



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/UC78)

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November 2016

Upcoming Events

November

Monday 7
Friends of Troop 78 7PM

Tuesday 8
Pasta Night 7PM

Friday 11 - Sunday 13
Naval Academy Tour and
Football Game
Friends and Webelos invited

Wednesday 16
First Responder Event
for 4th grade Webelos 7PM

Thursday 17
Delivery of early poinsettia
orders

Friday 18
Troop Meeting 7PM
Poinsettia money due for
regular orders.

Please note: There are no troop
meetings November 11 or 25.

December

Thursday 1
Regular poinsettia orders for
pick up at cabin 3PM to 6PM

Friday 2
Troop Meeting 7PM

Tuesday 6
Board of Review 7PM
Troop Committee 7:30PM

Wednesday 7
Patrol Leaders' Council 7:30PM

Friday 9 Troop Meeting 7PM

[Click here for full calendar](#)

Appalachian Trail Hike and Wolf Preserve Tour

By Jack Dinsmore

On Friday October 14th at 6:45PM the bus was full of scouts and on it's way to the Delaware Water Gap. If you remember this area from last year you would be assuming we are going backpacking and you wouldn't be completely wrong. The main reason we made our way back to this area was the Lakota Wolf Preserve. After a couple of turn arounds we finally found our campsite up against the Delaware River. As usual we unpacked our things and set up camp. We fell asleep that night later than normal, but I guess that was our own choice.

Nevertheless we were up the next morning with breakfast ready and lunches packed. The Troop was split up into two groups. Respectively, the two groups were the long hike today and wolves on Sunday and short hike today, wolves today. I went on the long hike.



[Click here for pictures / video](#)



We started in the same parking lot we did the year before but the beginning was much different. Instead of taking the Appalachian Trail straight to the glacial lake, Sunfish Pond, we hiked up and around the peak of a mountain. It was a great trail with many sights, overlooks, and great pictures. We then descended and jumped back onto the Appalachian Trail we had hiked the year before which was not accompanied by any complaints from anyone. Just like the year before it was a beautiful hike. The best part of this hike was the fantastic dining spot on a small waterfall where we ate our trail lunches (pictures on the website). The hike led us all the way back into our campsite where we got to salute the short hike group as they drove out of the campsite on the 78 bus for their tour of the Wolf Preserve.



The rest of the day for the long hike was spent cooking. Cooking could be seen as bad but when it's dutch oven cooking it's much more enjoyable. Each patrol got their own dutch oven and ingredients and began cooking. The rest of the Troop got back just in time for dinner and no one had to wait very long to eat. All around everyone was pleased with their meals and there was nothing left to throw out.

Following dinner everyone hung around until snack and the fire. Francis Purcell was in charge of the fire which did surprisingly happen. The group of older scouts also made snacks such as the fantastic jumbo hot dogs as well as some Oreo's and hot chocolate. After food we were reminded about the risk of bears which we all took with the utmost seriousness and made our way into bed.

The next day the long hike group made our way to the Lakota Wolf Preserve after dropping off the other group for their second hike of the weekend. The Lakota Wolf Preserve was very cool. Inside the enclosure there were 4 packs of wolves, 2 bobcats, and 2 foxes. One family owns all these animals and takes care of them. Although it is easy to be skeptical over having animals stuck in an enclosure it is the best place for these animals. All these animals were taken from situations where they were not legally allowed to be put back into the wild and are now kept here in excellent condition. After hearing the howls of the wolves's and learning what a fox says, we made our way back to the bus to pick up the short hikers and return home.



Court of Honor and Family Dinner

by Jay Madarasz

Sunday October the 9th, troop 78 held their annual Troop dinner and Court of Honor. It was a beautiful sunny day to eat outside. At 3:00 scouts and their families began to arrive at the cabin. After a brief introduction the scouts and families were seated and we began our traditional lasagna dinner. Once everyone had eaten we moved inside and began the court of honor. Receiving their Eagle badges were scouts Jack Dinsmore and Zach Fox.

We began the ceremony with speeches by the scouts on the last few trips the troop has gone on. These included our recent KISC Switzerland trip and the troop's annual visit to Florida Disney World. Merit badge and other rank advancement was quickly handed out and the Eagle ceremony soon began. Seth Fox introduced his brother Zach as a scout, speaking fondly of his achievements. Next up was Jack Dinsmore. Jack was introduced by Jay Madarasz who spoke of Jack's love for the troop and his fond memories of Philmont. Zach and Jack were both awarded their Eagle badges by their parents and were then given the Eagle charge by Scoutmaster Steve D'Antonio, securing their places as troop 78s' 179th and 180th Eagle scouts. After a lot of clapping and a few pictures cake was served. Goodbyes were said and everyone headed home happy after a great afternoon at the cabin.



Nathan Motel receives Scout-of-the-Year



Zach Fox receives his Eagle



Jack Dinsmore received his Eagle

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

Open House: Welcome Friends and Webelos

by Nathan Motel

Every year in early fall troop 78 hosts an open house where Webelos and scout-age friends from all over the area visit to see what we have to offer. We fill this night with all of the usual fun events, such as tug of war, two-man saw, knife and axe safety, a monkey bridge, and lots of games, in order to show these young aspiring boy scouts what we are made of.

This year everyone showed up to the cabin on Friday evening with a welcoming spirit hoping many of these 20 young potential new boy scouts will decide that this troop is right for them. We began the meeting just like every other meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Scout Oath and Law. We incorporated the visitors into the rest of the troop, mixing them into all of the patrols and making them feel like they were already apart of the troop from the start. Then we began the night of activities and fun with the goal that they would learn something and have fun while doing it. Everyone participated in events such as tug of war, shelter building, knot tying, and a monkey bridge. After about an hour of activities and learning we all reconvened in the main room and began our games. This time we played the game where everyone stands around the circle in the middle of the cabin and someone spins the rope around the circle and everyone jumps over the rope. Finally, just before we closed out the meeting everyone had a snack of delicious pizza. When we had finished the pizza everyone circled around the room to join hands and say the Scoutmaster's Benediction. By the time that everyone was dismissed from the meeting we were all very tired, happy, and looking forward to the next meeting. Hope some of the visitors join!



Car Parking and Other Troop 78 Community Service

A long-standing tradition in Troop 78, the troop was out in force on three occasions this fall to help several other community non-profit organizations fulfill their missions. The troop parked cars for the Main Line Animal Rescue (MLAR) on September 24th for their annual evening fundraiser and on Saturday October 1st for their annual 5k race. We also parked horse trailers and ran the jumping and Dressage rings for the Radnor Horse Trials Saturday October 8th. Dozens of scouts and leaders helped for these important community service events and Troop 78 continued its long positive relationship with the Radnor Hunt and with MLAR.



My First Horseshoe Experience

By: Peter-Paul Constantine, Flying Eagle Patrol

My first year at Camp Horseshoe was this summer, and I personally loved it. The food was great, (more or less) we did fun activities, we had Paul Bunyan Field day. (We won! Again! #undefeatable). The action really started on Monday, when I went to Trailblazers. My instructor was Nate. The CIT, (counselor in training) was Connor (awwwww). We had a game that made us learn about each other. After that we went to the rifle range to shoot .22's. Only 3 shots. Really?!? I was horrible, only getting 11. Then we went to the pool for rescue stuff, like coiling rope and throwing it to people to save them. Red Panda goes 'whee' when he gets saved. Then we practiced marching. I, yet again failed, thus earning KP (nooooooooo!). This sequence lasted all week, making me hate my horrible marching skills. But fortunately things got better the next day. For example, Trailblazers got to play capture the flag. My team (blue team) dominated. Then I got my Totin' Chip, allowing me to use the tools most commonly known as a knife, hatchet, and bow saw. My sadness grew bigger for my family, but eventually faded because of all the fun I was having. We also had an auction, during which I, with my bad luck, won a small cooler and a \$5 Wawa gift card, which I gave to my father, who happily accepted it and in minutes put in on his Wawa app. The week ended faster than it began, and sooner than later I found myself at home. I thought that summer camp was an amazing experience and I hope that next year, the new first years will think so too.

Notice of Upcoming Events

Pasta Night [Click here for more information](#)

Please join us Tuesday November 8 at 7:00 PM at the cabin for an evening of delicious food and friendly fellowship. These Pasta Nights are open to all adults who are interested in a fine dinner with friends. All are welcome: parents of scouts in the troop, those ever had a scout in the troop and anyone else for that matter. The cost is \$20 and all proceeds benefit the bus fund.

Annapolis Trip: Naval Academy Tour and Football Game

Friday November 11(Veterans Day) - Sunday November 13 Troop 78 will be enjoying the beauty and history of Annapolis. The troop will tour the Academy in the morning and catch a Navy Football game in the afternoon. The Navy Midshipmen are 5 - 2 and ranked first in the West.

[Click here for more information](#)

Webelos First Responder

This event (formerly the Webelos Readyman) is scheduled for Wednesday November 16th at 7 PM at the cabin. On that evening Troop 78 will host Webelos dens from all over Chester County for an evening of first aid training. There are 9 requirements for the First Responder which the Webelos must complete to earn the Arrow of Light. Our troop youth leadership will run the stations which will help the Webelos fulfill their requirements.

Poinsettia Sale is Underway

The annual poinsettia sale is underway! All early orders are due this Friday November 4th. Regular orders are due Friday November 18th. Please visit our online store to order your poinsettias today.

[Click here for more information](#)

[Click here for the online store](#)



Jingle Bell

Annual Registration

November 2016

[Click here for annual registration information and forms.](#)