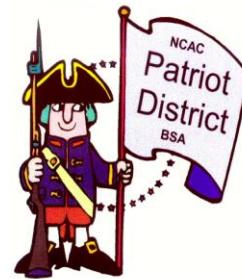
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## Patriot District Events

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

### November 2019

- 1 Popcorn Orders Due for November Pickup
- 2 Scouting for Food – Post-It Note Distribution
- 3 Patriot Press Deadline – November
- 3 NCAC Duty to God Brunch
- 9 Scouting for Food – Pickup
- 9 Charter Renewals for 2020 Due
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner Meeting
- 14 Roundtable
- 15-16 IOLS (Camp Snyder)
- 16 Popcorn Pickup
- 16 Pow Wow
- 22 Popcorn Payments Due
- 26 PD Committee Meeting
- 28 Thanksgiving



### December 2019

- 1 Patriot Press Deadline – December
- 7 Life-to-Eagle Seminar, Burke Presbyterian Church
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Joint Committee/Commissioner Meeting
- 12 Roundtable
- 22 Hanukkah begins (sundown)
- 25 Christmas
- 29 Patriot Press Deadline – January

### January 2020

- 4 OA Lodge Banquet
- 9 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner Meeting
- 20 Martin Luther King, Jr., Day
- 28 PD Committee Meeting

BALOO Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation  
BCOLS Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills  
CPST Cubmaster Position-Specific Training  
IOLS Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills  
JSN Join Scouting Night  
NLE New Leader Essentials

NYLT National Youth Leadership Training  
OA Order of the Arrow  
SPST Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training  
VAPST Venture Advisor Position-Specific Training  
VCPST Varsity Coach Position-Specific Training  
VOA Venturing Officers Association

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

The Purpose of the Roundtable:

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

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

**When:** Thursday, November 14, 2019

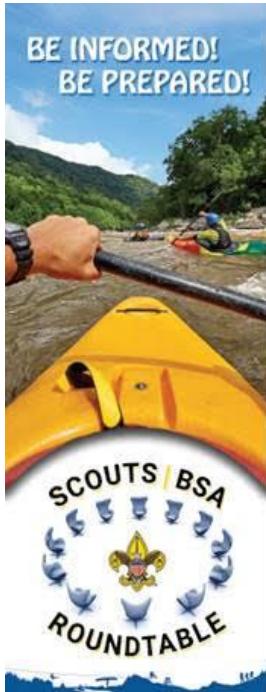
**Where:** Saint Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road

**Midway:** 7:30 – 8:00 PM    **Roundtable:** 8:00 – 9:00 PM

**Topics:** Religious emblems, Messengers of Peace award, Pack budgets.

**Word of the month:** Reverent

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



## Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Thursday, November 14, 2019

Saint Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke

**Midway:** 7:30 PM; **Pre-Opening:** 7:40 PM

**Scouts BSA Breakout:** 8:00 PM -- 9:00 PM

**Topics:** High Adventure Planning, PLC Meetings, Honor Patrol

*Randy Witter, Scout Roundtable Commissioner*  
*703-323-5220, [Randy.Witter@gmail.com](mailto:Randy.Witter@gmail.com)*

*Asst. Scout RT Commissioners: Joe Margraf, Rick Priest*

## Fall Camporee 2109: Scout Cooking Skills on Display

The Patriot District's Fall Camporee was held at Camp Snyder on October 25-27. The theme for this fun-filled event was outdoor cooking, which provided Scouts with a great opportunity to improve and demonstrate their cooking skills, and also to taste some great camping food prepared by others. The event involved active participation by more than 170 Scouts and Scouters, including 108 Scouts BSA from both Boy Troops (Troops 114, 698, 1344, 1346, 1524, and 1533) and Girl Troops (Troops 1347, 1526, and 1533); 14 Webelos Scouts from Packs 1344, 1346, and 1543, who joined in the fun on Saturday; 36 adult leaders; and 17 camporee staff.

The camporee unfolded like a progression of scenes from a series of Norman Rockwell Americana paintings. Scene 1: Saturday morning opening ceremony features more than 150 Scouts and Scouters gathering on a grass parade field in front of the Camp Snyder dining facility and waving United States and Virginia flags, forming in an orderly fashion Troop by Troop, and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the Scout Oath, and the Scout Law in unison. They then disperse to participate in scheduled camporee activities.

Scene 2: Throughout the morning, Scouts work in groups of four as they learn how to effectively and efficiently prepare a great camping lunch, either over a cooking fire or using a gas camp stove or a Dutch oven. They then consume and enjoy the fruits of their labor and sample the offerings of their fellow Scouts.

Scene 3: Throughout much of the afternoon, Scouts are participating in a number of organized activities, including air rifle marksmanship, archery, catapult launching of soft projectiles, and scaling the Council climbing wall. It is a beautiful but cool autumn day, with lots of fall color and bright sunshine – and absent the troublesome winds we experienced last year.

Scene 4: It is now late afternoon and evening shadows are approaching. Scouts again turn to working in small groups to prepare dinner, whether over a cooking fire or using gas camp stoves or Dutch ovens as at lunchtime. But for this meal, their efforts include preparing tasty desserts: cherry cobbler, baked apples, individual orange cakes cooked in fresh oranges, and cherry chocolate lava cake.

Scene 5: In the darkness of the Camp Snyder forest, Scouts and Scouters file into the amphitheater to enjoy a joint campfire program organized and presented by Scouts from the Patriot and Sully Districts. A number of new skits are presented, including novel and enjoyable ones by the Girl Troops.

Scene 6: It is Sunday morning and raining steadily, with the rain having started soon after everyone bedded down in their tents for the night. The Scouts work in a determined manner as they strike their tents, clean up their campsites, and prepare to depart for home. Unfortunately, the closing ceremony had been cancelled due to the unfavorable weather conditions. Despite the turn in the weather Saturday evening, however, the camporee has been another successful one enjoyed by all who joined in the fun.

As always, a successful camporee is dependent on the tireless efforts and capabilities of the many adult volunteers who join the camporee staff to make things run smoothly. John Merchant, John Cavan, and Dan Brunk served as overseers of headquarters operations. Pat Ring and Justin Day handled administrative duties. Mahmood Quadri served as the camporee grubmaster, ensuring that all staff members were well nourished at all

### Some of the lunch and/or dinner menu items prepared by Scouts:

- Chicken and rice with curry and other Mid East spices
- Grilled sandwiches made in a cast iron skillet
- Mountain man stew
- Taco tater tots
- Lasagna and pizza
- Ground beef and potato casserole
- Chicken pot pie
- Campfire hash
- Chicken noodle soup

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times. Dave Astle, Jae Engelbrecht, and Ken Gaul were the Commissioners on board to help in various ways. Religious services were led by Doc Johnson (Protestant), Howard Kaye (Jewish), and Fatin Elhajj (Muslim). Program activities were organized by and conducted under the supervision of Ken Gaul, Kelly O'Malley, and Mark Blanchard (air rifle marksmanship); Mike Stonkey and Zohra Sharief (archery); John Merchant (catapult/trebuchet); and John Cavan and Justin Day (climbing wall). Photography merit badge instruction was provided by Rich Harrington and Fatin Elhajj. Sokhim Kith provided additional staff support in selected areas. Gary Black served as the camporee photographer; his photos are below. Hearty thanks are extended to all.

*William Dexter  
Vice Chair, Program  
Camporee Director.*



**Scouts and Scouters Having Fun at the Fall Camporee**

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## NCAC Duty to God Interfaith Event and Brunch

The second annual NCAC Duty to God Interfaith Service and Brunch was held at Camp Snyder on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. The event, attended by more than 150 Scouts and Scouters from across the Council, began with a model interfaith campfire worship service in the recently refurbished John Mosby Russell Chapel. Following the service, attendees gathered in the Stephen G. Marriott Dining Hall to view numerous midway displays set up by the various NCAC religious committees.

The program continued with a formal opening ceremony provided by members of the Order of the Arrow, welcoming remarks by Master of Ceremonies Jim Young, an Eagle Scout invocation, a singing of *America the Beautiful* by the All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) Center Youth Choir, presentation of youth religious awards, and the complimentary fellowship brunch. Subsequently, adult religious awards were presented; Forrest Horton, Duty to God Working Group Chair, provided remarks on moving forward; and five Scouts made superb short presentations on *What Duty to God Means to Me in my Faith*.

Keynote speaker for this event was BG Ronald M Harvell, Deputy Chief of Chaplains, United States Air Force. In his remarks on *Our Duty to God*, he particularly emphasized how having a strong faith provides life benefits in so many ways: to individual health, to family harmony, to strong marriages, and to overall happiness. Forrest Horton and Scout Executive Craig Poland presented a BSA hiking staff to BG Harvell to commemorate the occasion after he concluded his presentation.

The event closed with a Scout Executive minute by Craig Poland, who provided an update on Council's efforts to promote growth, cited some of the challenges ahead, and spoke in remembrance of Chris Lucander, NCAC's dynamic Vice President for Membership, who passed away in late October. Attendees were then invited to revisit the midway displays and to take self-guided tours of Camp Snyder, Michael's Workshop, and Sally's STEM Shack.

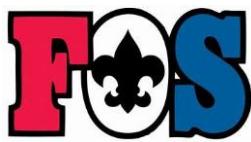


**Forrest Horton, Craig Poland, and  
Keynote Speaker BG Ronald Harvell**



**ADAMS Center Youth Choir**





## FRIENDS OF SCOUTING 2020

### An important Message for all Committee Chairs and Unit Leaders

**Some of you answered my note last month, many more didn't. Please help!**

Believe it or not, it's time to start planning for the 2020 Friends of Scouting Campaign. The Patriot District did meet its assigned goal in 2019 and I'm committed to doing better this year. Please contact the District Vice-Chair for Development, Mark Greer, to schedule your Family FOS presentation. Ideal times are Courts of Honor for Troops and General Meetings for Packs. These can start as early as December 2019.

**We need a date, time, and POC for every unit in the District.**

Our Patriot District FOS campaign works most effectively if there is an active partnership between the District staff and the unit leadership. The first step is identifying a key point-of-contact (POC) who will coordinate your unit's FOS activity with me. So please take this opportunity to sit down at a computer right now and send an email to Mark Greer at [mfgreer@verizon.net](mailto:mfgreer@verizon.net) to provide the name and email address of your unit's FOS POC. Thanks!

*Mark Greer  
Vice Chair, Development*

### Patriot District Introduction to Outdoors Leader Skills (IOLS)

Patriot District will conduct an **Introduction to Outdoors Leader Skills (IOLS)** training course on November 15-16, 2019 at Camp Snyder. The course will follow the new curriculum published by BSA in 2018. The course will start at 7:00 PM on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> with a robust "Cracker Barrel" and end by 4:00 PM on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. Although the course starts at 7:00 PM, the staff will open the site at 4:00 PM so that attendees can arrive early and set up their tents in daylight, which is always much easier to do.

The course will take place at the Handicraft Pavilion next to Bathhouse #1. The Friday evening Cracker Barrel will include homemade stew with fresh vegetables since we know that several participants will be coming straight from work. Additionally, attendees will be provided food to cook for breakfast and lunch. Attendees with special dietary needs should notify the Quartermaster/Grub master, Mahmood Qadri, by Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at (703) 348-7399 or [mahmoodqadri@hotmail.com](mailto:mahmoodqadri@hotmail.com).

Adult leaders will be divided into patrols and will model the Scouting patrol method during the course. There will be two patrols, and we are looking for two participants to volunteer to serve as patrol leaders and to bring a patrol cook kit with them. Please contact Bill Dexter, IOLS course director, to volunteer. His contact information is (703) 978-2632 or [wtdexterjr@gmail.com](mailto:wtdexterjr@gmail.com).

The registration fee for the course is \$28 for students and \$10 for instructors who plan to camp overnight. There is no registration fee for instructors not planning to camp. Registration will take place Friday evening at Camp Snyder, with any registration fees due to be paid at that time by check payable to NCAC – BSA. All participants planning to camp, however, should so notify Bill Dexter by Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. A preliminary weather decision will be made by the Camporee Director on that day.



## Bring a Friend

It is not too late to recruit a friend. Have your Cub Scouts bring a friend to your next planned Pack event. Pack's still wanting to grow before year end can plan an additional Join Scouting event in the remainder of 2019, as well as in the New Year 2020. Scout fun and learning is a great thing to share with neighbors and classmates.

333 If you need any assistance in the planning and/or preparation for Join Scouting events please feel free to contact John Stewart at [john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com](mailto:john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com) or 571-278-0549; or talk with your Unit Commissioner.



## 2019 POW WOW!!!

### NCAC CUB SCOUT LEADER POW WOW!

**WHAT IS POW WOW?** Pow Wow is a supplemental, action-packed training event for adult Cub Scout Leaders, Pack Committee Members, Charter Organization Representatives, parents of Cub Scouts, and others interested in the Cub Scout program.

- Participants will spend the day learning new ideas, concepts and having hands-on experiences that will enhance your ability to deliver and support a fun-filled, exciting program to Cub Scouts.

**WHEN IS POW WOW?** Pow Wow is Saturday, November 16, 2019.

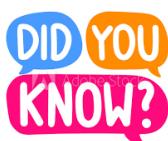
- Doors open at 7:30 AM, with 8:00 AM for walk-in registration (please, no early arrivals) and pre-registered package pick-up in the cafeteria.
- Opening ceremony begins at 8:25 AM. The first training session starts at 9:00 AM.

**WHERE IS POW WOW?** Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale, Virginia.

- [Here is a map](#). Registration and check-in is in the cafeteria.

### QUESTIONS?

- Send an e-mail to Bill Mayo at: [NCAC.PowWow@gmail.com](mailto:NCAC.PowWow@gmail.com)



If the unit leadership assigns you to a functional role (advancement, training, membership) in my.scouting, you will be given access to additional modules in the system to help you do your job. The unit can make those assignments in Organization Security Manager.

## B-P Still Wants You!



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

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

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

Contact Steve Smith: [smithfamilyzoo@cox.net](mailto:smithfamilyzoo@cox.net)

#### *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 copy inclusion in The Patriot Press is the two Sundays prior to Roundtable. Using MS Word, articles may be emailed to the editor at [bsnowden419@gmail.com](mailto:bsnowden419@gmail.com).

#### Key District Contacts

ASHLEY FELTON	District Executive	<a href="mailto:ashley.felton@Scouting.org">ashley.felton@Scouting.org</a>
Work: 301-214-9128	Cell: 443-360-8344	
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BILL SNOWDEN	Editor, Patriot Press	<a href="mailto:bsnowden419@gmail.com">bsnowden419@gmail.com</a>



# Patriot District

## Life to Eagle

### Seminar & Discussion Roundtable

### For Life Scouts and Parents



**Saturday, December 7, 2019**

**9:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

**Burke Presbyterian Church**

**In the Cottage**

**(the mobile building outside the main entrance)**

**5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke, VA 22015**

Hosted by

Former Patriot District Scoutmasters

And Featuring a Cast of Eagle Scouts and Adults

Ready to Answer All Your Questions!



- What are the requirements? What counts as a position of responsibility?
- Where do I get a project idea? How do I get my project approved?
- How long is this going to take? How do I get the money for my project?
- What is a life purpose statement? How do I fill out the application?
- What role does the Council play? Where do I get more information?
- What are letters of reference? Who's on my Board of Review?



## Boy Scout Troop 1131 Burke, VA

*Scouting since 1970*

### Philmont Trek Opportunity

Troop 1131 has space for Scouts and adult leaders who have an interest in a Philmont Trek next summer. The Troop currently has one full crew and a waiting list to form a second crew, with one adult and four Scouts on that list. We are looking for another adult and additional Scouts. Details are provided below.

**When:** Dates at Philmont Scout Ranch

Thursday, July 23, 2020 through Wednesday, August 5, 2020

Cross Country Road Trip Dates

Outbound: Sunday, July 12, 2020 – July 23, 2020

Return: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 – Saturday, August 8, 2020

Flying Dates:

Depart Tuesday, July 21, 2020 (to Colorado Spring, CO)

Return: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 (to Washington, DC)

**Where:** Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, NM

<http://www.philmontscoutranch.org>

**Who:** Scouts who are 14+ years old, or Scouts age 13 who have completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We have two crew slots. Each Crew is limited to between 8 and 12 people. Each crew must have at least two and no more than four adults.

**What:** Philmont is the ultimate Scouting High Adventure. Each crew will backpack 60+ miles in the mountains of New Mexico, and during their trek will participate in many terrific activities that the crew selects.

The road trip includes sightseeing and visiting historic places along the route. We'll sleep in churches while traveling. Those who can't make the road trip, can fly out to meet their crew in Colorado Springs before getting to Philmont.

**Cost:** Estimated \$2,525 (\$1,025 for Philmont, \$1,500 for lodging, transportation, some meals, crew gear, shake down expenses and t-shirts)

Payment in full is required by February 19, 2020.

**Contact:** Michael Cardaci <[mccardaci@hrtec.net](mailto:mccardaci@hrtec.net)>, 703-593-5131 (cell)

**Questions:** Please contact Phil Sternberg ([phil.sternberg@gmail.com](mailto:phil.sternberg@gmail.com))



## Philmont Slots Available with Troop 1865!

Troop 1865 has slots available to join one of our four crews going to Philmont Scout Ranch for a 12-Day Trek, from June 24th - July 6th, 2020. The total trip, including travel days, will run from June 22nd to July 6th or 7th.

Each of the Troop's Crews have 2-3 slots available for Scout interested in participating in a once-in-a-lifetime Scouting experience. In order to participate, Scouts must be 14 years of age by June 24th, 2020, or be at least 13 and have completed the 8th Grade. Scouts joining a crew will have the opportunity to join in the Troop's Philmont Prep Training Program to get to know the boys and adults in their crew and to build the skills they'll need to ensure they have a great Philmont experience. The program will include classes on key High Adventure camping and backpacking skills and at least two weekend prep hikes this spring. The total cost of the trek will be approximately \$2,250 (\$1025 for Philmont fees, and approximately \$1,225 for airfare, lodging, transportation and other crew costs).

Anyone interested in taking advantage of this opportunity or having questions should contact Troop 1865's Scoutmaster, Mr. Robert Timm, at [Scoutmaster1865@gmail.com](mailto:Scoutmaster1865@gmail.com).



## BSA's New Cyber Chip Safety Tool

The Internet has become an essential tool for daily use. According to a study by the Kaiser Family Foundation, kids of Generation M2, Multimedia Teens age 8 to 18 years old, spend about one third of their time daily using electronic devices to get online for access to education, research, socializing, and entertainment.

In addition to having special tools to promote safe use of pocket knives and build campfires, the BSA has introduced the new Cyber Chip in an effort to keep kids safe while online. Recognizing that access to the Internet is necessary and at the same time can present a danger to children if not properly used, the BSA partnered with NetSmartz to help educate Scouts about being safer online and to assist them in promoting community awareness of Internet safety issues: the danger of Cyber Bullying, and how Scouts can recognize and handle the situation while online.

Joining its cousins Whittling Chip, Totin' Chip, and Firem'n Chit, the Cyber Chip is the latest necessary safety tool for the 21st century. Under the new program, which rolled out in 2016, the Cyber Chip is mandated for all Scouts, including Cub Scouts, Scouts in Boy Troops and Girl Troops, and Ventures. The Cyber Chip requirements are grouped by school grades and can be related to Scout rank advancements as follows:

School Grade	Scout Ranks
• Grade 1-3	Tigers, Wolves, and Bears
• Grade 4-5	Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts
• Grade 6-8	Scout and Star ranks of Boy Troops and Girl Troops
• Grade 9-12	Boy Troops, Girl Troops, Varsity Scouts, Venturers, and Sea Scouts

Cyber Chip program details can be found by clicking <http://www.Scouting.org/cyberchip.aspx>.

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Scouts will graduate to new topics each year by recharging their Cyber Chip and broaden their knowledge while staying current with today's technology. Parents and leaders now have a resource that educates when and how electronics may be used for Scouting activities while also allowing each unit to set their own standards.

## A Guideline for completing and earning the Cyber Chip Award

Because the internet safety is very complex, Scouts should keep track of the requirements for their Cyber Chip completion as follows:

- Any Scout desiring to work on and earn the Cyber Chip Award (the Award) must obtain from <http://www.Scouting.org/cyberchip.aspx> the listing of the requirements according to his/her school grade. Scouts are categorized into two groups of Scouts – “younger Scouts” (grade 6-8) and “older Scouts” (grade 9-12). New Scouts (Cross-over Webelos) need to earn grade 6-8 grade Cyber Chip for the Scout Rank.
- Complete each step of the requirements and collect the signatures as stated in the appropriate Cyber Chip Scout Tracking Sheets, which can be obtained at the following links:
  - [Grade 6-8 Scout and Star Ranks Tracking Sheet](#)
  - [Grade 9-12 Older Scout Tracking Sheet](#)
  - Scouts are encouraged, but are not required, to use the [Scout Cyber Chip Workbook](#).
- Once a Scout completes all the steps and collects all the required signatures, Scouts turn in the Cyber Chip card with pledge signature and the unit leader’s signature, along with the Tracking Sheet, to the unit Advancement Chair.
- The Advancement Chair keeps the turned in Track Sheet as the unit record for Scouts who completed and earned the Cyber Chip Award and return the Cyber Chip card to the Scout for his own recording. The Advancement Chair may decide to give out the Cyber Chip patch for the Award.

## Recharging Your Cyber Chip

- All Cyber Chips will expire annually. Each Scout will need to go to [Netsmartz](#) and complete two new resources to recommit to net safety and netiquette. Then, with the unit leader, the Scout can add the new date to the Cyber Chip card or certificate.

In case Scouts advance in school grade before they advance in their Scout rank, Grade 9-12 Scouts need to complete the “older Scouts” requirements.



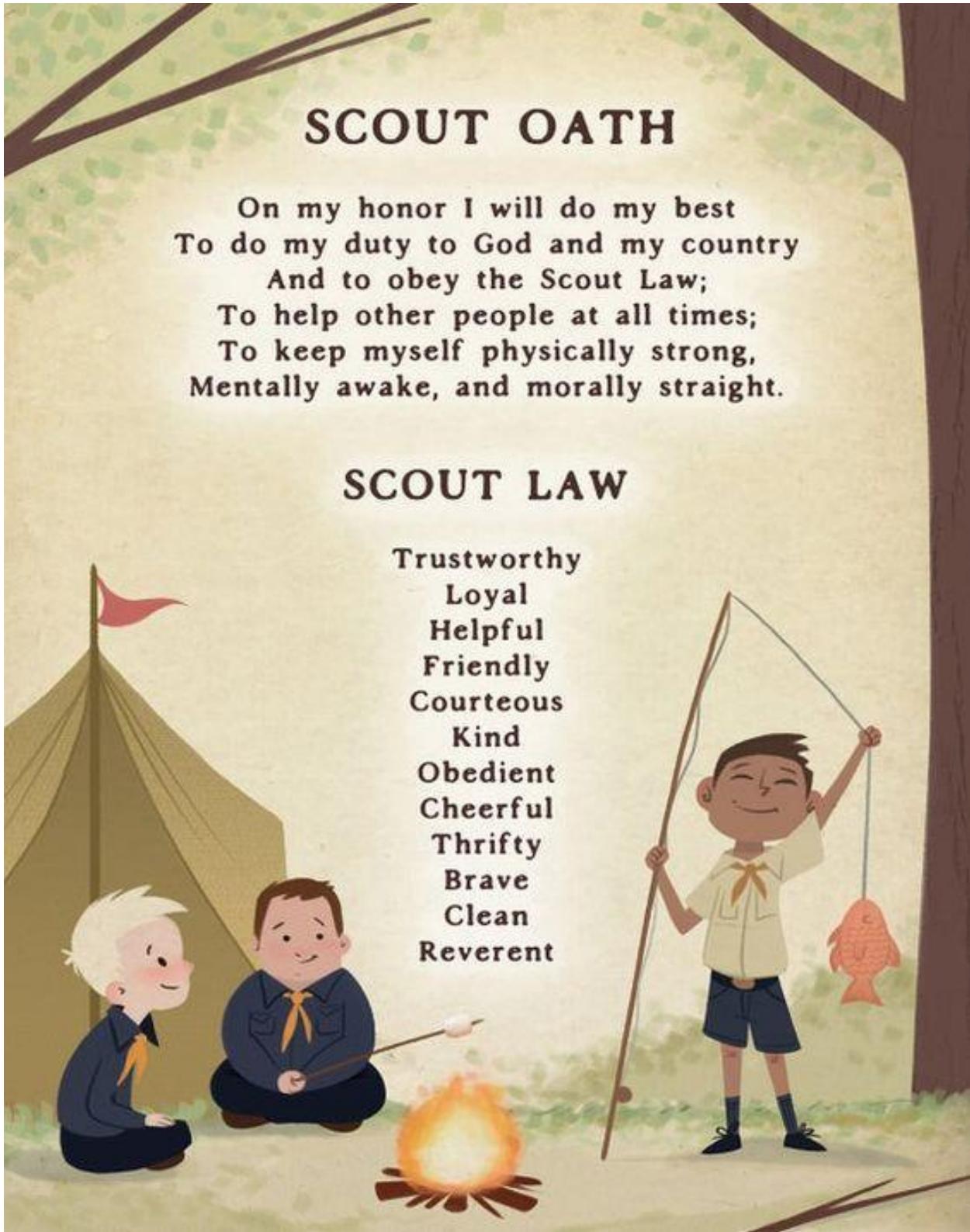
If you have changes to your contact information (email, address, phone), you can update those yourself in the BSA database by logging into your account in my.Scouting and going to the My Profile tab on the left.

## **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





## A WORD FROM THE CHIEF SCOUT EXECUTIVE

"Combined with formal education, the Lion program helps cultivate positive character-building experiences that are vital for youth at this stage in their development."

**Michael Surbaugh**  
Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America



## JOIN THE PACK

### READY TO BE A PART OF BSA'S LION PROGRAM?

You can find your nearest council by visiting [www.scouting.org/LocalCouncilLocator.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/LocalCouncilLocator.aspx), and get all the details about joining the Lion program at [www.scoutingwire.org/lion](http://www.scoutingwire.org/lion).

## FROM ONE PARENT TO ANOTHER

"I'm amazed at how much my child blossomed in the Lion program. I had such a great time seeing my child learn and grow. It was fun to do things together, but also let the Lions try new things on their own. It was definitely worth our time this year."  
—Claire R.



## LION PROGRAM KINDERGARTEN-AGE YOUTH



A study conducted by Tufts University found that youth who participate in Scouting exhibit positive character attributes, allowing them to embrace new opportunities, overcome obstacles, and become better prepared for future success.

—Wang et al., 2015

Research shows 23% of parents of school-age children rely on after-school activities where they can make friends, explore their surroundings, and further their learning and development.

—Afterschool Alliance, 2014

## WELCOME TO LIONS!

Welcome to the newest BSA program—Lions.

We're answering the call for after-school adventures for kindergarten-age youth that are fun while also encouraging character development.

We're sure your child is going to love it!

## A ROARING SUCCESS

Here's how other youth and parents have described the Lion program:

- "Fun!"
- "Is hands-on and active."
- "Develops new skills."
- "Builds character."
- "Is age-appropriate!"
- "Is a good use of my time."
- "Is simple and easy to implement!"

Here are just a few of the great activities your child will get to participate in:

- "Fun on the Run"
  - "Lion's Honor"
  - "Pick My Path"
  - "Gizmos and Gadgets"
  - "On Your Mark"
  - "Build It Up, Knock It Down"
- Other adventures that will instill a sense of respect for their peers and emphasize the importance of family, courage, and making good choices.

BUILD YOUR LION ADVENTURE!

Scouting's program for kindergarten age boys and girls.  
For more information visit [www.beascout.org](http://www.beascout.org).

**LION**



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL



SCOUT ME IN™

Prepared. For Life.®