



Willistown Troop 78

Website: www.tr78.org

Facebook: [Willistown Scouting America Troop 78](https://www.facebook.com/WillistownScoutingAmericaTroop78)

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April 2025

Volume 41 Number 8

Court of Honor

CONGRATULATIONS TO TWO NEW EAGLE SCOUTS!



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Ski Trip!



April 2025

- 1 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM
Troop Committee 7:30PM
- 2 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7PM
- 4 Friday TROOP MEETING 7PM
- 11 Friday TROOP MEETING 7PM
- 24 Thursday TROOP MEETING 7PM
- 25 Friday - 27 Sunday Order of the Arrow service weekend at camp
- 30 Wednesday Flower Sale Orders Due

[Click here for the full one page calendar](#)

Court of Honor

Sunday March 16, 2025

Troop Cabin

By Jay T.

On March 16th the troop came together for our annual March Court of Honor. It started off with a short speech welcoming everyone and then went into describing the trips that we went on, backpacking on the Appalachian trail in Virginia, skiing in Vermont, and many more.

After the camping trip speeches, we all watched a short video presentation with photos of all of the amazing things the troop had done for the first half of the scout year.

Then advancement was given and many scouts were awarded the new rank patches and merit badges they had earned. The scouts that were voted into the Order of the Arrow were tapped out for their ordeal and the Recruit of the Year award was given to Alexander B.

We saved the best for last, the Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Justin S. and Ethan S. were the new Eagle Scouts being celebrated. They each gave heartwarming speeches about the other's time in scouting. We all thanked them for the cake and everyone had a great time at this special event.



Vermont Ski Trip

Mt Snow Vermont

Friday March 7 - Sunday March 9, 2025

By John W.

While the ski trip may not be as popular as some of the other trips we go on, I believe it to be one of the most fun experiences for beginner and advanced skiers alike. The Vermont ski trip is structured a bit differently than some other trips, leaving out patrol cooking and camp setup to maximize the amount of fun to be had on the slopes.

We got to the ski cabin late Friday night and quickly assigned bunks and couches to sleep on so we could be well rested for the coming day. After a quick French toast breakfast and buddy assignment, we took the bus to Mount Snow in order to get 1st chair. Most scouts headed straight for the lift and started going as soon as possible. This would have been the same case for me, but as soon as I got to the top and started to strap into my snowboard, the binding snapped right off. Needless to say, I took much more time getting back down. But, after a quick visit to the repair shop, I was good to go. From the terrain park to the black diamond trails on the backside, scouts spread over the entire mountain to make the most out of their time there. There was also plenty of time spent down at the base of the mountain chilling out and having lunch.

After we had finished our skiing for the day, we went back to the cabin for a relaxing shower and an excellent dinner. Mr. Happ also held sessions to work on the snow sports merit badge, which nearly everybody participated in. The next day was much the same, with slightly shorter lift lines and much better conditions. We went straight up the mountain, showed off the necessary skills for the merit badge, and then migrated toward the terrain park to go off the jumps and break our speed records for the weekend. Then after our time on the slopes ended, we stopped in for waffles and to take a big group photo. Then it was the short seven-hour long road trip back with the signature stop to Burger King. In the end, I know that everyone who went on this trip really enjoyed themselves, and is looking forward to going back soon.



Harrisburg Historic Trip

Pennsylvania State Capitol / Army War College

Friday March 21 - Sunday March 23, 2025

By Henry S.

As we approached the campsite, it was nearly dark with shadows of what looked like model tanks, helicopters, missiles, and more which we saw come to light when we woke up. We set up our tents with our stakes planted well into the ground. After a quick snack of delicious hot dogs, we went to bed.

We woke up to a grab-and-go breakfast and we headed out to the museum in our Class A uniforms. Inside the Commonwealth Museum were exhibits such as a planetarium, fossils of dinosaurs, woolly mammoths, and other animals, as well as civil rights, the Pennsylvania Turnpike, old-fashioned vehicles, native American culture, minerals, and rocks.

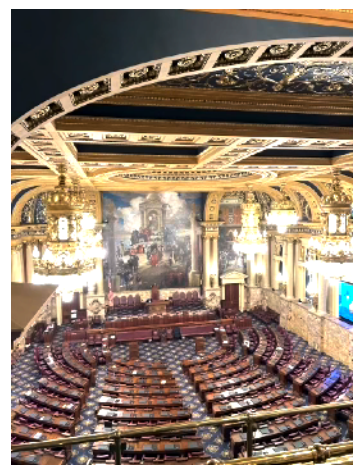
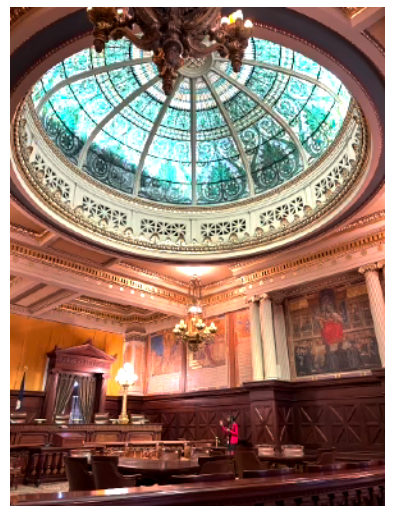
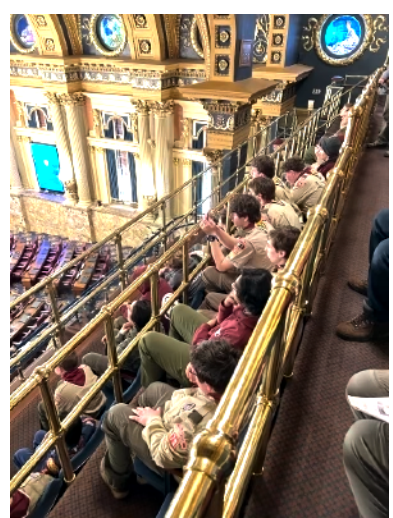
However, to one scout's disappointment, Ernie Heegard's Rock from Camp Horseshoe was not on display. In the gift shop, we created a scale replica of a Civil War battle. We then headed over across the street to the beautiful Capitol, home of our state's democracy.

Inside were massive chandeliers, paintings, and murals dedicated to our history. We went inside the two chambers of the House of Representatives and Senate as well as the State Supreme Court.

After a quick drive over to the Civil War Museum, we explored that with exhibits on the war against our brothers. In the gift shop, some scouts bought swords, coins, hats, and other memorabilia. As we were heading back to camp we noticed that one of the tents had blown away and was about to enter the nearby highway, thankfully we were able to get it before it was lost.

After we changed out of class A, we explored the Army Heritage Fields on the Army War College, where we had pitched our tents. Immersive experiences such as American Revolution Redoubts, Valley Forge cabins, and World War I trenches were great places to have played manhunt as well as learn about the history of our country.

All in all, the Harrisburg historic trip was fantastic, and another memory added to Troop 78's many adventures.



Cabin Cleanup!

Saturday March 29, 2025

A beautiful day in March dawned as we took on the annual Spring cleanup of the cabin. Crews of eager scouts and scouters worked on the inside and the outside of the cabin, the bus barn, and the bus.

The cabin was vacuumed, mopped, and organized. The big meeting room, the conference room, the kitchen, the office, and the commissary all got scrubbed.

The bus was cleaned inside and out, now ready for many more adventures. The bus barn got cleaned out especially the equipment storage room, which get a good sorting and reorganizing. The bus barn itself got swept and mopped.

Meanwhile outside, several dead trees were removed, the flower beds were all edged, numerous screens were repaired, and all the windows were washed. As visitors from around the Council have noted in the past: "This is the cleanest scout cabin!". Keeping up that tradition.



Upcoming Events

Troop 78 Member Survey = Almost Here

We are launching a Member Satisfaction Survey very soon to better understand your journey to our troop. This brief online survey will explore what brought you to Troop 78, what keeps you engaged, and how we can enhance your scouting experience.

The Troop designed separate Scout/youth specific survey to be completed by youth participants in the presence of and/or with the consent and oversight of the youth's parent or guardian, and that all responses for all surveys will be aggregated and the data will be anonymized.

Quick Detail Reminder

- **For Scouts:** A short, youth-friendly online survey
- **For Parents:** A separate questionnaire also exploring your family's scouting journey
- **Distribution:** Coming to your email soon, with many text reminders
- **Privacy:** All responses will be anonymous

The survey results will directly influence our program planning and recruitment efforts. Thank you for helping strengthen our Troop!

Willistown Troop 78 - Scout Day of Service

Saturday April 5, 2025

11AM - 2PM

Charlestown Township Park, Parking Lot A

100 Academic Way Phoenixville, PA

Project	Paint picnic tables
Sponsor	Charlestown Parks and Recreation Board
Wear	Painting clothes and shoes
Bring	Class B shirt (for photo), water bottle, lunch
Lunch	Bring your own bag lunch and drink
RSVP	Scouts: Jay Tyson - text 610-806-0460 Adults: Don Tyson - text 610-220-9602

A great way to meet your rank service hour requirements:

Tenderfoot	One hour
Second Class	Two hours
First Class	Three hours
Star	Six hours
Life	Six hours

Diamond Rock Pinewood Derby

Saturday April 5, 2025

Troop 78 Cabin

Troop 78 cabin is the location for this year's annual Diamond Rock District Pinewood Derby to be held on April 5th. Dozens of excited racers will be storming the cabin in anticipation of the big race. Top 5 finishers will be invited to the Chester County council grand championship race on May 10th.

The Troop 78 pinewood derby crew will be manning the event.



Spring Flower Sale!

Last day for orders April 30

Pick up orders for delivery May 8

The Spring flower sale is underway. We have a fully functional online store. All of our plants are locally sourced. Make your selections from the comfort of your own home. This fundraiser helps the troop pay for all of the activities throughout the year. The troop needs your help! We need participation from everyone to make this sale a success. [Click here for the online store.](#)

Radnor Races! Save the Date!

Saturday May 17 and Sunday May 18, 2025

PLEASE, open your 2025 calendar and block out the third weekend in May to help Troop 78 at this year's edition of the Radnor Hunt Races.

Expect a beautiful day in Hunt Country as the Troop spends a weekend at the Races.

Planning is already well under way to make the event better than ever.

On Saturday, May 17 & Sunday, May 18 we need your help as Troop 78 does its annual Radnor thing!

CPR Training!

Thursday May 1, 2025

Cabin

Once again Anthony Wiencek of Emergency Training Partners is coming to the cabin to give CPR Training.. Anthony is a fellow Scout and a great trainer. This will be held Thursday May 1st, 7pm. Cost: ~\$50. If interested please RSVP to Ted Diederich (ted.diederich@gmail.com).

Algonquin Canoe Trip

Saturday August 9 - Saturday August 16, 2025

A week of adventure and fun awaits in the lakes and streams of Canada.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Order of the Arrow

Octoraro Lodge 22 Annual Banquet

Sunday March 2, 2025

By Braeden H.

The OA banquet began as it normally does with the monthly OA LLT, which brought up many discussions and topics on the current events and issues in the OA. After which we all gathered at our Troop’s table to begin the banquet, which was full of fun activities and the famous silent auction. One of the most interesting pastimes included sneaking clothes pins onto our fellow brothers sashes, and even the National Chief who attended participated in the activity.

After some fun discussions and checking out the auctions we all gathered to eat a delicious meal of mac and cheese, chicken parm, and many other great dishes. As this went on, they also called out raffle tickets to hand out prizes to the winners. After this, we received several presentations, including a inspirational speech from the National Chief. They were definitely captivating and we eventually got into the awards part of the banquet. This consisted of many parts and awards which were given to many deserving Arrowmen. Our own Jim Bennett and Logan Duff were called out for the Vigil Honor.

After this we eventually gathered to sing the OA song and end off the night.



Chester County Council News

Council Off-Season Merit Badge Program Continues

Camp Horseshoe

[Click here for more information.](#)

Off-season Merit Badge schedule:

Welding April 12

Fishing May 10



Volunteer Recognition Banquet

Thursday March 27, 2025

PARC

The annual volunteer recognition banquet was held on a recent evening at PARC, the Council HQ in Exton. The evening brought together scouters who over the past year volunteered their time and talents to better the Council's camps. We honored the Volunteer of the Year, the Campmasters, and the Muddy River Gang. The MRG is a group which meets every Wednesday at the camps to work on projects and last year contributed over 3000 hours to the camps.

Thanks to all who volunteer to make the camps fabulous for the Scouts!



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

Please feel free to forward.

Print this Newsletter for all of your family and friends to see!