Return to Scouting Paradise

John Clark
General Manager/Director of High Adventure, Unit 1

Welcome to God's Country, better known as Philmont! For many of you, this is your first time in the Land of Enchantment. For others, this is a return to Scouting paradise. Regardless of your job or title, the goal is still the same: to deliver the safest and best outdoor program for our Scouting families. Our promise is to “deliver wilderness adventures that last a lifetime.” You are the most important part of delivering that promise.

Every summer, when I sit down to write this, I have tried to say the same thing different ways. It always comes out the same.

People come to Philmont for various reasons, I am sure you can identify with that. As I watch our participants come and go, I often wonder if we met their expectations? Since you are on our frontline of program delivery, did we help you meet your expectations?

The goal of our management staff is to say “yes” to both of these questions. Please share with us your ideas of how we can do this bigger and better, I would appreciate your feedback.

This summer you will be challenged and tested. You will probably get wet, cold, lose some sleep, be sore from things you have never done and have more blisters than you have had in your life. However, my guess is within a few months of returning back to college and the real world, you will forget all of that. Philmont has a way of making the bad days go

“Regardless of your job or title, the goal is still the same: to deliver the safest and best outdoor program for our Scouting families.”

Sharing the Journey

Mark Anderson
Director of Program, Unit 2

Welcome everyone!

Throughout the spring as applications are reviewed and letters of employment are prepared, I am always impressed with the tremendous amount of talent that each of you will share during the summer. The combination of all of your talents and passion will ensure that we are able to fulfill the expectations of each participant both at the Philmont Training Center and in the various backcountry camping programs.

This summer we will welcome the 1 millionth backcountry participant! This should happen sometime in the early part of July.

We ended 2013 with a total of 987,375, just 12,625 short of 1 million. Our summer numbers have grown from 196 in 1939 during the first camping season to an expected 22,400 during the 2014 camping season.

John Updike said, “You cannot help but learn more as you take the world into your hands. Take it Continued on page 5

Staff Opening Program Detailed Schedule

1:30 p.m. Staff gather at Greensward of the Villa Philmonte near the pond; please bring sunscreen, rain gear and a water bottle

2 p.m. Staff Opening Welcome with leadership Introductions and “welcome back” activities

3:15 p.m. Divide into assigned 25 staff groups for small group discussion

5:45 Ringing of the bell at the Opening Staff Dinner at Camper Dining Hall

6 p.m. Opening staff dinner at the Camper Dining Hall

7 p.m. Chapel services in the following traditions: Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and LDS

8 p.m. Gather at Baldy Pavilion at the SSSAC for keynote speaker Bob Birkby, author of the new BSA Field Book

9:15 p.m. Music and fellowship at Baldy Pavilion

Continued on page 5
**Useful Philmont Acronyms**

When one visits Philmont for the first time, it is easy to recognize that the Ranch has a unique vocabulary. For those visiting or working at the ranch for the first time, it may be a little confusing at first, but fortunately is easy to pick up on. Here is a guide to Philmont’s most commonly used acronyms and lingo.

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<td>8 a.m. - 1 p.m. SSSAC Blood Drive</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Horse department/program counselor of western lore camps cookout at Mark Anderson’s house</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. Intro to Leave No Trace at Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>7 p.m. Driver Training at PTC Assembly Hall</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. Intro to Leave No Trace at Baldy Pavilion (second opportunity)</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Living History Town Hall Gathering at Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. A Fish Experience at Baldy Pavilion</td>
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<td>1:30 p.m. All staff gather on Villa Lawn</td>
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<td>11:15 a.m. Old Mill Tour; meet at Welcome Center</td>
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**Fire Level Warning**

Attention all staff! Despite having rain the past several days, Philmont experienced a below average snow and rainfall over the past winter. A few fire restrictions are currently in place across the ranch. As a result, staff and participants are prohibited from doing the following:

- Setting off fireworks
- Smoking except for in designated areas
- Making crew or staff campfires
- Starting open fires

Thank you for complying with our fire restrictions in order to keep Philmont a safe place.

We also ask that you keep in mind the importance of conserving water, especially during this drought period. Be aware of how much water you use and remember to turn off faucets when not in use.

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**Note:**

- **Ranger Camp/fire** at PTC Assembly Hall
- **Driver Training** at PTC Assembly Hall
- **Scatter Day One**
- **Scatter Day Two**
- **Telluride Film Festival at Hardesty Casa Central**

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**Useful Philmont Acronyms**

- **ACD:** Assistant Camp Director
- **ACR:** Associate Chief Ranger
- **Baldy:** Baldy Pavilion (for events), Mr. Baldy, or Baldy Camp
- **CD:** Camp Director
- **Chief:** Chief Ranger
- **CHQ:** Camping Headquarters
- **Cito:** Cimmaroncito
- **Cons:** Conservation
- **GIS:** Geographical Information Systems
- **HAB:** High Adventure Base
- **HOD:** Head of Dean
- **HOME:** Heaven on Earth
- **I-Camp:** Intercamp mail
- **IW:** Indian Writings
- **NAYLE:** National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience
- **NPS:** News and Photo Services
- **OATC:** Order of the Arrow Trail Crew Trek
- **PJ:** Phillips Junction
- **PhilSAR:** Philmont Search and Rescue
- **PTC:** Philmont Training Center
- **RO:** Ranger Office
- **ROCS:** Roving Outdoor Conservation School
- **RT:** Ranger Trainer
- **SSCAC:** Silver Sage Staff Activities Center
- **Swapbox:** A place to trade unwanted food
- **TC:** Training Crew
- **TOTT:** Tooth of Time Traders
- **TP:** Trading Post
- **The Val:** the Valle Vidal
- **Valle:** the Valle Vidal
- **PTC Buffalo BBQ at PTC Greensward**
- **7 p.m. PTC Country Dance at PTC Assembly Hall Lesbian Rendezvous at Beaubien**
The View From up Top

Steve Nelson
Comptroller, Unit 3

The month of May is one of my favorite times of the year. The weather has changed, the leaves are coming out, but most importantly, the Philmont Staff begin to arrive.

We get to see friends from previous years and we get to meet new people that are filled with that amazing enthusiasm that will make this year the best ever. You each have numerous talents that will be put to work to bring about a great Philmont experience for all the people who come here this summer. Those talents, along with your skills and enthusiasm, are what will make this summer the “wilderness experience that lasts a lifetime” for our participants.

A few weeks ago, I had the fantastic opportunity to travel to Cusco, Peru with a medical, humanitarian expedition.

“A few weeks ago, I had the fantastic opportunity to travel to Cusco, Peru with a medical, humanitarian expedition.”

Chris Sawyer
Associate Director of Program, Unit ???

Welcome to Philmont! Working here has taught me a great deal, but my most important learning experience was with my first crew as a Ranger.

We had hiked up Bonito Canyon from Old Abreu and were approaching our destination for the night, Lookout Meadow. Before reaching camp, a hailstorm came over the ridge. We scurried to the outskirts of the meadow and took cover in the trees. I remember not knowing exactly what to do, but we took out the dining fly and set up a makeshift shelter.

After the rain slowed, we hiked the rest of the way to camp, set up our tents and dined together after which the rain started again. I had wanted to take my crew to watch the sunset from Crater Peak, but we retreated to our tents. As I was writing a journal entry about that night’s events, the sun was sinking into the mountain and filled the horizon. It was gorgeous. There was a sense of calm and renewal that left us silent.

As we neared the top of Crater Peak, the sun was sinking into the mountain and filled the horizon. It was gorgeous. There was a sense of calm and renewal that left us silent.

“Have you thought about what kind of staff member you want to be?”

Talk about amazing trail building skills.

As we reached the top, the view was incredible. We were looking back down at Machu Picchu, the mountains surrounding it and down into the Sacred Valley. That view made me think of many things, one of which was vision, and two advisors made me feel completely at home. I wrote about being confident in knowing that I had done my job well. The closing line of the entry read, “I’ve got the best job in the world.”

These are all things that I hope you will have the opportunity to feel, both at Philmont and when you return home at the end of the summer. Enjoy each day, but remember to use every one to think about what steps it will take to land a job that will make you happy in the future. Think about your interests, your skills, your strengths and how they might line up in a way that will set you up for success in life.

Our goal is for you to lead happy and fulfilling lives so you can say you have the best job in the world.”

“Have you thought about what kind of staff member you want to be?”
A Million Moments

David O’Neill
Associate Director of Program, Unit 5

Welcome back staff!

It is once again time to embark upon another epic journey, otherwise known as a summer at Philmont Scout Ranch! The hustle and bustle of staff in training, tents popping up in Tent City, crews completing projects all over the ranch and now the rain are all wonderful signs of the things to come in just a few short weeks.

As we move into the 76th year at Philmont Scout Ranch, we have much to be excited for. Our newest backcountry camp at Metcalf Station will now be open! The rails have arrived, ties are on the way and now be open! The rails have finished! The rails have completed! The rails have plants now! It’s a big place and the North Ponil will be very busy with many new and exciting activities for thousands to enjoy!

Probably the most important moment we get to celebrate this summer, however, is the milestone of the millionth participant at Philmont Scout Ranch. How exciting is that? To think a million others have had the adventure of a lifetime in these mountains is almost mind blowing.

Think of the many kinds of moments that those million people have been through: moments of challenge, joy, inspiration, adventure, pain, leadership, fun… the list goes on and on. Think of your own special moment at Philmont. A Million Moments.

But, before you can even get to Metcalf, you have to pass through the Chase Ranch, which is also now a part of the program offerings at Philmont in 2014. Between the two, the North Ponil will be very busy with many new and exciting activities for thousands to enjoy!

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What was that like? What do you remember? What keeps you coming back for more each and every year?

An old friend of mine, who has not experienced it firsthand. I have never been anywhere else, before or since, across this whole world, that I feel as alive and relevant as I feel in those mountains. That little 214 square mile patch of the southern Rockies is 100 percent responsible for everything that is good and right in my life today. I can never repay that debt.

Think of the moments that he experienced that caused him to be able to write those words 25 years later. Think of the beauty of the mountains, the program, the staff, the friendships and experiences he must have had. Think of your own experiences and how they have inspired you. Now, think of how you can do the same thing for the 23,000 participants we will see this summer.

Let’s make it a great summer and fill it with a million wonderful moments!

An Amazing Journey

David Werhane
Museum Director

Greetings and welcome Philmont staff!

I hope you’re all ready for an amazing journey. After seventy-six years, Philmont is still full of surprises. With the help of our neighbors in the Ponil Country, we have over 244,000 acres of opportunity: sunsets over Rayado Canyon, dinosaur tracks, massive elk herds, snow covered peaks of Baldy and Little Costilla and leftover relics from Native Americans, frontiersmen and miners. Best of all, let’s not forget that infectious smile on a camper’s face as he finally makes it to the top of that ridge, sparrow or campsite.

This year you will be a part of a season larger than itself. By August, you will have become woven into a million life changing experiences, a million hikes and a million Philmont memories.

It will go by fast, so make plans now! It’s a big place and some of it, like the Chase Ranch, will be a new experience for all of us. Confused about how, why and what we do on some of those other properties in the Ponil country? Come to the Museum and cross the fence into our exhibit, “Partners on the Ponil.” I guarantee it will help clear up those sometimes confusing details. Why it just might even inspire you to venture north and hike the historic Cimarron & Northwestern Railway or stroll through a savannah type Ponderosa forest, or perhaps even learn the value of wildland stewardship and good neighbors.

As always, I encourage you to take in what Philmont and the Philmont museums have to offer. Tour the Villa, explore the Rayado Settlement, discover the historic Chase Ranch, come to the museum and dive into our history. And don’t forget the Seton Memorial Library: it’s your resource so come in, check out a book and go read it in our naturally lit, 137,000 acre reading room.

Katy Mooney/Photography Manager 2012

This is your summer, enjoy each moment, create memories and don’t forget to share them with others!

Bueno suerte!
Continued from Page One: Scouting Paradise

A Sense of Curiosity

Andrea Watson
Associate Director of PTC Program, Unit 7

Greetings from the Philmont Training Center!

What an exciting summer awaits as we celebrate the 1 millionth Scout at Philmont Scout Ranch. One million! This is an incredible milestone and as we reflect back on 1 million life-changing wilderness experiences, I know Waite Phillips would be proud of what Philmont Scout Ranch and the Training Center has become.

When you look at the history of Philmont, you see an evolution of program that constantly seeks to push further and do things better.

It reminds me of what Walt Disney once said, “We don’t look backwards for very long ... we keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things because we’re curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths.” This curiosity is a critical element in the success of Philmont programs and I hope each of us can find ways to be more curious this summer.

“Our curiosity will ensure that we continue to meet the needs of the next 1 million Scouts who will come to Philmont.”

Let’s ask ourselves how we can do our jobs better. Is there a better way to do this task? How can we better serve our guests? How can we exceed their expectations? The list can go on and on!

Share your ideas with your supervisor and be part of taking Philmont’s programs to the next level. Smiley Blanton said, “A sense of curiosity is nature’s original school of education.”

Our curiosity will ensure that we continue to meet the needs of the next million Scouts who will come to Philmont. To quote Albert Einstein, “I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious.”

I hope you come have fun at PTC this summer! PTC has served as the National Training Center of the Boy Scouts of America since 1950. In fact, Waite Phillips dreamed that his Philmont ranch would be the home of volunteer training for the Boy Scouts.

He also wanted the opportunity for families to come and experience Philmont together. He saw the joy that his wife and daughter had at Philmont and knew that Philmont wasn’t just for the rugged adventurer. Waite felt strongly that families who experienced Philmont together would be better for it, just as his family was. It is with this continued vision that we embark on another exciting year at PTC.

Everyone is welcome to come over to PTC and take part in our evening programs: Monday is cobbler night at the East and South Tent Cities. On Tuesdays, our buffalo barbecue takes place at 5:30 p.m. on the Greensward, followed by the Kwahadi Indian Dancers and then a Western Night dance at 7:30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall. Wednesday evenings, we feature the classic Boy Scout movie ‘Follow Me, Boys’ at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Hall. Thursdays, the one and only ‘Wannabe Band’ will play on the Dining Hall Veranda, and a star study at the Program Bowl at dusk. Our Opening Program is on Sundays and Closing Program is on Fridays.

The Craft Center is open and available for staff as well. It has exciting new projects including ceramics, leatherwork, mosaics, incredible tie-dye and so much more!

Check out the flyers in the SSSAC for a full list of the fun PTC has to offer each week. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you.

See you on the trail!

“Some of the world’s greatest feats were accomplished by people not smart enough to know they were impossible.”

Continued from Page One: Sharing the Journey

Presently, we are planning for over 22,500 to participate in backcountry programs, over 4,000 at PTC, the opening of our 35th staff camp, Metcalf Station, and we are starting our first summer at the Chase Ranch. Congratulations to those in helping us write a new chapter in the history of Philmont Scout Ranch!
Meet the Chaplains

Elder David Wilson
LDS Chaplain and Chaplain Coordinator

Happy 76th anniversary Philmont! For 2014 I have been given an exciting opportunity to serve as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) Chaplain and this summer we have the opportunity to see the millionth Scout come to Philmont!

When I am not at Philmont I am somewhat gainfully employed at a non-profit organization specializing in energy efficiency, conservation, and sustainability in the housing and construction industry. I am an Eagle Scout and have received both the youth and adult religious awards for the LDS faith.

Hey, I even have hobbies outside of Scouting and Philmont (gasp!). I grow orchids, I am a Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) certified scuba instructor, a certified USA Track & Field official (USATF), as well as a recently certified Wilderness First Aid Instructor.

Chaplain’s Corner

Let me share with you a modern day urban legend. It is a nice story and one that carries a valuable moral lesson: people should not make snap judgments based on a person’s initial appearance or demeanor. Read it and enjoy.

As a Philmont chaplain I give you this story with great love and admiration for what you do and who you are individually and collectively as the 2014 Philmont staff. After you have read this story, I have one favor to ask: let’s treat everyone we meet this summer as children of a loving God, with respect, courtesy, and friendliness.

Remember, people will forget what you say. People will forget what you do. But people will never forget how you made them feel.

God bless each of you this summer.

The Gingham Dress

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston, and walked timidly, without an appointment, into the Harvard University President’s outer office.

The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard and probably didn’t even deserve to be in Cambridge.

“We’d like to see the president,” the man said softly.

“He’ll be busy all day,” the secretary snapped.

“We’ll wait,” the lady replied.

For hours the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go away. They didn’t and the secretary grew frustrated. She finally decided to disturb the president, even though it was a chore she always regretted.

“Maybe if you see them for a few minutes, they’ll leave,” she said to him.

“He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed. My husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus.”

The president wasn’t touched. He was shocked.

“Madam,” he said gruffly, “We can’t put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery.”

“Oh, no,” the lady explained quickly. “We don’t want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard.”

The busy president rolled his eyes. He glanced at the gingham dress and home spun suit, and then exclaimed: “A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs?”

“He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed.”

“We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical buildings here at Harvard.”

“You can easily judge the character of others by how they treat those they think can do nothing for them.”

For a moment the lady was silent. The president was pleased. Maybe he could get rid of them now.

The lady turned to her husband and said quietly, “Is that all it costs to start a university? Why don’t we just start our own?”

Her husband nodded. The president’s face wilted in confusion and bewilderment.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford got up and walked away, traveling to Palo Alto, Calif. where they established the university that bears their name, Stanford University: a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.

You can easily judge the character of others by how they treat those they think can do nothing for them.

Chapel services begin Friday, May 30 at 7 p.m.

They will continue each night at Camping Headquarters until August 20 with the following services offered: Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
# Philmont Jargon

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Remember, people will forget what you say. People will forget what you do. But people will never forget how you made them feel.

God bless each of you this summer.
Will Burge, Camp Director at Apache Springs, practices using a fire extinguisher during Camp Director Maintenance Day Training on Thursday, May 22 at the PTC Buster Brown Building.

Erin Irwin/Photography Manager

Philmont staff and students of the Wilderness First Responder (WFR) course respond to patients of a mock lightning storm during a hands-on scenario on Monday, May 19 at the Stockade.

Erin Irwin/Photography Manager