COMMISSIONER'S CACHE

And here we go! CP-IX is about to kick-off, and the CyberPatriot Program Office could not possibly be more excited. Not only has a record number of teams registered, but the new season will bring several interesting improvements as well. In other words, CyberPatriot is quite literally bigger and better!

Cisco elements of the competition will appear far earlier for high school teams, and they will for the first time be introduced in a round of competition to our middle school teams. Our CyberPatriot Competition System has been improved with several new features including team name presentation and warnings to teams making some procedural errors. (We are so thankful to UTSA's Center for Information Assurance and Security who bring so much value to the program).

Oh, don't forget that V2.0 of ESCEI is now available for download. It includes several remarkable improvements in its modules, and now features Mac OS compatibility, making it useable even more widely than V1.0. We know the program's success is owed to you, our competitors, our supporters, our coaches, our mentors, our loyal AFA volunteers, and of course our generous sponsors led by the Northrop Grumman Foundation. Thank you all.

Bernard K. Skoch | National Commissioner

DATES TO KNOW

OCT. 5	Team Creation Deadline
OCT. 11	CP-IX Practice Round Opens
OCT. 25	CP-IX Practice Round Closes
NOV. 2	Competitor Registration & Reg. Fee Payment Deadline

NEW RECORD!!
4,300+ TEAMS
have registered for CyberPatriot IX!
Best of luck to all involved!

Coach of the Year CDR Allen Stubblefield (above) and Mentor of the Year Chris Walcutt (below) were recognized for their achievements at the Field Awards Dinner during AFA's National Convention. Congrats!

CYBERPATRIOT IX PRACTICE ROUND BEGINS OCT. 11

The CP-IX Practice Round begins at 12 Noon Eastern Time on October 11, 2016. All teams may participate and the round does not count toward the competition score.

Teams should know about the following changes.

Unique IDs on Dashboard
Coaches will be able to find team Unique Identifiers and Cisco login credentials on the Coach's Dashboard. The Unique Identifiers will no longer be part of the StartEx email. Teams are responsible for protecting their Unique Identifiers. Great care should be taken not to mix-up the Unique Identifiers.

Image Disabled Warnings
Teams must immediately enter their <u>correct</u> team Unique Identifiers into their images when opened. Failure to do so will result in a series of warnings and the image becoming disabled. If the image becomes disabled due to using an incorrect Unique Identifier or no Unique Identifier, the image must be deleted and then unzipped again.

Six-Hour Images
Once the VMware Player Play button is pressed teams will have six hours to work on an image. After six hours the images must be deleted and new images unzipped to begin again.

LIMITED AT&T 3G AIR CARDS AVAILABLE

We are excited to announce that AT&T will again generously provide air cards for teams that need connectivity support for the CyberPatriot competition. Each Coach may request up to three air cards for each of their teams for the duration of the online rounds. Competitors, Mentors, and Team Assistants may not request air cards. All air cards are accountable and must be returned at the end of this season's CyberPatriot competition.

The CyberPatriot Program Office is committed to ensuring that as many teams as possible are able to compete in the competition. Due to the limited supply of air cards, teams that are unable to participate in CyberPatriot without these devices will be given priority. For those teams using air cards as a backup Internet option, please take these teams' participation in to consideration. Air card usage will be tracked.

Any team that did not return their air cards in previous seasons will not be eligible to receive air cards this season. Based on availability and demand, teams may not receive the number of air cards requested. Air cards will be mailed out to teams beginning the second week of the Practice Round.

An Air Card Request Survey will be sent before the practice round.

Coaches' Corner

- **CP-IX Registration Fee Payment**. Team registration fees must be submitted no later than Nov. 2. We accept POs, checks (made out to "Air Force Association"), online credit card payments (through dashboard), and over the phone credit card payments (2% service fee added to total for payments made over the phone). As a reminder, the fees are as follows;
  - \- $195/ Open Division Team
  - \- $155 / Middle School Division Team
  - \- Waived / JROTC, CAP, Sea Cadet teams
  - \- Waivers can also be requested for Title 1 schools and all-girls teams

- **Coaches Meeting**. The next online Coaches Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12. Watch for the announcement email for more details.

- **Unique Identifiers and Cisco Logins No Longer Emailed**. Unique Identifiers and Cisco Logins will no longer be emailed to Coaches. Coaches must check their Dashboards on the CyberPatriot website. The information will be posted at the bottom of the Dashboard.

NOV. 2: FINAL REGISTRATION DEADLINES...

GETTING TEAM APPROVED

In order to add competitors to your roster, your **team must first be verified by a school/organization official and approved by CyberPatriot program office**. If your verification official cannot find the email with the link to verify your registration, you can confirm the address you entered on the form and resend the verification email. If your verification official still does not receive the email, he or she can email info@uscyberpatriot.orgwith a short note verifying your status at your school/organization and authorization to coach a team. CPOC will then manually approve your application.

ADDING COMPETITORS:

When you add a Competitor to your roster, you will be asked to check a box indicating you have received parental permission. You do not need to submit signed documentation to CPOC. You just need to check the box indicating you have received permission (orally, written, or tacitly through membership in a club). When you add a Competitor to your roster, he or she is automatically emailed a link to a Competitor Questionnaire. Students must complete this questionnaire by Nov 2 in order to be fully registered.

SPOTLIGHT: NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

Celebrated every October, National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM) – #CyberAware – was created as a collaborative effort between government and industry to ensure that all Americans have the information they need to stay safer and more secure online.

This year marks the 13th annual NCSAM, co-founded and co-led by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA), the nation's leading nonprofit, public-private partnership focused on cybersecurity education and awareness.

According to a September 2016 survey by HSB, more than one-third of U.S. consumers have experienced a computer virus, hacking incident or other cyber attack in the last year. With cyber crime an ongoing challenge, NCSA and DHS work throughout the year to promote awareness about internet safety and the importance of being a responsible digital citizen. During NCSAM, these actions and efforts come into full focus, creating a moment in time for internet users – in America and across the globe – to reflect on measures we've taken to stay safe online and find meaningful ways to improve them.

Since its inception, NCSAM has grown exponentially, reaching consumers of all ages, small and medium-sized businesses, corporations, educational institutions and non-profits nationwide. Its growth comes at a time when cybersecurity is an increasingly vital subject, and recent initiatives and support from the White House have helped draw greater attention to the issue, particularly for consumers.

For this reason, NCSAM 2016 will focus on the various ways individuals can protect themselves while online – whether in the home, at the office or while on the go – work to empower businesses to create a culture of cybersecurity in the workplace, and explore cybersecurity as we enter the age of the Internet of Things. NCSAM strives to instill the idea that by working together to protect the internet, we – and our nation's economy and critical infrastructure – will be safer and more secure.

Underpinning the month-long initiative to educate consumers and businesses everywhere is STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™, the global online safety education and awareness campaign. Cofounded by NCSA and the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG) and supported by DHS' federal engagement, STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ is based on simple, actionable advice that anyone can follow by taking security precautions, thinking about the consequences of their actions online and enjoying the benefits of the internet.

Seventy two percent of Americans believe their accounts are secure with only a username and password[1] yet the most common passwords in America are 123456 and 123456789.

ComScore's 2015 U.S. Mobile App Report, released last September, revealed that *app use accounts for 54 percent of the time people spend with digital media.*

Keep a **Clean Machine**
staysafeonline.org/ncsam

In 2015, 21 percent of internet users (18 years and older) had an online account compromised, such as a social networking account or an email account, and only 23 percent think their accounts are very secure.

Last year, hackers exposed the personal information of *110 million Americans* — roughly half of the nation's adults.

In 2015 some 1,938,383 data records were stolen or lost every day, 80,766 every hour, 1,346 every minute and 22 every second.

Get **Two Steps Ahead**
staysafeonline.org/ncsam

Every two seconds there is another victim of identity fraud.[4] Identity fraud was responsible for *$16 billion in losses in 2014.*

Theft of personal information and identities took center stage in 2015, accounting for 53 percent of all data breaches last year.

WORDSEARCH.EXE

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V J H B A W T V J T A H Z E S V W F B P Y B G O R G J M E T
A Q K K G R N T S L V N Q X A I Q N I N I S N Q K C K F H N
U E Y Q B L L N O A J K O Q U D V B H F A T H H D F T E U R
I F U D C C N O F K U J J Z X F Q V H R R C J M P K C M J E
H A R D Y U G I T J E T K G J D O J L Y A R P N N L Q L P L
U W H J Z Y Y T W O W N H I J K F A F Q L I E L N P E X K U
K A I Y B R E P A W X Y I E G W J W R E C T B D J V X K K
Y F Z X K G R Y R G H E G Z N N D P G Y A I F H N D S W M D
T F N G R E U R E T W V N J A T I E E K L C T K Q E P Q T U
C C P G S S T C X W H O B A Q T I Y V J J A H A M J F F P I
Q E B B A U C N Q H K I I A Y K I C L K J L A Q G K E E G H
B A L Y I J U E K G E I N E O W J O A L X D C P X K N K D Z
J A M S H N R M F M N E D G G O I V N T U Z K B X H B P L I
X J T S H N T F H M M I W U S S J Q B L I B E K Q B G B R U
Z L H B L P S E N C R O H J Q G N G B G N O R Z D L A R I W
G P O Q J H A X R G H E S S E N E R A W A K N E T F R E K I
C G I I K U R F T N G J C T I K V H P X Z N W C B E X A J T
R P B M T M F N C E E W L J S H I K Q R J S R I J Y Z C S A
Q P G K G G N M A G Z T C B W P P X K R X U O M W F C H M Y
N S N G R G I T V V V O D M V O Y U T Q L L Z D A W S S O A
Z W I R N F V K E T S F E I F Q P W J O V M V M C L R Z L E
U N L S I P R H A O D O S M B N A C A M E L S L D A W J R M
Z A L N J C F I U N P M A I P C A W G R S N V C I S V A S J
Y Z O B L T F B F N C P N O E N T U N T E A X Y M N W E R N
A M R Z P F P A P I S O W Y W T J P I I X I N O D M Q X Y E
M E T O N T T P A E I E Y D T Q E N F S P S I D O I P G Q H
I O F T N A A R O O F H S R O Z G U O O L H Q S N R H I N J
F I O A D W I B R H F L B W A E Z X O F S H N I D K F Y H T
I I Q O P V P S I V P R U K W V D E P O M A J W K U P F F C
A V K W W K L T V U T G N T L W B L S F R V H D N K R Y G H
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AUTHENTICATION	INTERNET OF THINGS
AWARENESS	MALWARE
BREACH	PHISHING
CHIP	RANSOMWARE
AND	SOFTWARE
PIN	SPAM
CRITICAL	SPOOFING
CYBERBULLYING	SPYWARE
DATA	TOKENIZATION
DEFENDER	TROLLING
ENCRYPTION	
HACKER	
INFRASTRUCTURE	

Kelvin Nguyen is the #CyberPatriot AroundTheWorld winner! He won with his photo from Chichen Itza in Mexico, taken on July 16. Congrats, Kelvin!

Congratulations to Northrop Grumman's Diane Miller for being named a 2016 *Heroines of Washington* finalist. The 16th Annual March of Dimes Heroines of Washington event honors and acknowledges the significant contributions of women in the Washington, D.C. area who exemplify leadership in volunteer community service. This year's finalists include women who are making a difference in the lives of many. They empower adults to transition from poverty into a career, provide mentorship, and raise awareness on several different causes. GOOD LUCK, DIANE!

THIS MONTH IN CYBER HISTORY

Oct. 23, 2001— On this day is cyber history, Apple ventured into the handheld and music entertainment markets with the introduction of the iPod. The original iPod was equipped with a miniature hard disk, but future iterations featured flash memory. Apple billed the iPod as letting users "put 1,000 songs in your pocket," a dramatic increase over competing players. Although it was not the first handheld player for digital music, the iPod, in tandem with the iTunes music store, radically altered the way people bought, stored, shared, and listened to music.

For more information, visit:
https://www.apple.com/pr/products/ipodhistory/