



# Newsletter

Volume 28    Number 6    February 2012

## COMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 2012

- 2/1 - Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
- 2/3-5 – Matje Winter Olympics Trip**
- 2/6 - Friends of Troop 78 Board Meeting
- 2/7 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg. & Adult CPR Training
- 2/9 – Council-wide Roundtable
- 2/10 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) Youth Protection Video @ 8:00 PM
- 2/24 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) Begin Hoagie Sale
- 2/26 - **ANNUAL PARENT'S NIGHT AND COURT OF HONOR: (3 PM) – Scout Cabin**

### MARCH 2012

- 3/2 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- 3/6 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.
- 3/7 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
- 3/8 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable*
- 3/9 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- 3/10 – Order of the Arrow Banquet (5:30 PM)
- 3/16 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
- 3/17 – Day Hike**
- 3/23 – TROOP FIRST AID MEET (7 to 9 PM)  
Hoagie money due
- 3/24 – Council First Aid Meet (afternoon)**
- 3/30-4/7 – Florida Trip – Disney World**

**NOTE: Camping Trips/Major Events shown in Bold.** TROOP MEETINGS underlined in CAPITALS. *Adult only meetings in Italics.*

### NEW DADS NEEDED!

The troop committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 7, at 7:30 PM, at the cabin. The committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month to guide and discuss the operation of the troop. New dads are especially encouraged to attend.

"The man who is blind to the beauties of Nature has missed half the pleasure of life." Robert Baden Powell



### MATJE FARM 2012 WINTER KLONDIKE OLYMPIAD - BE THERE!

For the weekend of February 3 – 5, Willistown Troop 78 and West Point Troop 23 are teaming up for one of the best events of the entire Scouting year: the Matje Farm 2012 Winter Klondike Olympiad. This one-of-a-kind trip combines the best of the Klondike Derby and Winter Olympics. The two troops will be camping at Mr. Matje's farm in upstate Pennsylvania and will combine forces to create new patrols made up of members from each troop. These patrols will then compete in a variety of fun events.

Our senior patrol leader and council have been working with Troop 23's youth leaders to develop a wide range of sure-to-please activities. We will have cross-country skiing; snowshoeing; sled races; field competition events like wood chopping and fire building; realistic first-aid; and air rifle shooting events. If the snow doesn't cooperate, the youth leaders are prepared to fill in with alternate fun events in lieu of the snow events. Saturday lunches will be cooked by patrols in the great outdoors in open fires. Come Saturday evening, we will have a traditional Scout campfire with songs and skits from both troops. On Sunday, we will hike the property and head to the top of the overlook, where

we will join together for a Sunday religious service.

We'll be doing all of this on Mr. Matje's wonderful property. Covering hundreds of acres, "The Buck Stops Here" has two signature facilities: a 200-year-old barn that serves as the overnight accommodations for the Scouts and a beautiful farmhouse that is filled with taxidermied trophies and eye-catching memorabilia. On a clear night at the farm, the sky fills with stars as far as the eye can see. The mournful howl of distant coyotes serenades all in the evenings. During the day, the view from the top of the property is a sweeping panorama of mountains and valleys.

If you've been to Matje Farm, you know that it's an awesome place, and you'll want to return. If you haven't been, you need to come on this trip to see why the event is legendary. And this year, we get to share it with new friends from West Point, NY. Don't worry about the weather – you can always step into the farmhouse and warm yourself by the wood stove if you get chilly. The only way you'll be left out in the cold is if you don't come along! So make sure to sign up for a great time!

Do your best to let your patrol leader know by the troop meeting on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, if you will be joining us. Final time for notification to your patrol leader is 7:00 PM on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Dads are welcome, too, but space for adults indoors will be limited, since we will have visiting leaders from West Point Troop 23 staying in the farmhouse with us. For those fathers who are the adventurous type, you are welcome to pitch a tent and sleep out for the night. Scouts, don't forget to tell your patrol

leader if your father will be joining us.

The Matje Farm trip is long-standing tradition with Willistown 78, and participants always have a great time. This year's trip is shaping up to be one of the best. Make sure you come along for the fun. The packing list is included below. Come to the farm and hope for snow!

**Suggested packing list (pack in a duffle bag):**

Winter sleeping bag or sleeping bag with blanket  
Sleeping pad (note that the barn will be filled with fresh hay. Those who are allergic have the option of tent camping)  
Flashlight  
Warm clothes – remember to bring layers and stuff to change into in case you get wet  
Plastic bag for laundry  
Gloves  
Pullover hat  
Sunscreen  
Rain and snow gear (consider a waterproof outer shell)  
Sleds, ice-skates, XC skis and snowshoes (troop will have XC skis and snowshoes available for you to borrow.)  
Sturdy hiking boots  
Extra synthetic or wool socks  
Change of clothes for sleeping – thermal under layer strongly advised  
Toilet articles (small hand towel or wash cloth; toothbrush; toothpaste; comb, etc.)  
DADS – Earplugs!  
DRINKING CUP (Save the environment – bring a cup)  
Money for “pit stops”

The troop bus will leave the cabin at 6:00 PM SHARP on Friday night. Arrival time at the cabin on Friday: no later than 5:45 PM. We will not wait if you are late! Also, if you commit to attend and are a no-show, your Scout account will be charged \$20. We will return to the cabin around 2:00 PM on Sunday afternoon.



**DON'T FORGET TO RESERVE  
YOUR SPOT FOR DISNEY  
WORLD 2012 TRIP – MARCH 30  
TO APRIL 7**

A \$200 deposit is due. Send in your deposit via check **payable to Willistown Troop 78, B.S.A., Miles Stevens, 1130 Paxson Hollow Rd., Media, PA 19063, or bring it to a troop meeting.**

You may use your Scout camping account money by calling or e-mailing Joe Cady at (610) 647-4037 [jcady@comcast.net](mailto:jcady@comcast.net).

See the January newsletter for more details.

**If you are already signed up, talk it up to your fellow Scouts; we must have 16 Scouts to have a trip!**

**SCOUTS TO VIEW  
'A TIME TO TELL' VIDEO  
AT FEBRUARY 10TH MEETING**

Child abuse is an increasingly serious, widespread problem in society, affecting every ethnic group, socioeconomic level, and geographic area. The significance of this problem is revealed by the nearly 3 million cases of child abuse reported each year in the United States. The Boy Scouts of America has developed Youth Protection training to prepare its leaders to help children who have been, or are being, abused, as well as to teach Scouts to *Recognize, Resist and Report* any inappropriate situations or abuse.

The BSA training program includes a Guide for Parents found in the front of each Boy Scout Handbook (which we urge you to review with your Scout, a copy can be found at

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/ypt/pdf/100-015.pdf> ) as well as the video, *A Time to Tell*, which troops are encouraged to view periodically with their Scouts and parents. These materials are to help youth members and their parents know what they should do to prevent abuse from happening to them.

Troop 78 has routinely shown the *A Time to Tell* video in the past. At our troop meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>, Scouts and parents are invited to view the video at 8:00 PM. Any parents who would like to preview the program can do so in the Committee Room at 7:15 PM.

**For Your Information:** Youth Protection Training is required for all registered volunteers. New leaders are required to take Youth Protection Training before they submit their application for registration. The certificate of completion for this training must be submitted at the time application is made and before volunteer service with youth begins. Youth Protection Training for volunteers must be taken every two years. If a volunteer's Youth Protection Training record is not current at the time of re-charter, the volunteer will not be reregistered.

Keeping Scouts safe and keeping Scouting leaders up to date with current information and methods requires that some of the BSA's training courses need to be retaken every two to three years.

For our volunteers, below is a list of these training courses. To remain valid, they should be retaken every two years:

- Youth Protection
- Safe Swim Defense
- Safety Afloat
- CPR
- Hazardous Weather
- Climb On Safely

- Trek Safety
- Chain Saw Safety

**More Advanced Training:**

- Paddle Craft Safety—every three years
- Aquatics Supervision/Swimming and Water Rescue—every three years
- BSA Lifeguard—every three years
- Visitation training—every two years
- Climbing Instructor—every two years
- Lead Climbing Instructor—every five years
- COPE/Climbing Inspector—every two years
- Trainer's EDGE—every three years
- Physical Wellness—every two years
- National Camping School—good for five camping seasons



**WILLISTOWN TROOP 78  
PARENT'S NIGHT AND  
COURT OF HONOR  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

**TIME:** 3:00 PM (Scouts arrive by 2:45 in Class "A" Uniform)

**PLACE:** TROOP 78 CABIN

15 MILL ROAD (If our lot is filled, please park at the baseball fields next door.)

Each year during February, Scouting's birthday month, we hold one of two Court of Honors to present Scout awards and update parents on the troop activities. Our February event also features the Recruit of the Year award and the Call Out ceremony for the new Order of the Arrow Candidates. Scouts must be First Class with 15 days and nights of camping to qualify for election by their fellow troop members. Come help us recognize our Scouts and Scouters.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Highlights of the first half of the Scout year
- Presentation of merit badges and rank advancement
- Recruit of the year award
- Order of the Arrow call out ceremony

**Scouts and Scouters, please wear your complete uniform.**



**TROOP 78 DIVES INTO SCUBA!**

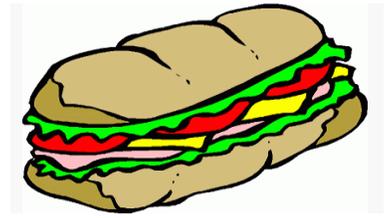
One of the most amazing experiences in life is scuba diving. Fish swim along side you as you share their world.

The troop would like to offer a scuba program over the coming year, culminating in a trip to the BSA National High Adventure Base or "Seabase" in the Florida Keys in 2013. If enough Scouts and dads are interested, we will begin a training program during the next year. All Scouts who will be 14 by the summer of 2013 are welcome. Mr. Eric Metzger (George's dad) was involved in a similar trip with his older son, an Eagle Scout from Paoli 1, and has agreed to organize the required training and Seabase trip.

To help prepare for Seabase, the troop will offer a scuba certification course. At the end of the course, you not only will be a certified scuba diver, you will have met the requirements for the new BSA scuba merit badge!

Scuba certification consists of two tasks: classroom and pool learning and open water certification dives. Our instructor for the course would be Ultimate Scuba in Media. They have worked with many Scout troops. The total cost for certification and purchase of mask, snorkel boots and fins would be about \$700. Scout account funds may be used.

Don't miss this incredible opportunity. Please let Mr. Meltzer know if you want to get scuba certified and attend Sea Base in 2013. To contact him or ask questions: [EMeltzer@BVOne.com](mailto:EMeltzer@BVOne.com) or 610-563-6448.



**TROOP HOAGIE SALE  
IS COMING!**

The month of February kicks off our troop hoagie sale! This long-running annual fundraiser allows the Scouts to sell a delicious, fresh, handmade hoagie. The funds are used to help support the troop's needs for equipment, trips and programs while at the same time adding to the Scout's own personal account. Those funds can help pay for camping trips, the international trip and summer camp.

Hoagie sale forms will be handed out to the Scouts at the end of the troop meeting on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. All orders and money will be collected at the beginning of the troop meeting on Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please note there will be **no exceptions** to this deadline!

Did I mention handmade? Parents, that's where you come in! The troop usually sells over 1,200 hoagies! I'm positive this year will be no different. With your efforts we will be making hoagies on the following two dates. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending one or both sessions as a large adult turnout is crucial and means quick, easy work for all!

**Friday April 13th 7 - 9 PM:** Hoagie set-ups during troop meeting  
**Saturday April 14th 7 - 9 AM:** Hoagie assembly. Scouts pick up orders from 9-10 AM.

I look forward to working with you all on another successful hoagie sale!  
 Scott Vercoe  
 Hoagie Sale Coordinator



**SAVE THE DATE!  
TROOP YARD SALE, MAY 5TH**

The Troop 78 Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, this year. The participation of all Scouts and their families, especially KISC attendees, is needed to make this event a success. It is mandatory that the KISC 2012 attendees help with this important fund-raising event. Collection of items for sale is critical to the yard sale and

will take place the weeks of April 23rd and April 30th. Stay tuned for more details as the date nears! Steve & Jeanne Brown will be coordinating the yard sale again this year, they can be reached at [stevencharlesbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:stevencharlesbrown@yahoo.com) or 610 692-2001.



Just a quick note about Scrip this month. The next order will be placed on February 5<sup>th</sup>, and the cards will be in for the troop meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

The cards that are in stock are ACME, Giant, and WAWA. All of these can be purchased at any Scout event.

If there is anyone interested in learning more about Scrip and how it works, feel free to ask me. All proceeds that are received are split 50/50. Half will go into your son's Scout account and the other half goes to the troop.

Sincerely,  
*Jim and Claire Hogan*  
Troop 78 Scrip Coordinators  
**610-644-8835**  
[james.hogan@siemens.com](mailto:james.hogan@siemens.com)



## Newsletter

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