



Newsletter

Volume 23 Number 10

June 2007

COMING EVENTS

JUNE 2007

- 6/1-3 – Order of the Arrow Service Weekend at Horseshoe
- 6/2 – Troop Garage Sale**
- 6/4 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
- 6/5 – Troop Committee and Board of Review (7 PM)
- 6/7 (Thurs.) – **TROOP MEETING:** Field Day Part One (7 to 9 PM)
- 6/7 – Diamond Rock Roundtable (Picnic)
- 6/8-10 – Order of the Arrow Conclave
- 6/10 – Field Day & Family Picnic (1 PM)**
- 6/15 – **TROOP MEETING** (7 to 9 PM) (Camp preparations)
- 6/16-17 – Rafting Trip**
- 6/23 – PLC to Summer Camp (3 PM)
- 6/24-7/1 – Horseshoe Summer Camp WEEK ONE**
- 6/25 – *Friends of Troop 78 Directors' Meeting* 7 PM

JULY and AUGUST 2007

- 7/1-8 – Horseshoe Summer Camp WEEK TWO**
- 7/28 - 8/4 – Algonquin Park, Canada – Canoe Trip**

KEY: Camping Trips and Major Troop Events: in Bold

TROOP MEETINGS: underlined and in ALL CAPITALS

Adult Leader Only Meetings: in Italics

SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

Please let us know if we missed your birthday. Send the information to newsletter@willistown78.org

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------|
| June 2 | Dan and Brian Sheridan |
| June 9 | James Mateyk |
| June 11 | Christopher Duncan |
| June 15 | John Nagy |
| June 18 | David Siegle |
| June 21 | Joseph Terrell |
| June 24 | Justin Sybrandt |
| June 28 | Timothy Schallack |
| June 29 | Brendan McFadden |
| July 12 | Gabriel McDonald |
| July 20 | Nino Poidomani |
| August 5 | Sam Davidson |
| August 6 | Jonathan Urban |
| August 8 | Philip Chow |
| August 12 | Noah Eberhardt |
| August 12 | Sean Tredinnick |
| August 14 | Matthew Morrison |
| August 19 | Nolan Dondero |
| August 21 | Kevin Lock |
| August 22 | Alex Frees |

ONLY TWO SLOTS REMAIN FOR WILLISTOWN TROOP 78 KANDERSTEG EUROPE TRIP – REGISTER NOW!

Regretting that you didn't sign up for the big 2008 England/Switzerland trip? Well, good news for you: two slots for this exciting adventure remain available, but only for a limited time! Don't miss out on the trip of a lifetime! Celebrate the Troop's 78th birthday and Scouting's second century as we visit London, the birthplace of Scouting, and Scouting's permanent jamboree site at Kandersteg, Switzerland

The Trip is open to both registered Scouts and registered fathers/male leaders of Troop 78. We can take two Scouts, two fathers/adult leaders, or a Scout and a father or adult leader. Scouts and Scout alums who recently joined the ranks of adult members (you guys who are between 18 and 25) will receive preference. Scouts must have been registered with the Troop by December 2006, must attain the rank of First Class before we leave for Europe, and must be active participants in Troop activities, as determined by the Scoutmaster, in his sole discretion.

Interested in coming along? Please call Mr. Bennett at 610-993-9776 for the details. But hurry – these slots are sure to fill quickly. We are looking to book our airfare as early as July of 2007, so we need to have your commitment now. .

25 YEARS OF BEING IN THE HOAGIE-BUILDING BUSINESS

by Jim Donnelly

Thanks to **Scott and Lori Vercoe**, and their very able crew, for conducting a very successful Hoagie Sale. 1520 hoagies were sold this year, and each year the sale gets

bigger and better. However, not to burst your bubble, but during the May 1982 sale 1561 hoagies were sold, and the Troop had two sales a year at that time. The participation of the parents and adult members of the Troop was great; i.e. cutting the meat and cheese and making the setups and subsequent assembly. The scouts did a fantastic job selling and delivering them.

As we were doing the "drill" of building hoagies, some of the new parents started asking me questions about past sales, how long we have doing this, how many have we sold, etc. I guess, because I have white hair, they thought I have been to a few of these sessions. They are right. The Troop started selling hoagies 25 years ago (1982), and it was initially started, and it is so today, to enable scouts to earn money for their Scout Accounts to use for trips not paid for by the Troop.

Now, some notes from the archives. The first sale was in January 1982. **Charlie and Jane Fry** ran the sales from that time until 1999, and there were two sales a year. Up to 1999, 32,500+ hoagies were sold. In 1999 we replaced one of the two hoagie sales with the Annual Popcorn Sale, and in 2004 the Poinsettia Sale was started. (Each of these sales mentioned, plus the Radnor Hunt Races, gives each scout an opportunity to earn money for his Scout Account.)

You must realize that hoagies were a lot less expensive in 1982 — but we also had fewer scouts in the troop. Everything being relevant!!!!

Anyway, you are doing a great job, Scott and Lori.

The total to date? Give or take a few, we are pushing 40,000!!!!!!!

ORDER OF THE ARROW UPDATE

Congratulations to all those who recently passed their Order of the Arrow Ordeals at the April Weekend:

Jack DeStefano
Nolan Dondero
Dan Dufoe
Mike Dufoe
Alex Frees
Matt Heilman
James Mateyk
Brian Sheridan
Daniel Sheridan

Also, congratulations to all those OA members who recently received their Brotherhood:

Kevin Compton
Kevin Compton, Sr.
Sean Miller
Joe Poidomani

Remember, the next OA weekend is from June 1st-3rd at Camp Horseshoe.

MAY 4-6, 2007 CANOE TRIP

by Grant LePard

A few days before the canoe trip, I got a call from Steven Lesley asking if I would like to be tent-mates with him for the trip. I said yes, and was looking forward to this. On Friday night we boarded the bus and headed to Paw Paw, Maryland. We arrived at midnight and still had to unload the bus and set up camp. We went to bed around 1:00 AM. Boy, was I tired.

When we woke up, I was already freezing cold. Breakfast was Spam and pancakes. That was only my second time ever eating Spam. Then we hiked through the Paw Paw tunnel, which was 1 mile long. At that point, we climbed into the canoes and began our 13-mile trip down the river. We saw many incredible sights. Lunch consisted of 2 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, Oreos, granola bar, an apple, and water. Then we went back to the campsite and put the canoes away.

On Sunday morning, we woke up and I was freezing cold again. Breakfast consisted of donuts and muffins. We broke camp and loaded everything onto the bus. We cleaned up the site making sure that we left it as we found it. We boarded the bus for the ride home. When we got back to the cabin, we still had to unload the bus and put everything away. It was a great time for me, and I sure enjoyed sharing a tent with Steven. That was my first canoe trip, and just my second overnight camping trip with the troop.

POTOMAC RIVER CANOE TRIP

by Nino Poidomani

On May 4th, some of our scout troop visited the upper Potomac River for a 13-mile canoe trip. We arrived at our campsite in Little Orleans, Maryland, at about 11:00 p.m. and we began to

pitch our tents.

The next day, we took the bus over to the other side of the river and we set off from there. I had a great time canoeing, and I think that canoe trips are one of the greatest Scouting experiences. The river was pretty calm, and it was a very nice day to be canoeing. While we were on the river, we saw a bald eagle, which was very exciting, and we also saw many other forms of wildlife. When we got back to the campsite, some of us wanted to go look at the Paw Paw tunnel. The tunnel was part of a very old canal that went through a mountain. We came back to the campsite for dinner and luckily it was tacos. They were very good. After dinner, we played card games and later we played Frisbee. At night, some of the adults started a campfire and we ate snacks like hot chocolate, cookies, and pretzels. Mr. Lang was nice enough to supply everyone with glow sticks, which are always fun to play with at night. We went to bed around 12:00 and prepared for packing the bus the next day.

This canoe trip was a great experience for me, and I'm sure that Scouts of all ages would enjoy it. I definitely recommend this trip for next year, and think that everyone who went came back satisfied and happy. I also think that most of us would come back to do it again.



Newsletter

Published monthly except
July and August by
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