



Newsletter

Volume 24 Number 9 May 2008

COMING EVENTS

MAY 2008

- 5/2-4 – Canoe Trip: Potomac River
- 5/5– Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
- 5/6 – Troop Committee and Board of Review (7 PM)
- 5/8 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable*
- 5/9 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- 5/10 – Troop Yard Sale (8 AM to 2PM)
- 5/16 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- 5/17 – Radnor Races
- 5/18 – Radnor Races Cleanup (8 AM)
- 5/20 – *Pasta Dinner Fundraiser at Cabin*
- 5/29 (Thurs.) - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- 5/30 - 6/1 – Order of the Arrow Weekend at Horseshoe

JUNE 2008

- 6/2 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
- 6/3 – Troop Committee and Board of Review (7 PM)
- 6/5 (Thurs.) – TROOP MEETING: Field Day Part One (7 to 9 PM)
- 6/5 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable (Picnic)*
- 6/6-8 – Order of the Arrow Conclave
- 6/8 – Field Day and Family Picnic (1 PM)
- 6/13-15 – Rafting Trip (date may be changed)
- 6/20 - TROOP MEETING – Camp Preparations (7 to 9 PM)
- 6/21 – PLC to Summer Camp (3 PM)
- 6/22-29 – Horseshoe Summer Camp - WEEK ONE
- 6/30 – *Friends of Troop 78 Directors' Meeting* (7 PM)

JULY and AUGUST 2008

- 6/29 -7/6 – Horseshoe Summer Camp - WEEK TWO
- 7/26 - 8/8 – Europe Trip

NOTE:

Camping Trips/Major Events shown in: Bold

TROOP MEETINGS: underlined in CAPITALS

Adult Leader Only Meetings: in Italics

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- May 9th John Lotz
 - May 16th Alex Krause
 - May 16th Grant LePard
 - May 23rd Matt Hungerbuhler
- Please let us know if we missed your birthday!

NEW DADS NEEDED!

The May Troop Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6th 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.***



TROOP 78 GARAGE SALE MAY 10th

The next article drop offs are very important to meeting the goal set for this fundraiser. We need a final BIG push to try and reach the overall goal of raising \$1000 for each Scout going to Switzerland.

The experience and lessons learned from this endeavor will help benefit the FUTURE MAJOR TRIPS that this Troop will take. We need everyone's support in both supplying articles for sale as well as spreading the word to family and friends to show up the day of the sale. We are especially calling on the families of the younger Scouts to kick in and support this event. Although these Scouts will not be attending this trip, the next major trip could be in a few years and the Scouts who are younger now will be the ones benefiting from all the groundwork being laid now in preparation for this trip.

Remaining drop off dates:

- Friday, May 2nd 7 – 9 PM
- Saturday, May 3rd 1 – 3 PM
- Friday, May 9th 7 – 9 PM

The Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 10th from 8 AM until 2 PM. If you would like to help by putting up posters to help advertise the sale, please contact [newsletter at willistown78 dot org](mailto:newsletter@willistown78.org).

ADULT PASTA DINNER

At The Scout Cabin
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2008
7:00 PM
\$15.00

Sponsored by Men of the Troop
ALL YOU CAN EAT!!!!
MOMS' DELICIOUS HOME-MADE DESSERTS

RESERVATIONS, PLEASE:

Joe Cady:
Rick DeVirgilio:
COME OUT----SUPPORT THE TROOP!
SEE YOU THERE!!!!

RADNOR RACES SATURDAY, MAY 17TH AND SUNDAY MAY 18TH



Radnor Race weekend is coming on Saturday and Sunday, May 17th and 18th.

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 17. The hours from 11 AM to 3 PM 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
- BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY PROTECT OPEN SPACE IN OUR AREA

• EARN MONEY IN YOUR SCOUT ACCOUNT

Your sign-up sheet will be in the mail soon. Please minimize unnecessary calls and e-mails both for your sake and ours: **RESPOND PROMPTLY!!!**

SUMMER CAMP 2008
June 22nd to July 6th

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 22nd and ending Sunday July 6th. 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 \$284 per week. **In order to receive the discounted price, your balance must be paid and your medical form completed by May 10th.** 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 10th.

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 at all, 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.

RECORD SETTING HOAGIE MAKING!

In true Troop 78 spirit, our Scout parents showed up in force to set-up, build, wrap, and pack 1,400 hoagies for 46 Scouts. This huge task was completed in a record 1 hour and 20 minutes! Parents, your commitment to our sons and Troop 78 is truly amazing and we Thank-You! Special thanks to the veteran meat slicing crew who turned out over 15,500 fresh deli slices in 3 hours. That's some serious slicin' guys!

An extra special thanks to Laurie Vercoe, who even shortly after emergency neck surgery was instrumental (as always) in doing much of the prep work for this event, as well as the entire Hogan family.

Our top 3 hoagie sellers were:

- Tim Schallack 160
- Michael Bennett 110
- Jimmy Hogan 81

By their hard work, these 3 Scouts accounted for 25% of the total sales. For their efforts, they will be rewarded by fishing at the Jersey shore for huge flounder courtesy of Captain Bob Matje Sr.

We look forward to another successful Hoagie Sale next year.

CABIN CLEANING

It is that time of year again, to do a late spring-cleaning of the cabin.



When?

June 7, 2008 – this is the Saturday before the Field Day. From 8 AM - Noon

Why?

Troop 78 is a great organization; we have an unbelievable facility to use for our meetings, parents' meetings, field days, and other events.

What are we going to do?

Clean the inside and outside of the cabin. The cabin gets a log of use not only by the Troop but also by other organizations. So let's keep the cabin looking as good as the day it was built.

What will be cleaned?

All rooms inside, the main meeting room, the Scout Masters office, the Committee Room, the hallway, and the bathrooms. We will also do cleaning on the outside of the building.

What to bring?

Bring cleaning supplies for inside spring-cleaning: Wax, window cleaner, bathroom cleaner, mops, brooms, vacuums, etc.

For outside cleaning: rakes, brooms, hand saws, power washer, etc.

Who to contact with Questions?

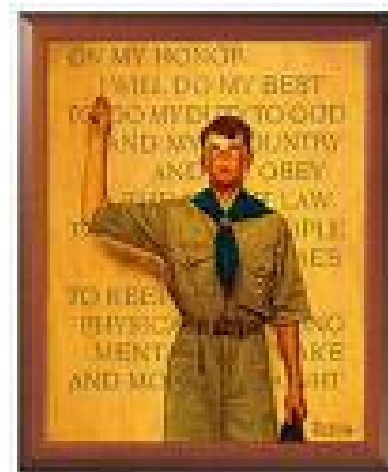
John Mateyk: Crew Chief/ Inside Jobs
Scott Vercoe: Crew Chief/ Outside Jobs



HATS OFF TO DAVID FREES!

Willistown Troop 78 extends a big "Thank You" to David Frees, Esquire, and his law firm, Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees. Mr. Frees, a popular Merit Badge counselor and father of Stag Patrol Leader Alex Frees, coordinated the activities for the Troop's recent camping trip to the Washington, D.C. area. Among the highlights: Mr. Frees arranged for Department of Defense civilian advisor "Buster" Tait to meet with the Troop in our campsite. Mr. Tait arrived dressed in the traditional Iraqi garb he wore during his recent stay in Iraq where he worked with local tribal leaders to provide jobs and life's necessities to people in Iraq's Anbhar province. Mr. Tait visited with the Troop for two hours, fielding questions from the Scouts, displaying tribal gifts he received, and showing pictures and footage he took during his visit. It was clear from the Scout's reaction that Mr. Tait's visit was the highlight of the trip!

Mr. Frees and his firm generously purchased and donated tickets for the entire Troop contingent – nearly 80 strong – to visit the Spy Museum in Washington D.C. during the trip. His planning, efforts and thoughtfulness made the trip a memorable one. Thanks again, Mr. Frees!



MIKE'S SPECIAL DAY

April 5th was a special day for Mike Spritzer. He was honored at a special performance by the Ahtaquaoweh Native Dance Team, '78's Indian Dance Team that he so diligently supported over the years. A full story of his dedication to Troop 78 is depicted by Ernie Heegard in the column following this one.

It was a packed house at the Garden Spot Chapel, the retirement village where Mike and his wife Kay now reside. Quite a few fellow Scouters journeyed from our area to honor Mike for his many years of dedication to Troop 78.

Along with our dance team, which so eloquently performed, several guest dancers shared their knowledge and experience of the Native Indian Dances, as well as two alumni from '78: Chris Bradley and Josh Hughes. All this was arranged by Doc Lenker, Dance Team Coordinator, Win Reber, and Bruce Downey, old '78 scouters.

It was a beautiful day in Lancaster County, and a special day for all of us who wanted to honor Mike. We think he was pleased.

LETTER TO MIKE SPRITZER

Dear Mike,
Congratulations, Mike, on this special day to honor you for your service and leadership to the Troop 78 Indian Dance Team. You have helped and inspired many, many young Scouts to take up the study of American Indian culture and become part of interpreting their way of life. Indeed, your leadership in Troop 78 has gone well beyond the Indian Dance Team. It started more than 25 years ago when your sons, Jeff and Tim, joined our troop. Both you and Kay pitched right in to help wherever you found opportunities. You joined the Troop Committee, became

a Merit Badge Councilor, and took on the position of Assistant Scoutmaster, where you soon became the troop's Advancement Chairman with all its demands and responsibilities. You tracked each Scout's progress through the Scout ranks: keeping detailed records and reports, preparing awards for Courts of Honor presentations, and maintaining all the advancement details from each year's summer camp - noting that this was accomplished prior to computers. Horseshoe Summer Camp has been a love of yours, as it has been for so many of us, and you always set aside time each year to camp with the troop and provide the leadership and experience necessary for our large troop.

Mike, you then expanded your Scouting influence beyond the troop level - to our Diamond Rock District, becoming a District Commissioner, adding all its meeting and responsibilities. Who can forget the extra time you gave maintaining our Troop ties with local Cub Packs by recruiting our Scouts for Den Chiefs to provide their young leadership in helping Cubs, Den Mothers, and Cub parents provide a quality program. Each spring you arranged numerous Cross-Over ceremonies utilizing Indian Dance Team members to graduate the older Webelos Cubs into Scout troops, many of them joining our troop through your efforts.

Mike, if all of this weren't enough, you somehow found time to publish our troop newsletter monthly, which was filled with important information for Scouts and parents, and included reports on trips, articles on upcoming activities, puzzles, and much, much more. The newsletter was a vital communication link which all of us found indispensable.

When Doc Lenker decided to revive the 'Ahtaquaoweh Dance Team', you were the

first to add your leadership to this project. A heartfelt thanks to both of you! What a thrill it has been to see how far you have taken the dance team. Very few have the slightest idea of the hours spent in helping Scouts make their regalia, learn the dances, and devote enough time for a heavy schedule of performances each year. The rewards are very personnel, certainly not the kind to hang on the wall. Rather it is the thrill in seeing many young Scouts join our troop and dance team, grow and develop into mature young leaders and attain the ultimate rank of Eagle Scout. A shining example of this is one of our guest performers here today, our own Chris Bradley.

Mike, all the best to you for all you have done for Scouting: our Diamond Rock District, Willistown Troop 78, our Scouts and their parents, our Indian Dance Team, and the furtherance of understanding and appreciating the American Indians' way of life!

Betsy and I regret deeply that we can not be with you to share in your celebration. We have a family commitment which was made last fall and unfortunately it can not be changed. We wish you a wonderful day and plan to see you in the near future. Best regards to all!

Sincerely,
G. Ernest Heegard
Troop 78 Scoutmaster, retired



Newsletter

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