

Willistown Troop 78

Website: www.tr78.org
Facebook: [Willistown Boy Scout Troop78](https://www.facebook.com/WillistownBoyScoutTroop78)
YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Volume 32 Number 7
March 2016

Upcoming Events

March

Friday 4
Troop Meeting 7PM

Tuesday 8
[Pasta Night](#) 7PM

Friday 11
Troop Meeting 7PM

Friday 18 – Saturday 26
[Disney](#)

April

Friday 1
Troop Meeting 7PM

Tuesday 5
Board of Review 7PM
Troop Committee 7:30PM

Wednesday 6
Patrol Leaders' Council
7:30PM

Friday 8 – Sunday 10
Gettysburg Historical Tour
and Campout

Friday 15
Troop Meeting 7PM

Saturday 16
[Build and deliver hoagies](#)

Friday 22
Troop Meeting 7PM

Friday 29 – Sunday May 1
[Order of the Arrow
induction weekend](#)
(Members and candidates
only)

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

Troop Celebrates New Eagles

The scouts of Troop 78 had a fabulous day on Sunday, February 28 at the annual Parent Night and Court of Honor. Every year in February we recognize the anniversary of Scouting in America with a grand celebration of our scouts' accomplishments and this year the scouts outdid themselves. There were six Eagle Scout awards (yes, six) and numerous other ranks and merit badges. In addition, there were several special awards including Recruit of the Year, The Bellegrau Award for Dedicated Service and an Order of the Arrow Tap Out.

Recognized for [Recruit of the Year](#): scout Nathan Schallack. Nathan received a medal he may now wear on his uniform and his name is inscribed forever on the plaque. The award also includes a free week at Camp Horseshoe, a \$390 value. Congratulations Nathan!



Recruit of the year: Nathan Schallack



Mr. Dondero is recognized

The George Bellegrau Award for Distinguished Service to the Troop was awarded to Mr. David Dondero, for 18 years as the Troop Committee Chairman and, as if he doesn't have enough to do, he is also the Chair of the Friends of Troop 78. In addition, Dave serves on the Board of Chester County Council as the Vice President in charge of development for the new [Council Service Center \(PARC\)](#) to be built on land donated to the Council. He is also recognized as one of only 6 people in the history of Troop 78 to receive the [Silver Beaver](#), Chester County's highest adult service award. Thank you Dave for your many years of service to the Troop and Chester County Council. (Continued on next page)

[Click here for more pictures](#) [Click here for video](#)



Troop 78's six newest Eagle Scouts

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Flower and Plant Sale

Eagles Celebrate (continued)

The newest candidates for the Order of the Arrow were called out by the Troop 78 Native American Dance Team in full regalia. The Order of the Arrow was started on Treasure Island in the Delaware River outside Philadelphia over 100 years ago and now has spread throughout the world. It is an organization of honor scouts, those who most exemplify the Scout Oath and Law through service to others. Scouts and Leaders are proposed to the Order by their peers through a secret ballot vote. Our newest candidates to the Order will be inducted during a weekend of service to Camp Horseshoe this April, they are: Cody Carnes, Julian Lu, David Finkleston, Frances Purcell, Branden Schallack, Cameron Skodny, Mr. Chris Carnes, Mr. Paul Skodny. Congratulations gentlemen! See you all at Horseshoe in April.

Welcomed to the rank of Eagle were Tommy Walsh, David Finkleston, Billy Mackrides. Ethan Bilson, Seth Fox, Dan Brown. These young men extend the long tradition of Troop 78 scouts excelling to the highest rank in scouting. [The Troop has now awarded 178 Eagles](#). Phenomenal!

Matje Farm

By Nathan Motel

Around six o'clock on Friday the 19th of February, the troop set out once again for Mr. Matje's farm in northern Pennsylvania. This time instead of competing in events at Mr. Matje's property, many of the scouts went to Elk Mountain to ski. After the grueling four hour bus ride, we reached the farm. The first thing, as usual, was the "no fire in the barn" speech, given by Mr. Matje himself. In past years his speech would inform us about how the barn was 150 years old and how he doesn't want it to burn down, so we are not allowed to have any lighters or heat creating devices. This year instead of telling us to attempt to put out the fire if one was started, he told us the barn would go up too fast to put it out, so we should just take a seat on the porch of the house, grab a drink and watch it burn. (To end the suspense: the barn survived the weekend.)

After Mr. Matje finished his speech, we began to unpack the bus. Once all the gear was off the bus, the scouts went down to the airy, luxurious and roomy barn, while the adults made their way to the cramped and stuffy house. By eleven o'clock everyone was asleep.

(Continued on next page)



All together now

Matje Farm (continued)

Next morning, wake-up happened to be an unfortunate alarm at 5:30 in the morning. In what seemed like an effort to annoy everyone in the barn, one of the patrol leaders decided to set an early morning alarm. Not only was it a ridiculous time to get up, but he slept through it for about 10 minutes until an airborne object woke him up. After getting about 30 minutes less sleep than we were originally promised, all of the scouts trudged up to the house for a breakfast of sausage and French toast. Then everyone who was going skiing went down to the barn to get changed into ski gear.



Bus ambulance, repair underway

The bus wouldn't start, so we took the SUVs and pick-up trucks to the ski mountain. When we got to the mountain, we distributed the lunches and made our way to rental building. Mr. Bennett distributed the lift tickets and we hit the slopes. At the beginning of the day, everyone was a little rusty, but by the end of the day everyone had improved their skills. Around four o'clock we returned our rented gear and got back in the cars to for the trip back to the farm.

We got a little turned around on our way back to the farm and we arrived just in time for dinner, which those who did not go skiing, had prepared for us. Once everyone had eaten, Jay Madarasz and I were put on the job of cleaning up after dinner. It took the two of us an alarming two hours to finish up. This may have been due to long spans of unproductive fooling around and bickering. None the less, we got the job done. Finally, around eleven, the day came to an end.

The next morning, everyone woke up around 7:00 to enjoy a delicious breakfast of bagels and cereal. After breakfast we all took in a scenic hike to the top of Mr. Matje's property, the weather was perfect, unusually warm, and had chapel service and the top of the ridge with a view of the valley below. Finally, to finish off our stay at Matje farm, we did what Troop 78 is known for, we stacked some firewood for Mr. Matje. We had an uneventful bus ride back to the cabin. Perfect weekend.



At Elk Mountain

[Click here for pictures and videos](#)

Upcoming and Ongoing Events

Day Ski Trip

Please join us for a trip to Blue Mountain Sunday March 6th. This is a day trip (no camping!), open to all scouts, scout family members, and friends.

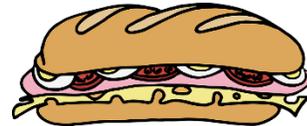
[Click here for more information](#)

Pasta Night

Join us Tuesday March 8 at 7PM at the cabin for a night of good food and fellowship and help raise money for the bus fund.

[Click here for more information](#)

Hoagie Sale Underway Now!



The annual troop hoagie sale is on and orders are due by March 11 for a delivery date of Saturday, April 16. [Click here for more information](#)

Friends of Scouting (FOS)

The annual fundraising drive to support Chester County Council, BSA is underway. These funds support the activities of our local scout council, including the Camporee, First Aid Meet, and Camp Horseshoe. Please consider a donation to [Chester County Council](#). If you are interested or have questions, please contact [Jim Bennett](#).



Our recruiting efforts

Hi everyone,

We really appreciate all the help we have gotten from the scouts and leaders in our efforts to recruit new members, particularly from Ethan Bilson, Jack Dinsmore, Nathan Motel, Jay Madarasz, Seth Fox, Zach Fox, Chip Lemheney, Michael Orlow, and Andrew Brown.

Tuesday Feb 16 7:20-8:30 COMPLETE

- Pack 168, Saint Simon and Jude
- First Aid / Knots / 911 call demo stations
- Stations went very well

Wednesday Feb 17 7pm COMPLETE

- Pack 122 East Goshen Elementary
- Native artifacts / First Aid / Dance Team

Sunday Feb 21 2:45pm COMPLETE

- Pack 105 - Blue and Gold - Cross over for one new scout
- Location: St. Anthony's Lodge, 259 Church St, Downingtown PA 19335

Sunday Feb 21 6pm COMPLETE

- Pack 110 - Blue and Gold - cross over for one new scout

Saturday Feb 27- Pack 108 1:00-1:30pm - Blue and Gold COMPLETE

- cross over for 5 new scouts

Saturday Mar 12 - Time 4 PM - Pack 76 - Blue and Gold

- cross over for 2 new scouts
- Jim Fox planning to attend
- Need 3-4 scouts

Saturday Mar 12 - Time TBD - Pack 168 - Blue and Gold

- cross over for any new recruits.
- Number is TBD

Saturday March 20 – Time TBD – Pack 122 – Blue and Gold

TBD – Bridging Ceremony for Pack 108 at the Troop 78 cabin
Cross over for 5 new scouts

Thanks to Jim Fox for heading up this phenomenal recruiting effort!

Pass on the Troop 78 tradition of excellence to a new generation of scouts.

Do you know any scout-aged boys? [Contact Jim Fox](#)

Walt Disney World 2016

Packed and ready to go!

With a five-day Park Hopper ticket in hand (or on the wrist as the case may be) 13 scouts and 6 leaders are ready to visit the four theme parks, Magic Kingdom, Hollywood Studios, Animal Kingdom, and Epcot, and also Disney Quest, miniature golf at Fantasia Gardens and Fairways or Winter Summerland Miniature Golf Courses, or the water parks, Typhoon Lagoon, Blizzard Beach, or just swim and hang out at the Fort Wilderness campground. Monday morning March 21, we will attend a Disney “YES” Program. (Youth Education Series). Yes, it is educational and more importantly fun. Last year part of the program had the boys ride on Test Track and Soaring with no wait.

There will be an equipment check and bus clean up on Sunday March 13 and bus packing Thursday March 17 for a Friday March 18 departure.

Questions? Contact [Jim Hogan](#).

[Click here for more information](#)



Important KISC Trip Updates

We are now only 5 months away from our great adventure in the Swiss Alps at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC).

If you need a passport, apply for it NOW. If you have a passport, it must be valid for 6 months AFTER our return date.

Click here for the [Activity Schedule Grid](#).

Click here for the [Activity Descriptions](#).

Click here for the [Kandersteg Information Page](#) on the Troop web site.

Click here for the [Kandersteg website](#).

Questions: email [Steve Brown](#).

Flower and Plant Sale

We plan a flower sale in time for Mother's Day, Sunday May 8. Last year's sale was a great success, well received, and the scouts earned lots of money for their scout accounts. This fundraiser takes the place of the Spring garage sale, which we are not doing this year.

More details as we get closer.

Radnor Races: Save the Dates May 21 & 22, 2016



If you can only give one weekend a year to Troop 78, please make it this weekend in May.

Grab your calendar and reserve the third weekend in May to help Troop 78 at the **Radnor Hunt Races**.

This is an important time for Troop 78. This event is a huge fundraiser for the troop and, as important, it is a great way to showcase scouting and Troop 78. Over 10,000 people attended the event last year and saw Troop 78 scouts and leaders in uniform, serving the community.

If you could not make it last year, we look forward to seeing you in May. To sign up to volunteer please contact [Brian Rothberg](#) or [Bob Matje](#).

Sea Base 2017

Troop 78 wins the lottery! The Sea Base crew lottery that is. The Troop has been awarded a reservation for a crew of 8 to participate in the SCUBA Adventure at the Florida Sea Base from July 16 to July 23, 2017. If interested we need a \$100 deposit by March 25th, with half the total fee paid by mid-September and the rest next year. The total cost will be determined by the air fare.

If interested or for more information please contact [Eric Meltzer](#).

Scrip Program: Make money for the Troop at no cost to you

Please consider participating in this great program. You simply buy store cards you would normally buy anyway through the troop scrip program, the troop benefits and so do you and your scout.

Through this program a percentage of the face value of the store card is donated by the retailer back to the troop. This donation is split between the troop and your scout's personal account. The percentage varies depending on the retailer, but it can be as high as 16%. This donation from the retailer to the troop does not affect the value of the card. For example: if you buy a \$100 card from LL Bean, you receive a \$100 card and the troop receives \$16.

Ordering the cards through the Scrip Program is easy. Use the [order form on the troop website](#) or you can look up card options on the Scrip Program website: www.glscrip.com. Nearly every retailer you can think of participates.

Please make checks out to: Friends of Troop 78, and give the check and the order form to Ted or Diane Dinsmore. Please [contact Ted or Diane](#) with any questions.

Troop Uniform Exchange

We Want Your Old Scout Uniforms

Please check your closets, attic, garage, and old foot lockers.

Do you have scout uniforms that you have outgrown and/or no longer need? Please drop them at the cabin or mail them to:

Troop Uniform Exchange
1191 Pebble Spring Drive
Berwyn, PA 19312



The troop keeps a uniform exchange for the scouts as they grow through the years, and they need bigger and bigger uniforms.

Scouts: please bring in the uniform shirts, pants and shorts you have outgrown or no longer need. We will sort these and allow other scouts to use them. Scouts: if you need a new uniform, check the uniform exchange at cabin before buying one. There may be one in the exchange you can use. Bring one, take one.