



# Willistown Troop 78

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

Facebook: [Willistown Boy Scout Troop 78](https://www.facebook.com/WillistownBoyScoutTroop78)

YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Volume 36 Number 2

October 2019

## Fall Family Food Festival!!!

### October

- 1 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM  
Troop Committee 7:30PM
- 2 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:30PM
- 4 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 5 Saturday Main Line Animal Rescue parking event
- 8 Tuesday Pasta Dinner 7PM cabin, all troop adults welcome
- 11 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 12 Saturday Radnor Horse Trials 7:30AM - 4PM
- 13 Sunday Family dinner and Court of Honor 3PM cabin
- 18 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM  
Webelos Open House
- 25 Friday - 27 100th Anniversary Council Camporee  
Hibernia County Park

[Click here for full calendar](#)

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Camporee  
Order of the Arrow



# Food Festival

Friday September 13, 2019

By Ethan Winkleman

This Friday, the troop huddled up for our annual Food Festival Fattening Day at the cabin. The people who brought goods deposited them outside on a long row of shaded tables, but before any treats were served, some of the older scouts covered what to pack for the upcoming beach trip and Appalachian Trail Backpacking trip. As with tradition, there two presenters - one with items to bring and another with items to not bring, which includes some joke items like a snazzy fold-out piano and a wooden hand.

After the presentations, we all filed outside to participate in a log chopping competition. One by one each scout from a patrol *slowly* and *steadily* walked to said log and took two swings each. (Spoiler: No one chopped through a log). After the chopping, we were definitely ready for the raucous food festivities. All who brought food left first to prepare and manage their dishes. As per every year, the sheer uniqueness and variety of food was staggeringly jaw dropping, and the amount of food was high enough to feed a besieging army for 20 years.

Some memorable dishes included the funkily named Empanadas, The 100% authentic Irish MEATballs and the Sugary Pretzel Rolls. The food bringing scouts did not neglect the dessertian portion of any true meal however, as cakes, cookies, and mango rice cups were seen near tables' end. And almost as an afterthought, there were stands for lemonade and ice tea as well.

After we were all full to the point of exploding and it was nearing the end of the meeting, staff ushered us inside for announcements, paper handouts, and Scoutmaster's Benediction. All in all, this event was one to remember, and surely to be a bright spark to bang off the beginning of the year!



# Delaware Seashore State Park: Beach Trip

Friday September 20 to Sunday September 22, 2019

By Ethan Winkleman

This weekend, the Troop drove to Delaware for some beach fun, the Boardwalk and (maybe) a hike. After a 3 hour or so drive, we conducted our typical routine of setting up troop gear, distributing bags and locating restroom facilities. The campground was filled with luxury campers, cars and even some other troops. To our surprise, the camp was actually very nice with clean toilets and showers.

The next morning we got up to an egg-cheese taco breakfast supplemented by cereal. After the meal, we all got ready for the beach, packing water, sunscreen, and towels. The closest beach access was only a short walk under a bridge, so we headed off, bringing a pop-up tent for the adults to sit under. After orchestrating a makeshift buddy board system in the sand and being warned about riptides, we finally had our chance to taste the waves.

While older scouts took turns lifeguarding, the rest jumped, frolicked, and swam among the waves. Every so often there would be a wave that would create bubbly foam - the waves were high scorers when it came to power, towering even above the tallest scout at times. Some scouts formed a human wall to resist the crushing power. It didn't work. Meanwhile, a few unsuccessful Troop hole digging projects were attempted.

Lunch was 2 sandwiches, one turkey with cheese and the other peanut butter and jelly. After lunch, we resumed our fun until 4-5-ish. We trudged back to our campsite to shower and enjoy an hour of Siesta time before the Boardwalk. Dinner was meatball subs with pasta noodles for the vegetarians of the Troop. After dinner and cleanup, the bus was preemptively brought out for our transport to the Boardwalk area. It was a short ride, and while we were in transit our Senior Patrol Leader directed us to find buddies for the Boardwalk.

Once we got to the boards, we split off in our buddies to walk around and buy things. We were directed to return to the bus by 9:00PM. The main Boardwalk area was centered around a large gazebo with the displays becoming less opulent the farther away you got. Some things for sale included high powered lasers, generic beach t-shirts and even a room sized beach ball. One Troop-favorite item to buy was the Salt Water Taffy boxes. After we had our fill of overpriced boardwalk food, we slowly made our way back to the bus two by two. With a quick head count we were off back to our tents and sleeping bags.

On the final day of our trip we took a longer time packing up than usual, so it was decided to forego on the hike and leave right away. Nothing notable occurred here, and the trip ended quietly with the usual bus cleanup and tent drying. All in all, it was a surprisingly fun and warm trip considering fall season is before us. I am bound to have sand in my eyelids for years to come.

[Click here for video from the weekend.](#)



# The Troop's meetings this month

Friday September 6, 2019

By Christian Skodny

After planning an extraordinarily exciting meeting at the year's first PLC, the Troop's first meeting on Friday the 6th was great fun with a fantastic turnout. During the meeting, the Troop leadership ran stations that included lashings, fire starting, tent set up, team building activities and a knot relay. After the activities, we discussed the upcoming September 20th beach trip.

The following day, we had our Saturday clean up. It was time to get the troop's cabin into shape, so we mowed the lawn, washed our bus, swept and mopped the barn, and cleared out dead trees. We do this 2 times a year to keep the cabin clean and in top shape for scouting activities. Some more details and photos are in the next article!



# Annual Fall Cabin Clean up

Saturday September 7, 2019

Work crews of scouts and adults convened at the cabin for the fall clean up. Crews worked inside and outside the cabin on various tasks. Inside the cabin, the windows were cleaned, the bathrooms and kitchen got a thorough scrubbing. The floors were vacuumed and wet mopped. The lights were all debugged and Windexed.

Outside the cabin, the grounds were cleaned up, debris removed, weeds wacked, and the cabin got pressure washed. The troop bus also got a cleaning inside and out. It was an unbelievably productive day!

[Click here for video from Clean-up Day.](#)



# Order of the Arrow Service Weekend

Friday September 27 - Sunday September 29, 2019

We found ourselves at our favorite place on Earth (Camp Horseshoe) again for the September OA service weekend to benefit the camps and the scouts of Chester County.

We spent the day Saturday September 28 making Schramm Lodge handicapped assessable. Troop 78 work crews widened the exterior doorway along the left side of the building and the doorway to the restroom to 36 inches. The restroom stall was also widened.

Additionally, two Troop 78 scouts went through the Ordeal and two scouts took Brotherhood. Congratulations!



## Annual Registration 2019

Troop 78 registration fees are now due.

Willistown Troop 78 needs to register all scouts and adults **each year** with the Boy Scouts of America. To ensure continuity with the scouting program we need your registration form and check by September 30, 2019.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## Annual Youth Protection Training (YPT)

Youth protection training is required for all registered adults and volunteers by September 30th, 2019. The training includes three modules and a test that takes about 90 minutes to complete. Once completed, this training will cover Chester County Council volunteers through the end of 2020. To get started, it is highly recommended you use Google Chrome browser. Go to <http://my.scouting.org> and sign in using your Username and Password. Click on the 'Begins with Youth Protection' symbol or click on 'Menu' in upper left corner and select 'My Dashboard'.

It is recommended you read the 'How to Guide for Taking Youth Protection Training' PDF for detailed instructions. There seems to be a delay between 'Add Plan' and the 'Launch Course' button appearing. Based on my experience with the new training you should plan on at least 90 minutes to complete the training. Don't delay, take it today!

[Click here for more information.](#)

# **Adult Leader Training**

## **There are several opportunities for adult leader training to consider.**

### **1) Youth Protection Training (YPT)**

Adult leaders who wish to be registered with the BSA and all adults who have any youth contact must take the BSA Youth Protection Training.

[Click here for more information and a link to the Youth Protection Training course.](#)

[Click here for links to the mandated background checks.](#)

### **2) CPR certification**

Adults should be CPR certified. The Troop offers CPR training one time a year generally on the evening of the first Tuesday in February.

### **3) Position specific training**

Adults should take position specific training offered on the BSA website.

Training is offered for Committee members and Troop Leaders.

[Click here for links to position specific training.](#)

### **4) Activity specific training**

There are numerous online courses for safety training in specific activities such as swimming, boating and many others.

[Click for more information regarding activity specific training.](#)

### **5) Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS)**

Adults should consider taking the training referred to as Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS). This is a two day, one night course offered several times a year. If you wish to be registered as an Assistant Scoutmaster, you must complete the online training mentioned above in #3 and the IOLS.

[Click here for more information.](#)

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

### **6) Wood Badge**

Adults should consider taking Wood Badge. This is a training course originally designed by Lord Baden Powell himself. This course gives instruction in outdoor skills, teamwork, and leadership necessary to be a successful Scout leader. This course takes place over two weekends and is offered once a year.

[Click here for more information.](#)

### **7) Bullying awareness / Anti-bullying**

There is extensive and detailed anti-bullying information on the BSA National website at [scouting.org](http://scouting.org).

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Training page on the Chester County Council website](#)

[Training page on the National BSA website](#)

## **Parking Lot Paving Project**

On Monday September 9th the Friends of Troop 78 moved forward on a project to black top the parking lot and driveways at the cabin by accepting a bid from Charlestown Paving for \$26,000 to do the job.

Since then, a fundraising effort has been underway. We have cash and pledges of 90% of our goal at this point.

If you wish to make a contribution toward this project please contact [Mark Siegle](#).

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Upcoming Community Service Opportunities**

Troop 78 will continue its long tradition of community service to several charity organizations.

The troop will break out its orange vests and flags and will park cars.

October 5, 2019 at Main Line Animal Rescue (MLAR)

October 12, 2019 Radnor Horse Trials

October 19, 2019 Willistown Conservation Trust

If you can help please contact: [Steve Brown](#)

### **100th Anniversary Camporee**

**Friday October 25 - Sunday October 27, 2019**

The Troop will be attending the annual Fall Camporee at Hibernia County Park. This year is the 100th Anniversary of Chester County Council. On the last weekend in October Scouts and Scouters from all over Chester County will come together to commemorate 100 years of scouting service to Chester County. We will join over 1000 scouts and leaders for a weekend of scout skills and fun.

[Please click here for more information.](#)

### **100th Anniversary Celebration**

**Thursday November 21, 2019**

On the evening of Thursday November 21 Chester County Council will host an evening to honor Ernie Heegard for his many years of service to scouting. The evening will be a celebration with a mission: to honor Ernie and to raise funds for two of his favorite causes: Camp Horseshoe and Chester County Council. The camp will use the funds for two projects of Ernie's choosing: a complete renovation of the Achgekatum Saturday Night Campfire Circle and a new ventilation system for the Horseshoe Dining Hall.

[Please click here for more information.](#)

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