



Willistown Troop 78

Website: www.tr78.org

Facebook: [Willistown Boy Scout Troop 78](#)

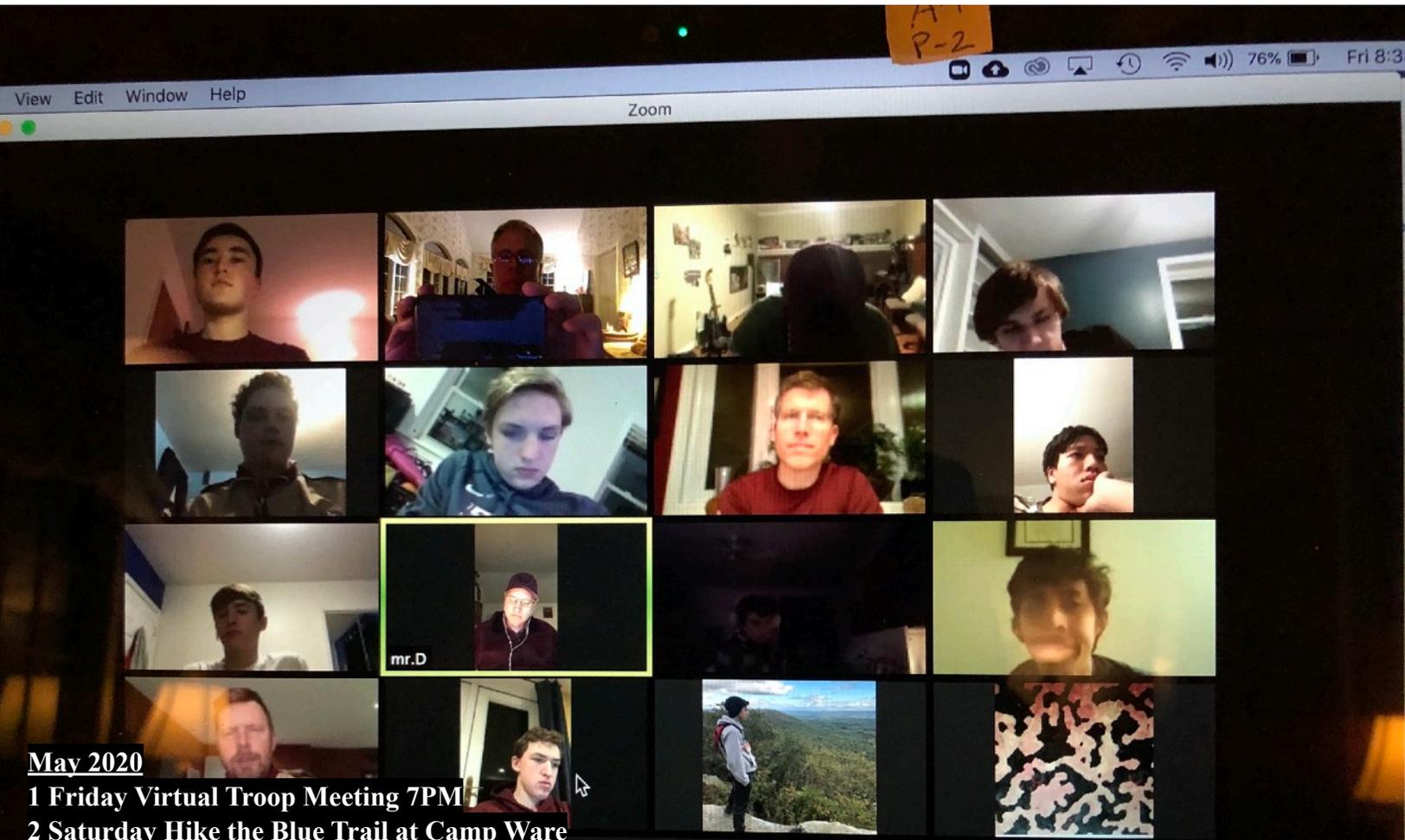
YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](#)

Volume 36 Number 9

May 2020

Scout On!

Scouting Continues During the Lockdown



May 2020

- 1 Friday Virtual Troop Meeting 7PM
- 2 Saturday Hike the Blue Trail at Camp Ware
- 2 Saturday National Camp-In
- 7 Thursday Pick up your flower order at the cabin 2PM-8PM
- 8 Friday Virtual Troop Meeting 7PM
- 15 Friday - 16 Saturday Virtual Troop Campout
- 23 Saturday - 24 Sunday Chester County Virtual Camporee
- 29 Friday Virtual Troop Meeting

Inside this issue:

- Virtual Campout
- Hike the Blue Trail
- Chester County Camporee

[Click here for the full calendar.](#)

Troop 78 Continues Scouting During the Shutdown

By Cody Carnes

Senior Patrol Leader, Troop 78

After the quarantine settled in and troop meetings seemed unlikely for the foreseeable future, patrol leaders, staff members, and adult leaders met online to discuss how to keep the troop going strong. We decided to hold weekly patrol meetings every Friday and post instructional videos online, to provide the scouts with a way to keep learning as well as to provide the opportunity for scouts to stay connected.

Thanks to Troop 78's great community, each meeting has had tons of scouts in attendance. Patrol leaders have also worked hard to make the meetings fun and educational for the scouts. In addition to the meetings, we also conduct a weekly PLC, where youth leadership plans each week's videos. The videos posted on our YouTube channel so far have been exceptional, thanks to the effort put in by youth volunteers creating each one. Great instruction in scout skills!

While I believe the meetings have given scouts a great opportunity, there is always room to improve, and over the coming weeks the troop will work toward better ways to connect and keep our scouting spirit strong.



By Logan Duff

Patrol Leader, Stag

During this time away from the cabin and each other, many patrols have been doing everything possible to stay active. Each week, our troop posts 3 - 4 training videos for the scouts to watch in order to learn Scout skills. These videos cover many topics like knots, lashings, and nature. Stag Patrol has been keeping up with the videos and (to the hopeful guidance of their patrol leader) practicing the skills.

After watching these videos, each patrol has a meeting led by the Patrol Leader to go over videos, reinforce with review games and other methods, make announcements, and just talk about scouting. These review games can be a program like kahoot or gimkit. Stag Patrol had a lot of fun with the gimkit we did last week, it was a way to laugh and stay connected. Also, the scouts have been keeping up with advancement and merit badges.

Stag Patrol members have been sending their Patrol Leader pictures of their scout books so the Patrol Leader knows what's going on with each scout. Patrol Leaders keep record of all advancements made by the scouts so they can continue to advance in rank. On the weekend of May 15th, the troop is even going to do a virtual campout over Zoom where scouts can camp in their backyards and have fun competitions throughout the next day.

Although we can't see each other in person, the troop and patrols have done everything possible to keep active. We have had some difficulties, but Stag and the other patrols are making do with what we have. From videos and at-home practicing, to virtual meetings and review games, the troop is doing all we can to stay active in scouts during this time.



Chester County First Ever Virtual Camporee

Saturday April 18 - Sunday April 19, 2020

By Pete Motel

On Saturday April 18 and Sunday April 19 Chester County Council held its first virtual Camporee. Over 200 scouts from all over the Council joined in for fun and scout skill competitions. Scouts were asked to set up a campsite in their yard and camp over night on Saturday. Scouts uploaded pictures of their campsites and gateways. As you can see I pitched a tent in my backyard. I had a great day Zooming into the camporee program.



During the day on Saturday the scouts held cooking competitions and sessions with training on various scout skills. Scouts and adults held forums on programming during the shutdown, there was a forum for youth leaders and a separate forum for adult leaders. Scouts also submitted designs for a patch to commemorate the Camporee. Throughout the day on Saturday scouts voted on the patch, the cooking completion submissions and the campsite and gateway competitions. Saturday night the scouts held a campfire complete with songs and skits.

The Camporee closed Sunday morning with a Scout's Own Service led by a scout and his scout leader father. After the Scout's Own Service, an awards ceremony was held and the winners of the various competitions were announced. Looking forward to the next CCC Camporee!

Achgekatum Campfire Circle: Camp Horseshoe

Photos from April 16, 2020

Phase I of the renovations at the campfire circle at Horseshoe are complete!

The Circle got completely regraded, new storm water drainage system installed, all new stone and wooden benches, and lighting installed on the benches at the aisles. It is beautiful!

Phase II will include regrading the area between the road and the Circle, installation of the handicapped access area above the Circle which will provide easy access from the road, and installation of water service to the circle.





Message from Roger Mosby National Scout Executive

Please see the link below for a message from our National Scout Executive.

<https://scoutingwire.org/a-scout-is-helpful-especially-in-times-like-the-present/>

Spring Flower Sale

Delivery Date: Saturday May 9, 2020 Just in time for Mothers Day

The orders are in and we set a new sale record!

We will need volunteers to unload the plants and sort the orders.

Please let [Jim Fox](#) or [Steve Wark](#) know you can help.

Wednesday May 6 12noon - 6PM for unloading the order from the delivery trucks and the sorting.

Thursday May 7 to help give out the orders (handoff of the orders to the scouts) from 2PM - 8PM.

We plan to follow CDC guidelines during these activities at the Troop bus garage.

Top 10 list for videoconferencing etiquette.

1. Install the meeting software in advance of the meeting.
2. Join the meeting 5 minutes early.
3. Check video and audio technology are working as they should before the meeting.
4. Mute yourself when not speaking.
5. Wear your Class B.
6. Frame the camera correctly.
7. Have the right light. The light source should be directly behind the camera.
8. Look into the camera.
9. Pay attention.
10. Remember: We can see you!

Friends of Scouting Helps Chester County Council

Chester County Council receives a good portion of its operating budget from generous free will donations from people like you. Please consider helping this year. Chester County Council needs your help now more than ever with all event-fundraising shutdown.

[Please click this link to see more from Jim Bennett on Friends of Scouting!](#)

Upcoming Events

Green Trail Hike

Saturday May 2, 2020

Chester County Council will be sponsoring a hike on the Green Trail at Camp Ware Saturday May 2. The hike will take place following all of the CDC recommendations for social distancing. You must sign up in advance. Sign up by going on the link. [Click here to sign up for the hike.](#)

National Camp-in

Saturday May 2, 2020

https://www.scouting.org/campin/?utm_source=adobecampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=campin

During the National Camp-in there will be a virtual 5K to benefit Feeding America
Click this link for more about the 5K <https://www.scouting.org/campin/virtual-5k/>
Click this link for more about Feeding America www.feedingamerica.org/boyscouts

Troop 78 First Ever Virtual Campout

Friday May 15 - Saturday May 16, 2020

We plan our first virtual campout May 15 and 16. With our day of community service at Radnor Races off the Troop schedule, we are free to try to meet in the virtual world for a day of fun and scout skill competitions.

On Friday May 15 we will convene in the virtual Zoom for a campout to open with a campfire, skits, songs and stories. Saturday May 16 we will have scout skill competitions, cooking, campsite set up, gateway, and much much more.

Next CCC Virtual Camporee

Saturday May 23 - Sunday May 24, 2020

Click here for the link to more information. <https://www.cccbsa.org/virtual-camporee/>

Here is a list a partial list of the activities planned for the Camporee:

- Best Outdoor Campsite
- Best Indoor Campsite
- Best Campfire
- Foil Meal Contest
- Dutch Oven Contest
- Best Flag
- Best Camp Gadget
- Best Skit or Song
- Best Memorial Day Tribute
- Minecraft Competition
- Scout's Best Friend Contest

[**Click here for the link to Chester County Council Scout On! info.**](#)

Summer Camp 2020

To be determined.

Right now there are summer camp leaders from Horseshoe and Ware working on program for the summer. As of now, it is unlikely traditional summer camp will occur. What exactly happens at the Horseshoe Scout Reservation, if anything, will depend on the status of the pandemic as the summer progresses. Please stand by.

New Features!

Where am I?

Please vote on this location.

Street and town?

[Click here to vote.](#)

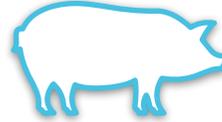


Joke of the Month

Welcome to this inaugural Joke-of-the-Month.

First submission from Jim Bennett (of course).

Enjoy!



A traveling salesman is driving home through farm country on a dark, rainy night. He barely settles in at home when his phone rings. “Mr. Jones? This is the Police Department. You hit a prized hog with your car tonight. The hog will recover, but Farmer Smith will have very high vet bills.”

“My goodness,” says the salesman.” I had no idea! It was dark and rainy and I didn’t see anyone! How do you know it was me?”

“We know it was you,” says the officer. “The pig squealed.”

[Please click here to submit a joke for the next Newsletter.](#)

True Scouts in Action!

Scouts have always used their skills to help tackle difficult problems. Now is no different.

That backyard project that you never had the time or strength to do?

Scouts are now pitching in to complete these jobs.

Over the last few weeks Nate and Pete Motel finished a project which has gone undone for many years.

The vine was out of control, it sat on the ground, killing the lawn, making it miserable to cut the grass.

Now the vine has been tamed. We used all of our scout skills.

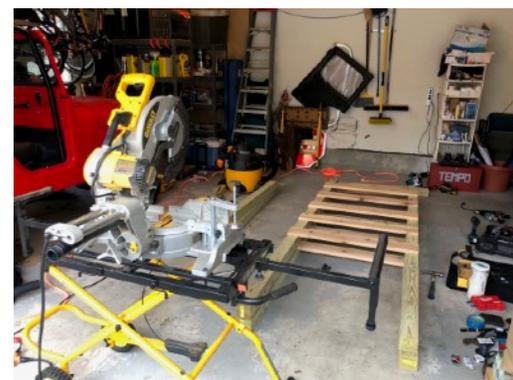
First step: trim and prune the vine, all the long live portions preserved.

Next: design and build the trellis. The trellis turned into more of pergola!

Next: dig the holes for the uprights. In keeping with troop tradition, the holes were dug much deeper than necessary, despite the rocky ground.

Then the stone and cement, much adjusting to make certain it is level in all planes.

Then the sand, block and slates for the floor. Then the vine was zip-tied to the structure. Done!





Please send in your submissions for next month's: True Scouts in Action!
[Click here to submit your story.](#)

78 Historical Notes

By Steve D'Antonio



While looking at old Troop 78 newsletters, here's what I found:

Each patrol used to write their own column of "patrol news" and a description of their activities and advancement during the past month.

The Inter-Patrol (point) contest began in 1948 "to encourage boys in their Scouting work and to promote inter-patrol spirit and rivalry"

Troop 78 had six Scouts attend the 1957 National Jamboree at Valley Forge

In the 1950's the Troop newsletter had many names including: "The 78ths Outlook", "Woodsman", "Trail Signs of 78", "Trailing 78", and "Tautline".

In 1958 the Troop added the Rattlesnake Patrol, joining the four existing patrols of Flying Eagle, Moose, Stag and Panther. Originally it was to be called the Timber Rattler Patrol. The Senior Patrol Leader at the time was Miles Stevens who is still active on our Troop Committee today.

Troop 78 had four Scouts camp at Philmont in July of 1958, and six in 1959. In those days it was along bus trip to New Mexico.

Florida trips during Spring break began in 1959, without a bus (we wouldn't get our first troop bus until 1966) and without Disney World. Attractions visited included: Colonial Williamsburg, St. Augustine, Miami, the Everglades National Park, and Silver Springs, with some private fireworks lighting in Georgia on both the way south and the way north.

In December of 1959, the Moose and Stag patrols were awarded first and second place at the Council First Aid meet. Back then, each patrol had to place in the top 15% of a District First Aid meet to attend the Council event.

Unfortunately, we have no copies of any newsletters between 1962 and 1980 when it was re-named The Golden Gazette. If any of our old time readers have any newsletters from those years, please scan or mail us a copy to add to the troop history.

Next month we'll have more news from the 1980's

PLEASE PRINT THIS NEWSLETTER FOR ALL IN YOUR FAMILY TO SEE