

# THE CYBERSENTINEL

The official newsletter of CyberPatriot—AFA's National Youth Cyber Education Program

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## CyberPatriot XIV Coach and Mentor of the Year

#### Coach of the Year | Jeremiah Milonas



Mr. Milonas, excels with instructional creativity by creating virtual machines filled with "obnoxious" viruses that the students must eradicate. He creates easter eggs (unexpected feature that is a joke or bonus in computer software, websites, games, etc.) in VMs by hiding trailers for Avenger movies. And if the easter eggs aren't fun enough, he offers cookies as rewards for a job well done (physical cookies, not digital cookies).

According to his students, Mr. Milonas' teaching style is never boring, and he takes the time to personally connect with his students and understand how they best learn. When motivation is needed, he is there. When the team starts to struggle or get frustrated, he lightens the mood with jokes. And when he

needed, he is there. When the team starts to struggle or get frustrated, he lightens the mood with jokes. And when he needs extra help supporting his team, Mr. Milonas often brings in graduates and CyberPatriot alumni to talk about their path in STEM and cybersecurity.

Mr. Milonas said, "The CyberPatriot program has been an amazing experience for me and my students. We have learned so much together. Creating great memories of eating pizza and getting points!"

### Mentor of the Year | Karen Morikawa

Ms. Morikawa's students say her teaching style is professional, caring, and creative, using real-world experiences in the cybersecurity field along with cybersecurity exercises and games to teach the competitors. Her caring approach has helped developed many shy and timid students into self-confident and fierce competitors.

Ms. Morikawa provides the teams with career and educational opportunities in cybersecurity, such as the Armed Forces Communication and Electronics Association, TechNet Indo-Pacific, Navy



Information Warfare Center (NIWC) Hawaii STEM events, Capture The Flag (CTF) competitions, and STEM room activities with participation in discussion sessions.

Karen Morikawa said, "Being a part of the CyberPatriot program has been a rewarding experience. We have some awesome young talent. I am dually their Coach and student. They inspire me to continue to coach and learn."

## **AFA CyberCamps**



The first sessions of 2022 AFA CyberCamps have wrapped up, with a new class of cybersecurity enthusiasts. Feedback from the Standard and Advanced CyberCamps has been overall positive with over 300 campers reporting a positive experience. In a post camp survey, 85% of the campers polled stated that they would recommend an AFA CyberCamp to a friend.

#### NJROTC Advanced CyberCamp

An NJROTC Advanced CyberCamp in Oak Ridge, Tennessee offered an enhanced competition environment where each competitor in the camp received individualized scores. The camp consisted of eight different schools. The individual scores from each camper were totaled with others from the same school or school team to establish a first - third place school or team winners. The first, second and third placing school teams received a trophy. The NJROTC Advanced Camp generated their own sponsors for the CyberCamp.





The camp coordinator, Fallon Watts said, "These awesome students worked hard applying their new knowledge while doing an excellent job collaborating with their inperson and virtual teammates."

#### Fort Gordon Cyber District Standard CyberCamps

A distinguished CyberPatriot Center of Excellence, the Fort Gordon Cyber District is hosting two AFA Standard CyberCamps this summer with already 140 campers registered. "The Fort Gordon Cyber District – Alliance for Cyber Education (ACE) team is proud to fund and host two CyberPatriot summer camps again this year! In preparation we are lasering out our trophies and wooden camper coins. We are folding our campers t-shirts and printing out camp materials!!! We can't wait to welcome our campers in-person again this year" Dr. Tom Clark, executive director of the Alliance for Fort Gordon."



# **CyberGenerations**

#### An Essay by Bryan Chew | Certified Tech Caregiver and host of a CyberGenerations workshop



As I sat through the orientation meeting, I remember asking myself "what is this CyberPatriot program they keep talking about"? Turned out this particular boy scout troop sponsored a CyberPatriot team, and that summer, just before entering 6th grade, I joined CyberPatriot.

As the years passed, I participated in all the CyberPatriot programs: National Competitions, both CyberCamps, CyberGenerations, and I am now a certified Tech CareGiver. I was also progressing through the scouting

ranks and wondering how to combine CyberPatriot with my Boy Scout eagle project. I found the answer surfing the CyberPatriot.org website ... CyberGenerations workshops.

It was in that first workshop where I met 23 wonderful, gray-headed people. The faces I saw and questions they asked had a big impact on me. During that CyberGenerations workshop, everything came into focus. This stuff is real. Cyber criminals are real. What I have learned has real value. Oh, and I just earned my eagle rank!

Since that first workshop, my experience with teaching CyberGenerations is always the same. I know the information we present truly does help the participants to be safer online. This summer I will teach my 10th CyberGenerations workshop. Each time we receive only positive feedback, some of which I get months later when I learn a former student now uses complex passphrases for passwords or how they avoided a scam ... because of something I taught.



But the senior citizens aren't the only ones learning and growing through these workshops. Since I've been doing the workshops, my CyberPatriot coach has noticed me becoming more of a leader, more mature, and more responsible. Teaching these workshops has also improved my communication and presentation skills, as well as my confidence. But the CyberGenerations program is providing me with something more ... passion. A passion of knowing I am doing good in the community. A passion of knowing I am helping defend against cyber criminals. A passion to want to do the same one day as a career.



I'm sometimes asked if I would recommend CyberPatriot programs to my peers and people in the community. The answer is yes. CyberPatriot has given my life direction, and because of that, I recommend the CyberPatriot programs to all new scouts in our troop and to any senior citizens I speak with. But I'm going beyond just recommending. I am also in the process of starting a Venturing Crew (a specialized scout unit), for youth interested in cybersecurity. The plan is to get the Venturing crew in place so when I go to college, there will be plenty of CyberPatriots back

home to follow in my footsteps and continue my CyberGenerations workshops.

The CyberPatriot influence has been quite impactful to my life and my future. It has led me through six years of learning and competitions; to attend many cybersecurity summer camps; to give back to my community, and to take high school computer science courses. It is now leading me toward academic studies in cybersecurity in college and eventually my profession. Thank you CyberPatriots!

# **CyberPatriot Shoutout**

#### Oliver Minall awarded the National Capital Region Spirit of Service Recognition



Our National Finalists teams know Oliver Minall as one of the Green Team members at the National Finals Competition. But what they do not know about Oliver is that he is the Cybersecurity Chief at the Defense Technical Information Center and recently awarded a prestigious DoD award of service. Oliver is a proud supporter of the CyberPatriot program and volunteers his time to support the next generation. CyberPatriot is just one of Oliver's many volunteering efforts, as he is active in multiple STEM and cultural activities. View the entire article about our very own Green Team Member Oliver Minall.

## **Computer Science Scholarship**

The Chris Jackson Computer Science Education Scholarship supports undergraduate students who are pursing a computer science degree. The Scholarship is in honor of Chris Jackson and is awarded twice a year. To learn more about the scholarship and to submit an application, please visit: <a href="mailto:bold.org/scholarships/chris-jackson-scholarship">bold.org/scholarships/chris-jackson-scholarship</a>

# **CyberPatriot in The News**

### Teens Study Operating Systems at CyberPatriot Camp | By Wes Tomlinson, The Decatur Daily, Ala.

(TNS) — Austin sophomore Sydney Brown said computer science never interested her until this month when the CyberPatriot Camp taught her to delve into the anatomy of computer operating systems, fix flaws in their security and protect Wi-Fi systems.

"Learning what's deeper into a computer, not just what works in a computer but being able to decode what's inside that computer, that was my biggest takeaway of the camp," Brown said. "(Decoding) was something I didn't know I could do."

#### Cyber camp helps local students prepare for jobs | By Will Volk

AUGUSTA, Ga. (WRDW/WAGT) - There's a camp at the Georgia Cyber Center this week called Cyber Patriot.

They're exposing middle and high schoolers to the world of cyber security. We visited the program to see what it's like and why it's important. "They know it exists. They put their hands on it and know they have an occupation waiting for them," said Dave Besel.



## **LOLs & Executables**

## Have jokes or encryption puzzles to share?

Email them to <u>info@uscyberpatriot.org</u> with the subject line *CyberSentinel Submission* and you could win CyberPatriot swag!

What Operating System does the Infinity Gauntlet use?

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I wanted to tell you an ICMP joke but thought it would be a bit repetitive.