



What's the Point

Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



October 9, 2014

What's Up (Coming)

October 2014

- October

November 2014

- November 9 –
Popcorn and Prize
Orders DUE
- November 13 –
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.

September is in the books and October is in full swing. I want to thank all the units that participated in the council wide recruitment event that we had. While we didn't get the numbers we were looking for, we did have great representation. We will be continuing this effort again next year with corrections to the mistakes that council made in terms of advertising and helping units out. We realize that things could have and should have been done differently and we will work with all of you to make it better and more successful next year. While the council wide recruitment didn't do the numbers we'd have hoped most units had much more success on their own which is exactly what we should be doing - having two or more recruitment events for our units. Going forward please don't make school open houses and your first pack night a recruitment event. Make EVERY event you do a potential recruitment event. Make sure you're advertising yourself at school functions, community events (town fairs, church festivals, etc.) to generate interest in your unit. And this advice goes to every unit and not just Packs. Some of our most recent Eagle Scouts were never in cub scouts to begin with. On a fundraising front Popcorn is doing great. We already have some units in Matinecock that have sold over \$10,000. To remind everyone of a little incentive I put out there for our district - if your unit outsells last year or if you didn't sell last year but you're selling this year and you sell at least \$2,500, I will gladly come to a future pack night, court of honor, etc. and let your top sellers throw cream pies at me. There's still time to get out there and sell as take orders aren't due to council until the beginning of November. For any questions please see Mimi Puttre. Thank you for all that you do and keep doing for Scouting.

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

"Get in on the Adventure"



Cub Scouting

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

Pack Communication

Good communication is essential for a well-run Pack. The more informed your parents are, the more likely they are to participate. There are many ways of communicating with your parents. The hard part is that many people prefer different means of communication to receive their information. So which is right? Maybe a combination of a few methods will do the trick!

Pack Website: There are many ways to establish a website. There are websites that offer free webpages to Scout groups. They often have premade templates that make setting up a webpage easy. Find out if your feeder Troop has one of these as sometimes the calendars can be merged for parents. If you have someone who is talented in the web design area, you can create your own from scratch. Websites are a great resource for parents and leaders as forms and links can be stored here to help people easily find the information they need. Most offer the ability to automatically send out reminder emails about events.

Emails: Emailing is quick and free. It is helpful if the email address is obviously about Scouting. Consider creating a Pack email address from one of the free sites. This way parents can immediately identify that the email is about the Pack. It also keeps all your Scouting discussions in one place which becomes easy to find. A weekly email with reminders about what is going on in your Pack will keep parents informed. Be mindful about what day you send your emails to maximize the number of people reading them. Monday may be hard for people as they are catching up after the weekend. Consider copying your Unit Commissioner and Chartered Organization Representative on your Pack emails. It keeps them up to date on what is going on.

Social Media: Facebook and other Social Media sites are a good place to communicate to parents as well. Closed pages are best if you are planning on posting a lot of pictures. It is also a great tool for recruiting as well.

Newsletters: Creating a fun easy to read newsletter can keep parents up to date and share some of the good things going on in your Pack. These newsletters can be hard copied and mailed or handed out at a Pack meeting. They can also be emailed home. The newsletter is a great way to highlight the great things your Pack is doing as well as the achievements of your Scouts. They can be done as often as you feel is needed, monthly, quarterly, etc.

Be creative, keep it light and fun. Try different things. Get others involved.



Webelos Scouts

Bridging to Boy Scouts

Webelos Woods Tips

This is the event that the Scouts hear a lot about. Now it is their turn and you want them to have a great experience. Here are some tips to make Webelos Woods a great experience for the boys.

1. Make sure your parents and Webelos know their pack number. Knowing the pack number, and not the den number, becomes essential in directing arrivals to their campsite.
2. On Saturday night there will be a dessert bake-off competition. Box oven cooking should be used with Webelos doing the baking using guidance from leaders and /or parents.
3. Units will parade immediately following the opening ceremony at 9:00 am – wear complete uniforms and **bring Pack flags, banners, etc. If you have a Pack plaque, bring it to the Council Tent.**
4. Inspections of campsites will be made - so be prepared.
5. Boy Scout Troops will attend and help with the program. Plan on visiting Troops at this event. **Know which Troops are in your area so you can have the boys/parents pay particular attention to them.**
6. Please be prompt for everything – we are on a schedule.
7. Show some Spirit by using Pack cheer, song, or yell during the weekend.
8. This is a Class “A” event, all Scouts should wear complete uniform.
9. Absolutely NO alcohol permitted. A gentle reminder to parents ahead is always a good idea.
10. Quiet time is from 11 pm to 6:30 am. Voices have carried through tent walls in the wee hours at past Webelos Woods. Quiet time will be enforced, but we ask your cooperation in being considerate to your neighboring units.
11. Do not leave fires unattended.
12. Send families a list of what to bring. Remind them that it can get cold in late October.
13. Have fun!



Boy Scouts

Where Eagles Dare

- _____ start a fire and cook a meal, with or without matches in dry conditions or wet.
- _____ to build an overnight shelter for yourself with a poncho and a few shoelaces.
- _____ to use only your pants to stay afloat if you accidentally fall into the water.
- _____ to rescue someone else who has accidentally fallen in the water.
- _____ lead others.
- _____ to follow.

Continued on page 4

- _____ to use the right knot for the right job.
- _____ to find your way home using the sun and a stick.
- _____ to make a catapult to chuck an orange at your enemy.
- _____ to cook breakfast when you only have a paper cup and an egg.
- _____ to stand your ground in the face of peer pressure and do what is right.

Answer: Be Prepared

Unit Level High Adventure Trips 2015 & 2016!

Do the boys in your unit want their own high adventure experience? Units can set up their own visits to any one of the four national high adventure bases. All it requires is some advance planning to seize these unique opportunities. Reservation processes vary for each of the high adventure bases and you should try to plan at least a couple years in advance in some cases. Links to each of the high adventure bases and **important dates coming up** are below:

Northern Tier (<http://www.ntier.org/>): Limited space is still available at Northern Tier for the 2015 winter and summer program seasons. Be sure to register this Columbus Day (10/13/2014) for your 2015 high adventure opportunity and help your Scouts discover the world in the North Woods. Phones will be open from 8am to 5pm to accept your reservations. You can also sign up for 2016 Lottery alerts.

Philmont Scout Reservation (<http://philmontscout ranch.org/philmont.aspx>): The reservation process is a lottery that is time sensitive (the earlier you submit the better your chance of getting a spot and getting one of you three choices). Form a crew of 7-12 adults and youth. Register for the trek lottery in November, two years prior to your trek. Lottery winners are notified after the first week in December. Lottery registration begins OCTOBER 29th and ends November 19th.

Sea Base (<http://www.bsaseabase.org/>): Fall 2015 spots still available. Reservations requests for 2016 will begin on January 15th, 2015 and end on February 16th, 2015 and you may request a large number of combinations of different programs and/or dates. It is a lottery process but not time sensitive.

The Summit (<http://summitbsa.org/>): The 2015 Program Catalog just became available. High Adventure Base offers eleven separate courses in 2015: one provides an introduction to all components of the SBR Adventure Zone; six allow Scouts and Venturers to focus primarily on one particular area of the SBR's adventures and concentrate on developing their skills in that focus area while still having some time for elective choices; and four provide the opportunity to reach advanced skill levels in a single high adventure skill set. There are also youth and adult training opportunities offered. Registration varies from program to program but at present there appears to be a lot of availability.

Some restrictions apply:

- Boy Scout and Venturing youth must be 14 years of age by the departure date of the expedition (13 for The Summit).
- Applicants for adult leader positions must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America.
- ALL participants (youth and adult) must comply with the Boy Scouts of America's maximum height/weight standards.

Have a special presentation made to your unit's members and parents outlining the opportunities available! Contact Mike Kramer Matinecock District High Adventure Coordinator (mkleader2@gmail.com, 516.455.1909) for more information or to arrange for a visit for your high adventurers!

Remember – Safety is always Job 1.



Training

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Keep the “outing” in “Scouting”!!

Trained leadership is what every boy in scouting deserves so let's try to give them that. There are numerous training opportunities coming up in the next few months. If the dates Matinecock is running theirs doesn't work for you then feel free to attend another district's training. For a list of training dates and times please consult either matdistrict.org or scbsa.org and look for the calendar link. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact our District Executive, Bobby Rabbitt and he'll get you going on what you need.

Up Coming Matinecock District Training Schedules and information:

- CM/Pack Com/Pack Trainer: 10/15/14
- Baloo: 10/18/14
- Woodbadge N2-386-14: 11/1-11/3/14
- SM/ASM I: 11/5/14
- SM/ASM II: 11/12/14
- Den Chief: 11/15/14
- SM/ASM III: 11/19/14
- Den Leader/Webelos Leader: 3/18/15
- SM/ASM I, II, III: 4/25/15
- IOLS: 5/15-5/17/15

Check out the Council website: www.scbsa.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

I am pleased to announce, the addition of two new Unit Commissioners to our staff, Dan & Dana DiGiovanni. They will be assigned to Troop 125 and Pack 125. If you have an interest in the UC's role please contact me. Many charters are underway, if there are any questions and or concerns whether the completion dates are in jeopardy please contact your unit commissioner immediately. Lastly, Webelos Woods is right around the corner - this is a great opportunity for our troops to put their best foot forward and attract / welcome new recruits from the cub scouts. This is also a wonderful time for the young cub scouts to meet with and get to know the various troops within their local neighborhoods. Each troop is different in many ways although they all must abide by the overall BSA guidelines. Please make every effort to attend Webelos Woods and see the Troops within our District perform. I am sure there is a troop out there for every Cub Scout. See you all out at Cathedral Pines.

Tom Rolston, Matinecock District Commissioner, 631 368 7022 or Trolston72@gmail.com



A Scout is Reverent

Religious Committees Activities

Catholic Committee on Scouting:

The Diocesan Boy Scout Retreat has held at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington this past weekend. Over 100 Scouts were in attendance and enjoyed the program hosted by the Catholic Committee. Special thanks to the seminarians in attendance. They were the heartbeat of the retreat. They were enthusiastic, generous of their time and talents, and lots of fun! What a gift to have such wonderful young men sharing the joy of their faith with our young people.

On Sunday in Rockville Centre the annual Convocation for the awarding of Boy Scout religious medals has held. Special thanks to Bishop Andjcz for his fantastic talk for our scouts and his presence at the event. It was great to see our scouts receive their religious emblems.

If any Boys Scouts in the seventh grade or older are interested in working on a religious medal they should contact Chris Coronese ccoronesi@yahoo.com as groups are forming now to complete these requirements over the next six months.

Cub Scouts are reminded that all Religious Medal Books are due back to the Scouting Office by December.

Please note the following Dates and include in your event planning:

November 29 - Advent Celebration – Christ the King Church, Commack

December 14 – Peace Light Service, Christ the King Church, Commack

February 6-8 - Pope Pius XII Retreat, Emmanuel Retreat House, Kellenberg H.S.

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

Religious Emblem Counselors for the Boy Scouts Catholic Emblems need to be trained. We are offering several opportunities that will give Religious Emblem Counselors support and knowledge. Come meet us on one of the following dates and receive your training: Thursday, September 18 or Wednesday, October 15 For info:

http://ccosdrvc.org/files/Download/2014%20SummerFall%20Religious%20Emblems%20Trainings_Suffolk.pdf

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 for 2015: (more to be announced)

East Northport Jewish Center - Feb 6 at 7:30pm

Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge - Feb 13 at 8pm

JCOS Awards and Recognitions Breakfast - Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge - Feb 22 (10am-12 noon)

JCOS of SCC annual Conclave - BHSC - June 5-6-7, 2015

JCOS Meetings: 11/10, 12/22 all at 7:30pm, Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge

For local JCOS information contact:

- Phyllis Stein (265-8141) or thecameralady@verizon.net
- JCOS Chair Barry Kopeloff at 331-9460 or dodey48@optonline.net

Protestant Committee on Scouting:

2014 Fall Retreat, Nov. 7-9, 2014 at Schiff Scout Camp – Do you have what it takes to Survive? For more information you can contact: Lois Accattato 631-275-6228 lois40@optonline.net

Wes Triani Triani_wes@NLVMAIL.com – or see flyer on the council website www.sccbsa.org

Suffolk County Council, BSA

Fall 2014 Popcorn Fundraiser

Show N Sell Product Return** – November 2, 1:00 to 3:00 (Service Center)

Take Order & Prize Order Due – November 3

Take Order Distribution – November 14 & 15 (Clare Rose – Yaphank)

Take Order Payment Due – December 15



COMMISSION STRUCTURE & SCOUT REWARDS

Base Commission is 33% - Potential to earn 37% Plus Cash or Scout Prizes

The tools and forms are all available online. For more information visit:

www.sccbsa.org

www.trails-end.com

Matinecock District Popcorn Kernel

Mimi Puttre' @ 266-5951

mputtre@hotmail.com

Council Popcorn Kernel

Lauren Vlachos @ 924-7000 ext. 37

lvlachos@bsaemail.org

All unsold, **unopened product may be returned EXCEPT Sweet & Savory, Dark & White Chocolatey Drizzle, and White Chocolate Pretzels.

EXPERIENCE THE FLORIDA NATIONAL HIGH ADVENTURE SEA BASE IN 2015!

Suffolk County Council will be sending crews of six youth members and two adult leaders each to participate in two different adventure programs. Saturday, February 14th to Saturday, February 21st

(Tentative cost is \$1700.00 per person - subject to confirmation of airfare)

Trip Includes

- Week long program at Florida Sea Base (*chose one*)
 1. **Coral Reef Sailing program**
 2. **Keys Adventure program**
- Roundtrip transportation from New York to Sea Base and return.
- Meals en-route
- Expedition T-Shirt and hat

Eligibility

Boy Scouts and Venturers must be fourteen (14) years of age by the departure date.

For more information on high adventure trips contact Mike Kramer Matinecock District High Adventure Coordinator at mkleader2@gmail.com

Further details on both Sea Base programs can be found at www.bsaseabase.org

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.

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 egroup: matdistrict@yahogroups.com

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/>

November Scouting Themes: Cub Scout Core Value: Citizenship Webelos Activity Pins: Craftsman, Scientist
Boy Scout: High Adventure From: <http://www.boyscouttrail.com/themes/scout-themes-2014.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.