



Newsletter

Volume 24

Number 3

November

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2007

- 11/1 (Thurs) – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- 11/3-4 – Staff Trip
- 11/5 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 -8:30PM)
- 11/6 – *Troop Committee* and Board Of Review (7:00 PM)
- 11/8 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable*
- 11/8 (Thurs) – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- Poinsettia \$ Due for Corporate Orders to be delivered 11/17
- 11/10 – Outback Fundraising Dinner
- 11/17- 18 – Backpacking Trip Poinsettia \$ Due for delivery 12/1
- 11/28 – Readyman for 4th Grade Webelos (help needed)
- 11/30 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) (Readyman)

DECEMBER 2007

- 12/3 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 -8:30PM)
- 12/4 – *Troop Committee* and Board Of Review (7:00 PM)
- 12/7 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- 12/13 – *Diamond Rock Holiday Roundtable*
- 12/14 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) and Holiday Party
- 12/17 – *Friends of Troop 78 Directors' Meeting* 7:00 PM

NOTE: Camping Trips/major events shown in: **Bold**, TROOP MEETINGS: underlined in CAPITALS
Adult Leader Only Meetings: in Italics

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 22nd Mark DiMonte

NEW DADS NEEDED!

The Troop Committee meeting for October will be held on Tuesday, November 6th at 7:00 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.

GO GREEN – OPT OUT OF THE PAPER NEWSLETTER

If you would like to opt out of receiving a **paper** copy of the newsletter in addition to the **electronic** version, please send an email to [newsletter at willistown78 dot org](mailto:newsletter@willistown78.org).



CANCELLED

NOVEMBER ADULT PASTA DINNER

NEXT ADULT PASTA DINNER
APRIL 2008

WILLISTOWN TROOP 78 FALL BACKPACKING TRIP SWATARA GAP/BLUE MTN CAMPSITE/RT 501

November 17-18 2007

**Come and explore a portion of the Appalachian Trail!
A great way to help prepare for the Europe and Canada trips!**



BACKPACKING ITINERARY:

SHORT TREK (for young Scouts and new backpackers)
- 4.1 mile hike from

Rt. 501 to Blue Mountain campsite
- Set up camp, if time take a day hike

LONGER TREK (for senior Scouts and experienced backpackers)
- 7.3 mile hike from Swatara Gap to Blue Mountain campsite

SUNDAY TREK

All participants hike 4.1 miles to Troop bus at Rt. 501

IMPORTANT: Both treks have rocky terrain. Wear hiking boots and wool or synthetic hiking socks. **NO SNEAKERS!** Equipment list will be provided. Be sure to **BRING PLENTY OF WATER!** Two Nalgene bottles.

SCHEDULE:

Participants meet at the Cabin by **6:00 AM** on **Saturday morning**. Arrive back at the Cabin at approximately **Noon** on **Sunday**.

Notify your Patrol Leader by no later than **Tuesday, November 13th at 8:00 PM** if you will be attending. If you do not own or cannot borrow a backpack, the Troop has a few to loan, but **you must let your Patrol Leader know by November 12th if you will need a backpack from the Troop!**

DADS WELCOME – AND NEEDED!

Have your son notify his Patrol Leader (see instructions above) if you will be attending, or call **Jim Bennett** and let him know. (**\$15 meal charge for fathers; no charge for Scouts**)

QUARTERMASTERS: Meet at the Cabin at **7:00 PM** on **Thursday, November 15th** to prepare equipment.

PATROL LEADERS: Meet at the Cabin at **7:00 PM** on **Thursday, November 15th** for food shopping. **HAVE A PATROL ROSTER WITH YOU!** Remember, we will be having a dehydrated dinner. We will split the group and go to the Acme and REI for provisions.

QUESTIONS?

Call your Patrol Leader. **See you on the AT!**



USED UNIFORM EXCHANGE

It's time to wear your winter uniform to troop meetings and events. If you have uniform parts that no longer fit, please consider donating them to the troop uniform exchange. You can bring any outgrown uniform parts that you no longer need to the cabin and leave them on the filing cabinet in the hallway. Check the drawers to see if there are any uniform parts that you can use.



TROOP 78 REGISTRATION

Troop 78 registration fees are due now. Willistown Troop 78 needs to register all scouts and adults each year with the Boy Scouts of America. Registration fees covering 2008 are the same rate as 2007. New this year is a reduced Senior rate.

The annual registration fee covers some of the cost of going on trips including fuel for the bus, the food on trips, a subscription to Boys' Life (one per household), and troop specific uniform pieces (patches, neckerchief).

2008 Troop 78 Registration Fees

- First Scout \$65
- Each additional scout in a family \$50
- Venture Crew \$35
- Adults \$50
- 1st Year Dads \$35
- Seniors (age 65+) \$35

Dads, please show your support for your son and the Boy Scout program by registering as an adult. Registration also helps the troop by making you eligible for attending any scout camping trip and for serving as a merit badge counselor where you can share your experiences and knowledge with the boys in the troop.

Registration form and check is due by **November 6, 2007.**

For a form or questions, please contact Dave Schertz e-mail me at Troop78registrar at Verizon dot net



SCRIP SALES BEGIN

We're pleased to share some exciting news about a new buying consortium program for our organization. It's called "scrip", and it's the buying consortium program that works while you shop. We are going to do a pilot program for the KISC trip, and after it is a proven success, it will become a regular revenue stream for Troop 78.

Scrip is simply a word that means "substitute money" – in other words, scrip is gift certificates from national and local retailers. They're the same gift certificates that you buy at the store. Many popular retailers participate in our scrip program including Giant, ACME, Wawa, Starbucks, iTunes, Home Depot, Outback, CVS, Walgreens, and many, many others.

You're probably asking yourself how these stores help us raise money. It's simple -- scrip participating retailers agree to sell gift certificates to our organization at a discount. Member families like yours buy the certificates for full face value, they redeem them for full face value, and our Troop keeps the difference as revenue. And scrip is exciting, because everybody wins:

- The retailer gets cash up front and repeat business...
- You get a powerful revenue alternative that involves no selling...
- Our troop gets a regular source of revenue.

The beauty of scrip is that you put your regular household shopping dollars to work. You earn money for our Troop without spending a single additional penny. Just spend your regular shopping dollars with scrip at the stores that participate in the scrip program! And scrip can be used for just about any household purchase including food, clothing, entertainment, gasoline, and even dining out.

It's common for people to wonder, "What's the catch?" The catch - if there is one - is that you have to plan your purchases a little bit. That's it!

What that means is what we all learned in Savings 101. "PAY YOURSELF FIRST – THEN PAY EVERYONE ELSE."

We all go to the grocery store weekly, and all you need to do is plan before hand. Come to a troop function (meeting, trip, Court of Honor, Etc) and buy you ACME or Giant gift card to do your grocery shopping for the week. You have just paid yourself with money that you will use for your groceries.

The Troop 78 scrip program promises to be a simple and effective revenue generating program that will be very beneficial for the Troop. There will be more information coming in the near future and we are hoping to have our account open and running by November 1st. Get ready to be part of the Troop 78 Buying Consortium to help the young men of Willistown Troop 78.

Thanks for your support,

Sincerely,

Jim and Claire Hogan

Troop 78 Scrip Coordinators

james.hogan at Siemens dot com

EMBROIDERED TROOP HATS AND JACKETS NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE!



Beginning October 26th, samples of Troop brimmed hats, knit hats, fleece jackets and leader's lined jackets will be on display at the cabin. All items will be embroidered with the Troop "loon" logo. Order forms will be available on the 26th and orders taken up to November 18th, for delivery by the Troop Holiday party on December 14th. Parents wishing to surprise their sons for the holidays will be able to keep their order secret. This is not a fundraiser, and all prices are at the Troop's cost. The older Scouts and the Committee have chosen some good looking items, maroon of course. The Europe Committee has decided

for several reasons that all participants (youth and adult) will wear the Fleece jacket on the trip. If you are going on the trip, please purchase a fleece jacket either now or in the spring (your only other chance to order). Additional items such as hooded sweatshirts and collared "golf style" shirts for leaders will also be made available in the spring.

We will provide detailed pricing information at the October 26th meeting, but you can expect that the fees will be reasonable and below market pricing for this quality of the merchandise.

POINSETTIA SALE BEGINS

The annual poinsettia sale has begun! This year we are hoping for more corporate orders this year. Parents, contact your company (or any other



company you have a contact with) and find out if they would like to support the scouts! The colors for corporate orders

are red, white and marble and they come in two sizes: Single – \$10 and Triple – \$20 (these are huge!). We will have a special delivery date for these plants on Monday, November 19th. It is easy to get a large order and deliver it all at once!

Regular orders are due on Friday, November 16th and will be delivered on Saturday, December 1st. The colors available for this order are: red, white, marble, burgundy, and red rose. For those of you who have sold in past years, you know that these are outstanding plants from a Lancaster County nursery.

If you have any questions, contact Stephanie Robinson. If you need further information or order forms, please email [newsletter at willistown78 dot org](mailto:newsletter@willistown78.org).

2008 KANDERSTEG TRIP

COMMEMORATIVE NECKERCHIEF CONTEST



DESIGN CRITERIA

Neckerchief color to be the same as Troop 78 standard neckerchief.

Size of patch / design not to exceed size of existing Troop 78 neckerchief patch.

Elements of design must include:

Willistown Troop 78
USA

Troop loon logo
2008

visual reference to Kandersteg

Optional elements:

Kandersteg logo

World Scouting logo

Visual reference to London

Deadline to submit designs:
February 1, 2008

Winning design announced at Parents
Night: February 24, 2008

Prize for winning design: Yes

RADNOR HORSE TRIALS OCTOBER 13, 2007

This fall's Radnor 3-Day event was cancelled after many years. Some members of that event's committee decided to hold the Horse Trials this year as a way to keep the tradition going.

Due to the 3-Day event's long-time support of Troop 78's scouting program, the Troop Committee decided we should offer our assistance at this new event.

The Horse Trials was a very low key affair. The vast majority of people at the event were either volunteers or participants. Our biggest challenge was judging how much help we would actually need. It was clear that Troop 78's semi-annual mass mobilization was not going to be necessary, we

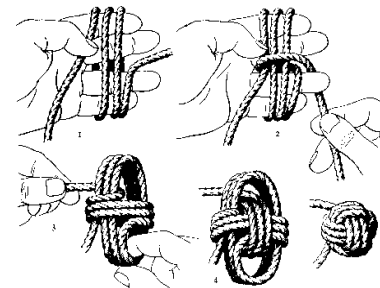
hoped.

We were correct. Only 3 gates had to be controlled. The biggest challenge was in the Wall Lot. We had to park 77 horse trailers. We set our "Twin 80's" loose and things went smoothly. The other 2 entrances were pretty easy.

Perhaps the Horse Trials will develop into a more significant event. If and when they do, surely Troop 78 will be on hand to help. We hope the majority of you enjoyed your Fall "vacation" from Radnor duty. We are counting on you this May at the Radnor Races.

Thanks to our volunteers:

-STAN CONOVER
-AL D'ANTONIO
-DAVID DONDERO
-JIM DONNELLY
-DUDT FAMILY
-BARB FOX
-JEFF LONGENECKER
-JOHN MATEYK (Troop 78
Coordinator)
-BRIAN & RENEE MILLER
-LOU RAVEN
-BRIAN ROTHBERG
-TOM SHAY



LOON ART AVAILABLE

Michael McNelly, a local artist, attended the Ockenhocking Pow Wow last month and was very impressed by the Mocassin Dance Team. Michael has a wide selection of prints available of Native American scenes and nature. One of them is a loon! If you would like to purchase a piece of his art, check out his website: www.michaelmcnelly.com. Tell him you are from Troop 78!

SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE

We had a great turn out for the Diamond Rock District Camporee at Fort



Mifflin the weekend of October 12-14. Even with the planes landing it was a unique and historic place to hold the event. A Ghost tour, raising the huge flag, weapons demonstrations, close order drill and a service project were all part of the weekend's activities. Congratulations to the Flying Eagle and Cougar Patrols who combined to take Third Place in the Cast Iron Cook-off competition. Congratulations, also, to the ten Scouts, anchored by Chris Gorman, who earned First Place in the Tug-of-War event. Two patrols tied for Second place in the scavenger hunt, and two tied for third. We walked off with a handful of ribbons. In addition, we were the only troop that performed a service project while we were there. Thanks to Sean Miller for doing double duty as both Patrol leader and Senior Patrol Leader for the weekend (as he did last year). Thanks to the following Adults for joining us for all or part of the weekend: Jim Bennett, Kevin Compton, Jim Hogan, John Lotz, Brett D'Antonio, Scott Lessley, Matt Lewis. A special thanks to John for organizing the campfire, and to Matt

for helping the District volunteers in organizing the weekend.

We have switched to long pants for the winter. Please check the uniform exchange for long pants if yours do not fit. The uniform exchange is in the hallway. Remember to donate what you've outgrown by bringing it to the cabin.

If you need to buy the Scout crew socks (short ones) for your winter uniform, skip the cotton ones and buy the green hikers with the red trim. They cost more, but they are much better at keeping your feet warm in winter weather, and can be used on winter trips.

Read (in this issue) all about the Troop backpacking trip on the Appalachian Trail, coming up on November 17 and 18. There will be no troop meeting on the 16th, but those going backpacking will meet to pack their gear ahead of time. Older Scouts will be available to help anyone who has never packed a pack before. A detailed instruction sheet on what to pack, how to dress etc. will be handed out at the October 26th Troop meeting.

Our annual Father & Son Winter

Camp at Horseshoe is coming up on January 4-6, so be sure to save the date! If you've never been, I would encourage you to attend for some fellowship and fun. Even the Dads get in on the fun and games, competing against the Scout patrols in hunts and skill events. Troop alumni welcome! You guys in college, come back and see us!

Finally, many thanks to Scott Vercoe who took care of the cabin grounds all Spring and Summer !



Newsletter

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