



Willistown Troop 78

Website: www.tr78.org

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

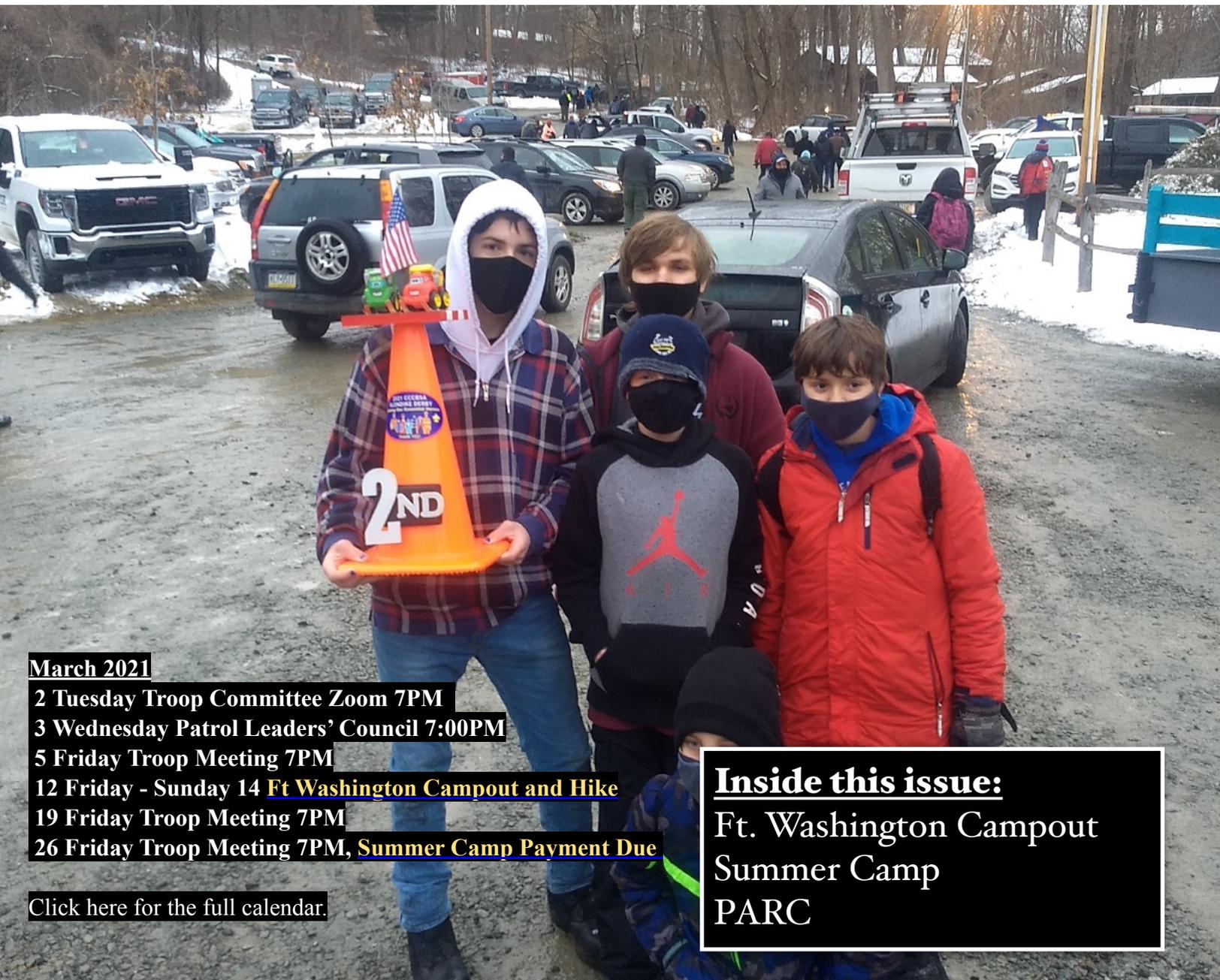
YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

March 2021

Volume 37 Number 7

Klondike Derby!

Scouting Continues During the Pandemic



March 2021

- 2 Tuesday Troop Committee Zoom 7PM
- 3 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:00PM
- 5 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 12 Friday - Sunday 14 [Ft Washington Campout and Hike](#)
- 19 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 26 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM, [Summer Camp Payment Due](#)

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

Inside this issue:

Ft. Washington Campout
Summer Camp
PARC

Klondike Derby

Saturday February 13 - Sunday February 14, 2021

By Jackson Smith

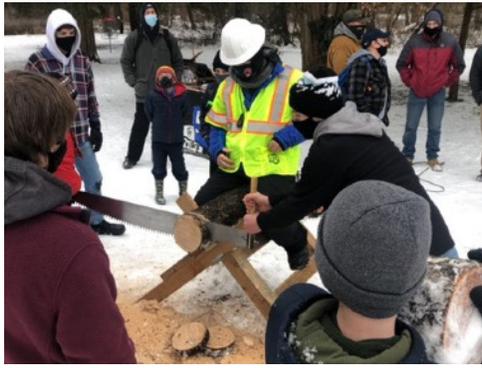
On the morning of Saturday the 13th, we all filed down to Camp Ware for the annual Klondike Derby with visions of first place dancing in our heads. We had originally planned on staying at Camp Horseshoe, which Camp Ware is closely tied to, over Saturday night after the event and until Sunday morning. Sadly, this extended stay at camp had to be canceled due to inclement weather. If anything though, this just gave our scouts more motivation as they knew they'd be able to go right back to a warm cozy bed right after giving their all at the events.



As we were waiting for all the scouts to arrive, we parked in the same area and gathered around near a fire and 2 heaters until everyone had arrived. When we had reached the start time for the event, we unpacked and loaded up with our supplies, like our first aid kit, staves, and improvised stretcher. We then all lined up with the other 37 patrols at the camp and gave the judges their first looks at our front-line workers themed sleds, while they gave us instructions on how to rotate around to all the stations. Moose, Snake, and Flying Eagle all teamed up and walked around together for the day, and we started by heading up to the archery range where we did pretty well. Nic Opelski demonstrated impressive accuracy by sinking all 3 of his shots on target.

We continued to go around doing each of the covid themed stations, consisting of 8-knot, string burning, two-man saw, tomahawk throwing, log hoss, slingshot, orienteering, and even a sled race. At around noon we stopped back to our rest spot and got some delicious lunch of chili and soup before resuming our activities. Rattlesnake ended up placing second overall. I was very happy with our performance and we also had a lot of fun.





Pack 98 / Troop 78 event Wolf and Bear Spotted at Cabin

Saturday March 13, 2021

By: Nic Opielski

In the first two months of 2021 several wolves and bears were spotted at the 78 cabin on more than one occasion. These were not your typical dangerous predators though. These visitors were on the smaller side and less dangerous but were just as fun to watch from a safe distance. They were the Wolves and Bears from my old Pack, Cub Scout Pack 98 from Paoli Presbyterian Church.

In March of 2020, the spread of COVID-19 delivered a bad blow to Boy Scout Troops and Cub Scout Packs around the country. Like many Scouting programs, COVID-19 forced Pack 98 to temporarily shut down until government approval was given to reopen and their Chartering Organization approved their Covid-19 mitigation procedures. Pack 98's program restarted in October of 2020 but they were only allowed to meet outside on church property. Due to their ages, need for supervision and dislike of bad weather, when the cold winter months arrived in December, Pack 98 was again faced with shutting down



for several months until the warmer spring weather returned. Like a Boy Scout appearing through the fog to help someone cross the street, our Troop 78 came to the rescue and offered our Cabin to Pack 98 for Den meetings. Pack 98 and their Church leadership reviewed Troop 78's Covid-19 procedures and gave Dens' approval to use our cabin and field as an alternate meeting site beginning in January 2021.

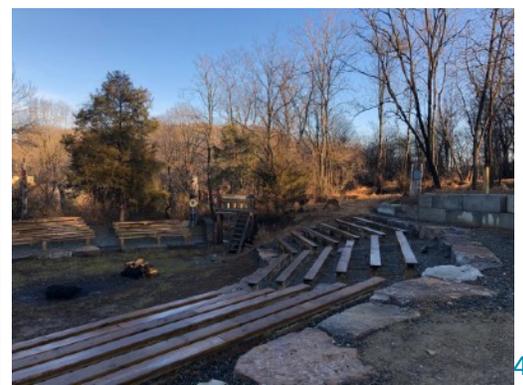
Not only has our cabin helped the 98 Cubs continue to meet through the cold winter months but it has opened their young eyes to what fun they can have in a few short years if they transition to Boy Scouts. When the Cubs come to meet at our cabin and see all the awards, pictures, history, canoes, and of course the bus, I have heard many say... "I love it here". Since our Troop has allowed Cub Scouts to meet at the cabin, they have met there at least three times. They have checked off many of the requirements toward their next ranks such as building, exploring nature, and hiking. One lucky Bear found a 5 point deer antler shed on a nature walk behind the cabin. The Bear den has even made grilled cheeses over a fire pit they set up behind our cabin. The Wolf Den has conducted their own version of the Klondike Derby under the lights on the snow covered field. Rumor has it the adult sled lost.

We do not know what the future holds but one thing is for sure, our Troop hopes these Wolves and Bears enjoy their time at our cabin and consider returning to learn more about Boy Scouts when they grow just a little bigger.



Achgekatum Fire Circle at Camp Horseshoe

Work continues on phase 3 of the fire circle upgrades and renovations. This phase involves the installation of an accessible seating area and a stairway from the accessible seating the bench seating area. The accessible seating will be located between the boat docks road and the fire circle above the benches. Parents and visitors will be able to view the ceremony from this area.



Troop Committee Continues to Meet

Tuesday February 2, 2021

Your Troop adult leaders continue to meet throughout the pandemic. The committee meets every month by video conference to discuss troop program, finances, fundraising, trips and events, the calendar, summer camp, adult training and many other topics which happen behind the scenes and keep the troop running. Thanks to everyone who has continued to support the Troop through this difficult year.



Contact Pete Motel if you wish to receive the Zoom link for the meeting.

PARC!

Construction Continues

[PARC: Program Activity Resource Campus](#)

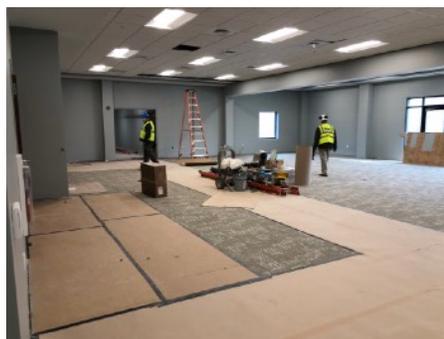
Chester County Council is adding a new program area to our inventory of camps. This property is located in Exton on business Rt 30. It is 28 acres and will include indoor and outdoor activity centers.

Construction of the building which will house the Council offices, Scout Store, STEM Center, and meeting spaces is nearing completion. This facility will be up and running by late spring or early summer of this year.



In time, the outdoor spaces will be added.

Please consider an [Entryway Paver](#) to commemorate you, your scout, or your family.



Picnic Tables for PARC and for Camp Horseshoe

Chester County Council asked if Troop 78 could put their picnic table building team together again to make 10 new tables for the PARC property in Exton. We have agreed to make 10 tables for PARC and another 10 for camp.

Tague Lumber has agreed to provide the materials at their cost, so the tables will be about \$200 each. The picnic table crew is accepting donations toward this excellent winter project.

Please consider “buying” a table or several tables.

If you can help with the cost or construction or both, please contact [Pete Motel](#).

Make checks payable to:

“Friends of Troop 78”

Mail to:

Pete Motel

1191 Pebble Spring Drive

Berwyn, PA 19312

CPR Training and Recertification

Tuesday March 2, 2021 and Thursday March 4, 2021

All registered adults who are active with the troop are urged to attend CPR training if they have not been certified within the past 2 years. CPR training and recertification will occur in two parts. Part 1, CPR lecture, will be on Tuesday March 2nd, 2021 immediately after the regular troop committee meeting via Zoom. Part 2, CPR hands-on, will be Thursday March 4th at the cabin starting at 7PM.

Each student will be assigned a 15 min. time slot ahead of time for when they need to be at the cabin. Please wear your mask. Completion of Part 1 and 2 are required for CPR certification. CPR certification is valid for 2 years. We are requesting a \$10 donation from each registered adult who is certified. No prior CPR training is required to attend.

Please contact Dave Schertz (610-812-6961) or Pete Motel for the Zoom link.

More Training

Wood Badge

April 30-May 2 AND May 22-23

[Click here for more information.](#)

Even More Training

[Click here for the Council training page.](#)

Scripts Gift Card Program

Did you know that you can purchase gift cards through the Scripts gift card program throughout the year? Think beyond holiday gifts and consider purchasing gift cards for monthly expenses such as groceries, gas, household supplies, clothing and restaurants. Every gift card purchased through Scripts sends a rebate back to Troop 78. Half is deposited into your son's "Camping Account" and half is used by the troop for operating expenses. Rebates range from 1%-12% with occasional bonus percentages.

You can fill out a paper order form and return to Steve or Sherri Wark or you can input your order electronically and pay by check or through PayPal or Venmo (ask Sherri for details). For some stores, e-cards are available. Please visit shopwithscrip.com for a full listing of gift card retailers available.

If you would like to order your gift cards online, please contact Sherri Wark at sherriwark@yahoo.com. She will send you a link to our Troop account through Scripts. It is an easy process. Paper order forms should be returned by Friday February 19th for delivery/distribution on February 26th.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Upcoming Events

Fort Washington State Park: Campout and Hike

Friday March 12 - Sunday March 14, 2021

Please join us for a campout and day hike at Ft Washington State Park.

We will be tent camping Friday and Saturday nights, and will take a nice scenic day hike on Saturday. Scouts under First Class will be able to pass rank requirements for camping, cooking and hiking.

[Please click here for more information and the permission slip.](#)

SAVE the DATE: Radnor Races!

Saturday May 15 & Sunday 16, 2021

Had enough snow?

PLEASE, go over to your calendar right now and block out the third weekend in May to help Troop 78 at the **Radnor Hunt Races**.

Expect a beautiful time in the Chester County countryside, as the Troop spends another weekend at the Races.

The Brandywine Conservancy has instituted many changes this year and is intent on holding an Event that puts the safety and well-being of volunteers as its top priority.

On Saturday, May 15 & Sunday May 16 we need your help as Troop 78 does its annual Radnor thing.

Please plan to be there!

Summer Camp Registration Is Now Underway!

Sunday June 27 - Sunday July 4, 2021

Sunday July 4 - Sunday July 11, 2021

The cost this year is \$420.00 per week if paid in full by March 26th, (\$470 per week after that). A \$50 deposit per week is due by February 19th (please indicate which week you are registering for on the deposit payment form found on the troop website).

Again this year, there is a Multi-Scout Family Discount. Families with more than one scout attending camp with the troop pays the entire fee for Scout one; the entire fee less \$50 for each additional scout each week.

You will receive a free troop T-shirt if you pay in full by March 26th and turn in your completed health/medical form to the troop by May 14th.

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. The BSA has updated the Health/Medical Form this year, so make sure to download the most recent form from the Troop 78 website or from the Camp Horseshoe website. 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 you wish to use scout camping account funds to pay for summer camp, please contact Joe Cady at jcadyjr@gmail.com. Joe can provide the current scout account balance and you can instruct him on the amount you would like to use for summer camp.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Key Dates – Summer Camp 2021	
Camp Deposit Due	2/19/2021
Full Payment Due	3/26/2021
<i>(After this date, rate is \$470/week)</i>	
Health/Medical Forms Due	5/14/2021
<i>(Parts A,B,C with Copy of Insurance Card; also Special Dietary Needs and Medication forms if applicable)</i>	
Camp Horseshoe Weeks	Week One: 6/27/2021 – 7/04/2021 Week Two: 7/04/2021 – 7/11/2021

Reminder: All KISC attendees under 18 must attend at least one-week of summer camp.

More information and links to all forms are included on the Troop 78 website. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Hornickle at thornickle@msn.com or call at (610) 742-1560.

Please print out this Newsletter for everyone in your house to see.