



# Willistown Troop 78

Website: [www.tr78.org](http://www.tr78.org)

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

YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](#)

June 2021

Volume 37 Number 10

## Schuylkill River Canoe Trip Scouting Continues During the Pandemic



### June 2021

- 1 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM at the cabin
- 1 Tuesday Troop Committee 7:30PM at the cabin
- 2 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:00PM cabin
- 4 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM, Field Day Part I
- 6 Sunday **Field Day Part II, Eagle Court of Honor, Family Picnic**
- 11 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 18 Friday - 20 Sunday Whitewater rafting trip
- 27 Sunday Camp begins, report to Dan Beard campsite at 1PM

### July 2021

- 4 Sunday, Summer Camp, week 2 begins, report to camp at 1PM

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

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 Radnor Races  
 Spring Flower Sale  
 Summer Camp

# Schuylkill River Canoe Trip

Saturday May 8, 2021

By Ethan Winkleman

At the beginning of May, the troop gathered along the banks of the Schuylkill river for our canoe trip. The day's plan was to paddle up the Schuylkill Canal adjoining the river, break for lunch and then portage over to the river itself and canoe down river. Scouts trickled into the area in ones and twos, picking up essential canoe gear such as paddles and life jackets. When all were assembled, scouts found partners and picked a suitable canoe. The first task was to carry the boats to the canal itself, a task that was easy for some yet challenging for others.

When all the canoes were in the water, the troop spread itself along the canal, engaging in playful ramming maneuvers and sightseeing. There was much to see, even with the slow nature of the canal. Small wooden houses directly along the waterline and towering trees dipping their branches into the water evoked feelings of peace and tranquility. Though, not all was still, as sizable flocks of ducks and geese could be found, swimming or grazing along the canal. Every so often, a glimpse of the river Schuylkill itself was seen, running adjacent to the canal.

At the midpoint of the day, the end of the line could be seen, with the canal stopping at a robust wooden lock, keeping the water back. With the help of a nearby dock, we pulled our canoes out of the water and carried them to the fields nearby, where scouts dined on what they had bought with them. When the time felt right, and stomachs were full, all knew that the journey had to continue. With a portage, canoes were touched down onto the great Schuylkill river itself. Here the waters flowed faster, and shallows threatened danger for any canoe which came too close.

Every so often tiny islands could be seen jutting from the water, containing trees, bushes or sometimes nothing except for gravel. Turtles could be spotted, revealing themselves for a short time then disappearing into the murky depths of the river. Our end came when we saw familiar surroundings off the river, coming right back to where we had started. This may have been the end for us, but the river continued. Scouts faced a physical challenge here, portaging their canoes at length overland, yet finally making it to the starting point. Having enjoyed a whole day in the company of nature and friends.



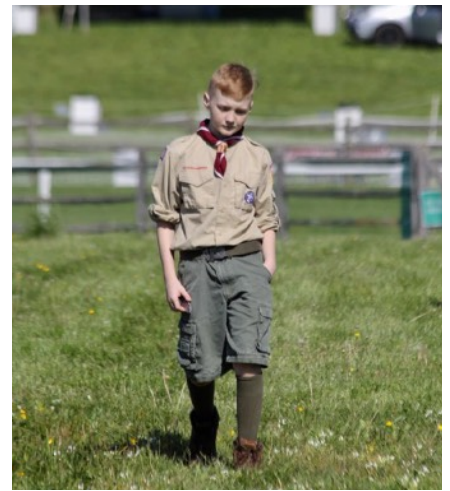
# Radnor Races 2021 !

By Cameron Skodny

This year the troop was back for Radnor Races after it was cancelled the previous year due to Covid-19. On the day of the races most of the scouts and adults parked at Gate 4. We had an amazing turn out for the first day. For the first few hours of the morning some scouts went to help Mr. Hogan and Mr. Bravo with setting out programs. The rest of the troop was stationed at different horse fields around Radnor to help with parking and were put on trash set up. There weren't many people parking in the first few hours of the day, so many volunteers sat around and waited to help.

Once it hit the mid-morning all the volunteers were in action parking cars. There were not as many people this year due to Radnor Hunt limiting the number of tickets to 5000 which made the volunteer work a lot more fun. Once the horse races began, things started to slow down more. Overall, the turnout for the first day was stupendous.

The second day is always the most fun. It is when the troop helps Radnor clean up the fields from the day before. Everyone who was helping arrived at 8AM so that everyone could get moving. We split into groups, usually 1 adult with a truck and 2 or more scouts to help lift the trash into them, though that wasn't always the case. We finished cleaning up around 9:30 which was a record breaking time. Overall Troop 78 had a very productive year at the Radnor Hunt races.



By Brian Rothberg

Just a quick **THANK-YOU** to all who were able to come out and help at this year's Radnor Races! We had our usual wonderful turnout this year, in spite of having no Radnor last year and the continuing obvious Covid issues.

More than 120 volunteers worked about 1,000 hours to help Troop 78 take care of its Radnor Races responsibilities. Included in those numbers were a number of recent "alumni." That is a wonderful thing. We cannot adequately express our gratitude to ALL of our fabulous volunteers. Once again, THANKS!





# Spring Flower Sale

By Jim Fox  
Spring Flower Sale Success!

What do you think of when you hear the words "Flower Sale"? Do you get excited? tired? enthused? exhausted? relaxed? The answer is "all of the above!" Over two dozen Troop 78 moms, dads, retirees, and alumni helped get this year's spring sale over the goal line.

The troop spring flower sale reached out into the community and supplied 334 orders with over 3100 potted plants, flats, hanging baskets, veggies, and herbs. They brightened people's yards and their spirits as they received them for Mother's Day.

The healthy truckloads of plants arrived at the cabin and were unloaded in the pouring rain by our volunteers who carefully sorted them onto tables for our scouts to pick up and deliver. Sorting is no easy task, but this year the troop learned a little more about how to efficiently organize and sort.

For anyone interested in being around plants, working with other troop parents, and sharing their organization/administration skills, the troop has opportunities for service at the fall Poinsettia Sale. (Would you look at that commercial in the middle of a commercial-free newsletter!)

On behalf of the troop, I would like to **thank you** for all of your service with the Spring Flower Sale. We sold over \$24K in orders which was a super strong year. This made a difference in our community and helped keep our scout troop funded and running strong.

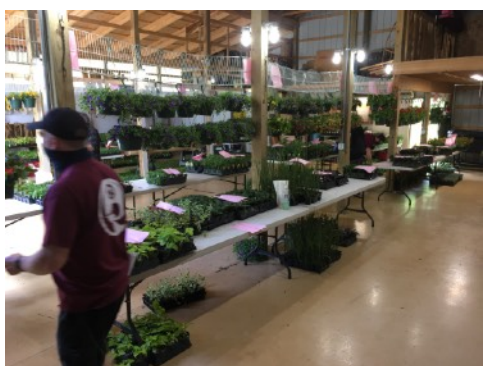
A special thanks to Steve Wark for coordinating with the grower and Dawn Happ for spreadsheet order optimization.

And to our stellar crew:

Braeden Happ  
Brian Osielski  
Brian Rothberg  
Kathi Schallack  
Ernie Heegard  
Jake Schallack  
Jeannine Simms  
Jim Fox  
Jim Hogan

Joe Cady  
Kamilla Connors  
Kartick Sundaram  
Kipp Happ  
Luke Fox  
Jeanette Fox  
Mark Siegle  
Mike Simms  
Meena Krishnamurthy

Miles Stevens  
Nic Osielski  
Rob Duff  
Pete Motel  
Steph Gunderson  
Steve D'Antonio  
Varun Kartick  
Vinay Sao  
Sherri Wark



# Troop Meeting

Friday May 21, 2021

Practice continues for the upcoming Field Day. Attendance at the meetings has been fantastic as the weather improves and the days get longer.



# Camp Horseshoe Updates



New roof on the White House.



Legacy Trading Post open for business



Work in the Fire Circle



Repair work on the Dan Beard washstand



Picnic tables delivered to camp

## New Shower House Under Construction at Camp

Summer 2021

Major facilities upgrade coming!

A new shower house will be available for all scouts and leaders. The shower house will consist of individual shower rooms each with a shower, sink and toilet.



## PARC

Opening getting closer

[PARC: Program Activity Resource Campus](#)

The Chester County Council Program Activity Resource Campus (PARC) is coming! Please consider donating an [Entryway Paver](#) to commemorate you, your scout, or your family.



View from the deck at PARC



# Upcoming Events

## Field Day 2021

**Friday June 4 7PM - 9PM**

**Sunday June 6 2PM - 5PM**

Please join us for Field Day, back to its usual date in June!

The scouts / patrols have been practicing their scout skills and all of them will be on display June 4 and June 6 as the patrols compete for winner of Field Day.

Bring your lawn chair and enjoy the competitions.

In addition, on Sunday, we will be recognizing the achievements of the Scouts at a traditional Court of Honor, including the awarding of 5 (yes, five) Eagle Scouts, and an Order of the Arrow Tap Out Ceremony. Members bring your OA sash.

And we will follow it all with a family picnic on Sunday.

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

## Summer Camp 2021

**Sunday June 27 - Saturday July 3, 2021 Week 1**

**Sunday July 4 - Saturday July 10, 2021 Week 2**

**We are having summer camp!!!**

[Click here for more information.](#)

The troop will be at Camp Horseshoe this summer for its traditional stay in the Dan Beard Campsite.

Some things will be the same, some things will be different. One thing for certain, we will enjoy our time in Horseshoe, this will be a special summer, back in the best place on Earth.

We will pass along any updates and changes as a result of the easing of Covid restrictions.

