



# Willistown Troop 78

Website: [www.tr78.org](http://www.tr78.org)

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May 2024

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## Baltimore Inner Harbor! National Aquarium



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**May 2024**

- 1 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7PM
- 3 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 4 Saturday Canoe Trip
- 6 Monday Friends of Troop 78 7PM
- 7 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM, Troop Comm Mtg. 7:30PM
- 8 Wednesday Flower sale sorting, HELPERS NEEDED, 11AM cabin
- 9 Thursday Flower sale order pick up, 3PM-7PM cabin
- 10 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 17 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 18 Saturday Radnor Races
- 19 Sunday Radnor Races clean up
- 24 Friday NO TROOP MEETING
- 30 Thursday Field Day Part I, 7PM cabin

**[Click here for the full calendar.](#)**

# Baltimore Inner Harbor

Saturday April 20 - Sunday April 21, 2024

By Ben Barsotti

This April, the troop set off on a fun historical trip to Baltimore's historic Inner Harbor. We left the cabin at about 6:00PM on Saturday, and after about an hour and a half on the road, we pulled into where we thought we were staying for the night, Camp Horseshoe.

After a few minutes of discussion, we realized that the camp road was under renovation, and we wouldn't be able to get the bus down it. Luckily, nearby Camp Ware was able to accommodate us, and we ended up staying in the permanent cabins in Staff City. Near where we were staying, there was a full lodge, complete with a kitchen.

This sped up cooking considerably, and within an hour of arriving, scouts were making their chicken burritos. After dinner, we had a short campfire, and made our way to bed.

The next morning, Sunday, we were up bright and early, and after a quick cold breakfast, we headed into Baltimore. Our first stop was the National Aquarium, a huge sprawling home for tens of thousands of fish and other creatures located right on the harbor. We spent most of the morning making our way through exhibits of everything from piranhas to eels to sharks. They even had some greenhouse habitats with frogs, parrots, and of course, lots of tropical fish.

After the aquarium, groups headed to either Chipotle or Shake Shack for a quick lunch, then we headed onto the second half of our trip, the historic boats. Scattered around the harbor are various Naval vessels ranging from a WWII submarine, an anti-slave trafficking ship from the 1830's, and a Coast Guard guide ship. We were given the opportunity to go aboard 2 of these historic vessels, and of course, re-enact the famous Titanic scene.

After everyone was done touring the ships, we grabbed some snacks for the ride home and got on the bus, arriving back at the cabin at about 5:30PM.



# Order of the Arrow Weekend

Friday April 26 - Sunday April 28, 2024

By Ben Barsotti

The last weekend of April saw a few scouts make their way down to Camp Horseshoe for the April Order of the Arrow service weekend, where we had 4 scouts and one adult leader go through their Ordeal. We arrived at camp around 6:30PM Friday to check in, and the candidates headed to Kindness Center to get ready for their Ordeal.

They were sent off on their Ordeal for the night and eventually got settled in their tarps. The next morning, we got the candidates up and they started making their totems and building fires, but they were unable to light them due to the dry climate. After breakfast, we got started on our work, which was tasks such as trail crew and laying fiber-optic cable to staff city.

After a quick lunch, we were back to work until 4:00, when we gave the candidates some time to relax before Retreat, which was at 5:15, followed by dinner. After dinner, the Brotherhood and Ordeal ceremonies commenced, where all of our candidates received their sashes.

After the ceremonies, there was a quick snack, and we headed to bed. The next morning, we had a quick lodge meeting and breakfast, then headed home after a fun, but tiring weekend.



# Annual Spring Cabin Clean Up

Saturday April 13, 2024

Thanks to all who ventured to the cabin on a beautiful Saturday ion April for the spring cleanup. We had a great turn out. Crews completely reorganized and cleaned the bus barn, with the removal of some unused and broken items. The cleaning included a wet-mop of the floor, so now the barn is sparkling.

Crews also emptied, cleaned and reorganized the cabin, including a cleanup of the attic, kitchen and commissary. Even Mr. D's office a general purge and wipe-down.

Outside crew accomplished some major repairs to the stairwell leading to the crawlspace under the cabin. The retaining walls were failing and had to be completely replaced. Additionally, the outside crew spread topsoil and seeded large bare spout in the field.

Thanks everyone!



# Upcoming Events

## **Memorials for Ernie**

**Sunday May 5, 2024**

**Saturday June 22, 2024**

A celebration of life for Ernie Heegard will be held Sunday May 5

**Lower Providence Presbyterian Church**

3050 West Ridge Pike

Eagleville

Visitation 1PM - 2PM

Funeral 2PM

Reception to follow at John James Audubon Center, 1202 Pawlings Rd, Audubon

**Plans are underway for a program at Camp Horseshoe to honor Ernie.**

The program will take place Saturday June 22 from 2PM - 6PM

Details to be announced.

**We will be putting together a supplement to the Newsletter to honor Ernie.**

Please send in your remembrances for inclusion in the supplement.

## **Radnor Races!**

**Saturday May 18 and Sunday May 19, 2024**

**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 help as many hours as they possibly can. We especially need ADULTS! We will be out working from around 9 AM to 6 PM on Saturday, May 18th.

The hours from 11:00 to 3:00 are the most crucial, but any time is valuable.

Clean-up is Sunday morning from 8 AM to Noon.

Remember working at the Radnor Races helps:

**-TROOP 78 EARN FUNDS**



May 2024

-BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY PROTECT OPEN SPACE IN OUR AREA

-EARN MONEY IN YOUR CAMPING ACCOUNT

-TROOP 78's MAJOR PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECT

You and those you bring to help, can stay after your shift & take-in a fabulous event. In the unlikely event that you have not yet responded, please do so now.

If your schedule has changed and you now have a few more hours to spare, let us know.

Please remember, we need every family member. Moms and siblings and friends are welcome & needed!

WE NEED YOUR HELP! SATURDAY MAY 18 & SUNDAY MAY 19

Please email Brian Rothberg at [bricycle@verizon.net](mailto:bricycle@verizon.net) with any questions or to sign-up!



## Canoe Trip

**Saturday May 4, 2024**

The troop will be on the water canoeing the Phoenixville Canal to warm up for a trip on the Schuylkill River Saturday May 4.

We are looking forward to perfect canoeing weather, 65 and overcast.

Always good to get back in a canoe, to continue a long-standing troop 78 tradition, teaching canoeing skills to the next generation.

See you on the river!

[Click here for more information.](#)

## Field Day Part I

**Thursday May 30, 7PM at the cabin**

The Field Day competitions are set to begin on Thursday May 30 at the troop meeting. Patrols will compete against each other in Nature Identification, Scout's Pace, Judging, Map and Compass, and various other scouts skills for the coveted Field Day Trophy.

Field Day will conclude on Sunday June 2 with Part II.

## Summer uniforms

**Friday May 10, 2024**

At the regular Troop meeting on Friday May 10 we will convert to summer uniforms.

Please take the next few weeks to locate all the parts of your summer uniform.

[Click here for the uniforming rules.](#)

# Countdown to Summer Camp!

**Week one starts Sunday June 23 and ends Saturday June 29**

**Week two starts Sunday June 30 and ends Saturday July 6**

**Drop off is 12:30PM Sunday**

**Pick up is 10:30AM Saturday**

The health/medical form is due on Friday May 17.

The form must be less than one calendar year old for the entire time you are at camp.

Download the most recent form from the Troop 78 website or from the Camp Horseshoe website.

Please make sure the completed health/medical form includes parts A, B1, B2 & C (part C is a pre-participation physical and requires a physician's signature) with a front and back copy of your medical insurance card.



If your scout has special dietary needs or needs to take medication while at camp, a Special Dietary Form and Medication Form are also required and submitted along with the health/medical form by May 13th (forms are available on the Troop website and Camp Horseshoe website).

If you wish to use scout camping account funds to pay for summer camp, please contact Kipp Happ at [edhapp@verizon.net](mailto:edhapp@verizon.net). Kipp can provide the current scout account balance and you can instruct him on the amount you would like to use for summer camp.

## **Key Dates – Summer Camp 2024**

**Camp Deposit Due Friday 2/23/2024**

**Full Payment Due \$525 3/15/2024** (After this date, rate is \$575/week)

**Health/Medical Forms Due 5/17/2024** (Parts A,B,C with Copy of Insurance Card; also Special Dietary Needs and Medication forms if applicable)

[Click here for all the summer information you could possibly want.](#)





# Fundraising

## Spring Flower Sale

Order sorting Wednesday May 8 at 11AM at the cabin

Scouts pick up their orders Thursday May 9, 3PM - 7PM, cabin

Delivery May 9, 10, 11

The Spring flower is nearing completion!

The orders are in and it was a grand success.

Over 2000 plants were sold! But that means there is a lot of sorting to do.

We will be taking delivery of the plants Wednesday May 8 at 11AM.

Helpers are needed to unload the order and sort the plants.

Scouts: Please come to the cabin to pick up your order Thursday May 9 between 3PM and 7PM.

[Scouts click here for more sale information.](#)

# Alumni Corner

## Where Are They Now!?

### 78 Friends and Family News

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Welcome to a new feature for our Troop 78 family. We're looking to profile Troop alumni and friends, and to bring news of births, promotions, retirements, travels – whatever you want to share with the rest of us. This month, we're focusing on three Troop 78 alumni who are early career individuals:

**Ethan Bilson:** Ethan is a graduate of Susquehanna University, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in History with a Secondary Education certification. After serving as an AP History teacher at a Delaware Valley area charter school, Ethan and his fiancée relocated to Selinsgrove, and Ethan took a position as teacher in the Williamsport Area School District. An active Scouter, Ethan continues to serve Troop 78 and Chester County Council, and this summer – to the delight of all of us - he will be the Camp Director at Camp Horseshoe!

**Nathan Motel:** Nathan attended Gettysburg College and graduated with BS in Biology. Nathan was President of the Gettysburg chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and served as a research assistant for a professor during his undergraduate studies. After graduation, he relocated to Raleigh, North Carolina and is currently serving as an Associate Account Manager for healthcare giant, Aetna.

**Michael Bennett:** Michael graduated from Lafayette College in 2017 with a BA in History and a BS in Civil Engineering. He then attended Virginia Tech, where he earned a master's degree in Geotechnical Engineering. Michael received his Professional Engineer designation in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and is currently working as a Geotechnical Project Engineer at the Gannett Fleming, a firm headquartered in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. Check out Michael's blog on historical events impacted or driven by engineering concerns at <https://geoinstitute.org/taxonomy/term/7982>.

Calling all Troop alumni! The Newsletter is looking for updates on troop alumni. Please forward any updates you may have for listing in future Newsletters. The Troop family wants to know what you are up to!  
[Contact the Newsletter.](#)

## **Chester County Council News**

### **Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner**

**Thursday May 16, 2024, 6PM**

The 2023 class of Eagle Scouts will be recognized for their achievements on Thursday May 16 at Rivercrest Golf Club.

Please join us for an evening of fun and praise for our newest Eagle Scouts.

[Click here to register for the event.](#)

[Click here for the Chester County Council Newsletter.](#)

**Please feel free to forward and/or print this Newsletter for all of your family and friends to see!**