



Newsletter

Volume 29 Number 10 June 2013

CALENDAR

JUNE 2013

6/3 (Mon) – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 PM)

6/4 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop

Committee Mtg.

6/6 (Thurs) - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

Field Day Part One

6/7-9 – OA Conclave – Camp Mack

6/9 – Field Day & Family Picnic (3:00 PM)

6/13 – *Diamond Rock Roundtable*

6/14-16 – Whitewater Rafting/Caving Trip

6/21 – TROOP MEETING - Camp

Preparations

6/22 – PLC to Summer Camp (meet in Dan Beard at 2:00 PM)

6/23 - 6/30 – Horseshoe Summer Camp

WEEK ONE

JULY-AUGUST 2013

6/30 - 7/7 – Horseshoe Summer Camp

WEEK TWO

8/3 - 8/11- Algonquin Park, Ont. Canoe Trip

8/18 - 8/25 - Florida Sea Base Trip

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

NEW DADS NEEDED!

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



63rd ANNUAL FIELD DAY AND FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday - June 9, 2013, 3:00 PM

Parents and Families Are Invited!

FIELD DAY - 3:00 PM to about 4:30 PM at the Scout cabin grounds

Come see your Scout's patrol compete in various skill events in an attempt to win the coveted Field Day trophy, a troop tradition for over 60 years! Bring your camera.

EAGLE CEREMONY - 4:30 TO 5:00 PM

FAMILY PICNIC - 5:00 PM

Meet the parents and adults involved with Troop 78. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served. **Each family, please bring a salad or dessert to share.**

Parents: If you are able to help set up for the picnic, help is needed Sunday at 2:30 PM, and clean-up help is needed after the picnic. Many hands make light work!

SCOUTS: PLEASE WEAR YOUR COMPLETE SUMMER UNIFORM TO FIELD DAY

ALSO BRING: Lawn Chairs, and any medical forms or monies not yet turned in for Summer Camp.



FATHERS DAY WEEKEND MEANS 2 TRIPS IN 1: CAVING AND WHITEWATER RAFTING

The last trip before Summer Camp, June 14-16, looks to be a blow out as we head out to Western Pennsylvania (near Ohiopyle, PA) for a weekend of white water rafting, cave exploration, and fun. Friday, June 14th, we will arrive at the cabin at 6pm for the long ride out to our campsite. We will not arrive at our destination until near midnight, and will likely have a moonlight tent setup competition. On Saturday, late morning we will be hitting the Class III and IV rapids on Lower Yough (rhymes with "Rock") on a guided trip from White Water Adventures lasting about 4 hours. This is a real genuine white-water trip that promises a lot of excitement. For more info, please check out wwraft.com for details on the tour outfitter. Scouts should expect to get wet head to toe; they will need to have closed toe shoes and a quick dry T-shirt and sunscreen. Our tour outfitter will supply guides, paddles, helmets and PFDs. The troop will assign boat crews based on skill/age/weight to ensure a safe and balanced experience.

After the Scouts cook dinner back at our campsite we will bed down early, for on Sunday morning we awake and head for a trek inside the caves of Laurel Caverns, the largest and most exciting group caving available in seven states. Here the boys (and adults) will be split into skill/age groups where we will be able to have a self-exploring but guided cave experience. Laurel Caverns is the only developed cave in the world, having its largest rooms and passages completely in their original state. Because the elevation difference from the upper passages of

Laurel Caverns to its lower passages is about 45 stories, two caving activities have been created which are broken out among the skill levels. The more rigorous lower passage will be reserved for the older Scouts (and younger adults). Every Scout under 12 MUST do the upper caverns, but both experiences are very exciting and thrilling. Everyone entering the caves will attend a safety and orientation course before heading underground and will need two flashlights, long durable pants, a long-sleeved shirt, and real hiking boots (not sneakers or trail shoes). The outfitter will provide hard hats. The caves are 52 degrees and you will emerge damp and dirty and happy. Scouts who do not have proper attire will NOT be able to attend this activity and will remain in the bus.

We will return back at the cabin near 6pm on Sunday. Scouts will call home once we have arrived at the cabin and have started putting away all the troop gear.

The estimated Scout cost for the trip is a *highly* troop-subsidized cost of \$78 covering the boys' food, gas, camping fees, rafting, and caving fees for the weekend. Adults will need to pay \$145. Scouts may use Scout account funds for the trip. Please contact Mr. Bilson (jackbilson@gmail.com) if you are interested in this option. Scouts should bring some pocket money for a rest stop meal on our way back from the cave. Dads, you are more than welcome for this trip, but you need BSA Youth Protection Training in order to go, based on BSA and Troop 78 policy.

Sign-up for this trip and all money due must be received by June 7th by 8pm. Last minute cancellations may not result in any refund unless someone takes that empty slot from you (which you would need to arrange). Two different waivers for release of liability by both of our outfitters will also be required by June 12th. Scouts without a waiver will not be able to attend the corresponding portion of the trip. Waivers will be emailed the last week in May and available in the cabin at that time.

This is the combination of two of the Scouts' all-time favorite trips from years past, put all together on the Father's Day weekend as all of the activities are located within 25 min. of each other (albeit on the other side of the state). It promises to be a super trip packed with lots of fun challenging activities generating acres of dirty smelly wet clothing and many great memories.

So please come out (with your Dad if you want) for Troop 78's Blow Out Father's Day Whitewater Rafting and Caving Extravaganza.



ATTENTION OLD TIMERS!

If you've thought about going back to Canada but are afraid the old jalopy won't make it, here's a trip for you! This year we are offering a unique opportunity to enjoy Algonquin with minimal pain and maximum rest and relaxation. You'll have time to sleep, read, fish and explore at your own leisurely pace.

The trip starts out with a scenic taxi ride across Opeongo to the only portage you will make - Opeongo to Happy Isle. On Happy Isle you will spend the week at one of the best campsites in the whole park. Some of you may remember this site as the "Plaque Site," where the Delamater plaque is fixed to a high rock bluff, one of the most scenic sites that sits high above the water overlooking the lake. This site is also close by (attached some would say) to another great site of tall pines and flat, soft tent sites. This will be the base camp for the entire trip. You will have the luxury of making day trips to nearby

lakes and the Hailstorm Creek wilderness area, which is known for some of the best moose watching in the park. You will be joined later in the week by the rest of our expedition for the full camaraderie of camping and storytelling of days gone by. So block out the first week of August on your calendar and don't miss out on this great opportunity to enjoy the "Canada Experience" at a relaxed pace.

For more information please call or e-mail me. We would love to include you on our 2013 Algonquin Canoe trip!
--Mark Siegle

CANOEING DAY TRIP 2013

Chip Lemheney, Cougar Patrol

This year's canoeing day trip was great! We drove down to the put-in point near Lock 60 on the Schuylkill River early on Saturday morning. When we finally got in the river, the weather was very bleak. The sky was cloudy, but there was no rain. We all started down the river in a large group, but as the hours passed, we became more stretched out and separated. When we decided to stop and wait for some people to catch up, we found out that some kids had swamped their canoe and it got stuck under a log. It took Mr. Bravo jumping on it for an hour to finally get it loose. After that, we all paired off into a buddy canoe system. When we got closer to the end point, it started to drizzle but nothing major. We finished fairly early that afternoon and headed for home. It was quite a day of excitement and it was really fun. Everybody got to eat their favorite lunch: their own.

RADNOR RACES 2013

Troop 78 was out in full force the weekend of May 18 & 19 at the Radnor Hunt Races.

We capably took care of the myriad of chores that we are expected to complete on Saturday, May 18. Sunday found 65 or so of us cleaning up the entire grounds in record time.

Not perfect weather, but a little moisture did not deter us from taking care of business.

Thanks so very much to all of you who participated in this huge endeavor. You helped the troop, the Brandywine Conservancy, Scout accounts and the overall reputation of Scouting.

The Troop 78 Radnor Hunt Race Committee (Bob Matje, Sr. / Brian Rothberg / Don Tyson)

DONATIONS HELP REPLACE TROOP 21'S CAMPING EQUIPMENT

Thanks to Steve Brown's efforts, troop members and parents collected just over \$1,000 in donations to help replace the camping equipment lost in Hurricane Sandy by Troop 21 of Seaside Heights, New Jersey. At its May meeting, Friends of Troop 78 agreed to match that amount so that Troop 21 could begin to purchase needed camping equipment and resume their monthly camping program. Thank you to all who donated toward this worthy cause!

SCOUTING'S PAST MARKS OUR PATH TO THE FUTURE



After it's founding, Scouting quickly and spontaneously spread around the world. Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of this burgeoning worldwide movement, would look back at those years and recall:

Scouting was not a year old before other countries had formed their branches. In twenty-one short years the Scout and Guide training has spread to 42 different countries about the world, and has proved its potentiality as a factor in world peace.

Not everyone thought this was a good thing. At the time some urged Baden-Powell to check this spontaneous growth by patenting his idea. They feared that their patriotic, exclusively British, movement would become diluted and diminished when people in

other countries adopted Scouting. They may not get it right; it was too unstable, too uncertain.

I think Baden-Powell not only sensed this spontaneous growth was not dangerous or diluting; I think he realized there was little he could do to stop it had he wanted to.

This spontaneity and diversity would, in fact, become the greatest and strongest things about Scouting. I think that this changed his vision of Scouting from its militaristic, patriotic origins into a vehicle for world peace. He would learn that when Scouts gathered together, seemingly irreconcilable differences of national origin, culture and religion yielded to a spirit of brotherhood.

Baden-Powell would call the first international Scout gathering in 1920 the "first great reunion of the world's boyhood" in the aftermath of WWI. After ten days of camping and working together in Olympia, London, the Scouts of more than twenty nations met with their founder and asked him to make this appeal:

"Brother Scouts, I ask you to make a solemn choice. Differences exist between people of the world in thought and temperament.

The Jamboree has taught us that with mutual give and take under a common ideal sympathy and harmony are established.

If it be your will, let us therefore endeavor to develop among our boys such comradeship through the worldwide Scout spirit of brotherhood, that peace and goodwill may henceforth reign among men.

Are you willing to join in this high enterprise?"

The overwhelming response resulted in formation of an International Scout Bureau. The idea created the organization, not the other way round. In writing about this momentous occasion, Baden-Powell quoted Bengali poet Rabindranath Tagore:

"It is through brotherhood and not through organisation that the world

should be ordered... we are all citizens in the Kingdom of Ideas... there will be men large enough to see the human race as a whole, who understand that the good of the community as a family exists..."

Baden-Powell observed:

If we reflect that we members of the human family are only here on this earth together for a short span of life, we realize that petty differences and fighting for little selfish ends are out of place in the Creator's scheme.

Tagore's thought describes the promise of Scouting: *we can get along with each other if we try*. Some Scouts in a patrol want one thing for dinner, some want another. They discuss and debate and arrive at a decision. This seemingly insignificant decision made by a bunch of boys echoes throughout their lives and so throughout the world; "*we can get along with each other if we try.*"

Scouting spread spontaneously and only then was it contained and clothed by organizations in garments of tradition, policy, rules and regulations. If organizations grow too inflexible and arthritic to suit the ideas they contain, they must either renew themselves through innovation and change or lose the vital idea that created them.

Of course not everyone is invigorated and energized by change. What of our traditions? Haven't we always looked at the world this way? Why would we change now? Aren't we abandoning old ideas and principles?

When things change we aren't abandoning the ideas and principles at the core of Scouting, we are learning more about what they mean. Baden-Powell wrote the Scout oath and law over a century ago and we have discovered, in the intervening years, it embodies racial equality, gender equality and religious pluralism that Baden-Powell himself would likely not have embraced at the time.

Is there a church, denomination or religious movement that is doing and saying *exactly* the same things they

did and said a century ago? They may hold the same core beliefs but they have changed the way they interpret and apply them.

There are those in every successive generation that, on reaching a certain age, think the world is somehow worse than it used to be. I think our best days are ahead; the inevitable result of progress and learning is change. I wouldn't exchange our era (with all its problems and difficulties) for any era in the past because there's no perfect past to return to and no ideal future ahead; there's only now.

In these past few months many of us have been working to define the future of the BSA. We've argued, debated, listened, and talked and now a decision will be made, some of us will disagree, and some of us may leave.

Change and innovation are uncertain, dynamic and unpredictable elements; they challenge us, they upset us. Still, though, we ought to welcome the idea of change; we ought to work hard to see what's next, how the Scouting idea will continue on to change the world.

Baden-Powell's appeal to us is just as alive today as it was nearly a century ago: "... let us therefore endeavor to develop among our boys such comradeship through the world-wide Scout spirit of brotherhood that peace and goodwill may henceforth reign among men. Are you willing to join in this high enterprise?"

MICHAEL BENNETT JOINS THE STAFF FOR 2013 JAMBOREE

Troop 78 JASM and Eagle Scout Michael Bennett will be part of the staff welcoming visitors to the BSA's 2013 Jamboree at Summit Bechtel

Reserve in West Virginia. Michael will be working at the Jamboree's Scouting Museum exhibit. The 2013 Jamboree takes place from July 15 to July 24, 2013. Staffers arrive a few days ahead for training and preparation and leave the day after the Jamboree wraps up.

"I was part of the Summit Corps group that helped prepare biking trails at Bechtel in 2011, and Eli (Bravo) and I went to Summit Shakedown in 2012 during the Reserve's trial run. I feel like I've had a little part of the formation of the Reserve, so I really wanted to be part of the inaugural Jamboree at Bechtel," said Michael.

Scouts applying to work at the Jamboree must list their Scouting credentials, such as rank, leadership positions and prior high-adventure experience. The Scouts are then asked to choose three areas of interest from the staffing areas, and are selected according to their experience and the needs of the Jamboree. Michael believes that his attendance at Kandersteg International Scout Centre in 2008 and 2012, as well as his treks to Philmont and the troop's Algonquin canoe trip in 2010, coupled with his strong interest in Scouting history, were significant factors in his selection as a Jamboree staffer. He promises to report back on the experience in time for our September edition of the newsletter.

For 2013, the Jamboree moves from its temporary stay at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia to the Bechtel site. Bechtel will be the new permanent home of the Jamboree, and will also become the BSA's fourth high-adventure site, joining Philmont (NM), Northern Tier (MN) and Sea Base (FL). Troop 78

will have a crew attending Sea Base this summer, led by Mr. Eric Meltzer.

That group recently took its open water dive to complete its SCUBA certification for Sea Base. In the summer of 2014, Mr. John Walsh will take a Troop 78 contingent to Philmont Scout Ranch for a two-week backpacking trek. The Philmont-bound group is in the throes of planning its trip and will select its hiking itinerary in early 2014. In keeping with a tradition that is now in its 8th decade, Mr. Mark Siegle will be leading a full contingent of Scouts and Scouters on the troop's annual Algonquin canoe portage adventure in August of this year.

Troop 78 encourages each Scout to participate in at least one high adventure trip during his tenure with the troop. Plans are already underway for the troop's return visit to KISC in 2016. Be sure to get in on Troop 78's high adventure fun! Watch the newsletter for more information on these and other great Troop 78 events.

FRIENDS DONATE NEW LAWN TRACTOR

Thanks to Friends of Troop 78, a brand new John Deere lawn tractor for the cabin grounds has been purchased and donated to the troop. Special thanks go to Mr. Joe Rubino whose superior negotiating skills enabled the troop to obtain a beautiful, new mower (including cup holders) at significant savings!

This machine will insure that the grounds of one of the premier Scout cabins in the country will be maintained for decades to come. Thank you, Joe, and thank you, Friends!