

July 2021 | In This Issue

Coach and Mentor of the Year →
ISTELive 21→
CyberPatriot Demo→
Additional CyberPatriot Topics and Tips→
CyberTaipan 2021 Schedule →
AFA CyberCamps 2021 →
Meet the CyberPatriot Staff →
CyberPatriot & The News →



Commissioner's Cache | from Acting Commissioner Rachel Zimmerman



CyberPatriot is only possible with the incredible support of our sponsors and thousands of volunteer coaches and mentors. We are proud to announce that Mr. Stephen Morrill from Loyola Blakefield (Towson, MD) is the CyberPatriot XIII Coach of the Year and Mr. Jacques LaCour (Wheaton, IL) is being recognized as the Mentor of the Year. We hope you will take the time to read about these two incredible individuals. We are so thankful for each and every CyberPatriot coach and mentor.

We are halfway through our 2021 AFA CyberCamp season and are thrilled to once again see a growth in registration for camps. Outside of camps, the CyberPatriot Program Office is gearing up for the CyberPatriot XIV season. If you have not already, be sure to check out the

CyberPatriot Demo that we recently released. It's a great recruitment tool to show potential coaches, mentors, or competitors what the CyberPatriot competition is like.

And finally, congratulations to CyberPatriot's Gamail Mohammed for passing his CISSP certification! Be sure to check out interview with Jay in the Meet the Staff section.

CyberPatriot XIII Coach and Mentor of the Year

STEPHEN MORRILL | CYBERPATRIOT COACH OF THE YEAR



Congratulations to Stephen Morrill, the CyberPatriot XIII Coach of the Year! Mr. Morrill is the lead CyberPatriot Coach for the Loyola Blakefield (Towson, Md) CyberPatriot teams and has been a volunteer with CyberPatriot since 2014. He has had teams qualify for the CyberPatriot National Finals Competition in CP-VIII, CP-IX, CP-X, CP-XI, and CP-XIII. In fact, this year his team (Team Crystal), took home 2nd place in the Cisco NetAcad Challenge, with each team member earning \$1,500 in scholarship money.

In addition to his work with CyberPatriot, Mr. Morrill has toured Australia to conduct professional learning workshops for educators, politicians, and technology industry leaders. Not only does Mr. Morrill focus on teaching cyber skillsets, but he also strives to create a strong team environment. It is said that he hosts movie nights, game nights, cyber retreats, and conducts

Kahoot quizzes with prizes to strengthen the team's bond. At the cyber retreats, a dedication to ethical morals is established and solidified in line with the Jesuit school's faith to act ethically. Mr. Morrill has sought out sponsors to help engage the Cyber Club at Loyola to participate in out of school events such as B sides, a tour of the Verizon Data Center, a tour of Dream Port, and more.

Students rave of his dedication to the school and to the cyber club. One of Mr. Morrill's competitors said, "The effectiveness of Mr. Morrill's teaching can be seen by the continuation of competitors' education at prominent colleges, from Princeton to Penn State. Every year multiple teams place in the top 5% in the middle school and high school divisions, with at least one team going to CyberPatriot finals. Students have also obtained multiple certifications with his help. I have passed Net+ and Sec+ all because of Mr. Morrill's teaching and dedication."

When Mr. Morrill learned of his new CyberPatriot title he said, "I am proud to be part of CyberPatriot and support the mission of inspiring the next generation to careers in cybersecurity and computer science. The dedication of the CyberPatriot Staff, Sponsors, Coaches, Mentors, Students, Parents, and Guardians is remarkable and will accelerate our ability as a nation to meet the employment demand for qualified professionals. I am excited to get the next season underway!"

JACQUES LACOUR | CYBERPATRIOT MENTOR OF THE YEAR



Congratulations to Jacques LaCour, the CyberPatriot XIII Mentor of the Year! Mr. LaCour mentors three CyberPatriot teams from Wheaton Warrenville South High School (Wheaton, IL). His mentoring style is said to be instructionally creative with the use of real-life scenario demonstrations through applications and computer programs. He writes tutorials for the students and has a strength of connecting with the students in a way that allows them to grasp a better understanding of the technology and difficult computing topics.

Lori Blackburn, the coach for the CyberPatriot teams, said, "Jacques is an adult college student taking a full load of courses, has a young family with child and works part time. He gives up free time to work with my students during club meetings and writes tutorials for the students outside of the meetings. Jacques has to find a babysitter and then have someone drive him to the school because he is legally blind. He has to use special computer applications to adjust to his limited

vision but is still able to work with students on their computers."

The Wheaton Warrenville South High School CyberPatriot team first found Mr. LaCour at a summer Cyber Camp where LaCour helped educate teachers on how to integrate cybersecurity into their established curriculum.

When asked about his time as a mentor, Mr. LaCour said, "I began working with Wheaton Warrenville South's CyberPatriot team in 2019 with a desire to offer up some of my knowledge and experiences to the team and hopefully spark some interest in this newly formed group. It has been my pleasure to watch them not only learn from myself, other mentors and technical advisors, and each other but to see the team grow in amazing



ways. During this past year, the WWS team not only survived but grew to include more members and compete at an even stronger level through all of the remote means available. I have been able to see what perseverance and determination truly looks like from this great group of students and I am proud to be both a mentor to them and a student of them."

It seems that nothing can stop Mr. LaCour and CyberPatriot is so proud of all he does for the program and the students he mentors.

ISTELive 21 Solutions Partner



CyberPatriot enjoyed engaging with the ISTE community at the ISTELive 21 Conference. Like all things during the pandemic, a new virtual experience came to light. Our virtual booth saw traffic from over 300 attendees and potential new CyberPatriot volunteers. Our hearts are full after all the positive feedback, comments, and support our program we received over the past couple of days. ISTELive is a great platform for those interested in learning and promoting STEM. We are looking forward to a hopeful in person event next year.

CyberPatriot Demo

Earn your Certificate of Completion when you finish the CyberPatriot Demo Image.

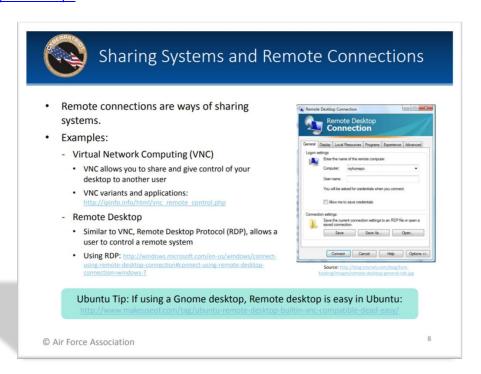
To order the Demo download (free of charge), use the form below. The Demo download and setup instructions are included in the Quick Start Guide, which can be accessed once the form is submitted.

Demonstration Software Order Form: https://forms.gle/4K7QiekNKpmr5np37



Additional CyberPatriot Topics and Tips

Are you looking to advance your knowledge of cybersecurity? Check out one of our online modules to further your study. Unit 9: Additional Training Topics and Tips



CyberTaipan 2021 Schedule



Key dates for the 2021 CyberTaipan competition, the Australian spinoff of CyberPatriot's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition.

Competition Round 1 20 - 22 August 2021

Competition Round 2 10 - 12 September 2021

CyberTaipan 2021 National Final 15 October 2021

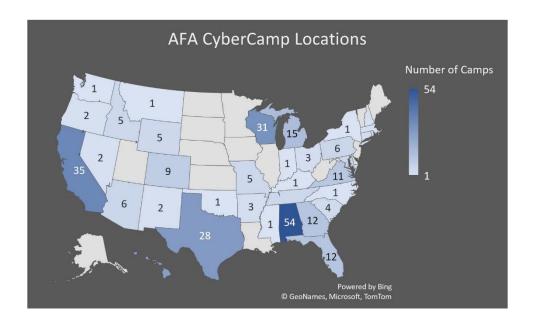
The top ten scoring teams from Round 1 and 2 compete in the National Final to claim the title of CyberTaipan 2021 champions.

CyberTaipan 2021 Awards Presentation 20 October 2021

All participants from Round 1 and 2 are invited to attend this virtual awards ceremony.

AFA CyberCamp 2021

AFA CyberCamps saw solid registration numbers for the summer of 2021. With things beginning to return to normal post-pandemic, many organizations are eager to offer summer engagement and learning. From virtual camps to in-person camps, it is estimated that over 8,000 campers will attend an AFA CyberCamp this summer.



Meet the CyberPatriot Staff

An Interview with Gamail "Jay" Mohammed | Competition Operations Coordinator at CyberPatriot

Q: When did you first start at CyberPatriot and how did you hear about the organization?

A: I began working at CyberPatriot in the Fall of 2015. During my job search, I ran across a position at CyberPatriot. Admittedly, I had never heard of the CyberPatriot program, so I spent some time learning about the program, its mission, and the competition. I knew then, it was a program I wanted to be a part of and help grow the program.



Q: It is known that you have an extraordinary technical background, what did you major in and what certifications do you have.

A: Actually, information security was a career change for me. I was originally a Biochemistry major before information security piqued my interest; now I cannot get enough of it. I am certainly the guy in the tech-blogs, reading tech books and articles.

Q: Rumor has it you just passed the CISSP, which is known as the "Gold Standard" or most valuable cybersecurity certification. We have heard that the test is a grueling challenge known for a 20% pass rate on the first try. WAY TO GO JAY, CyberPatriot is so proud of you!

A: The CISSP exam was indeed grueling. The preparation was

equally as exhausting because of the amount of information available, and number of domains I needed to learn. Let me just say, there were a lot of late nights, but I am glad I passed.

Q: As the lead for all things Cisco at CyberPatriot, what is the best advise you can give teams for preparing for the packet tracer exercise and networking quiz?

A: My advice would be that teams spend time going through the CyberPatriot content available on the Networking Academy website as all the Cisco related material comes directly from that website. Also, I will note that networking knowledge is

fundamental in information security as it makes a person more dynamic in understanding the inner workings of a system which can help tremendously when troubleshooting.

Q: You are an avid researcher on cybersecurity, what book would you recommend for those wanting to learn more about cybersecurity or networking?

A: There are so many great books and resources available. The information available seem infinite. For those looking to learn more about the field, I would advise that they read as much as they can from as many resources as they can. You can never know too much, especially in a field that changes so rapidly.

Q: What fun fact do you have about CyberPatriot?

A: A CyberPatriot fun fact, both Bernie Skoch and I are mechanical watch and fountain pen enthusiasts/hobbyist.

CyberPatriot & The News

Gannon University Hosting Cybersecurity Camp for High School Students

Gannon University is teaming up with CyberPatriot to host a cybersecurity camp for high school students, the university announced this week.

Students in grades nine through 12 can sign up for the camp, which runs July 19-23. No experience is necessary.

Army Cyber Command Salutes Area Students for Winning Cybersecurity Skills | By Staff Sgt, John Portela U.S. Army Cyber Command (ARCYBER) recently welcomed and honored students from two local high schools for their winning cyber skills.

ARCYBER Commanding General Lt. Gen. Stephen G. Fogarty presented the students from Greenbrier High School in Evans, Ga., and Veritas Christian Academy in Augusta, Ga., with Certificates of Recognition in honor of earning two of the top three places in Georgia in this year's Cyber Patriot National Youth Cyber Defense Competition.

Chatham High Junior Sebastian Wu Named National Cyber Scholar with Honors | By Tapinto Chatham

The National Cyber Scholarship Foundation ranked Chatham High School junior Sebastian Wu as a National Cyber Scholar with Honors in this year's National Cyber Scholarship Competition.