



What's the Point

Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



February 13, 2020

What's Up (Coming)

February 2020

- Feb 17-21 - Winter Camp

March 2020

- March 7th- [Islander Scout Day](#)
- Mar 12 – RT & OA
- Mar 19 – Fellowship Dinner
- March 28th - [Andrew McMorris Walk-a-thon](#)

April 2020

- April 3rd-5th Spring Camporee @ South Haven (Joint with BT)
- April 4th- [District Pinewood Derby](#) @ William T Rodgers Middle School

www.SCCBSA.org

One stop instant access to Matinecock District news, upcoming events and program resources, along with a complete District and Council Calendar. Check Out the Training Events, too!

For more useful links to scouting information, see the last page.

Hello Matinecock,

In the spirit of the Blue and Gold season, I want to say congratulations to all our scouts who are earning their Arrow of Light and crossing over. Please help your cub scouts during their transition by visiting different Troops to get a good idea which one is the best fit. Just because it is your feeder Troop, doesn't mean they have to go to that one. Give them options.

A big thank you to the Troops that have opened their door to let the cub scouts shop around for a Troop that works best for them. You are the best!

Administrative notes: If you haven't turned in your charter yet or are having trouble, please reach out to me or your unit commissioners so we can help problem solve with you. We are here to help! And we are willing! So please reach out to us.

REMINDERS and HELP:

- On March 21st, [Excellence in Education Award- Honoring Mr. Steven Hartman](#) fundraiser, we are looking for Wine donations. If anyone has any wine they can donate, please reach out to me at the contact info below. If you like to attend, please go to www.sccbsa.org/mateead. **We would love to have you there.**
- For [Manor Farm Field Day/Cub Fun Day on May 16th](#), we are looking for 6-7 Packs that are willing to help by running stations from 10am-4pm. This is a recruitment event open to the entire community. A great opportunity to get your Pack's name out there and recruit some kids. Please reach out to me at the contact info below if you are interested.
- [Pinewood Derby Impound](#) will be held during the March 12th Roundtable. Please fill out the pre-registration form at: <https://www.sccbsa.org/matpinewood> It will also have the rules and location of event.
- [Popcorn Breakfast Kickoff](#) - Is on **June 6th** at the Marriott Courtyard. We are looking for 2 representatives from each Unit to attend, enjoy some delicious breakfast and hear about how the Popcorn Fundraiser can raise money for what you want to do – attendance earns you a 2% commission boost. More information at this website: <https://www.sccbsa.org/popcornbreakfast>

Yours in Scouting, **Taliesin C Powell, District Executive – Matinecock**
talpowel@scouting.org, 631-924-7000 ext.131

“Scouting is a game with a purpose.”



Cub Scouting

Wolves and Tigers and Bears! Oh, My! (Since 1930)

The Big Book of No

Scouting has a lot of prohibited activities, especially at the Cub Scout level. There are many reasons for this. The first is that we simply need to keep the scouts safe. The second is that our insurance does not cover it. The third is that the activity might not align with ideals of scouting.

Some prohibited activities are no-brainers: blow guns, parkour, highlining, power tools, firearms on pack camp outs. These are clearly dangerous.

Other activities are not so obvious: climbing trees, dodgeball, boomerangs, pack participation in club sports, laser tag, water balloon launchers at fun-loving scouts. You might think, "Really? That's all we did as kids."

It may be even more confusing because several prohibited activities are offered at various BSA camps. The difference is that the BSA camps have BSA-certified individuals running activities in BSA-approved facilities.

Before scheduling events, it's always a good idea to use a mix of common sense and age-appropriateness to determine if an event is a good idea for the pack. Can someone get severely hurt? Does it match to the ideals of scouting? People always ask, "What's the big deal?" Why can't we play laser tag? (Scouting ideals prohibit scouts from aiming anything at people, but targets are ok.) But dodgeball is fun, though. (Same reason. The balls are being launched at other scouts that may cause harm/concussions, but Gaga is an appropriate substitute.) But I climb trees all the time! (Really?! Serious injury can occur very easily from scouts going too high or misjudging the strength of the tree).

It is always a good idea to consult the Guide to Safe Scouting (aka: The Big Book of No):

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>

Please keep in mind that the guide does not cover all activities. It is up to the pack leadership when something is not explicitly covered in the Guide to Safe Scouting to determine if the pack should participate. If it gives you pause, it might be best to find something else to do. There are so many fun, exciting, adventurous activities available that are safe and scout-like. It doesn't make sense to dwell on the activities that put our scouts in harm's way.

James Maltese, Cubmaster, Pack 66, Asst. Roundtable Commissioner, sm.pack66ny@gmail.com



Webelos Scouts

Bridging to Boy Scouts

Cub Scouts is a leader-run program with heavy adult participation from leaders and parents alike. Scouts BSA is a scout-run program where the leaders are largely in the background. Webelos Scouts should be preparing for this change. In fact, the whole purpose of the Webelos rank (aside from having fun) is to prepare the cub scout to become a scout in Scouts BSA.

During their tenure as a Webelos scout, the youth will start to take more ownership of various activities. They should have their Whittlin' Chip, so they are allowed to carry pocketknives to pack events. They can camp as a den and

attend Camporees. They can start to learn how to safely start a campfire. They learn how to cook on their own, how to clean up on their own. This can be incredibly freeing as a parent/leader, and incredibly nerve wracking.

The BSA has an Age-Appropriate Guideline for Scouting Activities chart that details these new, safe freedoms for Webelos:

<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-685.pdf>

As the scouts are introduced to these new activities, their growth and self-reliance will sky-rocket. Hopefully, their interest in the activities will also want to keep them in scouting and foster a love of the outdoors. It is a wonderful time to watch them learn and trust in their abilities. However, as leaders, we need to make sure they do so safely. All scouts will eventually get a little cut from their pocketknife. There is no stopping that. However, if we see a scout running around with an open knife, this is where we need to step in to prevent them from harming themselves or another scout.

As the scouts take over more responsibilities in the program, it is very healthy to let them run with many tasks. But the core of safe scouting must always be adhered to: Two-deep adult leadership, the buddy system, the Guide to Safe Scouting are always requirements at scouting events. As leaders, we need to maintain a balance between growth, fun, adventure, and most importantly, safety.

YIS **Greg Galustian**, Asst. Scoutmaster Troop 218, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner Matinecock District, Den Leader Pack 746 (Tri-CYA Outreach Pack)

Email: greg.galustian@gmail.com, Mobile: 917-653-6335



Scouts, BSA
Where Eagles Dare

For Your New Parents – A Scoutmaster Minute

The Hiking Stick

I'd like to introduce you to an item that is a good friend to many hikers—the hiking stick. Hiking sticks come in many different styles, from the plain dead branch you just found in the woods to carved and decorated staffs to high-tech aluminum models with spring-loaded tips. A good hiking stick can be a pretty handy thing to have with you when you're out walking in the country. Regardless of the type of stick or what they look like, they all do pretty much the same three things.

When you are going uphill, particularly if it is steep and rocky, the hiking stick can be a big help. You plant that stick in front of you, and you can use your arms to help pull you up the hill—you don't have to rely on just your legs. When you are going downhill, particularly if it is steep and rocky, the hiking stick can really help you. You plant that stick in front of you, and it helps you keep your balance, takes a little of the weight off your knees, and gives you that little bit of extra support you need. And when you're walking on the flat, well, the hiking stick is just a welcome companion on the trail. Yep, many good Scouts have a hiking stick. And just as a Scout should have a hiking stick to help support them on their journey; they must have adults who support them on their journey through Scouting.

When they are on their way up, advancing, taking in new experiences, facing new challenges, it's nice to have something sturdy they can grab onto to help pull themselves up, and the encouragement of those who have gone before them to help them along. When they are on a bit of a downhill, trying to keep their balance and stay

upright, they need that extra support and stability. And when they have a smooth, flat trail in front of them, it's just nice to have a companion to talk to, or just to share the silence with.

One of the most rewarding things in my life is to be a "hiking stick" for Scouts, to be there when needed, not just for my own children, but more often for other youth who need the help and friendship of an adult from time to time. We invite each of you to share that experience—whether you think of yourself as a shiny, spring-loaded model or an old dead branch, you have something to contribute.

Stuart Weinberg – Matinecock Boy Scout Roundtable Commissioner sbetberg@gmail.com

Join the Suffolk County Council chapter of the National Eagle Scout Associations 4th annual **Comedy Night Fundraiser** on Thursday, March 26th, doors open 6:30 show @ 8PM. McGuire's Comedy Club in Bohemia. Tickets are \$20. Flyers are available at the handout table & Mike has tickets with him tonight! Contact Mike Kramer at MKleader2@gmail.com for more info and/or tickets. <https://www.sccbsa.org/NESA>

2021 National Jamboree Staff Wanted!

Registration is now open for older youth & adults to participate as Jamboree Service Team (JST) members. Program, medical, logistics, operations and administrative options are available to those with vocational expertise, skills or a desire to positively impact Scouts and guests attending Scouting's premier celebration. There will be three JST sessions during the 2021 National Scout Jamboree to allow flexibility to desired applicants. Selected volunteers will be able to select a session that best suits their schedule when applying to serve at the Jamboree. The following sessions will apply: Session 1 (July 17-24, 2021), Session 2 (July 24-31, 2021), Session 3 (July 17-31, 2021). Visit this link to apply: <https://jamboree.scouting.org> or contact Mike Kramer at MKLeader2@gmail.com for more information. **NOTE: Participant registration is now also open.**



Venturing/Sea Scouts



Upcoming Area 2 Venturing Events:

VenturingFest 2020, the third national gathering of Venturers at the Summit Bechtel Reserve – is coming your way again from June 28-July 3! **VenturingFest 2020** is a special Scouting event at SBR that's **open to registered Venturers, Sea Scouts, Scouts BSA (age 14+) and adult leaders across the U.S.** This six-day high-adventure festival invites participants to explore the best the SBR has to offer. We're talking rock climbing, skateboarding, BMX biking, water sports, shooting sports, zip lines, challenge courses, Venturing activities and so much more! Festival-goers will also get to jam out to concerts and meet new friends at the event. **Sign up as a participant or staff member now:** <https://www.summitbsa.org/venturingfest/>

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

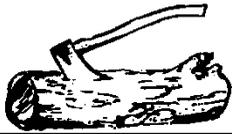
Please see the Area 2 Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/126120642299/>

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 Joseph's Church in Ronkonkoma from 6:30 – 8 PM. For more information, contact **Dave Ryder** at dryder1@optonline.net or 516-965-3382.

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

Upcoming Training

February 26th at
7:30 PM
(Wednesday)

District Life-to-Eagle Talk - a 90-minute program for your Star and Life Scouts. Without question, this semi-annual event is why 91 Scouts in our district advanced to Eagle Scout rank in 2019. (That's nearly 10% of all Scouts BSA in the District!) Give your older Scouts a leg up on the journey by having them attend the talk at **St. Anthony of Padua's Lower Church**. Registration is open and online: www.sccbsa.org/mat12e The event is FREE, and open to any interested parents and Scout leaders as well.

March 4th, at 7:30
PM

Eagle Coach training: Let's get a trained Eagle Coach in every troop! Perfect for an Assistant Scoutmaster or any interested registered Scouter. (We can also use Eagle Coaches at the District level, and this would be the first level of training for that position.) **The training will be held at St. Anthony of Padua, Lower Church alcove.** Register at www.sccbsa.org/matEagleCoach. We will work through a 7-page checklist that each attendee can use in working with a Scout. This event is also free.
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

Mar 27-29 &
Apr 17-19 2020
April 23rd (at
roundtable)

The Eagle Scout Project - What uniformed leaders and committees need to know! - This will be presented at the Scouts BSA break-out session. Please join us for a session run specifically for troop leadership and committee members. We will cover all the basics that you need to know before approving an Eagle Scout proposal, fundraising application or Project Report.

May 14th (at
roundtable)

Merit Badge Training and Panel Discussion - Everything you wanted to know about merit badges but were afraid to ask! This will be presented at the Scouts BSA break-out session. We will cover blue card procedures, merit badge counselor training requirements, counselor approval by Council and District, number of merit badges that one person may counsel, group instruction, and much more.

High Adventure Training 2020!

A revamped high adventure training program is in the works for Suffolk County Council. We will be coordinating training courses to cover Basic Backpacking, Winter Backpacking, and a new series on the basics to Paddle, Pedal & Climb! The primary presentation will be done at a location TBD but we also are looking for units that want to learn how to spice up their high adventure program themselves and can present specific topics as needed as availability allows. Watch for future announcements and if you have any questions or suggestions please contact Mike Kramer, SCC High Adventure Training Coordinator at MKLeader2@gmail.com.

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!

First, we still have units who have not completed and turned in their charters to the Council office. Please do so as soon as possible. Also, if you need assistance, please contact your Unit Commissioner as they are here to assist you with the process.

Next, the charters are still being processed at the Council office. If there are any errors found during the processing, your Unit Commissioner will be contacting you to fix the errors.

Finally, if you are a pack and plan on having a Blue & Gold for your pack this year, please let your Commissioners and myself know, as we would like to be invited to celebrate the accomplishments of your Scouts!

Thanks again for all that you do for the youth of our district and I hope to see you all at next month's Roundtable.

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

Matinecock District Religious Relationships Coordinator

Calling for any news items (for the walls) from anyone that sees an item in their local papers. Please check the District Website for more information and locations about Scout Sunday and Scout Sabbath services – there are opportunities for your scouts to attend/participate at a local house of worship through the end of February. If anyone has any questions about religious emblems and who to contact for their scouts, please contact me and I'll send you in the right direction/contact person for your specific religious beliefs. Thank you. Phyllis Stein (265-8141) or thecamerlady@verizon.net

Catholic Committee on Scouting:

Scouts who are working on their Ad Alteri Dei should be planning on attending the **Spring Retreat on March 21**. AAD candidates need to attend either the Day of Reflection or the Scout Retreat as a requirement. Pope Pius XII candidates need to put **March 28 and 29th required overnight** retreat on their calendars as well.

If a group is working on their awards that has not let the CCOS know, please send me a note with who is running it and who the boys in it are.

I'm praying for all of you who volunteer to offer these religious emblems and for all the cubs and Scouts working on them while I am on a mission to Haiti and will get to meet Haitian Scouts.

Interested in joining the Catholic Committee? All Catholic scouters are cordially invited to join. Contact: Eric Hansen 631-290-1314 eric.george.hansen@gmail.com

Jewish Committee on Scouting:

- **JCOS and annual Awards Breakfast – March 1, 2020** at Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge
- **Scout Sabbath Services** (more dates as we are informed/updates with times, addresses and contacts). At all of the Scout Sabbath services, a special commemorative Scout Sabbath patch will be given to all in uniform (scouting, military, etc.)
 - February 14 (Friday evening)
 - **East Northport Jewish Center Feb 14**
- See if your eligible to apply for the **2020 NJCoS Eagle Scout College Scholarships** (deadline March 15, 2020):<https://www.jewishscouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Eagle-Scout-Scholarship-Application-Fillable1.pdf>
- Pennacook Lodge's **Shomer Shabbat Order of the Arrow Ordeal** (August 19-21, 2020)
We will obtain the necessary Regional approvals to induct candidates from outside the Spirit of Adventure Council as provided for In the Page 25 exception (OA-GOA). This exception is ONLY for candidates who cannot attend any of their own lodge's ordeals for religious reasons.
- Pennacook Lodge is hosting, a Shomer Shabbat group as a part of its NOAC contingent. The fee is \$728.50. To register, go to:
<https://scoutspirit.doubleknot.com/event/2020-noac-national-order-of-the-arrow-conference/2612779>
This group is being organized solely for the benefit of Shomer Shabbat Arrowmen who, for religious reasons cannot travel on Saturday. For more info, contact Dr. Eli Stillman (ISTillman@bidmc.harvard.edu).
- 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 Sunday of the month**, unless a holiday or otherwise notified. Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge, 7:00 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

Fellowship Dinner – **March 19, 2020** – East Wind, Wading River, NY

Make plans to attend this year's dinner, reconnect with friends and be part of congratulating the following honorees from our district:

Silver Beaver Award Recipient: Christopher O'Connor (Pack 328)

Honor Spirit Award Recipient: Michael van Loon (Troop 125/Crew 872)

Have you reached a personal milestone (5, 10, 15, etc years) of service? Fill out a Veteran Award form and get it in ASAP, you will receive your certificate and pin at the dinner.

District Notes Matinecock Tenure Units being recognized:

Pack 75 – 25 years	Troop 410 – 50 years	Troop 106 - 65 Years
Troop 539(B) – 35 years	Pack 379- 50 Years **	Pack 5 - 70 Years **
Pack 539 – 45 years	Troop 403 – 55 years	

** received pictures

The dinner committee would very much like to include a group photograph of your unit, ideally with members of your charter organization, to be include in the journal and slide show. DEADLINE: Feb. 29. Please email a group photo to: g4fam4@aol.com and ra1739@aol.com, AND mputtre@hotmail.com.

Journal ads: If you would like to congratulate the above recipients with a journal ad please do so without delay! Whether personal or for a business, journal ads are a great way to support this event.

You can find all the links for any of the above at: <https://www.sccbsa.org/Fellowship2020>

Don't delay getting your tickets, the price will go up as we get closer.

Important links to sources of information:

Matinecock District: Website: <https://www.sccbsa.org/matinecock> 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/>

“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.