



Willistown Troop 78

Website: 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 35 Number 10

June 2019

Radnor!



June

- 2 Sunday Field Day (Part II) & Family Picnic 3 - 5PM
- 4 Tuesday Board of Review 7:00PM
Troop Committee 7:30PM
- 5 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:30PM
- 7 Friday - Sunday 9 OA Conclave at Camp Horseshoe
- 14 Friday Troop meeting 7PM Camp preparations
- 15 Saturday - 16 Sunday Campout: Caving Trip
- 22 Saturday Patrol Leaders' Council reports to Camp Horseshoe, Dan Beard campsite 2PM
- 23 Sunday Summer Camp Week #1
All scouts report to Camp Horseshoe, Dan Beard campsite 1PM

Inside This Issue:

- Canoe Trip
- OA Weekend
- Parking Lot Project

...and much more!

[Click here for full calendar](#)

Radnor Races

Saturday May 18 and Sunday May 19, 2019

By Nathan Motel

We arrived at Radnor Hunt at 9:00AM on Saturday. This year, as in past years, my family and I were assigned to setting up and managing Lot 2. Before we could prepare for the busy day ahead, we had to check in with Mr. Rothberg at Lot 7. After receiving our radio and packet of maps, we headed off to Lot 2.

When we arrived, we were pleasantly surprised to see that some cars had already started to park themselves! No matter, we, as thrifty scouts, found a way around this problem. We opened up the empty horse paddock, which we have used in past years, as a space to park cars. This year however, adding yet another obstacle to our challenging task, the Radnor Hunt had divided the paddock in half with a split rail fence. Following a quick consultation with those running the event, we removed part of the fence to open up the entire paddock. Our direct instructions were to: "Do whatever you need to do." That statement may have been the highlight of my day, as it doubled the area in which we could park cars. After working a parking lot at the Radnor Races for a few years, you understand that you are going to need every square inch of the space that you are given.

An hour after our arrival, we had the entire paddock setup and ready for cars. Minutes later, the first few cars of the day began to make their way into the lot. With the help of several other scouts, we successfully parked each car as they poured in. To our surprise, the flow of cars stopped by 2:30, we finished the day with about half the cars we expected. In previous years, we were parking cars until around 4:00 and had more cars than we could possibly handle.

Thank you to everyone who came out to help with this year's Radnor Hunt Races. It was another huge success!



Canoe Trip on the Schuylkill

Saturday May 4, 2019

By Luke Fox

This year, our Troop took its annual canoe trip on the Schuylkill River. We started at Port Providence Park in Phoenixville, PA and finished at Valley Forge Park. This was a one day trip and it was a lot of fun.

We found the waters were generally calm with an occasional rushing current or rapid. I personally, along with Patrick Dougherty, got to experience kayaking along with canoeing. On one particular rapid my kayak was turned over and I got to go swimming in the freezing water. We ate a lunch of ham and cheese sandwiches along with some fruit snacks and an apple about halfway down the river. We had During the lunch break some of the scouts were viciously attacked by stinging nettle (Editor's note: good teachable moment to pay more attention during plant identification studies.) Also our Scoutmaster took a tumble down the hill, but in his defense, the river bank mud was slippery as ice. On the water, we listened to music and it was very peaceful besides the occasional race between canoes.

While most of the canoers looked at the sky, ducks, and trees, Mr. Fox and Constantin Seliverstov took a brief look underwater while waiting for Mr. Bilson's canoe to get unstuck from the rapids waterfall. Constantin recovered the canoe and the floating bags with a positive attitude a great sense of humor.



Spring Flowers (Were in the Air) Sale

By Jim Fox

The Troop spring flower sale delivered beautiful plants to families all over our community just in time for Mother's Day. The flowers brought joy to our supporters, important trip-funding income to the troop, and real world business experience for our young scouts who improved their sales, communication, and cooperation skills.

In total, the scouts sold 1900 plants which transformed the troop bus barn into a grower's paradise with the pleasing aromas of herbs, flats, potted plants, and a wide variety of vegetables.

Many hands made light the work this year with Mrs. Diederich, Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Hornickle, Mrs. Kim, Mrs. Rodrigues lending identification and sorting experience of the many varieties. Help sorting and organizing orders was provided Mr. Cady, Mr. D, Mr. Dondaro, Dr. Motel, Ernie, Mr. Hornickle, Mr. Pizzuto, Mr. Rothberg, Mr. Sao, Mr. Shea, Mr. Siegle, Mr. St. Clair, and Mr. Wark. Mr. Fox, who worked on the flower sale website, observed that, "We couldn't have done the sale without the help of the volunteers. They are very much appreciated!"

Due to improvements in the sorting process, unloading took only two hours and the assembly of scout orders took an additional four hours. Compared with previous years, which turned Jim Fox's hair gray, this improvement was a huge headache reducer. Our new checkout system was added to try to ensure that each scout got the correct plants saving their parents an extra drive back to the cabin. We hoped to reduce the time spent pondering why an order has three extra Better Boy tomato plants and one missing oregano plant.

This year we saw a significant increase in online ordering. Customer feedback was largely positive for viewing plant pictures and ordering at their leisure from their phone, tablet, or directly from the scout. For selling, each scout got credit toward their future scouting trips.



Cabin Parking Lot Improvement Project

By Pete Motel

The Friends of Troop 78 are having the parking lot at the cabin paved!

This project will black-top the parking lot and the entrance and exit drives.

Please consider joining us in this effort to benefit all those who use the cabin now and those who will use the cabin in the future.

Purpose:

- make the parking lot safer by eliminating water pooling and icing in winter
- make snow plowing easier and more complete
- eliminate the required annual regrading, raking, and weed control
- prevent water runoff and erosion through the center of the parking lot
- the parking lot will also be striped to make parking more efficient and increase the number of cars the lot will hold

Plan:

- to regrade and black top the parking lot and drives
- to stripe the parking lot

Approvals:

- Troop board approved
- Township approved

Cost:

- three bids solicited
- two bids obtained
- bid numbers very similar
- low bid: \$26,000

If you would like to help defer the cost of this project, please contact [Pete Motel](#).



New Troop Roster Posted to the Website

The latest updated Troop roster of youth and adult members is now posted to the Troop Website. To access the roster: see the right hand navigation on the home page, click: [Troop Roster, Info and Forms](#). Then once on the info page, click: Troop 78 Membership List, Youth and Adults. This is password protected information, so password window will appear. Enter the standard Troop password. If you do not know the password: see Pete Motel.

Friends of Scouting!

By Jim Bennett, Troop 78 FOS Chair

Open Letter to Our Troop 78 Family:

Dear Troop 78 Family:

Please Donate to Chester County Council Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign

Chester County Council is in the midst of our 2019 Friends of Scouting campaign. “FOS” raises a significant portion of Council’s operating funds. Consider the following as you think about contributing to Friends of Scouting:

- **ALL of your contribution stays right here in Chester County Council.** This is an important point to underscore – particularly as the media bombards us with news that Scouting’s National office is considering filing for bankruptcy protection.
- **Council receives no funding from National.** Chester County Council is financially completely self-funded. We fund the salaries of our professional Scouters, utility fees for the Council office, license fees for training materials, and funding to bring Scouting to children in Chester County who could not otherwise afford to participate.
- **FOS is the key Council operating budget fundraiser that is supported by Troop 78.** In the past, the Troop made the decision not to participate in Council’s popcorn drive, which is another important source for Council operating income. Accordingly, it’s essential that Troop 78 have high participation in the FOS campaign.

While Troop 78 is one of the top unit contributors to FOS, most of that contribution comes from a small group of donors. The fact is that most families that have been involved with the Troop for five years or less do not contribute to FOS. My request is simple: **Whether you can contribute \$10 or \$1,000 to FOS, we need every Troop 78 family to participate in the drive.** Please consider – while you’re reading this note, get out your checkbook and write a check made payable to “Chester County Council FOS.” You can drop your contribution off at the Cabin, or mail it to me at:

**Jim Bennett
1116 Signal Hill Lane
Berwyn, PA 19312**

Please make your contribution now and make a difference to Scouting in Chester County.

Thanks for your support!

Order of the Arrow Service Weekend

Friday May 31 - Sunday June 2, 2019

Troop 78 represented at the Order of the Service Weekend at Camp Horseshoe. We had a work crew at the Horseshoe Pool working on a carpentry project to put new pergolas over the deck at the deep end. We welcome three new Brotherhood members and a new Ordeal member (Alex Lemheney). Congratulations!



Summer 2019 Schedule

Summer Camp, Camp Horseshoe, Week 1: Sunday June 23 - Sunday June 30

Summer Camp, Camp Horseshoe, Week 2: Sunday June 30 - Sunday July 7

World Scout Jamboree, Summit Bechtel Reserve, West Virginia, Sunday July 21 - Saturday August 3

Canoe Trip, Algonquin Provincial Park, Ontario Canada, Saturday August 3 - Saturday August 10

Summer Camp is Right Around the Corner!

Once again Troop 78 has reserved the Dan Beard campsite at Camp Horseshoe for two weeks:

- Week One starts on Sunday, June 23rd and ends on June 30th
- Week Two begins on Sunday, June 30th and ends on July 7th

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

Key Dates – Summer Camp 2019

Camp Deposit Due	3/15/2019
Full Payment Due	4/25/2019
<i>(After this date, rate is \$465/week)</i>	
Health Forms Due	5/30/2019

(Parts A,B,C with Copy of Insurance Card; also Special Dietary Needs and Medication forms if applicable)

Please print out this Newsletter and post a copy at home for everyone to see.