



Newsletter

Volume 25 Number 6 February 2009

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2009

2/3 – Troop Committee Mtg. & Bd. of Review (7:00 PM)

2/4 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM) CPR

2/6-8 – Matje Farm Winter Event

2/12 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable*

2/13 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

2/20 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

2/22 – ANNUAL PARENT'S NIGHT AND COURT OF HONOR (3PM)

2/27 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

MARCH 2009

3/3 – Troop Committee Mtg. & Board of Review (7:00 PM)

3/4 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)

3/6 – TROOP FIRST AID MEET Hoagie Sale Begins

3/7 – Council First Aid Meet (plan to attend!) 8AM

3/12 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable*

3/13 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

3/14 – Order of the Arrow Banquet (5:30 PM)

3/20-22 - Historic Trip – Quantico & Manassas VA.

3/27 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) Hoagie \$ Due

3/31- Troop Committee Mtg. & Board of Review (7:00 PM)

NOTE:

Camping Trips/Major Events shown in: Bold

TROOP MEETINGS: underlined in CAPITALS

Adult Leader Only Meetings: in Italics

NEW DADS NEEDED!

The February Troop Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 3rd at 7 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.**

NEW BSA MEDICAL FORM

There is now a new medical form for BSA, good for only one year. Current forms (if not three years old and therefore expired) are good until the end of 2009. After that the new form must be used. It is available on our Troop website. If you have any questions, please ask Mr. D.

THANKS!

Thank you to everyone as we head into our 4th successful month of



using Scrips! We have sold over \$16,000 worth of cards that have provided us with almost \$800 in profits. Half of the profits will go into your son's Scout account and the other half will go towards the Troop trip. Some other interesting facts are that we have sold over 370 cards, and we have over 600 different retailers to order from on a monthly basis. The list of retailers and order forms can be found on the Troop Web site.

We are stocking Giant, Acme, Wawa, and Starbucks's gift cards. Many parents are coming in, buying their cards, and doing their weekly grocery shopping during the Troop meeting. What a great idea as your sons can carry the groceries in for you when you get home. This is only fair since half of the proceeds go into their Scout account.

Last year most of the boys that went on the Florida / Disney trip bought Disney cards thru Scrip's rather than carry cash. It is a great way for them to start saving for the next years trip, since half of the money back from the gift card will go back into their Scout account.

We will be placing our next order on

Sunday February 1st for those non-stocked cards. We will take orders and sell cards at all upcoming meetings. Orders will be in for the February 6th Matje Farm Winter Event.

Sincerely,

Jim and Claire Hogan

Troop 78 Scrip Coordinators

POINSETTIA SALE SUCCESS

The 2008 Poinsettia sale was a big success. The Troop sold 826 plants and raised more than \$2,500. The top three winners were Zack Davis in 3rd place with 50 plants, Alex Frees in 2nd place with 60 plants, and Trevor Conover in 1st place with 159 plants – a new Troop record! We'll really have our work cut out for us next year to beat that record!! The winners received gift cards to the Scout Store, which will come in handy as we prepare for summer camp, which is only 20 weeks away (gotta think positive!). Thanks to all scouts and parents who helped with the delivery process – it was very much appreciated.

FATHER-SON WINTER CAMP

By Michael Bennett

When asked about desirable pastimes on a January weekend, many would pick sleeping, playing video games, and relaxing. However, only a minority of them would be inclined to cut wood. Troop 78, though, has always been a member of that minority. From January 9-11, 2009, the Troop kicked off the New Year by going down to Horseshoe Scout Reservation and cutting firewood.

The fun started on a bitterly cold Friday night when a few dozen Scouts showed up at the cabin, boarded the bus, and rode down to Horseshoe.

There, they claimed bunks at Browning Lodge, began Scavenger Hunt Part I, and played a few rounds of Capture the Flag. Soon, the games took their toll, and the weary Scouts collapsed into bed.

The Scouts woke the next morning and, after a lumberjack breakfast, went out to wood detail. For three laborious hours, the Scouts loaded wood onto trucks headed to Browning Lodge, where the logs would be turned into usable firewood. There were a few tree downings, the best one being when Mr. Stevens took down a massive triple tree that shattered as it fell to Earth. After a quick side trip to Buzzards' Rock and a grilled cheese lunch, the Scouts enjoyed a nice siesta before the real fun began. With Scavenger Hunt Part I complete, the Scouts went out to find things for Part II. Others shot rifles, took a Horseshoe history hike, and worked on merit badges. However, the afternoon's hot ticket was wood splitting. Some axes went through logs like hot knives through butter, while some logs proved more stubborn than mules. Just ask Webelo Percy Mottley, who needed half an hour and three wedges to split one tough log. Finally, dinner time came, and the wood-chopping stopped.

Finally, the night's best part came. The Scouts went out for Horseshoe High Score, featuring games such as Atomic Reactor, Scouting Trivia, Acid River and more. To close the night, the movie "Batman: The Dark Knight" was shown, drawing a record crowd of over 100. The next morning, the Scouts ate a cold breakfast, broke camp, and went home on the bus.

For the Troop's next trip, we will be sleeping in another building and enjoying more games. However, this trip will not be to Horseshoe: it will be to the famous Matje Farm, where the Troop will compete in the Inaugural Matje Olympics! We hope to see you there!

2009 MATJE FARM CAMPING TRIP – A GREAT TRADITION!

On Friday, February 6, 2009, the

Willistown Troop 78 bus will leave for the Endless Mountains of upstate Pennsylvania and head to the picturesque "gentleman's farm" of Mr. Bob Matje, Sr. For the newcomers to the Troop, Mr. Matje is the Chairman of our annual Radnor Races event, and a long-time supporter of Willistown Troop 78. For years, he's opened his Farm up to the Troop for a weekend of camping. Scouts get to camp out in the fresh hay of the Farm's 150+ year old barn (new guys – welcome to "First-Year Corral!"), while leaders and dads bunk in the farmhouse. One of the Troop's great rites of passage is for first-time visitors to hear Mr. Matje's loquacious presentation of "The Speech." And those of us who have heard it before always look forward to hearing it again!

The Troop's youth leaders are planning an exciting slate of team-building challenges and events that will be held on nearly 200 scenic acres. Snow permitting, you will be able to identify the tracks of different native species, including coyotes, whose distant howls will pierce the silence of the night. On Saturday night, the adults "crackerbarrel" in the Farmhouse kitchen, while the Scouts gather near the woodburning stove for an evening of relaxation while watching a movie. Those who don't want to watch the movie will be fascinated by the Farmhouse memorabilia, and the taxidermied trophies from Mr. Matje's hunting and fishing expeditions. The walls of the house, covered with pictures and collectibles, practically speak, and their "words" will fascinate you. After your visit, you'll agree that there's no a better way to spend a winter weekend!

The Matje Farm trip is long-standing tradition with Willistown 78, and everyone on this trip always has a great time. The Troop extends its sincere thanks to Mr. Matje for his thoughtfulness and generosity! For more details, see the Matje Farm trip handout at the Cabin. We want you to join us at the Matje Farm trip for a weekend of winter fun!

2009 CANADA TRIP INFORMATION



Yes, it is back for 2009 – the Troop 78 Algonquin Provincial Park canoe trip. The trip is a high adventure trip and will include beautiful scenery, lake front camping, canoe portage and an unforgettable outdoor experience.

The trip is scheduled for Saturday, August 1st thru Saturday, August 8th.

Here's what you should be aware of when considering whether to register for this "High Adventure" Troop 78 outing and what you can be looking for in the next few weeks and months.

The trip leader, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, will make any decisions with respect to an individual's ability to meet the requirements for the trip.

To register for this trip, you must provide a \$50.00 deposit to John Mateyk by May, 2009. The trip is will be limited to 18 people. Priority will be given to Scouts and Leaders of Troop 78 or Crew 78.

The cost of the trip is targeted to be \$400 per person with full payment due in June 2009. This includes exclusive round trip bus service from Malvern to Ontario, all the great food you can eat, a contribution to the youth of Whitney, Ontario, plenty of beautiful sights, and more than enough rigorous exercise.

Any funds not used will be returned to participants. You can withdraw funds from your Scout Account for this trip. Scouts making the trip for the first time will receive a new canoe paddle for their use while they are in Troop 78!

A schedule for planning, food shopping, equipment checks, packing meetings, etc. will be distributed in May. All trip participants are required to attend a trip meeting to be scheduled in early June. Trip participants are also expected to attend at least 3 out of the 5 planned shopping/packing meetings. We will need to prepare well over 200 meals for the trip.

All participants must:

Have a current passport – This is important, a passport is now required for travel to Canada.

Be registered with Troop 78 or Crew 78.

Provide the appropriate current medical form

CAMP HORSESHOE WISH LIST

Throughout the course of the year, HSR is always in need of replacement equipment, materials and supplies. If you have access to any of the items listed below and would like to make a donation to the Chester County Council, Boy Scouts of America Horseshoe Scout Reservation, please contact us. Any assistance in securing these much needed supplies is greatly appreciated. Here is a sample of some of the things they are requesting. A full list can be found at the Camp Horseshoe web site.

Campcraft

1/2" Manila rope 4 boxes
1/4" Sisal rope boxes 12
Binders twine 2500' 16 spools
full - size splitting maul 1
3/8" sisal rope 1500' 8 boxes
1 tent for model campsite 1
Backpacking tents 12
Backpacking stoves 6
Campsite tarps 6

Shooting Sports

Rifle

Rifle cleaning rods or kits 4
Ear muffs 11
Clear eye protection 8
Ear Plugs 800

Archery

Arrow knocks 200
Plastic Fletching 500
Arm guards 10

Spools of bow strings 4
Spools of serving thread 10
Arrow Tips 500
Arrows 200

Health Lodge

Tefla 3x4 5
Nitrile gloves large 4
Nitrile gloves med 4
Latex gloves large 2
Latex gloves med 2
Rubbing alcohol case
Fenestrated Towel Drapes 18x26 sterile 2 cases
Large Sharps container 2
Ear Specula case
CPR kits case
Bloodborne pathogen kits case
burn kits case
Ear Thermometer with covers 1

Non - Medical

Pillows 10
Vinyl pillow covers 15
Fitted twin bed sheets 15
Mattress pads 10
Twin Bed Mattresses 15
White board 3' x 5' 3
Copy Paper 10 cases
Ballpoint pens 6 boxes

Miscellaneous

2x4x8 PT lumber 225
2x6x10 PT lumber 125
1x6x10 PT lumber 150
Red and Blue magic markers 24 ea
working office type copy machines 2
Copy Paper 8 1/2 x 11 8 cases
Upright freezer (28" - 30" wide) 1
Residential type refrigerators 2
Cast Iron wood burning stoves 4
Working pickup truck 2
1" fire hose 1000 ft
1 1/2" Fire hose 200 ft
Working wheelbarrows 6
Corn Brooms 28
Push Brooms 8
32 gallon Heavy Duty Trash Cans 10
Fly Fishing rods/reels 8

Working lawn mowers 6
working weed eaters 6
3 ton floor jack 1
Pallet jack 1
10" Stihl Chainsaw 1
Truck Tire inner tubes 36
Leaf Rakes 12
Grass seed 150 lbs
Commercial coffee makers 2
Airless paint sprayer (Commercial grade) 1
15x25x1 Furnace Filters 4 cases

WINTER CAMP NEEDS

Snow shoes 12 prs
Sleds or toboggans **
Cast Iron "Franklin" wood stoves 7



Newsletter

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