



What's the Point

Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



February 11, 2016

What's Up (Coming)

February 2016

- February 11 Roundtable & OA

March 2016

- March 10 Roundtable & OA
- March 19 - Scouting for food Drop off

Links:

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

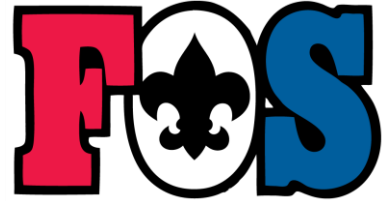
www.SCCBSA.org for a complete District and Council Calendar. **Check Out the Training Events, too!**

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

Friends of Scouting

Have you scheduled your Friends of Scouting presentation yet?

Thank you to the 24 units that have made arrangements so far! We've already pledged \$6,000 to support and supplement Scouting programs in Matinecock and Suffolk County. Our goal as a District is \$65,000. We need your help to get there!



I challenge each and every one of you to grow your FOS giving this year. I will visit the September meetings of the two units (one Pack and one Troop) that grow their FOS giving by the most dollars over their 2015 gifts and **let the scouts pie me in the face.** Being sticky is the worst, and I'll have a long drive home, so you know I love you. Good luck! Schedule your presentation today.

Scouting for Food

It's that time of year again! Mark your calendars for March 19, 2016 – the Matinecock Scouting for Food Drop-Off at John Glenn High School. Let's make this the biggest and best year yet!



I encourage each unit to partner with at least one grocery store on a weekend in March to ask shoppers to pick up an extra item or two for their neighbors in need! It's a great opportunity to remind the community who we are and what we stand for. Contact Don Ghee at donald.ghee@chase.com with any questions.

Liz Jumper, Matinecock District Executive
Liz.jumper@scouting.org, 631-924-7000 x131

"Scouting is a game with a purpose."



Cub Scouting

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

Communication: Beyond the Email

Sometimes it seems to be the hardest part of the Scouting job. Communication. How do we let our Scouts and parents know what is going on and what is planned? Years ago the choices were fewer. Call or have a ditto at the meetings. Today, we have websites, social media, email, texts, newsletters, flyers and phone calls to choose from. And to add to the issue, many people prefer one method over another to receive their information. So how do we make this all work? The answer may be in doing some of a few things. A Pack website is very helpful to have all the information available to parents. But relying on parents to go to the website to find out about events will probably not yield good results. Busy parents with young children need the information served to them rather than hope that they seek it out. Websites should be a resource and repository of information regarding the group and their activities. Other avenues of communication like social media may help. Facebook groups can get the word out to parents when they are already on line. Even robo calling or texting is becoming accessible to Scouts. There are companies who market their robo texting services to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Even simple things like handing out a calendar of events in the beginning of the year helps. Parents can put the events on their calendar and they are more likely to attend. Making an email identifiable as Pack communication is also helpful. Create a special email address for your unit. It also makes a clear distinction between things sent by you personally and things sent by your unit. Good communication takes a little experimentation. Give something new a try!



Webelos Scouts

Bridging to Boy Scouts

Arrow of Light and Crossing Over: Together or Separate?

Should the Arrow of Light be awarded at the same time that the Scouts cross over to a Troop? Not necessarily. Many Packs have differing reasons for doing them together or at different times. Aside from the tradition (or we've always done it that way reasoning), there are things that deserve consideration on both sides. On the side of doing them together, it is a great way to send the Scouts off from the Pack. They receive their award and cross over to their new Troop. Family members can be present for both without having to attend two separate gatherings. And if done at a Blue and Gold or other Pack gathering, it gives the younger ranks something to strive for and look forward to. But others will say that it is just too much to do in one meeting and really give it the attention it deserves. It takes too long and the other kids lose interest. In Packs where Webelos go on to only one Troop, they may want to do the crossing over at a Troop campout. This way they jump right into the program. Other units feel that the Scouts

should be given the AOL when it is earned, not wait until they all have achieved it. Whatever way it is done in your unit be sure to give both ceremonies the attention they deserve.



Boy Scouts

Where Eagles Dare

Some advice from an eagle scout to younger scouts given at his last meeting before he aged out.

Hi everyone. As some of you may've noticed, I've been in this troop for a couple of years now and tonight is my last night with you all as a scout. So for tonight I thought I'd share what I've learned in these past 8 years by making my own scout law. If you follow this version of the scout law, then I think you've gotten everything out of not only Boy Scouts, but out of this troop too.

1. First off, a scout is **INDEPENDENT**. A scout doesn't need Mom and Dad to help him every step of the way. He can stand up on his own two feet and carry his own weight.
2. A scout is **DEPENDENT**. A scout can't try and carry the whole weight of the world on his shoulders, though. He needs to be able to depend on his friends, family, and fellow scouts to help him along the way.
3. A scout is **OPINIONATED**. He pays attention to the world around him and adds his two cents when needed. He should ask questions about what he knows, unless he's driving his poor SPL crazy.
4. A scout is **BAE**. Hopefully some of you got the reference, and if not, I'm really getting old. Either way, the lesson here is that a scout needs to make sure he's having fun being a scout because that's what we're supposed to be about: learning new things and having fun doing it.
5. A scout is **PROUD**. He takes pride in both his accomplishments and mistakes because...
6. A scout is **IMPERFECT**. He makes mistakes just like anyone else. But what separates him from others is his ability to take a lesson out of them.
7. A scout is **CREATIVE**. Now, this one doesn't mean just being able paint a picture, write a poem, or play a song. A scout's creativity comes into play when he faces a problem. He'll need to be creative to find a solution, whether it be facing it head on or by looking at it from a different angle.
8. Lastly, a scout is **UNIQUE**. He leaves an impression on those he meets and makes memories with others that will last him, and them, a lifetime.

Notice I didn't say anything about rank advancement or becoming Eagle. That was on purpose because becoming an Eagle Scout shouldn't be your primary goal as a scout. Sure, you learn a lot from going down that road, and I totally recommend it, but if you focus solely on advancing to Eagle then, I'm sorry, you've missed the point of being a Boy Scout. Being a Boy Scout is about the adventures you go on, the people you meet, and the lessons you learn. So don't keep

your faces glued to your books. Look around, enjoy yourself, and be happy you have this opportunity.

Chris March Troop 125 Commack NY



Venturing/Sea Scouts



Upcoming Area 2 Venturing Events:

Northeast Region Venturing Area 2 Training and Planning Event

Members of Matinecocks Crew 2011 enjoyed a great day of training and then participated in the Apex Program Planning meeting.

2016 NER Area 2 Apex: April 29-May 1, 2016. Theme is: "Space: The Venturing Frontier"
At Camp Tri Mount. Look for registration details in the next What's the Point

Planning ahead: FIRST Northeast Region Venturing Fun Weekend

The Northeast Region (combination of 6 areas) will be hosting a 2016 Fall Fun Weekend. Details will be available by the beginning of March. The event will be held at Resica Falls October 7-9, 2016

SCC Venturing Information: If you haven't already done so, join the SCC Venturing VOA Facebook site:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCCVenturing/10153247391222695/?ref=notif¬if_t=group_activity

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

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

Remember – Safety is always Job 1.



Training

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Up Coming Matinecock District Training Schedules and information:

- March 16 – Den Leader Specific/Webelos Leader
March 18-20 – National Youth Leadership Training (weekend 1 of 2)
April 1-3: Leave No Trace/Outdoor Ethics
April 8-10 – National Youth Leadership Training (weekend 2 of 2)
April 23 &24: Wilderness First Aid at BHSC
May 6-8: Leave No Trace/Outdoor Ethics
May 13-15: Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills/Webelos Leader Skills
June 17-18: Canoe Training at BHSC
June 24-25: Kayak Training at BHSC

We want you to become the best leaders in Scouting!!!

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

What a great Month, lots of winter events with snow on the ground for all to enjoy. We had a great time at the Winter Camporee super job of coordinating by host Troop 52. Congratulations to Troop 125 for their performance and winning the Commissioner's Scout Spirit Award. Please sign up and set a date for your FOS presentation. Your generous donation helps all in the Scouting Program. Lastly, Cub Scout Unit leaders as you complete your Blue & Gold Webelos transitions, please forward your results of the number of Webelos that crossed over and to what troops they are going to. Send info to me via e-mail or to your Unit Commissioner. Thank you for all you do for our youth.

YIS.

Tom Rolston, District Commissioner 631 368 7022, trolston72@gmail.com



A Scout is Reverent

Religious Committees Activities

Please take the opportunity to attend a Scout Sunday or Scout Shabbat event. A listing can be found on the council website.

Catholic Committee on Scouting:

The Catholic Committee has several exciting events scheduled; Cub Fun and Faith Day and Boy Scout Day of Recollection. Our website <http://ccos-drvc.org/SCCBSA1.html> has 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:

April 2 - Cub Fun and Faith Day /Day of Recollection @ St. Joseph's Church, Ronkonkoma

April 21 – Ad Altare Dei Books need to be submitted

May 21 – Religious Emblems Boards of Review – **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, Centereach***

(please note that the location of the Boards of Review was incorrect last month)

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 Coronesi, ccoronesi@yahoo.com 917.748.1276

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

- Scout Shabbat: see the listing for all of the Scout Sabbath/Scout Sunday locations on the Matinecock District website, a few local locations include:
 - Temple Beth-Chai- Feb 12, 2016 – 8PM
 - Temple Beth David: June 3rd, 2016
- Awards Breakfast: Temple Beth-Chai- Feb 28, 2016
- NE 29th Annual Regional Conference: Sunday, March 13, 2016 - 9AM to 4:30 PM at Temple B'nai Shalom, 300 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, NJ 07052. \$36.00 covers breakfast, lunch, patch, and conference program/ handouts. SPECIAL**** Bring a new participant for only \$18. Be aware that this conference can be attended by anyone who wishes. We urge all faiths, all levels of scouters, all council professionals, all parents of scouts to attend. The more we can get the word out to, the more scouting will benefit.
- Conclave: June 3,4,5, 2016 Baiting Hollow

Interested in the Jewish Committee on Scouting? Join us at our monthly meeting, on the third Monday of the month, Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge, 7:30 p.m. All Scouters are cordially invited to attend.

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:

For Information contact: Lois Accattato 631-275-6228 or email lois40@optonline.net

EXPERIENCE THE 2017 NATIONAL JAMBOREE

Registration is now open for the 2017 National Jamboree. Suffolk County Council is looking for youth participants and adult leaders to join our Jamboree contingent.

The National Jamboree is the premier event put on every four years by the Boy Scouts of America at the Summit Bechtel National Scout Reserve, www.summitbechtelreserve.org. Over 40,000 Scouts and Scouters attended the last Jamboree, and all the excitement of past Jamborees will be incorporated with new themes and shows. What goes on at a Jamboree? Everything that the combined resources of the National Council plus hundreds of the best volunteers from every local council can provide! For examples: zip line, 5K Fun Runs, 4-way volleyball, rifle shooting, Action Alley, Buckskin Games, Scottish Highland Games, confidence courses, bicycle motocross, pioneering, rappelling towers, trapshooting, fishing, canoe slalom, scuba diving, kayaking, daily stage shows, and the OA American Indian Village. Plus much more!

July 17-28, 2017, Cost is \$1850.00 per person - Trip Includes: Roundtrip transportation from New York to The Summit Bechtel Reserve with one day at Hershey Park and one day in Gettysburg, Pre-Jamboree Shakedown, all meals, t-shirt, hat, and backpack. Register on-line at http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/jamboree-registration/?utm_source=mailoutinteractive&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Boy%20Scout%20Special%20Events

Philmont 2017!

Now accepting applications! Suffolk County has been awarded a 2017, 12-Day Expedition Slot! The 12-Day expedition will arrive at Philmont on: 7/24/2017 and will depart Philmont on 8/5/2017 actual contingent dates will vary depending on travel arrangements and other activities. Total cost is expected to be around \$2400.00 - \$2500.00. A promotional flier will be posted on the Council web site after the holidays.

District Classified Ads

Recipients of the Silver Beaver will be honored at the annual Council Fellowship Dinner on March 31, 2016.

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/>

Marchy2016 Scouting Themes:

Cubs: Compassion; Webelos Badges: Athlete & Engineer

Pack Meeting Theme: Cubstruction, Point of Scout Law: Thrifty

Boy Scout monthly theme: Physical Fitness

From: <http://www.boyscouttrail.com/themes/scout-themes-2016.asp> &

<http://www.scouting.org/Home/CubScouts/Leaders/CubmasterResources/PackMeetingPlans.aspx>

“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.