



What's the Point

Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



May 8, 2014

What's Up (Coming)

May 2014

- May 22 – District Award of Merit Dinner
- May 24 - Flag Placement
- May 31 – Flag Retrieval

June 2014

- June 12 – 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.

Before we get too far into May I wanted to take a moment to reflect on our two very successful events that we had in April: the spring camporee and our cub fun day. We lucked out with both events having great weather and great turnouts. The 115 scouts that attended our spring camporee had a chance to work on their pioneering, orienteering, shotgun, slingshot and fire building skills in a freeform format.

Our cubs had their own day of medieval themed fun in Centerport on April 26 and everyone had a blast. Special thanks go to Matt McEvoy and his band of merry planners for putting together two great events. All those that participated already are looking forward to next year's events.

We now continue into May and our calendar of events just keeps going. I invite you all to join us at our District Awards Dinner on May 22 at the Elks Lodge in Huntington to honor this year's District Award of Merit recipients: David Hunt, Kevin Klein and David Puttre. We will also be honoring our district sparkplug recipients and we are still taking nomination forms for those. To obtain a dinner registration form or a sparkplug nominating form please go to our district website.

Lastly, we are making a serious push to increase membership here in Suffolk County Council so please schedule a spring recruitment to get those youth into your unit before the summer begins. If you need any assistance please don't hesitate to let me know. Thank you all for all you do.

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!

June Pack Meeting Theme: Over the Horizon Core Value: Perseverance

It is easy for a Cub Scout to become tired and want to quit while out on a hike, but looking forward to seeing what is over the horizon is a goal that may keep him from giving up. Perseverance is sticking with something and not giving up, even if it is difficult. Through participation in activities such as hiking, Cub Scouts learn the importance of perseverance. This month we encourage every Cub Scout to look "Over the Horizon" to his goal as he hikes along the Cub Scout trail.

All Award!

Cub Scouts have a lot of opportunities to earn great awards. We will be taking some time at Roundtable to discuss awards that are beyond the belt loops and pins.

Fun for the Family Award

The BSA Fun for the Family Award program includes a series of activities designed to help strengthen all families--whether two-parent, single-parent, or nontraditional. This program was designed to help families accomplish worthy goals while building and strengthening relationships among family members. *All family members are encouraged to participate and may earn the award.* To earn the award, a family must complete 10 activities within a 12-month period. The family chooses one activity in two topics in each of the following categories:

- Learning Through Fun and Adventure
- Strengthening Family Relationships
- Developing Personal Strengths
- Teaching Responsibility
- Handling Difficult Situations

When a family has completed these requirements, they are eligible to receive an award certificate, patches and/or pins.

Most of the ideas in the BSA Family Activity Book will be useful during family meetings or gatherings. However, parents will also find ways to incorporate them into daily life. Many ideas may be adapted for use while riding in a car and during mealtimes, and may provide things to occupy children when they say there is "nothing to do." In short, parents may use the ideas and activities to meet their own family's needs and interests.

Books and awards are available at the Scout Shop and online at Scoutstuff.org.



Webelos Scouts

Bridging to Boy Scouts

Webelos to Scout Transition – We Start Again

Second year Webelos are bridging to Boy Scouts. And Bears are about to become Webelos. It's a continuing transition and important leaders keep pace. The goal: Every Webelos Scout continues his Scouting experience as a Boy Scout. Everyone has a role in the Cub Scout to Webelos to Boy Scout Transition.

- Preparation helps the Webelos Den Leader. It means knowing advancement requirements, parent/son overnights, outdoor leader training and association with the troop. The leader's preparation time well spent in cultivating the boy's personal growth and desire to continue.
- The Cubmaster helps to make sure the Webelos den "advances" with more graduations and assisting with access to den chiefs. Pack meetings that feature a lively Webelos den help, too.
- For the Scoutmaster, are you connected to packs and Webelos dens? It means more boys already familiar with Boy Scout and Tenderfoot requirements and families have been supporting them.

There are some key figures in succeeding:

Webelos Den Leader

- Get trained – Know and understand the Webelos program. And the outdoor program. You aren't really part of the pack program anymore. You have a program that's within the pack program.
- Have the Webelos den function as a patrol – See Get Trained. Lack of success is often tied to inventing what the Scouting program is. It's already been invented and refined for over 100 years.
- Verify the presence of the necessary Scout Skills – You are transitioning a boy from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. The boys should know their Scout Skills appropriate to the Webelos level.
- Attend Roundtables and get to know the Scoutmasters -
- Meet with the local Scoutmaster(s) for transition planning -
- Attend a Troop meeting and recruit a Den Chief – Attending a troop meeting will give you better insight as to how a troop and the patrol method work. And get Den Chief. They work!
- Insure that the boys attend summer camp – Summer camp has programs specifically geared to the first year scout. To get them acclimated and a foundations in the basic Scout Skills.
- Plan the graduation/bridging ceremony and promote Troop summer activities – This is a big deal. For the boys graduating and inspiration for the Cubs and 1st year Webelos who are coming up. Prepare your 2nd year Webelos by letting them know the adventures they have in store. Three to remember – Inspire – Inspire – Inspire!
- Verify the transfer of documents (the boy's records) and transfer of registration to the troop -

Cubmaster's and Pack Committee's Role

- Know the Webelos program.
- Support and assist the Webelos Den Leader in understanding the Boy Scout Program and connect with local troops. Work with Scoutmasters to get a coordinated effort.
- Make sure incoming Bear Den Leaders are aware of and trained on the Webelos program.
- Make sure Webelos' parents understand the program differences between Cub Scouts and Webelos.

Scoutmaster's Role

- Connect. Invite. Support. And recruit. You have the future of these boys' Scouting career in your hands.



Boy Scouts

Where Eagles Dare

Keep the FUN in Fundraising: Over the years, our Troop has tried selling many different things to raise money; Christmas wreaths, candy, nuts, light bulbs, flowers and of course, Popcorn. We've held Troop car washes and served dinner to Packs for Blue & Gold dinners. Our most enduring and most fun is our annual Pancake Breakfast. The best part about the event is that every single member of the Troop and a lot of the parents play a part in its success. Most of all the Scouts have FUN! Members of the Troop Committee handle ticket sales at the door and they also run the Bake Sale that goes on during the Breakfast, while new scouts to senior boys do everything else. Scouts organize the kitchen, cook pancakes and sausage, fill orders, wait on customers, bus tables, wash dishes and at the end, stay to clean up until the kitchen and hall are spotless. It's a huge undertaking, but they love it. It teaches them so many skills, including how to work as a team, how to prepare food quickly and safely and get it to customers hot and presentable. They have fun because they are in control of their success. Selling popcorn can be fun too, because there's a level of direct involvement with Show & Sell, but there's isn't a lot of hands-on when sales are done by parents taking orders from fellow employees at work. Yes this helps the Troop and, if the goal is simply to earn money, that works on some level. But in every activity the Troop does, which includes fundraising, the Aims and Goals of Scouting should be considered. The fundraising activities that are best teach and support these Aims and most of all should be FUN!



Venturing/Sea Scouts



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

2014 Northeast Region Venturing Apex: The 2014 Area 2 Apex was just held this past weekend at Camp Sequassen in New Hartford, Connecticut. The good news is that there were nearly 250 Venturers who had an amazing time hanging with peers from 11 councils; they got to fly in a hot air balloon, shot rifles, shotguns, pistols, and slingshots; played all kinds of sports including Gaga Ball for the first time; had an amazing dance party; held a Karaoke session; went mountain biking; learned about a number of skills...and much much more. Other good news is that there were 65 Venturers from Suffolk County Council (who won the participation award). The bad news was that Matinecock was the only district who had no one in attendance!! HOW can we help the current crews get more involved? How can we help to get crews started? With such a great district, I am sure that we can build a venturing program like we have in other districts. PLEASE let Bob Koch know how he can assist.

Other NER Area 2 Venturing Events: NER Area 2 also held an amazing Dude Ranch Trip in March. There were 45 Venturers from Suffolk County who participated. Unlimited horseback riding; fun and games in the indoor pool, rifle and shotgun shooting; games with nearly 100 Venturers from the Area councils; hayrides; equestrian instruction; ice skating, Karaoke, trivia games and many other activities. The Area plans on running this event again.

NER Area 2 Officers for 2014-2015 Selected: Officers for the 2014-2015 year (starting June 1) were selected. They come from Connecticut Rivers, Rip VanWinkle and Suffolk County Council. Congratulations to Doug Ryder of Crew 349 in Nesconset who will serve as the VP for Administration.

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, 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

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

IOLS & OWLS

Every **Boy** deserves a Trained Leader!!
This Weekend fulfills part of the requirements to be considered "Trained".

When: May 16th – 18th, 2014

Where: Blydenburgh Park

Cost:\$40.00 per person

Sign Up Now!

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 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

Your commissioner plays many roles, including friend, representative, unit "doctor," teacher and counselor. This month I'm concentrating on, the commissioner as a representative of the unit. Your commissioner is that representative. The average unit leader is totally occupied in working with their scouts. Some have little if any contact with the Boy Scouts of America other than a commissioner's visit to their meeting. To them, the commissioner may be the BSA. The commissioner helps represent the ideals, the principles, and the policies of the scouting movement. Please utilize your Unit Commissioner get to know them and help them to be your representatives for 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) Spring recruitment for all
- 2) Commitment to Journey to Excellence

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



A Scout is Reverent

Religious Committees Activities

Catholic Committee on Scouting: SAVE THE DATES:

MAY 16, 2014 – HOLY HOUR AT ST. AGNES CATHEDRAL, ROCKVILLE CENTRE Bishop William Murphy, along with priests, seminarians, and hundreds of youth, college and young adults from across Long Island will gather for the last diocesan [Holy Hour for Vocations](#) of the year. This night will also feature a concert by Catholic songwriter and performer, Sarah Kroger. Come and worship the Lord. This is a free event and open to the public. Doors open at 7:30pm.

MAY 17, 2014 – RELIGIOUS EMBLEM BOARDS OF REVIEW, at Assumption of the BVM, Centereach. All Scouts will receive a letter with their appointment time. All Scouts **must** RSVP.

JUNE 5, 2014 – MAKE UP DATE FOR AAD & PPXII BOARDS OF REVIEW AT SUFFOLK'S MONTHLY MEETING ***This is the only make up date for missed Boards of Review.**

****Cub Scouts can work on Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei emblems over the summer.** Books can be purchased at the Scout Store and through the Diocesan Scouting office (516-678-5800, ext 245).

****Vespers** will take place at BHSC over the weeks of Summer camp on Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at the Koch Memorial Catholic Cabin.

GENERAL INFORMATION: All Catholic scouters are cordially invited to join the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Contact: Chris Coronese, ccoronesi@yahoo.com 917.748.1276

- **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 Science 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: 5/12, 6/16
- Jewish Conclave-Baiting Hollow SC: June 6-7-8 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:

High Adventure Opportunity

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

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

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.

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.

Important links to sources of information:

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

Matinecock District egroup: 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

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/>

June Scouting Themes: Cub Scout Core Value: Perseverance Webelos Activity Pins: Traveler, Artist

Boy Scout: Mechanics 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.