



# What's the Point

## Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



June 12, 2014

### What's Up (Coming)

#### June 2014

- June 14 – Wood Badge Reunion Breakfast

#### July 2014

- July 10 & 17 – Summer Merit Badge Program

#### August 2014

- August 7 & 14 – Summer Merit Badge Program

#### Links:

[www.matdistrict.org](http://www.matdistrict.org) for instant access to Matinecock District news, upcoming events and program resources.

[www.SCCBSA.org](http://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.

Matinecock Scouters: Thank you for a great scouting year. We have a lot to be proud of in Matinecock for our accomplishments this year. Our Webelos Woods campout in October was attended by nearly 1,100 scouts and parents which was by far the most of any district. We followed that up by having one of the best Polar Bear camporees that we've had in a while. Troop 113 did an excellent job planning it out and the new venue, Schiff Scout Reservation, got rave reviews. Matt McEvoy was instrumental in getting our district Spring Camporee and Cub Fun Day back up and running after years without them. Both were well received and Matt has already started putting together teams to plan out next year's events. Thank you to all those units that allowed our Friends of Scouting team to make a presentation to them and as of this printing we have collected \$40,000+ on behalf of council. John Zeoli, Eve Kossman, Kevin Klein and Elaine Gray all have done an outstanding job for FOS and I want to recognize them for the hours they dedicated to helping Matinecock raise the most FOS dollars of all the districts. I could write down everyone that has helped make Matinecock the model district in Suffolk County but Mimi would be losing most of her WTP just to that. So I just want to say **Thank You** to everyone and let's make next scouting year even better.

Bobby Rabbitt, Matinecock District Executive  
office: 924-7000 x117, cell: (631) 682-1602

*"Scouting is a game with a purpose."*



# *Cub Scouting*

*84 Years of Wolves and Tigers and Bears! Oh, My!*

**Your Pack's Annual Program Plan = Satisfied Cub Scouts and Families = A Lifelong Love of Scouting!**

A research project done by Eli Lilly in Indianapolis, Indiana, showed that a common element of strong packs is that they all have a good annual pack program planned a year in advance that is then shared with all families in the form of a calendar.

Here is how a pack program planning conference works. Before the meeting, the committee chair and Cubmaster gather the following information:

1. Key school dates
2. Community event dates
3. Your chartered organization's dates
4. Personal dates that may affect your pack's activities
5. District and council dates
6. Collected Family Talent Survey sheets from all parents
7. Last year's pack annual plan if you have one

To maximize the efficiency of your planning, the following people should attend the conference:

1. All pack committee members
2. All den leaders
3. Chartered organization representative
4. Your unit commissioner (optional)
5. Anyone else you think might be helpful, such as other parents

Before you start the planning process:

Step 1: Take the dates you collected and put them into your pack's master calendar—including den meeting dates—either on a hard copy or by plugging the information into an electronic calendar on a computer.

Step 2: Briefly review what the pack did last year. Ask yourself questions like, what events went well, what events didn't go so well?

Step 3: Do some brainstorming on activities your pack might want to do in addition to den and pack meetings. This could be things such as a community service projects, special events, overnights, etc. Once you have a list of things your dens and pack might want to do, start

prioritizing the list. Take a vote on which activities to include on the pack meeting schedule, then add the activities to your calendar.

Step 4: By now, the calendar should be taking shape. It should include den and pack meetings, additional den and pack activities, and district and council dates. The next step is to assign the person who will be responsible for each event, as well as den responsibilities at pack meetings.

Step 5: The final step is to review your annual plan to ensure you have captured everything you and your families want to do in the upcoming year. Once you feel comfortable, publish or email your annual plan to each family. Hard copy and email is a great combination.



## *Webelos Scouts*

### *Bridging to Boy Scouts*

#### **Start Planning Now for Next Year!**

A sigh of relief, it's June. The year is over. But wait, it's not. It's just begun. June marks the beginning of the Scout year. Whether you are a new Webelos leader or going to the Arrow of Light year, it is time to start planning your year! Plan out what awards you would like to see the group achieve. Forester is great for the Fall. Aquanaut can be done outside in the summer and can be an indoor winter treat. Craftsman can be done in between. Even though the boys are older, the boys still love the outings and going to new places. And there are many places that will do the pins for you - Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery does Naturalist, the YMCA will do Aquanaut, The Hicksville Gregory Museum will do Geologist to name a few. Many of these facilities require advanced reservations, so start calling now! Make your connections with the Troops in your area. Get to know the Scoutmasters and make plans to visit the Troop, even if it is your first Webelos year. It's never too early to start the transition to the Boy Scout program. Remember the boys spend a lot of time in school listening to adults speak. Bear that in mind in planning, keep the discussions short and lively, get them moving, creating and doing. A little planning "in the off season" will save a lot of time and create a smooth program year – and make your life easier.



# Boy Scouts

*Where Eagles Dare*

## HISTORY IS FUN

June is the month that most troops think about planning for the coming year. Every good Troop calendar should include some service to the community, backpacking, camping at District and Council events, and more. It's good to vary the type of activities to including something that promotes fitness, scout skills, and local and not so local historical sites. Living in this great metropolitan area, we're only days travel from some of the great historical sites in the country including Gettysburg, Boston, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore and, with a little extra travel time, Washington D.C.

In addition to the historical sites, all these cities have athletic teams that the boys love seeing. Trip that involves visiting some historical sites as well as including a ball game over the weekend is always a very popular choice.

Restored seaports are very popular and can be found in almost all these cities. All the cities can be hiked, but in order to fit in all the activities and places you'll want to see, going by car is suggested. Hiking the Historical Trails is a great way to go and most offer a patch to add to your uniform.

In Boston, you can hike the Freedom Trail or see the city via the Duck Tour, an amphibious vehicle that tours some of the historic sections of the city.

Philadelphia has one of the oldest prisons in America and offers guided tours. Every city has regional foods and including a visit to one of them can really spice up your trip. Museums are another great feature of all the cities, especially Washington DC. Plan ahead and you can almost always get group rates for Scouts. New York has so much to offer. Don't forget the BSA camps on Staten Island, which allows easy access, by ferry, to lower Manhattan and Liberty Island.

A Historical theme should be part of every unit calendar and your favorites can be rotated every few years. Some cities are more difficult than others to find camping nearby. Philadelphia in particular was tricky, but there is a BSA camp in NJ and is only an hour from any part of the city.

If your unit has not been to these cities, we suggest you consult with other unit who have and find the best places to camp. A trip to Washington is a great experience, but you will really need a long weekend to make the most of what it offers.

With trips to large urban areas, it is strongly suggested that you have a lot of extra adult supervision for the safety and enjoyment of all concerned.



# Venturing/Sea Scouts



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

### NER Area 2 Venturing Events:

**2015 NER Area 2 Apex:** The 2015 Apex will be held at Theodore Roosevelt Councils Onteora Scout Reservation during the weekend of May 1-3, 2015.

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

For Area 2 Venturing events, please contact Bob Koch, Area 2 Venturing Advisor, [bobbsa@optonline.net](mailto:bobbsa@optonline.net); 631- 981-1399 (land line) or 516-209-8162 (Cell) If you need Suffolk County Council Venturing information, please contact Tim Green. [tgreen@bnl.gov](mailto:tgreen@bnl.gov)

**Remember – Safety is always Job 1.**



# Training

*Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader*

**Welcome To Spring and the season of Outdoor Training!!! Keep the "outing" in "Scouting"!!!**

### NYLT

The ultimate training for your current and future youth leaders. The leadership skills we teach will help you both in Scouting and later in life.

When: August 16-20, 2014

Where: Baiting Hollow SC

Cost: \$150.00

### Wood Badge

Take your training to the next level!!!  
Wood Badge is the ultimate Leadership and Team Development course.  
Make a positive difference in your unit!!!!

When: Sept. 27-29, 2014 & Nov. 1-3, 2014

Where: Baiting Hollow & Schiff Scout Camps

Cost:\$230.00

### **We Have Incentives!! You Can Win!!**

- \*A Cabin weekend at Schiff SC
- \*A Tent Site weekend at Schiff SC
- \*A 1 Week of Summer Camp At Onteora SC **or**  
A Week of Day Camp at Schiff SC
- \*An iPod Mini

**Sign Up! Make a difference!**

Check out the Council website: [www.sccbsa.org](http://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](mailto:bsataxi@optonline.net).



# Commissioner's Corner

## *Unit Service and Roundtable*

Your commissioner plays many roles, including friend, representative, unit "doctor," teacher and counselor. This month I'm concentrating on, the commissioner as a "**Doctor**" for your unit. In their role as "doctor," they know that prevention is better than a cure, so they try to see that their units make good "healthy practices" a way of life. When problems arise, and they will even in the best unit, they need to act quickly. They observe symptoms, diagnose the real ailment, prescribe a remedy, and follow up on the patient.

Please utilize your Unit Commissioner get to know them and help them to be your doctor within Scouting. Invite them to your meetings and events. Remember they are volunteers just like you, with the same goals "to serve our youth" and if I can be of assistance please contact me. See below.

Key monthly points:

- 1) Continue Spring / Summer Recruitment
- 2) Make a commitment to The Journey to Excellence
- 3) Plan, Plan & Plan with the District Tools

Tom Rolston, Matinecock District Commissioner, 631 368 7022 or [t.rolston@att.net](mailto:t.rolston@att.net)



# *A Scout is Reverent*

## **Religious Committees Activities**

### **Catholic Committee on Scouting:** Save the dates for your 2014-15 Activity Planning

- Vesper Services will take place at BHSC during summer camp week on Friday evening at 7:30 from July 11 to August 8, at the Catholic Residence (located next to the Camp Director's cabin near the dining hall)
- Summer is a great time for Cub Scouts to begin working on the Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei emblems. Books can be purchased at the Scout Shop or through the Diocesan Scouting Office.
- Religious Emblems Counselor Training, 7 pm. St Joseph's, Ronkonkoma on August 20, September 19, and October 15 – pick one date to attend
- Monthly meetings on 9/4/14, 10/2, 11/6, 12/4, 1/8/15, 2/5, 3/5, 4/9, 5/7 & 6/4
- October 3-5 - Catholic Retreat, Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington
- October 5– Boy Scout Convocation, St. Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre
- November 29 - Advent Celebration
- December TBD – Peace Light Service, Christ the King Church, Commack
- February 8- Scout Sunday
- February TBD - Pope Pius Retreat
- March TBD - Boy Scout Pilgrimage
- March 21 - Cub Fun and Faith Day /Day of Recollection
- April 23 – Ad Altare Dei Books need to be submitted to Diocese
- 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](mailto:ccoronesi@yahoo.com) 917.748.1276

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

- SCJCOS Meetings - all on Monday nights at 7:30pm at Temple Beth-Chai in Hauppauge: 6/16
- JCOS will hold Jewish Scout Sabbath services at BHSC this summer
- For local JCOS information contact:
- Phyllis Stein (265-8141) or [thecamerlady@verizon.net](mailto:thecamerlady@verizon.net)
- JCOS Chair Barry Kopeloff at 331-9460 or [dodey48@optonline.net](mailto:dodey48@optonline.net)

### **Protestant Committee on Scouting:**

# High Adventure Opportunity

**Suffolk County Council will be sending a contingent to the National High Adventure Base at the Summit August 10 - 17, 2014!**

**Sign up deadline: this Friday 6/13**

This is a great opportunity if you don't have high adventure plans for this summer already or you have Scouts that want even more. Travel to the new home of the National Jamboree to join in "The Summit Experience." Try all of The Summit Center adventure venues plus 2 full day elective experiences from:

- *The ROCKS (Climbing & Rappelling)*
- *The ROPES (Challenge Courses)*
- *The CANOPY (Canopy Tours)*
- *The PARK & The TRAX (Skate & BMX)*
- *The BOWS (3D, Sporting, Long Distance)*
- *BARRELS (Trap, Pistol, Rifle)*
- *LOW & HIGH GEAR (Mountain Biking)*
- *THE RIVER (Whitewater Rafting)*

Each night (Monday-Friday), the Scott Summit Center will be open for activities, fun and socializing. Scouts and Venturers must be 13 years old by August 1 to be part of the Contingent. Registered Leaders may participate.

The Council Expedition includes:

- *Transportation by Rail - L.I.R.R. and Amtrak Shuttle Transfers*
- *Shakedown and Swim Test Council Hat & Shirt*
- *The Summit provides the tents, cots and all program equipment for the contingent.*
- *Meals will be served at the Summit Center dining facility. Shelf stable lunches will be issued to participants in the full-day programs.*

This is a great value with an estimated cost of only \$925.00 per person.

If you have other questions please feel free to contact: Mike Kramer - Matinecock District High Adventure Coordinator, [MKLeader2@gmail.com](mailto:MKLeader2@gmail.com)

# District Classified Ads

The mission of the Nickolas Demidovich Memorial Fund is to raise funds and distribute money to disadvantaged Boy Scouts in the Huntington, New York area, in order to allow them to attend Boy Scout camp and participate in all the activities offered that would otherwise be unaffordable for them to attend. We have money available to help kids out with. If you know of a scout who we could help with some financial assistance, please make them aware of the fund, and have them contact me for an application. Peter Demidovich, [peterd1@optonline.net](mailto:peterd1@optonline.net).

Swim Opportunity: The Suffolk YJCC in Commack has a large indoor pool that is available to scout units that would like to arrange for a swim event. Do you need to pre-qualify your swimmers prior to summer camp? Do you need a pool to work on rank advancement? Call pool managers Kaitie Brown or Mike Stacy at 631-462-9800 x 132 to discuss different rental options available (including instruction, lifeguards, etc.) The Y also runs year round swim lessons, swim teams, American Red Cross Lifeguard Training, CPR & AED and LGT recertification for both members and non-members. Call to find out more.

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

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Important links to sources of information:

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

Matinecock District egroup: [matdistrict@yahoo.com](mailto:matdistrict@yahoo.com)

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

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

Official Sea Scout Website: [www.seascout.org](http://www.seascout.org)

National Jewish Committee on Scouting website: [www.jewishscouting.org](http://www.jewishscouting.org)

Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Diocese of Rockville Centre: [www.ccos-drvc.org](http://www.ccos-drvc.org)

National Catholic Committee on Scouting: to [www.nccs-bsa.org](http://www.nccs-bsa.org)

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

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

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**July Scouting Themes:** Cub Scout Core Value: Courage    Webelos Activity Pins: Aquanaut, Geologist

Boy Scout: Hiking

**August Scouting Themes:** Cub Scout Core Value: Honesty    Webelos Activity Pins: Naturalist, Forester

Boy Scout: Shooting

From: <http://www.boyscouttrail.com/themes/scout-themes-2014.asp>

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“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 [David.Puttre@verizon.net](mailto:David.Puttre@verizon.net), deadline: Tuesday before roundtable.