



Newsletter

Volume 26 Number 2 October 2009

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 2009

10/2 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

10/4 - **ANNUAL TROOP DINNER and COURT OF HONOR: 3PM**

10/7 (Wed.) - Patrol Leaders Council (7:30-8:30 PM)

10/6 - *Troop Committee Mtg. & Board of Review* (7:00 PM)

10/8 - *Diamond Rock Roundtable*

10/9 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

10/16-18 - **Council Camporee, Hibernia Park**

10/23 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

Popcorn \$ Due, Poinsettia sale begins

NOVEMBER 2009

11/3 - *Troop Committee Mtg. & Board of Review* (7:00 PM)

11/4 - Patrol Leaders Council (7:30-8:30 PM)

11/6 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

Poinsettia \$ Due for Early or Corporate Orders

11/14 - Den Chief Training (Downingtown)

11/10 - *Chester Co. Council Roundtable*

11/13-15 - **Backpacking Trip**

11/19 - Readyman for 4th Grade Weblelos (help needed)

11/20 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
(Readyman 5th gr.)

11/23 - *Poinsettia Early or Corp. Order pick-up at Cabin*

NOTE:

Camping Trips/Major Events shown in **Bold**
TROOP MEETINGS: underlined in CAPITALS
Adult Leader Only Meetings: *in Italics*

NEW DADS NEEDED!

The October Troop Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 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.

FAMILY DINNER & COURT OF HONOR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009

It's time to recognize our Scouts on their advancement during Summer Camp 2009. All of our Scout families and guests are invited to an outdoor dinner prior to our program.

TIME: 3:00 PM (SCOUTS ARRIVE AT 2:45, Patrol Leaders at 2:00 PM)

PLACE: TROOP 78 CABIN, 15 MILL ROAD (When our parking lot is filled, please park at the Baseball Fields next door.)

Each family is asked to bring a vegetable dish or Salad (last names beginning A-L) or a side dish (last names beginning M-Z). The troop will provide meat and vegetarian Lasagna, rolls and butter and beverages.

Scouts please inform your Patrol Leader of your attendance so that we may have an accurate headcount.

Each Patrol is being asked to have at least one family assist with set-up at 2:00 PM Sunday, and one family help with clean up after the event.

OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- OUTDOOR DINNER AT 3:00 PM
 - HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST SCOUT YEAR
 - CANADA TRIP IN PICTURES
 - SCOUT OF THE YEAR & PATROL OF THE YEAR AWARDS
 - PRESENTATION OF MERIT BADGES AND ADVANCEMENT
 - EAGLE COURT OF HONOR
- SCOUTS and ADULT LEADERS PLEASE WEAR YOUR COMPLETE CLASS "A" UNIFORM.**



CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL CAMPOREE OCTOBER 16-18 HIBERNIA COUNTY PARK "Past Present Future"

On the weekend of October 16-18, 2009, Scouts from Troop 78 and 75 other troops from Chester County will set up a tent city at Hibernia Park for a Council-wide Camporee. You won't want to miss the games, competitions, displays and excitement, or the Saturday evening campfire with a laser light show (shhh, the lasers are a secret).

Patrols will compete in games and competitions throughout the day including: Sports Trivia, Blind Tent Raise, Making and Launching 2-liter soda bottle Rockets, Killer Volley Ball, Orienteering, Scavenger Hunt, Stretcher Relay, Communications Skills, Blind man's Rope Maze, Five Man Ski, Fishing on a tarp with Mouse Traps, Shooting Range, and Rock Climbing.

Displays and events on the Midway will include: Trading Post, Jamboree on the Air, Search and Rescue, Philadelphia and Elmwood Park Zoos, Philadelphia Rock Gym, Sea Scouts, and the Army.

Look for detailed information below on how to sign up. See you there!

CAMPOREE INFORMATION FOR SCOUTS OF TROOP 78

MEET AT THE CABIN AT 5:30 PM on FRIDAY, October 16. THE BUS WILL LEAVE PROMPTLY AT 6:00 PM. BUS ARRIVES BACK ON SUNDAY MORNING ABOUT 11:00 AM

WHAT TO BRING:

Sleeping Bag
Sleeping pad
Uniform (complete Class A, short pants)
Extra Clothes
Rain gear
Scout Handbook (if under First Class)
Water bottle or canteen, **drinking cup**
Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, small towel
Flashlight
Extra shoes and socks
Sweatshirt or coat (weather dependant)
Pack in a soft duffle bag (no suitcases or wheels). Arrive in uniform.
We will be walking only a short distance from the parking lot to our campsite.

PREPARATION:

SCOUTS must tell your Patrol leader whether you are going by **Friday Night, October 9th**. If your plans change, you should call him as soon as possible. **After Wednesday, cancellations will be subject to a \$15 fee for purchased food.**

PATROL LEADERS should get their Patrol count to the SPL by Friday night. You or your Assistant will meet at the front of the Paoli Acme on **Thursday, October 15th**, at 7:00 PM to shop for patrol food. Bring your approved, typewritten menu with ingredients and quantities with you.

PATROL QUARTERMASTERS will meet at the cabin on **Wednesday, October 14th**, at 7:00 P.M. to sort out needed patrol and troop equipment, and load the truck and bus.

ASPLs and Junior Leaders should let Joe Poidomani know if you are going and for which meals you intend to be there.

ADULT LEADERS and Dads needed to attend. Please let Steve D'A. know if you can go and which meals you'll be eating with us. We will ask for \$15

for food from all Adult Leaders. (No charge for Scouts).

TROOP 78 REGISTRATIONS

Troop 78 registration fees will soon be due. Willistown Troop 78 needs to register all scouts and adults each year with the Boy Scouts of America. Registration fees covering 2010 are the same rate as 2009. Fees have remained the same for scouts and adults for the last 6 years.

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).

2010 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 October 31, 2009. For a form or questions, please contact Dave Schertz at Troop78registrar at Verizon dot net.

PASTA DINNER TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13th, 7PM

Sausage with Pasta Milanese
Baked Chicken
Vegetables Salad
Rolls & Butter
Coffee Assorted Desserts



Cost: \$15
Adults Only Please
Reservations greatly appreciated. Call Rick DeVirgilio at 610-647-9454. (Next month's Pasta Dinner is on November 10th.)

2009 POINSETTIA SALE

Believe it or not, the Poinsettia sale begins this month! Packets will be handed out at the October 23rd Troop meeting. Important dates to remember:



Sale Dates: 10/23 through 11/20
CORPORATE money and orders due: Friday, November 6
INDIVIDUAL money and orders due: Friday, November 20
CORPORATE plants delivered: Monday, November 23
INDIVIDUAL plants delivered: Saturday, December 5

Plant prices remain at \$10 for Singles and \$20 for Triples. Scouts will receive a portion of the proceeds into their Scout account - \$2 for each single sold, and \$4 for each triple sold. In addition, there will be some MY-T-FINE prizes for the first, second and third place sellers!

Let's set a goal of selling 1,000 plants this year. For questions or more information, contact Stephanie Robinson at srobinson at clma dot org.

FALL RADNOR RACE

What is this: This is a small, one-day competition. The event takes place at the Radnor Hunt Grounds in Willistown. The troop has assisted with this event for the last two years and the sponsors of the event have donated money to the Troop to be used for camping and other scout activities.

When: October 10, 2009

Help that will be needed: Six Scouts to help during the event, three Scouts in the morning and three in the afternoon and two adults to help with parking the caravans during the morning. We also need two adults with a truck in the afternoon to pick up the trash.

Time: Start at 6:00 AM for parking Caravans; start 8:00 AM for Scouts. Contact John Mateyk if you are available to help at this event.



RUN FOR SCOUTING

Congratulations to Frank Cecco who finished third in his age group in the 6th Run for Scouting, Frank finished the 5K in 23:19 only 51 seconds behind first in his age group. Frank finished 25th overall, with a pace of 7:31.



HISTORIC SUGARTOWN EVENT

Historic Sugartown is having an event on Saturday, November 1, from 2 to 5 PM and would like two adults and four Scouts to assist with parking cars. The location is off of Spring Road and Sugartown Road at the Historic Sugartown site behind Peg Nagy's house. This will count toward community service hours for your rank advancement. Please let Mr. D know if you can assist. Arrive around 1:30 to set up the lot with ropes.

ADULT NECKERCHIEFS REQUIREMENTS

As we announced in the September 2009 *Newsletter*, beginning with the 2009-2010 Scouting year, adults have the opportunity to earn a Troop neckerchief. After careful consideration, the requirements have been established as follows:

Registration: Be a registered member of Troop 78. Registered adults are eligible to participate in Troop activities, including camping.

Uniform: Have a complete Troop 78 Scout uniform, and wear it to appropriate Scout functions. The uniform consists of a BSA regulation long-sleeved shirt, complete with "Willistown" strip and "78" insignia (these insignias are available from Mr. D.); uniform pants (long) and uniform shorts; green BSA crew socks for long pants, and knee-high socks for shorts (again, see Mr. D. regarding color of long socks); Scout, HSR or Philmont belt; and brown hiking boots. Remember that the uniform shirt is worn with a pen in the left shirt pocket.

Training: Complete the following training courses: [Fast Start](#), [Youth Protection](#) and [This Is Scouting](#) (all available on-line at www.cccbsa.org); American Red Cross CPR (offered

through the Troop at a time and date TBA); as well as either (a) Boy Scout Leader Specific, or (b) both Hazardous Weather (on-line at www.cccbsa.org) and Troop Committee Challenge (also an on-line course).

Leadership: Sign up to be a merit badge counselor, or serve on the Troop Committee. Take an active leadership role in a Troop activity; for example, plan a camping trip, or take on other positions of leadership as the Troop Committee Chair and Scoutmaster deem appropriate.

Camping: Attend two weekend camping trips, and spend at least two nights with the Troop at summer camp.

A checklist containing these requirements will be sent by email and is available at the Cabin.

The Troop neckerchief sports a beautifully embroidered patch designed by the Troop's artist-in-residence and proud "Old Loon" member, Win Reber. The patch depicts the Troop's signature Canadian high adventure canoe trip. We look forward to increasing the ranks of those who wear the neckerchief as more adults extend their involvement with the Troop and its Scouting program. Please see Mr. D. if you have any questions.



ADVENTURE CANOE TRIP PART I

During the first week of August, Troop 78 took their 2009 canoe trip to Algonquin Provincial Park. This year, there were 12 participants on the trip, 6 adult leaders and 6 scouts. The group left the cabin early Saturday morning, August 1, at 6:00 AM with our objective in mind, Bancroft, Ontario. Travel time from Malvern to Watertown was 6 hours; we ate lunch in Watertown, and then continued the trip north. We crossed the border with no issues and arrived in Bancroft by 4:30 PM. We greatly enjoyed Vito's Pizza for dinner. After dinner we got

in the vehicles again and headed northeast for our stay at Sunny Hill Resort in Barry's Bay, Ontario.

On Sunday we awoke to a partially cloudy day and did a grab-and-go breakfast, leaving the camp site at 8:00 and heading for the water taxi at Opeongo Lake. The parking lots were packed due to the Canadian civic holiday but we were able to find spots for the van and for Mr. D's truck.

We packed the taxis starting at 10:30 and we were on our way by 11:00 AM, arriving at the put in by 11:30. After the 2300 meter portage all arrived at the Happy Isle put in, in time for lunch. During lunch, the wind started to pick up so that when we got on the lake at 1:00 we were heading directly into the wind.

All of the canoe teams were evenly matched except for Brad Bene and Mark DiMonte; both of these Scouts had their canoeing merit badge but did not have any open water experience. After about a one-and-a-half-hour paddle, we reached the calm waters around the Happy Isle island, except for Bene and Demonte who were still paddling.

A rescue party of Mark Seigel and Brett D'antonio went out to get Bene and DiMonte. Surprisingly, Bene and DiMonte did not swamp the canoe even though they were weaving back and forth on their trip. Brett and Mark made it out to their canoe and began the towing operation. Due to the light weight of the canoe and the winds, Brett and Mark did swamp their canoe. They were able to right the canoe in record time and performed a textbook example of righting a swamped canoe.

Once the rescuers and rescued got to the island, we waited for about an hour, hoping that the wind would die down, which it never did, and we also scouted the best way around the island. Mr. D and Brett took the lead and headed around the left hand side of the island since the wind was too strong on the other side of the island. The first part of the trip was to cut across to the far left shore of Happy Isle and follow along the calm shore line. After about a half-mile paddle in

protected shore line, we headed out into the windy open water again. This time we had moved around the canoe partners: Brad Bene was with Joe Smith and Mark DeMonte was with Mark Seigle. This worked out quite well. We had to paddle into the wind for about an hour until we got to the north shore of the lake where the water was calm enough so that we could follow the lake until we got to the Merchant Lake portage.

We crossed the portage and arrived on Merchant Lake around 4:00. Steve and Bret set off for the eastern side of the lake to look for a campsite and Mark and Mark set off for the western side of the lake. We found a camp site on the western side of the lake that was big enough to fit the 5 tents.

Dinner that evening was a real introduction to roughing it: steak, mashed potatoes and baked beans. Capping off the evening were brownies and the full moon rising over a very still lake. After a short church service, it was early to bed to prepare for a day of paddling on Monday.

Monday morning we awoke early, had breakfast and were on the lake by 7:00 AM with calm water, cool and sunny weather. Crossing Merchant Lake in record time, we had a small portage to the waters that lead into Big Trout Lake. We arrived at Big Trout Lake and the wind kicked up again, but we had a target to make it to a large island with a campsite, allowing the group to take a break.

After a short break on the island, we left the island, rounded to the left side

and headed for the portage to Longer Lake. Due to the geography of the lake, the wind was at our left-hand side but we were able to avoid most of the wind by hugging the shore line.

Paddling was very nice; there was some wind, but keeping toward the shore, we were able to be somewhat sheltered. We crossed the portage from Big Trout to Longer Lake and headed for the first campsite on the lake for lunch. This was quite an acrobatic feat to get to this campsite, not many places to tie up the canoe and a vertical walk up a cliff to lunch.

After lunch we headed for Burnt Root Lake. We had a 45 minute paddle through Longer Lake which was broken up by a short portage and then small rapids that we ran with loaded canoes. From the campsite on Longer Lake, it was a 2-hour paddle to the campsite on Burnt Root. We arrived on Burnt Root around 3:00 and set up camp on the "Anchor Site." This is a great site; we were able to find camping sites for all of the tents, a nice area for setting up the kitchen and a beautiful view. Since parts of this site are exposed, we did have a

windy evening. Dinner for the evening was spaghetti and meat sauce with Cinnabon for desert.

Tuesday was the layover day for the trip so everyone was able to sleep in until 8:00. Since there was no plan for the day, there was enough time to cook pancakes and bacon for breakfast. After breakfast, swimming, reading or relaxing was on the agenda. Since it was windy, cloudy and not too warm, the swimming option was not as popular as it was during previous Algonquin trips.

After lunch of tuna, crackers and cheese, there was more time for reading, relaxing and swimming. Joe Smith and Brad Bene went on a wood gathering trip and came back with a canoe filled with dried cedar. Mark Seigle was inspired to do some sailing since he had a hammock and quite a windy day. The sailing apparatus was a success. The boys pitched in to create the catamaran using two of the canoes, constructed the mast and manned the sail boat. They were able to complete two trips in the canoe.

(To be concluded next month)



Newsletter

Willistown Troop 78
Chester County Council, B.S.A.
Steve D'Antonio Scoutmaster
Renee Miller Editor
Email: newsletter at willistown78 dot org
Cabin: 610.644.8702