



# Newsletter

Volume 30

Number 1

September 2013

## CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER 2013

- 9/3 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.  
9/4 - Patrol Leaders Council (7:30-8:30 PM)  
9/6 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)  
9/9 – Friends of Troop 78 Board Meeting  
9/12 – Diamond Rock Steak-o-ree & Roundtable  
9/13 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)  
9/21-22 – Harpers Ferry Trip (depart 6 AM)  
9/21 – Fitness Fest and Run for Scouting: Sign up at cccbsa.org  
9/27-29 – Order of the Arrow Ordeal & Fellowship Weekend at Camp Horseshoe

### OCTOBER 2013

- 10/1 – Board of Review (7:00 PM) & Troop Committee Mtg.  
10/2 (Wed.) – Patrol Leaders Council (7:30 - 8:30PM)  
10/4 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)  
10/5 – Den Chief Training (9 AM to Noon)  
10/6 - **ANNUAL TROOP DINNER & COURT OF HONOR (3 PM)**  
10/10 – Diamond Rock Roundtable  
10/11 - TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)  
Poinsettia sale begins  
10/12 – Radnor Horse Trials 7:30 AM to 4 PM – Help needed  
10/12 – Junior Leader Training – APLs, PLs, ASPLs, SPL  
10/18-20 – Trip to be announced  
10/25 – TROOP MEETING (7 to 9 PM)

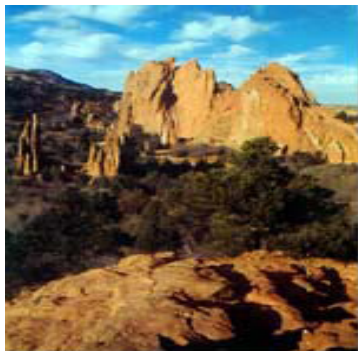
**NOTE: Camping Trips/Major Events shown in Bold.** TROOP MEETINGs underlined in CAPITALS. *Adult only meetings in Italics.*

### NEW DADS NEEDED!

The September Troop Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 3rd at 7:30 PM at the cabin. The committee meets to guide and discuss the operation of the troop. New dads are especially encouraged to attend these meetings.

## HISTORIC HARPERS FERRY September 21st & 22nd

For the first camping trip of the new season we will be visiting the town and trails of Harpers Ferry in West Virginia. We will spend some time both in the historic district, allowing for ample museum browsing, and a complete visit of a town that remains nearly intact from the 19th century and played a very critical role in the American Civil War. It's also impossible to visit the location of the headquarters for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) and not take at least a small day hike. You should plan at arriving at the cabin at 5:45 AM on Saturday, September 21st; then we will drive the troop bus into the heart of this historic gem for the day. After a full day of museums, historical monuments, living history, and a little hiking, we will retire to a nearby campground to pitch our tents, setup camp and cook dinner. We will depart West Virginia Sunday morning, returning back to the cabin in Malvern late Sunday afternoon. It's a fun, simple, one-night overnight trip with great activities for young and old Scouts alike. Please plan on packing earlier in the week to prepare for an early morning departure on Saturday. For additional questions, please contact your patrol leader or Camping Chairman [JackBilson@gmail.com](mailto:JackBilson@gmail.com).



## 2014 HIGH ADVENTURE PHILMONT TRIPS

**We Have Space for Three (3) More**  
Next summer you could be backpacking in "God's Country," the Sangre de Cristo (Blood of Christ) range of the Rocky Mountains in northwest New Mexico. Troop 78 currently has nine Scouts and dads committed go on this high adventure trip to Philmont, July 19-August 2, 2014. Since this trip is high adventure and we need to be well prepared, Scouts need to be age 14 by date of arrival at Philmont. If you are interested in joining us, we will have a brief crew team meeting Sept 6 after the Troop 78 meeting. We would love see you there. You can also contact Tommy Walsh if you have any interest or any questions.

Tentative trip schedule is as follows:

**Day 1** fly from Philadelphia international to Denver, Colorado

### Pre-trek Touring

#### Saturday

Tour of Air Force Academy and Garden of the Gods  
Overnight: University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

#### Sunday

Cog Railway to Pikes Peak  
Class IV & V White Water Rafting  
Overnight at University of Colorado (getting aquatinted to higher elevation)

#### Monday to Saturday

Philmont hiking and camping (detailed depending on trek selected by our 78 crew)  
Saturday, August 2, return home (from the adventure of a lifetime!)

## **SUMMER CAMP, WEEK TWO**

**By Luke Phayre  
Flying Eagle Patrol**

The first day of week 2 in summer camp was Sunday, when people are leaving from and coming to Camp Horseshoe. Newcomers have to take the swimming test. In the test, you have to swim 1-1/2 lengths of the pool, doing freestyle and then swim the rest on your back. When you reach the end, you float on your back.

Each day we had to wake up at 6:45 AM. Some people wake up earlier to clean their tents. If you get the cleanest tent, you get the "Mr. Clean" award. There is also an "Eight Ball." No one wants this because that means you have the dirtiest tent in the troop.

After inspection, we go to breakfast, where we eat food like breakfast burritos and cereal. When we get back, we do jobs like fire guard and clean the tool shed. Then, we work on our merit badges. The first-year Scouts go to Trail Blazers. When we get back, we go to lunch. At lunch, we have a salad bar and meals like grilled cheese, but people working on their cooking badges make their own meals, like beef stew. When we get back from lunch we work on more merit badges. Special Interest Programs (SIPs) begin at 4:00 PM. Some people stay back and relax or play chess, because there is a giant chessboard. When that is over, we have marching. We won every night that week. After, we go to dinner. There are meals like tacos and chicken.

When we get back from dinner, we play games. On Monday, we had a scavenger hunt. The theme was the apocalypse. Wednesday's theme was "the staff members are on strike," and the game that night was a staff hunt. On Friday, the game was a scavenger hunt to find missing slush-puppy drinks. Almost every night after games, we have snacks, such as

Rita's water ice. Tuesday and Thursdays are troop nights where the troop makes up the games. On Tuesday, we had Boom Town. You play games and earn points and auction them off. One of the prizes was having Mr. D being the waiter for your patrol's table. Thursday, we had a campfire. That was outpost night when Scouts working on camping and wilderness survival merit badges slept in tents outside. On Saturday, families came for Paul Bunyan field day. Our best event was the giant clove hitch. We tied it in 7 seconds. Troop 78 won Paul Bunyan field day this year. Finally Sunday, we went to chapel, had lunch, and then we went home. That was summer camp this year.

### **THE CANADA TRIP**

**Chris Duncan, Senior Patrol Leader**

Troop 78's annual trip to Algonquin Park started out like many other Canada trips. We took the 10-hour drive to our campsite location for the night. For our dinner that night, we enjoyed a wonderful Canadian barbeque. We all went to bed that night excited about the beginning of our venture through Algonquin. The next morning, we had a cold breakfast, put a couple more canoes on top of the bus, and drove another 4 hours to our put-in at Magnetwan Lake. There was a minor problem with parking the bus, but soon it was solved, and we were out on the water. The paddle that day was short, and we quickly arrived at our first campsite in Ralph Bice Lake. We enjoyed chicken burritos and some brownies, and then went to bed.

On Monday morning, the fog was very thick, and the water was so still and shiny that it looked like it was covered with glass. We had breakfast at the secondary site and headed off for what would be our longest day of the trip. We endured seven portages that day, with two over 2000 m, and crossed over seven lakes, eventually ending up in Tom Thompson Lake for the day. At our second over 2000 m portage, the adults almost persuaded

two chiropractors to give us complementary joint adjustments, but they didn't fall for it. We had a typical backpacking just-add-water meal, and went to bed exhausted. The next day may have been shorter but proved to be equally as exhausting. During our longest and last portage of the day, it rained and made the hiking conditions a bit dangerous, but we were able to see a moose at the end of our portage to McIntosh Marsh. We made it to our campsite in Big Trout, which had a beautiful gravel beach and stone dock. We all enjoyed a bath in the lake, and then enjoyed a meal with cheesecake.

Wednesday was a bit easier. We had a long paddle through Big Trout and a couple portages to an island in Happy Isle, where a large cooler of wonderful food was waiting for us, which included delicious steaks. We spent a day at Happy Isle, and enjoyed the beauty around us. On Friday, we took the long portage to Opeongo, took a short nap on the dock there, and finished with a nine-mile paddle to Opeongo Outfitters. For those of us who figured out how to operate the showers, a refreshing cleansing awaited us. We took a bus ride back to our first campsite and stayed the night.

The next morning, we cashed in all of our Canadian money at Tim Horton, and traveled to Bill Johnston's Pirate Festival in Alexandria Bay, New York, located in the heart of the 1000 Islands. Thanks to Mr. Bravo and Mr. Siegle with their trusty Old Town canoe, the town was saved from the invading pirates. We camped in a campsite near 1000 Islands that night, and then drove home the next morning.

For those of you who haven't been with the troop to Algonquin, I would highly recommend it. It ranks in the top 3 trips I have ever been on with the troop, and I am looking forward to my next opportunity to paddle and portage across Algonquin Park.