ISSUE 44 | NOV 2015

The CyberSentinel

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

Commissioner's Cache

Can you believe it!? CyberPatriot VIII broke all records for team registrations with 3,379 teams – 1,200 more teams than last season! There are a TON of teams competing this season, and competition will be fierce! Will your team be National Finalists? I hope so!

We thank our Presenting Sponsor, the Northrop Grumman Foundation, and our other generous sponsors (listed in every issue) for their outstanding support that has made CyberPatriot explode in its reach. We truly could not do anything without their financial and in-kind contributions to the future of STEM education and cybersecurity.

Round 1 of CP-VIII will take place Nov. 13-15. Teams from both CyberPatriot and Cyber-Centurion, our companion program in the UK, will compete that weekend. And this year, the CyberPatriot scoreboard will be up so your families, friends, and supporters can follow you online!

Don't forget the remaining training opportunity before online rounds begin. The Introductory Images are a good way for both new teams and experienced teams to get familiar with finding and fixing basic vulnerabilities. An answer key is included with these images. Teams can practice on the Introductory Images until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Nov. 11.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE FOR OUR COACHES: Don't forget that all competitors must be registered by Nov. 6 to compete in CP- VIII. We are looking forward to another great season! Good luck!

Bernard K. Skoch | National Commissioner

DATES TO KNOW

NOV. 6	Student Registration Deadline
NOV. 6	Registration Fee Due Date
NOV. 1-11	Introductory Images Available
NOV. 13-15	CP-VIII Round 1
DEC. 4-6	CP-VIII Round 2

Competition Begins Nov. 13, Introductory Training Images Available

Round 1 of CyberPatriot VIII begins at 9:00 a.m. on Nov. 13, with the CyberPatriot VIII Kickoff Event at the program office. Members of the staff and sponsoring companies will be on-hand to start the competition and celebrate the beginning of another season.

The competition windows for Round 1 are:

- Friday, Nov. 13, 9:00 a.m.—Saturday, Nov. 14, 3:00 a.m. ET
- Saturday, Nov. 14, 8:00 a.m.—11:59 p.m. ET
- Sunday, Nov. 15, 10:00 a.m.—10:00 p.m. ET

CyberPatriot high school and middle school teams as well as the United Kingdom's Cyber-Centurion teams will compete during the weekend. Each team will compete in a single, six-hour competition period of their choosing. The competition will center around finding and fixing vulnerabilities in Windows 7 and Ubuntu operating systems.

Rounds 1 and 2 are qualification rounds. High school teams are placed into one of three tiers based on their performance in the qualification rounds. The teams will compete in their tiers during the State and Regional Rounds. Middle School Division Semifinalist teams are determined from their total scores in Rounds 1 and 2. Round 2 is scheduled for Dec. 4-6.

Introductory Images for Windows 7, Ubuntu 12, and Windows Server 2008 are available until Nov. 11. It is a great resource for new teams. The images contain basic vulnerabilities and have answer keys with explanations.

For teams that want to create their own practice on images, Texas A&M Corpus Christi has provided software and instructions on the CyberPatriot website at: http://uscyberpatriot.org/competition/training-materials/practice-images.

Ubuntu practice images with answer keys are also located at the link. There are no expiration times on the images. More information on the competition and training is located under the Competition tab at: www.uscyberpatriot.org.

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NOV
15

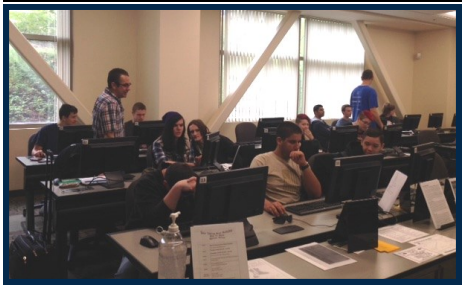
CyberPatriot VIII Prep in Full Gear

With the official start of CyberPatriot VIII nearing, teams are ramping up preparation for Round 1 of the cyber defense competition.

Professor Steve Linthicum of Sierra College hosted a CyberPatriot Practice Round event for teams in the Sacramento, Calif., region. Hosting the round at the college allowed students to practice in an environment with quality machines and a quality connection to the Internet. Attendance totaled 80 competitors and 10 coaches.

And of course, where there's a large group of cyber-savvy students, there's sure to be fuel… donuts, pizza, juice boxes, and water (and some Starbucks coffee for the coaches). In the words of Linthicum, "It was a great event!"

Round 1 of CyberPatriot VIII will kickoff the morning of Friday, Nov. 13, and will remain open until the evening of Sunday, Nov. 15. The CyberPatriot Program Office is ready for a fun and exciting season, and we hope our teams are ready, too!



Photos courtesy of Steve Linthicum

ATTENTION MENTORS AND TEAM ASSISTANTS:

If you were a Mentor or Team Assistant in CyberPatriot VII, your account was automatically rolled over for this year. You do not need to re-register, but you should make sure the Coach of the team(s) you are assisting links you* to his/her CP-VIII team(s). Your Coach will only be able to find and invite you to his/her team(s) if you log into your account, click the "Edit Profile" button on your Dashboard and make sure you have indicated you are willing work with additional teams. After you have been linked to the team(s), you can revert to unavailable by following the same steps.

***Linking to a team:** Coach finds Mentor's name on the mentor list, clicks "Invite." An invitation email is generated. Mentor/Team Assistant must accept invitation.

Sponsor Profile: Symantec

Symantec, a Fortune 500 company, is an information protection corporation that helps people, businesses and governments seeking the freedom to unlock the opportunities technology brings. Operating one of the largest global data-intelligence networks, Symantec has provided leading security, backup and availability solutions for where vital information is stored, accessed and shared.

Symantec has been supporting the CyberPatriot program as a Cyber Gold level sponsor since the CyberPatriot VI competition season.

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Coaches' Corner

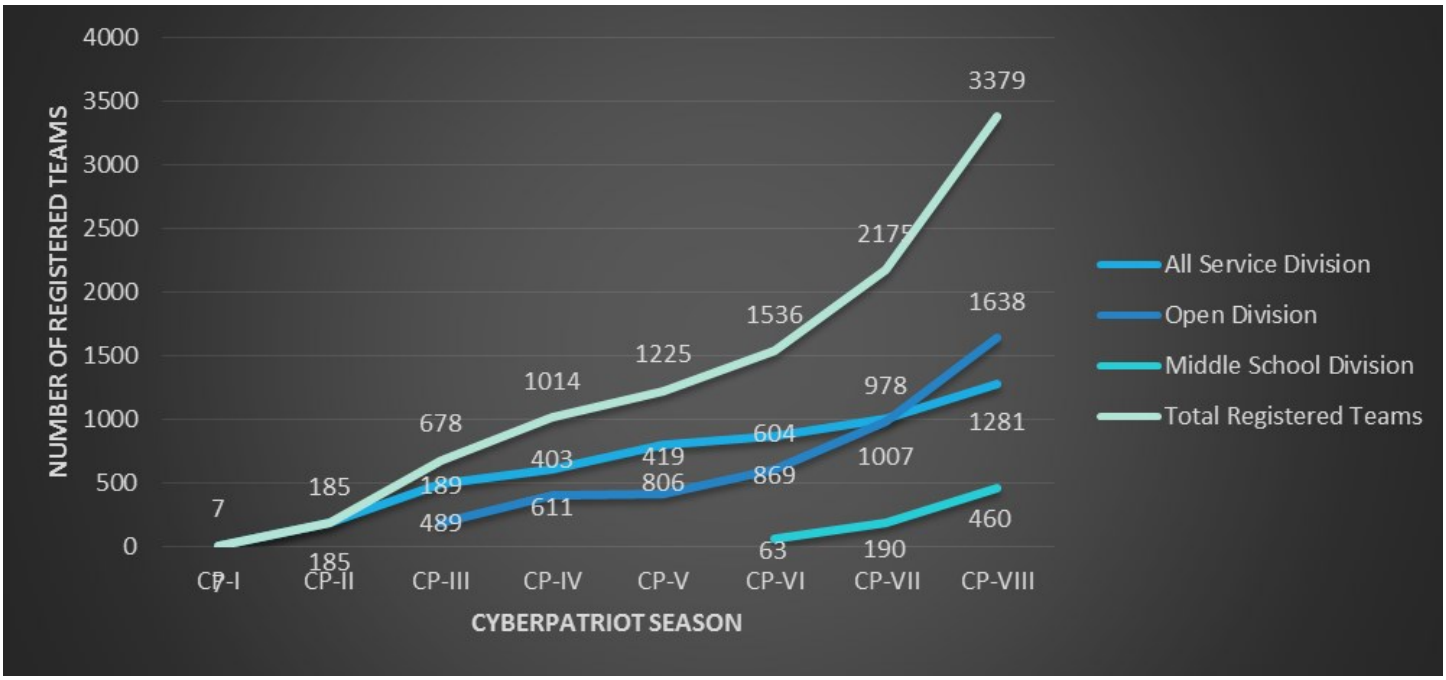
- **Fee Payment & Student Registration Deadline.** Friday, Nov. 6, is the deadline to pay team registration fees or request fee waivers. It is also the deadline to finalize your team roster(s). This includes registering competitors and/or moving competitors between teams. Once this deadline has passed, rosters cannot be changed. Competitors cannot be added until your team is verified by your verification official and approved by the CyberPatriot Program Office. When you add students to your team's roster, they are automatically emailed a link to a short Competitor registration form. Students must complete that Competitor registration form to complete their registration

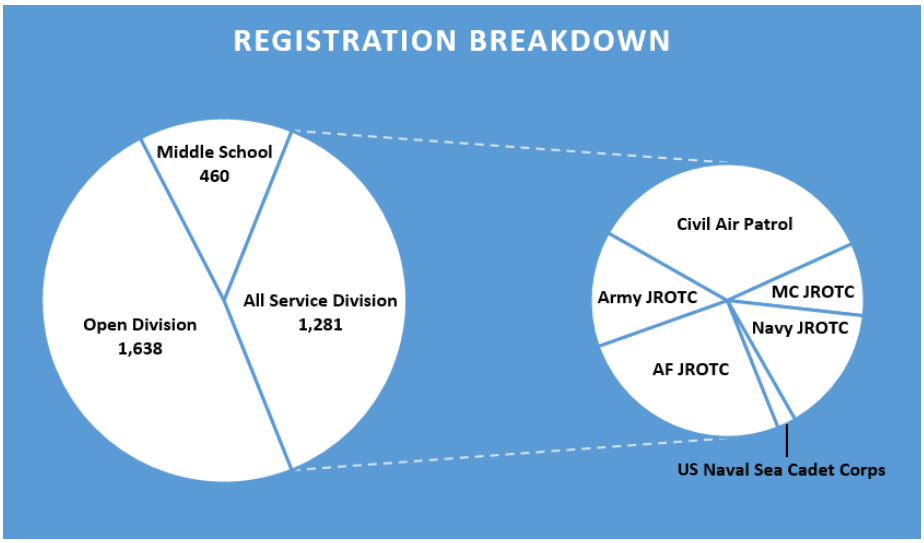
- **Online Coaches and Mentors Meetings.** The Coaches Meetings are a great time to ask any questions about the upcoming round of CP-VIII! The format will be an interactive chat session. Information on joining these meetings will be emailed to Coaches a few days before the meeting. Additional questions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

  Next Meeting: Nov. 10, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

- **Training Materials.** Registered Coaches and Mentors may access exclusive training materials at the Dashboard on the CyberPatriot website. Just click on SIGN IN and enter your login and password to access the Dashboard. Competitors do not have direct access to the training modules, but Coaches and Mentors are welcome to share the modules.

SPOTLIGHT: CYBERPATRIOT BY THE NUMBERS



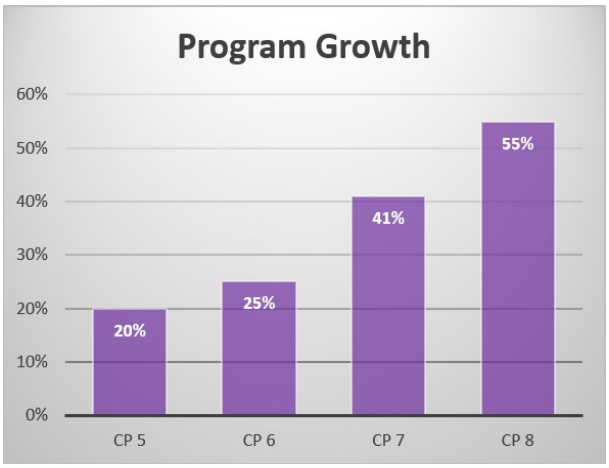


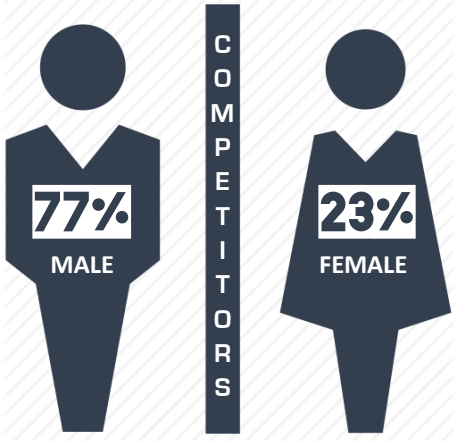
Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative

Hard-Copies Sent: 1,419

DOWNLOAD

Digital Downloads: 792





DEMOGRAPHICS

55%	Caucasian
22%	Hispanic
18%	Asian/Pacific Islander
8%	Black (non-Hispanic)
1%	American Indian/ Alaskan Native

NOV 15

In October, AFA Staff prepped/stuffed 12,000+ packets for the participant kits

Participant Kits Coming Soon

We will start packing and shipping CyberPatriot VIII participant kits after the Nov. 6 team roster finalization deadline. This season's kits will include the following items for the Coach and each registered Competitor appearing on the Coach's roster(s). Packages for active Mentors and Team Assistants will be sent separately, directly to their home addresses:

- T-shirt
- Challenge Coin
- Lapel Pin
- Ballpoint Pen
- Mouse Pad
- 4-port USB Hub
- Participation Certificate

Packages will be shipped to the address provided by the Coach during the online registration process. Please note that due to a FedEx policy we cannot ship to PO boxes. A street address must be provided.

You will receive email notification once your package has shipped. Additional information will be provided once the shipping process begins.

Cybersecurity Campus Coming to Lee's Summit (MO) in 2016

LEE'S SUMMIT R-7 SCHOOLS *Learning for Life*

The Missouri Innovation Campus (MIC), a progressive collaboration between the Lee's Summit R-7 School District, Metropolitan Community College and the University of Central Missouri has begun work on the initiative's fourth program, Cybersecurity.

During July, more than 20 cyber security professionals from 11 regional companies worked with instructors from Summit Technology Academy (two-time CyberPatriot National Finalists), MCC and UCM to identify industry standard cyber security competencies that will drive the MIC new program. The Cybersecurity program will begin in June 2016.

Other Missouri Innovation campus programs are System Engineering Technology, Design and Drafting and Software Development/Programming. Through the Missouri Innovation Campus, located within Lee's Summit R-7's Summit Technology Academy and UCM, students are able to accelerate the time it takes to graduate from college and participate in high-tech paid internships while dramatically reducing the cost of a four-year program.

Thanks to a no-tax-increase bond issue, Summit Tech / MIC will have a new home by August 2017. The $40 million bond issue, approved by approximately 80 percent of voters, is funding a new school for the programs as well as facility improvements at all Lee's Summit R-7 schools.

Source: http://www.lsr7.org/news/missouri-innovation-campus-to-add-cyber-security-program-in-2016/

This Month In Cyber History

Nov. 29, 1972 — On this day, Atari Corporation announced Pong, an early video game popular both at home and at video arcades. In Pong, players were represented by paddles that could move up and down to try to deflect a ball and keep it from passing into their goal. Despite simplistic graphics, Pong started a craze. Atari, founded by Nolan Bushnell, sold video games as well as computers on which to play the games.

For more information, visit:
http://www.computerhistory.org/tdih/November/29/

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Cyber Gold: RIVERSIDE RESEARCH, facebook, splunk>, Symantec.

Cyber Silver: AIR FORCE RESERVE, EMBRY-RIDDLE Aeronautical University PRESCOTT, ARIZONA, leidos, UMUC University of Maryland University College