



Willistown Troop 78

Website: www.tr78.org

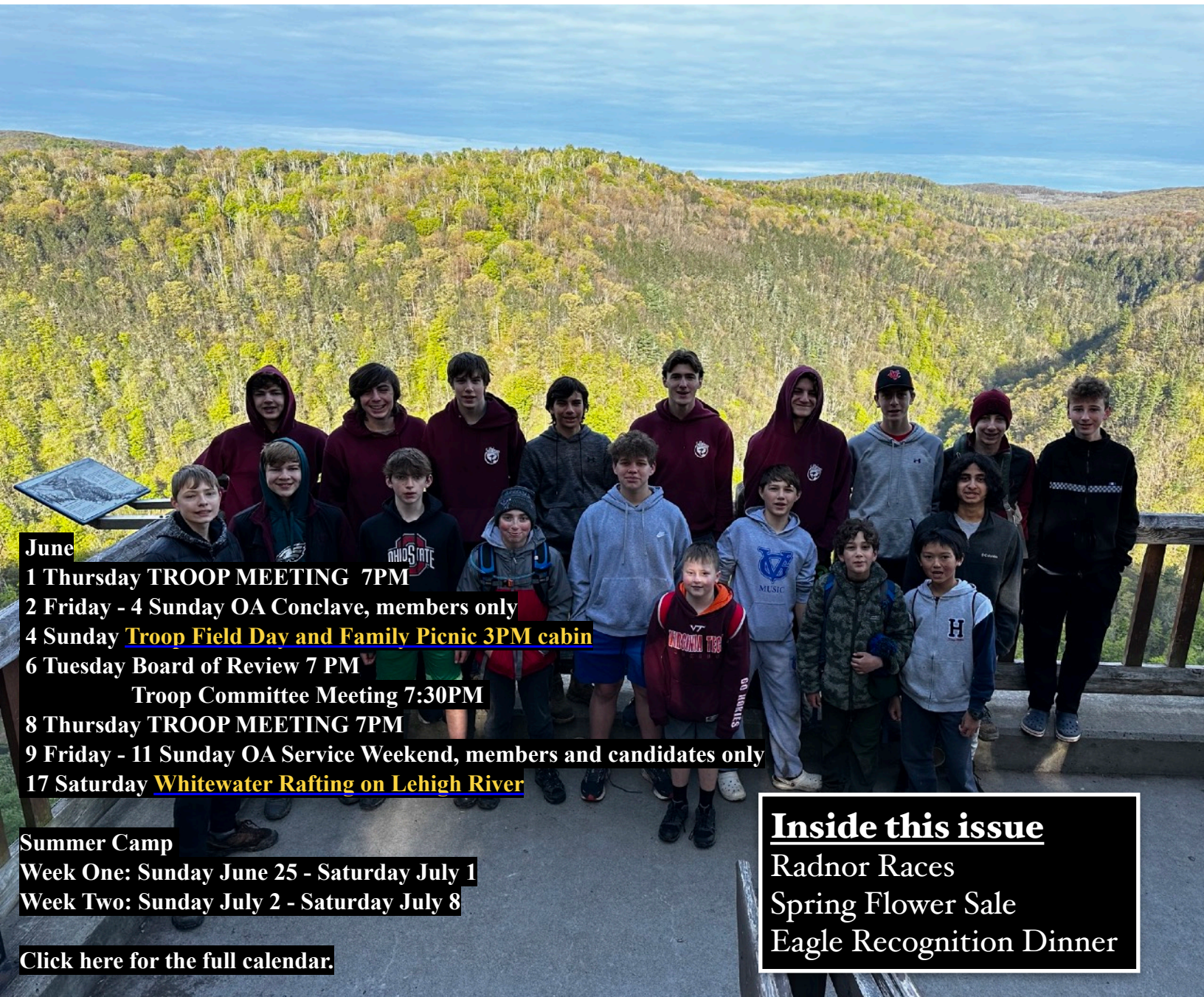
Facebook: [Willistown Boy Scout Troop 78](#)

YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](#)

June 2023

Volume 39 Number 10

Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania Pine Creek Rail-to-Trail



June

- 1 Thursday TROOP MEETING 7PM
- 2 Friday - 4 Sunday OA Conclave, members only
- 4 Sunday [Troop Field Day and Family Picnic 3PM cabin](#)
- 6 Tuesday Board of Review 7 PM
Troop Committee Meeting 7:30PM
- 8 Thursday TROOP MEETING 7PM
- 9 Friday - 11 Sunday OA Service Weekend, members and candidates only
- 17 Saturday [Whitewater Rafting on Lehigh River](#)

Summer Camp

Week One: Sunday June 25 - Saturday July 1

Week Two: Sunday July 2 - Saturday July 8

[Click here for the full calendar.](#)

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Grand Canyon of PA

The Bike or Hike trip

Friday May 5 - Sunday May 7, 2023

By Caleb Fulmer

On a cool Friday night a group of Troop 78 scouts loaded their bikes and gear into a trailer and the troop bus and headed on a 4 hour bus ride to the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania for an unforgettable weekend of fun and exciting hiking and biking.

After a few bathroom stops, we arrived at the campsite and set up our tents quietly as the campsite that we stayed in was already in its quiet hours. After squeezing our tents in, we all went to bed, anticipating an exciting day of hiking ahead of us.



In the morning everyone woke up and found a warm fire made by the one and only Logan Duff. Then Flying Eagle patrol started a breakfast of french toast, sausage, and eggs. After the wonderful breakfast, we all got our packs ready and met outside the bus. We grabbed our lunch that Moose patrol prepared for us which was peanut butter and jellies with fruit snacks and an apple pie bar and all boarded the bus to go to the drop off point.

The crew of bikers set off first on their 30 mile trail and the hikers started their 5 mile hike up to the top of the ridge to a scenic overlook to see the valley below. The hikers took the Turkey



Trail that took us up the mountain. We stopped for lunch at the overlook and enjoyed the nice view. We soon realized that we were 2 hours ahead of the scheduled time the bikers were supposed to get back, so we stopped at a creek nearby and explored for a bit.

The bikers did a 15 mile ride to the end of the rail-to-trail, had lunch, and then made the 15 mile trek back to the bus. Once we all met up and shared stories about our journeys, we boarded the bus and headed back to the campsite.

Back at the campsite, each patrol started making their own dinner, beef stew! Each patrol got everything ready and made some pretty good stew all around. After dinner, we went out





to a big field to play capture the flag. We played one good game, but a visit from the park ranger as the park entered quiet hours forced us to stop. We then had a snack of cookies and went to bed.

The next morning we all packed up our personal gear, tents, and ground tarps and had a cold breakfast of muffins, bagels, and cereal. Then we packed our personal gear onto the bus and made a police line to scan the campsite for trash. Once we did that, we all boarded the bus to head home, with a brief stop for some BK Whoppers.

[Click here for video on the bike hike.](#)



Radnor Races

Saturday May 20 and Sunday May 21, 2023

By Jamie Cappelli

It was a cloudy, cool, and misty Saturday at Radnor Hunt. Troop 78 helped the attendees park their cars and direct them to different locations throughout the race course.

The Troop provided many scouts and adults to help out, so the guests at the races could better enjoy their day. Every job the troop performed was important and all were well done by the scouts.

All the people at the event and the scouts had a great day. Some scouts even came back the next day to help clean up. The weekend of Radnor Hunt was great as it always is!



By Brian Rothberg

On Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21 Troop 78 went out to the Radnor Hunt Club for the 33rd time to help the Brandywine Conservancy put on this year's Radnor Hunt Races. The Races is a major stop on the Steeplechase Racing circuit with upwards of 15,000-20,000 people converging on a horse pasture with no paved parking. No sweat, as long as you have Troop 78 to take care of almost everything.

We had around 150 Scouts, Moms, Dads, Grandparents, siblings and Troop adults outside ignoring the persistent showers. We took care of parking all the vehicles, selling and distributing all the Programs, setting-up all the trash cans, providing Security, providing the Color Guard and a few other things in our spare time.

Oh, and we came back on Sunday with a bunch of people and trucks, leaving the place in better shape than it was early Saturday before the Races! A great event for the public and for Troop 78. We are all looking forward for a repeat on May 18 and 19, 2024.



Spring Flower Sale

Delivery Date Saturday May 13, 2023

By Jim Fox

This spring, the Troop Spring Flower Sale was run by faithful scouts, parents, and troop alumni who helped fund our troop trips, teach business skills, and make a lot of people happy along the way.

The sale started with the 285 online orders pouring in, and then the sorting of 2290 plants in 4 hours. Scouts then carefully distributed the plants to their customers who were happy to support the troop and get high-quality plants from a local grower. Their yards and gardens look beautiful for the spring, and the troop budget is met and camping accounts are filled and ready for high-adventure trips.

We could not have done this impressive task without the help from: Steve D'Antonio, Steve Wark, Brian Rothberg, Wayne Curry, Dawn Happ, Gina Diederich, Jeannine Simms, Kamila Connors, Dave Dondero, Sherri Wark, Stephanie Gunderson, and Pete Motel.

The work went very smoothly and efficiently.

The troop is very grateful for the volunteers and scouts who made this fundraiser possible.



Eagle Recognition and Silver Beaver Award

Thursday May 18, 2023

This year, for the first time, the Eagle Recognition Dinner and Silver Beaver Awards were combined into one fun-filled evening.

You will not be surprised to find out Troop 78 was very well represented!

The most recent troop Eagles were in attendance: Logan Duff, Jack Barsotti, Bill Purcell, Shreyas Sao.

Troop 78's very own Jim Bennett received the Silver Beaver, the highest Council award for volunteer service. Jim currently serves as Chester County Council Vice President for Development.

And in addition to all that, the Keynote Speaker was Jack Dinsmore, long-time Troop 78 Scout and Scouter, Eagle Scout, former Senior Patrol Leader. Jack spoke about his journey in Scouting and the life-lessons he learned in the Troop which help him even now in his role as an ICU nurse at Lankenau Hospital.



JIM RECEIVES SILVER BEAVER



EAGLES



JACK DELIVERS HIS ADDRESS



TROOP 78 CONTINGENT

Memorial Day Flag Raising

Old Charlestown Revolutionary War Cemetery

Monday May 29, 2023

By Jay Tyson

On Memorial Day, 4 scouts (Jay Tyson, Justin Sansone, Ethan Sansone, and Sebastian Badgley) served as a color guard for the Memorial Day commemorative service held at the Old Charlestown Cemetery in Phoenixville.

The cemetery was a burial site for the Revolutionary War encampment at Valley Forge and the War of 1812.

[Click here for more information on the cemetery.](#)



Cabin Walkway Bricks

Have you ever wondered how you could get your name or your scout's name added to the cabin walkway bricks?

Troop 78 is re-launching the engraved brick purchasing program. You now have the opportunity to purchase an engraved brick which will be added to the front walkway at the cabin. For a fee of \$350 each, you can include the name of your scout, your family or the name of any supporter of scouting. Order forms can be found on the troop website.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Jim Hogan at jim.hogan@foxroach.com.

Funds benefit the endowment of the Friends of Troop 78, Inc. which pays for the upkeep of the cabin and the bus and the troop scholarship funds.

[Click here for the order form.](#)



Upcoming Events

Field Day and Family Picnic

Sunday June 4, 2023

Please plan to join us for the troop annual Field Day and Family Picnic.

We will start with the scouts competing by patrol in various outdoor scout skills, including flint and steel, fire building, knot tying, giant clove hitch, and heaving bar.

After the competitions, we will have an Eagle Court of Honor, awarding Scouting's highest rank.

Lastly, we will gather for the family picnic, hamburgers, hot dogs, various side dishes and cake for dessert. We request each family bring a salad or a side dish to be shared at the picnic.

See you Sunday June 4th at the cabin!

[Click here for more information.](#)

Whitewater Rafting Trip

Saturday June 17, 2023

The Troop will head north to the Lehigh River for a day of adventure and whitewater rafting.

We will meet at the outfitter, you can either take the troop bus from the cabin or take your own vehicle to the rendezvous location.

This trip is open to all scouts and their families.

Deadline to sign up is June 1st.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Summer Camp!

Week one: Sunday June 25 - Saturday July 1

Week two: Sunday July 2 - Saturday July 8

Summer Camp Coordinator: Kipp Happ

For any additional information please review the Summer Camp page on the troop website.

See you at camp!

[Click here for more information.](#)

Alumni Corner

78 Friends and Family Go to the IronPigs

Sunday, August 6, 2023

Let us take you out to the ballgame! We invite Troop members, alumni, family and friends to join us on Sunday, August 6, 2023 at Coca Cola Park in Allentown to see the Phillie Phanatic AAA affiliate, the Lehigh Valley IronPigs, take on the Buffalo Bisons (Toronto AAA affiliate) at 1:35 PM. We will sit as a group along the first base line. Tickets are just \$16 per person (kids 2 and under are free).

The deadline has been extended to Sunday, June 18, 2023. Tickets can be ordered by payment only. We will accept checks (made payable to Friends of 78), or you can purchase through our on-line payment system on the Troop website (coming soon). Checks must be in Mr. D's office by Field Day, and on-line payments must be made by Field Day. Don't delay – tickets will go fast!

Note: ALL attendees under 18 MUST BE accompanied by accompanied by an adult age 21 or over, including if traveling on the bus.

[Click here for the online troop store to purchase tickets.](#)

More Upcoming Friends and Family Events

- Happy Hour (21 and over) Wednesday, June 15, 2023 5:15 - 7:30PM at The Grove, Malvern PA (next to the Sly Fox).
- Troop 78 Quizzo Night Coming in the Fall, 2023. Watch the Newsletter for details!
- Franksgiving 2023 Open house for Scouts, friends, family. Saturday, Nov 25, 2023 Noon – 3 PM
- Holiday Happy Hour Thursday, December 28, 2023 Venue and time TBD – Watch the Newsletter for details!

Chester County Council News

Boat Docks at Camp Horseshoe

Thursday May 25, 2023

In an effort to improve the boating program at Camp Horseshoe, the Camping Committee and Camp leadership have approved the relocation of the boat docks to the river near the Horseshoe Pool.

It has been a few years, maybe more than a few, but some of you may remember a time when the boat docks were on the river at the Athletic Field. For many years now, the boat docks have been located on the river near the foot bridge between Camp Ware and Camp Horseshoe, the idea being the two camps could share one boat docks. This location is fairly far from the main part of Camp Horseshoe and led to fewer and fewer scouts taking advantage of the boating program.

Recent changes now have Camp Ware host to Cub Scouts only, and as you may know, the Cub program allows only teaching boating safety, not boating on open water. With no Scouts, BSA at Camp Ware, the boat docks no longer needs to be at that location.

The hope is, relocating the boat docks to a more central location will give the opportunity for more scouts to take advantage of the boating program.

On a recent day, to survey for the best location, we put a canoe in at Taylor Beach and canoed around the loop to the Athletic Field. It was decided the best location for a new boating area is on the Octoraro loop immediately next to the Horseshoe Pool.

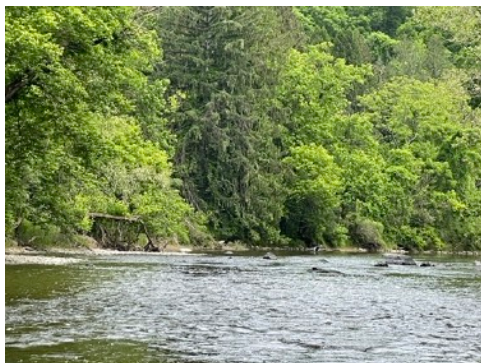
After some effort, the new boating area is ready for scouts!



TAYLOR BEACH



VIEW FROM THE NEW BOATING AREA TO THE POOL



RIVER VIEW OF THE BOATING AREA



CLEARING THE AREA



NEW BOATING AREA

Horseshoe Pool Changing Rooms and Shower House

Available for use this coming summer

Update! New picture from the site.

Construction is on schedule.

A new changing room, restroom, and shower house facility is under construction at the Camp Horseshoe Pool.

Troop 78 OA members will be constructing the doors for this building on the June OA service weekend.



New Staff Cabins at Camp Horseshoe

Staff housing in Staff City gets an upgrade

New for summer 2023, three new cabins complete with electricity installed in staff city.

Each will house four staff members, in a new program the camp is piloting the summer.

If it is decided this is a success, more will be added, eventually replacing all of the tents in Staff City.



Links

[Council Newsletter](#)

[National website](#)

[Council website](#)

Please print this Newsletter for everyone in your family to see.