



# Newsletter

Volume 27    Number 5    January 2011

## COMING EVENTS

### JANUARY 2011

- 1/4 – Board of Review (7:00 PM), Troop Committee Mtg. & CPR training  
1/5 – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 - 8:30 PM)  
1/7 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)  
1/8 – Chainsaw Training @ Camp Ware (9:00 AM – Noon)  
1/13 - Diamond Rock Roundtable  
1/14 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)  
1/21-23- Winter Camp at Horseshoe  
1/28 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) Florida Deposits Due

### FEBRUARY 2011

- 2/1 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.  
2/2 - Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)  
2/4-6 - **Matje Farm and Elk Mt Skiing**  
2/8 – Council Roundtable-Downingtown  
2/18 -TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)  
2/25 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM) Hoagie sale begins

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

### **NEW DADS NEEDED!**

The January committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 4, at 7:30 PM at the cabin. The committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month to guide and discuss the operation of the Troop. New dads are especially encouraged to attend.

### **CPR TRAINING AND RECERTIFICATION**

CPR training and recertification will occur on January 4<sup>th</sup>, immediately after the regular Troop committee meeting. All registered adults who are active with the Troop are urged to attend. There is no cost if you are registered as an adult with the Troop. No prior CPR training is required to attend.



### **ANNUAL WINTER CAMP AND FATHER/SON WEEKEND** (Father's attendance is not required for Scouts to attend)

**WHEN:** January 21 to 23

**WHERE:** Camp Horseshoe, Rising Sun, Maryland, Browning and Schramm Lodges (both heated by woodstoves)

#### **WHAT TO BRING:**

- Sleeping bag
- Foam pad
- Flashlight
- Warm clothes
- Rain or snow gear
- Sturdy shoes or boots
- Toilet articles
- Gloves and work gloves (two pairs)
- Drinking cup (troop mugs will be on sale for \$5)**
- Scout handbook
- Sled?
- PACK IN a DUFFEL BAG (no suitcases please)

**HOW TO GET THERE:** The Troop 78 bus or your dad's car. The bus (or carpools) will be leaving the cabin at 6:00 pm on Friday. Expected return is 11:00 am on Sunday.

#### **WHAT WILL WE DO THERE?**

- Scout skill sessions, advancement, camp tour, woodcutting, scavenger hunt, games, movie, snacks etc.

#### **HOW DO I MAKE RESERVATIONS?**

Tell your patrol leader by Sunday, January 16th. Food cost is \$20 for adults (collected at camp) and free for Scouts and visiting Webelos.

**Dads, we encourage you to join us and see what Troop 78 is all about. Please tell your son's patrol leader you will be joining us.**

#### **MORE QUESTIONS?**

Call your patrol leader or senior patrol leader.



### **"MATJE'S APACHES" RAID FARM FOR ANNUAL SKI TRIP**

February 5 and 6, 2011: Mark the dates on your calendar and plan to join Troop 78 for the annual Matje farm ski/board campout. We will ski at Elk Mountain on Saturday, February 5, and camp out at Mr. Matje's farm that night. Pick up your handout on the trip at the January 7<sup>th</sup> Troop meeting.

The deadline for signing up will be Winter Camp at HSR on the weekend of January 21 – 23. **NO LATE SIGN-UPS ACCEPTED!**

The fees for skiing at Elk Mountain are set out below:

- Lift ticket only:** \$45 - 13 and over;  
\$39 - under 12
- Beginner ski package:** \$39 (lift, lesson, rental)
- Beginner board package:** \$67 (lift, lesson, rental)

**Ski rental:** \$30 – 13 and over; \$27 – under 12

**Board rental:** \$33 – all ages

**Helmet rental:** \$7 – all ages

ALL Troop 78 skiers and boarders MUST wear a helmet in accordance with BSA and Troop 78 rules – NO EXCEPTIONS.

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for Matje Farm/Elk Mountain trip:

**I am a first-time skier. Should I rent skis and buy a lift ticket, or should I get the beginner package?**

A: Get the beginner package. The lesson will be invaluable. Elk is a challenging mountain. Plus, the group rate for the beginner's package will save money.

**I get "helmet head" when I snowboard, and I don't look cool. Is it okay if I just wear a hat and skip the helmet?**

A: NO! Helmets are mandatory for skiers and boarders. Troop 78 has followed this rule for a number of years, and now the BSA has adopted the requirement. Bring a comb – but you must wear a helmet.

**I ski the "black diamonds" at Bear Creek. Can I ski the "blacks" at Elk?**

A: The rating system rates the mountain's relative difficulty and not the overall difficulty of a mountain. Elk's black diamonds are very challenging. The blue squares and green circles at Elk provide great terrain – long runs with plenty of vertical drop. As is the rule at every ski resort, "Ski and board within your ability level." And stay in control!

**If my parents, sister and kid brother drive up to Elk, can they get the group rate, too?**

A: Yes, accompanying family can get the Willistown Troop 78 group rate. Family members must remit payment with the Scout's payment for the trip.

**I've never skied. Can I wear jeans? Do I need to wear a ski jacket?**

A: Borrow ski pants or a ski bib, and wear an appropriate jacket. It's important to dress for the weather. The packing list for the trip will be included in the handout.



### HEADING TO DISNEY WORLD WITH TROOP 78?

#### RESERVE YOUR SPOT FOR SPRING BREAK – APRIL 15-23

With a five-day Park-Hopper ticket, you can visit any of the four theme parks (Magic Kingdom, Disney's Hollywood Studios, Animal Kingdom, and Epcot), and you can use your pass for up to five visits to DisneyQuest and the water parks (Typhoon Lagoon, Blizzard Beach), or just swim and hang out at the Fort Wilderness campground at any time.

**The Troop committee has determined as eligible those Scouts who -**

- 1) **are registered and active in the Troop (50% minimum participation),**
- 2) **attended or worked at summer camp at least one week in 2010,**
- 3) **are or will be First Class rank by April 5th, and**
- 4) **are responsible enough to visit the theme parks on their own with a small group of other Scouts as determined by their parents and the Scoutmaster.**

The total cost including bus transportation, food, camping fees, a five-day Park-Hopper Disney pass, is expected to be only \$475.00. Money from your Scout camping account may be used for this trip. A \$200 deposit is due by **January 28th**. Note: Although all meals are provided at the campsite, most Scouts bring \$100 to \$150 spending money for food (lunch in the parks), beverages, souvenirs, etc.

Reserve your spot now by sending your deposit of \$200 per person via check **payable to Willistown Troop 78, B.S.A. to Miles Stevens,**

**Paxson Hollow Rd., Media, PA 19063, or bring it to a Troop meeting.** You may use your Scout camping account money by calling or e-mailing Joe Cady at (610) 647- [REDACTED] [jcady@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:jcady@[REDACTED])

Once you reserve a spot you will receive further instructions regarding departure times, what to pack, spending money, bus preparation etc. **We must have at least 20 Scouts and adults to camp at Disney. If we do not have 16 Scouts, we will have to cancel; so talk it up!**

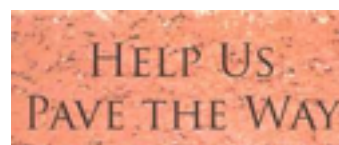


### RADNOR RACES - MAY 21 & 22

Yes, it certainly is winter. But here is just the thing to bring you warm thoughts.

Grab your brand-new 2011 calendar and reserve the third weekend in May to help Troop 78 at the **Radnor Hunt Races**.

On Saturday, May 21 & Sunday May 22, we need your help as Troop 78 does its annual Radnor thing. The predictions are for terrific weather. Please plan on being there.



### SUPPORT TROOP 78, DONATE A BRICK, LEAVE A LEGACY

You can make a financial investment in the lives of the boys of Troop 78 by purchasing a brick that will be engraved with a name of your choice (personal, family, or business). The brick will be laid in the walkway at the entrance of the Troop 78 cabin as a reminder to others of your involvement. The minimum donation is \$300.00 per brick.

Please contact Dave Schertz at 610-687-0366 or e-mail him at [registrar@willistown78.org](mailto:registrar@willistown78.org) for more information or an order form.



## WHAT IS A MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR?

The Troop would like to increase the opportunities each Scout has to earn merit badges by increasing the number of merit badge counselors. We will be holding a short training course on Saturday, January 22, in the afternoon. (Yes, that date should sound familiar. It's Winter Camp; you'll be there already at Browning Lodge, Camp Horseshoe.)

What is a merit badge counselor, you ask? Well, a merit badge counselor is a key player in the Boy Scout advancement program. Whatever your area of expertise or interest—whether it is a special craft or hobby (basketry, leatherwork, coin collecting), a profession (veterinary medicine, aviation, engineering), or perhaps a life skill (cooking, personal management, communications)—as a merit badge counselor, you can play a vital role in stirring a young man's curiosity about that particular topic. By serving as a merit badge counselor, you offer your time, knowledge, and other resources so that Scouts can explore a topic of interest.

As a merit badge counselor, your mission is to join fun with learning. You are both a teacher and mentor to the Scout as he works on a merit badge and learns by doing. By presenting opportunities for growth via engaging activities like designing a Web page (Computers), performing an ollie and a wheelie (Snow Sports), or fabricating rope (Pioneering), you can pique a young man's interest in the merit badge subject. Just think:

Your hands-on involvement could inspire a Scout to develop a lifelong hobby, pursue a particular career, or become an independent, self-supporting adult.

Once you have the training, you can register to be a counselor for any merit badge that you wish. For a full listing of merit badges, please refer to the listing on <http://meritbadge.org/>.

There are more than 100 merit badges a Scout can earn. The Troop has a counselor for all of the Eagle required merit badges but not all badges a Scout needs for Eagle are required. Troop 78 would also like to have more than one counselor for each badge, so that the responsibility is shared.

## ADULT TRAINING CORNER

In addition to the online trainings that we hope you all are finding time to complete, there are some other opportunities.

There are how-to guides and course information located on the training section of the Troop website ([willistown78.org](http://willistown78.org)), if you have questions about creating an online account or what courses are required for your leadership position.

The only known upcoming training course is the Wilderness and Remote First Aid course, Saturday & Sunday, January 15 & 16, held at the Horseshoe Scout Reservation (not overnight). Sign up on [www.cccbsa.org](http://www.cccbsa.org); look for training.

The Wilderness and Remote First Aid course gives you the skills you need to respond to an emergency when help may be delayed an hour or more. The course is based on the Boy Scouts of America Wilderness First Aid Curriculum and Doctrine Guidelines and meets the requirements of BSA's High Adventure bases (Philmont, Northern Tier and Sea Base). This course includes classroom instruction and demonstration, hands-on skills practice, and real-life scenarios.

## SAT/ACT SOFTWARE AVAILABLE TO SCOUTS

In alliance with the Boy Scouts of America, eKnowledge is offering SAT and ACT test prep programs valued at \$200, free to Boy Scout families. The eKnowledge Sponsorship Alliance is made up of educationally focused foundations, as well as a group of professional athletes from the National Football League and Major League Baseball. The eKnowledge Sponsorship Alliance has provided more than 120,000 SAT/ACT prep programs to families all over the United States.

The PowerPrep™ program helps prepare students to take the exams and increases student confidence, which can result in higher test scores and thousands of dollars in scholarships.

EKnowledge recently announced the arrival of the new v6x SAT/ACT PowerPrep™ software. It includes more than 20 hours of video instruction, 3,000 files of supplemental test prep material, thousands of interactive diagnostic tools, sample questions, practice tests, and graphic teaching illustrations. The new PowerPrep™ v6x software is Mac- and PC-compatible.

**Families interested in obtaining the FREE \$200 v6x SAT/ACT PowerPrep™ Programs may order online, [www.eknowledge.com/bsa](http://www.eknowledge.com/bsa), or by calling 951-256-4076.**

There is a fee of \$13.84 (per standard program), which enables eKnowledge to provide technical and customer support, registration, licensure, processing, handling, and worldwide shipping. This nominal fee allows the sponsorship alliance to continue helping thousands of students each year.

## CHECK OUT THE TROOP 78 PIE THROWING VIDEO

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbA9DGV2MI0>



## TROOP WEBPAGE UPDATE WILLISTOWN78.ORG

As many of you might have noticed, the Troop website has undergone a transformation, and new features and resources are being added almost daily. We (the webmasters) wanted to share with you some of the new features of the page, as well as ask for feedback and suggestions on what we can do to make the page even better. Please send comments to [webmaster@willistown78.org](mailto:webmaster@willistown78.org).

- Scouts, you can now check your ranking in the points contest online.
- In conjunction with the article below, we are starting to list Eagle projects that Scouts have done.
- We added a "Fast Fact" to the homepage (might be useful for Winter Camp trivia).
- We have upcoming events listed on the home page.
- Tired of hearing names of people in the Troop and not knowing who they are? Who is Dave Shertz, or who is Mark Siegle, whom I need to contact for my Star board? Now you can put a name to a face using the Who's Who page under information.

## CALLING ALL EAGLE SCOUTS

We would like to enhance the Eagle Scout Honor Roll on the Troop website, by including a brief description of the Eagle project that the Scout performed, as well as a few pictures and the merit badges earned. If you are a Troop 78 Eagle Scout, send [webmaster@willistown78.org](mailto:webmaster@willistown78.org) a paragraph about your Eagle project, as well as a few pictures for inclusion on the Troop webpage.



Thank you to everyone for participating in the holiday shopping of Scrip gift cards. It was a new sales order record for us. We ordered over 800 cards with a face value of more than \$33,000. This is 3 times the amount that was ordered last year during the holiday season. The Troop and the boys that participated ended up with an average of a 4% return. Not only did we have individual families get in involved, but also we had several businesses, like Thermacore, S.S. Gill Company and Goshen Fire Company that used gift cards to give to their employees. St. David's Church supported us again this year by buying cards to give to

those in need. Without their support our numbers would not have been so strong.

Remember, stock cards can be purchased at Troop meetings. Available stock cards are for ACME, Giant and WAWA. If there are other retailers that several of you would use on a regular basis, let us know and we can look at stocking those cards, too.

We will be placing our next order on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, for those non-stocked cards. Cards will be in the following Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Troop meeting.

Thanks for your support and we wish everyone a happy and healthy 2011,

Sincerely,  
*Jim and Claire Hogan*  
Troop 78 Scripp Coordinators  
610-644-  
[james.hogan@siemens.com](mailto:james.hogan@siemens.com)

**OCTORARO LODGE PRESENTS**  
A "HASSLE FREE" OPTION FOR EVENT REGISTRATION

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*Register and pay for the three lodge weekends and the banquet and take **5.00** off each event.*

**Registration Cost = \$85.00**  
*that's a \$20.00 savings!*

*Registration begins January 1, ends February 26*

For more information, link to <http://www.octoraro22.org>.



## Newsletter

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