



Newsletter

Volume 23 Number 9

May 2007

COMING EVENTS

APRIL 2007

4/30 – Friends of Troop 78 Directors' Meeting
7 PM [NOTE CORRECTION from last month's newsletter]

MAY 2007

5/1 – Troop Committee and Board of Review
(7 PM)

5/5-6 – Canoe Trip

5/10 – Diamond Rock Roundtable

5/11 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

5/12 – **Cabin Cleanup Day (8 AM to NOON)**

5/18 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

5/19 – **Radnor Races (Save This Date!)**

5/20 – **Radnor Races Cleanup (8 AM)**

5/27 – VFW Memorial Day Ceremony (2 PM)

5/31 (Thurs.) – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

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 & AUGUST 2007

7/1 -7/8 – **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

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 5 Ernie Heegard
May 16 Jim Donnelly
May 18 Greg D'Antonio
May 23 Matt Hungerbuhler
May 28 Kyle Miller

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

MAY 4-6, 2007 POTOMAC RIVER CANOE TRIP

Get ready for the Troop 78 Spring Canoe trip the weekend of May 4-6, 2007. This canoe trip will take place along a scenic section of the Upper Potomac River near Paw Paw, Maryland. We will drive to, and stay at a group campsite in Little Orleans, MD on Friday evening. On Saturday, we will visit the famous Paw Paw tunnel, where the C&O Canal goes through a mountain. Then we will continue a short hike to our put-in location along the Potomac. We will canoe about 13 miles of the Potomac, stopping along the way for lunch. Depending on the weather and water temperature, there will be time for canoe skill-building and for swimming. We will arrive back at our campsite before dinner. We will leave the Potomac on Sunday morning for our return trip.

You need to sign up with your Patrol Leader. Be at the Cabin at 6:00 PM on Friday, May 4th – we leave by 6:30 PM. We will return to the Cabin at about 2:00 PM on Sunday, May 6th. Specifics on the trip and what to pack are available at the Cabin.



2007 CANADA TRIP DEADLINE APPROACHES

This year's Canada trip is scheduled for **Saturday, July 28th thru Saturday, August 4th**. To register for this trip, you must provide a **\$50.00 deposit** to Bruce Balmat **immediately, and no later than May 11, 2007**. Make checks payable to "Willistown Troop 78, BSA". There are specific requirements which you must meet, and you can pick these up at the Cabin. The trip is expected to

be limited to 18 people. Contact Mr. Balmat (balmat123@comcast.net) for details.

TROOP GARAGE SALE DROP-OFF DATES

The Troop 78 Garage Sale is scheduled for June 2, 2007, from 8 AM until 2 PM. All proceeds from the sale will be used to help pay the cost of the Summer '08 Europe Trip. Credit will also be given to any scout who is not going on the trip, but wishes to help during the sale.

There are four drop-off days when you may donate items for the sale:

- Saturday, May 12th 8 AM until Noon (during Cabin Cleanup Day)
- Friday, May 25th 7-8:30 PM
- Saturday, May 26th 11 AM until 2 PM
- Monday, May 28th 1-3 PM

This will be a great time to cleanout your garage or basement and donate your treasures to the Troop. Remember, no stuffed animals, clothing, PC's, or monitors.

Please contact Darlene Matsinger or Scott Vercoe with questions, and don't throw out that old stuff just yet!



TROOP COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, May 1st

All scout dads are encouraged to attend!

CABIN CLEANUP DAY

Troop 78 has the great gift of owning one of the finest Boy Scout cabins in the country. It is indeed a beautiful facility, and one that we are all proud of. With this in mind, our Cabin is in need of some serious cleaning. We are holding a Cabin Cleanup Day on Saturday, May 12th from 8 AM until Noon. We ask all scouts, parents, and friends to help in cleaning the inside, outside, and yard area of the cabin.

Exterior projects include:

- Power wash cabin exterior
- Clean out gutters
- Wash windows
- Trim bushes, weed and mulch flower beds and walking path
- Fill parking lot pot holes, rake-out gravel piles from snowplow

Please bring any garden tools that can be used for these tasks. Call or e-mail Scott Vercoe with any exterior project questions.

We will also clean the interior of the cabin. Bring your cleaning supplies: mops, brooms, vacuums, furniture polish, scrub brushes, buckets, bathroom, and window cleaning.

Interior Projects include:

- Top-down cleaning of the bathrooms, including scrubbing the floor
- Cleaning the Committee Room: polish, dust, vacuum
- Clean the ceiling fans in the Committee Room
- Sweep and mop the floor in the Committee Room and Scoutmaster's Office
- Sweep and scrub the entry hall floor
- Dust, sweep, and mop the Meeting Room

If you have any questions, call John Mateyk at 610-993-9844.

Since we all enjoy the use of this great facility, this is a way to come and meet other scout families and take ownership of our property.

WILLISTOWN TROOP 78 SUMMER CAMP 2007 June 24th to July 8th *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 24th and ending Sunday July 8th. The basis for our scouting program is camping, and this two-week period is always the highlight of our scouting year. Your Troop Committee and leadership would like to have 100% of the Troop in camp this summer.

The discounted cost this year is \$270.00 per week. **In order to receive the discounted price, your balance must be paid, and your medical form completed, by May 12th.** The late fee is an additional \$25 per week. In addition, you will receive a free Troop T-shirt if you complete your registration by May 12th.

If you have not yet sent in your deposit, it is not too late. But please hurry! If you have not received a camp packet with all the information, or if you have any questions, please contact 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.



NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Just a reminder that all articles for the Willistown Troop 78 Newsletter must be received at: newsletter@willistown78.org by the 20th of each month. If you presently do NOT receive an email copy of the newsletter but would like to, please send an email indicating this and we will add you to the email list. If you would like to save a tree - and the Troop some money - also email us and we stop mailing you the newsletter. The newsletter is also available on the troop website www.willistown78.org.

LOOK UP, UP, UP!

Have you noticed the canoe up in the rafters of the Meeting Room? (A chore in itself to get it up there!!) Many people have not noticed, even though it has been there for several months.

Next time you are in the Meeting Room, look up. The beautiful antique canoe you see, made by Old Town Canoe Company, circa 1915, was restored by none other than our own Doc Lenker and his friends: Bruce Balmat, Bob Craig, John Parker, and the many Scouts involved with the Troop's Indian Dance Team. The canoe was donated by Doc to Troop 78 for all to enjoy.

Thanks to Doc and all the participants, for this nice gesture. It will be enjoyed and appreciated by many Scouts and Scouters for many years to come.

The Troop Committee



ADULT PASTA DINNER

At The Scout Cabin

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007

7 PM

\$15.00

All Cooking done by Men of the Troop

ALL YOU CAN EAT!!!!!!!

All proceeds go to the Troop for equipment, etc.

MENU: Pork au Jus with Broccoli Rabe and Shaved Parmesan
Clams with Linguine
Pasta, Salad, Beverages
GREAT, HOME-MADE DESSERTS
RESERVATIONS:

Joe Cady

610-647-4037

Come out, support your Troop!!!

A HOAGIE HAPPENING!

Congratulations Troop 78! Your efforts during this year's Hoagie Sale were tremendous with 1,520 hoagies sold, made, and delivered. As usual, it was a total Troop effort with many scouts selling over the minimum number. Special congrats to our 3 highest sellers who will be going fishing at the New Jersey shore in August. They are: Kevin Compton (70), Michael Bennett (84), and our high seller Alex Frees with 92 hoagies sold. Also, many new scouts who just crossed over sold a total of 354 hoagies. All sales have been credited to scout's accounts.

A huge thank-you goes out to all the parents and friends of Troop 78 for your work in making these hoagies. Many of you volunteered your time to help in 1, 2, or all of the "shifts" and I truly appreciate your efforts. Thanks especially to Laurie Vercoe who spends an enormous amount of time on this project as well.

We look forward to next year's sale!

HORST GREENHOUSE FUNDRAISER

Your scout should have brought home a flyer from Horst Greenhouses, the company that supplies our beautiful poinsettias. Horst is offering the Troop 10% off your purchase when you present the flyer at their greenhouse in East Earl. It is not far from Shady Maple Smorgasbord, so make a day of it! If you do not have a flyer, they are available at the Cabin or by sending an email request to newsletter@willistown78.org.

HARPERS FERRY TRIP REVIEW

By Joshua Nichter

I took my first camping trip with the Troop to Harpers Ferry in West Virginia from April 20-22. We left on Friday night and took a bus for 4 hours. When we got there, we set up our tents.

The next morning, we got up early and had breakfast. Then we went to Harpers Ferry Heritage Trail. We hiked to 38 different historical places, and had to answer questions along the way. I got the patch!! Then we

hiked to Maryland Heights for many miles and THAT was hard, but fun too! We had lunch along the way, and I ate a lot! We came back and had beef stew for dinner and a campfire that night.

The next morning, my Panther Patrol served breakfast and cleaned up. We packed up everything and got back to the cabin at 1pm. I made some new friends while camping. I had a great time and can't wait for the next trip!!

RADNOR RACES 2007

I know by now all of the members and families of Troop 78 have encountered Brian Rothberg over the years in his very important function as Manpower Specialist for the Radnor Races. For those families new to the Troop, Brian, or his assistant Mike Dufoe, will be contacting you to come out and help at the Spring Races.

The Spring and Fall Races constitute the Troop's main stability to finance the many functions of the troop. The Spring event is on schedule and will be held on May 19 (with cleanup on May 20) at the Radnor Hunt on Providence Road, Malvern, and the beneficiary of the Races is the Brandywine Conservancy in its quest to preserve open space in Chester County. Brian's main purpose in this function is to get as many possible out to this event. to serve in the necessary and designated capacities, as required by the Race Committee.

The Radnor Races depend on our endeavors, and it is a tremendous job to contact each and every family to determine who and how many will appear to work on those two days.

It is important to note that each scout's account benefits by the number of family and friends of the scout that appear for his or her assignment those days.

Brian has served the troop well in this endeavor for ten years, and enough cannot be said about his dedication to this event. I am sure that each and every family will do their utmost to make this another successful year at Radnor Races.

Bob Matje

Radnor Hunt Races Coordinator

THE SCOUT LOG

Willistown Troop 78 requires all scouts to maintain a "log" or "diary" of their participation in all scouting activities. This log should begin with the scout's entry into the Troop, and be updated as long as the scout is active in the Troop.

The purpose of the log is to record each scout's growth and progress with the Troop. The log must be presented for evaluation at the Star, Life, and Eagle Rank Boards. It must be approved by the Board in order for the scout to pass the respective Board of Review.

The log should contain brief notations and dates of all accomplishments and participation in Troop, patrol and Scouting-related activities. Examples of entries include, but are not limited to:

- Rank Achievement
- Merit Badge awards
- Troop and Patrol meetings
- Troop, District, Council, and National Camporees
- Troop, District, and Council activities and contests
- Summer Camp
- Troop weekend trips
- Canada and Florida trips
- Order of the Arrow achievements and activities
- Special Projects

In short, anything and everything that the scout does or accomplishes related to the Scouting program should be noted. Expressions of the scout's individual opinion – good, bad, or indifferent – are strongly encouraged. This includes personal observations and photographs, as well as facts about times, dates, and activities. Direct your questions regarding the Scout Log to Scoutmaster Steve D'Antonio.



EARN YOUR TROOP NECKERCHIEF

Have you earned your very own official Troop 78 neckerchief? The one with the distinctive colorful patch? If you don't have one yet, it's easy to earn. All you have to do is accomplish ten of the 27 items listed below. Have them checked off by an adult leader and approved by the Scoutmaster. Do it today!

1. Advance one rank since September.
2. Sell 50 hoagies in one sale.
3. Participate in a District or Council *First Aid Meet*.
4. Participate in a patrol that places first in a *Troop Field Day* or *Troop First Aid Meet*.
5. Attend ten Troop activities in a row.
6. Attend Father/Son Winter Camp with your dad or other adult male.
7. Serve as a Patrol Quartermaster for six months.
8. Participate in 1 backpacking and 1 canoe activity.

9. Participate in a patrol that places in the top 3 in a District event.
10. Participate in a patrol that places in the top 5 in a Council event.
11. Receive the *Recruit of the Year* award.
12. Qualify for advancement (Ranks or Merit Badges) at 3 Boards of Review in a row.
13. Camp with the Troop for at least one week at summer camp.
14. Serve on the staff of *Cub Scout Day Camp*.
15. Participate in a major Troop trip (one week or longer, but not counting summer camp).
16. Participate in 4 out of 6 Troop campouts in a row.
17. Pay Troop dues on time.
18. Perform 6 hours of Troop service.
19. Participate in 4 patrol meetings.
20. Serve as *Den Chief* for six months.

21. Serve on the staff of a *Webelos Woods* or attend with a *Webelos den*.
22. Participate in 2 Troop swims.
23. Write 1 article for the Troop *Newsletter*.
24. Advance from *Tenderfoot* to *First Class* in one year.
25. Perform 8 hours of work at the *Radnor Hunt* 1-day and/or 3-day events.
26. Participate in VFW Memorial Day Weekend Flag Ceremony.
27. Volunteer to work at the *Radnor Hunt Wildflower Ball*.



Newsletter

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