



Willistown Troop 78

Website: www.tr78.org

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

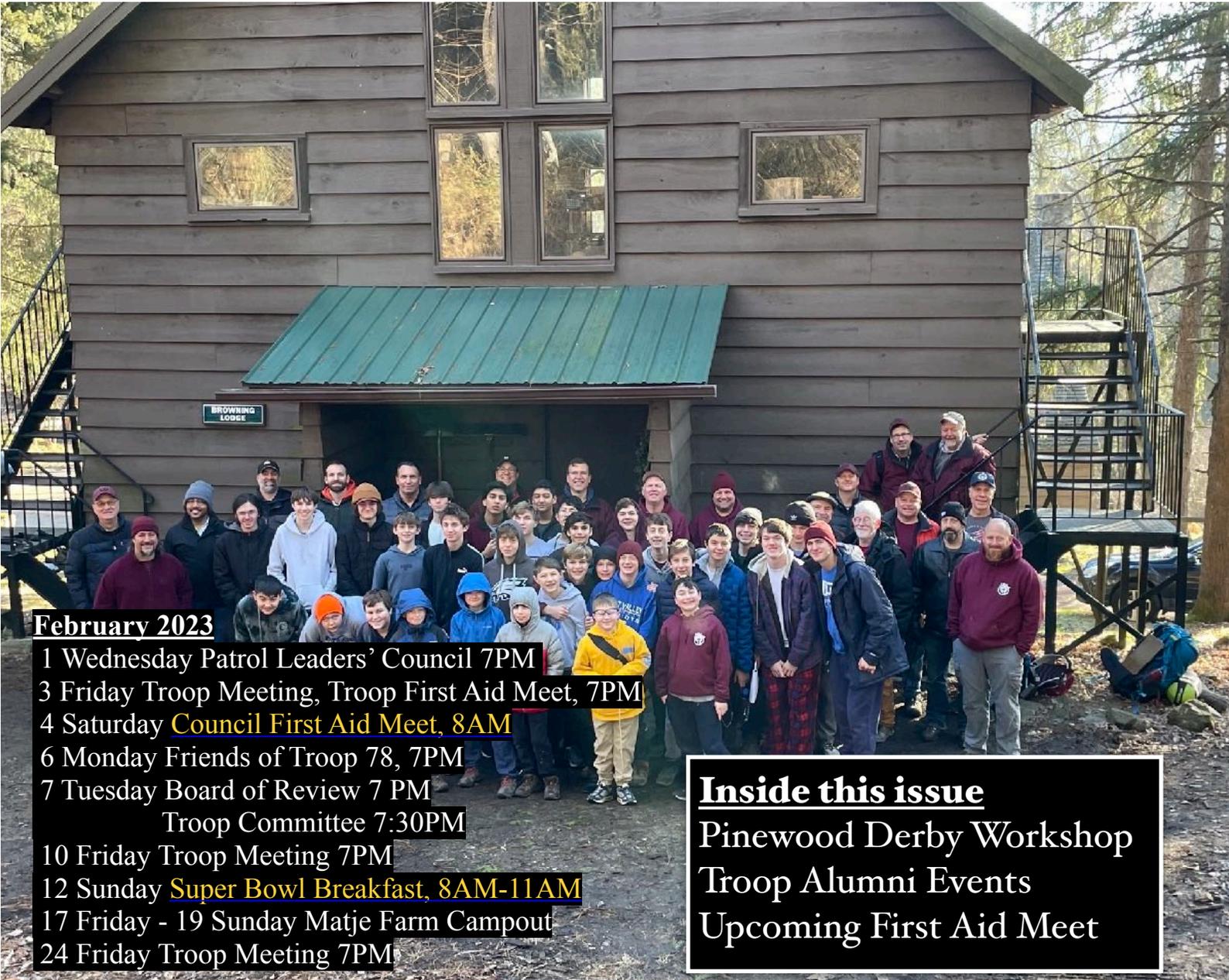
YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](#)

February 2023

Volume 39 Number 6

Winter Weekend

Back in the cabins at Camp Horseshoe!



February 2023

- 1 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7PM
- 3 Friday Troop Meeting, Troop First Aid Meet, 7PM
- 4 Saturday **Council First Aid Meet, 8AM**
- 6 Monday Friends of Troop 78, 7PM
- 7 Tuesday Board of Review 7 PM
Troop Committee 7:30PM
- 10 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM
- 12 Sunday **Super Bowl Breakfast, 8AM-11AM**
- 17 Friday - 19 Sunday Matje Farm Campout
- 24 Friday Troop Meeting 7PM

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 Pinewood Derby Workshop
 Troop Alumni Events
 Upcoming First Aid Meet

Horseshoe Winter Weekend

Friday January 6 - Sunday January 8, 2023

By Ben Barsotti

On Friday January 6th, the Troop bus left the cabin loaded with scouts and the supplies needed for 63 people to have a fun, cabin camping weekend. We arrived at Browning Lodge, Camp Horseshoe late on Friday night and got everyone settled into their bunks.

Everyone went up to the Picnic Grove next to the Parade Field for a game of capture the flag, including a round that was staff and 4 Webelos versus everyone else.

The staff had made a scavenger hunt for items such as a working slingshot, an essay on the benefits of capitalism or communism, Logan Duff's shoe, and more and they distributed it to all of the patrols, Dads included. We returned to Browning for a quick snack and then lights out.

Early Saturday morning, we woke up and Rattlesnake patrol cooked a breakfast of pancakes and sausage. Then everyone went up to the camp road and started the Troop service project - chopping wood. We had about 30 scouts and almost 30 adults, all working on this project. We filled 5 truckloads of wood, plenty for the rest of the year at camp.

The troop returned to the lodge for a lunch of grilled cheese, cooked by Cougar Patrol. There was then a break where patrols were free to work on their scavenger hunts.



After this, some merit badge starters were offered, as well as a camp tour, offered by Ernie. Dinner was made by Moose Patrol, and was a beef stew and rolls.

After dinner, the staff set up games around camp, such as 3-man ski, saw-drill-drop, and match splitting. The patrols, as well as the adults in their own patrol, went around to all the games to compete. In the end, Cougar Patrol ended up winning. A movie was shown after the games, then everyone headed off to bed.

The troop woke up Sunday, ate a cold breakfast, and packed up their personal gear. Everyone cleaned the lodges, and headed back to the troop cabin to unload the gear. It was a fun trip at horseshoe.





Troop 78 Pinewood Derby Workshop

Saturday January 14, 2023

Nic and Brian Opielski

Troop 78 conducted its 1st Pinewood Derby Fabrication Workshop in the main hall of the cabin on Saturday, 1/14/23 from 9AM – 4:30PM. The workshop was a ton of fun for all involved and a huge success with 43 Cub Scouts from 9 different Packs around the greater Malvern area attending. During the workshop, Troop 78 youth (15) and Adult Leaders (7) contributed 154 total service hours in addition to their talent and tools to make this event both a success and a great help to our local Cub Scout families.



The goal of our workshop was to match a Cub Scout's age with the amount of work they were reasonably and safely able to perform on their cars. We also wanted to teach Cubs how to properly use basic hand tools and give all Cubs a sense of pride and ownership in their cars while creating lasting memories with their parents.

The event was divided into 6 different top of the hour start times from 9AM – 3 PM where 6-8 Cubs began their fabrication journey by first being assigned and introduced to a Troop 78 Scout who was tasked with mentoring them during the workshop. Each time slot began with a short physics demonstration using the Troop's newly acquired 6 Lane Pinewood Derby Track that was setup in the hallway. (This track was generously donated by Pack 136 in Avondale PA. Thank you Pack 136!!!). The demonstration consisted of two identical Pinewood Derby cars whose total weight and location of the weight could be changed. Cubs were able to see how these two variables affect their car's performance. The use of confusing phrases like Newtown's Laws of Motion, center of mass, rotational inertia, energy dissipation and potential vs. kinetic energy along with formulas like $KE=1/2MV^2$ and $PE=Mh$ were avoided at all cost but the visiting Cubs brought them up anyway and we learned quite a bit.

Following the physics demonstration, Cubs entered the main room with their 78 Scout mentors and parents where older Cubs (Bear, Webelos & AOLs) proceeded to 8 fully equipped workstations (thank you Ernie) where they were able to use an assortment of hand tools

(clamps, fixtures, coping saws, rasps, files etc.) to fabricate their cars. Younger Scouts proceeded to the power equipment workstations being manned by Troop 78 Adult Leaders. These work centers consisted of band saws, scroll saws, drum sanders, belt sanders,



drill presses and other powered equipment. Cubs of all ranks and their 78 Scout mentors met back at the axle prep and digital scale table where they added weight to their cars and were taught how to prep their axles/wheels and paint/assemble their cars when they got home.

As a contingency plan in the event a Cub's block of wood was mis-cut, we had approximately 12 extra Pinewood Derby Car Kits on hand (thank you Dr. Motel and Mr. Simms and others). Extraordinary lengths were taken in hiding these kits so we had them available in case of a "fabrication emergency". Undeterred by our attempt to "Be Prepared" by concealing the kits.... (in a bag, under a bench, and mixed in with other bags and tool boxes), our Scouts found them within minutes and during downtime, began fabricating their own personal 5 ounces of greased lightening Pinewood Derby glory. When the last Cub departed the Cabin, extra track sections were retrieved from the barn, added to the track setup in the hall, and the 1st Troop 78 Pinewood Derby Race commenced. The actual winner will forever be disputed and the subject of 78 urban legend. What is not in dispute is former SPL, Logan Duff, allegedly and creatively violated multiple race rules by fabricating a car using custom, handmade, oval wooden wheels with off center, un-prepped axles of unknown origin and material and excessive wheelbase width. During qualification runs, his entry was unable to make it to the bottom of the track's incline without sliding across multiple lane dividers and taking out several unsuspecting competitors and potentially injuring spectators. Due to safety concerns for all involved his entry was disqualified from the race. He was mysteriously unable to be located for comment. Fines and sanctions are under consideration by the Race Rules Committee but his car winning the coveted "Car Most Likely Fabricated from Items Found at the Bottom of a ShopVac" Award and his considerable pull in deciding who cleans the bus after trips puts enforcement in doubt.

In conclusion, the workshop was a great success. I received many compliments regarding our Scouts both during and after the event. I want to thank all of our Scouts and Adult Leaders who dedicated an entire Saturday to helping and teaching others. In addition to our Troop's exceptional youth leadership, the ability of our Troop to do great things in the service of others by efficiently bringing resources to bear in what seems like a blink of an eye is something we should all truly be proud of. With youth leadership approval, we may make this workshop and possibly a Troop 78 Outlaw PWD Race a yearly event.



Wilderness First Aid Training

Saturday January 28, 2023

By Kipp Happ

Troop 78 Assistant Scoutmasters spent a recent Saturday training for the upcoming troop High Adventure trips to Sea Base this coming August and to Philmont in 2024.

Outdoor adventures are abundant at Troop 78, but have you ever thought about what to do if you are injured in the backcountry?

Five assistant scoutmasters learned everything from CPR to wound care and splinting techniques and how to avoid getting into situations where there is a possibility of an injury in the first place. All of this took place during a weekend at the troop cabin learning Wilderness First Aid taught by Anthony of Emergency Training Partners, LLC.

Troop 78 Assistant Scoutmasters learned the skills through online learning, acting out scenarios and hands-on activities. Although it was just training, Anthony our instructor tried to make the class as real as possible by using different techniques to practice and simulate reality.

“The scout motto is ‘Be Prepared,’” Anthony said. “This is an advance course in being prepared. If you can save a life, I’ve done the right thing. That’s really what it comes down to. It’s being prepared. They say that every scout that was trained in first aid will use it at some point in their life. That’s why first aid has always been a core value of scouting.”

We at Troop 78 train as well, and want to keep all members of the troop safe while experiencing the great adventures we strive to provide year after year.



Troop 78 Prepares for the Council First Aid Meet

Friday January 27, 2023

The troop has been preparing at the past several meetings for the upcoming Council First Aid Meet. We continued to prep, learn and practice first aid. The older scouts, patrol leaders, and senior patrol leader staff have passed along their first aid skills to the younger scouts, and then they practice the skills, review the results. At each meeting the scouts improve, all with the goal of being well trained first-aiders.

The troop will hold its annual First Aid Meet Friday February 3, and then the troop will compete in the Council First Aid Meet Saturday February 4.

[Click here for more information on the Council First Aid Meet.](#)



Upcoming Events

Matje Farm Campout and Winter Olympics

Friday February 17 - Sunday February 19, 2023

We will gather again Matje Farm in upstate Pennsylvania for a fantastic weekend of good food, fellowship, and friendly competition on the third weekend in February.

The scouts will work on individual advancement, practice outdoor skills, enjoy a campfire and much more.



Super Bowl Breakfast

Sunday February 12, 2023

Take a break and let us cook you and your family breakfast on Super Bowl Sunday. Got lots of cooking planned for later in the day? Let us cook you and your family breakfast!

[Click here for more information.](#)

Disney 2023

Saturday April 1 - Saturday April 8, 2023

[Click here for more information.](#)



Alumni Corner

78 Alumni Gathering at La Cabra Brewing

Wednesday March 8, 2023

Troop alumni, friends, and significant others are invited to join us for a “21 and over only” gathering at La Cabra Brewery in Berwyn, PA on Wednesday, March 8 for a “Brews and Bites” get-together. The event will run from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

We’ll have a space upstairs at La Cabra’s unique brew house where we’ll enjoy one another’s company; your choice of one of the Brewery’s own beers, ciders, or a glass of wine, or a soft drink; and an assortment of tasty treats, including wings and empanadas.

Check out La Cabra at <https://www.lacabrabrewing.com/>

Brews and Bites is a prepaid event only. We cannot accommodate walk-ins. To attend, please register at tr78.org. Cost is \$40 per person. Attendees can pay on-line or by check made payable to “Friends of Troop 78.” Payment MUST be made by no later than 7 PM on Friday, February 24, 2023. Payments for this event (which is being run at cost) are non-refundable.

Don’t delay – sign up today!

Troop 78 Alumni & Friends - Future events

The troop alumni group is working on putting together several additional events to celebrate 2023. Hopefully we will soon announce the date for an outing to a local minor league baseball game. Stay tuned!

Fundraiser for the Cabin Endowment

Announcing a limited offering of reproduction prints of a watercolor painted 20 years ago of the “new” cabin done by Win Reber. Win was longtime member of the Troop committee, as well as an original member of the Friends of Troop 78 board. He was also the chair of the Radnor School District art department.

He designed the Troop loon logo as well the patch used on the Troop neckerchief. Full scale reproduction of the painting measures 22" x 15", half-scale is 15" x 11".

Limited edition: ten full scale prints offered at \$195.00 each, twenty half-scale prints at \$95.00 each.

Proceeds go to the cabin endowment fund.

[For more information contact Dave Dondero.](#)



Chester County Council News

Klondike Derby

Friday January 20 - Sunday 22, 2023

Troops from around the Council gathered at Camp Ware and Camp Horseshoe for the annual Klondike Derby. Both camps were full, with over 500 scouts and leaders in attendance. It was a beautiful, warm, and therefore muddy weekend of competition in scout skill stations.



Silver Beaver

This year's recipients announced

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 78s very own Jim Bennett. Congratulations Jim!

The awards will be made at the annual Council Recognition Banquet May 18th. This will be an evening to remember. The Eagle Recognition and Silver Beaver Awards will be held together at one event.

[Click here for more information.](#)



Council First Aid Meet 2023

Saturday February 4, 2023

[Click here for more information.](#)

Council Newsletter

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