



Newsletter

Volume 30

Number 7

March 2014

CALENDAR

MARCH 2014

- 3/4 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.
3/5 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
3/7 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
3/8 – Order of the Arrow Banquet (5:30 PM)
3/9 - **ANNUAL PARENT'S NIGHT AND COURT OF HONOR: (3PM) – Scout Cabin**
3/13 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable*
3/14 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
Hoagie \$ due
3/21 - TROOP MEETING
3/28-30 – **Antietam Battlefield Tour and Campout**

APRIL 2014

- 4/1 - Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.
4/2 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
4/4 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
Parents build hoagies
4/5 – **Parents Build Hoagies 7 to 9 AM, Pick-up at 9 AM**
4/10 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable*
4/11-19 – **Florida Disney Trip**
4/25-27- Order of the Arrow Ordeal & Service Weekend @ HSR

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

NEW DADS NEEDED!

The March Troop Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 4th, at 7:30 PM, at the cabin. The committee meets to guide and discuss the operation of the troop. New dads are especially encouraged to attend.



PARENT'S NIGHT AND COURT OF HONOR

Sunday, March 9, 2014

Each year in early March the troop holds a Court of Honor to present Scout awards and ranks, conduct an Order of the Arrow call-out ceremony and update Scouts and parents on upcoming troop activities. Also included is recognition of the Recruit of the Year from 2013. Please join us in recognizing your Scouts.

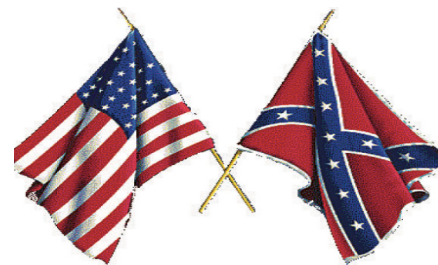
TIME: 3:00 PM
(SCOUTS ARRIVE BY 2:45 in complete Class "A" uniform)

PLACE: TROOP 78 CABIN, 15 MILL ROAD (If our lot is filled, please park at the baseball fields next door.)

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
- Eagle Scout Court of Honor
- Information on the 2016 trip to the International Scout Centre in Kandersteg, Switzerland

SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS PLEASE WEAR YOUR COMPLETE UNIFORM



ANTIETAM NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD TOUR AND CAMPOUT

History comes alive at the site of America's worst one-day battle. Join us for an exciting visit to Antietam National Battlefield. On this trip we will take a private tour of the historical battlefield in the morning. After we tour the battlefield, we will spend time exploring the visitor's center and the battlefield museum. In the visitor's center we will be able to watch movies about the battle and look at awesome displays that will explain the battle and the people in it. (www.nps.gov/anti/index.htm)

Important note:

We will be tent camping. (www.thetreehousecamp.com)

What to bring: Pack in a duffle bag.
Winter sleeping bag
Sleeping pad
Flashlight
Warm clothes
Rain gear
Hiking boots
Synthetic or wool socks
Water bottles (two Nalgene)
Drinking cup
Toilet articles
Money for rest stops (Friday night and Sunday lunch)

Transportation: Troop Bus

We will be leaving the troop cabin Friday, March 28th at 6PM sharp. We will be returning to the cabin Sunday, March 30th at approximately 2 PM.

Reservations:

If you are planning to attend, contact your patrol leader no later than Monday, March 24. Dads: you are encouraged to attend. If you wish to attend, please notify either Jack Bilson or Pete Motel.



SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS UNDERWAY!

I know it may be hard to believe but this winter will end. Summer camp really is just around the corner! Once again Troop 78 has reserved the Dan Beard campsite at Camp Horseshoe for two weeks starting Sunday, June 22nd, and ending Sunday, July 6th. Troop 78 Scouts learn many skills for rank advancement, hundreds of merit badges, and display their teamwork, skills, and Scout spirit in the many games and contests at camp. The basis for our Scouting program is camping, and this two-week period is always the highlight of our Scouting year. Your troop committee and leadership would like to have 100% of the troop in camp this summer.

The cost this year is \$340.00 per week. A \$50 deposit per week is due by March 28th. In order to receive the discounted price, your balance must be paid by May 2nd. The late fee is an additional \$40/week. You will receive a free troop T-shirt if you complete your medical form by May 30th. The health form is on the troop website at: <http://willistown78.org/beascout/resources.html>

If you have any questions at all, please contact Mike Tredinnick at 484-354-7833 or mtreds@verizon.net.

Dads don't be left behind, come and join the troop for this camping experience. The cost to you is free, and the value of your being there is priceless.

MATJE FARM WINTER OLYMPICS

By Robert Varney, Rattlesnake
Patrol

On a cold Friday night Troop 78 piled onto the bus for our yearly trip to Matje Farm. After a long bus ride, we arrived at Mr. Matje's farm. We got a quick orientation and then unloaded the gear out of the bus. Thankfully, no locks were stuck shut this year. When we finished, the Scouts went to the barn to set up their sleeping bags and began to socialize with our guests from Troop 23. After setting up, everyone went to sleep in preparation for the next day's activities.

The next morning everyone woke up and began to prepare for the day's events. For breakfast we had sausage, eggs, and cereal. As we waited for KP to finish cleaning, a snowball fight broke out. After cleanup was over we all fell in, and Troop 23 was split up into our patrols. After that we began the different activities we would be competing in.

In the morning we had a total of 5 stations: archery, BB-gun shooting, stretcher racing, chariot racing, and knot tying. My favorite station of them all was the saw drill drop. Two Scouts started off by using a two-man saw to cut a piece off a log, then another member of the patrol would use a hand drill to cut a hole through it. Once the hole is drilled a rope and pin was used to hold the piece of wood over a bucket and drop it in to finish and stop the timer.

For lunch we had hobo meals made of precooked ham with vegetables that we cooked on our water-boiling

competition fires. Once lunch was over we broke up into more stations. These stations were probably the most fun ones, consisting of things like sled races, tug of war, 3-man ski races and axe accuracy competitions. Throughout the afternoon after stations, Scouts participated in a variety of activities, both fun and productive. Shortly after the last station, another snowball fight broke out that lasted the majority of the afternoon. Additionally, many Scouts ventured to help haul some new wooden poles up the hill to the bus to replace some of the older ones underneath the cabin. After some down time and shotgun shooting with Mr. Matje and Mr. Siegle, it was time for some dinner.

For dinner we had pasta with meat sauce and salad. It was a great meal to end a great day. After dinner was over, the Scouts continued work on the sled hill Mr. Bravo and Mr. Bellville had built during the day. Though the sun set, that didn't faze some of the more adventurous sleders. They continued to fly down the icy slopes until it was time to go to bed. While this happened, Scouts gathered around the fire with s'mores. Those who preferred the warmth of the cabin hunkered down with hot dogs and a deck of cards for the night. Everyone got to bed early for an early start the next day to make the journey back home.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNING PATROLS FROM THE TROOP FIRST AID MEET HELD ON FEBRUARY 28TH

Panther Patrol - 3rd Place
Flying Eagle Patrol - 2nd Place
Cougar Patrol - 1st Place

