



Willistown Troop 78

Website: www.tr78.org

Facebook: [Willistown Boy Scout Troop 78](https://www.facebook.com/WillistownBoyScoutTroop78)

YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC78)

Volume 37 Number 3

November 2020

Bike Trip!

Scouting Continues During the Pandemic



November 2020

- 4 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:30PM
- 6 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 7 Saturday Intro to Outdoor Leadership Skills, Adult training
- 10 Tuesday Virtual Troop Committee 7PM
- 11 Council Roundtable
- 12 Thursday **First Responder Webelos event 7PM**
- 13 Friday **Packing meeting for the backpacking trip 7PM**
- 14 Saturday - 15 Sunday **Backpacking trip**
- 20 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 27 Friday NO Troop meeting due to the Thanksgiving Holiday

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

Inside this issue:

Field Day / Court of Honor
Family Food Festival
Annual Registration

Schuylkill River Trail Bike Hike

Saturday October 17, 2020

By Cody Carnes

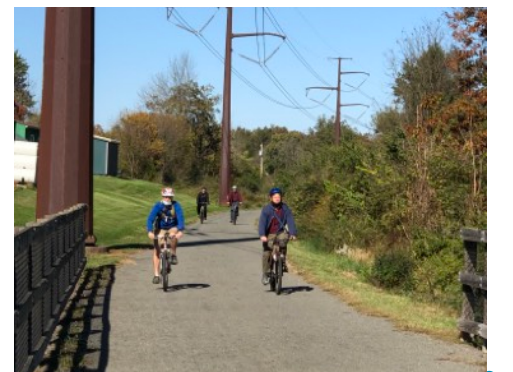
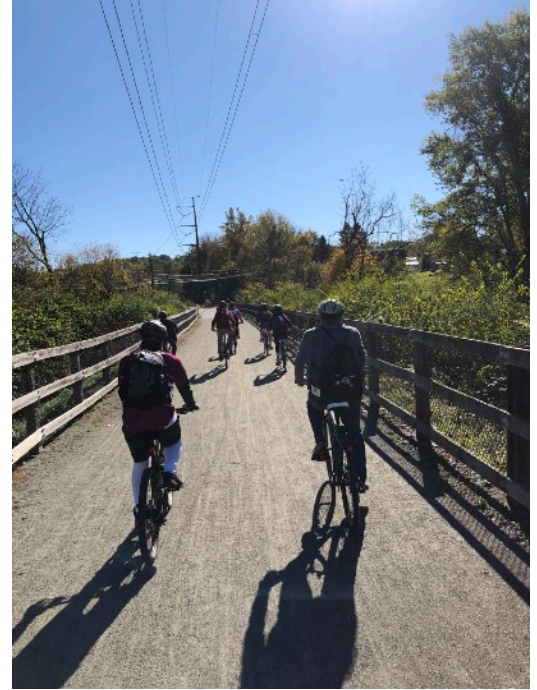
The troop met on a cool Saturday morning. We started the trip off with a history lesson about steel production at the Phoenixville Foundry. It was fascinating to learn about the local industries and how the museum had come to be.

After our session with the museum, we began our trip, splitting into two groups. The fresh air complimented by the bright sun had all our scouts beaming the whole morning.

We rode on the Schuylkill River Trail, 7 miles out and 7 miles back, brimming with excitement to get out of the house and enjoy the outdoors with our fellow scouts.

When we returned, we were greeted by Mr. Bilson and some of his fantastic hot dogs. To round off the trip, we split into groups of 3 - 4 to go into the museum itself. The guide at the counter told a riveting story about his grandfather and the mystery of how he died at the iron works factory.

The trip was a nice break from the trials and turbulence of life, and gave all of us a chance to wind down and enjoy the company of the troop.



Family Food Festival

Friday October 2, 2020

By Ethan Winkleman

This month we had our Family Food Festival. Initially we scattered into rotating groups by patrol to learn scout skills from our patrol leaders. Pandemic procedures had us sitting in chairs six feet apart. However due to the muddy conditions some of the chairs sank into the ground. We learned about topics such as knot tying and first aid. After our training groups, the food festival proper could begin.

Scouts brought flavorful foods such as pierogies, cookies, and various small meat dishes. Pie especially was a fan favorite. After receiving their food, scouts scattered to the yard to socialize (distantly) and reminisce with the delicious goodies. This was definitely a success of a fest. Bon Appetit!



Field Day and Eagle Court of Honor

Field Day Part 1

Friday October 9, 2020

By Ethan Winkleman

At a Friday Troop meeting, October 9, Field Day Part 1 was held, rescheduled from this past June. Part 2 would be held on Sunday. The night opened to the remarks and rules. After the events began, one by one, some of the most memorable were the Heaving Bar, where scouts raced to get the fastest time to suspend logs above the ground with different knots. Another was the Nine Knot competition where scouts tied all sorts of different knots onto their bodies quickly. Some other competitions were the measuring events, where scouts had to correctly guess the height of the cabin chimney and then we did some plant identification. At the end of the night, after the dust had settled, the standings showed that Cougar Patrol was in first place. However, who knew how these placings would change in Field day Part 2 ?!





Field Day Part 2 and the Eagle Court of Honor Sunday October 11, 2020 By Jackson Smith

On the morning of Sunday the 11th, we all woke up expecting to head over to the cabin at 3PM, however we were met with a surprise message from patrol leaders that the Court of Honor and Field Day events would be starting at 12 noon, due to a looming threat of afternoon rain and our need to hold the entire event outside. Despite this slight change of plans, our scouts showed up on time in full Class A uniform with their boots tightly laced.

Before Part 2 of Field Day could begin, we had the Eagle Court of Honor. There were quite a few awards which had to be given out ranging from younger scouts receiving their first ranks, to Thomas Pizzuto achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. We started this event as we do every other troop activity, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Scout Oath and Law. Due to covid restrictions, there were not many trips we have gone on recently. As a result, the section of the Court of Honor where scouts talk about recent trips was cut very short. After this, Mr. D presented scouts various ranks that they had achieved in the past few months. Finally, Luke Fox went on to present Thomas's Eagle speech written by his brother, Zach Fox. After the speech, Thomas' father presented Thomas with the highest rank in Scouting, Eagle Scout.

Following the Court of Honor, we had the second half of the event, Field Day Part 2. We already had half of our events on Friday earlier in the weekend, but the race to 1st place could still be claimed by any patrol. The patrols competed fiercely in events such as String Burning, Water Boiling, 8 knot, and a Chariot Race.



In the end, it came down to Stag and Rattlesnake vying for first place through water boiling. After a very long, difficult water boiling, Stag managed to pull out first place, winning the 2020 Troop 78 Field Day.

This past scouting year has been one of the most difficult in the history of scouting, and it is great to see that our scouts still have their edge despite all the hardships we have faced.



Halloween Party

Friday October 30, 2020

The Scouts and Leaders gathered at a recent troop meeting for the ever-popular Halloween Party. Scouts and Leaders were encouraged to wear a costume instead of the traditional scout uniform. When you looked out across the field, many creative and fun costumes were seen.

Scouts spent the evening circulating between stations learning skills for our upcoming backpacking trip later this month. Stations included: tent raising and take down, fire building, how to light a backpacking stove, and how to pack a backpack.

After the skill training and hands on learning at the stations, the scouts moved to the pumpkin carving contest. Each patrol and the SPL and his staff carved pumpkins with their own designs. The pumpkins were then judged for creativity and execution of the design.

The evening was capped off with a snack appropriate to Halloween: lots of candy.



Radnor Horse Trials

By Steve Brown

Saturday October 10, 2020

On October 10th, a total of 22 intrepid Troop 78 Scouts, Scouters, and family members pitched in a total of 93 hours to help stage the Radnor Horse Trials. Volunteers braved the wee hours of the morning to arrive before 6 a.m. to park horse trailers. Later in the day Scouts helped to put back the bars on jumps after they were knocked down by horses and riders.

The final task of the day was to help take down and put away the dressage ring. While volunteering, the Troop enjoyed camaraderie, world class eventing (Olympic horses and riders competed during the day), and enjoyed free food!

The event was spectator-less this year and the day-end reward, a big pig roast was cancelled, but our volunteers were happy to help out and make the event happen. We look forward to helping again next year!



Updated Covid Restrictions

We have updated our protocols for Troop activities due to the pandemic.

[Please click here for our updated protocols.](#)

“Remind”: Text reminder system

Stay informed! Please join the Troop 78 Remind system. This text system is used by Troop leadership to keep you informed about last minute schedule changes and updates.

We only send out about one text a week, so you do not need to worry about too many texts!

Join by texting @willistown to 81010.

Poinsettia and Wreath Holiday Sale

Early orders due Nov 15

Early order delivery starting Nov 21

Regular orders due Nov 20

Regular order delivery starting Dec 3

We are now in the midst of the Holiday Sale. The Troop uses its two fundraisers (this one and the spring flower sale) to pay for all of scouts to attend troop outings throughout the year.

The profit from each sale is split with the scout who sells the item. The scouts may then use the proceeds to cover the costs of scout-related camping events, such as summer camp and high adventure trips (See KISC below).

We encourage every family to sell these wonderful flowers and wreaths to their families and friends. Please consider buying some for your own household as well. Please give the link to the webstore to your friends, family members and email lists.

People can shop from the comfort of their own homes, more important now than ever during this time of social distancing and crowd avoidance.

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for the fully functional webstore.](#)



Upcoming Events

2020 Annual Registration

Annual rechartering is underway

Adults: YPT and Background checks must be current and accompany your registration.

All registered adults must complete online Youth Protection Training (YPT) every calendar year at <http://my.scouting.org>.

As a reminder, background checks are valid for 5 years. All registered adults need to renew their PA State Police and PA Child Welfare background checks before they expire. Detailed instructions for required PA background checks are found at <https://www.cccbsa.org/resources/pa-background-checks/>

[Click here for more information.](#)

Save the Date! Troop 78 Backpacking Trip

Saturday November 14 - Sunday November 15, 2020

By Jim Bennett

Willistown Troop 78 will continue its tradition of backpacking in 2020! We will be camping at Camp Delmont, a Cradle of Liberty Council camp that is part of the Musser Scout Reservation in Pennsburg, PA (<https://colbsa.org/activities-2/musser-scout-reservation/>). Participants will meet on Saturday, November 14th at locations off the Perkiomen Trail, which is a short ride from our Cabin. We will have two departure points: one closer to camp for first-time and less-experienced backpackers; and one farther from camp for more experienced trekkers. We will finish with a hike out on Sunday, November 15th back to the starting point for the shorter Saturday hike.

If you have never been on a backpacking trip, GET EXCITED! This trip is always one of the highlights of the Troop's camping calendar. While we won't be on the Appalachian Trail this year, participants will still have the satisfaction of carrying their own gear into camp and making their own backpacking meals. This will be a first-time experience for all us, so please – don't miss this trip!

WEBELOS ARE WELCOME! Webelos will have the option of joining us for the hike in, either with gear or without, or they can come to our site at Camp Delmont to join us for post-trekking activities, including dinner and a campfire.

Look for the handout at an upcoming Troop meeting.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC) Trip

As most of you know, we had to reschedule our 2020 Kandersteg Adventure due to the COVID-19 restrictions. We have rescheduled this trip to the summer of 2022. Many of our participants have signed up again, but we have had several participants drop out. With that said, we are taking this opportunity to open up this trip to the entire troop for those who might want to join us on this adventure. The new dates of the trip will be July 23 - August 6, 2022. For those of you who are interested, we will be having a Zoom information session on Thursday, November 19 at 7PM to provide details and requirements for the trip. If you would like to attend this information session, please email Sam Lemheney at sam@creativeeventsolutions.com and he will send you the link to the Zoom session.



*Those families who are already signed up and confirmed from our last trip, there is no need to attend this session. We will be in touch with more details in the future.

Scout and Scouters Requirements for the Kandersteg Trip

- Must be a minimum of 13 yrs. old as of the start date of the trip
- Registered in the Troop as of September, 2020
- Scout must be First Class before trip departure
- Actively participate in all Troop 78 fundraisers
- Scout must attend summer camp in 2021 and 2022
- Be an active Troop participant (Scoutmaster discretion)
- Agree to abide by Troop Code of Conduct

Chester County Council Gala

Attention: Troop 78 Adults

Friday November 20, 2020

By Jim Bennett

The annual Council Gala will be virtual this year. The pandemic has seen all Council fundraising grind to a halt. This event will help the Council finish out the year with a big bang! Please consider joining the Scouters and Friends of Scouting for a night of virtual fun, silent and live auctions. The event will see the auction of naming rights for the Camp road for 2021 among other great prizes.

In this most challenging year, Chester County Council has come up with a great event that is creative, engaging and will raise much-needed funding for Scouting: We are calling it “Virtual Vino.”

Virtual Vino is a wine-tasting event that will be held (wait for it ...) virtually. For \$150, participants will receive 4 bottles of wine from Stone & Key Cellars in Bucks County, PA. Through the magic of the Internet, a sommelier from the winemaker will guide us through the subtleties of each of the wines, and give us advice on pairing the wines with different foods. Between tastings, we will hear from our Council CEO, Jeff Spencer and Council President (and Troop 78’s very own!) Pete Motel for important updates on Chester County Scouting.

Virtual Vino is Friday, November 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM. Tickets are available NOW at <https://www.cccbsa.org/event/virtual-vino-fundraiser/> and are going fast. You still have time but please don’t delay. This will be a fun, affordable event that will allow you to support Scouting in Chester County Council – all from the comfort of your home. No designated driver needed! All participants must be age 21 or older.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Please print out this Newsletter for everyone in your house to see. Thanks!