New Adventure Program Lets Scouts and Families Play Together

Have you ever wanted to go to Philmont Training Center, play hooky from classes, and have fun all week with your family? This summer you can! The Philmont Scout Ranch Family Adventure program will be offering a unique opportunity to Scouts and their families during the last half of June, 2018.

The Philmont Scout Ranch Family Adventure is designed to meet the needs of families and build bonds through fun and exciting programs. The program will operate in an open enrollment format. Families will have the chance to choose one or two activities each day that appeal to them. The basic fee includes PTC tents and meals. Indoor housing is available at additional cost per family.

The Family Adventure is different from any other program Philmont has ever offered. It will allow a family to customize their experience based on their interest. Here are some of the adventures being planned for you and your family.

- **Inspiration Point Hike**: Guided by a Program Counselor team from the training center, this is a chance to spend a day hiking to this spectacular point on the side of Urnaca Mesa as a family. A Philmont trail lunch will be provided to enjoy in lieu of a dining hall lunch.
- **Rock Climbing in the Backcountry**: This is an all-day session beginning with a mild hike from Cimarroncito turnaround to the Cimarroncito Backcountry staff camp. Once there, families would receive a safety briefing and climbing demonstration. This would be followed by a chance to climb several different routes on natural rock.
- **Philmont Living History Day**: Are you interested in learning about Philmont history from the days of the dinosaurs to the present? This day would begin with a hike to the T-Res Track, and to Indian Writings to learn about the early inhabitants on the north Ponil canyon from their petroglyphs. After this, they would tour the Chase ranch at the home of Manly and Theresa Chase, and enjoy lunch on the grounds. After lunch, at their own pace families could then tour the Villa Philmonte and the Kit Carson museum at Rayado.
- **Craft Center**: The open program for the full-time and seasonal employees. This is a chance for families to show up for instruction of any of the craft activities offered. Families would have the chance to learn how to throw and fire a clay pot, to tool leather and use a welder.
- **Horseback Riding**: For families interested in learning about the life of a northern New Mexico cowboy, they can make the trip down to Cattle Headquarters. While there, they would get an introduction to saddles, tack and of course the opportunity to go on a trail ride.

**Who’s Who at Philmont:**

**Steve Nelson**—Camping Director

**Duties at Philmont:** Associate Director of Program-- Seasonal Personnel and Base Camp Operations 2008-2009, Director of Business Operations, 2009-2017

**Prior Scouting Experience Outside Philmont:** Senior Executive—Nevada Area Council, Senior District Executive—Las Vegas Area Council, NV, Senior District Executive—Tendoy Area Council, ID

**Most Memorable Experience at Philmont:** I spend a few hours every year to celebrate my birthday on top of the Toot of Time. Ten years in a row is a long time to do this. I also enjoy the thought of how many more people enjoy that experience every year when you get to work at Philmont.

**Most Humorous Experience at Philmont:** We got a radio call that came from Ballytown late one afternoon. They had a Scout that had been hit on the back by a bear. They could see the marks of the paw on his back. When asked when it happened and if the bear was still around, the reply was that it had happened early that morning. When asked why the delay in reporting it, the Scout said he didn’t want to miss the opportunity to climb Ballytown. You have to have your priorities straight!
Avoid hiker Philmont wearing your class A is sound advice. Many Crews distinguish themselves with customized-designed clothing items in style.

Every single day in the Tooth of Time Traders, the staff thinks about the outdoor gear that helps Trekkers enjoy all that Philmont Scout Ranch. That’s why they’re so excited to present their 2018 Custom Crew Apparel line, now in its 17th season! Not only have they added new designs, they’ve also added matching women’s tees, polo shirts, belt buckles and solar sleeves. The T-Shirt app allows you any easy ordering at www.philmontcustom.com.

Making the dream possible

Scholarships Available for Treks and PTC

You can help potential Philmont goers by telling them about the many scholarships available. Many attendees do not realize that Walter Phillips provided money to assist Scouting groups to come to camp and learn at Philmont. Generous donors throughout the country continue to make these scholarships possible through ongoing donations, thereby keeping Walter and Genevieve’s legacy of giving to Scouting alive.

Philmont offers the Walter Phillips Scholarship to help make it possible for a youth member to participate in a summer or fall program at Philmont. Application forms should be sent to the Scout Council Contact (usually the primary Adult Advisor) for each crew before final payments are due in the spring. The application is filled out by an Advisor for a maximum of one youth member per camp. Grants are typically given for a portion of the total program fee.

For those attending PTC, a small scholarship fund has been established to ensure that volunteer Scouting leaders and professionals have an opportunity to participate in a summer or fall Philmont Training Center experience. Likewise, the National Advancement Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) - which provides a high level of training experience for youth leaders - has funds available to assist attendees. Scouting involves a variety of opportunities such as R.O.C.S., Rayados, STEM and the Trail Crews can apply for financial assistance as well. Each program has its own application form.

Not every individual program has an associated scholarship fund. The OA Trail Crew do not have scholarships.

Individual Councils may also have Campster money available for desiring Scouts. Check with your Council to see what assistance it may provide.

Click here for scholarship application forms.

Ambassador Profile

Pete Lane Just Keeps On Trekking

“I consider myself a Philmont junkie, because I’ve been to 30 treks on both sides of the road,” explains Pete Lane. It doesn’t take much trying to get Pete talking about all the experiences he’s had in New Mexico.

Pete’s been an Ambassador since 2013 to the Mayflower Council (a combination of the Old Colony and Knox Trail Councils). Mayflower serves Boston’s western suburbs and southern metro areas.

Pete Lane’s experiences cover much of the Philmont Backcountry.

The combination of the two councils has proved to be a challenge because one has a tradition of Roundtables and the other has not. Gearing up to do a Roundtable when less than 10 people show up, including the staff, is a challenge.

Pete’s also done promotions at Council lunches; he finds the work more appealing than the practice. Just as much, hearing stories from others about the impact of Philmont on their lives means a lot to Pete.

Pete is an avid promoter of the Camping program. “I’m always promoting the Council contingent treks, usually with special Philmont information sessions - about three per year – usually held at the Council’s Fall Scouting Expo. “My Trek experiences have all been great,” says Pete. “To me there are few things more fun than spending two weeks with a group of young adults who want to do it all. I enjoy backpacking anyway.

“I’ve thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail and several other long-distance trails twice in the last 40 years. It ended-to-ended on the Colorado Trail and the John Muir Trail. But in the Philmont backcountry, I’m special because of the young adults that I am with and the multitude of programs offered in the backcountry. Oh, and by the way, Pete is 70 years old and will be doing another Trek in the summer of 2018.”

Family Programs Provide Unexpected Thrills

I didn’t know that my daughter could go on a Mountain Trek. “You mean my son will hike to the top of the Tooth of Time?” “My kids can see a real T-Rex footprint?” Many Scouters who equate Philmont with high adventure Treks for older scouts don’t realize that the other side of the road – Philmont Training Center – offers these opportunities to a wide range of youths.

Programs for PTC attendees’ children and spouses make Philmont a very special family vacation destination. It’s a feature that sometimes is escaping Scouting leaders, especially the training programs offered to Scouters.

Many Ambassadors find that it’s more effective to talk about Family Program opportunities than to talk about Recruiting sessions when courting recruiters to attend PTC. Summer is family vacation time after all. If one week of a Scout’s vacation is dedicated to being at a Boy Scout summer camp, then it seems only fair that a second week should be non-scout related. Or maybe not.

Family Programs start for those future scouts who are mere infants and their parents are ready to go. Spouses, often feeling that they are going to be burdened with a week of child care, are astounded to find that their time at PTC is mostly theirs. All activities in their Silverado program are optional, so they can choose to relax on the Greasewood or hike with the group to Window Rock or Lover’s Leap.

Age-appropriate activities for youth three and up are led by enthusiastic counselors whose love of interacting with children is contagious. After a short time, anyone who may feel a bit resentful at leaving their friends behind are just too busy having fun to miss them.

One of the most popular activities is Gaga ball, a variant of dodgeball played in a special area called a Gaga pit. It becomes one of the most popular activities among PTC youth. Topping up the youth programs are optional Mountain Treks—seven day backpacking experiences for youth aged 14 to 21. Mountain Treks are led by Philmont Rangers and may be single-sex or co-ed depending on the number of participants. Participants are equipped by Philmont or can bring their own equipment. Mountain Treks are an excellent experience for youth who may not otherwise get an opportunity to travel the backcountry. Many non-Scouter spouses worry that they’ll be left out of the fun of Philmont. The Silverado program will dispel those fears by offering hikes, horse rides, museum tours, and rifle shooting.

Along with hikes, games, pony rides, archery, marksmanship and crafts, family members attending PTC find that they indeed have the time of their lives at Philmont. The only “bored ones” may be their parents attending a conference, although they enjoy their own brand of Philmont fun.

Wednesday afternoons are family free time when you can explore the Unicoa Mesa trail, venture into near by Taos, visit the Rayado museum, have an ice cream treat in Cimarron or just enjoy time in the mountain air. Thanks to Family Programs, many a pouty teenanger will leave Philmont saying, “That was the best vacation EVER!”

Philmont Staff Help Spark Interest at HOA Council’s Scouting 500 Jamboree

Having Philmont Staff at a large event can add a big boost to your display. Last fall, Dave Woodman, Ambassador to the Heart of America Council (HOAC) arranged to do just that at the Council’s Scouting 500 mini-jamboree. He introduced the weekend event held at the Kansas Speedway.

A number booths were set up in the midway inside the racetrack representing OA, Venturing, Swamp Base, International Scouting Association and Woodbadge. The council High Adventure committee also had a booth set up, but because it was populated by Philmont Ambassadors, the focus and messaging was strictly about Philmont.

Given the scale of the event, Dave reached out to Philmont well in advance and arranged for Grant Reigelman to join them to help promote Philmont and PTC. Grant brought with him two electric branding irons, one with the cattle brand and the other with the horse brand.

Two distinct things came from having Grant there. First, the level of traffic eclipsed by the excellent training conversations from people who had conversations. Most who stopped by just wanted to point out to their buddies where they had been and what they had done. It is important not to underestimate the value of these interactions. Ambassadors not only increase attendance at Philmont and PTC, but they are extremely important to “stoke the

Ropers (girls 8-10) show their enthusiasm during a hike through the forest.

Consider inviting Philmont Staff to help promote programs at a large-scale event in your council.

 ambassdor grant.reigelman@scouting.org to make your request.
Philmont Scout Ranch is excited to announce the following hires and promotions.

Keith Nelson - Associate Director of Camping - Backcountry/Program Administration Specialist - effective January 1, 2018 - Keith Nelson was born and raised in the DFW area of north Texas where his father first introduced Keith, his brother, and his twin to Tiger Cubs. After graduating from the rank of Eagle Scout, Keith went on to achieve a Bachelor of Arts degree in corporate communications and Bachelor of Science degree in geology from the University of Texas. Keith spent several seasons on the Philmont staff. Keith then traveled north to Ely, Minnesota, as a winter season and summer canoe guide for Northern Tier High Adventure. After joining the full-time team, Keith performed roles in administration and program staff most recently as the Associate Director of Program at the Ely Base. Aside from professional scouting, Keith has also worked in the oil and gas industry. In his free time, Keith enjoys endurance sports, community band, and international travel.

Jesse Cholette - Cowboy/Ranch Technician - effective January 1, 2018 - Jesse is an Eagle Scout from Stephenville, TX. He grew up on a ranch raising cattle, driving tractors, building fences and welding. Jesse also has experience with horses including working with children in horsemanship programs on the Pine Cove/Crter Creek Ranch in Columbus, TX.

Bryce Goodrich - Accountant - effective January 1, 2018 - Bryce is an Eagle Scout from Grapevine, TX. He has served as a member of the Philmont seasonal staff since May 2014 in the Tooth of Time Traders progressing from Warehouse Clerk to Snack Bar Manager in 2017. Bryce graduated from Texas State University with a degree in Bachelor of Business Administration in May 2016.

Justin Cruz - Food Service Cook - effective January 1, 2018 - Justin joins the Food Service team as a Cook. He comes from Maxwell, ML where he worked for the Maxwell Housing Authority since 2001. Justin has been working on the Food Service seasonal staff since June 2017.

Philmont would like to congratulate the following individuals on their promotions and title changes:

David O’Hall - Sr. Associate Director of Camping/Team Lead Backcountry - effective January 1, 2018

In this new role David will be accountable and responsible for and will give leadership to the backcountry operations, camp operations and seasonal staff hiring operations.

Eric Martinez - Associate Director of Camping/Team Lead Backcountry/Program Administration Specialist - effective January 1, 2018

In this role Eric will continue to be responsible for the seasonal staff backtracking program and Base Camp management including the Ranch staff. Eric will also oversee the summer conservation education participant programs through a seasonal staff manager.

John Oates - Conservation Foreman - effective January 1, 2018 - In this new role John will be accountable and responsible for the Ranch conservation functions including trails, bridges, GIS... including land management and wildlife management. John will report to Dave Kennedy in the Ranching Department.

Andrew Rankin - Cowboy/Senior Ranch Technician - effective January 1, 2018 - Andrew’s promotion will continue in his work in the Ranching Department and he will be responsible for the cattle and bison herds as well as assisting with other Ranching operations.

Denise Montoya - Museum Assistant/Backcountry Specialist - effective January 1, 2018 - Dee Dee will move from the Philmont Training Center to her new and exciting role at the museum as Backcountry Specialist. Dee Dee will continue to support Philmont Autumn Adventures, Backcountry Beckons Fall Adventurers, and other backcountry programs. She will continue to support Philmont Autumn Adventures and Backcountry Beckons Fall Adventurers.

Philmont Food Facts

This summer Philmont participants collectively consumed:

• Over 1.2 BILLION calories which is enough fuel energy to send a 747 jet on a 10-hour flight
• 7,200 pounds of bacon, which could reach 7.09 miles end to end
• 29,744 individual apples
• 79,632 tortillas, enough to cover 1.44 acres
• 4,138 pounds of cheese

Backcountry Beckons Fall Adventurers

The next Autumn Adventure begins on Saturday, October 20, 2018.

Backbottom River or taking in the changing aspens?

Fishing Trek: Fishing Trek: Fishing Trek: Fishing Trek: Tie some flies

Philmont's back country stays open long after the last scout goes back to school. Scouts can take the trails during the autumn season to enjoy warm, sunny days, and cool, crisp nights. They will get to see the aspen trees changing to gold and witness the beauty of Maryland before the snow falls. A trained Philmont guide will accompany groups to areas where you can enjoy the splendor of fall color.

Autumn Adventure is open to crews of 7 to 12 participants accompanied by an Autumn Adventure Guide. Larger groups will be organized into multiple crews (please call for approval). A crew may include one Head Scout and one adult group of Unit, District or Council committee members. Youth can also come as a Sibling Scout, a Boy Scout from a Crew, Sea Scout ship, Varsity team, Explorer post. There are several programs offered through Autumn Adventure:

• All-Adult Trip: A great opportunity for team building and planning for your unit, district, or council. What better way to bring a group together than by flying-fishing on the Rayado River or taking in the changing aspens?

• Rock Climbing Trek: This "hands on" experience focuses on skills and interests related to rock climbing. Try your hand at climbing various types of rock including sandstone and dactile porphyry.

• Mountain Bike Trek: Cover more ground with this cycling program. Travel the backcountry roads and trails on two wheels. Must be comfortable spending extended time on a mountain bike.

• Backpacking Trek: A great experience for Scouts during fall break. This trip is open for crews of 7 to 12 members with youth giving leadership to the crew. Go for your 50 Miler Award or enjoy the back- country while focusing on rank advancement and merit badges.

• Fly-Fishing Trek: Tie some flies and cast away along the beautiful water features at Philmont Scout Ranch. This program focuses mainly on fishing and hopefully catching as well.

• Council/Group Planning Re- treat: Gain familiarity with the ranch including pre-trip planning and training, remote locations in the backcountry. The skills required to achieve success at Philmont. This program can be more focused in the back country as desired.

• Family Retreat: Strip away from the distractions of everyday life and spend some time getting to know your family and loved ones. This program is hosted by the Philmont Training Center and caterers to your family needs with roasted housing, activity centers, and unique setting to attract loca- tions nearby.

Sessions are available from early September to late October. Reserva- tions are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations are confirmed upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit of $50/person and a completed reservation form. The bal- ance of fees is due upon arrival.
Ambassadors are often asked about who you know will outgrow a pack in well). This is a great option for youth Outfitting Services in Base Camp for to offset its swaying motion. having loose/dangling gear, as it is compartment. Sleeping bags usually be packed at the top of the backpack back to keep the center of gravity backpack, place the heavy gear along ded hip belt. Anything between a 65- highly functional and most commonly Camp to save weight and bulk. pose of the gear shakedown is to depart for the backcountry. The pur- with them or expect to be provided by gestions straight from Philmont rang- PAGE 4 PAGE 4 PAGE 4 PAGE 4 PHILMONT AMBASSADOR UPDATE PHILMONT AMBASSADOR UPDATE PHILMONT AMBASSADOR UPDATE PHILMONT AMBASSADOR UPDATE

Backpacks – Internal frame packs are highly functional and most commonly used. The pack needs to have a pad- dack. A 20-25 lb pack is the max weight. 85 liter carrying capacity will fit per- sonal gear, crew gear, food, and wa- ter.

To properly pack an internal frame backpack, place the heavy gear along the spine and close to the hiker’s back. This will also help with a center of gravity forward and lower. Lighter gear should be packed at the top of the backpack and on the outer edges of the main compartment. Sleeping bags usually fit at the bottom of the pack. Avoid having loose/dangling gear, as it is more likely to get caught in vegetation and requires you to exert more energy to offset its swaying motion.

Backpacks are available for rent from Outfitting Services in Base Camp for $30 (this includes a pack cover as well). This is a great option for youth who you will outgrow a pack in a year or two.

Ambassadors are often asked about what gear Trekkers should bring to on the trail. Here are some suggestions straight from Philmont rang- ers on what crews should either bring with them, or what should be provided by the Ranch equipment supplies.

Their Ranger will cover a gear shackle- down in Base Camp before Crews depart for the backcountry. The pur- pose of the gear shakedown is to ensure everyone has the appropriate gear and clothing before leaving for the wilderness and to make sure unnecessary items are stored in Base Camp to save weight and bulk.

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