## COMMISSIONER'S CACHE

The State Round is over and what a hard-fought competition it was! As I peck this out, scoring data is still being analyzed by the CyberPatriot Program Office staff.

Next up are the Regional Round, Category Round, and Semifinals--all in the same weekend. At the time of the State Round, our UK affiliate CyberCenturion had their Round 3. The round will determine the CyberCenturion National Finalists who will compete at historic Bletchley Park in April.

The Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative is becoming more popular. If you know of any elementary schools that may be interested, point them to the CyberPatriot website under Special Initiatives.

There is a lot going on and YOU are the most important part of it. Good luck on advancing to the Regional and Category Rounds. And a big shout-out to our newest sponsor, Hewlett Packard Enterprise! Thanks for joining our cause of improving STEM education in America!

Bernard K. Skoch | National Commissioner

## DATES TO KNOW

| | |
|---|---|
| **FEB. 16** | Coaches Meeting |
| **FEB. 19-21** | Regional/Category Rounds (HS) |
| **FEB. 19-21** | Semifinal Round (MS) |
| **APR. 1** | CP-IX Registration Opens |
| **APR. 10-14** | National Finals Competition |



**THE STAKES ARE GETTING HIGHER! DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE IT TO THE NATIONAL FINALS COMPETITION?**

# STATE ROUND OVER — REGIONALS, CATEGORY, AND SEMIFINALS NEXT

The lead-up to the State Round, Jan. 29-31, was eventful. The aftermath of an East Coast blizzard the previous weekend caused many teams in Md. and Va. to miss the round and to request postponement of their participation until the State Backup Round.

When the scoring server was turned on at 9:00 a.m. Friday, Jan. 29, teams began to score immediately. Because teams competed in tiers associated with their skill-level, the scoring was more evenly distributed than in the Qualification Rounds. Middle school teams were not officially scored because it was a practice round for them. By midnight Friday, over 850 teams, mostly high school teams, had participated in the competition.
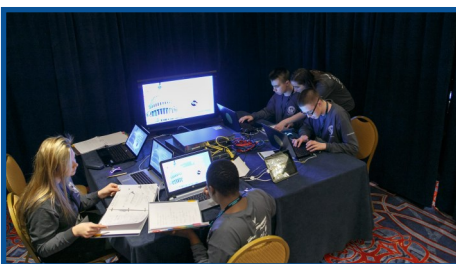
By noon Saturday, the Middle School Semifinals Practice Round was in full swing with more than 70 teams participating by then. The practice round was the most challenging round they had seen this season. When Saturday ended almost 1,400 Open and All Service Division teams had participated in the State Round. Sunday was relatively slow. When the scoring server was shutdown more than 1,900 high school and middle school teams participated in the round.

The State Backup Round will take place Feb. 6 for those teams that were approved to compete. Next up will be the Regional and Category Rounds for the Open and All Service Division and the Semifinals for the Middle School Division on Feb. 19-21.



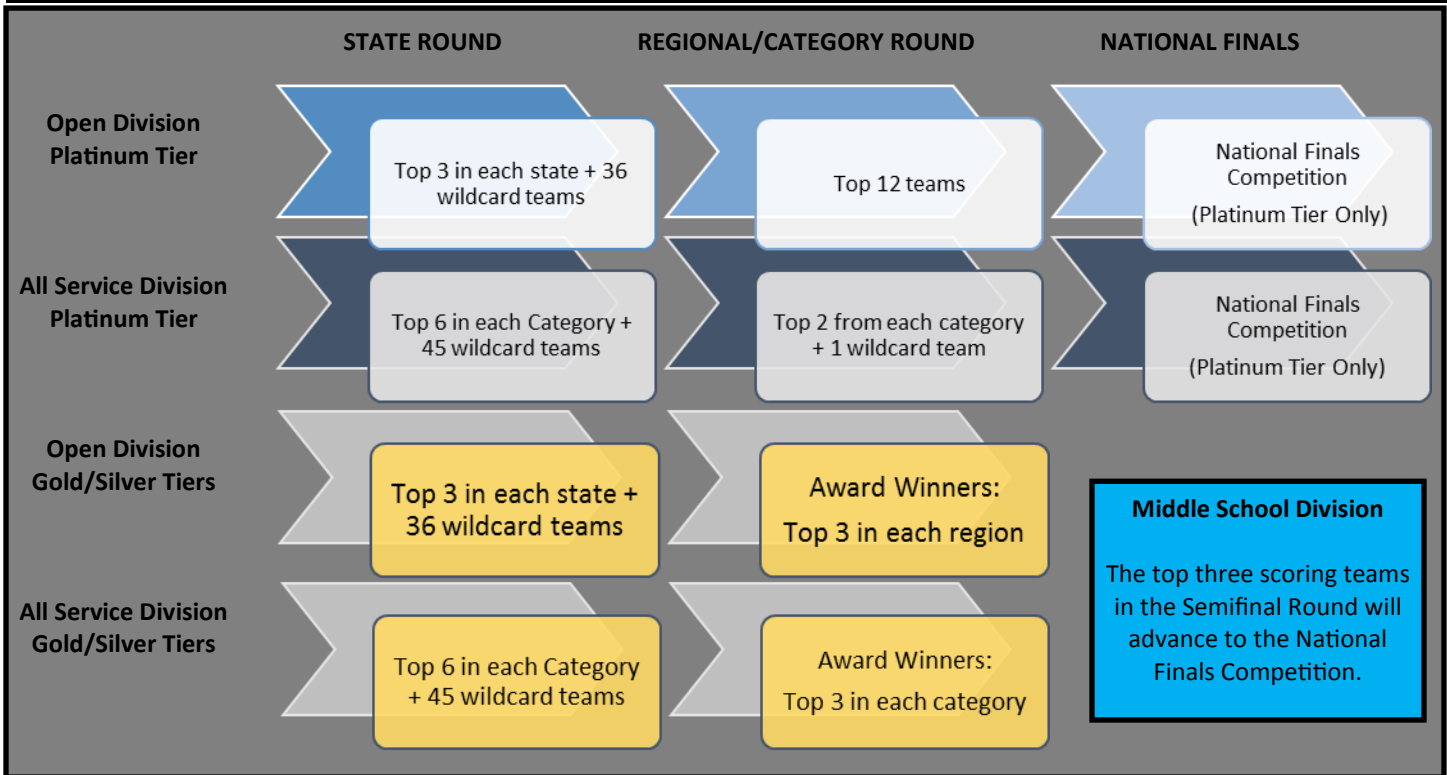*Members of the Coeur d'Alene Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol compete during the State Round (JAKE PARRISH/Press )*

# COMPETITION ADVANCEMENT: HOW DO YOU GET TO THE NEXT ROUND?

| | STATE ROUND | REGIONAL/CATEGORY ROUND | NATIONAL FINALS |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Open Division Platinum Tier** | Top 3 in each state + 36 wildcard teams | Top 12 teams | National Finals Competition (Platinum Tier Only) |
| **All Service Division Platinum Tier** | Top 6 in each Category + 45 wildcard teams | Top 2 from each category + 1 wildcard team | National Finals Competition (Platinum Tier Only) |
| **Open Division Gold/Silver Tiers** | Top 3 in each state + 36 wildcard teams | Award Winners: Top 3 in each region | |
| **All Service Division Gold/Silver Tiers** | Top 6 in each Category + 45 wildcard teams | Award Winners: Top 3 in each category | |

**Middle School Division**

The top three scoring teams in the Semifinal Round will advance to the National Finals Competition.

# CP SPECIAL INITIATIVES ARE BOOMING

The Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative (ESCEI) has an exciting announcement: on February 8th Supplemental Activities that complement the ESCEI curriculum will be available on uscyberpatriot.org for immediate download. These collaborative and interactive activities were created to assess student's knowledge of cyber safety and cybersecurity in new and innovative ways. Activities include ESCEI BINGO (grades K-2), ESCEI Solve & Swap (grades K-6) and ESCEI QR Code Scavenger Hunt (grades 3-6). We would love to see pictures and hear about how you are using the Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative program in your schools and homes – please send us your photos and feedback to info@uscyberpatriot.org.

In addition to the ESCEI, AFA CyberCamps are gearing up for another exciting season! AFA CyberCamps were created to instruct novice students to learn about cyber ethics, online safety, and the fundamental principles of cybersecurity. More information regarding 2016 AFA CyberCamps registration dates and camp sessions will be available on uscyberpatriot.org mid February.

## Coaches' Corner

- **Online Coaches and Mentors Meetings.** The Coaches Meetings are a great time to ask any questions about the upcoming round of CP-VIII! The format will be an interactive chat session. Information on joining these meetings will be emailed to Coaches a few days before the meeting. Additional questions can be directed to info@uscyberpatriot.org.

    Next Meeting:   Feb. 16, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

- **Participant Kits.** Given the recent snow storm in the Washington DC area, we experienced a delay in the shipment of the remaining participant kits. The good news, however, is that the remaining kits have been packed and shipped. If you are expecting a kit, you should have received an email notifying that it

    Mentor and team assistant packets have been sent. These packets are shipped via USPS priority mail service. Please allow 7-10 business days for delivery.

## WHAT DO COMPUTERS LIKE TO EAT?

*Answer: Micro-chips!*

# SPOTLIGHT: SPONSOR UPDATES

## IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY! CONSIDER A SUMMER INTERNSHIP AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

The relevancy of the CyberPatriot program has never been greater and competitors continue to exhibit the skills needed to succeed in the cyber profession. With CyberPatriot VIII well underway, it's not too early to start thinking about an internship with Northrop Grumman. Here, you can put your skills into action by working side by side with our technical experts to learn more about the career field and its impact on national security. You will learn new skills, explore our enterprise, network with experts, connect with thought leaders, and finish with a resume that opens doors.

Here's what you need to know to apply:

- High school level internships require students to be at least 16 years of age, enrolled in high school and studying areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. CyberPatriot-specific internship opportunities require at least one year of participation in the CyberPatriot program and enrolled in technical high school electives within the areas of STEM.
- For college level internships we typically look for rising sophomores, juniors, seniors, and graduate students at accredited colleges and universities
- We look for high potential students of all grade levels and have internship opportunities for high school students
- Work assignments typically begin in May/June and end in August/September. There are some opportunities for interns to stay-on in a part-time internship capacity year round
- Included in many of our intern programs are orientation and kick-off events, networking opportunities with leadership and other interns, social activities, learning sessions and professional development opportunities.
- For more information about the intern program go to: http://www.northropgrumman.com/Careers/StudentsAndNewGrads/Pages/Cyberpatriot.aspx

To find opportunities for CyberPatriots, go to this link and enter "CyberPatriot" in the keyword field:

https://ngc.taleo.net/careersection/ngc_coll/jobsearch.ftl?lang=en

## AT&T CONTINUES SUPPORT OF CYBERPATRIOT

The Air Force Association today announced that long-time CyberPatriot supporter, AT&T Foundation, has renewed their support of the nationally recognized program. The AT&T Foundation has been a Cyber Diamond sponsor of CyberPatriot, the National Youth Cyber Education Program, for more than four years, contributing through generous monetary donations, equipment donations, and employee volunteer opportunities within the program.

# Hewlett Packard Enterprise

The CyberPatriot program office is pleased to announce that Hewlett Packard Enterprise has joined as our newest Cyber Silver sponsor!

Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) is an enterprise-focused organization with three divisions: Enterprise Group (servers, storage, networking, consulting and support), Enterprise Services, Software and Financial Services. HPE helps customers use technology to slash the time it takes to turn ideas into value.

## RIVERSIDE RESEARCH RENEWS SPONSORSHIP, GIVES GRANT FOR ESCEI

Riverside Research, provider of high-level technical advisory and engineering support to government entities, public agencies, and private subcontractors in the national security and intelligence sectors, has renewed its Cyber Gold sponsorship of the CyberPatriot program, and has also granted an additional $17,500 in funding to be used toward the enhancement of the Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative.

*Photo and article content courtesy of Allen Stubblefield, Troy NJROTC*

*The December 2015 issue of the CyberSentinel featured an article titled "High School CyberPatriots Recruit Younger Students", which told the story of how four competitors from Troy High School took the time to introduce a small group of Ladera Vista (LV) Middle School students to the program. The attached photo is of that original team of five students plus 17 NEW 7th graders who have answered the call for cybersecurity. Standing on the left is Sam Bradbury, LV's team captain and an 8th grader and on the right is Mr. Doug Elmore, LV's coach. LV is competing in PicoCTF and the San Diego Mayor's Cyber Cup this spring as they prepare for the 2016-17 CyberPatriot competition. Mr. Elmore has "created a monster" and is already working towards next year. GO CYBERPATRIOT and all things cyber!*

## NATIONAL FINALS COMPETITION MOVES TO A NEW LOCATION FOR CP-VIII



**We are pleased to announce that from April 10-14 the top teams will compete at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore, Md.**

## THIS MONTH IN CYBER HISTORY



**Feb. 25, 1959**—The Automatically Programmed Tools language is demonstrated. APT is an English-like language that tells tools how to work and is mainly used in computer-assisted manufacturing. A *New Yorker* article from March 28 observed: "The Air Force announced today that it has a machine that can receive instructions in English - figure out how to make whatever is wanted- and teach other machines how to make it. An Air Force general said it will enable the United States to build a war machine that nobody would want to tackle. Today it made an ashtray."

For more information, visit:
http://www.computerhistory.org/tdih/February/25/