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From the District Chairman

Two months ago, in the March Patriot Press, I began my message with the exciting news that the Virginia State Fisheries were releasing thousands of fish so that Patriot District Scouts could catch, cook and eat them at our Spring Trout-O-Ree in April. Unfortunately, our plans changed when the Covid-19 pandemic arrived. Now, instead of discussing great District events we have recently conducted, such as our District Pinewood Derby, I need to provide an update on events we are postponing. Patriot District is not cancelling events, we are rescheduling them to later dates when the safety of all participants can be assured.

The Patriot District Awards Picnic at Burke Lake Park and the Order of the Arrow (OA) Spring Ordeal will be rescheduled for later this summer. The two Patriot District 2020 camporees, the Spring Trout-O-Ree and the Fall Camporee at New Market Battlefield, are postponed until next year. (See separate article on page 27 of this issue.) At this time, our Cub Scout Day Camp remains scheduled for the week of July 6-10, 2020, as originally planned. Early bird registration at the discounted rate has been extended until May 25, 2020. If the day camp is rescheduled or cancelled, families will receive a full refund. A final decision regarding holding this event as scheduled will be made early in June.

As I mentioned in a special message I sent out two weeks ago, NCAC re-started the annual 2020 Friends of Scouting campaign on Tuesday, May 5th, the Global Day of Giving and Unity. All of the funds raised under this campaign stay in our area to support the NCAC operating budget, which includes covering expenses associated with operation of the Marriott Scout Service Center in Bethesda and our two major camps, Goshen Scout Reservation and Camp William B. Snyder. NCAC is working hard to meet their budget needs. A $947,000 Federal Paycheck Protection Program loan/grant has been received to support payroll costs, and over $600,000 has been provided from the Endowment Fund. Council has made significant efforts to cut expenses where possible, but the need remains for several million dollars in additional funding to ensure continuing operations throughout the rest of the year. Patriot District has been asked to raise another $35,000 to cover the remaining share of our 2020 Friends of Scouting commitment.

For those families who can help toward meeting this goal – we need you. We recognize that the Covid-19 pandemic has affected our Scouting families in different ways. This appeal, then, is only for families fortunate enough to still be receiving sufficient income to support our Friends of Scouting drive. Families suffering financial challenges should ignore this appeal and focus on supporting your families. The bottom line, though, is that we need each family that is able and willing to contribute to donate now so we can fully fund NCAC operations for 2020.

Donating to support NCAC is easy to do. Simply go to the NCAC website (ncacbsa.org), click on Donate on the top of the page, then enter your personal and billing information, and pledge amount. Please also remember to enter you unit number (Pack or Troop) and Patriot District on the left side of the page so that the Patriot District is properly credited for your donation. Another way to reach the site is just to click on this link, https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/o82/appeal/2658. If you have any questions regarding your donation, please contact our professional District Executive, Sarah McKee, at Sarah.McKee@scouting.org or (402) 680-7055. Please also contact her if you would like to contribute by an alternative means, such as donating appreciated stock or using a donor advised fund.

Scouting will survive this pandemic and continue as an invaluable program to support America’s youth well into the future. In the meantime, do all that you can to stay safe and healthy during difficult period.

Bill Dexter
Patriot District Committee Chair
From the District Commissioner

Yes Dorothy, Scouting still exists. Even with all of the restrictions placed on us to stay at home, our Scouts and Scouters alike are coming up with amazing and innovative ways to continue to provide the Scouting program to our youth. The Council has even seen nine new units established during this period. The Council has developed the Merit Badges at Home program and is doing a similar thing with STEM. The Merit Badge program fills to capacity within about 20 minutes of opening the registration portal. Units are also beginning to have their own virtual merit badge sessions, virtual den meetings, virtual campouts, virtual boards of review, virtual Patrol Leader Council, and more.

With perhaps the exception of the business world, all of this virtual stuff is new, and I think many of us are discovering the utility of it in many respects. I was just in a virtual meeting with Council folks about our Council Merit Badge program and one of the questions we were considering, because it has been asked, was if it would continue to be offered after we return to some semblance of normalcy. What finally dawned on us is we’re looking at a new method, while maybe not the most desirable, for delivering the Scouting program. That said, I’d truly like to have feedback from our units as to how you have used the virtual world and how you see its use in the future. I think we all believe in-person Scouting is the best of all options, but do we put virtual away or continue to use it in some capacity?

Since mid-March we have been receiving guidance from National about a host of issues on contending with the virus, and what’s clear is today’s guidance might not be the same next week. I’ve established a Basecamp team for all of our unit Key 3’s and this is the place we’ll be placing the constantly changing information that units should know. Updated (as of April 13, 2020) important National and Council documents are provided in the following pages.

The one question I probably hear the most is about planning for the summer and the current lack of information about summer from the Council. The Council Executive Board is to meet at the end of this week, and I believe summer activities is the only topic on the agenda. I expect a decision about summer camps to come from this meeting. Whether we cancel or go forward with some form of a camping summer program, I assure you the entering argument to the question is what we can or can’t do while keeping our Scouts safe. If the decision is made to go forward with a camping summer, I for one will be asking what protocols have been established to protect the Scouts; unit leaders and parents need to know this so they can make an informed decision as to whether they’re comfortable in letting their Scouts participate.

Unfortunately, this virus is playing by its own set of rules and in the words of that great philosopher Yogi Berra, “It ain’t over til it’s over.”

David Astle
District Commissioner
Updated Important National and Council Documents

Questions and Answers

Cub Scouting/Scouts BSA/Venturing/Sea Scouting

Rank Advancement and the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The following questions regarding in-person unit activities, camping this summer, and advancement have arisen as we deal with closures, cancellations, or other issues caused by the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Although there are difficulties and constraints, advancement can continue. Youth, parents, and leaders should work together to implement creative, common-sense ways to facilitate advancement while adhering to the Guide to Safe Scouting and following the rules of Youth Protection training.

Please follow this link to the Guide to Advancement (GTA), which remains the primary source for information related to Scouts BSA advancement. It is referenced throughout the answers below.

Please send additional questions to advancement.team@scouting.org

In-Person Unit Activities

Q: Should we hold in-person Scouting meetings, outings, or activities?
A: With safety in mind and based on guidance from national health officials, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is strongly advising that in-person meetings, activities, events and gatherings be suspended through the end of April. This applies to youth and adults out of an abundance of caution. Please also follow any restrictions outlined by your state and local health department or other local officials.

Q: What do we do about Scouts’ fundraising activities?
A: The BSA is strongly advising that in-person activities be suspended through the end of April so any in-person fundraising should be postponed. If fundraising activities can be facilitated using digital methods while still adhering to applicable rules, then those activities may continue. For plans beyond that date, the BSA will continue to monitor the guidance as the COVID-19 pandemic evolves and will further update guidance accordingly.

Q: What is BSA’s policy on social distancing in a tenting environment when camping?
A: With safety in mind and based on guidance from national health officials, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is strongly advising that in-person meetings, activities, events and gatherings be suspended through the end of April. This applies to youth and adults out of an abundance of caution. Please also follow any restrictions outlined by your state and local health department or other state and local authorities.

Beyond this timeframe, tent buddies should not participate if ill. There is no formal policy on social distancing in tents, just as there is no prohibition on tenting alone if logistics can accommodate that request.
Q: If council and district events are cancelled, how should units decide whether to cancel or postpone their own events?

A: With safety in mind and based on guidance from national health officials, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is strongly advising that in-person meetings, activities, events and gatherings suspended through the end of April. If your council has cancelled events based upon local restrictions, then units should follow that guidance.

Q: What are the refund policies if I have already paid for an event that has been cancelled?

A: Event organizers typically set refund or cancellation policies. Please reach out directly to those organizers. In the case of attendance at a national high adventure base, contact them directly about your crew.

Camping this Summer

Q: What if I cannot get a new Part C, pre-placement exam because my healthcare provider is not taking well care exams now?

A: We are evaluating all options while being mindful of those who have valid exams as well as those new members and adults who may have never completed a Part C exam, state and local authority requirements, and the special review required by high adventure programs. In the interim, we recommend that council health supervisors, camp staff, and volunteers begin a conversation on local availability of well exams and alternatives that could be put in place.

Q: My Wilderness First Aid Course has been cancelled; can I still go on my trek?

A: Current Wilderness First Aid (WFA) certification will continue to be required for all backcountry adventures. As a reminder, a current CPR/AED certification is a pre-requisite for a WFA course. We are working with our partners at the American Red Cross and the Emergency Care and Safety Institute to look for solutions in response to the current situation.

Note: Online-only WFA courses do not meet the WFA requirement. As we review the issue, we suggest you begin working with your council’s WFA trainers to develop a plan for classes during the month of May or early June.

Advancement: All Scouting Programs

Q: How can advancement be tracked remotely?

A: Scouting units should use Scoutbook to record and track advancement. To track advancement remotely, parents should:

- Connect with their child’s member profile via an invitation that the unit leader sends within Scoutbook. You may also connect to your youth via the Scouting app “Add a Parent connection.”
- Once a connection is made, the parent should use the Scouting app, found in both the App Store and on Google Play, to stay connected with their unit.
The Scouting app provides parents the ability to report any advancement that was completed at home.

Learn more about how to start using Scoutbook and how to connect parents to their Scouts at Scoutbook.com

**Advancement: Cub Scouts**

Q: May parents sign off on Webelos and Arrow of Light requirements?
A: Yes. Through July 31, 2020, parents and other adults in the Cub Scout’s family, may sign off on Webelos and Arrow of Light requirements. We strongly encourage that parents use the Scouting App or ScoutBook to record completion of their child’s requirements.

Q: If my den is behind in advancement due to COVID-19, can my Cub Scout continue to work on advancement through the summer?
A: Yes. Cub Scouts can continue to work on their current den’s advancement through July 31, 2020. This is to provide any additional time a Cub Scout needs to complete their badge of rank; if they earn their badge of rank prior to July 31, 2020, they may advance to the next rank.

Q: Can the Arrow of Light (fifth-grade dens) requirements fulfill the requirement to visit a troop or attend a troop outing to function as a patrol?
A: Yes. Two things to keep in mind, the standard of completion for Cub Scout advancement is “Do Your Best,” so given the circumstances, we want to look at the purpose behind the requirements. Remember that doing nothing is never doing your best.

Dens can visit a virtual troop meeting to see the patrol method and youth leadership in action. Since the den cannot attend a troop campout or outing, the idea is for the den to function as a patrol while attending the virtual troop meeting. During this time, a virtual den meeting where the den functions as a patrol can be done. Elect a patrol leader, pick a patrol name, play a virtual game together as a patrol. Plenty of opportunities to Do Your Best to meet the intention of the requirement. Remember to maintain all youth protection standards online.

**Advancement: Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts**

Q: Can merit badge counseling or Nova/Supernova counseling be done using digital technologies like Zoom or WebEx?
A: Yes, registered merit badge counselors or Nova counselors/Supernova mentors may work with youth using digital platforms, ensuring that all youth protection measures noted in the Guide to Safe Scouting and BSA’s social media guidelines are in place. In addition to youth protection, the advancement guidelines in GTA Section 7 are required.
Q: Are merit badge counselors allowed to provide online instruction?
A: Yes. Merit badge counselors should follow the guidelines in the Guide to Advancement 7.0.3.2 and ensure you are adhering to all youth protection requirements and online communications guidelines. It is acceptable—and sometimes preferable—for merit badges to be taught in group settings, including online instruction. We currently allow group instruction at camp and merit badge midways, fairs, clinics, or similar events. These can be efficient methods, and interactive group discussions can support learning. Gathering a group online can also be beneficial. Guest experts and speakers that assist registered and approved counselors may be more willing to speak to a larger online audience. Slide shows, skits, demonstrations, panels, and various other techniques can also be employed, but as any teacher can attest, not everyone will learn all the material. Therefore, the standards we use to verify that each Scout has fulfilled requirements must not be relaxed. Merit badge counselors must be sure that each Scout has individually gained the knowledge intended. When accomplished, counselors can easily sign off requirements via ScoutBook.

Q: Can I connect directly with my Scouts/Venturers/Sea Scouts if I am a merit badge counselor?
A: Yes. In ScoutBook, merit badge counselors can now connect directly with the Scouts they are counseling; see https://discussions.scouting.org/t/march-23-2020-scoutbook-updates/165970

NOTE: Scouts/Venturers/Sea Scouts still must get approval from their leader, according to Guide to Advancement 7.0.3.0.

Q: How will I know if a Scout/Venturer/Sea Scout has obtained approval from their leader to work on a merit badge?
A: In the member profile, you will see if the leader has signed off with their approval.

Q: What if my member profile shows that my merit badge counselor status has expired?
A: Check with your council. Local councils may need to upload their latest list of approved merit badge counselors.

Q: Will unit leaders know that a merit badge counselor has connected with one of their Scouts/Venturers/Sea Scouts?
A: Yes. The unit Key 3 will receive an email that includes the name of the merit badge counselor, the Scout, and the name of the merit badge.

Q: What if I have other merit badge/ScoutBook questions?
Q: What changes have been made to rank advancement/camping requirements given the need to maintain social distancing during this time?

A: We have implemented temporary changes, detailed below, to allow Scouts to complete rank requirements, detailed below, by video conferencing through September 1, 2020. This deadline will be re-evaluated as needed.

The goal when using video conferencing must be to preserve the ideals and intent of each requirement as best as possible. Scoutmasters or their designee(s) should remain mindful of the Methods of Scouting, such as the Patrol Method, before implementing the modified requirements listed below. Some advancement activities can be completed by video conferencing but not all. For example, virtual visits to a city council meeting, national historic landmarks, museums, and art galleries may be acceptable, but swimming, rifle shooting, and motorboating merit badges cannot be completed virtually. Even when using video conferencing, all virtual campouts and activities should consist of as many elements found on a normal outdoor campout or activity as possible. The most significant difference is that patrol or troop members are not all in the same location. All existing youth protection policies and digital safety guidelines must be followed.

**Tenderfoot rank requirements**

1b. Virtual patrol or troop campouts via video conferencing will be permitted.

2a. During the same day as your virtual patrol or troop campout, assist in preparing one meal with the help of those with whom you live. Tell your patrol or troop why it was important for each person to share in meal preparation and cleanup.

2b. During the same day as your virtual campout, demonstrate the appropriate method of safely cleaning items used to prepare, serve and eat a meal.

5a. Explain the importance of the buddy system as it relates to your personal safety on outings and in your neighborhood. Verbally commit to following the buddy system on your next troop or patrol outing.

7a. Tell how to display, raise, lower, and fold the U.S. flag.

**Second Class rank requirements:**

1a & 1c. Virtual patrol or troop activities via video conferencing will be permitted. 3b. – Using a compass and map together, **plan** a 5-mile hike approved by your adult leader.

4. Evidence of wild animals can be demonstrated with information or photos of your local area found online.

5c. May be completed virtually via video conferencing on dry land.

7c. Learn about the dangers of using drugs, alcohol and tobacco and other practices that could be harmful to your health. Discuss what you learned with your family and explain the dangers of substance addictions. Report to your Scoutmaster or other adult leader in your troop about which parts of the Scout Oath and Scout Law relate to what you learned.

8a. May be completed virtually using video conferencing.

8d. May be completed by comparing costs at three (3) online sites or locations.
First Class rank requirements:

1a. Virtual patrol or troop activities via video conferencing will be permitted.

2e. On the same day as your virtual campout, serve as the cook. Supervise your assistant(s) in using a stove or building a cooking fire. Prepare the breakfast, lunch, and dinner planned in First Class requirement 2a. Supervise the cleanup.

4a. By drawing, computer software, or other virtual methods, plan an orienteering course that would cover at least one mile. Explain why measuring the height and/or width of designated items (tree, tower, canyon, ditch, etc.) is helpful. Explain how you would complete your course using a real map and compass.

4b. Scouts do not need to follow their route.

5a. Evidence of native plants can be demonstrated with information or photos of your local area found online.

6e. May be completed on dry land.

9a. Visit may take place virtually or by phone.

9c. Outings can include past or future plans.

10. Invite the potential new member to a virtual meeting or future activity using video conferencing.

Q: Will virtual camping count toward Order of the Arrow nights camping?

A: Yes, Virtual camping (i.e., backyard or solo camping) may be counted toward the required nights of camping for OA election eligibility if all the following stipulations are met:

- To be counted, all virtual camping nights should be a direct result of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and be part of a BSA unit-organized unit camping event (i.e., multiple members of the unit are involved and camping simultaneously at remote locations).
- Some form of unit-organized communications should occur either during or immediately following the event.
- All existing youth protection policies and digital safety guidelines should be followed.
- No more than 3 nights of virtual camping are to be credited in any month in which government- or council-imposed COVID-19 restrictions are in place.

This change is in effect until September 1, 2020

Q: Can merit badge requirements be adapted since some elements can’t be completed as stated right now?

A: The published guidelines for the methodology of the merit badge program and the role of the merit badge counselor is found in the Guide to Advancement, Section 7.0.0.0. It is important to remember that leaders and merit badge counselors must not make additions or deletions to requirements. The Scout is expected to meet the requirements as stated; however, in some cases, virtual “visits” may fulfill the intent of a requirement. When the requirement’s intent cannot be reached virtually, the requirements cannot be completed, and the Scout must wait to complete that badge/requirement. Merit badge
counselors signing off on requirements must determine to the best of their ability if the Scout has demonstrated the intended outcome. All existing youth protection policies and digital safety guidelines must be followed.

Q: Does a Scout need a hard copy of a Blue Card when working on merit badges?
A: No. Since the introduction of Scoutbook, the BSA has offered Scouts two ways of recording merit badge requirement completion: The Blue Card and Scoutbook. Both remain authorized methods to record merit badge work. Scoutbook is a part of the BSA Internet Advancement system, which means that entering an advancement record in Scoutbook is the same as entering it in Internet Advancement. Anyone with a BSA member ID automatically has access to a Scoutbook account through their my.scouting account.

Q: May time missed due to canceled unit meetings count toward active participation requirements?
A: Yes. If youth are registered and in good standing, a disruption from COVID-19 virus can be the “noteworthy circumstance” that prevents participation. This policy has been in place for many years and is explained in GTA Topic 4.2.3.1.

Q: May time missed due to canceled unit meetings count toward position of responsibility requirements?
A: Yes. If youth are registered and unable to meet the expectations of their positions because of COVID-19 disruptions, then units may need to waive or rethink the expectations. Just as youth must not be held to unestablished expectations, they must not be held to expectations that are impossible to fulfill. See GTA Topic 4.2.3.4, “Positions of Responsibility,” with its six subtopics.

Q: Does the National Council grant extensions of time to complete rank requirements beyond the 18th birthday for the Eagle or 21st birthday for Summit or Quartermaster?
A: Yes, but only for the Eagle Scout rank as described in GTA Topic 9.0.4.0 or for Venturing Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster as described in GTA Topic 4.3.3.0. Unit leadership must become familiar with the five tests under 9.0.4.0. The tests were designed to accommodate such obstacles as those presented by COVID-19 disruptions.

Q: Will youth who are not yet Life Scouts be allowed to apply for an extension to earn the Eagle Scout rank?
A: Extensions are considered only for Scouts who are Life rank. If, once a Scout achieves Life rank, the COVID-19 disruptions along the way have left them with insufficient time to complete Eagle requirements, then this may be cited when the time comes to submit an extension request.

Q: May local councils grant extensions?
A: Normally, that is not allowed. However, due to the current situation—effective immediately and through September 30, 2020—council Scout executives may grant extensions, or delegate authority to the Council Advancement Committee to grant extensions under the following limitations:
1. It can be established that COVID-19 disruptions were the only circumstances that delayed work on Eagle Scout/Summit/Quartermaster advancement requirements, such as the service project or merit badges. If any other causes were involved, the extension request must go to the National Council following the process outlined in the GTA.

2. Extensions shall only be granted to youth in Scouts BSA who have already achieved Life rank.

3. When the council receives a COVID-19-related request for a time extension, the council reviews the request and approves it if appropriate. A written response stating the outcome of the extension request must go to the youth. If approved, the notification must be attached to the youth’s Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster rank application. For Eagle, the extension must not exceed 3 months from the youth’s 18th birthday; for Summit/Quartermaster, the extension must not exceed 3 months from the youth’s 21st birthday.

4. Upon turning 18, the Scout must submit a completed adult application and successfully complete YPT; their participant code will now be UP for SBSA or VP for Venturing and Sea Scouting.

**Note:** Extension requests for more than 3 months beyond the youth’s 18th/21st birthday must be sent to the National Service Center following the process outlined in the GTA.

**Note:** A “month” in BSA advancement is defined as a day from one month to the next. For example, March 5 to April 5.

The authority for councils to grant extensions is temporary, lasting only through Sept. 30, 2020.

**Q:** If youth have already received an extension, can they request additional time due to COVID-19?

**A:** Yes. Council Scout executives may grant extensions, or delegate authority to the Council Advancement Committee to grant extensions under the limitations listed above.

**Q:** What should be done while an extension request is being considered?

**A:** Youth should continue to work on advancement in so far as they are able—e.g., independently, or over the phone or videoconference—and at Scouting activities once they resume.

**Q:** Are extensions required when an Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster board of review must be delayed?

**A:** No. Councils may grant Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster boards of review up to six months after the youth’s 18th/21st birthday. See GTA Topic 8.0.3.1, “Eagle Scout Board of Review Beyond the 18th Birthday.”

See also, GTA Topic 8.0.1.6, “Boards of Review Through Videoconferencing.”

**Q:** Are extensions required when an Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster board of review must be delayed?

**A:** No. Councils may grant Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster boards of review up to six months after the youth’s 18th/21st birthday. See GTA Topic 8.0.3.1, “Eagle Scout Board of Review Beyond the 18th Birthday.”

See also, GTA Topic 8.0.1.6, “Boards of Review Through Videoconferencing.”
Q: Are electronic or digital signatures acceptable for rank advancement or for the Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster packets/applications?

A: Yes. Electronic or digital signatures will be accepted through September 30, 2020.

Q: How can a youth continue to work on advancement requirements if they don’t have internet or high-speed internet for videoconferencing?

A: Youth may take a picture of their completed activity/requirement and share the work with unit leaders. In keeping with Youth Protection Training policies, all communications from youth should be sent to at least two adults. Parents or guardians may send advancement work on behalf of their child.

Local Council Advisory

Digital Safety in a Time of Increased Online Activity

As local councils and units use digital and online resources, such as video conferencing, to continue Scouting meetings, projects and advancement during the COVID-19 outbreak, the National Council is providing the following guidance. Note this guidance is not comprehensive and if it differs from the legal requirements of your state or local jurisdiction, please consult with your local council attorney.

• **BSA’s youth protection policies apply to all online activities.** All online activities, including video and audio conferencing through platforms such as Zoom and Skype, must adhere to the BSA’s current youth protection guidelines for digital communications, including the BSA’s Digital Privacy guidelines ([https://www.scouting.org/training/youth- protection/](https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/)) and the BSA’s Social Media Guidelines ([https://scoutingwire.org/social-media-guidelines/](https://scoutingwire.org/social-media-guidelines/)). Because safety features and privacy controls vary widely from platform to platform, and out of respect for families’ own preferences concerning social media usage, we strongly recommend using business-oriented conferencing platforms—for example, Zoom, Skype, GoToMeeting and others—to conduct online group activities instead of platforms intended for online gaming (e.g., Discord, Robolux, Twitch).

• **Safeguard personal information.** If you collect a person’s personal information online—for example, through web forms used to register people for online meetings—then you should post a notice or disclosure at the point of collection describing how you will use the information. The notice should be conspicuous and written in plain English. Keep in mind, video conferencing platforms (e.g., Zoom) have their own privacy policies that apply to data collected through the platform (e.g., if the platform is hosting your web form). Organizers of Zoom and Skype meetings—for example, unit leaders and Merit Badge counselors—may obtain personal information about a youth, such as his or her name, phone number or email address. Meeting organizers must keep such information private and not share a youth’s personal information with anyone else except that youths’ parent or guardian or the unit leader responsible for recording advancements. For example, a Merit Badge counselor should not publicly post or otherwise disclose a roster containing personal information of Scouts who the counselor has worked with.
**Recording online meetings is not authorized.** As a reminder, Scouting’s Barriers to Abuse ([https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a](https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a)) prohibits any one-on-one contact between an adult leader and youth members – in person, online, through a web conference, over the phone, via text, or in any other form. Electronic communication between adults and youth should always include another registered leader or parent. We believe our existing policy is the best way to protect youth and volunteers, and we do not believe recording online meetings would provide any additional material benefit. To the contrary, recording calls would *increase* personal risk as call recording is subject to various legal requirements under U.S. law and the laws of individual states, some of which require all parties to a call consent to recording. Considering those potential regulatory risks and the effect of BSA’s existing policies, we are not authorizing the recording of online meetings.

**Collecting personal information from youth under 13 is not recommended.** We advise against collecting personal information *directly from* youth under 13 years of age due to the parental notice and consent requirements under the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (“COPPA”). COPPA does not restrict the collection of personal information *about* a youth from his or her parent or guardian. For the purposes of COPPA, “personal information” includes first and last name; home or other physical address; screen name or username that functions as online contact information; telephone number; a social security number; or a photograph, video, or audio file containing the child’s image or voice.

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### Holding Virtual Meetings with Zoom.us

The challenge with holding virtual meetings is that they need to provide a way for Scouts and leaders to interact but must do so in a way that adheres to our Youth Protection guidelines.

**Recommendation for compliance**

The use of a Zoom account for conferencing with Scouts and Scouters. A description of services and support can be found here – [https://zoom.us/](https://zoom.us/)

Zoom allows for users in K-12 programs and is broadly approved for use in schools. Services like Skype and Google Hangouts do not allow users under the age of 13.

*All youth members should only use services with the knowledge of their parent or guardian, and parental supervision is suggested.*

**Free or Paid Account**

The Free account is compliant with needed youth protection policies but is limited to 40-minute meetings which would then need to be restarted.

If a longer meeting is needed, the Pro plan at $14.99 per month is the best option.

A unit can create one plan with a single host for its activities, provided that only one meeting at a time is scheduled. Be mindful of sharing usernames and passwords for the account and consider using a new email account tied to the troop committee or leader that is not used for other accounts.
For example, setting up a new GMAIL account for the service and then sharing the login information to schedule and host meetings with the appropriate adults.

**Recording your meeting**

BSA’s youth protection policies apply to all online activities, including video and audio conferencing. As a result, BSA issued a Local Council Advisory on Digital Safety in a Time of Increased Online Activity and made it clear recording online meetings is not authorized when Scouts are present.

**Electronic Communication**

Additionally, electronic communication, such as texting and e-mailing between adults and youth should always include another registered leader or parent.

**Adult Supervision**

Online meetings require the presence of adults that are in compliance with BSA Policy. Be sure to review the Guide to Safe Scouting for adult Supervision requirements — [https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/](https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/).

**Personal Information**

The BSA advises against collecting personal information directly from youth under 13 years of age due to the parental notice and consent requirements under the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (“COPPA”). COPPA does not restrict the collection of personal information about a youth from his or her parent or guardian.

If you collect a person’s personal information online—for example, through web forms used to register people for online meetings—then you should post a notice or disclosure at the point of collection describing how you will use the information. Meeting organizers must keep such information private and not share a youth’s personal information with anyone else except that youths’ parent or guardian or the unit leader responsible for recording advancements.

**Recommended Meeting Options**

- **Meeting Password** – Require meeting password so the meeting is secure. Impress on Scouts the need to not share the password.

- **Audio** – Use of computer audio is best, so you have a clear record of who is speaking and listening as they are required to login.

- **Enable join before host** – disable so early callers cannot access before required adult supervision is present

- **Mute participants upon entry** – to keep the noise down, unmute speakers as it is their turn to talk per the agenda

- **Enable waiting room** – To keep early arrivals in a queue. You can then add everyone when the adult supervision requirement is met

- **Record the meeting automatically on the local computer** – Save a copy of the call. If using a paid plan you may also have cloud storage
Additional Settings

For further compliance please adjust these settings here – https://zoom.us/profile/setting

- Host video — ENABLE
- Participants video — DISABLE
- Join before host — DISABLE
- Embed password in meeting link for one-click join — ENABLE
- Require password for participants joining by phone — ENABLE
- Mute participants upon entry — ENABLE
- Chat — ENABLE
- Prevent participants from saving chat — DISABLE
- Private chat — DISABLE
- Autosaving chats — DISABLE
- Automatically save all in-meeting chats so that hosts do not need to manually save the text of File transfer — ENABLE
- Allow host to put attendee on hold — ENABLE
- Allow hosts to temporarily remove an attendee from the meeting — ENABLE
- Screen sharing — ENABLE
- Remote control — DISABLE
- Breakout room — ENABLE if Enough adults present for patrol or den meetings (or set up a separate online meetings for this)
- Far end camera control — DISABLE
- Identify guest participants in the meeting/webinar
- Waiting room — ENABLE
- Show a "Join from your browser" link — ENABLE
- Mask phone number in the participant list — ENABLE

Online Help

Useful video quick tutorials are provided here — https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials

Full support is here — https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us https://basecamp.com/learn
National Capital Area Council Virtual Visit Guidance

The BSA has long held to the principle every Scout needs to complete every requirement as written in order to complete a merit badge or rank requirement. None of the rank requirements have changed to allow virtual visits or campouts.

Virtual tours have been around for quite a while and the BSA has only modified a few “visit” requirements to include “virtual tours” such as Animation or Exploration.

The rationale for a requirement to actually visit a site centers around intent. What are the skills and knowledge the Scout should be learning through making the visit? Is the Scout missing an opportunity for adult association (e.g., meeting the museum docent and asking questions, talking to the dispatcher at the truck terminal, being in the audience to observe reactions to statements and rebuttals throughout the room, etc.) Is the Scout missing an opportunity to work in person with their patrol using the patrol method and follow the leadership of the Patrol Leader? How is experiential learning occurring in these situations?

These are a few of the cornerstones making up the methods of Scouting. These methods support the mission and aims of the BSA which is the key to success stressed in the Guide to Advancement.

The bottom line is the requirement to visit a site, camp overnight with your patrol, or attend a meeting isn’t going to change or get altered by current events. When a question of intent arises, the unit leader or merit badge counselor, as appropriate, must look at the requirement on a case by case basis, assess the intent, and then structure the activity so each Scout receives a quality experience.

______________________

DID YOU KNOW?

Scoutbook has a library of information on using the system, including videos on some key topics. You can find it at https://help.scoutbook.com/knowledge-base/
From our District Executive

I hope you and your families are staying safe as we continue Scouting from home. While Council offices have remained closed since March, Scouting continues strong as ever, especially in our Patriot District – from the virtual Merit Badge Program, Scouting at Home, virtual meetings and camp-ins. I hope you were able to tune in to the National Camp-In and NCAC’s Campfire at Home, which featured some of Patriot’s own. The Scouting program continues to encourage Scouts to advance, get outdoors, serve their community, and make friends while adhering to state guidelines.

COVID-19 has affected all us, and we continue to support each other as our country manages the public health emergency we face. At times like these, needs increase, and so too does the generosity of our fantastic Scouting Family. This week the 2020 Friends of Scouting Campaign was relaunched in conjunction with GivingTuesday. Patriot District raised about $6,000 during GivingTuesday, and we are now 60% of the way toward achieving our FOS 2020 goal! Friends of Scouting continues, the mission and programs of the BSA will continue, our Scouts need and deserve it.

Numerous useful resources for units operating under Covid-19 restrictions are cited on the following page.

Yours in Scouting,
Sarah McKee
Useful Resources for Units Operating Under COVID-19 Restrictions

Virtual Meeting Options

- Use business and other conference call tools like Webex, Google Hangouts, freeconferencecall.com, Zoom, Skype, Facetime, etc. Be sure that any meetings involving youth follow YPT guidelines (https://www.scouting.org/health-andsafety/gss/).

- For how avoiding one-on-one contact also applies to digital communication: https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/04/06/no-one-onecontact-provision-applies-digital-contact/.

- Finally, always provide adult supervision and record the meeting if that is available.

**BSA National Statement on COVID-19:** https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/COVID-19

**FAQ:** https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/

**Dan Beard Council Video Series:** Scouting at Home
https://www.danbeard.org/scouting-at-home/

**Boy's Life:** BSA releases a year's worth of issues - free for a limited time
https://boysslife.org/subscribe-now/freeaccess/?fbclid=IwAR0dINKjHZuDNCOSYkevE8T61ClveV8c9RvPHG_f9XjPD_mC74LQnOUUpTneA

**Scouting Service from home:** https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/18/good-turns-during-the-coronavirus-acts-of-scouting-service-you-can-do-from-home/

**Bear Grylls teams up with Scouts for indoor survival activities:**
https://news.google.com/s/CIwxomVnEU?r=12&oc=em

**58 Merit badges Scouts can complete at home:**
https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/20/merit-badges-for-socialdistancing/

**Fun projects Scouts can do from home:**
https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/19/fun-projects-for-kids-that-youcan-do-from-home/

**Other Scouting-from-home resources:**
http://www.nfscouting.org/resources/scouting-at-home/72763
http://scoutshare.org/Resources/Articles/category/remote-scouting?

**Guide to Safe Scouting:** https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a

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*Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.*

~John F. Kennedy (b. May 29, 1917)
Patriot District Events

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

Due to the Covid-19 virus emergency, all in-person Council and District events, activities, and meetings are being postponed until further notice. This calendar is thus tentative in many respects. Please note, however, that some events (marked virtual) will still be held using Zoom. Also note that Popcorn Season is approaching, although NCAC has not posted the schedule yet. When available, it will be posted at [https://www.ncacbsa.org/popcorn/](https://www.ncacbsa.org/popcorn/)

### May 2020
- **--** OA Spring Ordeal *(canceled)*
- 3  Patriot Press Deadline - May
- 10 Mother's Day
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting *(virtual)*
- 12 Commissioner Meeting *(virtual)*
- 14 Roundtable/Program Launch *(virtual)*
- 23 Eid al Fitr begins *(sundown)*
- 25 Memorial Day
- 25 Early Bird Deadline for Day Camps and Twilight Camps *(extended)*
- 26 PD Committee Meeting *(virtual)*
- 31 Patriot Press Deadline - June

### June 2020
- **--** Celebrate Fairfax *(postponed, tentatively October)*
- **--** District Awards Picnic *(postponed)*
- 9  Commissioner Meeting *
- 11  Roundtable *
- 14  OA Chapter Meeting *
- 15  Camp card turn-in deadline *(extended)*
- 21 Father’s Day
- 23 PD Committee Meeting *
- 30 Deadline to complete OA elections

### July 2020
(No Roundtable or Patriot Press in July)
- 4  Independence Day
- 6-10  Patriot District Day Camp *

* Status to be determined

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<tr>
<th>ACCL</th>
<th>Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills</th>
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<tr>
<td>CPST</td>
<td>Cubmaster Position-Specific Training</td>
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<td>IOLS</td>
<td>Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills</td>
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<td>JSN</td>
<td>Join Scouting Night</td>
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<td>NLE</td>
<td>New Leader Essentials</td>
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<td>VCPST</td>
<td>Varsity Coach Position-Specific Training</td>
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<td>VOA</td>
<td>Venturing Officers Association</td>
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</table>
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, May 14, 2020

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Connection instructions will be sent via email.

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

**Topics:** Summertime activities and awards

**Word of the month:** Brave

*Cory Okouchi, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner*

cweskridge@gmail.com

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**Patriot District Scouts BSA Roundtable**

*Not just for Scoutmasters*

Thursday, May 14, 2020

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

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

**Midway:** 7:30 PM

**Scouts BSA Breakout:** 8:15 - 9:00 PM

**Topics:** NCAC/District Program Launch (part of Midway)

Virtual Camping, Uniforming

*Randy Witter, Scout Roundtable Commissioner*

(703) 323-5220, Randy.Witter@gmail.com

Asst. Scout RT Commissioners: Justin Day, Joe Margraf, Rick Priest
Resources for Unit Planning
From Patriot District Program Committee for Program Launch 2020

The internet contains a wealth of information and ideas for your unit program planning. Some of this information is official, and much is not, although may still be useful. You need to use common sense when evaluating the information, and understand the source. The following resources are mostly from approved sources, but may be dated – especially in the current (Spring/Summer 2020) environment.

Camping / Outdoor Activity

Where to Go Camping Guide, https://wipit470.org. Just scroll down and you will see this link on the main page. In addition to a lot of Camping Tips and tricks, this document includes a lot of camping and Health and Safety related links. It includes a fairly comprehensive catalog of local, regional, state and national parks and campgrounds – both public and commercial. It also includes sections on Baloo-approved sites for Cub Scout camping as well as High Adventure opportunities. [Note: many of the links in this document are not “hot” in that they cannot be reached with a single click, but they can be copied and pasted into your browser. Also, some of the links that reference the https://ncanbsa.org site were broken when the Council site was re-hosted and redesigned, but much of the information still exists under the Resources > Outdoors pages.

NCAC Web Site https://ncacbsa.org
This includes the most recent information from the Council. It includes the calendar, and a page for each District. The site is relatively new, and some of the pages copied from the old site may be old or broken. Copies of the Patriot Press and Roundtable presentations can be found in links in our own Patriot page: https://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot/

Under “Resources > Outdoors,” there are pages for the outdoor-related camping sub-committees:
  - Camping
  - Aquatics
  - Shooting Sports
  - Cope/Climbing
  - High Adventure

Pages within these categories contain additional points of contact and resources for the various activities. The Quick links to each of the Council camping opportunities:
  - Goshen Reservation: https://gotogoshen.org Rockbridge County, VA
  - Camp Snyder: https://gotosnyder.org Prince William County, VA
  - Camp Wall: https://www.facebook.com/CampWallUSVI St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands
  - Camp Airy: https://scoutcampatairy.org One week camp in Thurmont, MD

The Patriot District calendar and all things specific to Patriot District can be found in the Patriot page on the NCAC web site.

Also check out “Patriot District, National Capitol Area Council” on Facebook. If you “Like” it, you will get alerts when new information is posted.
The website scouting.org contains a wealth of information and resources under categories such as Health and Safety, Training, Outdoor Adventure, Awards and many others.

Health and Safety / Risk Management

Scouting.org is the best location for all things related to Safe Scouting, and includes not only the most up-to-date version of “Guide to Safe Scouting”, but links to many other very useful resources to a site that contains one-page “Safety Moments” that can be printed and shared with both you youth and adults, as part of a program. There are also videos and forms that can be used for Incident Reporting.

https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety

- Safety Moments: One-page presentations on a safety-related topic. These can be used as Scoutmaster Minutes or your Scouts can use them to develop/augment a presentation to the Troop
- Safety-related training
- Safety Awards
- Safety Newsletter
- Incident Reporting videos and forms.

Scout Training

Again, Scouting.org is the best location for all things related to both Scout Youth and Adult Training. The quicklinks at the bottom of the page identified below will take you to a variety of types of training: Cub Scout Leader, Scouts BSA Leader, Chartered Org Rep Training, Committee Training, etc. Almost 500 course codes are listed in the Training Course Code list. If you set up an account in my.scouting, the online courses you take will be recorded in your my.scouting record.

https://www.scouting.org/training/

Order of the Arrow

If you need information about the OA, the best sources are our local Lodge website https://wipit470.org and the National Web Site https://oa-bsa.org

Up-to-the-minute news and articles about Scouts

Bryan on Scouting is a semi-official blog from Scouting Magazine that provides daily (and sometimes more often) news and general interest articles about Scouting activities around the country. It often includes good ideas and opportunities, in addition to what is going on in the National Office.

https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org
Cub Scout Day Camp 2020
Theme: Down on the Farm

Day Camp registration is currently open.
Packs can register at www.gotodaycamp.org

Here are the specifics for the camp this year:

Dates: July 6-10, 2020
Location: Gesher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Ct., Fairfax, VA
Time: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM each day
Pack walk-through: TBD

Registration: Please note that early bird pricing for Day Camp has been extended to May 25, 2020. Packs are encouraged to register together as a unit for ease of tracking at both the Pack level and the administration level. Additionally, Packs still need to provide at least one adult den walker per five (5) registered Scouts (excluding Tiger Scouts who need an individual adult partner). We have several Packs that haven't signed up yet so please take advantage of the opportunity to get on board at a lower cost!

Pack paperwork turn-in: TBD

Camp Staff:
• Adult Staff
  – Slingshot station – no certification required
  – Climbing Wall station – certification required to run the station; however, to help on the wall certification is not required. Training TBD
  – Archery station – certification required. Training TBD

• Youth Staff
  – Require 15-20 youth to fully staff the camp. Troops and Crews are encouraged to consider coming out to help.
  – Youth staff will have to attend the in-person training

Please direct any questions to patriotdistrictdaycamp@gmail.com

Stay safe. See you down on the farm!

Zohra Sharief
Day Camp Director
Patriot District Awards!!
Event Postponed to Late Summer / Early Fall

To go along with our new court of honor and celebration, the Patriot District awards committee is proud to announce that we will be recognizing our amazing Patriot District Scouts and Scouters with the following awards at this year’s court of honor and picnic. The tentative date was Sunday, June 14, but the event has now been postponed to later this summer or early in the fall due to the current coronavirus situation. Nominations for all awards are now open and will be open until June 30, 2020. There will be no forms needed this year, rather please send an email to the committee with a write-up on why you are nominating that person. You are welcome to include as much or as little information as you want to share about the nominee.

Please send the nominations to: patriotdistrictawards@gmail.com

Now on to the awards!!

- **Distinguished Patriot Scouter Award** – This award is meant to recognize patriot Scouters who have given exceptional service over a period of time at the unit and/or District level. These Scouters regularly go above and beyond to put on an excellent program for Scouts in the District.

- **Patriot Spirit Award** – This award is meant to recognize 1 to 2 adults from each unit in the District. These individuals do not have to be uniformed leaders and each unit can decide who they would like to receive this award. Each unit simply needs to let the awards committee know who should receive the award.

- **Outstanding Scoutmaster** – This award is meant to recognize our amazing Scoutmasters who are delivering the Scouts BSA program in unique, innovative, and inspirational ways. Nominations are open to all Scoutmasters who served during the time period from June 2019 to May 2020, so they do not have to currently be the Scoutmaster.

- **Outstanding Assistant Scoutmaster** - This award is meant to recognize our amazing Assistant Scoutmasters who are helping to deliver the Scouts BSA program in unique, innovative, and inspirational ways. Nominations are open to all Assistant Scoutmasters who served during the time period from June 2019 to May 2020, so they do not have to currently be in that role.

- **Outstanding Cubmaster** - This award is meant to recognize our amazing Cubmasters who are delivering the Cub Scout program in unique, innovative, and inspirational ways. Nominations are open to all Cubmasters who served during the time period from June 2019 to May 2020, so they do not have to currently be the Cubmaster.

- **Outstanding Den Leader** - This award is meant to recognize our amazing Den Leaders who are delivering the Cub Scout program in unique, innovative, and inspirational ways. Nominations are open to all den leaders who served during the time period from June 2019 to May 2020, so they do not have to currently be a Den Leader.

This year we will also be introducing two new youth awards to recognize some of Patriot’s amazing Scouts:
• **Eagle Scout Project of the Year** – Is there a Scout in your unit who went above and beyond for his or her eagle project? If so, nominate them for the Patriot Eagle Scout Project of the Year! We want to recognize these amazing projects.

• **Den Chief of the Year** – The den chief is a very important role in the scouting program and can have an amazing impact on both the Cub Scouts and the den chief. We want to recognize those den chiefs who have gone above and beyond in helping their den leaders to deliver the Cub Scout program at the den level.

Once again, if you would like to nominate someone for any of these awards, please send a write-up stating why you are nominating that person to patriotdistrictawards@gmail.com. The awards committee is very excited to be able to recognize our amazing Scouts and Scouters!

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**Patriot District Fall Cuboree**

Coming this Fall will be the first annual Patriot District Fall Cuboree. This will be a one-day event to be held at Gesher Jewish Day School where Cub Scouts will have the opportunity to participate in exciting different scouting activities like BB shooting, archery, the climbing wall, and other fun activities to be determined. Think of this as similar to a day camp lite experience. It will be a great opportunity for new Scouts to have a fun first experience in Scouting. More information will be coming over the next couple months, including timings and pricing but for now, please save the date on your pack’s calendar!

• **What:** Patriot District Fall Cuboree
• **Date:** Saturday, September 26th
• **Time:** All day; more information will be provided soon
• **Location:** Gesher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Ct., Fairfax, VA
Patriot District Training

Every Scout Deserves A Trained Leader!!

With everyone being at home, this period or social distancing provides a great chance for leaders to work on their required training (or check out some of the other online courses!). Most of the trainings are broken down into bite size segments, so you can do them in 5-10 minutes bursts or dedicate a couple hours at one time: it’s up to you! But please take advantage of this chance to catch up on your trainings! All online trainings can be found by going to the BSA Learn Center link found on the my.scouting.org homepage.

Cub Scout Leader Basic Training
Cub Scout leaders are considered trained and eligible to wear the official Trained emblem once they have completed:

1. Youth Protection Training Online at my.scouting.org, and
2. Leader Specific Training for their position:
   - Den Leader Position-Specific Training
   - Pack Committee Challenge - Pack Committee Position-Specific Training
   - Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster Position-Specific Training
3. Hazardous Weather Training Online at my.scouting.org

Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters are considered trained and eligible to wear the official Trained emblem once they have completed:

1. Youth Protection Training Online at my.scouting.org.
2. Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training, and
3. Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)
4. Hazardous Weather Training Online at my.scouting.org

Troop Committee Members are considered trained and eligible to wear the official Trained emblem once they have completed:

1. Youth Protection Training Online at my.scouting.org, and
2. Troop Committee Challenge Online at my.scouting.org

Venturing Leader Basic Training
Venturing leaders are considered trained and eligible to wear the official Trained emblem once they have completed:

1. Youth Protection Training Online at my.scouting.org, and
2. Venturing Advisor Specific-Position Training
3. Hazardous Weather Training Online at my.scouting.org

Program Safety
This section, found in expanded learning, has courses related to safely running our various programs, including:

1. Hazardous Weather
2. Safe Swim Defense
3. Safety Afloat
4. Climb on Safely
5. Drive Safely

Justin Day
Training Chair
Advance Notice on Camporees

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Patriot District has had to postpone its Year 2020 camporees from 2020 until Year 2021. The Spring Trout-O-Ree was postponed due to the Virginia statewide shutdown. The fall 2020 Civil War camporee at New Market Battlefield is postponed because the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) has closed the New Market Battlefield for the remainder of 2020.

Patriot District Spring 2021 Camporee

The theme for the Patriot District Spring Camporee is fishing. It will be held April 9-11, 2021. Patriot District will join Prince William District in a joint camporee that will focus on fishing. We will camp at Graves Mountain Lodge, 205 Graves Mountain Lane, Syria, Virginia 22743. The area has two rivers flowing with trout and three ponds overflowing with trout. One pond is stocked. Scouts will have an opportunity to fish, catch trout, clean trout, and cook trout. They will also have an opportunity to earn the fishing or fly fishing merit badges. Prince William District conducts this camporee every two years, and it is their most popular camporee. Other Scout activities on Saturday afternoon will include the climbing wall, archery, catapult firing, and gaga ball.

While Webelos Scouts can’t camp overnight at the camporee, we will run a separate Webelos Scouts program on Saturday. It will start at the opening ceremony in the morning and conclude after the evening campfire. During the day, the Webelos Scouts will have a chance to fish, work on advancement requirements, and participate in the fun activities such as the climbing wall, archery, catapult firing and gaga ball.

Patriot District Fall 2021 Camporee

The theme for the Patriot District Fall Camporee is Civil War history. The camporee will be held on the New Market Battlefield in New Market, Virginia, October 15-17, 2021. Join 1,500 Scouts and Scouters as we re-enact the Civil War battle of New Market, Virginia. Scouts will be the participants in the re-enactment of the battle, participating as either Union or Confederate soldiers. During the camporee Scouts will:

- Camp on the battlefield
- Re-enact the Battle
- Participate in a Civil War “Grand Review” where each troop will be announced and parade in front of the reviewing stand.
- Visit the battlefield museum and tour the Bushong farmhouse and supporting buildings
- Walk the battlefield
- Train as a Civil War soldier

Additionally, Scout will attend a camporee opening ceremony and a fantastic evening campfire. Scouts will have a chance to attend an outdoor church service with several hundred other Scouts. There will be Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, and Interfaith services. Friday evening will feature a Cracker Barrel gathering for Camporee Staff, Senior Patrol Leaders, Scoutmasters, and Assistant Scoutmasters.

Bill Dexter
Camporee Director
Scout Cooking Challenge

In the April issue of the Patriot Press, our Committee Chair, Bill Dexter, challenged Scouts to volunteer to cook a meal for their family during this time of social distancing and isolation. Scouts were encouraged to demonstrate their cooking skills while also doing a good turn. Scouts were also challenged to prepare a dessert, because “desserts are comforting during stressful times.” Troop 1533G and Troop 1533 Scouts responded to the challenge, prepared and cooked meals at home, and then held a joint virtual meeting to present descriptions and pictures of their culinary achievements. The Troops 1533 cooking honor roll:

- Emma F: Beef bulgogi, a Korean dish with pineapple, broccoli, and white rice
- Maia K: Beef chili, with toppings of onions, noodles, and cheese
- Sanjana: Lemon & herb shrimp scampi & an Oreo ice-cream cake
- Jareth K: Tortellini & cheese
- Emma B: Four-cheese ravioli from scratch with a cream sauce and steamed broccoli on top; and for dessert, chocolate whoopie pies with caramel sauce filling!
- Maria S: Pepperoni pizza from scratch
- Juliet P: Breakfast sandwiches with bacon, lettuce, and egg, with a mango raspberry smoothie on the side
- Winter G: Garlic bread, caprese, pork spaghetti bolognese, and snickerdoodles for dessert
- Colleen H: Chocolate mocha cake with green tea icing
- Sai: Sautéed brussels sprouts & chocolate chip cookies
- Shepherd G: Honey steak with mesquite wood and steak seasoning, mashed potatoes with garlic, carrots and sautéed garlic onion salt and pepper mushrooms, and crescent rolls with cheese and ham

Pictures of some of these Scout culinary masterpieces are illustrated in the photos below. The Scouts hope to prepare some of these meals again when they are able to camp together.
B-P Still Wants You!

To Join the Patriot District Committee
Great Jobs for Great Volunteers

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

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

Contact Bill Dexter: wtdexterjr@gmail.com

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah McKee</td>
<td>District Executive</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sarah.McKee@Scouting.org">Sarah.McKee@Scouting.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work: (301) 214-9128; Cell: (402) 680-7055</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Dexter</td>
<td>District Committee Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wtdexterjr@gmail.com">wtdexterjr@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Astle</td>
<td>District Commissioner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dave.sonia@verizon.net">dave.sonia@verizon.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Merchant</td>
<td>Vice Chair, Program</td>
<td><a href="mailto:merchantj@verizon.net">merchantj@verizon.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Stewart</td>
<td>Vice Chair, Membership</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com">john.r.stewart.mha@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>VACANT</td>
<td>Vice Chair, Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Reed</td>
<td>Vice Chair, Communications</td>
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<td>Bill Snowden</td>
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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 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 with Scouting activities.
SCOUT OATH

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

SCOUT LAW

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