



WELCOME

Hello CyberPatriots! I have decided to publish a newsletter for the team this year. I named the newsletter "Bits and Bytes". I am planning on publishing Bits and Bytes every quarter or every three to four months. This is a place to post upcoming events, things that the team is doing, and also to help keep your parents informed about the CyberPatriot team in which you are a member of. I will post a link to the newsletter and a link to the TX-20009th-AFJROTC CyberPatriot page on the last page of this newsletter.

THE PRACTICE ROUND

Last Saturday, we had our first practice round of the season. I think we did very well considering it was during summer vacation and the team hadn't worked on Linux or Windows since the Gen-Cyber camp in June. The Linux crew did well considering they didn't have any notes to help them with the image. The Windows team also performed well, but we need to expand the knowledge base for Windows10. At the end of the round I said I wanted everyone to contact Mr. Sanchez to compile a list of problems that you ran into or problems you could not solve. I haven't seen a list or received a message on this topic. Let's get this list done so I can help you find the solution which will help you know what to do at the next competition.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

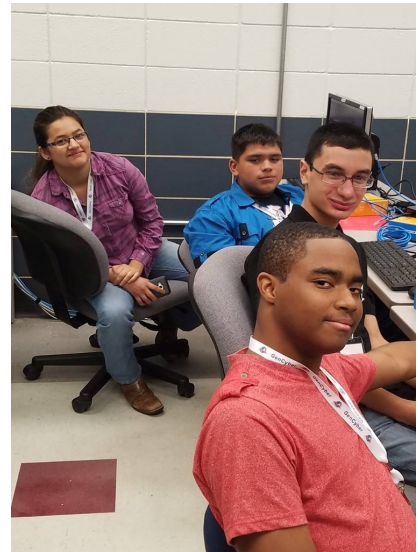
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CYBER DURING THE SUMMER

Back in June we attended the GenCyber Camp . This gave the team exposure to other Microsoft Windows operating environments, Raspberry Pi Linux operating systems, and Cisco. Yes, these are the disciplines that each member practices , but having to learn about all three helped us tremendously . I saw this new knowledge and eagerness to help each other during the practice round.

Now the thing I have been thinking about all summer is what has everyone done with their Raspberry Pi's? Have you done any hacking? Network monitoring? Or used it to learn a programming language? Let me know, or bring it in to practice and present it to the team.



“What has everyone done with their Raspberry Pi’s? Have you done any hacking? Network monitoring? Or used it to learn a programming language?”

Inside Story Headline GenCyber

GenCyber’s mission is to grow and improve cybersecurity education in the United States. The program sponsors summer camps across the nation designed for elementary, middle and high school students and teachers that focus on engaging the learners with sound cybersecurity principles and teaching techniques. GenCyber is a jointly funded effort sponsored by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). The GenCyber program follows in the footsteps of successful programs like STARTALK and builds on the successes in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields.

THE CYBERPatriot+ Team in the News!

In case you missed it, a couple of weeks ago the team was in the Castroville and Hondo newspapers. All of you were featured on the high school website. This was an amazing opportunity for the program to get some great exposure in our community. I also took a copy of the papers to work and apparently they are being circulated around the 25th Air Force headquarters building. I think it is great that cyber professionals are reading about your adventures through cyber.

Lt Col Spracale and Chief Thayer were extremely excited to see pictures of the team in the papers and on the web. Lt Col Spracale said, “All of the team members are superstars”.

Here is the link to the high school post.

<http://mvhs.mvisd.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=212626&pageId=4240583>



TRAINING EVENTS

EVENT	Dates	Description
Exhibition Round 1	May 17-June 12, 2017	Practice and Recruiting
Exhibition Round 2	July 12- August 7, 2017	Practice and Recruiting
CP-X Sneak Preview	September 2017 (Date TBD)	Practice/Test New Software One Day - No Backup Date
Training Round	September 15-October 10, 2017	Training images with answer keys available for new team training

CYBERPATRIOT X COMPETITION DATES

ROUND	Competition Dates	Backup Round Date*
Practice Round	October 2017 (TBD: 10 - 14 days)	N/A
Qualification Round 1	November 3-5, 2017	November 11, 2017
Qualification Round 2	December 8-10, 2017	December 15, 2017
State Round	January 19-21, 2018	January 28, 2018
Semifinals	February 9-11, 2018	February 17, 2018
National Finals Practice	March 6-16, 2018	N/A
National Finals Competition	April 15-19, 2018	N/A

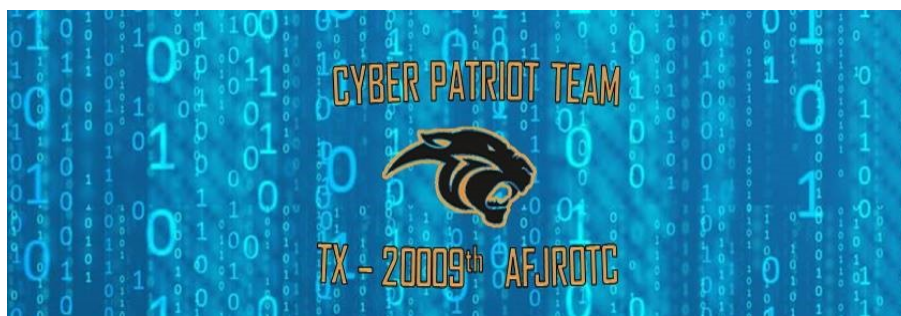
The CyberPatriot Time of Events

CYBERPATRIOT X at MEDINA VALLEY

The beginning of the CyberPatriot X season starts in September. The time line of events for the upcoming season is in the picture above this article. We have another practice round in the beginning of September; if the team is interested in doing this second practice round please let me know and I will get things set up.

There is also huge news for this season. We have a new CyberPatriot coach. We will have a formal introduction once school starts. She is teaching a programming and CyberPatriot class this school year so after you get your schedules, look for this class in the list of courses. She has been involved with the CyberPatriot program at the middle school level in San Antonio. She is a wonderful addition to the school and to our team.

I looking forward to an exciting and wonderful year for our team. I will attempt to bring in guest speakers, organize a field trip, and hopefully find another camp for us to attend.



Inside Story Headline CyberPatriot

CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Education Program. At the center of CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. The competition puts teams of high school and middle school students in the position of newly hired IT professionals tasked with managing the network of a small company. In the rounds of competition, teams are given a set of virtual images that represent operating systems and are tasked with finding cybersecurity vulnerabilities within the images and hardening the system while maintaining critical services in a six hour period. Teams compete for the top placement within their state and region, and the top teams in the nation earn an all-expenses paid trip to Baltimore, MD for the National Finals Competition where they can earn national recognition and scholarship money.



Medina Valley TX-20009th-
AFJROTC

CyberPatriot Team

We are the Medina Valley CyberPatriots!! We are the cyber warriors that relentlessly defend networks from attack. Our cyber hunting skills cannot be matched. We find threats, eliminate them, and strategically launch counter attacks against our cyber enemies. We are CyberPatriots!!

Medina Valley TX-20009th-
AFJROTC

CyberPatriot Team

Facebook Page Address:
<https://www.facebook.com/tx20009MVCPTeam/>

High School Website Link:
http://mvhs.mvisd.com/clubs__organizations/cyber_patriots

E-mail: fredrick.f.hall@hotmail.com



About the AFJROTC CyberPatriot Team

The Vision

The vision of the Medina Valley CyberPatriots program is to promote cyber awareness, computer security practices, and cyber ethics. All of these are essential attributes for creating a secure network infrastructure, teaching the students how to detect threats, and how to defend against cyber-attacks in a safe virtual environment.

The skills and knowledge the students will gain from participating in this program will give them an advantage to obtain information technology certifications, scholarships in computer related fields of study, and ultimately provide an opportunity to start a great career in information technology and cyber security.

The Mission

The mission of the Medina Valley CyberPatriot program is the proper instruction and implementation of information technology principals and cyber security practices. All students will be taught how to use various operating systems, inter-connecting network devices, and how to secure the entire infrastructure. The students will also be taught how to properly use tools and methodologies to assess and troubleshoot problems that range from inoperable workstations to misconfigured networking equipment. These are the skills that will be necessary to compete in the CyberPatriot competitions and will enable us to advance to each round and ultimately to the national finals.