



Willistown Troop 78

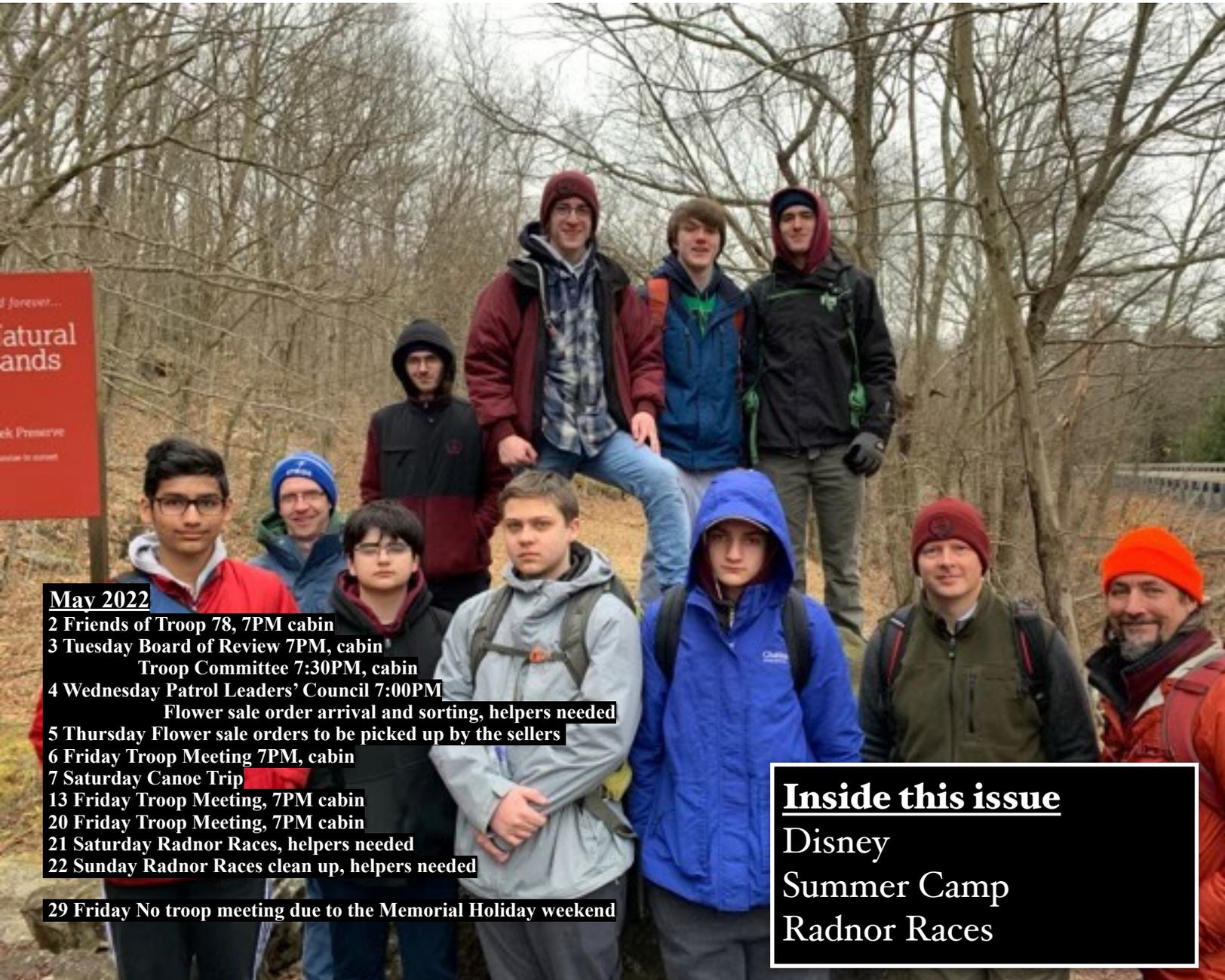
Website: www.tr78.org

Facebook: [Willistown Boy Scout Troop 78](https://www.facebook.com/WillistownBoyScoutTroop78)

May 2022

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Bear Creek Preserve Pocono Mountains



May 2022

- 2 Friends of Troop 78, 7PM cabin
- 3 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM, cabin
Troop Committee 7:30PM, cabin
- 4 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:00PM
Flower sale order arrival and sorting, helpers needed
- 5 Thursday Flower sale orders to be picked up by the sellers
- 6 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM, cabin
- 7 Saturday Canoe Trip
- 13 Friday Troop Meeting, 7PM cabin
- 20 Friday Troop Meeting, 7PM cabin
- 21 Saturday Radnor Races, helpers needed
- 22 Sunday Radnor Races clean up, helpers needed
- 29 Friday No troop meeting due to the Memorial Holiday weekend

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Summer Camp
Radnor Races

Bear Creek Preserve: Hike and Campout

Friday March 25 - Sunday March 27, 2022

By Caleb Fulmer

On a cool Friday evening in March, the Boy Scouts of Troop 78 set out on a two and a half hour drive to the Bear Creek Hiking Preserve in the Pocono Mountains. After the very long bus ride we walked down the hill to our campsite. When we entered the campsite we had to make a choice - should we tent on the ground or on the wooden platforms? Most Scouts chose to sleep on the platforms by affixing their rainfly from the tent onto the wooden beams, but some of the tougher scouts decided to stay on the ground. Once we were all set up, we had a snack of Oreos and tried to get some sleep for the day ahead.

The camp woke between 7 and 8 AM for breakfast consisting of cereal, french toast, and sausage. We packed our packs for the hike that awaited us. Before we boarded the bus to



go to the trailhead, we were provided with an assortment of snacks for the hike. The older scouts went on a 7 mile hike while the younger scouts hiked a shorter 3 mile trail. We all boarded the bus to take us to our trailheads. We dropped off the older scouts first, so they could start their hike. We then rode further down the road to the younger scouts' trailhead. The older scouts hiked the purple trail, while the younger scouts hiked the green trail. The

green trail had some lovely views including a small waterfall. When we finished our separate hikes we boarded the bus and headed back to camp. As we were going back to the campsite we stopped at a bigger waterfall and some scouts took the opportunity to get some photos and explore.

When we returned to the campsite we enjoyed a lunch of either ham or turkey



sandwiches with some chips. After lunch we were entertained by Logan Duff's amazing fire building skills, until about 3:30 p.m. when we started making our dinner in dutch ovens. While we waited for our dinner of beef stew to cook, we enjoyed a game created by Logan called "Stick." Logan won every game until Jay and Jacob each beat him. Once the stew was finished, we hungrily devoured our portions and got to work on baking a cake in our dutch oven. After a very interesting cake

baking session, we tasted our slightly burnt cakes and realized that they tasted a lot better than they looked.

After the patrols cleaned up all of their gear, we gathered around the campfire to sing songs and tell stories. After the campfire, a small group of scouts started a game of infection tag that we played for a little while before bed.

In the morning the camp woke up to find a thin layer of snow on the ground. After a cold, and rainy weekend with some sleet mixed in, this wasn't really surprising. We packed up all our personal gear and the tents before having a breakfast of mini muffins, mini bagels, and cereal. Then we loaded Mr. D's truck and the bus and hit the road back to the cabin to enjoy the rest of our weekend.



Disney World

Orlando Florida

Saturday April 9 - Saturday April 16, 2022

By Shreyas Sao

On Saturday April 9th, 10 Scouts and 4 parents (and one volunteer who did not have a scout on the trip and came along just to help with the driving: Thank you Paul Skodny!) from Troop 78 embarked on an 18 hour drive down to Fort Wilderness Resort in Walt Disney World where they would spend the next week going to all the Disney Parks. We arrived on Sunday and had a breakfast of bagels and honey buns. Afterward, scouts unpacked and set up their campsites. Ben brought a tent big enough to hold almost all the scouts, but it was only used for three people.



In the afternoon, Scouts went to the pool to cool off and relax from the long ride. For dinner that night cheesesteaks were cooked and enjoyed by everyone. For the evening,



Scouts went to Disney Springs to do a little “pre-Disney” shopping. There were many shops and food places for scouts to visit. Some scouts wanted to buy Legos, whereas others wanted to buy a gift for their mothers. The night wrapped up a little later than we all hoped due to very long transportation wait times. Everyone rushed back to get rested for the long week ahead.

The first park on Monday was EPCOT. First thing in the morning we had to book our Fast Pass to bypass the long lines at the most popular attractions. Most scouts put their fast passes on Soaring or Test Track, both of which I went on and enjoyed very much. For lunch all the scouts ate “around the world” at the World Celebration loop. After lunch everyone gathered at Canada and traversed the whole loop together. A personal favorite of mine was Mexico which was a replica of an Aztec Temple. For dinner, we went back to the campsite for spaghetti and meatballs. After dinner we all went back into the park and went on our last rides and watched the beautiful light show on display later at night. Many scouts crashed after getting back to camp, while some went to shower.

The next park was Magic Kingdom, the largest park in Disney. Magic Kingdom was very packed, lots of people were there. All Scouts made sure to ride favorites like Space Mountain and Splash Mountain. A personal favorite of mine was the People Mover which was a ride that moved around Tomorrowland in a calming manner. For dinner we ate hotdogs, mac & cheese, and green beans. Everything tasted good except for the mac & cheese, in which the cook decided that he should pour cold water into the mac & cheese for some reason. Everyone still enjoyed the meal despite this mishap.

The next day was one everyone had been waiting for, Hollywood Studios, or more specifically, Galaxy’s Edge. Right when we arrived, everyone got in line for the Rockin’ Rollercoaster, which was the fastest ride in all of Disney. Everyone had a blast on this ride. Most of the day was spent in Galaxy’s Edge which was very enjoyable. Smuggler’s Run was a ride in which you and 5 others controlled the Millennium Falcon. This was a very thrilling experience and I’m sure anyone who got to pilot this ship was thrilled. Afterward, we met Kylo Ren in which some



scouts got recruited for the First Order. Dinner was made early today in order to accommodate the adults' dinner reservation and our fast passes. Our dinner was grilled cheese which is a classic and was enjoyed by everyone. At night everyone went to their rides and met up at Rise of Resistance at the very end. This ride was by far the best ride in all of Disney. The 105-minute wait was worth it. The ride takes you through a First Order ship in a way that makes it seem like you are in a Star Wars movie. Everyone was excited after this ride and had a hard time falling asleep.

The next day was our last park, Animal Kingdom. Right when we entered the park everyone went on the Safari where many animals of varying species were spotted. After



this, many of us went to Dinosaur. This ride was filled with darkness and jump scares. By the time we finished this, lunch had rolled around. In the afternoon everyone went to their own rides and looked at the various types of animals. Kali River Rapids was a group favorite, although everyone got soaked. Dinner was cheeseburgers with bacon which were cooked to perfection and tasted wonderful. In the evening, many scouts had money left, so



they went shopping. Close to the park closing, the whole group got in line for the Avatar ride, a flying simulation which was very enjoyable. We left the park early so scouts still had energy to pack their stuff for the long trip home the next day.

Friday's breakfast was a replica of Sunday's. We cleared out of the campsite by 10:30 AM, and everyone headed to one last Disney experience, a mini golf competition, in which Colton won. The drive back to Malvern PA was long and tiring with notable stops at Buccee's and Denny's for both dinner and breakfast. The troop arrived at the cabin around 10:30AM Saturday, and everyone was gone by 11. The Disney Trip this year was the first time back in 3 years, and was an enjoyable trip for everyone. I'm sure everyone would like to go back again next year.



Spring Cabin Cleanup

Saturday April 2, 2022

On Saturday April 2, about 30 people gathered at the cabin for a day of clean up inside and out.

Major cleaning took place:

- The bus barn was emptied, the floor was swept, wet mopped and the stuff was sorted, reorganized and returned.
- The cabin great room and conference room were emptied, vacuumed, wet mopped and then the stuff was sorted and returned.
- All of the windows and sills were cleaned inside and out.
- The bathrooms and kitchen were thoroughly cleaned.
- The commissary was sorted, organized and cleaned, as was the Scoutmaster's office.
- The crawlspace under the cabin was emptied, the stuff was sorted and organized.
- Outside the cabin, the porches and railings were pressure washed, the yard was cleared of downed branches and debris.
- The shed was emptied, sorted and reorganized.
- The bus was cleaned inside and out.

Next project still looming is the re-staining of the outside of the cabin, date to be determined.



Cabin Lighting!

The Troop 78 cabin recently had a major upgrade! All of the old lights were replaced with LED lighting, a total of 50 light fixtures replaced.

Thanks to A&D Electric out of West Chester and friend of scouting Allen Forssmark!

Please stop by a Troop Meeting to see the new lighting for yourself.



Another Cabin Upgrade!

The cabin has three-zone heating. The three furnaces (which somehow got to be 20 years old!) were replaced. Also **air conditioning** was added to the great room. Wow!

No more sweating it out at those spring and fall Courts of Honor.

Thanks to Cloud Mechanical Services out of West Grove!

Troop Meeting

Prep for Field Day

Friday April 22, 2022

The scouts continue to flock to the cabin on Friday nights to prep for the upcoming Field Day. The Field Day will be held in two parts, Part I Thursday June 2 and Part II Sunday June 5, 2022.

The patrols will compete in numerous events including Nature Identification, Flint and Steel, Chariot Race, String Burning, Knot Relay, Nine Knot, Eight Knot, Heaving Bar and many more.



Upcoming Events

Spring Flower Sale Help Needed!

Wednesday May 4, 11AM - 4PM. Need help receiving the delivery from the grower and sorting the scout orders.

Thursday May 5, 3PM - 7PM, Need help giving the orders out to the scouts.

Contact [Jeannine Simms](#) if you have any questions.

Radnor Races

Saturday May 21 and Sunday May 22, 2022

Radnor Races weekend is coming up on Saturday & Sunday, May 21st & 22nd. This is one of THE MOST IMPORTANT WEEKENDS on the Troop 78 calendar.

We need as many people coming out to help as many hours as they possibly can. We especially need ADULTS! We will be out working from around 7 AM to 6 PM on Saturday, May 21st. The hours from 11:00 to 3:00 are the most crucial, but any time is valuable. 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 CAMPING ACCOUNT
- TROOP 78's MAJOR PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECT

You and those you bring to help, can stay after your shift & take-in a fabulous event.

In the unlikely event that you have not yet responded, please do so now. If your schedule has changed and you now have a few more hours to spare, let us know. Please remember, we need every possible family member. Moms are welcomed & needed!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Last year's Event was severely limited by the pandemic. This year a full-blown Races is planned. We need every possible hour of help you can offer.

90+2 Troop Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Reunion

By Michael Bennett

Party in the BSA!

Troop 78 Celebrates 90 Years (which was 2020!)

Come one, come all, to the 90th (+ 2) birthday party for Troop 78! The party, originally scheduled for June of 2020, was put on hold for two years due to COVID, but is now ready to go!

Join us on Sunday, June 5th for an afternoon of Scouting fun and fellowship.

During the annual Troop Field Day, which starts at 3 PM, old-time Willistown Scouts and Scouters will gather to enjoy reflecting on their own Scouting careers while watching current 78 Scouts compete in Scout skill events.

After Field Day will come a Court of Honor at 5 PM, complete with three Eagle Scout awards. Finally, at 6 PM, a great feast will begin. We will have a Pig roast, also hamburgers and hot dogs will be served along with salads and side dishes, and Eagle cake for dessert.

Throughout the afternoon, the 78 family will celebrate 90 (92) years of Scouting in Willistown. A free commemorative program will be distributed for the occasion featuring Scouting stories, a historic Troop timeline, and space to collect friends' signatures. Historical displays of patches, camping equipment, and Scouting literature will round out the festivities.

We look forward to seeing you at the 90th + 2. Mark your calendars - it's almost here!

Summer Camp at Camp Horseshoe

Week one: Sunday June 26 - Saturday July 2, 2022

Week two: Sunday July 3 - Saturday July 9, 2022

Countdown to Summer Camp!

You will receive a free troop T-shirt if you paid in full by March 18th and turn in your completed health/medical form to the Troop by May 13th.

The health/medical form is on the troop website and must be less than one calendar year old for the entire time you are at camp. Please make sure the completed health/medical form includes parts A, B & C (part C is a pre-participation physical and requires a physician's signature) with a front and back copy of your medical insurance card.

If your scout needs to take medication while at camp, a Medication Form is also required and submitted along with the health/medical form by May 13th (forms are available on the Troop website and Camp Horseshoe website).

[Click here for all the information on summer camp.](#)



Chester County Council News

Order of the Arrow Octoraro Lodge 22

For more information contact Kipp Happ, Diamond Rock District OA Chair

- PARC Service Day, Saturday May 7

Octoraro Lodge 22 is sponsoring a PARC service day on May 7, 2022 at the PARC center in Exton. This is a great opportunity for any Scouts and Scouters to do some service for scouting in Chester County, and there is a lot of work to do! For this service day we are focusing on building a nature trail through the woods along the stream for use by all who visit the property.

Note: You do not need to be a member of the Order of the Arrow to participate. We will take the help of anyone who wants to help!

The event will run from 9AM to 1PM on Saturday May 7.

Lunch will be provided.

Register at www.octoraro22.org/register.

- Order of the Arrow Service Weekend, June 10 - June 12

We encourage all OA members to attend. This weekend of service projects is essential to help get the camp ready for the upcoming summer season. [Click here for more information.](#)

PARC Receives Award from Philadelphia Business Journal

Best Environmental, Social and Governance Deal

1 Scouting Way, Exton

The Oscar Lasko Program Activity Resource Campus began with the acquisition of 28 acres on Route 30 in Exton. The land was acquired through a charitable donation from the Tabas family to the Chester County Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The build-out of the site was supported through a fundraising campaign that started in 2012. In the winter of 2018, ground was broken on the three-story, 18,000-square-foot project, named for local businessman and philanthropist Oscar Lasko. The building opened July 2021.

The campus provides indoor and outdoor opportunities for environmental education, living skills development, and team and leadership building, as well as recreational and fitness programs including camping, fishing, and hiking. The Carol and Dick Vermeil Leadership Development Center is housed on the campus and is used for scouting and community events and includes classroom space.

Size: 18,251-square-foot building on 28 acres

Value: \$6.2 million

Buyer: Chester County Council, Boy Scouts of America

Developer: Chester County Council, Boy Scouts of America

Lender: The land was acquired through a charitable donation from the Tabas family and the remainder came from a multiyear fundraising campaign.

Architect: Cornerstone Design Architects

Landscaper: Merit Landscape Solutions

Brandywine Backyard Barbecue

Sunday April 24, 2022

It was a perfect day, highs in the 70s and sunny with a light breeze.

Thousands gathered Sunday April 24 from noon to 5PM for the annual Brandywine Backyard Barbecue in New Garden Park.

This fellowship day and fundraiser for Chester County Council is an annual event, started about 5 years ago and has turned into a huge event.

The day was filled with barbecue food trucks, live music from numerous bands, and offerings from local breweries and wineries.

Hope to see you there next year!



Camp Horseshoe Shower House

The Council has received final approval from the local township (West Nottingham) for the shower house. It is now officially up and running, available for general use, ready for summer 2022.

Planning for the next shower house on the Stockade Trail is underway. Hope is to have it on line for summer 2023.



Amazon Smile

Consider a gift to your favorite department at Camp Horseshoe. See what the camp needs!

[Click here for Amazon Smile Camp Horseshoe.](#)

Print this Newsletter for everyone in your family to see.