



# Willistown Troop 78

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

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

YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](#)

April 2023

Volume 39 Number 8

## Washington, D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival

### April

1 Saturday - Saturday 8 Disney World Trip

4 Tuesday Board of Review 7 PM

Troop Committee Meeting 7:30PM

12 Wednesday Patrol Leaders Council 7PM

14 Friday TROOP MEETING 7PM

15 Saturday - Spring Cleanup at the cabin, 8AM - noon

21 Friday TROOP MEETING 7PM

28 Friday - 30 Sunday Order of the Arrow Service Weekend, Camp Horseshoe

30 Sunday Flower Sale orders due

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

### Inside this issue

Court of Honor

Pinewood Derby

Spring Flower Sale



# Washington DC tour and campout

Friday March 24 - Sunday March 26, 2023

By Caleb Fulmer

On a very wet Friday evening, a full bus of scouts and adults set out on a three and half hour bus ride to our campsite about an hour outside of Washington D.C. in Manassas, Virginia. When we got there, we had to set up our tents quickly in the rain. Once we set up our tents we took our personal gear off the bus, set up the inside of our tents and went to bed.

The next morning Cougar patrol cooked a breakfast of pancakes and bacon, with a supplement of cereal. Flying Eagle patrol cleaned up breakfast, and we all boarded the bus and headed into the city of Washington D.C. Once in the city, we broke into 4 youth-led groups that each had at least one adult. The groups were led by Justin Sansone, Braeden Happ, Logan Duff, and Ben Barsotti. Each group chose what they wanted to do for the day. We all tried to get tickets for the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum but they just sold out too fast. So all the groups decided to part ways to go on their own adventures. Justin's group went to the Smithsonian Natural History museum, the Smithsonian American History museum, and the Smithsonian Holocaust museum. Braeden's group went to the Smithsonian Natural History museum and the Smithsonian American Indian museum. Logan's group went to the Smithsonian American History museum and Natural history museums.



Ben's group went to the Smithsonian American History museum and the Smithsonian Natural History Museums.

Each museum had its own fans and best exhibits in people's opinions. Personally, my favorite exhibits from each museum were the Fossil Hall in the Smithsonian Natural History Museum, the automobile exhibit in the Smithsonian American History Museum, and the overall experience you get from the Holocaust Museum. Each group stopped for lunch in the time frame we were given, and my group chose to get food from the local food trucks. At the end of the day, we all met back up we headed toward the bus that was stuck in a lot of traffic. Back at the campsite, Moose patrol started on dinner which was chicken burritos with rice. Then, Panther patrol cleaned up dinner and we had a campfire. After the campfire, we all went to bed after a long and exhausting day.

In the morning, staff patrol set up a cold breakfast of muffins, bagels, and cereal. Then we all packed up our tents and ground tarps and loaded all the equipment into Mr. D's truck. Then we packed all our personal gear into the bus and headed home earlier than expected. We stopped for lunch at a rest stop on the way home before making it back to the cabin around 12:45. Once back at the cabin we hung up tents and ground tarps to dry after a wet, fun, and exciting weekend.



# Court of Honor

Sunday March 19, 2023

By Ethan Sansone

On Sunday, March 19, the troop and its families gathered at the cabin for a Court of Honor. We began with speeches from each patrol reviewing the events of the recent months. After that, we watched a slide show with pictures of those events. It was a great time remembering all the fun activities the troop had participated in. Ending the first half of the event were some messages from adult leadership.

Next up was the Order of the Arrow tap out ceremony where the honor campers of the troop were recognized. In addition to six scouts, two adults were tapped out. They will be inducted as Ordeal members at an OA weekend of their choosing. We then began the awards.

The most notable among these was the Recruit of the Year award, an annual award given to the most active scout who joined in the last year. This year's recipient by unanimous vote of the PLC was Daniel Christaldi. We were all very happy for him and felt he truly deserved the award. After the awards, we went into the committee room for some cake. After milling around for a while and congratulating members of our troop, we headed for home.

[Click here for the Year-in-Review video.](#)



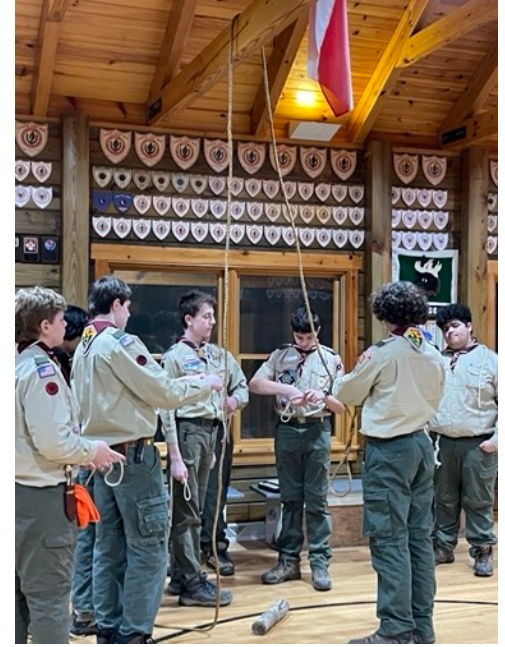
# Scenes from a Recent Troop Meeting

Friday March 10, 2023

Troop 78 Annual Field Day is set for Sunday June 4, 2023. With that in mind, Troop 78 scouts have begun to practice for Field Day.

We are closer to June than we think!

As of April 1, there are only 4 troop meeting until Field Day.



## Spring Flower Sale

Now underway!

Last day to order: Sunday April 30

The Spring Flower Sale is now underway!!! This is a win - win !!

You get your spring flowers and garden plants delivered to your door AND the troop raises funds to support the scouting program throughout the year.

Please remember: the troop's programs, including all meetings, campouts, scout food on campouts, awards, etc. are free to the scouts. This flower sale is the reason. Please take a look at our user friendly online store.

We have all your gardening needs: garden flowers, herbs, annual flats, individual potted plants, and hanging baskets.

Sale goes through April 30th with delivery just in time for Mother's day.

Brighten your home and yard from the comfort of your own couch.

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for the online store.](#)



# Cabin Walkway Bricks

Walking into the cabin there is a beautiful brick walkway with names of scouts, scouters and friends, both past and present, engraved into the brick pavers. Have you ever wondered how you could get your name or your scouts name included in the walkway?

Troop 78 is re-launching the engraved brick purchasing program, where you have the opportunity to purchase an engraved brick which will be added to the front walkway.

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 at <https://www.tr78.org/>.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Jim Hogan at jim.hogan @foxroach.com. [Click here for the order form.](#)



## CDL Bus Driver's License

Congratulations to Troop 78's newest bus driver, Steve Wark. He is the latest driver to get his CDL and is able to drive the Troop bus.

If you have any interest in getting your CDL let us know.



## Upcoming Events

### Radnor Races

Saturday May 20 and Sunday May 21, 2023

Radnor Races weekend is coming up on Saturday & Sunday, May 20th & 21st. This is one of THE MOST IMPORTANT WEEKENDS on the Troop 78 calendar.

We need as many people coming out to work as much time as they possibly can. We especially need **ADULTS!** We will be out from around 7 AM to 6 PM on Saturday, May 20. Please concentrate on helping us between 11:00 and 3:00. These are the most critical times. Of course, help any time is appreciated and extended hours are always needed. Clean-up is Sunday morning from 8 AM to Noon. Remember, we welcome and need help from every person you can bring out, not just Scouts & parents!



Volunteering at the Radnor Races helps:

- OUR TROOP'S MAJOR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
- TROOP 78 EARN FUNDS
- PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT, AS TROOP 78 HELPS THE BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY PRESERVE OPEN SPACE IN OUR AREA
- EARN MONEY IN YOUR CAMPING ACCOUNT

Your sign-up sheet should arrive in the mail soon. *Please fill it out & send it back as soon as you get it.* That will minimize unnecessary calls and e-mails both for your sake and ours. **PLEASE BE PROMPT!!!**

SATURDAY, MAY 20 & SUNDAY MAY 21



## Summer Camp!

Week one: Sunday June 25 - Saturday July 1

Week two: Sunday July 2 - Saturday July 8

Summer camp at the Horseshoe Scout Reservation is right around the corner!

**Final Payment** for the **Early Bird** for Summer Camp was due **Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Please your check deliver to my residence at **1459 Blanford Lane, West Chester, PA 19380** by the end of the weekend. **Please note any payment after March 31<sup>st</sup> could incur an \$80.00 increase.** This is set by Chester County Council and not the Troop.

If you would like to know what is still owed, please reach out to me directly at [tr78.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:tr78.registrar@gmail.com) or by phone or text at **(610) 247-2364**

### Upcoming Dates

**Health / Medical Forms** will be due on or before **May 19<sup>th</sup>** (Parts A, B1, B2 & C with a Copy of Insurance Card, also any Special Dietary Needs and Medication forms if applicable).

For any additional information please review the Summer Camp page on the troop website at <https://www.tr78.org/summer-camp.html>

If you need assistance with Summer Camp Payments, Willistown Troop 78 and the Friends of 78, Inc. want to help, please let the Scoutmaster or me know if you would like assistance.

**[For more information, click here.](#)**



# Chester County Council News

## Diamond Rock District Pinewood Derby

Saturday March 25, 2023

By Mike Simms

On Saturday March 25th, nearly 40 pinewood racers and their families packed the Troop 78 cabin for the 5th annual Diamond Rock District Pinewood Derby. Excitement filled the air in anticipation for the championship race. 12 cub packs were represented; 69, 122, 76, 55, 153, 98, 170, 73, 21, 86, 7, & 122.

A beautiful 6 lane aluminum track was donated to Troop 78 last year. Over the past few months, it has gone through some repairs and adjustments to get it into tip top shape. Race Manager software and respective electronics were licensed to the troop. All the preparation paid off. The track was set up on Friday night and tested thoroughly. Runs were flawless.

Check-in began at 10:00 AM and ran until 11:15. The race kicked off at 11:30 and ran for about 40 minutes. The top 5 winners were awarded nice trophies and will be entered in the Council Grand Championship race.

I'd like to thank the following volunteers for their dedication and efforts. On top of the cabin race day setup and tear down the volunteers had special duties to make the race run smoothly:

Wayne Curry; Security and starting line derby car shuttle.

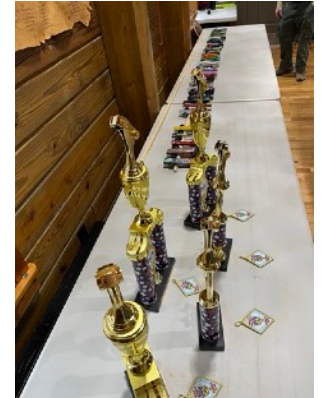
Kipp Happ; Race judge and derby starting line car shuttle

Brian, Nic, and Alex Opielski; Weigh-in judge, starting line car shuttle, flag ceremony, and derby car runners.

Mike Simms; Race director.

Don Tyson; Parking and Security filling the cabin parking lot like a pro.

Steve Wark; Start gate and race judge.



- Diamond Rock Pinewood Derby Top 5
- 1st Place Ewen D. Pack 98
- 2nd Place David P. Pack 21
- 3rd Place Alessandro B. Pack 55
- 4th Place Emmitt B. Pack 76
- 5th Place Giovanni B. Pack 122



# Chester County Council Volunteer Recognition Dinner

Tuesday March 21, 2023

The Council Camping committee held its annual Camping Volunteer Recognition Dinner for all those who give their time to camp and the Council by serving on various committees in the Council. In attendance were representatives from the Order of the Arrow, the Ranger Corps, the Muddy River Gang (MRG), and all of the Council committees and subcommittees.

We had a nice buffet dinner followed by an inspirational talk from Mike LaRosa, former Horseshoe COPE Director who started and runs New Trail Brewery out of Williamsport PA.

Recognition was given to the Muddy River Gang, volunteers who come to camp every Wednesday for a day of projects. The MRG gave over 2000 hours of service to the camps in 2022. The Volunteer of the Year for 2022 was announced: Congratulations to Mike Berkheiser for all the work he has done and continues to do for the camps.

Thanks to everyone who gives their time, toil, and treasure to scouting!



# Order of the Arrow Banquet

Sunday March 5, 2023

Order of the Arrow Octoraro Lodge 22 gathered its membership for the annual banquet and award ceremony. After a delicious buffet dinner, the lodge recognized the effort of OA volunteers. The evening was capped off by the call-out of the lodge's newest Vigil Honor inductees.





# Brandywine Backyard Barbecue

Sunday April 23 New Garden Township Park, noon - 5PM

<https://www.facebook.com/brandywinebbq>

Online tickets are now available!! Don't miss out on the BEST BBQ vendors, sweet treats and chart topping hits from our vendors, bands and sponsors!

<https://scoutingevent.com/539-2023BBQ>

New this year: FAMILY PASSES - \$25 - Online ONLY Exclusive. These will NOT be available at the event! Get them before you go!



## Silver Beaver and Eagle Recognition Dinner

The Eagle Recognition and Silver Beaver Awards will be held together at one event.

The Silver Beaver Award recognizes registered Scouters of exceptional character who have provided distinguished service to the Council. This year Chester County Council will award the Silver Beaver to four recipients, one of which is Troop 78's very own Jim Bennett.

We will also recognize all Eagle Scouts awarded in 2022.

This will be an evening to remember!

All members of the Scouting family are welcome to attend.

[Click here for more information.](#)



## Eagle Scout Video Story Project

The Eagle Scout Recognition Committee of Chester County Council would like to spotlight your efforts as an Eagle Scout. This project is part of an ongoing effort to spotlight the accomplishments and successes of our Scouts and Scouters.

We want to hear your story!

We would like to collect videos about your Trail to Eagle so we can spotlight it on social media.

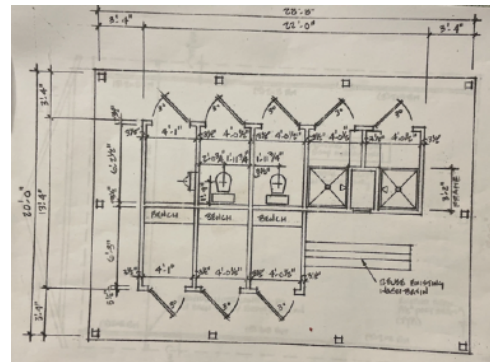
**Trail to Eagle Video:** This video should be no more than 45 seconds - 1 min. This can include a funny story, or a story about the biggest challenge, or one of the valuable lessons you learned on your trail to Eagle. [Click here for more information.](#)

# Horseshoe Pool Changing Rooms and Shower House

Available for use this coming summer

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

We look forward to using this new facility at summer camp 2023!



## Alumni Corner

### 78 Alumni Gathering at La Cabra Brewing

Wednesday March 8, 2023

Troop alumni, friends, and significant others gathered at La Cabra Brewery in Berwyn, PA on Wednesday, March 8 for a “Brews and Bites” get-together.

We had the space upstairs at La Cabra’s unique brew house. We enjoyed one another’s company, choice of the Brewery’s own beers, ciders or a soft drink and an assortment of tasty treats, including wings and empanadas.

A good time was had by all. Hope you can join our next event, TBD.

[Click here for more information on the Troop Alumni Association](#)

## Links

[National website](#)

[Council website](#)

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