



What's the Point

Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



May 11, 2017

What's Up (Coming)

May 2017

- May 25 – District Award Dinner

June 2017

- June 3 – Popcorn Breakfast
- June 8 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.

Greetings Matinecock!

District Recognition Dinner

Congratulations to our 18 Spark Plug and 3 District Award of Merit honorees, Keith Josephson, Eve Kossman, and Deb Trifon. We'll be recognizing the achievements of these outstanding volunteers, Journey to Excellence awards, and a variety of other successes at the unit and District level on Thursday, May 25th at the Matinecock District Recognition Dinner. This evening of fellowship, food, and celebration will be held at the Huntington Elks Lodge. We hope you can join us for this ununiformed leader event. Register online at www.sccbsa.org/MatDinner.

Merit Badge Counselors Needed!

Every Summer the District hosts 2 Merit Badge Summer Courses for Matinecock Scouts. The dates are set for July 6 & 13 and August 3 & 10, but we are still in need of Merit Badge Counselors for both courses. We're particularly interested in Counselors that could teach Fingerprinting, Crime Prevention, American Labor, Photography, Chess, Engineering, Veterinary Medicine, and/or theater. Please contact Tom at trolston72@gmail.com or Herb at bsaherb@juno.com if you're interested in helping!

Recruitment

Now is the time to start forming relationships with families you would like to join your unit. Don't wait until the busy-ness of fall. I have supplies – just let me know and I'll get you BSA SWAG, flyers, a base camp marketing tent, pdf flyers for electronic backpacks, Facebook images, or other helpful tools.

Friends of Scouting

Thank you to the units that have already held their Friends of Scouting presentation, and to those that have their date approaching. Any information you can give your parents ahead of our arrival about the value of this fundraising campaign will greatly ensure the success of the presentation. Thank you for your help!

We're currently searching for community FOS business partnerships. For a \$250 donation, I will list the company in a business partner booklet for distribution to the District this year. Ask me about the application and I'll get you materials!

Liz Jumper, Matinecock District Executive

"Scouting is a game with a purpose."



Cub Scouting

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

Camping – Be Prepared

There is probably little more exciting or more nerve wracking than camping with Cub Scouts. Not only for the leaders, but for the parents and families as well. In all likelihood, many parents have never camped before and may be concerned that they have the right equipment and will enjoy the experience. Consider having a nearby Boy Scout Troop do a demonstration of how to pack for camping and the basic equipment needed. For leaders, being prepared enough to not have the group descend into chaos is a daunting thought. A little planning can hold off a lot of problems later. Make sure you have seen your campsite, so that you know what to expect. It may seem that having running water is a drag to finding campsites, but it is a comfort to those inexperienced campers. Not to mention that it does make some clean up a lot easier. Plan some activities. Even if it is as simple as bringing a kickball, a Frisbee and some cones. A storm could be coming in the evening? Give the parents an option to go home rather than stay. A frightening first camping experience doesn't make for a lifelong love of camping. Dollar store glow sticks are super fun after dark. And roasting marshmallows *is not* against BSA policy. It is a little terrifying to have a lot of kids leaning into a fire with big sticks that they will doubtless use as a sword as soon as they have finished said marshmallow. So keep that in mind when planning roasting marshmallows. A great end of the evening activity is a flag retirement ceremony. Let each person there remember someone as they place a piece of a cut up flag (do not cut the field of stars) into the fire. You would be surprised how powerful this event is. Then ask everyone to go back to their tents in silent remembrance. Breakfast or no breakfast? Do your parents want to make the fast break home? Then do not plan a big event in the morning. Keep it simple and let your kids and parents enjoy the unplugged weekend!



Webelos Scouts

Bridging to Boy Scouts

Cub Scout Camping Opportunities

Day or Twilight Camps: Day camp lasts for one day to five days. It's for Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos Scouts. Day camps are held during the day or early evening. Campers do not stay overnight.

Council Resident Camps: A council resident camp is an activity offering multiple nights of camping. Generally, these are three-day, two-night events, but each council may vary the length. Every year, the resident camp has a different theme and different adventures. These camps are to be directed by council-approved, nationally certified volunteers with the help of council

personnel. This is a great chance for a Cub Scout to experience an overnight campout as well as a stepping stone in preparation for Boy Scout summer camp in the future.

Webelos Den Overnight Campouts: Webelos dens go on overnight campouts. Each Webelos Scout camps with his parent or guardian. The campers learn the basics of Boy Scout camping under the direction of the Webelos den leader. Sometimes, leaders from a Boy Scout troop may join you. A Webelos den leader who has completed Cub Scout leader position-specific training and Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders is trained to take his or her Scouts camping as a den. Webelos dens also have joint overnight campouts with a Boy Scout troop. Each Webelos Scout also has a parent or guardian with him on these joint campouts.

Pack Camping: Packs on their own can hold overnight campouts for the families in the pack. Cub Scouts' brothers and sisters can go on these pack overnights. In most cases, each Scout will camp with a parent or guardian. Every young camper is responsible to a specific adult. Each family will probably furnish their own camping equipment, and depending on the decision of the pack may need to furnish and cook their own meals.

Council or District Family Camping Activities: Family camps are overnight camps for more than one Cub Scout pack. You may hear these events called "parent-pal weekends" or "adventure weekends." Each Cub Scout camps with a parent or guardian.



Boy Scouts

Where Eagles Dare

Scoutmaster Conferences From the BSA

What Is A Scoutmaster Conference? It's simply a visit between the Scoutmaster and a Scout. During the conference, the two can discuss the Scout's ambitions and life purpose, set goals for future achievement (both in Scouting and beyond), review the Scout's participation in the troop and explore his understanding and practice of the ideals of Scouting. The conference also gives the Scoutmaster an opportunity to solicit feedback on the troop program and any challenges the Scout is facing.

How Long Should A Scoutmaster Conference Last? Conferences should last 10 to 15 minutes, although those for Eagle Scouts might last 30 minutes or more.

Where Should These Conferences Take Place? They can be conducted at troop meetings, during outdoor activities or in the Scout's home (provided a parent is also present). Given the relaxed nature of many outings, a campsite can be a good setting. Each conference should be a private discussion between the Scoutmaster and a Scout, but it must be held in full view of other people in accordance with the BSA's Youth Protection policy.

Can A Scout Fail a Scoutmaster Conference? No, it is not a test. Note that a Scout must participate or take part in a conference, not pass it.

Can the Scoutmaster Retest the Scout on Requirements? No (nor may the board of review).

If a Scout Sets a Goal During a Scoutmaster Conference, Does he Have to Achieve It? No. However, it makes sense to follow up with him later and to provide encouragement. Some Scoutmasters take notes after each conference and review them before meeting with a Scout again.

Does the Scoutmaster Conference Have to be the Last Requirement Completed for a Rank? No. While it can make sense to hold a conference after other requirements for a rank have been met, the conference doesn't have to be the last step before the board of review.

Can I Hold a Scoutmaster Conference for a Scout Who Is Not Advancing? Yes. In fact, that would be a good way to find out if the Scout is having problems.

Can I Delegate Scoutmaster Conferences to Another Adult Leader? Yes, under limited circumstances. For example, if the troop is so large that the Scoutmaster can't handle them all, he or she might delegate some of them to an assistant Scoutmaster. Keep in mind, however, that if a Scout sees different leaders along his trail to Eagle, he won't have the chance to develop a relationship with the Scoutmaster, and the conferences can't build on what has been discussed previously.

Can I Deny a Scout a Scoutmaster Conference If I Feel he's Not Ready? No. Since the conference is not a test the Scout can fail, there's nothing he needs to be ready for.



Venturing/Sea Scouts



Upcoming Area 2 Venturing Events:

Registration for any events: <http://www.nerventuring-bsa.org/area2>

Please see the Area 2 Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/126120642299/>

SCC Venturing Information: If you haven't already done so, join the SCC Venturing VOA Facebook site:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCCVenturing/10153247391222695/?ref=notif¬if_t=group_activity

- **SCC VOA meetings** are held the last Sunday of each month @ St Josephs Church in Ronkonkoma from 6:30 – 8 PM. For more information, contact **Dave Ryder** at dryder1@optonline.net or 516-965-3382.

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

For Area 2 Venturing events, please contact Bob Koch, Area 2 Associate Advisor and NER Program Associate Advisor, bobbsa57@gmail.com; 631- 981-1399 (land line) or 516-209-8162 (Cell)

Remember – Safety is always Job 1.



Training

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Up Coming Matinecock District Training Schedules and information:

Here are some of our latest training opportunities!

IOLS/OWLS – *May 12-14, 2017* – Blydenburgh Park – See Flyer for details!!

Wood Badge – *September 7-9, 2017 & October 7-9, 2017* – Baiting Hollow & Schiff Scout Camps.

See Flyer for details! The finest training opportunity offered to our adults. Take part in Scouting's most advanced training course, focusing on **Leadership** and **Team Development**. Inspired by Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, Wood Badge has provided the ultimate training for hundreds of thousands of leaders around the world.

National Youth Leadership Training - The summer 2017 course will be held at Baiting Hollow from *August 19th - 24th*. Registration should open shortly. Open to Venturers and Boy Scout youth leaders who are First Class and above and at least 13 years old.

Check <https://www.sccbsa.org/nylt> for more information as it becomes available.

As always, please see our flyers for details.

Be sure to check out our district and council website for additional information, flyers and registration for upcoming training opportunities!

Matdistrict.org

SCCBSA.org

We want you to become the best leaders in Scouting!!!

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

Good evening Matinecock District!

I am actively looking for individuals to become Unit Commissioners. Unit Commissioners are your unit's direct connection to all available tools, programs and people in the district to help you deliver the best program possible to your units. If you are interested, please see me during Roundtable or contact me afterwards. We are planning to have a presentation about Unit Commissioners at a future Roundtable, so please be on the lookout for more information when it becomes available.

Thanks for all that you do in Scouting and hope to see you down the trail!

Yours in Scouting,

George J. S. Smith

Matinecock District Commissioner

Phone: [631-987-8429](tel:631-987-8429)

E-mail: george.j.s.smith@gmail.com



A Scout is Reverent

Religious Committees Activities

Catholic Committee on Scouting:

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

May 20 – Religious Emblems Boards of Review, 9-12, Assumption of the BVM Church, Centereach

June 1- Make-up date for Emblems Boards of Review, 7-9 pm, St. Joseph School, Ronkonkoma. This is the ONLY date that Make ups are available.

Vesper Services will be offered at BHSC on **Friday nights at 7:15pm** during the weeks of Troop Camping at the Catholic Residence.

Boy Scout Convocation will be held on **Sunday, September 17th** at **Saint Agnes Cathedral**, Rockville Centre for those Scouts who earned the Ad Altare Dei emblem and Pope Pius XII emblem.

Interested in joining the Catholic Committee? Meetings are held St Joseph in Ronkonkoma, 7:30 p.m. (Meet in Science Room of School) All Catholic scouters are cordially invited to join. Contact: Chris Coronesi, ccoronesi@yahoo.com 917.748.1276. See our calendar for exact dates.

See our **Website** for up to date news, our calendar, flyers and more: www.ccos-drvc.org and like us on **Facebook** at **Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Diocese of Rockville Centre.**

Jewish Committee on Scouting: Save the dates:

- SCC-JCOS Annual Conclave- June 2-4, 2017 (Fri-Sun) Baiting Hollow Scout Camp

Any Jewish Scout interested in earning their religious emblem and for Eagle Scout recognitions (for Scouts of any faith), please contact Phyllis or Barry

Interested in the Jewish Committee on Scouting? Join us at our monthly meeting, on the third Monday of the month, Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge, 7:30 p.m. All Scouters are cordially invited to attend. 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:

For Information contact: Lois Accattato 631-275-6228 or email lois40@optonline.net

Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting:

For Information contact: Laura Hanjoglu Goerke 631-366-3542 or email hangoerk@optonline.net

District Notes

Save the Date: Popcorn Breakfast

There are lots of new incentives and products for the Fall 2017 sale. Come to check it out and learn from successful units.

Popcorn Breakfast [June 3, 2017](#). Each unit can bring 3 reps. 8:30-11:00 am. Courtyard Marriott, Ronkonkoma. Please rsvp to Amy Colavita - acarter00@aol.com.

Important links to sources of information:

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

Matinecock District email: matdistrict@gmail.org

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 2017 Cub Scouting Themes:

Webelos I Badges: Geologist; ~~Webelos II Badges:~~

Scout Law/Pack Meeting Theme: Brave/Roaming Reptile Alert

June 2017 Boy Scouting Themes:

Boy Scout monthly theme: Rifle Shooting

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/magazine/pdf/331-011.pdf>

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/CubScoutMeetingGuide/webelos/WebelosMeetingPlans.pdf>

“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 mputtre@hotmail.com, deadline: Tuesday before roundtable.