



Newsletter

Volume 31

Number 8

April 2015

CALENDAR

APRIL 2015

4/7 - Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.

4/8 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 to 8:30 PM)

4/9 – Diamond Rock District Roundtable

4/10 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
Parents Build Hoagies

4/11 – Build and Deliver Hoagies

4/14 – Friends of 78 Pasta Nite 7 PM @ Cabin

4/18 - Canoe Trip

4/24-26 - Order of the Arrow Ordeal & Service Weekend @ HSR

MAY 2015

5/1 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

5/1-3 – NYLT Youth Leadership Training Weekend 1

5/4 - Friends of Troop 78 Board Meeting (7PM)

5/5 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.

5/6– Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 to 8:30 PM)

5/8 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

5/9 - Troop Yard Sale and Flower Sale
8:00-Noon

5/8-10 – NYLT Youth Leadership Training Weekend 2

5/15 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

5/16 – Radnor Races – Volunteers Needed! (Save This Date!)

5/17 – Radnor Races Cleanup - 8AM

5/29-31 – Rafting Trip

5/30 – PARC Dedication Ceremony

5/31 – C.C.C. 2014 Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner, 4:30 PM

NOTE: Camping Trips/Major Events shown in Bold. TROOP MEETINGS underlined in CAPITALS. Adult only meetings in Italics.

NEW DADS NEEDED!

The April Troop Committee meeting

will be held on Tuesday, April 7th, at 7:30 PM, at the cabin. The committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month to guide and discuss the operation of the troop.

CANOEING DAY TRIP

Saturday, April 18

Troop 78 has a long history of outstanding canoeing trips. These trips serve as the “antipasto” for the troop’s signature, weeklong annual canoeing trip to Algonquin Provincial Park in Canada. Once again, we are planning to have a great day on the water for all Troop 78 scouts, visitors and fathers. Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 18, and plan to join us for a daylong excursion on a nearby waterway. A handout on the trip will be available at an upcoming troop meeting.

Our leaders are working to create a fantastic Troop 78 canoeing event that will provide fun and challenge for the experienced canoeist and novice alike. We’re expecting a big turnout, so make sure that you let your patrol leader know that you’ll be join us.

If you are thinking about joining us in Canada for our canoe trip “north of the border” this summer, the April 18th day trip will be a great warm-up. Save the date and plan to join us. See you there!

CALLING ALL HOAGIE MAKERS!

The selling part of the annual troop Hoagie Sale has ended. The scouts have again done a fantastic

job of selling hoagies. It’s now the parents’ turn to chip in their share. We will be preparing, assembling, wrapping and packaging the hoagies in just two short, 2-hour sessions. Thank you for those who have already volunteered to help. More volunteers are always welcome; just join us at one or more of the sessions listed below. It is through your help that we can make this very large undertaking come together so smoothly. The sessions are:

Friday, April 10th, from 7-9 PM

(during the troop meeting)

Saturday, April 11, from **7-9 AM**

Pick-up for hoagie deliveries is at 9am on the back porch.

Meat & cheese slicing will be on Thursday, April 9th, starting at 6:30 PM. We need 12-15 people to help with this task. If you have access to a meat slicer, please contact Kathi Schallack: copycat56@verizon.net, home 610-363-5456 or cell 610-842-0638.

PLEASE remember to bring a hat to wear or be subject to our lovely hairnets. Thank you for your continued support of Troop 78!!

PASTA NIGHT – APRIL 14TH

The pasta dinner in March was our biggest ever – most people and most money. The troop bus fund gained \$1,200, almost enough to cover the brakes, batteries and starter replaced in February! Thanks to all who attended.

So, we are ready to do it again, and this time we promise to have plenty of food. We ran short of pasta and

salad, and that will not happen again. The April menu is Swiss steak, pasta with hot and sweet sausage, salad and desserts. Put it down on your calendars: 7:00 pm, Tuesday, April 14th. Make reservations with Joe Cady, jcadylr@gmail.com or 610-647-4037.

TROOP 78 ANNUAL YARD SALE

May 9 from 8:00 AM to Noon

Lots of help is needed so we can raise lots of money for the troop! Volunteers are needed for the following dates:

Drop Off at the Cabin:

April 23, 7-9 PM

April 30, 7-9 PM

May 7, 7-9 PM

Setting Up for Sale

May 8, 7-9 PM

Working at the Sale

May 9 from 8:00 AM to Noon

Working the sale is mandatory for anyone going to Switzerland.

Moms, sisters, grandmas! Help us out with a bake sale table. Drop off your items on Friday, May 8, or by 7:00 AM on Saturday, May 9. Let's sell your best cookies, cupcakes, and muffins.

Interested in volunteering? Contact Maureen Martinez: maureenRmartinez@gmail.com or 610-296-3264. Thank you!

RADNOR RACES

Saturday & Sunday, MAY 16 & 17

Radnor Races weekend is coming up on Saturday & Sunday, May 16th & 17th. 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 can. We especially need adults! We will be out from around 7 AM to 6 PM on Saturday, May 16. Please concentrate on helping us between 11:00 and 3:00. These are the most critical times. Of course, help any time is appreciated and extended hours are always needed.

Cleanup is Sunday morning from 8 AM to Noon.

Volunteering at the Radnor Races helps...

- Our troop's major community service project

- Troop 78 earn funds

- Protect the environment, as Troop 78 helps the Brandywine Conservancy preserve open space in our area

- Earn money in your scout account

Your sign-up sheet should arrive in the mail soon. *Please fill it out & send it back as soon as you get it.* That will minimize unnecessary calls and e-mails both for your sake and ours.

THE BALTIMORE TRIP

By Ricky Martinez

This year's trip to Baltimore was very good. On Friday the 13th, at 6:00 sharp, we departed for Camp Horseshoe on the bus. Most people talked or played games. When we got there it was dark, and we went to Dan Beard to set up camp. It was difficult to set up the tents in the dark but we still set them up in no time. That night, it began to rain. It rained really, really hard. The flies and tarps were not enough to keep the rain out of our tents, since they had been pitched on wooden planks and many tents were set up wrong. Our tent had a broken zipper, and the floor and walls got soaked, but thankfully my sleeping bag was dry enough to sleep. We woke up in the morning and ate a nice breakfast of bagels, muffins, cereal and more. Soon it was time to get on the bus for Baltimore. First, we went to Fort McHenry where we got to see the flag lowered and replaced with a new flag. It was really neat, especially because the guys putting up the flag were in Civil War uniforms. They invited a Cub Scout troop and our troop to assist them with the large flag. We went to the visitor's center, which was full of historic artifacts and a movie. A little while later, it was time to go to the aquarium. We all split up for lunch. Lots of us went to Five Guys. They gave us free peanuts and some

younger scouts stocked up on them, eating them throughout the day and feeding ducks. At 1:00, we all got back together at the aquarium. This was amazing, and possibly made it the best trip I've been on. For some, it was our first time going to the National Aquarium. Others, like me, had been many times. Nonetheless, it was a great experience for all of us. We saw dolphins, an octopus, turtles, birds, jellyfish, sharks and tons of exotic fish, and some local ones too! We wandered the exhibits for hours, enjoying the sights. But all good things must end, and we were back on the bus around 6:00. On the bus, we had a conversation about snakes, which somehow turned into a discussion about how a four-way snake would move. (A four-way snake is shaped like a plus sign and has a head on each end. This fictional creature probably could not move at all, sadly.) At camp, we made dinner and told riddles. Some of the younger scouts planned skits for the campfire, and I made one about the four-way snake. While most of us didn't go to the campfire, we had fun with the riddles, stories and planning skits. We went to bed and had a better sleep than the previous night, but it was still wet and cold. In the morning, we made French toast and sausages. In my patrol, Snake, our legendary cook had been temporarily transferred and our patrol leader had to cook instead. Cooking wasn't our strongest suit, but we ended up making a surprisingly delicious and filling breakfast. We cleaned up camp, packed up our belongings, and went home. The bus ride home was much like the bus ride there - long, comfortable and mostly peaceful. I'd do this trip again...but with two extra tarps and flies. It was worth it, despite the rain.

REMINDER – COUNCIL'S FRIENDS OF SCOUTING CAMPAIGN

**By Jim Bennett ASM and Troop
78 Friends of Scouting Chair**

Greetings, Willistown Troop 78 family – I am writing to remind you that the 2015 Chester County Council Friends of Scouting

campaign is currently underway. This drive helps to fund the many worthwhile endeavors undertaken by Troop 78's home scouting council.

We are blessed here at Willistown Troop 78 to have the amenities that allow us to conduct a strong scouting program, but other scouts in our council are far less fortunate. Some scouts could not go to summer camp without the financial support of Chester County Council. Council provides an excellent and reliable staff that runs training programs for over 3,000 scouting volunteers in Chester County. All in all, over 13,000 Cub Scouts, Webelos, Boy Scouts and Venture Scouts receive support from council and its staff. And our council is **entirely self-funded**. The annual Friends of Scouting drive provides one out of every five dollars that is needed to run Chester Council each year.

Here at Troop 78, we try to keep the costs down for our scouting program. Outside of our annual dues, which cover registration for each scout, we do not charge for our general camping activities. We offset the costs for some of our more expensive events, such as our rafting trip. We have only two troop fundraisers – both of which allow scouts to earn money to help pay for things like summer camp or our high adventure trips. In short, we do not directly solicit contributions from our scouting families. **The Friends of Scouting campaign is a notable exception.** I am asking every family involved with Troop 78 to make a donation to Friends of Scouting. Regardless of how modest your contribution may be, it will help. You can help send a needy boy to camp or to provide leadership training that in turn will benefit a scout in our council.

I know what scouting meant to me growing up in Philadelphia. It provided me with a place to learn leadership and outdoor skills, and it

instilled in me a life-long sense of responsibility. I still keep in touch with one of my scout leaders – in fact, he's *still* a scoutmaster, and if you come to the Radnor Races community service event this year (and please do – we need your help!), you can meet my friend Dave Pearce and scouts and leaders from his Philadelphia Troop 585. Please think of your contribution to Friends of Scouting as your *investment in Scouting* – you will help to make the difference in the life of a young man. And our community will be all the better for your investment.

Please make your check payable to "Chester County Council BSA" and put "FOS 2015" on the memo line. Please mail your check to my attention at 1116 Signal Hill Lane, Berwyn, PA 19312. Want to save on the price of a stamp? No problem – please hand your check to one of the uniformed scout leaders at any troop meeting, and they'll make sure I get your investment in Chester County scouting.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your support of scouting in Chester County.



HISTORY OF 'ACHEKETUM LODGE'

In 1949, the newly formed VFW Post 5203 offered Troop 78 the use of one of four summer cabins remaining on their 24-acre property on Grubb Road. Shortly thereafter, a fire destroyed the troop's meeting place at the Willistown School. After inhabiting the summer cabin near Grubb Road, plans were

drawn up by the troop committee to double its size and to add a fireplace. The VFW Home Association gave the troop \$1,000 for materials to make the improvements. In 1962, a "back room" or committee room ell was added on the site of the former kitchen. This room was later remodeled in 1982 and named in honor of George Bellgrau, Troop Committee Chairman of over 30 years. Originally heated only with wood stoves and the fireplace, an oil burner was added to the cabin in the 1970s. There were never any bathrooms or running water. The cabin was named "Achetetum Lodge" in honor of long time scout and Scoutmaster G. Ernest Heegard upon his retirement from the position of scoutmaster in June of 1994.

A New Cabin

Needing more outdoor space after the Waynesboro Woods (Veteran's Way) housing development was built in 2000-2002, the troop committee made plans to construct a new cabin on Mill Road on a 2-3 acre parcel. Deeming it too impractical to move the "Achetetum Lodge," plans were made to build a new and much larger log cabin. Funds were raised under the direction of William "Doc" Lenker DDS and ground broken in the spring of 2001. Under the leadership of a cabin building committee headed by David Dondero, the cabin was completed with the help of numerous volunteers from the troop and throughout the community and dedicated on October 5th, 2002. Speakers at the dedication included former scoutmaster from 1955 to 1994 G. Ernest Heegard, Committee Chairman David Dondero, Fundraising Chair "Doc" Lenker and outgoing Senior Patrol Leader, Brett D'Antonio. After sitting vacant for many years, the old cabin on Grubb Road was demolished by Willistown Township on September 19th, 2012, at a cost of \$8,500.