



What's the Point

Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



March 14, 2013

What's Up (Coming)

March 2013

- March 21 – Council Fellowship Dinner
- March 23 – Scouting for Food Drive

April 2013

- April- 11 Roundtable & OA
- April 13 – Popcorn Champions Breakfast

Go to

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

Welcome the New Matinecock District Executive: We welcome Bobby Rabbit as the new District Executive to take on the duties of the retired John Nowak. Bobby is an Eagle Scout from the class of 1998, is married and has a 2 year old daughter and a 5 year old, soon to be Tiger Cub, son. He is a graduate from New York Institute of Technology, class of 2004. Welcome Bobby and best wishes for success.

Last Appeal: 2013 Scouting for Food Drive: This is the last appeal for all Matinecock units to participate in the 2013 Scouting for Food Drive. We've said it often and it bears repeating, this is one of the most important community service projects that Scouting does. The details for this year's Matinecock District Scouting for Food drop off is:

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2013

Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Location: John Glenn High School Cafeteria
Elwood Road**

Please get you units organized to collect non-perishable food and bring them to the above drop off on March 23 as early as possible to allow for expiration inspection and sorting. Volunteers are needed for the inspection and sorting. Youth can use this for time towards community service. Let's get involved and feed the community.

The **Council Wide Camporee** will be held at Southaven Park on April 26 - 28, 2013. This event will showcase the adventures of Scouting. Come for the day on Saturday and be sure to stay for the night time show. Overnight camping is available for Boy Scouts, Venturers, Explorers, and Webelos. Tons of fun activities have been planned for all ages including water sports and shotgun shooting (for the older members), pioneering, archery and BB shooting, science, and belt loops (for the Cubs). Register by **April 3rd** to receive the discounted rate. To see the full list of activities and registration options, check the council website

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For the last two years it's been my pleasure to be a part of the Matinecock District & serve as the District Assistant/Paraprofessional. During this time I've had the pleasure & opportunity to meet & work closely with many wonderful Scouts & Scouters & have developed friendships that will last for a lifetime.

After twelve years as a District Assistant/Paraprofessional my job role & responsibilities have been expanded to include various job functions throughout the Council & with all the Districts on special projects. I'm looking forward to working on new & exciting projects & sharing my talents. I'll still be involved with Friends of Scouting presentations in the Matinecock District as well as Cub camping promotions.

I thank you all for the opportunity to work with you & for all you do for Scouting. I'm sure I'll be seeing many of you along the Scouting trail & remember I'm only a phone call away!

Yours in Scouting,

Elaine Gray

"Scouting is a game with a purpose."



Cub Scouting

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

The April Pack Theme – Cub Scouts Give Thanks

How does the theme Cub Scouts Give Thanks work with the Core Value Faith. One of the goals of Scouting is to encourage spiritual growth. Spring is a period of regeneration. So in the springtime we give thanks for the gift of the renewal of the natural world around us—the birds returning, seeds sprouting, daylight becoming longer each day, our friends and our family. We have faith that the world around us is renewed each year. Giving thanks is an expression of our having inner strength and confidence based on our trust in a higher power.

Gathering Activity

This gathering activity not only supports the monthly theme, but is a preparation for the closing ceremony. (See *A Thankful Closing Ceremony on the Webelos page of this issue.*) Have a variety of markers set out on tables. As pack families arrive, provide the large thank-you poster. With the help of his family, each Scout will choose someone he wishes to thank and prints that name on the large poster.

A “Faith” Filled Opening

The Cubmaster asks the pre-assigned den to present the colors and lead the pack in the Pledge of Allegiance. At the end of the pledge, have the color guard stand in a straight line in the front of the room.

CUB SCOUT 1: **F** is for **Family**. Our family has faith in us and gives us the strength and confidence to succeed.

CUB SCOUT 2: **A** is for **America**. We are thankful that we live in a country where we are free to practice our faith as we choose.

CUB SCOUT 3: **I** is for **Ideals**. We each work hard to live our lives following the ideals of Cub Scouting and the teachings of our faith.

CUB SCOUT 4: **T** is for **Thanks**. We are thankful and faithful to those who help us.

CUB SCOUT 5: **H** is for **Heart**. We all know in our hearts the right thing to do is to “Do Our Best.” May we all do our best to show our faith by giving thanks.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

There is an old saying that that which is simplest usually works best. Well here is an opening prayer you can use which is a simple expression of faith in a higher power and those that guide spiritual growth.

“We give thanks for those who have had faith in us to help us enjoy all our blessings.”

Special Gift Recognition Ceremony

Giving thanks extends to your youth as well as to adult leaders. By saying thanks to others, we teach to give thanks. Here’s a ceremony everyone will be thankful for.

Awards are placed inside gift boxes that can be easily opened before the meeting.

CUBMASTER: “We have several Scouts who have shared their gifts with us and worked hard to earn recognition for those efforts.” (Call up first Scout and family members, while explaining the accomplishment of the Scout to be recognized).

“We recognize both this Scout and his family members who have had faith in his ability to move steadily along the Cub Scout trail.” (Give opened gift box to Scout and parents). “Let us give this Scout and his family the heart and sole applause.”

(Slap heart, then sole of shoe, three times. Continue process with other Scouts to be recognized.)



Webelos Scouts

Bridging to Boy Scouts

Webelos and Outdoor Cooking

There is something special in cooking one's own food outdoors. Webelos Scouts can cook their meals on their den's overnight campout or Webelos Woods, or they can make a simple snack in the backyard after a den meeting. This is a good start to what they will experience in Boy Scouts. The *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* is a resource.

- First, involve the boys in menu planning. Discuss proper nutrition and recipes for Webelos Scouts when on an outdoor experience. Make sure to address food allergies.
- Discuss different types of cooking arrangements. What stoves and utensils are needed? And don't forget fire safety!
- Discuss with your Webelos what you have done cooking outdoors. (No – not just the barbeque in the back yard.)
- Cleanup is part of the cooking process. Review dishwashing methods. Stress the need for proper hygiene.
- Investigate simple no-bake treats that would be suitable for Webelos Scouts. There are several online resources for no-bake Cub Scout fare.
- And OWLs (Outdoor Webelos Leader) Training – This is probably your best introduction to outdoor cooking opportunities, and one of the best to expand your outdoor cooking knowledge, too.

Baden-Powell said there are 3 things a boy likes – food, fighting and fun. Well of the 3, food and fun go together really well and we do our best to minimize the third. As you teach them outdoor cooking skills you are teaching them to be self-sufficient as well as proper diet and food safety.

A Thankful Closing Ceremony

This ceremony uses the Thank You Poster created during the Pack Meeting Gathering Activity. (See *the Cub Scout page of this issue.*) The pre-assigned den brings the banner or poster to the front of the room and holds it up so all can see the "Thank You for Having Faith in Me" thank-you poster or banner created during the gathering activity. Have the pre-assigned den say the following:

CUB SCOUT 1: Thank you, parents, for helping us earn our ranks.

CUB SCOUT 2: Thank you, den leaders, for showing us new things.

CUB SCOUT 3: Thank you, Cubmaster, for leading us each month.

CUB SCOUT 4: Thank you, pack committee, for helping us to grow.

CUB SCOUT 5: Thank you, Cub Scouts, for giving us goodwill.



Boy Scouts

Where Eagles Dare

The MERITS of SCOUTING - This month we'll look at Merit Badges. Below are some facts and dates that you may or may not know about this part of Scouting.

- The first set of Merit Badges was developed in 1910 with a total list of 15 Merit Badges. They were not issued at this time. The first set of Merit Badges actually produced was in 1911 and consisted of 57 Merit badges.
- There are currently 129 available Merit Badges. Since 1911, there have been a total of 251 different merit badges.
- Any scout can earn any Merit Badge at any rank.
- At one time, First Aid MB was a requirement for First Class and is the only MB that has always been required for Eagle. First Aid MB is also the most popular, just ahead of Swimming. American Business MB appears to be the least popular.
- In 2012, if a Scout joined at the minimum age and started earning MBs, he could potentially earn 130 MBs.
- A scout cannot work on a Merit Badge once it has been discontinued, but if effort has been put toward completion and it becomes discontinued, he may complete the work and it will count toward advancement.
- Most scouts wear their MBs on a sash, but it is allowed to wear up to 6 MBs on his right sleeve. Many scouts hang the sash on their belt, but this is officially incorrect.
- The following are the newest merit badges that are now available: Game Design, Search and Rescue, Kayaking, Welding, Robotics, Chess, Geocaching, Inventing, Scouting Heritage and Scuba Diving. New Merit Badges scheduled for release in 2013 are: Sustainability, Programming, Digital Technology (replacing Computers) and in 2014: Mining in Society, Animation, Signs, Signals and Codes, multi-Media, Computer-aided Design and Advanced Computing. The following will have major updates in 2013: Cycling and Cooking.
- No one-on-one contact rule under Youth Protection demands scouts should see counselors with other scouts or adults present. Counselors must be registered with BSA. The minimum age to be a MB counselor is 18. Registration is valid for one year. Unit leaders are not automatically approved Counselors.

Remember – Safety is always Job 1.



Training

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Up Coming Training Schedules and information

*Here comes Spring!!!!
Let's put the Outing in Scouting!!!!*

IOLS: (Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills) and

WOLT: (Webelos Outdoor Leadership Training).

These courses complete the training continuum for your specific leader training.

These trainings will be held at: **Blydenburgh Park** on **May 17-19, 2013**

Please see the upcoming flyer for registration, or call the council office to register.

LNT: (Leave No Trace). Leave No Trace Training Course. Leave No Trace plays an important role in our current scouting continuum!!!

Training will be held at Baiting Hollow Scout camp on **April 12-14, 2013.**

Please see the council website for registration!! Sign up now!!!

WOOD BADGE: Every boy *deserves* a trained leader!!!

Training will be held on **September 20-22, 2013** at Baiting Hollow Scout

Camp and **October, 12-14, 2013** at Schiff Scout Reservation. Please see the council website for flyer and registration!!!

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

Greetings Scouters:

Scott Dammers, Matinecock District Commissioner, Suffolk County Council BSA
631-549-2012, scott7748@msn.com



A Scout is Reverent

Religious Committees Activities

Catholic Committee on Scouting: www.ccos-drvc.org . Please share this information with your Unit's Religious Emblems Coordinator, Chaplain, Chaplain Aide, and those interested in these opportunities.

- Save the Date: Cub Fun and Faith Day, Saturday, May 4 at St Lawrence the Martyr, Sayville, 8:30-3pm. The theme is: Year of Faith. Flyer with registration info is posted on District e-group.
- Ad Altare Dei Religious Emblems Boards of Review: Saturday, May 18. There will be only ONE Make-up date for missed reviews on *Thursday, June 6th*.
- Pope Pius XII Retreat: Rescheduled to May 18-19 at Kellenberg Marianist Retreat House. Contact Austin Cannon, Diocesan Office at 516-678-5800 ext 245 to register.

Jewish Committee on Scouting news:

- 2013 Annual Conclave will be an All Faith Conclave this year, being held at Baiting Hollow Scout Camp on May 31 to June 2. Forms and more info to follow – all meals included (Fri nite dinner to Sun breakfast), opportunity to work on religious emblems, earn merit badges, camp with your troop, etc. Open to Cub Scouts (Sat only), overnight for Webelos (camping with parent), Boy Scouts and Venture Crew members, Brownies and Girl Scouts.
- Next JCOS meeting will be on March 18 at 7:30pm at Temple Beth Chai in Hauppauge – all are welcome!
- Jewish Scout Sabbath Services to be held on March 22 at East Northport Jewish Center at 8pm –all welcome to participate and ALL SCOUTS IN UNIFORM will be presented with a patch and a certificate. Please contact Phyllis Stein (265-8141) with expected # attending (food and fellowship follow the service)

For information regarding any Jewish Religious Award, along with Eagle Scout Recognition requests for scouts of any faith, contact Phyllis Stein (265-8141 or thecamerlady@verizon.net) or the JCOS Chair Barry Kopeloff at 331-9460 or dodey48@optonline.net, National JCOS website: www.jewishscouting.org



Order of the Arrow

Shinnecock Lodges, Nissequogue Chapter serving the Matinecock District of the SCCBSA

Any questions please contact Bill Davis at matelope185@aol.com or 631-942-9093.
For more information about our chapter visit our web site: www.nissequogue.webs.com



Venturing

NER Venturing **Area 2 Apex** (formerly known as the Summit) for 2013 is going to be at Camp Mattatuck in CT April 26-28 2013. Put this event on your schedule as well. The **Theme** that was selected for this event is “**The District Games**” based on The Hunger Games. At each of the last two Area Venturing Planning meetings, we had more than 40 venturer’s and advisors in attendance..so this is going to be an amazing event for Venturer’s and Venturing aged youth. Camp Mattatuck has one of the largest COPE courses in the NE Region, we have boating, shooting (and shotgun), and even a great mountain biking program.

Registration information is available (link will be forwarded). The cost is \$45 for a Tent site and \$50 for a cabin spot. All food and program materials are included as well (yes, the patch too). In addition, if you participate in the activities, you will be awarded a special “District Games Pin”. Like with past Area events, there will be a theme-based Saturday night dance.



Check the front page of the council website for the program flyer (link: http://sccbbsa.org/docs/20130115_apex.pdf). You can also check the Area Venturing website: <http://nerventinging-bsa.org/areas/area-2/>.

For Area 2 Venturing events, please contact Bob Koch, Area 2 Venturing Advisor, bobbbsa@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

District Classified Ads

Announcing the Nickolas Demidovich Memorial Fund: We have money available to assist with full or partial payment for summer camp for deserving scouts in need. We would also be willing to help with any other reasonable Boy Scout expense with proper notice for legitimate boy scout related expenses. Contact Peter Demidovich at Peter@PeterDemidovich.com

Northport East Northport Public Library: Resources are available to scouts, pack and troop leaders. Scouts may request the assistance of our librarians at any time to locate the many and varied resources available to assist them in fulfilling their merit badge requirements. Leaders may request group visits via our website to bring their troops for a guided tour and demonstration of electronic databases. The Library also hosts merit badge programs, most recently the Boy Scout Computer and Reading Merit Badges. We have recently added a form to assist in planning a group visit to the library. This may be accessed on our webpage under "contact us" our by using the following link: <http://www.nenpl.org/main/contactus/visit.php>. As always, please call or visit your library in person so that we may assist you in your informational pursuits.

Mark your calendars for **MATINECOCK CUB FUN DAY**, Saturday, June 8, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at TJ Lahey Elementary School, 625 Pulaski Rd, Greenlawn. We are looking for Cub Scout Packs to participate at Cub Fun Day & help with the running of activity booths & games. Adults are also needed to be on the Committee as well as to help with various activities including a Cub Bike Rodeo. For more information contact Donna Reina at (631) 543-3994 email pack322@verizon.net; Josephine Ruby at (631) 864-9761, email jeruby43@optonline.net or Elaine Gray at (631) 924-7000 ext. 127, email grayshus1@aol.com.

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

April 2013 Roundtable Program Themes (May Scouting Themes):

Cub Scout Core Value: Health & Fitness

Cub Scout Pack Meeting Theme(s) - options: Cub Café, Destination: Parks, Backyard Fun

Webelos Activity Pins: Outdoorsman & Handyman

Boy Scout: Leadership

From: <http://www.boyscouttrail.com/themes/scout-themes-2013.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 David.Puttre@verizon.net, deadline: Tuesday before roundtable.