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SHOUT OUT!

THE CHQ DINING HALL STAFF OF 32 HAS CLEANED, AT MINIMUM, A TOTAL OF 30-40 THOUSAND DISHES A PIECE, AND BY THE END OF THE SUMMER WILL HAVE SERVED OVER 200,000 MEALS.

THOUGH THE #S FOR THE PTC DINING HALL ARE NOT KNOWN, WE THANK BOTH OF THESE STAFFS FOR THEIR EXCELLENT WORK AND FOOD TO SUSTAIN US THROUGH THE SUMMER!

2010 PHILNEWS STAFF

OWEN MCCULLOCH, Editor-in-Chief
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Have a thought, story, comic, drawing, photo or idea that you’d like to share with the Philmont community? The PhilNews welcomes submissions and letters to the editor. Feel free to I-Camp your submission to the PhilNews or drop it by the NPS office. Please remember that all submissions must include your name and location! For a submission to be considered for the next issue (yes next summer), please have it to us by May 30, 2011. All submissions become property of Philmont Scout
A Note for Our Advertisers
From PhilNews 2010 Staff

Dear Friend of Philmont,

Thank you for advertising with the PhilNews for Philmont’s 2010 season. We hope to have met your expectations and to meet or exceed them next year as well. Please find the Advertising Agreement for 2011 below, for your consideration.

Again, thank you for being part of the Philmont experience.

Philmont—Adventures that Last a Lifetime!

Sincerely,

Bryan Hayek
Marketing Manager
News and Photo Services
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Cimarron, NM 87714

PhilNews Advertising Agreement – 2011

Return this form as soon as possible. Please include changes and/or revisions to your advertisement for the entire summer. (This includes 10 printed ads as well as 1 electronic ad.)

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Please contact The PhilNews if you have any questions or concerns! If we design your ad, you will have the opportunity to review your ad before it goes to print.
A Thank You Letter to the Staff:

From the beginning of the summer, not one day passed without a participant taking me aside to praise the staff and program. I sometimes had trouble getting to or from the office with the number of times I was stopped.

Some of my favorite praises:
“If only one of the staffers at my council camp were like yours, we could change the world.”

“Three times. That’s the number of times my wife told me that she was impressed with [Philmont]. Three…and my wife is not easily impressed.”

“Every single one of [the staff] is a marathon-runner.”

Truly, even with only those quotes above, I would consider the summer a success. Who wouldn’t want a group of high-powered staff, running marathons to change the world and unintentionally winning the adoration of spouses and families? Whether or not that’s what happened, that’s the impression our participants were left with. I witnessed one of (if not the) best group of individuals at PTC deliver a family program that introduced Scouting and the great outdoors to all ages, and never faltered in approaching every day as if it were the first day of the season.

This year, the Training Center saw nearly 3,000 participants, and hundreds more guests, neighbors, and families of Philmont staff. Each of them experienced a span of time that will stand out for the rest of their lives. They met fellow Scouters from across the country, learned valuable “best-practices” from a superb group of faculty, and formed new friendships not only individually, but as whole families.

Additionally, the 21,000 participants of the backcountry program now have memories of an adventure that will shape their lives and act as an example of overcoming personal limitations, working together as a unit, and seeing the absolutely gorgeous landscapes, sunsets, and moonrises that Philmont has to offer. Having been both a trekker in my youth and a PTC participant in my young adulthood, I can assure you that everything that you that you as staff did this year has made a positive impact for those who came to Philmont. I’m appreciative for those experiences as a participant, yet I’m more grateful to know the individuals responsible for making those memorable moments. Each year, I become more confident in the moral character and maturity of the upcoming generation of adults. Thank you!

I hope each of you have a great year, and I’ll see you next summer.
A Word from Watson

Welcome to the special electronic version of the PhilNews. In this issue we’ve included all the submissions that didn’t make it into the printed version. I hope that this serves as a good reminder of your summer at Philmont. From Gio’s appearance to the Wilderness Guia program, and the fact that this is the 100th anniversary of the BSA, this has been a special year for all of us. And for all of us not staying here for Autumn Adventure here are my ways to keep the Philmont Magic going.

Things to do to keep Philmont spirit alive:

1. Buy a copy of the Backcountry Cookbook with 239 different recipes and try one every day.
2. Stand on top of the Taco Bell sign and shout “I Want To Go Back To Philmont.” (Rangers only) (Bail not provided by NPS)
3. Pick up trash when able.
4. Look for future staffers.
5. Say “WOW” a lot.
6. Play Rod Taylor and the Tobasco Donkeys loud until the neighbors complain.
7. Find a local historic trail and hike it.
8. Stay active with a local council.
9. Facebook Phil-Friends.
10. Start planning and packing for next summer.
The 2010 Boy Scouts of America 100th Anniversary National Jamboree recently ended. An estimated 37,000 Scouts from all over the United States as well as from several foreign nations arrived at Fort A. P. Hill in and around July 26th. They were met by 8,000 national, regional and subcamp staff members who arrived a few days earlier.

There were approximately 80 staff chaplains representing the various faiths and religions who served the National Jamboree in subcamps, the exhibit, activity centers, the Jamboree headquarters, and Mary Washington Hospital. Jamboree Chaplains also served as part of the military Joint Task Force personnel at Fort A.P. Hill during the National Jamboree.

During the National Jamboree the chaplains perform a number of needed services including offering religious services on a daily basis in subcamps and Longstreet Headquarters for the participants and staff members. They also assist in the subcamps when a crew dispute arose or when there was an emergency call from the participant’s home. This year’s National Jamboree had a “Duty to God” activity for the youth participants to complete. The Duty to God activity’s completion was supervised and signed off by one of the Subcamp Chaplains.

On Sunday, August 1st the various religions and faiths had their own perspective camp-wide religious services. The largest religious services were held by the Catholics, Methodists, Lutherans and Latter-Day Saints. There were designated sites for each of the religious groups including: Buddhist, Islam, Orthodox Christians, Episcopalians and other Christian and Non-Christian religious groups.

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting oversaw the Catholic Mass celebrated by Philmont Chaplain, the Most Reverend Gerald Gettelfinger (Padre), Bishop of Evansville, Indiana and the Bishop Liaison of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. The homilist for the Mass was the Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone (former Philmont Chaplain for 12 seasons), Bishop of Charleston, South Carolina and past National Chaplain of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. The host bishop for the National Jamboree will was Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo of the Diocese of the Richmond, Virginia. The Mass was concelebrated by four bishops, nearly 20 priests and several deacons. Between 15,000 and 18,000 participants attended the Catholic Mass that was held in the Jamboree Arena.

The 2010 National Jamboree is to be the last Jamboree to be held at Fort A.P. Hill in Fredericksburg Virginia. The Fort A.P. Hill site had served as the Jamboree Site for nearly 30 years. The 2013 National Jamboree will be moved to a new site called “The Summit” that will be developed in West Virginia. Below is a photo of the Catholic Chaplains who served at the 2010 National Jamboree.

Yours in Scouting,

FATHER MICHAEL HANIFIN
Jamboree Chaplain
A recent past, but nonetheless, enjoy this article about Philmont’s 2010 guest of honor and magic!

Quotes from Gio:
“Just because something looks impossible doesn’t mean that it is.”

“If you make no change, there will be no change.”

“Don’t let opportunities go over your head.”

“Be an ambassador of the moment.” (A COE: Creator of Experiences.)

“People want to work with people who love what they do.”

Points made at performance:
Think of [life] as a cycle, not an ending: reach a goal, celebrate, reset.

Be focused.

Quotes from article:
“The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results”.
~Albert Einstein

The key to success is found in 5 letters: M.A.G.I.C.

Motivation: “Anything is possible. Not ‘everything’ is possible - anything is possible.”

Attitude: Know that the show must go on. Henry Ford states: “Whether you believe you can, or you can’t, you are right.”

Goals: Gio reminds his audience that you don’t have to know all the answers, but set goals, and like a seed, your capabilities will grow. Also, he strongly suggests, write down your goals.

Imagination: Be innovative and creative; don’t do the same thing and expect different results.

Care: This is where talent and passion collide. If you have both talent and passion for what you do, you will truly care, giving you energy and means to succeed.

Giovanni’s book, Live a Thousand Years: Have the Time of Your Life is now available at the Tooth of Time Traders as well as at ToothOfTimeTraders.com
To the Philmont Staff,
You have "IT"!

God Bless,

Giovanni Livera
B.S.A. 100
2010

--- Giovanni Livera

You can't beg for it
You can't borrow it
You can't steal it

If you have it
You know you have it
If you don't have it
Look for it

If you have talent for it
You may have it
If you have passion for it
You may have it
If you have talent and passion for it
You've got it

Everyone has an it
Find it
Cherish it
Grow it
Share it
That's it
Basecamp Photos
Fulltime Maintenance Staff


Front Row: left to right – Lucas Martinez, Dave Kenneke, Rick Archuleta, Alex Martinez, Wayne Baker, Jeff Ogata, Anthony Martinez.

“The achievements of an organization are the combined efforts of each individual.”

~ Vince Lombardi
BASECAMP STAFF
PHILMONT BUS DRIVERS

LEFT TO RIGHT: WARREN FRESQUEZ, LIZ DECRISTINO, EFFIE MONTOYA, JOE MONTOYA, GLADYS SCHNEIDER, DENNIS SCHNEIDER, SHARON ORTEGA, RENIE CARTER, PEGGY O’NEAL, BILLY MARTINEZ, LINDA PAYTON, VINCE FONTANA, CINDY SMITH, DOUG SMITH.

“A DRIVER IS A KING ON A VINYL BUCKET-SEAT THRONE, CHANGING DIRECTION WITH THE TURN OF A WHEEL, CHANGING THE CLIMATE WITH A FLICK OF A BUTTON, CHANGING THE MUSIC WITH THE SWITCH OF A DIAL.”

~ANDREW H. MALCOLM
BASECAMP STAFF

MOTORPOOL

TIM SADDLER, JEREMY GRUVER, ALEX CORDOVA, JIM JOHNSON

“REAL GENIUS OF MORAL INSIGHT IS A MOTOR WHICH WILL START ANY ENGINE.”

~ EDMUND WILSON
“HEALTH IS THE CONDITION OF WISDOM, AND THE SIGN IS CHEERFULNESS, —AN OPEN AND NOBLE TEMPER. SO OF CHEERFULNESS, OR A GOOD TEMPER, THE MORE IT IS SPENT, THE MORE IT REMAINS.”

~RALPH WALDO EMERSON
For ten days, roughly 50,000 Scouts, Scouters, Venturers and Advisors gathered at Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia for the 17th National Scout Jamboree and the Boy Scouts of America's Centennial Anniversary celebration. From July 26th to August 4th, the participants, drawn from all fifty United States, enjoyed the blowout party of the century.

The participants wandered around the campground, sampling the various booths and kiosks, and visited the important site-seeing locations. They engaged in shooting sports and outdoor activities like archery, black powder rifles, rock climbing and BMX biking, attended concerts and stopped by “Merit Badge Midway” to start on or complete requirements for various merit badges.

“I had no idea what to expect,” said Kirsten Loar. “I knew it [the Jamboree] was going to be big, but I had no idea what was going to happen.”

The High Adventure bases offered activity stations for rock climbing, roping, branding and western lore (Philmont), canoe and kayak stations (Northern Tier) and ‘dive and take’ from dive boats (Florida Sea Base) as part of their marketing campaign. The staff also manned kiosks where they offered information about their respective bases and programs.

At the Philmont display, the Philmont staff members answered questions, provided info, “Specifically about Philmont’s Special Treks and the PTC,” Loar said, and engaged in, sometimes lively, conversations with their visitors.

According to Loar, many people who stopped by their booth at the Jamboree had come to Philmont earlier in the summer and they spent hours at the kiosk talking about their experiences. “The wonder and excitement apparent, not just in these Philmont veterans, but in the Jamboree participants was invigorating.” Loar shared.

The 2010 Jamboree was a very special occasion and a ‘once-in-a-lifetime experience’ for the participants and visiting staff. It was an event that meant many things to many people. When asked what she took away from the Jamboree, Kirsten replied, “The experience cemented in me the power of Scouting to do good in so many people’s lives. Jamboree has a different focus than Philmont, but the same life-change occurs.”
Life presents its easy times and hard times, the good and the bad. Classic and true are the words penned by Charles Dickens: “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times…” Stephen R. Covey put it this way: “Opposition is a natural part of life.” Mormon (Latter-Day Saint) theology phrases it according to a man in ancient America: “For it must needs be, that there is an opposition in all things.” Whether literary, theological or of business origin, philosophers agree, opposition is common to our experience. Each of these philosophers also agree that this opposition is important to our growth.

For much of the staff here at Philmont, the challenges we presently face are not as pressing as those we meet outside the Ranch. What should we study? Where should we go to college? What if this happens? Or that? Who should we marry? How should we vote?

With so many pressing matters on our minds, it can be easy to push them back. The more important the issue, the scarier it may seem, and the harder we may want to push it away. As we are tempted to simply run from these pressures, we might first consider what the experts say.

George Zalucki, small business motivational speaker, states, “Responsibility is nothing more than the ability to respond.” When fear strikes us to our core, let’s strike back!

Stephen R. Covey, author of Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, says that “The key is not to prioritize our schedule but to schedule our priorities.” Taking this into account, let us consider how we might be able to manage our time, to best reach our goals in life.

Waite Phillips, our very own benefactor, guides us from thought to action with his words, “Wishful thinking consists of dreaming without doing. It’s a useless habit.”

It seems that life will provide its challenges in all forms, but these helpful hints may assist us in growing and progressing toward our better selves. When pressures of life hover like a rain cloud, break out the “ability to respond”. When cloudy just doesn’t work for your schedule, make sure your priorities are bright rays of hope. And when it is tempting to sleep on those drizzly winter days, remember to create your own sunshine by getting out of bed and living your dreams. Yes, when all else fails, you can remember the words of an optimist, William Arthur Ward: “A cloudy day is no match for a sunny disposition.”

So when sorrow taunts you, bid it farewell; and when troubles find you, greet it with full force and determination to come out on top. It is at these times you will find in you the greater strength- as strong as the sun- and taste a victory over the clouds life’s storms bring.

Who knows what tomorrow brings, and who knows what next year holds, but hopefully Philmont will welcome us back- all the wiser.
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ISSUES AT PHILMONT

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Courtesy of Motorpool Staff

Oops!!
The summer of 2010 has been a great success for Philmont’s Sustainability efforts. The largest success is thanks to the publication of this very newsletter, the PhilNews. Through submission of nine articles in nine weeks, I have been able to educate the reading audience about various initiatives that the Ranch has done for many years. For two decades our Motor Pool Shop has been using old motor oil to heat their shop in wintertime. The Ranch has a great capacity to reuse boxes and packaging material. Philmont Scout Ranch has a forestry management plan that includes responsible timber cut methods and an educational Demonstration Forest initiative was started to educate our staff, participants and visitors to greater lengths in conjunction with the Visiting Forester Program.

Many first time recycling efforts began this season. Thanks to the cooperation of staff across the Ranch, aluminum cans, plastic #1/#2 and corrugated cardboard were collected and transported to Angel Fire from June 15th – August 20th. Over 30 blue recycling containers were distributed to offices and departments to aid in the sorting and collection of cans and bottles; and 36 white paper collection bins were sorted for the Taos Recycling Facility. Hopefully these bins will be a familiar part of each staff member’s responsibilities for future seasons. The recycling efforts will be continued throughout Philmont’s “off season,” including Autumn Adventure and Kanik programs, thanks to the seasonal and permanent staff members that remain here at the Ranch.

One hundred tons of corrugated cardboard, 5.5 tons of aluminum cans and 14 tons of plastic #1/#2 were taken to the Angel Fire Recycling Facility this summer.

New prospects challenge Philmont in the future. Next summer’s operations hope to include baling our cardboard on site and receiving payment upon pickup by an Albuquerque paper processing company. We also hope to solve the dilemma of what to do with all those empty and half-used aluminum iso-butane fuel canisters. Other projects include a battery recycling project and possibly recycling used cooking oil from our kitchens.

Thank you to all the departments and individuals who aided in the sustainability efforts this summer. We wouldn’t have succeeded in representing and making it happen for the Ranch had it not been for countless work day helpers, self-starters in each department and willing minds and hands to help.

During the final day of Ranger training, crews receive a personalized, thought-provoking speech about preservation, conservation and enrichment for future participants. Though a Ranger will lead each of their crews during a summer in the Wilderness Pledge (WP), every speech, discussion or moment spent doing this is unique and special for that crew.

The impact that the Wilderness Pledge has on a crew can be profound. Through the WP, a crew will spend time thinking about what preservation and conservation mean and how those principles are exemplified right in front of their eyes here at the ranch.

By the end of summer 2010, we will have over 63,000 hours of conservation service given to the ranch by the over 21,000 participants completing their 3-hour service project during their trek.

The Wilderness Pledge and Conservation Projects are an essential part of every crew’s experience and vitally responsible for preserving Philmont’s beauty and splendor for future generations.

Lets continue these efforts while providing for participants and staff, that Wilderness Adventure that Lasts a Lifetime.
John Clark, Behind-the-Scenes Miracle Worker

Article by Timothy Bardin

John Clark is a man who rolls with the punches. As the General Manager of Philmont Scout Ranch and Department Manager of the Boy Scouts of America’s High Adventure Program, Clark has to be flexible. Many mornings he will come into the office and his well-crafted “to-do” list will go out the window.

“I make a plan everyday for what I want to get done,” Clark said, “but [Florida] Sea Base is 2 hours ahead of us and Northern Tier is one hour [ahead of us], so I can come into the office at 8:00 AM and there’s a crisis to deal with or calls to make.”

Clark, also known as “Unit 1”, is responsible for overseeing the management of the Ranch. He works closely with Mark Anderson (Director of Program), Doug Palmer, Dave Kopsa, Owen McCulloch, Greg Gamewell (Associate Directors of Program), and other members of the upper management team.

“Philmont is a shared responsibility,” Clark stresses. “But we have a super [management] team and they share a vision for this land and for making decisions that are best for the Ranch.”

These dedicated individuals ensure that all the departments run smoothly and that the Ranch staff is doing everything they can to provide “wilderness adventures that last a lifetime” for participants, both in the backcountry and at the Philmont Training Center.

But John himself stays in the background, where he works his managerial magic. In fact, few seasonal staff have any understanding of what John does, much less meet this remarkable man.

John grew up in Westark, or western Arkansas. He was very active as a boy and loved being outdoors, always traipsing through the woods and climbing mountains. John also spent a lot of time canoeing any one of the myriad rivers and lakes in the Ozarks. “The things I don’t miss are the ticks and chiggers,” Clark chuckled.

Mark Anderson and John Clark have been friends since childhood. They grew up together and were involved in Scouting. Both went on to become career Scouting Professionals. Now the two friends work side-by-side at the BSA’s premier High Adventure base.

As a Scout, John was very involved in the camping and hiking aspect of his troop’s program. He also progressed through the ranks, working hard on his merit badges and other requirements. But, much to his regret, John ascended no higher than Life Scout.

In 1967, John injured his shoulder playing basketball. The Lifesaving merit badge was the last requirement he needed to fulfill to earn his Eagle award. Because of his shoulder injury, John was incapable of undertaking the lifesaving test.

At the time, earning the Eagle-required Lifesaving merit badge included a mandatory, simulated lifesaving situation. According to John, the simulation was a water scenario in which the Scout had to “save” a “drowning” person.

“The ‘victim’ was often two or three times your size and the counselors took a sadistic pleasure in making the scenario as realistic as possible.” Clark reminisced.

Despite not earning Scouting’s highest rank, John still loved his experience with the organization and would return after a brief stint working for the U.S. Forest Service and the State of Arkansas. In the course of his Scouting career, John has received numerous Regional and National awards, earned the Wood Badge and been named to the Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor Order.
In May of 1974, John graduated from Arkansas Tech University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation and Park Administration and a Minor in Political Science.

After graduation, John entered the National Forest Service (then known as the U.S. Forest Service). He worked on various projects for the Corps of Engineers and the Soil/Water Conservation Service department from 1971-1974. John then worked for the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism until 1977, when he finally returned to Scouting.

John’s first position was the District Executive (DE) for Westark Area Council, the Council of which he was a member and had participated in as a Scout. “It was unusual for a person to work for the council where they were involved in Scouting,” Clark acknowledged. He stayed in the council until 1981.

For the next seven years (from 1981-1988) John held a variety of positions across the south-central US, from DE to Field Director to Assistant Scout Executive, until he arrived in Texas.

Texas’s Chisholm Trail Council, headquartered in Abilene, Texas, hired John as their Scout Executive in August of 1988. John stayed in Abilene until April of 2002 when he was hired as Comptroller for the High Adventure Division.

In 1995, while still in Texas, John sent his resume to the National Office, requesting that he be considered as the General Manager (GM) for Philmont. “Everybody told me it would never happen,” Clark said, “But I said, You asked for my long range plan, this is it.” Keith Galloway was the GM of Philmont at the time and had been for awhile. John was told that they never promote from within for that position and he would never get it.

But in late 2008, John was one of thirteen candidates selected for the position of General Manager. Through the selection process, the group was narrowed down to nine and then to three. In May of 2009, John started work as the General Manager of Philmont and the Department Manager for the High Adventure Program.

Of his position John said, “You have to be flexible, but there is a sense of adventure walking into the office every morning, not sure what awaits you for the day. That’s what makes it [the job] worth it.”

In addition to overseeing the Ranch management and operation, John supports the programs at Northern Tier and Florida Sea Base. As part of his management role, John makes at least six business trips a year. In the spring, summer and fall, he travels to each of the other two High Adventure bases for a seasonal meeting. John also heads the volunteer “Base Committees” at all three locations.

Outside of his Philmont responsibilities, John is involved in community activities and community service. He is an active member of the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs and actively involved in NSFRE (National Society of Fund Raising Executives). John is the finance chair for his Methodist church and he serves on the Cimarron Ambulance Board. He is also a member of the Cimarron Maverick Club and the Ute Park Property Owners Association.

In his free time, John enjoys reading and delights in hiking and camping whenever he can. John also likes to work on carpentry projects with old wood and tend the plot of land he owns. (He owns 1.2 acres off of Highway 64 along the Cimarron River, where he built and furnished a house).

“I get a sense of personal pride working out there [on the land],” Clark shared. “Someday I hope to retire there.”

John Clark has been a strong contributor to the success of Philmont and is a valuable member of the management team. But what sets him apart is his passion for this land, his respect for those who made an impact on it and his vision for the people who experience it. In his own words, “The Scouts and Scouters, the staff, the people of Cimarron and Colfax County, the majesty of this country and the legacy of the Phillips Family – that’s what makes Philmont a special place.”
Guests trek across the lawn north of the Philmont Training Center and approach the outdoor chapel as the hymn Higher Ground worshipfully sounds behind those already seated in the area. Those already present were the family and friends of Timothy R. Matthys. Timothy was an Assistant Scout Master in Boy Scout Troop 287 out of Killeen, Texas. His service in the troop could not have gone unnoticed by anyone present. As most knew him well, tears freely fled as they remembered his life, and the death that took it, one year ago. Recalling their memories of him only seven days after what would have been his 57th birthday.

There was much looking back and yet upon everyone’s faces were smiles of hope for the future. The tears and the smiles throughout the congregation were proof that what was said at this Memorial and chapel rededication was correct: ‘We look back to remember and forward to live.’ Thoughts were shared throughout the service, in the form of songs and hymns, poems and stories, and even memories shared upon open invitation. Shared by both sentiment and statement was the quote from Sir Robert Baden-Powell (1857-1941), “No man can pass through life, any more than he can pass through a bit of country, without leaving tracks behind, and those tracks may often be helpful to those coming after him in finding their way.”

The life Timothy led was one of service, leading those who spoke in his memory to say that he was a “true Christian,” a “true citizen” and an overall memorable man. “No one could fit into his form,” said his father lovingly, as he recalled all that his son had accomplished in this life and all that he had done for others while yet upon this earth.

Mr. Lother Matthys, at 91 years-old, has seen much of death in his days, saying that his wife of 46 years (Gladys) and wife of 5 years (Midge) had both passed away, as well as his father when he himself was only 7 or 8 years-old. Familiar with the grief that death brings, he says that the best thing to do is to focus on the positive moments that have been brought into your life by the ones you lose. “Only then can they continue living,” he says.

“He meant a lot to a lot of people,” said Josh Matthys, Timothy’s son, who didn’t want to say much more, expressing that his father’s memory couldn’t have been shared any better than by what his father’s fellow Scouters and young troop members had said. Those who took the opportunity to share memories of this man, whom they all respected and treasured, spoke primarily of the joy he had brought into their lives either by the practical jokes he pulled or the one-on-one moments shared.

Timothy’s legacy will live on in the amazing gift that his family has given to Philmont, where all the Scouts who come to its vast acreage can worship the God he so loved, regardless of denomination. Words cannot express the gratitude felt for the Matthys Family and their thoughtful gift of the refurbishment to the outdoor chapel at the PTC. For their generosity and kindness, generations will remember Timothy and the love he had for others and for God. Thank you.
CLOSING UP AT PHILMONT

Article by Amy Hemsley, staff writer

Pies flew, bodies flung, people ducked and were dunked, and jokes were flying left and right. Philmont successfully had their first Staff Phil-Carnival. The activities staff largely credited Nicholas “Nicky” Maestas as being the mastermind, to which he humbly responded, “I helped.”

Thomas “Tonnie” Dages “wowed” the afternoon carnival-goers by dropping Mark Anderson into the dunk tank on his first throw. Barbara Garcia, with her usual peppy attitude, faced a similar fate as she got dunked. Good attitude and smile still intact, she walked away from the carnival a little wet behind the ears!

Jason “J-Cat” Kirby was next to face the fastball’s wrath. After taking his turn at the tank, he showed his cat-like instincts- or tried to- as he dodged pies with extra cream on top. Walking away with more white in his hair than blond, the “J-Cat” brought fun to the less risky activities such as snow-cone making and face painting.

The event was one of the many put on throughout the summer by our Activities Staff, but this activity offered treats and games different than any of the others- and the season’s fun isn’t quite over!

Staff members have started to leave in recent days, but for those remaining we have the Closing Celebration at the S3AC—bring your dancing boots—and yoga, yet to come. That’s right yoga!

Julia McCulloch, who has instructed yoga every Wednesday night this summer at the Philmont Training Center, will continue offering it through the fall. If you are staying for the autumn season, there is an activity to keep in mind.

While many bid Philmont farewell for a season, some may also move on to a ‘real job’ or other opportunities that keep them from returning. In either case, from us all—Thank you Philmont, for the memories!
"Real philanthropy consists of helping others, outside our own family circle, from which no thanks is expected or required."
~Waite Phillips
A PHILMONT HOLIDAY SONG

Tune of “Far, Far Away on Judea’s Plains”

Far, far away on New Mexico plains,
Scouters young and old make for higher aims.
  Duty to God,
  Duty to God,
  Duty to God in His country!
Peace on earth, good turn daily.
Peace on earth, good turn daily.

Sweet are the rains which fall from above,
Upon us who seek safe keeping and love.
  Duty to God,
  Duty to God,
  Duty to God in His country!
Peace on earth, good turn daily.
Peace on earth, good turn daily.

Here among friends, whether girls or boys,
To come to Philmont has been our best choice.
  Duty to God,
  Duty to God,
  Duty to God in His country!
Peace on earth, good turn daily.
Peace on earth, good turn daily.

Start now to create Philmont lyrics to your favorite Holiday song for your chance to be published in the 2011 PhilNews.
It was around six in the evening when Unit 41, Gene Schnell, pulled up to the cabin at Clarks Fork. The engine of his Chevy Suburban cut through the ambient, and largely lethargic, noise of the camp as he tore up the eastern road coming to a halt just north of the camp’s structures. Though every staff member peering through the cabins windows knew why he was there none of them knew exactly what to expect. Unit 41 rushed towards the cabin, hands full of empty nalgenes, face full of concern and urgency.

A group of Clarks Fork staff had quickly been assembled to scour the backcountry of Philmont to find a lost Scout, to end the lengthy search which had been in progress for almost five hours at that point. After filling the dozens of nalgenes, the four staff members jumped into the vehicle and buckled in for the ride. The Violent Femmes rocked Unit 41’s Chevy Suburban as it bounded towards Ponderosa Park down a seldom used road. Upon arriving in the trail camp, the staffers immediately went to deliver the fresh water to the small cluster of bodies huddled around an empty campfire ring. It became obvious that the primary concern for the time being was to keep morale up for these wayward participants.

The next two hours were spent hosting an impromptu stomp (Clarks Fork style,) starting a small campfire, and conversing with the campers about everything from Iowa State football to the type of hat our missing Scout, Scott West, was wearing that day. Night fell and darkness crept past the grouped tents before the last of the scouts finally made their way into their sleeping bags for a long night of waiting. Before this slow procession could begin the group joined hands and implored God’s help in finding their fellow Scout and friend, Scott.

The group of four searchers hoisted their packs making their way up the slippery road to Schaffers Peak. Guided only by instincts and two headlamps the group trekked up the hill pausing only to stop and call out “SCOTT WEST…. BLOW YOUR WHISTLE!” in unison every two minutes. After nearly an hour the group was called to a halt by Basecamp. They stood there and waited. Waited for news of a found camper, waited in solitude with the campers they left behind just an hour ago.

It was Unit 41 who called in a few minutes later. The search finally came to an end. The other voice on the radio asked for instructions on what to tell the anxious campers who waited miles down the road. It was at this time that the group’s questions were all answered in just a single sentence. “Base to unit 41, tell the crew to hike to Clarks Fork, where they will be reunited with their Scout tomorrow.”

Cheering erupted from the mouths which had just desperately called in earnest for their friend minutes before. Their jubilant hike back to the camp was paused only when a staffer stopped to pull out a fresh piece of chocolate cake. It was quickly brought back to the groups attention that one of their own was currently celebrating his birthday as he trudged down the muddy road.

After a bumpy ride back to camp the staffer was greeted with a simple yet enthusiastic surprise birthday party consisting of balloons (latex gloves), popcorn, and fresh pie. At the end of the day they were just another small group in a staff that numbers over 1,000. Their story will not be the most remarkable event of the summer, nor the most memorable; however, through all this they proved that sometimes courage, valor, and dedication can turn the worst nightmare into a startling success.
Every year since the days of our Grandfathers and beyond, from a time many of the current staff can hardly imagine, Philmont has been here touching the lives of people and teaching each person a different lesson during the time they’ve spent here.

We all know the stories of how this land was at one time, owned by the Spanish, how this land became a trail and sign of hope for travelers and merchants westbound, and how it was gracefully donated to an organization in one of, if not the biggest act of charity towards a youth based organization in the history of the United States, if not, the world. I think what we forget, and maybe we don’t, we may merely realize it in small doses, is how Philmont works its magic and forms us as people.

Before I had come to Philmont, my life, and I’m sure many others’, had become stagnant. I was in a frantic search for work, I had run out of money for higher education which I was paying for out-of-pocket, and had no place to live.

Each day seemed to be the same process of dreary tasks that never seemed to get completed. I didn’t know how to go about certain tasks and yet trying to find help where none existed. I had no clue what was entailed in my future and the path in which I was heading was bleak at best.

Then, out of the blue, a former Scoutmaster who knew I needed work came to me and told me about how Philmont was hiring and how I should apply.

After months of growing disheartened from hearing nothing I began to lose faith thinking they had already filled all available positions until I got that letter from Barbara Garcia. When I first read it, I was so ecstatic I could hardly control myself. This was the first light I had seen in a long time at the end of a long dark tunnel. Little did I know, this was the beginning of a life-changing experience.

I came to Philmont happy I had found a job, I had a place to live for another couple of months, and I was simply looking for my next paycheck. It wasn’t very long, however, that things I hadn’t expected to happen were occurring all around me in ways I couldn’t control.

When I arrived at Philmont I was almost a completely different person, and unfortunately, not for the better. As I spent my time at Philmont working, like many of you, I started to make new lifelong friends, I grew an even greater appreciation for my surroundings, and most of all, I learned hard life lessons in an environment that was quite forgiving, at least more so than the majority of everything else in life; but through the various trials and tribulations, my personality as a whole began to undergo a metamorphosis.

Philmont gave me a gift that is worth more than anything in the world; it gave me clarity in a space that had become darkened and clouded, Philmont helped me in more ways than I could have ever hoped, as I am sure it has and continues to do year after year to participants and staff alike. To put it frankly, Philmont gave me not only the clarity to realize I could attain a life’s dream I had long thought lost or unattainable, it gave me my life back.

Through spending my time working here at Philmont, the various chips I had on my shoulders seemed
to disappear, my work ethic seemed to dramatically increase, and I became happier than I had ever been before. I believe this is the true “magic” of Philmont, and I believe this is Philmont’s oldest and most sacred tradition. In the last few weeks as I’ve contemplated these realizations about myself and the changes I’ve gone through while I’ve been here, it didn’t really occur to me that this was a Philmont tradition until one night at one of the most unlikely of circumstances, the participant’s closing campfire. As staff, if you haven’t seen one of these, I highly recommend you take a trip any night to enjoy not only the program the Activities staff work so hard to make successful every night, but also to experience what I am talking about.

Towards the end of the campfire you see a Scout in the traditional uniform writing home to his grandfather about his time at PhilTurn Rocky Mountain Scout Camp, after this they show you a montage of home movies detailing this Scout’s trip to Philmont, around the United States, and of course back home.

Next we see a Scout in the same place writing to his grandfather about his trip to Philmont Scout Ranch and how he is witnessing some of the same sites his grandfather did, with exception to places like Mount Rushmore; after this, we see another montage of scenes from around Philmont from nature scenes to participant programs.

This is when it really hit me, for all the time and revelations I thought I had here that were making me different, Philmont has been doing this to all of us who pass through these great lands for generations. This is a tradition that transcends time, like the grandfather and grandson, it touched them both in the same way though many years apart.

Realizing this has given me a sense of understanding and belonging more than I can even know because it is not a single person a year that goes through this, in their own way, every person, participant and staff alike, experience this to some varying degree.

It seems like now every time I think about it or even hear the music from the closing campfire it elicits the same emotions, strong emotions that help me remember all the good times and hardships I have gone through and shared this summer with each person that surrounds me, and that person and the people that surround them, and so on to each person in camp.

It is coming to be that time of year when we go home and back to the lives we had before we came, however, I know now that when I go home it will be different because of the time I spent here. That is the true tradition of Philmont, it changes people, helps them realign their hopes for life, and encourages them to reach for things they previously thought out of reach.

As I get ready to head home I keep thinking to myself, “I hate to go, but I love to leave.” This is because I know when I go home everything will be different, and life will get better. I know many others on staff are thinking the same thoughts as well, even if some do not realize it yet, we’ve all experienced the tradition of Philmont, a tradition that will be with us for the rest of our lives.
You are not the momentary whim of a careless creator experimenting in the laboratory of life. You were made with a purpose.
~Og Mandino

A warthog hits this lady and the husband calls 911. The operator asks, "Where are you at?" The husband replies, "I'm on Eucolipstic Road." The operator asks, "Can you spell that for me?" "Well... I'll just drag her over to Oak so you can pick her up there?"

We must laugh before we are happy, for fear we die before we laugh at all.
~Jean de La Fontaine

10 Signs You Have Eaten Too Much

10. Hundreds of volunteers have started to stack sandbags around you. 9. Doctor tells you your weight would be perfect for a man 17 feet tall. 8. You are responsible for a slight but measurable shift in the earth's axis. 7. Right this minute you're laughing up pie on the carpet. 6. You decide to take a little nap and wake up in mid-July. 5. World's fattest man sends you a telegram, warning you to "back off!" 4. CBS tells you to lose weight or else. 3. Getting off your couch requires help from the fire department. 2. Every escalator you step on immediately grinds to a halt. 1. You're sweatin' gravy.

If you aren't good at loving yourself, you will have a difficult time loving anyone, since you'll resent the time and energy you give another person that you aren't even giving to yourself.
~Barbara De Angelis

At his 100th birthday a man was asked how he stayed so fit. He responded that 75 years ago he married his sweetheart whom he agreed with at marriage that whoever was wrong in an argument would go for a walk.
You may have seen them in the Tooth of Time Traders Snack Bar. It’s a cup that costs only $3 and 50 cents to refill. They practically sell themselves.

In the summer of 2007, three rangers (Owen Rust, Brett Wolf, and Jeff Corbin) unknowingly started a tradition that would continue for years among staff members. This tradition is called “gulping.” The ritual began with a small following, but in 2008, the group began to expand to the entire U-row and some surrounding tents. Nowadays, you can spot nearly all staff carrying around these infamous cups. It’s pretty typical to see staffers gather around the snack bar in the evening enjoying a refreshing glass of cola.

The gulping founders have diverted from their original drink of choice during these gatherings. No longer do they drink the high fructose corn syrup beverage, but they still honor the tradition of meeting at the snack bar and enjoying a can of Peace Tea.
PhilNews thanks you for being part of our readership and especially for being part of the Philmont experience.