



What's the Point

Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



February 12, 2015

What's Up (Coming)

March 2015

- March 12 –
Roundtable & OA

April 2015

- April 23 –
Roundtable & OA

Links:

www.matdistrict.org
for instant access to
Matinecock District
news, upcoming
events and program
resources.

www.SCCBSA.org for
a complete District
and Council
Calendar. **Check Out
the Training Events,
too!**

For more useful links to
scouting information, see
the last page.

Moving forward into the new year we have already started out with a bang! We had a very successful Polar Bear Camporee at Schiff Scout Reservation thanks to host Troop 41, Jeff Duncan who has helped organize this event for the past 18 YEARS, and many other volunteers from the district who came out to make sure things ran smoothly. Thank you to everyone who came out and made this event possible, including all the unit leaders who brought their scouts out to brave the cold. As we continue into 2015 a major center of focus will be on growing our membership. For toll long the number of scouts in our area has been dwindling. It is up to all of us to help this program grow so that we can reach as many young people as possible. We have a lot of great volunteers here in Matinecock and this past weekend showed this. I know that as a District we will achieve great things and it will be due largely to you volunteers who come and lend a helping hand time after time. Thank you all again for all of the time and effort you put forth for the benefit of this amazing program. As we go forward let us all keep our eyes open for new ways of getting more scouts involved. Together we can make scouting even bigger and better than it already is.

Daniel Schilpp, Matinecock District Executive
office: 924-7000 x131, cell: ??

"Get in on the Adventure"



Cub Scouting

85 Years of Wolves and Tigers and Bears! Oh, My!

New Cub Scout Program Updates

In case you missed it...there are some changes coming very soon to a Cub Scout Program near you. Last month at Roundtable we had an overview of the new program (power point is available on Matdistrict.org (see the roundtable tab). This month we are going to start breaking the program down into more manageable chunks. Our topics are: Den leader resources and advancement (this info will be on the website as well).

Den Leader resources:

- One book for each rank...no more lugging around a phone book.
- Clear & Concise Meeting Plans:
 - Breaks down everything a den leader needs to run a successful den meeting: Gathering, Opening, Talk Time, Activities, Explanation, Step-by-step instructions, Closing, After the Meeting.
 - All resources are listed following the meeting plan...No need to go searching for additional information – One Stop shopping...

Advancement:

- Just like the radio ad...remember “seven” that’s how many adventures (requirements) there will be for each rank. One Duty to God requirement done at home and the others are done in a den/WeBeLos Patrol setting.
- Adventures = theme-based experiences, three den meetings to complete.
- Finish an adventure and earn instant recognition: belt loops for Tigers, Wolves, Bears; Pins for the WeBeLos.
- WeBeLos have the option to use the current requirements for their Arrow of Light or switch. Everyone else starts with the new requirements on June 1, 2015.



Webelos Scouts

Bridging to Boy Scouts

The Final Countdown!

Tick, tock, the clock is ticking toward the crossing over of the Senior Webelos. Are you ready? Are your Scouts ready?

Here is a check list of things to do in this last few weeks (or less):

- Have each of your boys chosen a unit? If not, speak with them about why they can't decide. Suggest that they visit some units again.
- Have the Scouts had their Scoutmaster's conference? Is it scheduled?
- Did you order Arrow of Light awards? If you are planning on giving out special awards be sure that they are ordered early enough to be on time for your ceremony.
- Did you invite the Troops to your Crossing over? Please give the Troops plenty of notice for your crossing over.
- Did your Sr. Webelos fill out an application? If/when they know what Troop they are going to, give them the application to fill out for the Troop.
- Did you let the boys know that if they are unhappy in their new Troop that they can change rather than abandon the program? Many boys and families assume that they make their choice and then if they are unhappy they must leave the program. Let them know that they can move to another unit if they aren't happy or comfortable in their unit.
- Did you let your Cubmaster, Committee Chair or Unit Commissioner know where your Scouts are planning to go? They will help make sure that they don't fall between the cracks and that their application gets processed.
- Have you planned a time to celebrate your time as a Den? You have spent a lot of time together as a unit. Now is a great time to celebrate!
- Have you passed on any leftover patches/things that you can no longer use to your Pack?
- Have you thought about helping your son's new Troop?

Take a moment to reflect on your time as a Den Leader and know that you have made a difference in the lives of the boys in your Den and Pack. Thank you for your service!



Boy Scouts

Where Eagles Dare

From the BSA's Orientation for New Boy Scout Parents

<http://www.scouting.org/Training/Adult/Supplemental/OrientationforNewBoyScoutParents.aspx>

The Hiking Stick

I'd like to introduce you to an item that is a good friend to many hikers—the hiking stick. Hiking sticks come in many different styles, from the plain dead branch you just found in the woods to carved and decorated staffs to high-tech aluminum models with spring-loaded tips. A good hiking stick can be a pretty handy thing to have with you when you're out walking in the country. Regardless of the type of stick or what they look like, they all do pretty much the same three things.

When you are going uphill, particularly if it is steep and rocky, the hiking stick can be a big help. You plant that stick in front of you, and you can use your arms to help pull you up the hill—you don't have to rely on just your legs.

When you are going downhill, particularly if it is steep and rocky, the hiking stick can really help you. You plant that stick in front of you, and it helps you keep your balance, takes a little of the weight off your knees, and gives you that little bit of extra support you need.

And when you're walking on the flat, well, the hiking stick is just a welcome companion on the trail. Yep, many good Scouts have a hiking stick. And just as a Scout should have a hiking stick to help support him on his journey; he must have adults who support him on his journey through Scouting.

When he is on his way up, advancing, taking in new experiences, facing new challenges, it's nice to have something sturdy he can grab onto to help pull himself up, and the encouragement of those who have gone before him to help him along. When he is on a bit of a downhill, trying to keep his balance and stay upright, he needs that extra support and stability. And when he has a smooth, flat trail in front of him, it's just nice to have a companion to talk to, or just to share the silence with.

One of the most rewarding things in my life is to be a "hiking stick" for Scouts, to be there when needed, not just for my own sons, but more often for other boys who need the help and friendship of an adult from time to time. We invite each of you to share that experience—whether you think of yourself as a shiny, spring-loaded model or an old dead branch, you have something to contribute.



Venturing/Sea Scouts



Upcoming SCC VOA events: The next SCC VOA meeting/event will be:

NER Area 2 Venturing:

The Northeast Region Area 2 Venturing training weekend held Feb 7-8 was extremely successful. It was a FREE event, even with meals. Unfortunately, no Matinecock Venturer's were in attendance...missed out on a great opportunity!! Please see the items below – for you don't want to miss out on these either.

March 6-8, 2015: **2nd Annual NER Area 2 Venturing Malibu Dude Ranch Trip**

\$150 for the entire weekend including: 6 meals, Horseback Riding, Indoor Pool, Lodging and many other activities. See website for details.

May 1-3, 2015: **2015 APEX at Onteora Scout Reservation** (With an ATV Experience !)

Area Venturing website: <http://nerventuring-bsa.org/areas/area-2/>.

For Area 2 Venturing events, please contact Bob Koch, Area 2 Associate Advisor, bobbsa57@gmail.com; 631- 981-1399 (land line) or 516-209-8162 (Cell)

If you need Suffolk County Council Venturing information, please contact Greg Aylmer at bsataxi@optonline.net

Remember – Safety is always Job 1.



Training

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Let's Keep the "outing" in "Scouting"!!

Trained leadership is what every boy in Scouting deserves so let's give them that!
There are numerous training opportunities coming up in the next few months.

Up Coming Matinecock District Training Schedules and information:

- **Den Leader/Webelos Leader:** March 18, 2015 – Hauppauge H.S.
- **SM/ASM:** April 15, 2015 – Hauppauge H.S.
- **IOLS:** May 8-10, 2015 Blydenburgh Park
- **OWLS:** May 9-10, 2015 Blydenburgh Park
- **Wood Badge** – there are two opportunities available this year!
 - Spring - April 17-19, 2015 & May 15-17, 2015
 - Fall - Sept. 11-13, 2015 & Oct. 10-12, 2015
- **National Youth Leadership Training:** March 13 -15 & April 10 - 12
NYLT is an exciting, action-packed program designed to provide youth members with leadership skills and experiences they can use in their home troops, teams, crews, personal lives, and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. Don't wait, the course is limited to 48 participants. For more information and a registration form go to: http://www.sccbsa.org/docs/NYLT_brochure_2015.pdf
- **Trainer's EDGE:** 2/21/15
Attention all trainers (Pack Trainers, Training & RT Staff, Woodbadge Staff) and anyone who would like to improve their presentations skills. We will be presenting the Trainer's Edge in Saturday 2/21 from 9 to 4. Contact Mike Kramer at MKLeader2@gmail.com for more information.
- **Leave No Trace:** There are 3 options for LNT training this season: March 6-8, April 10-12 and May 8-10. The 16 hour course satisfies the training requirements for the Troop LNT Trainer and core requirements for the Venturing Ranger Award. More information can be found at:
http://www.sccbsa.org/docs/LNT_Trainer_Courses_2015.pdf

If you can't make any of our training sessions, please check the other districts training sites. Check out the Council website: www.sccbsa.org and district website: <http://matdistrict.org> for more information and **flyers!!!!** **Please check Council calendar for all other districts and council upcoming trainings and availability.**

After all.... "Every Scout deserves a trained leader!"

If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact Greg Aylmer @ 631-664-0089 or bsataxi@optonline.net.



Commissioner's Corner

Unit Service and Roundtable

Congratulations to all the troops that participated in the 2015 Winter Camporee / Polar Bear event this past weekend. A special shout out to Troop 360 for winning the Commissioners Scout Spirit Award. We as a District are doing very well, relative to the Charter Renewal Process. To date 47 completed and 13 more to go. Thank you all for your cooperation to get this done in a timely fashion. Unit Leaders please be on the lookout for the New Tools and the Unit Service Plan program. Your Unit Commissioner will be working with you during the next few months developing your unit service plans. If I can be of assistance please do hesitate to contact me here at "RT" or at 631 368 7022 or trolston72@gmail.com.

Thanks for all you do for our youth.
Tom Rolston District Commissioner



A Scout is Reverent

Religious Committees Activities

Catholic Committee on Scouting:

The Catholic Committee has several exciting events scheduled; Pope Pius XII Retreat, Cub Fun and Faith Day and Boy Scout Day of Recollection. Our website <http://ccos-drvc.org/SCCBSA1.html> has all the information and forms to participate in these events. Please share these events with your Scouts.

Note the following Dates and include in your event planning:

March 21 - Cub Fun and Faith Day /Day of Recollection

April 23 – Ad Altare Dei Books need to be submitted

May 16 – Religious Emblems Boards of Review

Interested in joining the Catholic Committee? Attend our monthly meeting, first Thursday of the month, St Joseph's Ronkonkoma, 7:30 p.m. (Meet in Science Room of School) All Catholic scouters are cordially invited to join. Contact: Chris Coronese, ccoronesi@yahoo.com 917.748.1276

Jewish Committee on Scouting: Save the date(s)!

- Scout Sabbath (local) for 2015: (more to be announced)
Feb 13, 2015 at 7:30PM-Scout Shabbat at Temple Beth-Chai
Feb 27, 2015 at 7PM- Scout Shabbat at Dix Hills JC
- JCOS Awards and Recognitions Breakfast - Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge - Feb 22 (10am-12 noon)
- March 15, 2015 9AM to 4:30PM-NE Regional Conference- West Orange, NJ
- JCOS of SCC annual Conclave - BHSC - June 5-6-7, 2015

- The next JCOS meeting will be on Feb. 16, JCOS meetings are held on the third Mon of each month unless otherwise noted, all at 7:30pm, Temple Beth Chai of Hauupauge
- For local JCOS information contact:
Phyllis Stein (265-8141) or thecamerlady@verizon.net
JCOS Chair Barry Kopeloff at 331-9460 or dodey48@optonline.net

Protestant Committee on Scouting:

More Announcements:

National Eagle Scout Association

The SCC chapter of NESA invites all Eagles to connect with us as we launch a re-energized program. In addition to recognizing and mentoring new Eagles we are also planning to conduct some networking and fun events in the coming program year. The next chapter meeting is at 7:30pm on 2/23/2015 at the Suffolk County Council office in Medford. For more information contact Mike Kramer at MKLeader2@gmail.com.

Camp Cards: The Suffolk County Council is pleased to kick-off its second council-wide Camp Card Program. The intent of the Camp Card Program is to allow Scouts, in raising funds, to pay for their Scouting activities and equipment. This program is completely RISK FREE, because any unsold Camp Cards may be returned. Camp Cards have a value of over \$75 and sell for \$5 each. Scouts earn 40% commission or \$2.00 per card sold. The cards will be bundled in packs of 25.

District Classified Ads

Do you have an upcoming event (scouting or community) that is relevant to the Matinecock district? Send an email to the editor for posting.

Important links to sources of information:

Matinecock District Website: <http://matdistrict.org/>

Matinecock District email: matdistrict@gmail.org

Suffolk County Council Website: <http://www.sccbsa.org>

National BSA Website: <http://www.scouting.org/>

Official Sea Scout Website: www.seascout.org

National Jewish Committee on Scouting website: www.jewishscouting.org

Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Diocese of Rockville Centre: www.ccos-drvc.org

National Catholic Committee on Scouting: to www.nccs-bsa.org

Shinnecock Lodge web site: <http://www.shinnecock360.org/>

Nissequogue Chapter web site: <http://www.shinnecock360.org/chapters/nissequogue/>

March Scouting Themes: Cub Scout Core Value: Compassion Webelos Activity Pins:

Athlete, Engineer

Boy Scout: Cultural Diversity From: <http://www.boyscouttrail.com/themes/scout-themes-2015.asp>

“What’s the Point” is a publication brought to you by the Matinecock District Roundtable Staff: Edited by Mimi Puttre’ If you would like to contribute a news item please email it to Mimi at mputtre@hotmail.com, deadline: Tuesday before roundtable.