



# What's the Point

## Matinecock District Roundtable News and Events



December 8, 2016

### What's Up (Coming)

#### December 2016

- Scout shop closed for inventory 12/10 after 2:00pm
- Scout Shop closed 12/24,25,26 & 1/1,2

#### January 2017

- Jan 6-8 - Matinecock Polar Bear
- Jan 12 Roundtable & OA

#### Links:

[www.matdistrict.org](http://www.matdistrict.org) for instant access to Matinecock District news, upcoming events and program resources.

[www.sccbsa.org](http://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.

Matinecock District would like to extend our congratulations to Daniel and Liz Jumper, on the birth of their daughter

**Alexandra Joy Jumper**

7lbs 14oz, on 11/23/16

Liz is expected back to work after January 9th, until then if you require assistance please contact the front desk at the Council Service Center at 631-924-7000 or email Lauren Vlachos at [lauren.vlachos@scouting.org](mailto:lauren.vlachos@scouting.org) or Bobby Rabbitt at [robert.rabbitt@scouting.org](mailto:robert.rabbitt@scouting.org).

As the calendar is winding down it seems a good time to look back and reflect on the year we've collectively had in Matinecock. For the first time in many years we not only made our membership goal but also will reach 2% growth by year end. This is a testament to the constant work of the membership committee and all the units that are out there recruiting new youth year-round. We welcomed 60 boys to the rank of Eagle Scout. Friends of Scouting in Matinecock, once again, paced council with over \$60,000 raised collectively and popcorn once again saw an increase in sales. Webelos Woods brought over 1,000 scouts to Cathedral Pines and we had a solid contingent present at the council camporee in April. As we say goodbye to 2016 we can look back on all the great things we did as a district and, more importantly, what we did in our units to help our youth become better people.

#### **2017 Silver Beaver Nomination & Honor Scout Award**

It's time to recognize exceptional contribution by Suffolk County Council's volunteers & scouts. The ability to recognize these individuals completely depends on you. The **Silver Beaver** is the highest award that a council can present in recognition of a scout's exceptional service to Scouting and the community. Contact Paul Schmich ([matfox@optonline.net](mailto:matfox@optonline.net)) who is the Matinecock Silver Beaver coordinator with questions or for assistance.

The **Honor Scout Award** is in its second year and was developed to recognize a scout's exceptional service to Scouting and to the community. Contact Mimi Puttre' ([mputtre@hotmail.com](mailto:mputtre@hotmail.com)) who is our district's representative to the Fellowship Dinner committee.

Take the time to nominate those who have exceptionally given of their time and effort. Nomination forms are available on the council and district websites ([www.sccbsa.org](http://www.sccbsa.org) or [www.matdistrict.org](http://www.matdistrict.org)), and are due by 12/31. These awards and other recognition will be presented at the SCC Fellowship Dinner on March 23, 2017 at the Stonebridge Country Club in Smithtown (off 347 - Hauppauge).

*"Scouting is a game with a purpose."*



# Cub Scouting

*86 Years of Wolves and Tigers and Bears! Oh, My!*

## Lion Program Overview

Lion is a national program of the Boy Scouts of America for kindergarten-age boys. The Lion pilot is exploring the value of a Scouting program for kindergarten-age boys. (Boys must be 5 years old by September 30 and not yet 7 years.)

Lion is a family-oriented program. A youth and his parent or caring adult partner join Scouting together. A group of six to eight boys and their adult partners meet together in a group called a den. Dens will meet approximately twice per month.

The Lion program encourages boys to learn and explore through hands-on, high-energy activities. Adult partners take turns leading a den meeting or outing during the year. Most meetings last approximately 45 minutes to an hour; outings are slightly longer.

Den meetings and outings are facilitated by a Lion guide and participating parents. The Lion guide is an experienced Cub Scout leader. He or she will lead the first den meeting of the year. The Lion guide will help each adult partner lead one of the remaining meetings. The den meeting plans are provided in the *Lion Parent and Leader Guidebook*.

### **Adult Partner**

The adult partner participates with the Lion in fun meetings and outings. He or she takes turns with other adult partners in leading a den meeting and/or outing.

### **Lion Guide**

A Lion guide is a volunteer leader who provides direct support to your Lion den



# Webelos Scouts

*Bridging to Boy Scouts*

## TASK FORCE NOTES ON CUB SCOUT ADVANCEMENT MODIFICATIONS

With one year of experience, feedback suggests that the new design of the Cub Scout program did successfully address many original concerns, but also indicates an opportunity for further modifications. Cub advancement was down after the first year of implementation and we know that correlates to lower member satisfaction and subsequently, lower retention. Some Den Leaders are having difficulty fitting all the Adventures required for advancement into their program year given their number of Den meetings and weather/daylight issues for outdoor activities. Overnight camping is a significant hurdle for some. Duty to God requirements connote organized religion to some and are not seen as embracing a belief in God and spirituality outside of specific faiths. A task force was formed to draft modifications to the Cub Scout

Program that would address this feedback. These modifications are designed to ensure that Adventure requirements are achievable by today's Cub Scout dens within a program year and achievable by Cub Scouts from a wide range of backgrounds and socio-cultural experiences. In order to maintain the integrity of the engaging, mission-driven, and user-friendly new Cub Scouting program, every effort was made to change as little as possible. All adjustments are intended to strengthen and support the new program as well as to assist the youth, families, and volunteers engaged in Cub Scouting. Flexibility is key. Most modifications involve the number of requirements to be completed, reducing the mandate to a number achievable within the limited time available to many dens, while retaining rich program options that allow leaders to build strong programs adapted to local needs and situations. Some rewording fosters participation by boys who could not otherwise complete an Adventure. Guidance and input was from a wide variety of stakeholder groups and individuals. Contributors and reviewers included representatives from faith-based organizations and cultural groups as well as BSA volunteers with specific program expertise, recent grassroots experience, and current engagement in regional and national BSA leadership. We greatly appreciate the thoughtful suggestions, support, and engagement of all those consulted. Modifications should be implemented quickly to prevent another year of advancement challenges. Prompt electronic publishing (foregoing professional copyediting in an effort to get the material into leader's hands as quickly as possible) of all 2016-2017 requirements was determined as the best path forward, resulting in little disruption to the program. The transition will be seamless, with leaders choosing to use revised requirements as the den begins any new Adventure. The modified requirements can be used with the current handbooks, with relevant changes to handbook content taking place in subsequent editions. The entire listing of all modifications for each rank can also be found at [www.scouting.org/programupdates](http://www.scouting.org/programupdates).



## *Boy Scouts*

*Where Eagles Dare*

Often a question comes up about having a one-on-one conversation with a scout whether is in the context of a scoutmaster conference, merit badge counseling or just sitting down talking to a scout about his eagle project. So to clarify some points let's check with the experts:

**Question:** Must another registered adult or Scout observe the one-on-one conversation with the Scout and leader, even in a restaurant or coffee shop?

**Answer:** The BSA's Barriers to Abuse state: "In situations requiring a personal conference, such as a Scoutmaster conference, the meeting is to be conducted with the knowledge and in view of other adults and/or youth." The policy does not state another registered adult or Scout must be present. Conducting such a meeting with other adults/Scouts — registered or not — fulfills the policy requirement.

**Question:** Would performing a conference in a crowded restaurant dining area meet the standard for "no one-on-one" conversations?

**Answer:** As stated in the quoted policy above, a restaurant/coffee shop setting with other parents, Scouters or Scouts present is permissible.

**Question:** Is there a prohibition keeping a Scout from having such a conversation over video conferencing, such as Skype?

**Answer:** The same rules outlined above apply. The presence of adults (parents), Scouters and/or Scouts within visual range would make a Skype conference permissible.

### **What about on-line conversations?**

“No one-on-one contact between adults and youth members includes digital communication. Leaders may not have one-on-one private online communications or engage one-on-one in other digital activities (games, social media, etc.) with youth members. Leaders should copy a parent and another leader in digital and online communication, ensuring no one-on-one contact exists in text, social media, or other forms of online or digital communication.”



## *Venturing/Sea Scouts*



### **Upcoming Area 2 Venturing Events:**

- **February 4, 2017 – Area Training & Planning @ Camp Seton, Greenwich, CT** – Please join us for a day filled with many tracks of training classes for Venturing scouts and adults. Cost is \$10 to cover food and first 100 registrants get a free gift!
- **March 3-5, 2017 – PineGrove Dude Ranch** – Please join us for a fantastic fun filled weekend with an incredible array of activities for all Venturers. Cost is \$190 and includes all activities, lodging and meals.
- **April 28-30, 2017 – Apex @ Camp Moses, Russell, MA** – Please join us for the premier Area Venturing event of the year! Fun with hundreds of Venturers doing a myriad of activities!

Registration for these events coming soon to: <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&notif\\_t=group\\_activity](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCCVenturing/10153247391222695/?ref=notif&notif_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](mailto: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](mailto: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:

### National Youth Leadership Training: April 7-9th & 28-30th

NYLT is an exciting, action-packed program designed to provide youth members with leadership skills and experiences they can use in their home troops, teams, crews, personal lives, and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. Don't wait, the course is limited to 48 participants and we do expect a full course. For more information, go to: <https://www.sccbsa.org/nylt>. Registration for the Spring 2017 course will open soon.

### Staff Wanted for National Youth Leadership Training!

Have you completed NYLT? Are you ready to learn even more while helping your fellow Scouts? ***We are now accepting staff applications for our next NYLT course (Spring 2017)!*** We are looking for youth and adult leaders from Troops, Teams, Crews and Ships skilled in the understanding and use of NYLT leadership techniques who want to share the secrets of leadership success. Candidates should be full of enthusiasm, have good interpersonal skills, and leadership ability. To enhance presentation skills & topical knowledge participation in supplemental training & staff development sessions is required. To apply please send your contact information along with a brief bio including your Scouting background and leadership experience (in any capacity). Also please include your thoughts on your own NYLT experience and how it has made a difference in your ability to lead; plus, why you want to be a part of the NYLT Staff. Applicants should send submissions to Mike Kramer at [MKLeader2@gmail.com](mailto:MKLeader2@gmail.com).

**Please check out District Website for all flyers and additional information!!!!**

Matdistrict.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](mailto:bsataxi@optonline.net).



# Commissioner's Corner

## *Unit Service and Roundtable*

Good evening Matinecock District,

First, I would like to thank all of those who attended our District Re-Chartering event back on November 12<sup>th</sup>. The staff who attended were able to assist those who had questions with the charter. We will also be able to take the feedback we learned from the inaugural event and make changes for next year's event to better serve you.

Next, the December deadline for completing this year's charter renewals is fast approaching, so please work with your unit commissioner's to make sure they are completed on time. The quicker the charters are completed and turned into council, the better the council will be able to efficiently and accurately input any charter changes. To find out who your Unit Commissioner is, please go to the Commissioner's Corner section on our MatDistrict.org webpage.

Finally, I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing holiday season. Everyone in the district has worked hard to provide a stellar program for all of Scouts. I hope this holiday break gives you all some much needed rest with your families, and have you all prepared for more exciting events coming in 2017!

Have a Happy Holidays and Happy New Year everyone!

Yours in Scouting,

George J. S. Smith. Matinecock District Commissioner

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

[george.j.s.smith@gmail.com](mailto:george.j.s.smith@gmail.com)



# *A Scout is Reverent*

## Religious Committees Activities

If anyone has a contact date/location for the Scout Sabbath/Scout Sunday for 2017, please let Chris Coronesi or Phyllis Stein know about this, so that the dates can be added to our list of houses of worship for the upcoming year. We hope to have this listing ready to share in the January 2016 WTP so Packs, Troops, and Crews can plan to attend at least one service to participate in "A Scout is Reverent" during Feb the scouting anniversary month or at any other time that the local house of worship is hosting scouts.

### **Catholic Committee on Scouting:**

Come join the Catholic Committee on Saturday January 21 for the Cub Fun Faith Day and Boy Scout Day of Recollection. Both events will held at St. Elizabeth of Hungary RC Church in Melville. See our website for registration forms: [www.ccos-drvc.org](http://www.ccos-drvc.org)

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

**February 5** – Scout Sunday

**February 10-12** - Pope Pius XII Retreat, Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington

**March 21** - Cub Fun and Faith Day /Day of Recollection

**April 20** – Ad Altare Dei Books need to be submitted

**May 20** – Religious Emblems Boards of Review

**Interested in joining the Catholic Committee?** Meeting are held on the first Thursday of the month, St Joseph's 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](mailto:ccoronesi@yahoo.com) 917.748.1276  
[ccoronesi@yahoo.com](mailto:ccoronesi@yahoo.com) 917.748.1276

### **Jewish Committee on Scouting:** Save the dates:

- Scout Shabbats for 2017:
    - Temple Beth-David (Commack)- 1/6/17 at 7:30 PM (Fri)
    - Temple Beth-Chai of Hauppauge - 2/10/16 at 8:00PM (Fri)
  - Awards and Recognition Breakfast- March 5, 2017 (Sun) at Temple Beth Chai of Hauppauge
  - 27th Annual Northeast Regional Conference - 3/25/17 (Sun) in Albany, NY
  - SCC-JCOS Annual Conclave- June 2,3, 4 /2017 (Fri-Sun) Baiting Hollow Scout Camp
- Any Jewish Scout interested in earning his 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](mailto:thecamerlady@verizon.net)
- JCOS Chair Barry Kopeloff at 331-9460 or [dodey48@optonline.net](mailto:dodey48@optonline.net)

### **Protestant Committee on Scouting:**

For Information contact: Lois Accattato 631-275-6228 or email [lois40@optonline.net](mailto:lois40@optonline.net)

## High Adventure info

### **2017 National Jamboree:**

The Council provisional units for the 2017 Jamboree have been formed. Registered participants should now know what unit they are assigned to and have received other details including the payment schedule. If you have a Scout who has registered for the Jamboree but has not heard from anyone yet, please call the council office. There may still be some spots left for those who have not yet registered.

Adult staff is still needed for this event if you are interested check out the information on the Jamboree website.

### **Philmont 2018:**

The lottery is now closed and units who won a spot for a trek have been notified this week. Commitments and deposits are due in January.

### **Seabase & Northern Tier 2018:**

2018 Lotteries for these high adventure bases begin after the first of the year.

### **The Summit:**

Unit crew options for 2017 still exist for non-Jamboree weeks. Units interested in setting up their own trip to the Summit in 2017 can check out the available dates on The Summit website.



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Important links to sources of information:

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

Matinecock District email: [matdistrict@gmail.org](mailto: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](http://www.seascout.org)

National Jewish Committee on Scouting website: [www.jewishscouting.org](http://www.jewishscouting.org)

Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Diocese of Rockville Centre: [www.ccos-drvc.org](http://www.ccos-drvc.org)

National Catholic Committee on Scouting: to [www.nccs-bsa.org](http://www.nccs-bsa.org)

Shinnecock Lodge web site: <http://www.shinnecock360.org/>

Nissequogue Chapter web site: <http://www.shinnecock360.org/chapters/nissequogue/>

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### **January 2017 Cub Scouting Themes:**

Webelos I Badges: Citizen; Webelos II Badges: Showman (Music)

Scout Law/Pack Meeting Theme: Obedient/Cub Scout City Council

### **January 2017 Boy Scouting Themes:**

Boy Scout monthly theme: Sustainability

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

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

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“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](mailto:mputtre@hotmail.com), deadline: Tuesday before roundtable.