

Commissioner's Cache



CyberPatriot VII registration is underway at full steam! Over 250 teams have already registered and the first exhibition round is complete. Each month we will conduct an exhibition round in which any registered team can participate.

This season we are focused especially on involving more young women in the competition, so please spread the word! As an incentive we are waiving registration fees for any all-girls team that registers. Also new to this season, Open Division teams that pay a registration fee for a team at their

school can register an additional team at no additional charge!

Our AFA CyberCamp pilot deployments will take place in July and August at Texas Women's University and the San Antonio Center of Excellence, respectively, with other locations to be announced. Putting the finishing touches on CP-VI, our Regional Recognition Round winners have been shipped their plaques and the Most Improved Teams have been recognized in this edition of The CyberSentinel. Congratulations to all of them!

Last, but not least, let me pose a question....Was your CP-VI Coach and/or Mentor exceptional? Let us know! See our website for information on nominating him or her for CP-VI Coach or Mentor of the Year. Have fun gearing up for a great competition season and get your team registered!

Bernie Skoch **National Commissioner** CyberPatriot Program Air Force Association



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Program Office Bits

CyberPatriot VII Registration is open! Register today at www.uscyberpatriot.org

Coach & Mentor of the Year Nomination Deadline: June 15, 2014

Exhibition Round #2: May 19-28

Register Now To Join The Summer's CP-VII Exhibition Rounds!



With the start of Exhibition Round 1 on April 21, the CyberPatriot VII season officially kicked off. For10 days, 63 teams

competed using a Windows 7 image to familiarize themselves with the CyberPatriot Competition System (CCS), fix very simple vulnerabilities, and recruit new Competitors for the upcoming season.

Teams' scores from Exhibition Round 1 do not factor into any final awards or scores during the main CyberPatriot VII competition, which begins this fall. Rather, the round provided teams with a minor understanding of how they

may stack up during the scored rounds of competition and gave Coaches an idea of how to tailor their training for the upcoming season to meet their students' specific needs.

If your team missed this round, do not worry! Getting involved in any of the four upcoming rounds is easy. A school official just needs to sign up as a Coach, and then he or she will be added to the email list to receive information on image downloads and unzipping passwords. There is no fee to participate in any of the upcoming Exhibition Rounds. Tech support will The following are the tentative dates for Exhibe available via online chat to help Coaches and Competitors who have not previously participated in CyberPatriot get their virtual machine images up and running.

These competitions are a great way to recruit

new students to join your CyberPatriot team. Vulnerabilities are simple enough that no prior knowledge of or familiarity with cybersecurity is required to be successful. Additionally, unlike the scored rounds of competition, multiple images can be opened simultaneously and unzipped multiple times through the competition period during the round. This way, Coaches can introduce CyberPatriot to as many students as they want for an extended period of time.

bition Rounds 2-5:

• Exhibition Round 2: May 19-28

• Exhibition Round 3: June 16-25

• Exhibition Round 4: July 21-30

• Exhibition Round 5: August 18-27



• Air Force Association / CyberPatriot Program •

AFA Chapter President Helps Start CyberPatriot in Rochester School



Petros Assefa makes a hashtag sign.

Had it not been for the work of AFA Genesee Valley Chapter President Al Smith, Franklin School of Integrated Arts and Technology, in Rochester, New York, would have never considered CyberPatriot.

Over coffee one afternoon, Smith briefed teachers Joe Cicero and Timothy Johnsen about the program and how it could benefit their students. The teachers, however, were worried about the time commitment involved, about finding enough students who would be interested, and about the technical requirements of competing. As a school with very limited resources, starting a CyberPatriot team would be a difficult task.



AFROTC Cadet Robert Barns from RIT and Cynthia Rubio work on a practice image.

The teachers' concerns did not deter Smith from getting CyberPatriot started in the school. Right away,
Smith pulled in help from Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), which came as a huge relief to Cicero and Johnsen. Cicero said, "I felt like we weren't going it alone" and decided to move forward with implementing the program at the school.



To the teachers' surprise, 20 kids applied to be part of the team, allowing them to select the "smartest of the smart" for the competition. The teachers were also surprised and pleased by the number of young women who made the team. According to Cicero, the girls are very excited with how much they learned from CyberPatriot and how they were able to apply their new cybersecurity skills to their computers at home. They are also working on the security for other devices.

Although Franklin School of Integrated Arts and Technology may not have been one of the top schools in the competition, the school staff was very supportive. In fact, other teachers were so supportive of the student's involvement in STEM that they sometimes excused them from Friday classes so the team could spend the entire day training.

"The team was a 'middle-scorer' in the competition," said Cicero. "No trophies or medals, but the team has told me they will all be back next year."

Rangeview High School's Team Any Key Gets Shout Out from Colorado State Senator Nancy Todd

"Although we gave
Team Any Key a shout
out last week, I had the
privilege of congratulating them in person today on the floor of the
Senate! Congratulations
to Rangeview High
School's Team Any Key
who are national champions in the Digital
Crime Scene Challenge
during the National
Finals in Washington.



They competed with teams from across the country in the CyberPatriot National Youth Cyber Education Program. This program was created by the Air Force Association to inspire High School students towards careers in cybersecurity and other STEM arenas. A special congratulations to their coach, Randy Mills." - State Senator Nancy J. Todd (D)

Coaches' Corner

- <u>CyberPatriot VII Registration.</u> CyberPatriot VII
 Coach Registration is now open. Coaches must be <u>registered and cleared</u> before their competitors may register. Go to: <u>www.uscyberpatriot.org</u> to register.
- <u>Coaches and Mentors of Year</u>. Applications are due by 5:00PM EST on May 15, 2014. Forms can be found on <u>www.uscyberpatriot.org</u>.
- <u>Air Cards.</u> Coaches with air cards from the CP-VI season should return them immediately. Return shipping labels can be requested from the Cyber-Patriot Program Office.
- <u>SRR/RRR Awards.</u> Have photos of your team being presented with a State or Regional Recognition Round Award? Email them to us! The photos will be shared on the CyberPatriot Facebook page.
- <u>Coaches' Meeting.</u> The next meetings are scheduled for: 3:30 PM EST on Tuesday, May 20

4:30 PM EST on Wednesday, May 21 9:00 PM EST on Wednesday, May 21

The CyberSentinel

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Spotlight on the Most Improved Teams of CP-VI



Raritan Valley Composite Squadron CyberRavens (New Jersey)



There's no question that cyber threat is one of the most serious economic and national security challenges we face as a nation.

America's economic prosperity in the 21st century will depend on cybersecurity.

One local unit of patriotic Civil Air Patrol cadets belonging to the Raritan Valley Composite Squadron has been training every week to take on these challenges head-on.

After training every Saturday for six months with a dedicated group of volunteers from the industry, the squadron hosted three teams consisting of five cadets each. A group of dedicated volunteer coaches and mentors spent an exceptional amount of time creating training modules, preparing lessons, and helping each cadet through every step of the way.

One of the squadron teams, the CyberRavens, recently took first place in the regional CyberPatriot championship. Squadron Commander Amy Myzie stated, "The CyberPatriot competition presented our cadets with challenges that were exceedingly more difficult to solve. The competition demanded intellectual capacity and attention to detail, and our cadets came prepared." She said, "We are extremely proud of what these cadets have accomplished." The improvement of the Cyber-Ravens' scores between Round 1 and the State Recognition Round was remarkable, earning them the title of Most Improved Team in the All Service Division.

The team will be presented with their award at the NJ State AFA Convention scheduled for Saturday, July 26, 2014, at the Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station. All of the CyberPatriot VI winning teams from the state will be invited.



CyberRavens with Commander Myzie and Cadet Program Officers, left to right Front Row: Cadet 2nd Lt. James Case (Cadet Commander), Cadet TSgt. Aditi Panvelkar, Col. Amy Myzie (Sq Commander), Cadet Tech Sgt. Heli Patel (Cadet PAO), Cadet SSgt. Trevor Shu, Cadet SrA. Garret Leung. Back Row: Capt. Jaysin Maskarenas (AEO, CP Head Coach), Capt. Bryan Martin (DCC), Lt. Kai Leung (CP Coach), Lt. Syed Quadri (CP Coach)

Punahou School (Hawaii)



You do not need a big team to do big things. Take, for example, Punahou School from Honolulu, Hawaii. Byron Li and Max Aalto, a two-man team, managed to go from the back of the pack in Round 1 to Hawaii State Recognition Round First Place State awardee.

The progression and improvement of these two CyberPatriot Competitors show that they have what it takes, even if it may not have been easy at first. The team was presented with their award by Paris Priore-Kim and William Ouellette, deans at Punahou School.



Punahou School Open Division team members Byron Li and Max Aalto receiving their Open Division Most Improved Team and Hawaii State Recognition Round First Place certificates from Deans Paris Priore-Kim and William Ouellette and coach Kevin Akita. (Photo credit: Barbara Li)

GREAT NEWS! Changes to Roster and Coaching Rules for CyberPatriot VII

Based on the feedback received from a survey sent to past Coaches last month, the CyberPatriot Program Office is pleased to announce that all CyberPatriot teams for the CyberPatriot VII season will consist of a minimum of two students and a maximum of six (five competitors and one alternate). The new roster size is designed to give more students a chance to actively participate in rounds of competition.



In light of the change to roster size, the maximum number of teams each CyberPatriot Coach can register has been increased from three to five. Note, in the past, Coaches were responsible for up to 30 students (i.e., three teams of 10), of whom only 15 were permitted to work on a competition image at a given time. In this new structure, Coaches can still be responsible for up to 30 students, albeit in a different configuration (i.e., five teams of six Competitors) in which 25 students are able to actively compete in a competition round.

New Internship Opportunities With Northrop NORTHROP GRUMMAN **Grumman Now Available. Apply Today!**

Start your legacy now! Join the Northrop Grumman Intern Program

Summer will be here before you know it, so now is the time to start thinking about putting your skills into action. An internship at Northrop Grumman Corp. is unique. You'll work side by side with our technical experts to learn more about the career field and how important this specialty is to national security. You will learn new skills, explore our enterprise, network with experts, connect with thought leaders, and finish with a résumé 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 enrollment 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.

Current openings include positions in Redondo Beach, Calif., Aurora, Colo., Annapolis Junction, Md., Oklahoma City, Okla., Hill AFB, Utah, and Fairfax, Va.

For more information about the intern program go to: http://www.northropgrumman.com/Careers/StudentsAndNewGrads/Pages/ Cyberpatriot.aspx. You can also keyword search "CyberPatriot" in the job search portal (https://ngc.taleo.net/careersection/ngc_coll/ jobsearch.ftl?lang=en) to see all available opportunities.

Questions? Contact CyberPatriot@ngc.com.

Coach & Mentor of the Year



With another successful season of CyberPatriot in the books, it is time to recognize the hard-working men and women who made it all possible the Coaches and Mentors!



If you think your Coach or Mentor is

the best of the best, nominate him or her to be recognized! All nominations must be submitted by June 15, 2014. Winners will be announced on July 31, 2014. More information is available at http:// www.uscyberpatriot.org/Pages/Announcements/Coach%20and%20Mentor% 20of%20the%20Year%20nominations.aspx

Coach of the Year:

- Only ONE nomination per team
- CP-VI Registered Competitors, Mentors, or Team Assistants may nominate their team's Coach
- The first nomination from teams will be considered. All other team nominations will be discarded

Mentor of the Year:

- Only Coaches may nominate Mentors for the Mentor of the Year Award
- Nominations submitted by Competitors or Team Assistants will be discarded

This Month in Cyber History

On May 11, 1997, IBM's chess-playing computer, Deep Blue, beat the



world's best chess player, Garry Kasparov. Kasparov beat Deep Blue in the first match of what many considered a test of artificial intelligence. Kasparov eventually lost the match and the \$1.1 million purse to the IBM supercomputer, which he had claimed could never surpass human chess ability.

After losing the sixth and final

game of the match, Kasparov accused IBM of building a machine specifically to beat him. Observers said he was frustrated by Deep Blue's quickness although they

expected him to win with unconventional moves.

For more information go to: http://www.computerhistory.org/ tdih/May/11



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