Winter Dreams of Philmont

Colder weather encourages us to hunker down and think of last summer’s adventures. It also gets Scouts to thinking about their family vacation plans for the coming year. This makes it the perfect time to coax them to bypass the lines at Disneyland or other such tourist areas and head for the wide open spaces of Philmont in New Mexico.

Many Scouts don’t realize what a bargain PTC is until they factor in the costs of commercial establishments. PTC programs include everyone in their family from 6 months to young adults in the same price. Stickers, backcountry camp patches and posters give your display an added dimension. Many Ambassadors accessorize their displays with custom Philmont-themed items. “We help lots of Ambassadors who call asking for the vectors [computer files] that they can use to print logos on their clothing and on table coverings for their exhibits,” offered Shirley O’Neill, Director of Business Operations. “We supply the artwork, and they have a commercial printer put it on their materials.”

Philmont maps are popular because they illustrate the Ranch’s ever-increasing areas. Scouts who have not been there lately may not be aware that trails have expanded into the Chesa Ranch and North Country. Maps help Scouts re-live their trek routes and inspire them to go to Philmont again.

The store stocks books that expand your knowledge of the Philmont area and its stories. Beyond the Hills, The Journey of Waite Phillips by Michael Wallis follows Waite from his birth in Iowa to his passing in California in 1974. A Million Miracles: 75 Years at Philmont Scout Ranch by Dick Muthers explains the area’s history from the footprints of a park to those of the Midlothian Trekkers.

For the majority of Philmont Ambassadors, the Tooth of Time Traders Boosts Display Appeal

Tooth of Time Traders is the place to go for items and apparel to show your Philmont spirit. Shirts and hats identify your connection with both the camping program and PTC as you make your rounds. Stickers, backcountry camp patches and posters give your display an added dimension. Many Ambassadors accessorize their displays with custom Philmont-themed items. “We help lots of Ambassadors who call asking for the vectors [computer files] that they can use to print logos on their clothing and on table coverings for their exhibits,” offered Shirley O’Neill, Director of Business Operations. “We supply the artwork, and they have a commercial printer put it on their materials.”

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**Winter Fitness Key to Summer Trek Preparation**

Summer may seem an econ away weather-wise, but we know there are only 6-8 short months before Crews begin slapping onto Philmont Trails. So now is the time serious effort goes into strength training.

Those in southern climates have the advantage of milder winters to continue to work on hiking and camping skills. Being in cooler weather now helps them prepare for the brisk morning air in Philmont's mountains that they'll experience around Memorial Day. Knowing how to layer to be comfortable when morning temperatures are in the mid-30's aids in planning just how to dress. Many Scouts have had enough experience to know what little extras like a stocking cap or light gloves can mean.

Northerners have different challenges, but can more than compensate. Cross-country skiing is about the most cardiovascular-intense exercise out there. Winter day outings or overnights that include skiing are grand adventures and great adventures. Earning the Snow Sports Merit Badge by completing Philmont's winter program is a great way to keep Scouts focused on fitness.

Other ways of keeping fit during the winter include swimming or playing basketball. The important thing is to build and maintain cardiovascular endurance. Continuing the Personal Fitness merit badge is a great motivator.

Crews near higher elevations can prepare for mountain skiing within a days drive. Flatlanders don't have that option, but can make up for it in other ways. Just finding a local hill and hiking it up and down several times gets your body used to the different muscles you'll be calling on during your summer Trek.

**Foot time** is a concept from marathon races that is a useful training tool. "Foot time" means that it's important to spend as much time on your feet as you expect to run or hike. For Philmont, it means that if you expect to hike for four hours a day, then you should practice your finger tips on your feet for four hours a day just walking or standing. You don't have to walk the same distance, it is just be on your feet that long. This strengthens your lower body so you don't get leg weary while on the trail.

Winter fitness is critical. Earning the Snow Sports Merit Badge makes it more professional looking.

Interacting with passers-by in the trail and showing off your display and reach out to other Scouts instead of having them come up to you.

Reducing clutter Keeping your table neat and clean is as important as building your display.

**Reduction**

Using a table cover

Using attractive graphics

Philmont Banners add height and color to make your display stand out.

**Incorporating large images**

Big photos make big impacts and attract attention.

**Eliminating unnecessary text**

Bullet points make it easy to read key information.

**Using readable fonts**

Using large print makes your display easy to read quickly.

Using a table cover

Covering your table with a logo makes it more professional looking.

**Interacting with passers-by**

Stand your table up, not behind, your display and reach out to other Scouts instead of having them come up to you.

Reducing clutter

Keeping your table neat and clean is as important as building your display.

Philmont banners which are loaned for free or can be purchased for $150 for a $150 display with bold graphics.

You can create your own posters using software like Microsoft Publisher; while printing large format posters is expensive, a lot can be done with 11 x 17 tabloid sized sheets. Some home hunters can accommodate the larger size paper or you can have them printed at a local copy shop. Using cardstock instead of paper makes them more durable.

**Pros**

Staff at the Kit Carson Museum dress in period clothing and demonstrate frontier skills and crafts like blacksmithing, cooking, shooting, and farming. Each room in the museum is outfitted with reproduction furniture and objects typical of New Mexico in the 1850s. The Rayado Trading Company, located at the museum, sells a variety of books, maps, reproduction tools and equipment, moccasins, and blankets.

The Kit Carson Museum is seven miles north of Philmont's headquarters on New Mexico Highway 21.

Historic Chase Ranch Museum

Founded in 1889, the Chase Ranch was successfully owned and operated by the Chase family for over 143 years. The historic abode ranch house offers a glimpse of ranch life during the time of the Colfax County land grant war, through the territorial & statehood periods and into modern times. This ranch and the Chase family where instrumental in ranching, branding and ranching ranching into what it is today.

During the summer months, guided tours are available of the main house, grounds, orchards and tack room. The site includes restrooms, picnic amenities and a gift shop.

**Villa Philmonte**

The core of the Philmont museums is the Villa Philmonte, given by Waite and Genevieve Philips, to form the basis of Philmont Training Center. The Villa was the summer home of Waite and Genevieve and their family. It was constructed in the Spanish Mediterranean style from 1928 to 1927 and is 28,400 square feet in size. The Villa Philmonte is a house museum today. Tour guides tell the story of the Philips family, their Philmont Ranch, and the gifting of their ranch in two parcels to the Boy Scouts of America in 1938 and 1941.

Pros:

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**Effective Display Ideas from Pros**

Many ambassodor uses laptop display to show all the information on what Philmont has to offer. Unfortunately, there's almost too much information on the Colfax print when using available Philmont promotional brochures and posters.

On-line tips from the advertising world are readily available to help us out. Some of the eye-catching techniques the pros use to make their displays stand out are:

- Adding attractive graphics
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- Incorporating large images
- Big photos make big impacts and attract attention.
- Eliminating unnecessary text
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- Using large print makes your display easy to read quickly.
Philmont may seem timeless, but time and nature do take their toll on human- 
replace the aging structure. Outfitting its interior will take place next spring so 
built structures. The staff cabin at Pueblano was no exception. Members of 
Philmont’s “Everyone Likes To Be Welcomed” Conference teaches New Member Coordinators to 
go all out to make families new to the Scouting program feel they belong and are valued.

Conference Spotlight

“Everyone Likes To Be Welcomed” Conference Helps Recruit Families

Sustaining strong membership in a unit depends not only on having new members (join the unit, but also on engaging youth and their families in the unit experiences so that they feel welcomed and want to stay. The role of the New Mem-
ber Coordinator (NMC) is to en-
sure that both keys to success take place. Recognizing the im-
portance of whole-family recruit-
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imitee-level position called “New Member Coordinator” to help ensure that boys, and soon to be girls, as well as their siblings and parents, feel part of the Scouting Family as soon as they join.

On-line courses are available at my.scouting.org. Better still, at-
tending the 2019 PTC conference “Everyone Likes To Be Wel-
comed – Reaching and Engag-
ing Scout Families” is an excel-
ient way for a Council or District Membership Committee member to learn key concepts and bring them home to share with fellow Scouters. This conference is recommended for New Member Coordinators, unit leaders, and Membership Committee members of all levels including Scouters who want to help grow Scouting.

The course will be offered during Week 8 which is from July 29 to August 4.

In itself, the New Member Coordi-
nator position has been designed to:
- Be a fun and engaging posi-
tion.
- Form relationships with new 
members and their families.
- Use a team approach by 
encouraging more than one 
NMC in a unit, allowing them to tailor their work to individ-
ual interests/expertise, as well as to recognize the particular needs of the unit.
- Fit every type of unit, every age level and every pro-
gram.
- Be recruited and supported by key unit leadership.
- Be provided with training both online and face to face.
- Be mentored by the District Membership Chair to be-
come part of the District Membership team.
- Be visible and easily identifi-
able at unit gatherings by 
their welcoming smiles and 
their BSA “Welcome” logo 
that they display and wear 
on an activity shirt, on a hat 
or vest or in some cases, a 
pin on a field uniform.

Scouters will learn methods and techniques to welcome and excite new youth and their families. Millennial families approach activi-
ties in new ways, and the course will explain how to make scouting fun and right for them.

Unit New Member Coordinators will learn skills for use right away to grow their units, while District Council Membership Chairs will learn how to recruit, train, and support their New Member Coordinators in their units. Attendees will discover ways to recruit, train, and motivate young parents to serve as leaders. The Member-
ship Committee Guidebook will be covered which provides infor-
mation on developing a plan and enhancements to improve growth. The new Cub Scouting Changes will also be covered.

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chures that are available to describe opportunities not widely known to potential Philmont attendees.

One covers trek preparation courses that are held at Councils that histori-
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Philmont Advisor Seminar (PAW)

PAW is a two hour long classroom 
session to prepare Advisors. Train-
ing will be held during 2018 for those 
scheduled for 2019 treks. The PAW seminar covers basic top-
ics like setting up a unit Philmont committee, youth training, and condi-
tioning suggestions.

Philmont Advisors Skills School (PASS)

PASS is an 8-hour program offered at Councils around the coun-
ty. It provides hands-on training in addition to the organizational infor-
mation provided at PAW. Backcountry 
techniques on safety, sanitation, and camp set up are covered.

Philmont has revised its application process to prevent stretchout. Early application is encouraged. Since the 1940’s, Philmont has been offering guided, invitational big game hunts to those actively involved in Scouting. Scouters are considered upon recommendation from a local council Scout Executive. If approved, Sportscmen will be able to submit an application to hunt, which must be accompanied by a deposit. If suc-
cessful in the draw, Sportscmen will receive a letter of acceptance. If unsuccessful, Philmont will refund the deposit and Sportscmen will be notified on the mailing list for future hunts.

All hunters must purchase a Game-
hunting or Game-hunting and Fishing 
License before applying for any big 
game draw license.

New Pamphlets on Trek Prep and Hunting Opportunities

Philmont preparations shift from winter to spring with the start of a new camping season. The early months of 2018 are a great time to prepare for Philmont's adventures during the summer months. Here's what you need to do and what to expect in the coming months.

In early 2018, Advisors should:
- Check that each participant has scheduled their medical exam and review the com-
pleted medical form prior to check-in.
- Continue updating Philmont contact information.
- Begin a physical fitness training plan. Adults carrying any extra weight should lose it prior to Philmont.
- Plan a series of training experiences prior to arrival at Philmont (two or three are recommended): start easy and increase the difficulty, with several days of camping and hiking with full packs.
- Send reminder for the final fee payment due to Philmont by March 19th.

Crews should be considering how far they want to hike, the scenery they want to enjoy and the pro-
grams they want to experience. Treks vary year-by-year. Taking a look at the 2017 routes gives Crews a good idea of the magnitude and scope of the adventures ahead. Crews will be notified in March of their itinerary selection window which happens over a two day period in April.

2018 Trek Preparation Now Gets Serious

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