



Newsletter

Volume 29 Number 8 April 2013

CALENDAR

APRIL 2013

- 4/2 - Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.
4/3 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
4/5 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) Parents build hoagies
4/6 – Parents Build Hoagies 7 to 9 AM, Pick-up at 9AM
4/11 – Diamond Rock Roundtable
4/12 -14 - Historic Trip – NYC, camping on Staten Island
4/19 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
4/20-21 – Scuba Training Class - Open Water Dives
4/26-28- Order of the Arrow Ordeal & Service Weekend

MAY 2013

- 5/1 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)
5/3 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
5/3-5 – Youth Leadership Training Weekend 1
5/4-5 – Scuba Training Class - Open Water Dives
5/6 – Friends of Troop 78 Board Meeting
5/7 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.
5/9 – Council-wide Roundtable
5/10 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
5/11 – Day trip
5/10-12 – Youth Leadership Trng Weekend 2
5/17 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)
5/18 – Radnor Races - (Save This Date!)
5/19 – Radnor Races Cleanup - 8AM
5/31- 6/2 -Order of the Arrow Ordeal & Service Weekend @ HSR

COMING UP

- 6/9 – Field Day & Family Picnic (3:00 PM)
6/14-16 – Whitewater Rafting/Caving Trip
6/23-30 – Horseshoe Summer Camp, Week One
6/30-7/7 – Horseshoe Summer Camp, Week Two

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



HISTORIC TRIP TO NEW YORK April 12 – 14, 2013

On Friday, April 12th, Troop 78 will head to Camp Pouch in Staten Island to kick off our visit to New York City. We have a full agenda planned – here goes:

Saturday morning (April 13), we will leave camp and take the Staten Island Ferry to Manhattan. Once there, we will meet up with our friends from West Point Troop 23 and tour the still-under-construction Freedom Tower. When completed, this majestic building will be the world's tallest. Built on the site of the World Trade Center, the Freedom Tower will be a memorial to those who perished in the tragic attacks of 9/11. As part of that same visit, we will also view the 9/11 Memorial.

Next, we'll visit the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum. The crown jewel of the exhibit is the USS Intrepid, an Essex-class aircraft carrier that was built during World War II and served the country through the Vietnam War. The Intrepid houses numerous historic aircraft, including a MiG Russian fighter. The USS Growler, a submarine, is docked nearby and can also be toured. There is also a Museum complex on land that will be open for our visiting pleasure. Check it out at www.intrepidmuseum.org.

Time permitting, we will head uptown and check out several Manhattan landmarks: Times Square, Rockefeller Plaza, and St. Patrick's Cathedral. Times Square is best known for being the site of the most famous New Year's Eve gathering place in the world. Rockefeller Plaza is home to the NBC Studios, as well as the famous ice skating rink that serves as the backdrop for many a televised event. St. Patrick's Cathedral, which was the site of the funeral Mass for Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, is right next to Rockefeller Plaza and will be open for touring as well.

After the day in New York City, we will take the world-famous New York subway back to Battery Park, where we'll board the Staten Island Ferry for our return trip to the troop bus. Then, it will be back to Camp Pouch for a traditional evening of scouting fun. On Sunday, we'll break camp and head back to Malvern.

We expect demand for this trip to be high and we will accommodate as many people as we can, but currently, we will only be able to take 35 people on the Freedom Tower tour. More slots may open up but our numbers will still be limited. Priority touring and participation will go to our oldest scouts, bus drivers and uniformed leaders. Based on sign-ups, younger scouts and fathers with Youth Protection training (see accompanying article in this Newsletter) will be invited to join us. Early sign-up will be key! You can sign up at our troop meeting on Friday, April 5th. Because of the charge for admission to the Intrepid Museum, adults must pay \$45 (reduced to \$40 for veterans who bring evidence of their service) for this trip. The charge for adults is inclusive

of food charges. **Please provide a check for the appropriate amount at the time of sign-up. All adult funds must be prepaid.** Checks should be made payable to Willistown Troop 78 (no cash, please). We will return your check if you are not selected for participation in this trip.

There is no charge to any scout who joins us, but scouts who sign up but do not attend this trip will have \$40 deducted from their scout accounts. We shop for food based upon sign-ups and must charge for food whenever a scout doesn't show. However, for this trip, we will incur an additional charge for the Intrepid tour. Similarly, "no show" adults will be charged \$45.

One final note – we will be wearing uniforms for our tour of New York. Adults coming on the trip should wear a uniform if they have one. A packing list will be provided with the handout that will be available the night of the April 5th sign-up. Join us for our trip to the Great White Way. Remember - sign up on Friday, April 5th. See you then!

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING REQUIRED OF ADULTS

Effective immediately, all adults who wish to camp with the troop or to otherwise participate in troop activities involving scouts must first take BSA Youth Protection Training ("YPT").

Those registered with scouting can take YPT on-line. Visit www.cccbsa.org to set up an on-line account for the training. You will need to have your BSA registration number, which is found on the back of your BSA membership card. If you have not paid the fee to register as an adult with the troop, please contact our Troop Registrar, David Schertz, at 610-687-0366 or nschertz@verizon.net for registration information.

Once you have registered and taken YPT on-line, please print out the certificate of completion and provide it to Sam Lemheney, our Training Coordinator. You can e-mail a scan of the certificate to Sam at samnsal@comcast.net.

Remember that if you are looking to come on the April New York City trip, you MUST complete YPT and present your certificate in order to be eligible to sign up for the trip. No exceptions will be made. Thanks in advance for your adherence to this rule.

NEW DADS NEEDED!

The Troop Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 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.



Great news! **More than 439,000 households tuned in for "Are You Tougher Than a Boy Scout?" on Monday, March 4.** That's 439,000 households in communities across the country seeing the fun and excitement of scouting!

That's a terrific start. Let's keep up the momentum! Let your scouting volunteers know that the best is yet to come, with five more episodes on the National Geographic Channel!

Marketing has a full-court press on promoting "Tougher" to our internal and external audiences. We are pushing hard to drive even better ratings on Monday, March 11, and all episodes through April 8.

MATJE FARM SKI TRIP

By Tommy Walsh, Panther Patrol

Troop 78 went up north for a great weekend of skiing, shooting, and quality fun. We left on Friday, February 22nd, promptly at 6:00 PM to Mr. Matje's property in the harsh wilderness of northern Pennsylvania. After a long yet fun bus ride we got there. Snow was on the ground, which was a treat to us, and helped light the way to the barn. Some older scouts unloaded the bus, while several adults

tried, and eventually succeeded in opening the side compartment that conveniently stashed the sleeping bags and pads.

It was a cold February night outside but "Be Prepared" stood as a strong guideline for most scouts. We had a great nighttime snack of hot dogs and multi-colored Oreos. After scarfing down several hot dogs and only one bun, acting SPL Chris Wang instructed us to hit the hay. So with the howls of coyotes to put us to sleep, most scouts slept soundly with 4 walls and a roof, while the lone alpha scout (me) fought the pack outside while braving the elements in a tent, AND with only 10% iPhone battery.

The next morning scouts and fathers were greeted by the greatest breakfast ever (prepared by the Panther Patrol), consisting of cereal, French toast, and sausage. After lunches were made and the kitchen cleaned, the inevitable snowball fights were sparked, snowballs were fired, the barn was sieged, and POWs taken. After some down time, we got prepared for our skiing adventures.

The ride to the slopes was uneventful but still a fine experience. Once at the ski slopes, we got organized and after signing our lives away we got out equipment and hit the slopes! For noobs and experts alike, the slopes were a blast! Personally, this was my first skiing time. With the help of my wonderful father, eavesdropping on strangers teaching their 5-year-olds, and good old peer pressure, I was skiing blue slopes by the end of the day!

Meanwhile back at the base camp, JT Schallack and Ethan were having miscellaneous adventures of their own. They helped out with several things around Mr. Matje's cabin, like cutting up a fallen tree. Then they went for a joy hike, but got turned around to everyone's surprise. After a wrong turn, or six, they reached a neighbor's house and were promptly directed back to Matje's cabin.

With the troop reunited after skiing, and the great hiking odyssey of Ethan

Bilson and JT Schallack, the graces crew that stayed back prepared a "Grade A Meal" for us hungry skiers. Top-notch macaroni, chili, salad, and rolls were ready and served to us. After dinner Chris Wang directed the clean-up crew and everyone else was dismissed. After some childish nonsense in the barn and some friendly phone calls to friends, everyone made their way to bed. The coyotes were loudest on Saturday night, but I protected the troop with Mr. Belleville from the wild packs of coyotes.

The morning came a little too fast for me along with some others, but breakfast isn't hot forever...especially on Sunday mornings. We had bagels, muffins, and cereal. While I packed my tent, most the troop and adults cleared the wood from Mr. Matje's front lawn. Using sheer numbers, the job was done in no time at all, and I missed out on beautiful manual labor. It was a win, win, win. The lawn was cleared, scouts were busy, and my mother now has useless sawdust (cedar chips) to make my room smell good.

The highlight for a few gun enthusiasts was shooting clay pigeons in the morning. Mr. Siegle organized the target practice with other adults to help/supervise. Everyone had a fun time. After that was done we headed back on the return trip to the cabin. We stopped at a rest stop to empty our tanks and refill other tanks. With Auntie Ann's and BK in our tummies, we departed and landed safely back at the troop cabin. Bus cleanup was a blast and the trip was a huge success!

VOLINTEERS NEEDED FOR JUSTICE 4 PA KIDS RUN

Justice 4 PA Kids is holding its first ever 5K run on May 4 on the Chester Valley Trail, starting at Church Farm School trail entrance and going 2.5K and turning back for another 2.5K. I am working on the official flyer and the Chester County Running Company will be doing registration and managing the race day. We are in need of –

1. Participants to register;
2. Volunteers for race day to help out – sign up, pass out water, direct traffic of people coming from parking lots and people turning around on the trail. This could serve as community service for scouts.
3. Spreading the word of the event in general.

Please let me know what information you need. I am counting on the support of Troop 78. Ricky Martinez attends Church Farm School, whose students will also be involved.

Maureen Martinez, President
www.justice4pakids.com
<http://www.justice4pakids.com>
 Ph: 610.296.3264
 Fx: 610.450.6766



RADNOR RACES

Saturday, May 18 & Sunday, May 19

Radnor Races weekend is coming up on Saturday & Sunday, May 18th & 19th. This is one of THE MOST IMPORTANT WEEKENDS on the Troop 78 calendar.

We need as many people coming out to work as many hours as they possibly can. We especially need ADULTS! We will be out from around 7 AM to 6 PM on Saturday, May 18. Please concentrate on helping us between 11:00 and 3:00. These are the most critical times. Of course help any time is appreciated and extended hours are always needed. Cleanup is Sunday morning from 8 AM to Noon.

Remember, volunteering at the Radnor Races helps...

- our troop's major community service project,

- Troop 78 earn funds,
- protect the environment, as Troop 78 helps the Brandywine Conservancy preserve open space in our area,
- earn money in your scout account.

Your sign-up sheet should arrive in the mail soon. *Please fill it out & send it back as soon as you get it.* That will minimize unnecessary calls and e-mails both for your sake and ours. **PLEASE BE PROMPT!**

'BIG AL' DIANTONIO

"Big Al" DiAntonio, 92 years old, has taken up residence at Park Lane, Bellingham in West Chester.

Al has been a longtime dedicated member of Troop 78, serving on the Troop Committee and Friends of Troop 78 Committee. He is the father of two Eagle Scouts, Steve and Mike, and of course, father of our current Scoutmaster Steve.

Over the years, Al has not only been a great friend but an inspiration and role model to all adult leaders of the troop.

It would be nice if current members and family of 78 would send a card wishing him well and thanking him for all of his years of service. His address is

Mr. Albert DiAntonio
 Park Lane at Bellingham Room 221
 1615 E. Boot Road
 West Chester, PA 19380



Jay Madarasz repairs one of the troop's vintage sleds in his dad's shop.