



# Willistown Troop 78

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

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

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

June 2024

Volume 40 Number 10

## Radnor!

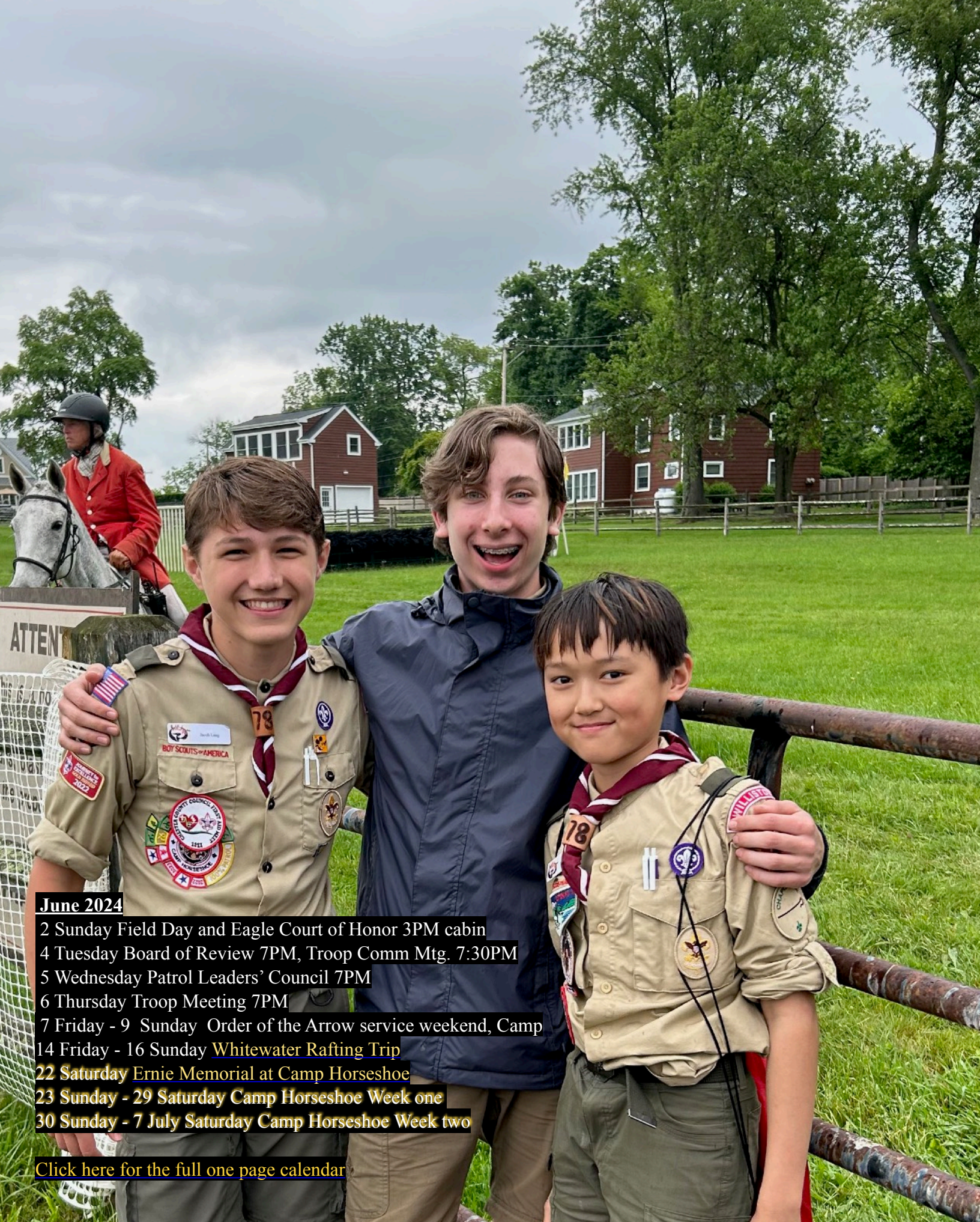
### Benefits Brandywine Open Land Conservancy



#### **Inside this issue**

- Canoe trip on the Schuylkill
- Spring Flower Sale
- Memorial for Ernie at Camp





**June 2024**

- 2 Sunday Field Day and Eagle Court of Honor 3PM cabin
- 4 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM, Troop Comm Mtg. 7:30PM
- 5 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7PM
- 6 Thursday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 7 Friday - 9 Sunday Order of the Arrow service weekend, Camp
- 14 Friday - 16 Sunday Whitewater Rafting Trip
- 22 Saturday Ernie Memorial at Camp Horseshoe
- 23 Sunday - 29 Saturday Camp Horseshoe Week one
- 30 Sunday - 7 July Saturday Camp Horseshoe Week two

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



# Radnor Races

Saturday May 18, 2024

By Jay Tyson

It was a great day as usual when we got to Radnor. All of the beautiful white tents were set up around the course and scouts were doing their jobs of parking and directing cars and trailers, and various other duties. There was no lot 7 this year so we had to have more people to park cars in the infield.

At 11:00 the first pony races began, and at 1:30 the “mane” event, the horse races. Security opened and closed the “gaits” along the track and everyone was looking good in their uniforms and yellow or orange vests. The good weather did not last and pretty soon scouts were drenched and pulling out ponchos, rain jackets, and umbrellas. Eventually the “rein” let up and the races continued.

A team of scouts got up close with the horses as they had to set up and take down the paddock on the race track before each race. It was great to see everyone pitch in and help out and the day went off



without a hitch. At the “tail” end of the last race, one horse lost its balance and fell down, but quickly recovered and was trotting along in no time.

Overall, it was a great day as usual at the Radnor Hunt Races.

The next day, to clean up the party, teams of scouts and adults went around collecting trash and putting it in dumpsters. After 2 hours it looked like a horse pasture again. This is a great way to get the troop active outside of the usual camping trips and troop meetings and I can't wait for next year!







## Thank You!

A quick THANKS! for another fabulous effort at May's Radnor Hunt Races.

Saturday was damp one, but that did not dampen Troop 78's showing. Numbers are only preliminary, but well over 100 of us were out there making sure the Event went off without a hitch. But it didn't end there. Over 40 folks showed up on Sunday to clean-up which was completed in near record time.

There are not many volunteer organizations that could pull off something this big!  
YOU make it possible.

Thanks So Very Much,  
Event Coordinators  
Steve Brown  
Brian Rothberg  
Don Tyson





# Canoe Trip on the Schuylkill River

Saturday May 4, 2024

By Josh Simms

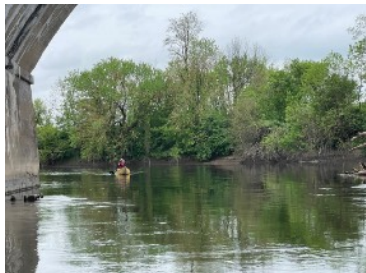
On a rather chilly Saturday morning, a decent chunk of scouts headed out from the cabin at around 8:30AM to partake in a fun day of canoeing the Schuylkill River and the Phoenixville Canal. The weather was dreary as it was cold and rainy throughout the trip, but it took quite a bit more than a bit of rain and cold weather to slow us down.

After a relatively short bus ride, the long route group got off first, further upriver on the Schuylkill. They planned to ride down the Schuylkill River, then port over to the canal to end up at the lunch spot. After a further drive, the short route group got off to depart. They were to canoe down the canal, loop back up to one end, port over to the Schuylkill to coast back down, port over to the canal again, and finally head back up the canal to wait for the long group at the lunch spot. I was part of the short group, partaking in the complex route which took quite a while to fully understand.

Before we set off into the water, we got a few demonstrations on how to enter/exit a boat safely, how to paddle effectively, and how to recover if your canoe gets tipped. We took off into the water shortly after, one by one, and started our route. We saw plenty of interesting things, such as ducks and other birds, cool-looking trees, and even spots along the canal where you could hitch your canoe and get out to eat at a restaurant. It was smooth sailing for us, and we didn't face any major problems other than the occasional light rain.

One highlight for me was the echo under an arched support bridge. You could shout and you would hear your echo from all around you. What is even cooler is that as soon as you exit from under the bridge you can't hear the echo anymore, making for a surreal experience.

After portaging a few times and going up and down the river and canal, we stopped at the lunch spot, got our canoes out of the river, and gear put away for lunch. We had slightly wet hot dogs, chips, and various salads for lunch. The long group took a while to get back, as expected, and they had lunch a bit after us. After getting all of the gear situated and ready for transport, we got onto the bus and headed home after another successful trip.







# Scenes From Recent Troop Meetings

Friday May 10, 2024

Thursday May 30, 2024

Scouts practicing for the upcoming Field Day.

The Field Day competitions began on Thursday May 30 at the troop meeting. Patrols completed against each other in Nature Identification, Scout's Pace, Judging, Map and Compass, and various other scouts skills for the coveted Field Day Trophy.

Field Day will conclude on Sunday June 2 with Part II.





# Upcoming Events

## Memorial for Ernie

Please join us at Camp Horseshoe on **Saturday, June 22 from 2:00 - 6:00PM** for a celebration of life for Ernie Heegard.

Please see the link below to sign up for this event.

The event is no charge to those who attend.

The program and details are as follows:

**2PM - Chapel Service**

**3PM - Campfire at Ackgeketum Circle**

- Traditional campfire program
- Tribute by AJ Diantonio
- Closing remarks by Mark Siegle

**4PM - Reception at the dining hall**

- Food
- Camp songs
- Celebratory speeches

*\*all programs to conclude by 6:00PM*

[Click here for more information and the link to the sign up form.](#)



## Countdown to Summer Camp 2024!

**Week one starts Sunday June 23 and ends Saturday June 29**

**Week two starts Sunday June 30 and ends Saturday July 6**

**Drop off is 12:30PM Sunday**

**Pick up is 11:00AM Saturday**

[Click here for all the summer information you could possibly want.](#)



## Algonquin Provincial Park Canada Canoe Trip

**Saturday August 10 - Saturday August 17, 2024**

Consider joining us for week in the wilds of Canada, canoeing and camping in beautiful Algonquin Park. This is a classic Troop 78 trip, a must to round out your scouting experience.

[Click here for all of the details.](#)



# Fundraising

## Spring Flower Sale 2024

The Spring flower sale is in the books!  
The orders are delivered and it was a grand success.  
We made our fundraising goal!



The troop appreciates the efforts of our volunteers who came to sort the plants on Wednesday May 8 and distribute them to the scouts on Thursday May 9, just in time for Mother's Day. We sorted over 2300 plants in under 4 hours and then started the distribution to the **48** scouts who sold them!

This year the troop added some creative patio planters to the inventory which allowed people to grow their own herbs, tomato sauce ingredients, and bee-friendly native plants right from their patio.

We are grateful for the team that came to volunteer their time to help with this fun and important fundraiser.

Click [here to see some photos from the day.](#)

# Chester County Council News

## Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner

**Thursday May 16, 2024, 6PM**

Thursday May 16 - Chester County Council scouts and scouters convened at RiverCrest Golf Club to recognize the Eagles Scouts of the past year.

**Alex Lemheney 6/4/2023**

**Braeden Happ 10/8/2023**

**John Wark 10/8/2023**

**Owen Li 3/17/24**

**Max Lang 3/17/24**

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scouts!





# Scouting America

## Our Program Gets a New Name

### A letter from our Scout Executive

This week, the Boy Scouts of America announced that it will rebrand to Scouting America, reflecting the organization's ongoing commitment to welcome every youth and family in America to experience the benefits of Scouting. The change will go into effect on February 8, 2025, the organization's 115th anniversary.

This announcement also comes as the organization celebrates the fifth anniversary of welcoming girls into Cub Scouting and Scouts BSA programs. Scouting America currently serves more than 176,000 girls and young women across all programs, including over 6,000 who have earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

Scouting America builds on the organization's 114 years of helping America's youth. Its ongoing goal is to provide young people with a safe environment where they can learn meaningful life skills and have fun, educational experiences, fostering their growth and future outcomes as leaders, and be prepared for life. At the same time, values instilled by the Scout Oath and Law help prepare young people for lives of purpose and impact.

More than 130 million Americans have been through Scouting programs since its founding in 1910, and currently, more than 1 million youth, including both men and women, are served by 477,000 dedicated adult volunteers in local councils throughout the country. To date, more than 2.75 million youth have earned Scouting's highest rank of Eagle Scout.

In addition to supporting the nation's youth, Scouting America will continue to be an important asset to strengthen our communities, having provided more than 7 million hours of volunteer services for community improvement and other projects across the country annually.

#### About Scouting America

Scouting America provides the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training, which helps young people be "Prepared. For Life.®"

Scouting America welcomes all of America's youth into its programs. Our goal is to give them fantastic experiences in the outdoors, and elsewhere, where they can grow with us in a safe environment. More than 130 million Americans have been through our programs since our founding, and currently more than 1 million youth are served by 477,000 dedicated adult volunteers in local councils throughout the country.

Many changes have taken place of the 114 year history of Scouting and in the 105 years of Scouting here in Chester County. Our commitment to serve the youth is unchanged by this rebranding, and we are excited about and looking forward to doing so for the next 105 years.

To learn more about Scouting America's mission, visit [Scouting.org](https://www.scouting.org).

Yours In Scouting,

Ben Wheeler

Chester County Council Scout Executive/CEO

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

**Please feel free to forward and/or print this Newsletter for all of your family and friends to see!**