



What's the Point

Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



March 13, 2014

What's Up (Coming)

March 2014

- March 22 – Scouting for Food Collection
- March 27 – Fellowship Dinner
- March 29 – District Derby

April 2014

- April 4-6 - Matinecock Spring Camporee, Southaven County Park
- April 10 -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.

Silver Beaver Honorees: It is with great pleasure that we announce that 3 of the 8 Silver Beaver honorees for 2014 are from the Matinecock District. James Leonick, Rita O'Malley-Murphy and Ed Spear have been selected for the highest recognition a council can confer on a volunteer scouter. The other 2014 Silver Beaver honorees are listed on the Council homepage (www.sccbsa.org) under Headlines.

Annual Fellowship Dinner: Join us as we celebrate the fellowship we share in delivering the Ideals of Scouting in Suffolk County at the Annual Fellowship Dinner on March 27 at Villa Lombardi's in Holbrook to honor 8 outstanding scouters for their volunteerism. This is the one gathering each year where we stop and honor not only service to our youth, but also this special fellowship we experience above and beyond service to youth. There will be recognition of veteran scouters and units as well as the honoring of the 2014 Silver Beaver Recipients.

Scouting for Food: This is a call to all Matinecock District packs, troops and crews to participate in this year's Scouting for Food Drive. Our district has led the Council in SOF collection for a number of years. That's nice, but not the most important point of each SOF Drive. Full unit participation is what will drive up toward servicing the needs of our community. Let's all make this year's SOF drive a success. Drop off will be at John Glenn High School on Saturday, March 22 from 9am-1pm.

From our DE: As the weather is finally warming up so are the amount of activities planned in both council and district for the spring. This month we have Scouting for Food on Saturday, March 22 followed by the District Pinewood Derby on March 29. Our annual Council Fellowship Dinner will be honoring the Silver Beaver Award Recipients for this year with 3 representing our district. In April we continue with our Boy Scout Spring Camporee April 4-6 at Southaven County Park. We will have our Popcorn Champions Breakfast at Bellport Country Club the following Saturday and we wrap up April with our Cub Fun Day on April 26 at our new location - Centerport United Methodist Church. All of these are wonderful events that I whole-heartedly encourage you all to attend. Volunteers have been hard at work planning these great events and it would be a shame if we didn't get enough registration to go through with them. Beginning with April's Roundtable meeting we will be changing the format slightly. In order to complete our program in its entirety we will now begin promptly at 7:30pm with our opening ceremony and announcements. Our breakout sessions will then begin at 7:50pm. Please be aware of the time change so you receive all the information we provide. If you have any questions please don't ever hesitate to contact me. Thank you all for everything you do for Scouting. 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!

April's Core Value and Pack Meeting Theme

The Core Value for April 2014 is Faith and the Pack Meeting Theme is "My Family Tree".

Having faith means having inner strength or confidence based on our trust in a higher power. Cub Scouts can learn that it is important to look for the good in all situations. With their family guiding them, Cub Scouts will grow stronger in their faith.

How does this month's theme, My Family Tree represent the Core Value of Faith? Faith means having inner strength and confidence based on trust in a higher power. Understanding one's family tree, ancestors, and heritage brings stories to life of the strength and confidence of our family members. It also tells of their belief and trust in a higher power that helped bring them safely to the United States. In years past, many immigrants traveled by boat. The faith they had in that boat and their journey would change their lives!

Pack Meeting Opening Prayer – Thanks for my Family

We each give thanks for being a member of our family. We are grateful to our ancestors who came before us and for the legacies they left to us. May we also appreciate our extended family in Scouting and the lessons we can learn from one another. Amen.

Invention Convention Family Tree

Personnel: Six Cub Scouts and Cubmaster

Materials: Large cutouts of leaves each with a letter from the word "family" written on them. A large "tree trunk" (carpet roll, papier mâché). After the opening, the tree trunk will be positioned on stage so the word "family" remains visible for throughout the pack meeting

Cub Scout 1: F is for FAMILIES we belong to.

Cub Scout 2: A is for ANCESTORS and all who have come before us.

Cub Scout 3: M is for the MANY things that we can learn from them and about them.

Cub Scout 4: I is for the INDIVIDUALS who make up each family.

Cub Scout 5: L is for the LEGACY we can leave through service and good works.

Cub Scout 6: Wait a minute! Isn't there something missing?

Cubmaster: Yes! Y is for YOU! (Cubmaster gives Cub Scout 6 the leaf with "Y" on it. Cubmaster positions the trunk of the tree. The Cub Scouts place their leaves on the tree.)

Cubmaster: We need YOU to make our pack family complete!

ALL: Let's honor our ancestors and legacy by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. (Everyone stands and recites.)

Cub Scout Outdoor Program

Warm weather is coming! And warm weather mean more outdoor activities. Often, boys join Scouting because they want to go camping. Packs will want to ensure the opportunity is available for every boy in Cub Scouting. The lure of camping is a good introduction to the outdoor program of Cub Scouting. What outings does your den or pack provide for your Cub Scouts? This may include den outings such as hikes, outings to locations such as parks or zoos or wildlife refuge. Your pack activities should include an overnight pack campout. The organization of the overnight pack campout can be found in the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, page 153. Remember a pack campout is held under the leadership of an adult that has completed Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) training. And remember that Scouting is an ever increasing challenge with different activities appropriate for Tiger Cubs and those of Webelos.

Please see the following Webelos page for a closing ceremony and Cubmaster Minute.



Webelos Scouts

Bridging to Boy Scouts

World Conservation Award



Protecting and preserving the environment, Leave No Trace, respect for others in the outdoors are all part of the Outdoor Code. In Webelos we begin to introduce the outdoor program in earnest to prepare and transition Webelos into Boy Scout outdoor activities.

The World Conservation Award provides an opportunity for individual Webelos (and Cub Scouts) to 'think globally' and 'act locally' to preserve and improve our environment. This program is designed to make youth members aware that all nations are closely related through natural resources and that we are interdependent with our world environment. The Cub Scout version of the World Conservation Award can be earned by

Wolf, Bear, or Webelos Scouts. (But not by Tigers.) This is considered a 'temporary patch' and should be displayed centered on the right pocket. It can be sewn on or displayed in a plastic patch holder hung from the pocket button.

The Webelos requirements (also found on page 70 of the Webelos Handbook) are very straight forward as part of Webelos advancement. Please note that this award can be earned only once while you are in Cub Scouting (i.e. as either a Wolf, Bear, or Webelos Scout). But that doesn't mean the tenets of the Award cannot be reinforced as you boys progress through the Webelos program. The Webelos requirements are:

- Earn the Forester activity badge.
- Earn the Naturalist activity badge.
- Earn the Outdoorsman activity badge.
- Participate in a den or pack conservation project.

More information on the World Conservation Award (Including requirement for Wolf and Bear cub scouts) can be found at http://www.boyscouttrail.com/content/award/cub_scout_world_conservation-206.asp.

Closing Ceremony: Pack Family Orchard

Materials: Pictures of a large tree, long-time Scouter, small tree, and new Scouter; pizza box, stuffed toy cat or dog, fake bugs, leaves of changing colors, pack of flower seeds, someone in a cap and gown.

Cub Scouts in the audience will bring up the props and face the audience as the Cubmaster

reads: Let us take a moment to view the families in our pack as trees in an orchard. Some have deep roots and a long history in our orchard. (Bring up pictures of a large tree and long-time Scouter.) Some are recent transplants that will create diversity in our orchard. (Bring up picture of a small tree and new Scouter.) They all have likes (bring up stuffed animals and pizza box), dislikes (fake bugs), traditions (bring up changing leaves, seeds), and goals (graduate in a cap and gown). Each tree is an individual, but we are one orchard. Let us strive to nurture each one and graft each family tree into our pack.

Cubmaster's Minute: Family Closing

As I look out upon this audience, I can see many different families. Each family is unique in its interests and activities. But all of you have come together in this pack to share a very important activity: participating in a program designed to give your son positive growth experiences in his life. That makes us all part of the Scouting family.



Boy Scouts

Where Eagles Dare

Someone once said: The best way to not get lost is to always know where you are. In Boy Scouts, that translates to learning to use a compass, maps and orienteering skills. With GPS devices and smart phones do seem to render sticks casting shadow obsolete, but the fact is, orienteering principles still apply. A simple compass and a map won't lose battery power or satellite signal and that counts for something. Either way, don't let your scouts think that because they carry a smart phone they don't need to know how orienteering works. And it the times you don't have an electronic or digital GPS device that you need to Be Prepared and rely on the most essential skills for finding where you are and where you want to go... or perhaps back from whence you came.

In as much as scouts can learn and practice their Compass and map skills at Troop meetings, there is no better way to ingrain the skills needed than by practicing them in a real-world situation, on the trail and with others who know their way which allows scouts to practice in a somewhat controlled situation. Orienteering Merit Badge is an excellent way to build a Troop of boys with good Map & Compass skills and is a Merit Badge offered at most summer camps. But since orienteering isn't needed as a skill until it's too late, practice must be done and there are plenty of orienteering games available on the internet. Be sure to incorporate this valuable, potentially life-saving skill into your program



Venturing/Sea Scouts



“Sea Scout Ship 460, Northport, New York: Sea Scouts is a lot of fun! We go sailing; we learn about engines, knots, safety, navigation, leadership, and more; we go on trips with either just our ship (Fourth of July sailing and state capitol trips) or with other ships where we meet a bunch of new and interesting people (Quarterdeck training, SUNY Maritime, camping, and, of course, our annual Sea Scout Ball). Throughout these experiences, we build strong friendships and learn a lot. I remember that when I first joined, I knew nothing about boating and such. Now, I have learned more than I ever thought I would and had boatloads of fun in the process” **Anna, Bos’n, Sea Scout Ship 460** for information about Sea Scouts in the Matinecock District contact Jan Rose at 631-351-8350.

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

Upcoming NER Area 2 Events: 2014 APEX “Interdimensional Venturing – Where the past meets the Future”, May 2-4, Camp Sequassan, CT Sign up today at www.bsa-gnyc.org/event/1471976

Other NER Area 2 Venturing Events: NER Area 2 Meeting: April 6, 2014, at Camp Sequassan, Area Venturing website: <http://nerventuring-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

Remember – Safety is always Job 1.



Training

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Up Coming Training Schedules and information

Here are some upcoming District training opportunities:

Den Leader & Webelos Leader - March 19th Hauppauge H.S. 7:30 pm

IOLS & WLOT - May 16th - 18th – Blydenburgh Park

Please check out Council calendar for all upcoming trainings available!

After all.... “ Every Scout deserves a trained leader! ”

"Success in training the boy depends largely on the Scoutmaster's own personal example." - Robert Baden-Powell

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

Thank you all, for your support to be your District Commissioner. I can only be successful as to the quality of the men & women supporting me within the Unit Commissioner's Staff and to that end, I have no doubt. I have been a member of this fine team for over 10 years and expect to continue building on the quality of the organization. Please cooperate with your Unit Commissioners, they, like you, are volunteers trying to provide the highest level of Scouting to our youth. If you are interested in joining the Unit Commissioners Staff, please contact me at Round Table or call 631 368 7022 or @t.rolston@att.net.

Key Points for this month are:

- 1) Youth Protection Training for all adults so the unit charters can be in on time
- 2) Webelos to Scout Transition is coming up keep sights on the Young Men, make sure that they are ALL picked up by a Scout Troop.

Thank you.

Tom Rolston, Matinecock District Commissioner, 631 368 7022 or t.rolston@att.net.



A Scout is Reverent

Religious Committees Activities

Catholic Committee on Scouting:

- Congratulations to all Scouts that attended a Scout Sunday Mass and especially those who received a Religious Medal.
- **APRIL 5, 2014** - SUFFOLK CCOS CUB FUN & FAITH DAY AND BOY SCOUT DAY OF RECOLLECTION TO BE HELD AT ST. PATRICK CHURCH IN SMITHTOWN.
- **APRIL 25, 2014** - DEADLINE for Ad Alatare Dei and Pope Pius religious emblems
- **MAY 1, 2014** - DEADLINE FOR BRONZE PELICAN , ST. GEORGE & BISHOP'S EMBLEMS
- **MAY 17, 2014** – RELIGIOUS EMBLEM BOARDS OF REVIEW
- **JUNE 5, 2014** – MAKE UP DATE FOR AAD & PPIX BOARDS OF REVIEW AT SUFFOLK'S MONTHLY MEETING
- **BOY SCOUT PILGRIMAGE** - DATE & LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED
- **Interested in joining the Catholic Committee?** Join us at our monthly meeting, first Thursday of the month, St Joseph's Ronkonkoma, 7:30 p.m. (Meet in Art Room of School)

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

- SCJCOS Meetings - all on Monday nights at 7:30pm at Temple Beth-Chai in Hauppauge: 4/21, 5/12, 6/16
- Jewish Conclave-Baiting Hollow SC: June 6-7-8 2014
- NE Regional Jewish Committees- Alpine Scout Camp-Sun March 23, 2014
- 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:

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 just had our 3rd annual Chili Cook Off and it was a huge success!! 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.

From February's (unissued) Boy Scout page: **Free Play Activities:** We live in a time where every child seems to have a smart phone, a stack of video games and more and more pressure to spend "free time" doing lots of homework. Besides the extra pressure to supplement school with extra homework, time for academics is taking the place of time on the playground. Add to that the constant fear of letting children walk to a neighbor's house to play. What has suffered is an important part of childhood we now call Free Play. By Free Play, we mean taking time to get outside and, well, play. Alone or with friends, with no particular structure of parental control. Games many of us grew up on, like tag, hide and seek and the like. Such games teach children how to get along with others, learn boundaries and fair play.

Boy Scouts love games like Capture the Flag and Man Hunt. Mostly these games encourage some strategy and team play and lots of running. Allow time away from a tightly planned schedule of activities and allow scouts to learn in ways that can't always be identified. Help boys to grow and develop at a pace that is comfortable for them. Free Play lets boys find their place and value within the pack. Most importantly, there is relief from the stresses of achievement-oriented activities.

Scouting is the perfect stage for Free Play activities. Make it a point to schedule in some "free time" as a part of your Scouting adventures and activities. You'll have a happier unit.

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/>

Nissequoque Chapter web site: <http://www.shinnecock360.org/chapters/nissequoque/>

April Scouting Themes: Cub Scout Core Value: Faith Webelos Activity Pins: Sportsman, Family Member
Boy Scout: Environment 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.