



Newsletter

Volume 26 Number 8 April 2010

COMING EVENTS

APRIL 2010

- 4/6- Troop Committee Mtg. & Board of Review (7:00 PM)
4/7- Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
4/8 - Diamond Rock Roundtable - Hoagie Meat & Cheese Slicing (6:30 PM)
4/9 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) Parents Build Hoagies
4/9-11 - Venture Quest at Horseshoe (Venture Crew)
4/10 - Hoagie Building (7-9 AM) Hoagie Pick-up (9:00 AM)
4/16-18 - **Historic Trip - Gettysburg**
4/23-25 - Order of the Arrow Ordeal & Service Weekend
4/30 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

MAY 2010

- 5/1 - Troop Yard Sale at the cabin
5/3 - Friends of 78 (7:00 PM)
5/4 - Troop Committee Mtg. & Board of Review (7:00 PM)
5/5 - Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
5/7 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
5/8-9 - **Blue Rocks Hike & Overnight**
5/11 - Councilwide Roundtable
5/14 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
5/15 - **Radnor Races (Save This Date!)**
5/16 - **Radnor Races Cleanup 8AM**
5/21 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
5/21-23 - OA Conclave

NOTE:

Camping Trips/Major Events shown in Bold
TROOP MEETINGS: underlined in CAPITALS
Adult Only Meetings: in Italics

NEW DADS NEEDED!

The April Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 6, at 7:30 PM at the cabin. The Committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month to guide and discuss the operation of the Troop. New dads are especially encouraged to attend these meetings to get involved in Troop activities.



GETTYSBURG TRIP April 16 - 18, 2010 Gettysburg National Battlefield

Join Willistown Troop 78 as we visit the most famous of all Civil War battlefields - Gettysburg!

What To Bring:

- Sleeping Bag
- Foam pad or Air Mattress
- Flashlight
- Warm clothes; gloves; hat with visor; knit hat*
- Rain gear
- Sunscreen
- Lip balm
- Rain/snow gear
- Sturdy hiking shoes or boots
- Wool or synthetic hiking socks (no cotton socks, no sneakers for hiking)
- Toilet articles
- Drinking cup
- Spending money for souvenirs (optional)

*Remember: It is best to dress in layers. Gettysburg could be quite warm during the day and cold at night, or cold all day. Who knows what Mother Nature has in store for us? **BE PREPARED!**

The TROOP BUS is leaving the cabin at 6:00 PM on Friday, April 16th. We will return around 4:00 PM on Sunday,

April 18th. The Troop will be camping at the nearby Camp Tuckahoe Boy Scout Camp.

Activities include both the "Billy Yank" and "Johnny Reb" hikes. We will hike both days (Saturday and Sunday). Wear good hiking boots!

How Do I Make Reservations?

CALL YOUR PATROL LEADER by Friday, April 9, 2010. Dads, tell your son to let his Patrol Leader know you will be coming. Dad's fee for food and admission is \$20. We expect attendance for this trip to be very high. Priority will be given to active Scouts, active adult leaders, active father participants, and CDL drivers.



HOAGIE BUILDERS NEEDED!

Calling on all parents, friends and committee members! The scouts have done their job of selling 1100+ hoagies. Now it's our turn. Please volunteer to help make hoagies during the Troop meeting on Friday, April 9th, from 7-9 PM and/or Saturday morning 4/10 from 7-9 **AM**. The more people show up, the faster and easier the task is accomplished.

Thank you!

WELCOME: NEW SCOUTS

Troop 78 would like to welcome the 20 new boys that have joined the Troop over the last couple of months. The new members are in the following Patrols:

Cougar Patrol:

Jack Dinsmore
Riley McCarthy
Henry Mashett
Dan McTear

Panther Patrol:

Michael Orlow
Ryan DeStefano
Riley Palmer
Vincent Nguyen
Luke Brogan

Moose Patrol:

Michael Giandonato
Matt Urban
Alex Nawn
Daniel Brown

Stag Patrol:

Harry Trednicks
JJ Long
David Finkelston

Rattlesnake Patrol:

Jack Lee
Graham Dore
Chris Medaglia

Welcome to the Troop family. We look forward to getting to know each of you and your families.



TROOP 78 GROWS BY 20, ADDING A SEVENTH PATROL

With the addition of twenty new Scouts in recent weeks, the Troop staff, leaders and Committee have decided it's time to form a seventh patrol to reduce patrol size closer to ten Scouts and provide for additional leadership opportunities. The Patrol Leaders and staff have chosen the name **Badger Patrol**, and traditional red and black patrol patches such as the one shown here will soon be available. We will be re-organizing patrols prior to our Troop meeting on April 9th. The goal will be to make each patrol equal in age and experience so that inter-patrol contests will remain competitive. If you should be asked to move to the new patrol but are unhappy, please contact the Senior Patrol Leader or the Scoutmaster. This is the first time in the troop's history that will have seven patrols.



SUMMER CAMP 2010 June 27th to July 11th

It is not too late to register

It is hard to believe but summer camp is just around the corner! Once again Troop 78 has reserved the Dan Beard campsite at Camp Horseshoe for two weeks starting Sunday June 27th and ending Sunday July 11th. The basis for our scouting program is camping and this two-week period is always the highlight of our scouting year.

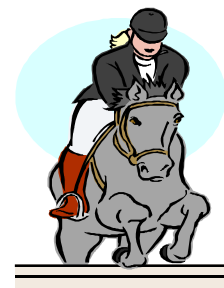
The cost this year is \$305.00 per week. **In order to receive the discounted price, your balance must be paid by April 30th.** The late fee is an additional \$35 / week.

New this year, all scouts are required to have a physical using the new medical form (Annual Health and Medical Record form). Medical forms are only valid for 1 year from date of physician signature. **You will receive a free troop T-shirt if you complete your medical form by May 14th.**

If you have not received a camp packet with all the information or if you have any questions at all, please contact Mike Trednicks at 610-993-8226 or Dave Schertz at 610-687-0366.

Dads don't be left behind, come and join the Troop for this camping experience. The cost to you is free; the value of your being there is priceless.

The cost this year is \$305.00 per week. **A \$35 deposit per week is due by March 12th.** In order to receive the discounted price, your balance must be paid by April 30th. The late fee is an additional \$35 / week. In addition, you will receive a free troop T-shirt if you complete your medical form by May 14th.



RADNOR RACES

Saturday & Sunday, May 15 & 16

Radnor Race weekend is coming up. This is one of THE MOST IMPORTANT WEEKENDS on the Troop 78 calendar.

We need as many people coming out to work as many hours as they possibly can. We especially need **ADULTS!** We will be out from around 7 AM to 7 PM on Saturday, May 15. The hours from 11:00 to 3:00 are the most crucial, but any time is appreciated. Clean-up is Sunday morning from 8 AM to Noon.

Remember, working at the Radnor Races helps:

- TROOP 78 EARN FUNDS
- SUPPORT TOUR COMMUNITY, AS TROOP 78 HELPS THE BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY PROTECT OPEN SPACE IN OUR AREA
- EARN MONEY IN YOUR SCOUT ACCOUNT

Your sign-up sheet should arrive in the mail soon. Please fill it out & send it back as soon as you get it. That will minimize unnecessary calls and e-mails both for your sake and ours. **PLEASE BE PROMPT!!!**

SATURDAY, MAY 15, & SUNDAY, MAY 16

TROOP AWARDS

Council First Aid Meet

The six patrols from Troop 78 all did very well at the meet on March 13th. There were three award levels based on the average rank of the patrol members present. Moose Patrol took a first place in the category with the lowest average rank, competing with their patrol leader, Nino Poidomani, and first and second year Scouts. In

the category with the highest average rank, Flying Eagle patrol, headed by Keegan Weiler, took third place, while the Cougar patrol, led by Dan Dufoe took second in that category, just 3 points behind the first place patrol from a different troop. Great showing guys!

Congratulations to Our Newest Eagle Scouts

Noah Eberhart
Joseph Poidomani
Sean Miller
Philip Chow

Scout Ranks

Nino Poidomani - Life
Daniel Dudt - Life
Matt Hogan - Star
Robert Varney - Second Class
Lee Neves - Tenderfoot
Tommy Walsh - Tenderfoot

Merit Badges

Eli Bravo - Personal Management
Chris Duncan - Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the World
Duncan O'Hara - Personal Fitness, Cooking
Joseph Smith - Personal Management
Sean Tredinnick - Citizenship in the Community, Horsemanship

New OA Candidates Tapped Out at Parent's Night

The following Scouts and Scouters were tapped out to become members of the Order of the Arrow at our annual Parents Night on March 7th. Andrew Dudt, Alex Krause, Chris Wang, Grant LePard, Drew Schenk, Kevin DeStefano, Connor Ritchie, Sean Tredinnick and Mr. Mike Tredinnick. Also elected but not present were Dean Lang, Tim Shallack and Mr. Brian Dudt. They will be officially tapped out at the OA weekend at the pre-Ordeal ceremony on Friday night. Candidates are encouraged to attend the April or June Service weekends to take their Ordeal, making you an OA member prior to summer camp. All current OA members remember to sign up for the April Weekend by April 9th to pay the discounted fee of \$25 instead of the full fee of \$40.

Adult Leaders Receive Awards

On February 26th at the Annual Chester County Council Recognition Dinner, two of our adult leaders received awards for their work in Scouting. Stan Conover was awarded the Extraordinary Service Award, an award given annually by each troop to a volunteer who gives that extra effort. Stan was recognized for his fundraising prowess, particularly as our popcorn Kernal but also for various other fundraising events prior to the 2008 KISC trip. Our Troop Committee Chairman, David Dondero was awarded the Silver Beaver Award for his years of service to Chester County Council, serving on the Council Board in various capacities for the past eight years. David was also instrumental in getting a 26-acre parcel of land in Exton donated to build a new Council Headquarters and is heading up the committee to build the new center. Congratulations David and good luck!

At our annual Parents Night on March 7th, two adult leaders, each with about 20 years of service to the Troop were awarded the Bellgrau award for extraordinary (and lengthy) service to Troop 78. Past recipient, Brian Rothberg first presented the award to Joe Cady for his many years of service. Joe wears many hats, and not just a cook's hat, for which he is well known at Winter Camp and at Pasta Nights but also as VP of Friends of Troop 78, the keeper of the Scout account "book" and the guy who gets all the awards engraved after each Court of Honor.

Joe then introduced Bruce Balmat, our next Bellgrau award recipient. Bruce has organized and led 13 of our canoe trips to Algonquin Park and has led troop backpacking trips on the AP trail for at least that many years, keeping excellent notes of each trip for future use. Bruce has also led our Friends of Scouting campaign for 15+ years. Congratulations to Joe and Bruce on their well-deserved awards.

KANDERSTEG TRIP FUNDRAISING UNDERWAY

By now, you've probably heard that the Troop is going back to Kandersteg International Scout Centre in 2012. With the trip planning well underway,

we will be starting a "DOUBLE BARREL KICKOFF" – thanks to a little help from our "Friends"- that is, our sponsoring organization, Friends of Troop 78! Friends is teeing up the following fundraisers to assist with the costs for the 2012 Kandersteg trip:

May 1st – Yard Sale – Held on the Troop 78 property, barn and cabin, RAIN OR SHINE!

Please keeps this in mind as you are doing your spring cleaning and set aside articles that could be donated for this event - let's call them "VINTAGE TREASURES." Andy and Amy Schenck are heading up our efforts for this event. Please let your family, friends and neighbors know about the up-coming event so they can also donate articles and do a little shopping on the day of the sale. We'll be posting donation drop-off dates, and lists of items that will not be accepted for donation.

Mother's Day Flowers – You will be receiving by email an order form to be used to take orders for the hanging baskets that we will offer. The cost will be \$20 each or TWO for \$35. Our grower is the same as the poinsettias so the quality should not be questioned.

Comparable baskets sell at local stands for 40 - 60% higher than our charge. Again, please keep family and friends in mind when planning this sale. The timing is perfect for a Mother's Day gift that will help decorate the home through fall.

Mark your calendar for the pickup of these flowers on May 1st, the day of the yard sale, inside the cabin. The Mothers Day flower sale will benefit both the 2012 Trip fundraiser and each Scout who sells flowers. Scouts get 15% of the gross sales price amount donated into their Scout accounts. That money can be used for anything for which Scout account funds can be used – summer camp, Florida trip, Canada, ski trip, and of course, Kandersteg 2012.

By the way – have you signed up for Kandersteg 2012 yet? The signup deadline is Friday, April 9. The signup form is posted on the Troop website at www.willistown78.org. Each person seeking to go must fill out the form. Forms for Scouts must be signed by a parent, and all applications must be

accompanied by a \$50 per person application fee. This fee will be applied against the cost of the trip for all accepted applicants and will be returned to anyone who is not selected. You cannot use Scout Account funds for this deposit but will be able to use Scout account funds to pay for the rest of the trip. There's still room but time's a-wastin' – sign up now!

ERNIE HEEGARD NOMINATED FOR BSA NATIONAL HALL OF LEADERSHIP

[Editors note: The Boy Scouts of America solicited nominations for a newly-formed National Hall of Leadership in honor of the 100th anniversary of Scouting in the United States. The article below contains the text of the nomination submitted by the Troop on behalf of Ernie Heegard.]

It is our honor and privilege to nominate G. Ernest "Ernie" Heegard, Jr. for enshrinement in the BSA 100th anniversary National Hall of Leadership.

Lifelong Dedication to Willistown Troop 78

Ernie Heegard is now in his seventh decade of service to Chester County (PA) Scouting. He joined Willistown (PA) Troop 78 in 1946, attaining the rank of Eagle at the age of 15. His interest in the Troop went far beyond his own personal advancement, however. While a Scout, Ernie held virtually every youth leadership position. When he reached the age of 18, Ernie became the *de facto* Scoutmaster of Troop 78. He assumed the official mantle in 1955, at the age of 21, and held that position until 1994. During that span, Ernie was also in the United States Army for several years. He was stationed in nearby Philadelphia and managed to continue his duties as Scoutmaster while serving his country.

It was Ernie who instituted Troop 78's practice of spending two weeks at Horseshoe Scout Reservation each year. His love of the outdoors spurred the Troop to visit Kandersteg

International Scout Centre – Baden Powell's "permanent international jamboree" – twice under his leadership. Those trips inspired the current Troop Committee to plan return visits to Kandersteg in 2008 and every four years thereafter. In 1958, Ernie began another Troop 78 tradition that lives on today: Each year, the Troop spends a week on a high adventure canoeing/portaging trip to Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada. The trip has been the pinnacle of many a Scout's career in Troop 78.

His tenure of over 40 years as a Scoutmaster is unmatched in Chester County and puts him in rare company nationally and around the globe. Ernie continues to serve as a member of the Troop 78 Committee and as a director of Friends of Troop 78 Inc., one of the Troop's sponsoring organizations. He still spends two weeks every summer with the Troop at the Council's Camp Horseshoe. Each January, the Troop heads to Horseshoe for a winter camping weekend and under Ernie's watchful eye, cuts 8 or more cords of wood each weekend – enough to furnish all of Camp Horseshoe with firewood for the entire camping season.

Stellar Record of Service to Chester County Council; Long-time Teacher

It would be easy to focus on Ernie's service only to his Troop, but his record of service to Chester County Council is even more impressive. For 29 seasons, from 1959 through 1987 – a period spanning four different decades - Ernie served as Camp Director of the Horseshoe Scout Reservation. His commitment to the Reservation is legendary. Perhaps the only instance in which Ernie will indulge in a bit of bragging is when he speaks about the Horseshoe Scout Reservation staff. "We could run a program on a blacktop parking lot," Ernie likes to say. The facility's fondness for Ernie is evident. The entry road to Camp Horseshoe is dedicated to Ernie. The camp's Achgekatum Fire Circle is named for Ernie's Lenni Lenape Vigil Honor name, Achgekatum, which means "Teacher." With 64 consecutive years

at summer camp, it is estimated that Ernie has spent more than ten percent of his life – *over seven years* – at Camp Horseshoe. His commitment to the camp may be surpassed only by his dedication to his wife, Betsy. In fact, the two were married at Horseshoe's Sgt. Frederick Schlaanstine Memorial Chapel! Horseshoe structures that were constructed by or under the supervision of Ernie abound and are too numerous to list out here. He is fond of telling his work crews, "C'mon, we're not building furniture here!" but anyone who has ever seen Ernie's craftsmanship or worked under his demanding tutelage knows better. Certainly, the students to whom he taught woodworking at Haverford (PA) High School for over 40 years know that Ernie takes on every project as if he is indeed "building furniture." And the quality of his work product reflects that level of effort, every time.

A Vigil member of the Order of the Arrow, Ernie served as Lodge Advisor to Chester County Council's Octoraro 22 Order lodge for over 20 years. To this day, Ernie is active in the OA and can always be found working at Lodge weekends, and attending OA conclaves. In 1965, Chester County Council honored Ernie's record of service by bestowing the Silver Beaver award on him. In fact, Ernie Heegard has been awarded dozens of accolades by Scouting, yet his uniform is simple and unadorned. When asked why he does not display any of the honors on his Scouting shirt, Ernie's reply gives the questioner a true sense of the man: "Scouting is about advancement, and advancement is for Scouts. I like to see the kids wear their awards. It's not about the adults."

The Legacy Continues ...

Ernie Heegard is a modest and unassuming man, and that has made him a wonderful role model for the Scouts of Chester County. He leads by example, and expects others to follow. And they do – although it is difficult to keep up with the man's pace, even as he approaches 76 years of age! Woe to the Scout who has been addressed by Ernie with this simple but piercing admonition –

"You've broken the Scout law." These twelve principles have guided this Scouting giant throughout his own life, and Ernie has made sure that they serve as a moral compass for the tens of thousands of Scouts with whom he has worked in over 60 years of Scouting. In his service to the BSA, Ernie has helped to make the Horseshoe Scout Reservation one of the strongest summer camp programs in the country. As Camp Director, Ernie hired and supervised staff members whose love of Scouting grew to equal Ernie's own dedication to the program. It is rewarding to see Scouters come forward with a newly minted Scout and introduce the youngster to Ernie, saying, "This is Mr. Heegard. I worked for him at Horseshoe." It is a scenario that is played out time and time again.

Ernie's dedication to Scouting is best summed up in the verse of the Camp Horseshoe song that was penned especially for him. It is sung twice each summer, when Ernie is in camp, at the awards campfire held at the Achgekatum fire circle that was named in his honor:

**He served this camp upon the
Mason-Dixon Line,
His years as Chief numbered
twenty-nine.
Achgekatum your lessons will
e're be mine,
In the loop of the Octoraro bend.**

In the Octoraro Lodge building at Camp Horseshoe is a poem that is carved into a plaque. The poem was read by former Chester County Council Executive Louis Lester at the building's dedication in 1959. Entitled "The Bridge Builder," this work by American poet Will Allen Dromgoole epitomizes a Scouter's duty of stewardship to the Scouting movement. The poem also captures the essence of Ernie Heegard, and his lifetime of giving to Scouting:

The Bridge Builder

An old man, going a lone highway,
Came, at the evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm, vast and deep and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen
tide.

The old man crossed in the twilight
dim;
The sullen stream had no fears for
him;
But he turned when safe on the other
side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting strength with
building here;
Your journey will end with the ending
day;
You never again will pass this way;
You've crossed the chasm, deep and
wide -
Why build you this bridge at the
evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head:
"Good friend, in the path I have
come," he said,
"There followeth after me today,
A youth, whose feet must pass this
way.

"This chasm, that has been naught to
me,
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall
be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge
for him."



WHAT IS SCRIP?

**Scrip is a term that means
"substitute money".**

When Troop 78 members purchase scrip, they're purchasing negotiable gift certificates that are used just like cash. The scrip is issued by the national and local retailers where many of us already shop. These merchants want to support non-profit organizations, and in return ask you to support them by shopping with scrip at their stores. You can use scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, clothing, and other essentials, and with every purchase, we earn

revenue for our organization.

How scrip generates revenue for you.

The Great Lakes Scrip center acts on behalf of churches, schools and other non-profit organizations to purchase large amounts of scrip from grocery stores, department stores, and other retailers. Because the scrip is purchased with cash up front, the participating retailers offer a substantial discount. Your organization buys the scrip from Great Lakes Scrip Center at a discount, and re-sells the certificates to your organization members for full face value. The bulk of the discount - from two to fifteen percent or more - is retained by your organization as revenue.

Scrip is "shopping cart fundraising."

The reason for the effectiveness of scrip is simple: families generate revenue through purchases they would make anyway. Groceries, clothing, toys, gifts, even gasoline can be purchased with scrip. An organization of 150 families easily spends between one and two million dollars per year on food, clothing and other essentials. If these families use scrip for these purchases, they can raise as much as \$40,000 to \$80,000 per year for their organization -- without spending an additional penny. Half of the proceeds will go into your son's Scout account.

Retailers like Scrip, too.

Families who purchase scrip certificates actively support the retailers who participate in this program. The reason is simple... they know that buying from a scrip participating retailer provides a steady source of revenue for their church, school, or non-profit organization.

We will be placing the next order on Sunday April 11th. Feel free to hand in orders at Friday night meeting or Saturday when the hoagies are being built. We do have cards in stock for ACME, Giant, and WAWA. This is a great way to build up your scout account

on a weekly basis.

Jim and Claire Hogan
Troop 78 Scripp Coordinators
610-644-8835
james.hogan@siemens.com

WRESTLING HONORS RECEIVED

Dean Lang, 210 lb. Great Valley School, and Trevor Conover, 155 lb. Spring Ford School, both received FIRST PLACE honors in their weight class at the Phoenixville Tournament. Dean ended the year with a 12-1 record and placed Third in the Division Championships.

Trevor's record was 16-4 and won First Place in the Quakertown Tournament (25 teams), helping his team to an undefeated season with a 16 - 0 record. Congratulations to both of you on your successful seasons.



Scouts Greet the Sixers



Newsletter

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