



Willistown Troop 78

Website: www.tr78.org
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Volume 33 Number 7
March 2017

Upcoming Events

March

- 1 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:30PM
- 3 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 5 Sunday Order of the Arrow Banquet (members of the OA only)
- 7 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM Troop Committee 7:30PM
- 10 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM Hoagie orders due
- 12 Sunday Annual Parent's Night and Court of Honor, 3PM Cabin **Please Note Date Change**
- 14 Tuesday Pasta Night 7PM All adults welcome
- 17 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM Parents build hoagies
- 18 Saturday Hoagie build and delivery
- 24 Friday Camp deposits due
- 24 Friday - 26 Sunday Backpacking Trip
- 31 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM Flower Sale begins

April

- 4 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM Troop Committee 7:30PM
- 5 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:30PM

May

- 5 Final payment due for summer camp. [Click here for info.](#)

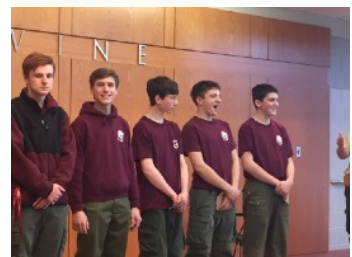
[Click here for full calendar](#)

First Aid Meet Sweep!

Council First Aid Meet: Saturday, February 4th

by Jay Madarasz, SPL Troop 78

I woke up at 6:00 in the morning on Saturday the 4th bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, ready for the First Aid Meet. This year I was not participating, but observing our patrols as troop Senior Patrol Leader. We had been preparing for months, doing first aid problems at every meeting. We were one of the first troops to arrive so our five patrols had plenty of time to work on the registration problem. Unfortunately for me, right before the competition began Mr. Bilson volun-told me to be a patient for one of the other troops that did not have a patient. Luckily, Jack Dinsmore arrived and was able to keep me updated on how we were doing. The patrol that I was with (from a troop other than Troop 78) had very easy judges, allowing just about any treatment as passable. On the other hand, Nathan Motel got points taken off on a technicality almost every time and had to argue nearly every problem. The scenarios ranged from windsurfing injuries to power line electrocutions and everything in between. By the end of the final problem, tensions were high and everyone was eager to see the results.



The winners! Troop 78 Patrol Leaders

[Click here for more pictures](#)



It wasn't long before Mr. Lenker, First Aid Meet organizer, emerged from the judging room and walked up to the podium to announce the winners. Starting in 5th place he slowly made his way up the list. Troop 78 Rattlesnake Patrol was announced, coming in 5th place, 4th place was Flying Eagle, and 3rd place was Stag. By this point I knew what was to come, and I could barely believe it: 2nd place was taken by Panther and 1st place was claimed by Moose. I was ecstatic. **Troop 78 had swept the First Aid Meet.**

After discussing this with Ernie, who has been going to First Aid Meets all the way back to the 1940s:

this is the first time ever one troop took the top five slots at a First Aid Meet. Congratulations gentlemen!!

After much applause, we gathered on the stage for a picture, everyone still smiling with excitement. It was a great feeling seeing all of our hard work pay off, proving that hard work and dedication can go a long way to success.

Matje Farm

Friday, February 10 - Sunday, February 12

by Nathan Motel, Patrol Leader, Flying Eagle

This year, unlike past years, the troop bus left the cabin on time at exactly 6:15PM. With a four hour drive ahead of us, it wasn't long before everyone on the bus found a comfortable position and fell asleep. It was one of the most peaceful bus rides I have been on in a long time. We arrived at about 10:30 and listened to Mr. Matje's safety speech before unpacking the bus and trudging through 8 inches of fresh powder to the barn. Everyone claimed their spot in barn and then filed into the house for a quick snack before going to bed. That night in the barn was a bit rowdy and we all fell asleep by about 12:30AM.

I had to get up early because Flying Eagle Patrol was cooking breakfast. After gathering my patrol, we headed up to the house to start cooking a hearty breakfast of French toast and sausage. At 10:00AM, after everyone had finished eating, we assembled for the start of the patrol competitions. We split up by patrols and competed in activities such as: saw-drill-drop, snowshoe relays, sled racing, bolt splitting, three man





skis, and pole raising. Stag took third place, Flying Eagle took second place and Panther took first place. Once the competition was over, there was some free time to sled and rest in the barn while lunch was being cooked. Lunch consisted of a hefty amount of *very* buttery grilled cheeses and burnt soup. I didn't know it was possible to burn soup, but somehow it was managed.

Once everyone was nice and full from lunch we put on our boots and went on a super snowy hike through Mr. Matje's property. We kept ourselves entertained by throwing a copious amount of snowballs. Thankfully the hike didn't take too long because we still needed plenty of time for skeet shooting once we got back. Everyone got to shoot at least once and the two best scouts from each patrol stuck around for a competition afterwards.

Representing Flying Eagle were Francis Purcell and myself. Panther and Stag shot first, both missing all 8 shots. I hit 1 and Francis missed, putting us in the lead by one. Moose shot last, hitting one out of 8 as well. In order to break the tie, we each provided one scout, and they took turns shooting until someone

got one. Cameron Skodny shot for Flying Eagle and ended up hitting one first, taking the win for our patrol. Soon after, Stag patrol went inside and began preparations for dinner while the rest of us happily took a short nap.

Around six o'clock, after our refreshing rest, we made our way to the house in the hope dinner would soon arrive. When the call for dinner finally came we rushed into the kitchen and packed ourselves in like sardines, ensuring that everyone had a seat. After we had consumed more than our fill of the delicious beef and Spanish rice burritos, we departed in different directions. Being given this rare freedom with our time after dinner, some began to sled, some moved back to the barn to socialize, and others, including me sat down in the living room to relax. While that was our initial intention, after about twenty minutes we used the computer I had brought to complete school work to watch a movie: *Captain America*. Although the viewing angle of the screen was not the best and the speakers were quiet, it was still a fun experience all around.

Later on, about nine o'clock, we had our usual snack. This time it consisted of Oreos and probably my least favorite before bed snack: quarter pound hotdogs. Being the person that requested hotdogs, I was forced to consume four of these monstrous franks. As you might expect, this was a very unpleasant experience. However, if it had been originally disclosed about the choice of these Jumbo Jumbos, as they are known, I would not have requested to add them to the snack. Finally, around ten o'clock we all made our way to the barn so we could return home well rested. In the morning we arose around 7:20 and were sitting eating breakfast by 7:45. Then we hastily packed up our gear and cleaned the house and grounds. Before we departed, we had to wait for the roads to be salted because of a freak rain/ice storm the night before that left everything encased in ice. By about 9 am, the roads had been salted and everything was clean, so we departed hoping that the ride home would be peaceful and short. [Click here for more pictures and videos.](#)

Jack Frost Ski Trip 2017

Sunday, January 29th

by Andrew Brown, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

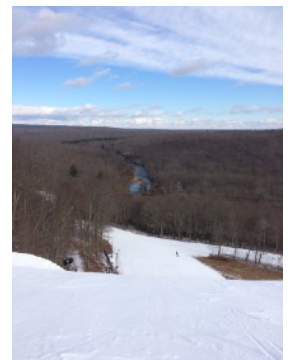
This year's day trip to Jack Frost started off like any other, six o'clock in the morning and on the troop bus. Everybody was ready to hit the slopes for a great day of skiing / snowboarding. There were not many scouts on the trip, but there were enough of us to have a great time. Once we reached Jack Frost Mountain, we hopped off the bus, gathered all of our gear, and walked to the lodge. In the lodge we found a table that fit our troop and waited for Mr. Bennett to pass out our ski passes and rental forms. Right as I got my rental form I raced to the rental shop to get my skis and I hopped on the slopes.

If you haven't been skiing before, there are five different types of trails. There are the green circles (easy), blue squares (medium), black diamond (hard), double black diamond (stupidly hard), and the terrain park (jumps and stuff). Luckily on this mountain there are no double black diamonds, so that means that no first year scouts could try and attempt to tackle one of those trails then wipe out. Anyway, my group and I started off on the blue squares a few times to get our ski legs back, then we moved onto the terrain park. The terrain park has multiple jumps on it, and my group and I decided it would be a good idea to go off of them at full speed, so we did and we got some insane air, but with the consequence of falling a few times.

After conquering the terrain park, my group and I decided to then hit the black diamonds, which were on the opposite side of the mountain, aka East Mountain. We were then greeted by a sign that said "Only experienced skiers beyond this point". Most of us disregarded this sign as we were not all that great at skiing, and went down the first black diamond. It was a pretty steep hill, but it wasn't anything that we couldn't handle. But then, after a few runs of black diamonds, we reached a hill that was so steep, that it had Luke Brogan saying, "Heck no, I'm not doing that". Then we saw a little girl and what I assumed to be her teacher go straight down the hill as fast as they could, so I followed them. My smart watch that I was wearing had an app on it for skiing that could pick up my speed, and my top speed down this hill was 40 mph. I did this a few more times and was able to get my top speed to 44.6, but then after that it was time to get off of the slopes.



We arrived back at the lodge after returning our equipment to the rental shop. All of us were tired and ready to head back home. So we packed all of our gear up once again, and walked to the bus where it then drove us back to the troop cabin.



Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, February 5th

We all gathered at the Troop cabin on Super Bowl Sunday morning for the First Annual Troop Breakfast. Thanks to the kitchen handiwork of Joe Cady, Dave Bravo, and Dave Dondero, we were all treated to an enjoyable full breakfast of eggs any style, pancakes, french toast, sausage, bacon, toast, juice, milk, and, of course: coffee, lots of coffee.

It was a great day for the Troop, basking in the glory of the previous day's victory at the Chester County Council First Aid Meet, we enjoyed each other's company and good food in the warm cozy ambiance of the Troop meeting room with the fireplace going and the tables dressed in red table cloths.

Head Chef, Joe Cady, was over heard to remark: this was such a success, we will make a tradition of it and have a Troop breakfast on Super Bowl Sunday every year. See you next year!



Notice of Upcoming Events

March Backpacking Trip: Appalachian Trail

Please join us for our annual backpacking trip on the Appalachian Trail March 24, 25, 26. We will pick up where we left off last year in New Jersey. There will be lakes, rivers, overlooks into beautiful valleys below.

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

Personal Management Merit Badge

For anyone who has already started Personal Management Merit Badge:

Mr. Hogan will be having a wrap-up session on Friday March 3rd at 6PM before the regular Troop Meeting at 7.

Please come prepared to discuss and / or turn in your outstanding work.



Parent Night and Court of Honor

Sunday March 12 at 3PM

Please plan to join us for the Annual Court of Honor on Sunday March 12 at the cabin at 3PM. We will have many awards for the scouts including 3 new Eagles and there will also be a Tap Out Ceremony to recognize those newly elected to the Order of the Arrow. **Please Note Date Change**

[Click here for more information.](#)



Pasta Night

The next Pasta Night has been set! Tuesday March 14th, 7PM at the cabin.



Mr. Cady and his trusty kitchen crew will be hard at work preparing a delicious dinner of: baked chicken, spaghetti and meatballs, salad, and desserts.

It is a great evening for good food and conversation and its open to all adults.

If you've been before, we hope to see you again!

If you've never been, please join us!

Please consider also bringing your friends and your adult children.



Hoagie Sale Underway

The annual Troop hoagie sale kicked off February 17th and final orders are due Friday March 10th. The hoagies are \$7 and delivery is Saturday March 18th.

[Please click here for more information](#)

Count Down to Summer Camp at Horseshoe!

Looking forward to summer camp since we left last July? Me too.

Save these dates: Sunday June 25 to Sunday July 9, 2017

We will be back at Horseshoe for another delightful stay at summer camp.

[Click here for a countdown to Horseshoe 2017.](#)

[Click here for link to pictures and videos from the troop's stay at camp last year.](#)

[Click here for the troop web page which shows cost, sign up info, and dates.](#)



Save the Date: Radnor Races 2017

[Saturday May 20 & Sunday May 21, 2017](#)

Had your fill of cold windy weather? Think Spring and grab your calendar to reserve the [third weekend in May](#) to help Troop 78 at the **[Radnor Hunt Races](#)**.

Look forward to a warm, sunny time in the beautiful Chester County countryside, as the Troop spends a weekend at the Races. On Saturday May 20 & Sunday May 21 we need your help as Troop 78 does its annual Radnor thing. Please plan on being there!

[Click here for pictures and information from Radnor Races 2016.](#)

