



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...)

November 2022
Volume 39 Number 3

Council Camporee! Adventures at Camp Horseshoe



November 2022

- 1 Tuesday Board of Review 7 PM
Troop Committee 7:30PM
- 2 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:00PM
- 4 Friday TROOP MEETING 7PM, begin Poinsettia sale
- 7 Monday Friends of Troop 78 Board Meeting
- 9 Wednesday - First Responder for 4th Gr. Webelos, help needed
- 11 Friday TROOP MEETING, 2nd Webelos Open House 7PM
- 18 Friday - Sunday 20, West Point Trip, Army vs U. Conn Football
- 26 Saturday "Franksgiving" Alumni Gathering, Noon to 3 PM
Troop Cabin 20th Anniversary Commemoration
All Troop members and families are welcome!

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

[Annual Registration Now Due!](#)

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Camporee!

October 14, 2022 - October 16, 2022

Camp Horseshoe

By Caleb Fulmer

Three patrols of Troop 78 scouts and a group of adult leaders set out on a cool Friday evening for an hour-long bus ride to Camp Horseshoe and the 2022 Camporee. We arrived at camp and unloaded our backpacks and hiked down to our campsite on the Athletic Field. Then we unloaded Mr. D's truck and set up our tents and patrol sites in an orderly fashion. We started work on our gateway, which was made up of 53 lashings not including the knots to hold up our sign. To finish the day, we had a quick snack of Oreos and turned in for the night.

We woke up early the next morning and made a breakfast of pancakes and sausage in our patrol kitchens. Then each patrol figured out which activities they wanted to do for the day and set off on their morning activities. Some of the morning activities that we had to choose from included blindfolded tent setup, rifle shooting, and leaf identification. After the morning activities, we made lunch of grilled cheese and tomato soup. Then we all went to our afternoon activities which were shotgun, action archery, (which is shooting a bow and arrow at clay plates) and axe throwing. We got back and started our dutch oven dinner of beef stew. As dinner cooked, a group of scouts started an ultimate frisbee game. Then we all ate our



dinner together and watched the tail end of the Philadelphia Phillies game. After dinner we attended the campfire to find out how we did in the competition. All 3 patrols, Flying Eagle, Cougar, and Moose, earned the highest award and we were the only Troop to have all patrols with that honor. We returned to our site triumphant and went to bed.

The next morning we all got up, ate a quick breakfast, and packed up camp. Then we went to the chapel service which consisted of a few prayers and songs. We loaded up the gear in Mr. D's truck and hiked back up to the bus ready to head home after a great and accomplished weekend.





[Click here for more camporee pictures.](#)
[Click here for camporee videos.](#)

Court of Honor

Sunday October 9, 2022

Troop 78 cabin

By Ben Barsotti

On October 9th, a Court of Honor award ceremony was held at the Troop cabin. We began the event with a lasagna potluck dinner, with everyone eating outside on a beautiful October afternoon.

The awards ceremony was to recognize scouts who had earned merit badges and ranks during summer camp and since, including two new Eagle Scouts, Shreyas Sao and Bill Purcell. Many scouts also earned other ranks and over 250 merit badges were awarded.

The Achgekatum award, an award given to a dedicated junior leader, was given to the current SPL, Jack Barsotti. The Compass award, given only when a true youth leader stands up and leads the troop well for many years, was given to ASPL, Logan Duff.

Scout of the Year, representing the scout with the best attendance and advancement over the course of the past year, was awarded this year to Justin Sansone. Patrol of the Year: Moose.

We heard many speeches about past trips, such as Disney, Switzerland, Summer Camp, and many more. For many, the highlight of our time in scouting was certainly the Switzerland trip. The trip was detailed in a great video put to music, which was shown to the delight of the crowd.



EAGLE SCOUT BILL PURCELL

EAGLE SCOUT SHREYAS SAO



Radnor Hunt Horse Trials

Saturday October 8, 2022

By Steve Brown

On October 8th, 21 determined Scouts, Scouters, and family members returned to Radnor Hunt to assist with the 50th Radnor Hunt Horse Trials. We parked horse trailers starting in the wee hours of the morning and later helped set-up and move the show jumping and dressage events. During the day we got to watch the competitors and their horses up close and enjoy breakfast, lunch, snacks and beverages provided to volunteers. At the end of the day, a record number of 78ers stayed to enjoy hospitality of the post-event pig roast picnic. Many Radnor volunteers and competitors thanked us for being there and said they couldn't complete some of the tasks without us. In total, we provided 130.5 hours of our time to help stage this community event! The following Scouts, Scouters, and family members volunteered:



Ben, Will, and Steph Gunderson
Charles and David Lane
Brian Rothberg
Tom and Ella Pizzuto
Don and Jay Tyson
Vinay Sao
Henry Scott

Jamie Capelli
Anish Narr
Brian and Nic Opielski
Ethan and Justin Sansone
Mike Simms
Keith LePard
Steve Brown

Willistown Conservation Trust Run-a-Muck

Saturday October 15, 2022

By Steve Brown

On October 15th, 10 Scouts and Scouters were blessed with beautiful blue skies and a spirit of volunteerism and helped the Willistown Conservation Trust stage their annual Run-A-Muck 5K race. The event was held at picturesque On Point Farm showcasing the rolling countryside of Chester County. Mr. Brown and Mr. Siegle sized up the parking areas then with a solid team effort and some Troop 78 parking “magic” managed to get approximately 200 cars to park efficiently and safely on the farm grounds. At the end of the day, we got to join in the post-race party and have a BBQ meal, enjoyed a large bonfire, and live music. The 10 volunteers provided 35 hours of our time and the group included the following:



Ted Diederich
Mark Siegle
Wayne Curry

Ben, Will, and Steph Gunderson
Tom and Ella Pizzuto
Steve and Andrew Brown

Fire Circle Work Continues

Saturday October 15, 2022

Achgekatum Fire Circle, Camp Horseshoe

Troop 78 scouts and leaders took advantage of already being in Camp Horseshoe for the Camporee, and completed several small projects in the camp fire circle.

The scouts applied grass seed, over seeding the entire circle, upper seating area, and entrance walkway. The leaders repaired the underground drainage system.

We are looking forward to a great year next summer!



Halloween Party!

Friday October 28, 2022

Troop 78 Cabin

The troop gathered on perfect fall night, Friday October 28, for their regular troop meeting, but in this case no uniforms were anywhere to be seen. It was a night of costumes, fun, outdoor activities, a pumpkin carving contest, and a delicious Halloween snack.

It was also a perfect night for some realistic first aid, complete with stage make-up.



Radnor Races Thank You!

Radnor Hunt Club May 21 and 22, 2022

By Brian Rothberg

On behalf of the Troop Committee; Don Tyson, Steve Brown and I want to thank you for your efforts at this spring's Radnor Event. The Radnor Hunt Races depends on Troop 78 to handle most of the supporting functions that make this great event possible. The Troop depends on you, its extended family, to enable us to do this.

This year's event marked a return to a full schedule in the wake of Covid cancellations and limitations the last two years. The Troop's big challenge, in this our 32nd year, was handling some additions to the Event. The Clydesdales were showcased as well as an entirely new "Pony Race." We had a very short time to prepare, but Troop 78 came through! Thank you for your flexibility which allowed us to accomplish our tasks. Race Day weather served up another obstacle. Sunny skies and temperatures in the mid-90's were a test. But we were prepared! You came out in great numbers on Saturday and on Sunday when we had a wonderful crew for clean-up. We finished that task in under two and a half hours. Quite an achievement, and we unquestionably left the Radnor Hunt Club in better condition than it was early Saturday morning. *Thanks so much for your fabulous efforts.*

Your participation helped the Troop in one of our major fund-raising activities. Further, you helped raise money for the Brandywine Conservancy in its ongoing and crucial efforts to preserve open space in our area. We also were able to show the public the kind of great work that Boy Scouts & Troop 78 do in our Community. I hope you were able to enjoy yourself too.

This year we had a wonderful group of newcomers to join with our veteran members and our legendary corps of "Old-Timers." Together we once again put forth the kind of effort that most groups could not even imagine; just another day at the Races for Troop 78.

THANKS AGAIN!

Very sincerely,

Brian Rothberg

These are the families who came out and worked with the Troop. If you could not make it this year, we look forward to seeing you next May.

Balmat*	Curry	Heegard*	Moss	Scott
Barsotti	D'Antonio*	Hogan*	Motel	Shay*
Batuello	Diederich	Hornickle	Murphy	Souder*
Bilson*	Dinsmore*	Jonalla	Narr	Spaulding
Blasch	Dondero*	Kartick	Opielski	St. Clair*
Bodden-Cantarero	Duff	Kumar	Petaja	Stergiades
Bravo*	Elmer	Lane	Pizzuto*	Stevens*
Brogan*	Flipse*	Lang*	Purcell	Sugzdinis
Brown*	Fox	Lemheney	Ramirez	Teran
Bryan	Fulmer	Madarasz*	Riley*	Tyson
Cady*	Gillespie	Marshall	Rothberg*	Urban*
Capelli	Gruss*	Matje*	Rubino*	Vercoe*
Carnes	Guifarro	Meenakashi	Rule	Wark
Christaldi	Gunderson	Mendez	Sansone	Winkelman
Constantine	Hanna	Miller*	Sao	Yi
Cronauer	Happ	Moon	Schallack	

The names followed by * are people and families that came out and helped Troop 78 in spite of the fact that they no longer have (and in some cases never had) an active boy in the troop. **Thank you!** You are a wonderful example of the spirit of our Troop and its extended family!

Troop Log Books

By Ethan Sansone

Troop logs are an important way to keep track of your scouting experiences. They help you recall your favorite memories of scouting and can give anyone an idea of your scouting career.

What is a troop log? It is a written record of all events, trips and important troop meetings that you attend. It can be written from your point of view or in the third person. There are no strict guidelines as to what you must write, but it must give a general idea of every important scouting event.

Troop logs are important as they are used by the person giving your Eagle Scout speech to get an idea of what you've achieved and been through. Lastly, troop logs are required in Troop 78 for Star, Life, and Eagle ranks.

Annual Registration Due!

All scouts and scouters must re-register every year.

All forms and payment due by Friday October 21st.

[Please click here for re-registration information.](#)

For more information contact: [Mike Simms.](#)

Upcoming Events

West Point Tour and Football

Friday November 18 - Sunday November 20, 2022

A Troop 78 tradition returns as we head back to the United States Military Academy, a/k/a "West Point," to camp, tour the campus and see the Army Black Knights take on the University of Connecticut in football at historic Michie Stadium on the Hudson River.



**OPENING CEREMONY FROM
OUR TRIP IN 2017**

Holiday Poinsettia and Wreath Sale

Delivery for early orders 11/22

Delivery for standard orders 12/1

We need your help in the fall fundraiser!

These funds will pay for our scouts to attend outings and program events for the next year. With the proceeds from this sale, we will cover the costs of our monthly camping trips and other program expenses. We need all of the scouts and their families to help.

Please consider placing an order for Holiday poinsettia plants and wreaths.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Troop 78 Pinewood Derby Workshop

Saturday January 14, 2023

By Brian Opielski

It is a well kept secret that Troop 78 has in its ranks some world renowned Pinewood Derby Car builders. In keeping with the Scout slogan of “Do a Good Turn daily”, these graphite gurus have eagerly agreed that it is time to pass on their “need for speed” to the next generation of pinewood prodigies. As a result, Troop 78 would like to officially announce its 1st Annual Pinewood Derby Fabrication Workshop on 1/14/23. During this workshop our world renowned derby car builders will be lending their time, talent and tools to help local Cubs (and parents) fabricate 5 ounces of pure Pinewood Derby greased lightning glory.

Cubs will be asked to bring their official Pinewood Derby car kit, a package of weights and ideally a sketch of their car’s design. The workshop will start with all Cubs and parents learning some simple physics principles that apply to making a competitive Pinewood Derby car. After learning some basic science, parents and Cubs (based on their rank) will progress through a series of workstations manned by our Scouts and qualified adults that will take them from conceptual design to a car that is ready for final sanding, polishing and painting at home with their parents.

There will be two paths through our workshop based on the Cub’s rank. Lions will perform approximately 10% of the work, 20% for Tigers, 40% for Wolves, 60% for Bears, 80% for Webelos and 90-100% for AOLs. The first path for Lions, Tigers and Wolfs will start out with cutting and rough shaping done by qualified adults with powered wood working equipment. The second path will have Bears, Webelos and AOL using hand held coping saws, rasps and files to shape their cars with the help of our Scouts and their parents. The two paths will converge for Scout lead instruction on how to polish the axles and wheels at home. Lastly, our Scouts will help the Cubs get their cars close to the final 5oz weight before heading home to put the finishing touches on their cars.

Please note our Scouts will not be permitted to use power tools.....only hand tools. Only qualified adults with proper personal protection equipment will be permitted to operate power tools. Additionally, all fabrication steps will follow Chester County Council’s official Pinewood Derby rules.

As always, many hands make light work. We need both equipment and qualified adults and Scouts to make this workshop a success. Please contact Brian Opielski at bopielski@verizon.net



Alumni Corner

Franks-giving!

Saturday November 26, 2022

Troop 78 cabin

By Michael Bennett

Super “Troop-er”: Willistown 78 Will Celebrate 20 Years of Achgeketum Lodge

Two decades ago this fall, Willistown Troop 78 moved into its new home on Mill Road. The building, which was informally called the “New Cabin” at first, has since been renamed Achgeketum Lodge to honor Troop 78 legend and Scoutmaster Emeritus Ernie Heegard. Since its opening in the autumn of 2002, the Lodge has seen generations of Scouts through the Troop 78 program by hosting Troop meetings, Courts of Honor, and Field Day contests. It has also served as a point of departure for innumerable Scouting adventures, from monthly weekend campouts to long-distance visits to Disney World, Algonquin Provincial Park, and Kandersteg International Scout Centre.

On Saturday, November 26, the 20th Birthday Party for Achgeketum Lodge will run from noon to 3 PM. The Troop 78 Alumni Board will host the event, to which all Troop 78 Scouts, Scouters, alumni, and families are invited. Guests of honor for the afternoon will include the Lodge Building Committee, the Lodge contractors, and the Scouts who were in Troop 78 when the Lodge opened, as well as their families. Following brief remarks by Willistown 78 Alumni Board members, Troop Committee members, and Scouts, attendees will enjoy a delicious lunch and time to socialize. Highlights of the Birthday Party will include a 50-50 raffle, displays of historic Scouting memorabilia, and a slideshow highlighting 20 years of Lodge memories.

The Troop Alumni Board will soon send out E-vites to the Lodge Birthday Party, and those interested may also send along photos from their experiences at Achgeketum Lodge for the slideshow. We hope to see you there!

RSVP to troop78alumni@gmail.com to avoid missing out!

Fundraiser for the Cabin Endowment

Announcing a limited offering of reproduction prints of a watercolor painted 20 years ago of the “new” cabin done by Win Reber. Win was longtime member of the Troop committee, as well as an original member of the Friends of Troop 78 board. He was also the chair of the Radnor School District art department.

He designed the Troop loon logo as well the patch used on the Troop neckerchief. Full scale reproduction of the painting measures 22" x 15", half-scale is 15" x 11". Limited edition: ten full scale prints offered at \$195.00 each, twenty half-scale prints at \$95.00 each.

Proceeds go to the cabin endowment fund.

More information will be announced on the troop website and at the Franks-giving in November.



Chester County Council News

Annual Gala

Friday November 18, 2022

The Council will hold its annual gala at the Loch Aerie Mansion in Malvern on Friday November 18. This will be an evening of good food and fellowship, music, and conversation.

Please consider joining us for an evening of fun and fundraising for scouting in Chester County.

Our own Sam Lemheney is in charge of this event.

Please come out and support the Council and Sam!

[Click here for more information.](#)

Veterans Breakfast

Friday November 11, 2022

We honor our Veterans at this Council event. We will gather at the Desmond hotel for a breakfast and to hear from Keynote Speaker William Mott, Garrison Sergeant Major, and lead administrator at Valley Forge Military Academy and College. He spent a career in the British Army and will speak on leadership and security challenges in the current age.

Troop 78 is honored to be providing the Color Guard for the opening ceremony at this event.

AND Troop 78 is providing the traditional Eagle Scout youth speaker, our own Logan Duff.

Please come out and support this important event!

[Click here for more information.](#)

Sporting Clays

Friday October 7, 2022

Over 100 Scouters from all over Chester County converged on Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays for the annual clay shoot. We had a day of fun and fellowship, it was a picture perfect October day. We raised funds for the scouts of Chester County, including over \$15,000 for camperships, to support those scouts who need financial help attending summer camp at Camp Horseshoe.



Print this Newsletter for everyone in your family to see.