Welcome to God’s Country

By John Clark, General Manager/ Director of High Adventure

Welcome to God’s Country, better known as Philmont! For many of you, this is your first time to be in the Land of Enchantment. For others, coming to Philmont is a return to Scouting’s paradise. For those returning, you have probably quickly learned there have been some changes. Some you can see and some you can’t. With Doug Palmer’s retirement and Dave Kopsa’s promotion to the Summit operation in West Virginia, you will have an opportunity to work with David O’Neill and Chris Sawyer, two great professional Scouters, both with a Philmont connection. Regardless of your job or title the goal is the same: to consistently 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.

This summer you will be challenged and tested. You may 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. My guess is within a few months of returning back to college or the real world you will forget all of that. Philmont has a way of making these thoughts go away. It’s the magic!

The lifelong friends you will meet and memories you will make, the sunsets and sunrises you will experience, the mountains you will climb, the storms you will see pass, and the spirit of our participants that you will encounter is all that you will remember. Again that’s part of the magic!

This year appears to be a record setting year in our attendance. Congratulations in helping us write a new chapter in the history of Philmont Scout Ranch!

“\textbf{The goal is...to deliver the safest and best outdoor program for... Scouting families.}”
May 29–June 11

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday 29</th>
<th>Monday 30</th>
<th>Tuesday 31</th>
<th>Wednesday 1</th>
<th>Thursday 2</th>
<th>Friday 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>8:15 p.m. Table Games Triathlon in the S’AC</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Western Night Practice Games, Branding, Buffalo BBQ, &amp; Dance @ PTC</td>
<td>7 p.m. Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC</td>
<td>9 a.m.-2 p.m. Blood Drive in the S’AC</td>
<td>9 a.m.-4 p.m. Blood Drive in the S’AC</td>
<td>6-7 p.m. Volleyball @ the Volleyball Nets</td>
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<td>Gather on the Villa lawn and do training</td>
<td>8:15 p.m. Yoga w/ Jason @ the Fitness Center</td>
<td>8:15 p.m. Ice Cream Social in the S’AC</td>
<td>8:15 p.m. How to Train Your Dragon in the S’AC</td>
<td>8:15 p.m. Coffee House in the S’AC</td>
<td>8:15 p.m. Jam Night in the S’AC</td>
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<td>5:45 p.m. Ringing of the Bell CHQ Dining Hall</td>
<td>6 p.m. Opening Staff Dinner</td>
<td>7 p.m. Chapel Service</td>
<td>9 a.m.-4 p.m. Blood Drive in the S’AC</td>
<td>8:30 - 9:30 p.m. Yoga w/ Jason @ the Fitness Center</td>
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<td>*First Opening Program @ PTC</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. *Buffalo BBQ @ PTC</td>
<td>7 p.m. *Follow Me Boys @ PTC</td>
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<td>4:30 p.m. Gathering in the S’AC &amp; PTC</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. *Western Dance @ ATV Club</td>
<td>8:30 p.m. *Humans Versus Zombies (HVZ) @ Baldy Pavilion &amp; The Illusionist in the S’AC</td>
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<td>*First Opening Program @ PTC</td>
<td>8:15 p.m. Duct Tape Craft Night in the S’AC</td>
<td>11 a.m.-1 p.m. Brat Day!!! @ Baldy Pavilion</td>
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<td>6-7 p.m. Frisbee @ the Basketball Court</td>
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*We ask that staff members wear their full uniform at PTC events and also that they be considerate of our participants during the programs (ex: to wait for participants and family members to be served cobbler first).

Submit Work to PhilNews

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 thePhilNews, email it to philmontnps@netbsa.org, or drop it by the NPS office. Please remember that all submissions must include your name, contact number, and location! For a submission to be considered for the next issue, please have it to us by Wednesday at 5:00 PM. All submissions become property of Philmont Scout Ranch.

We at PhilNews are continuously striving to better meet your needs as staff. If you have suggestions for future articles or ways that we might better serve you please contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.
Be Prepared for Your Chance

By Mark Anderson, Director of Program

Welcome to the 2011 Philmont Staff.

An exciting summer is beginning to unfold for each of us! By the end of our journey in August, we will have had the opportunity to influence the Philmont experience that will last a lifetime for each of the 22,733 backcountry and 4,000 Philmont Training Center participants.

In order to achieve our desired results for the summer, I would ask you to reflect on the words of E.L. Matthews, “Unless a person has prepared themselves for their chance, the chance will only make a person look ridiculous. A great occasion is worth to a person exactly what their preparation enables them to make of it.”

The next few weeks of training, collectively as the Philmont Staff, as a department or team, and individually, we are preparing ourselves for our chance! Make every moment count. Learn, study, practice, and review. These are habits that should continue through the summer.

The 2011 summer is our great occasion. If we are truly prepared then we will be able to meet the expectations of each participant.

We are members of the unique Philmont Staff Team. I know that teamwork is extremely important for it “is the fuel that allows common people to obtain uncommon results.” These uncommon results are this great occasion, the 2011 summer.

“A great occasion is worth to a person exactly what their preparation enables them to make of it.”

Make the most of every moment. Enjoy your summer. We are glad you are a member of the 2011 Philmont Staff Team.

Go the Extra Mile Together

By Steve Nelson, Comptroller

Welcome HOmE. I love this time of the year here at Philmont Scout Ranch as we hear that phrase over and over again as you the staff of Philmont begin to arrive. For some who are returning for their second or perhaps fifteenth year, the phrase “Welcome HOmE” has special meaning and you understand the meaning that you truly are HOmE again. If you are a first year staffer, it may seem strange to hear that phrase, for you have just left your home to come to the mountains of New Mexico. However, at the end of the summer you will most likely look at this place as your HOmE. So to all “Welcome HOmE”.

One of the things that I have come to love about working here at Philmont is the great concern that the staff exhibit in taking care of all who come to have their Philmont experience. I see it all the time where someone goes out of their way to give directions to a person, or the smiles on the faces of those working in the dining hall as they serve hundreds of meals, or an overly enthusiastic backcountry campfire program. I see all of these and so many others that demonstrate your willingness to go out of the way to serve our customers. I came across this thought by Charles Francis Adams, “No one ever attains very eminent success by simply doing what is required; it is the amount and excellence of what is over and above the required that determines the greatness of ultimate distinction.” It could be simply stated, go the extra mile. That is what the Philmont staff does each and every day, and that is how we make this experience so exceptional for so many each and every year.

Some of you may have heard of Tenzing Norgay. He was a Sherpa born in the high altitudes of Nepal. He had been drawn to Mount Everest from the time that Westerners began visiting the area and planning expeditions to summit the great mountain. His first experience up the mountain was in 1920 when he worked as a porter for a British expedition. For 32 years, between 1920 and 1952, seven major expeditions tried and failed to make it to the top of Everest. Tenzing Norgay was on six of those expeditions. In 1953, Tenzing embarked on his seventh expedition to Everest. He was not only a member of the expedition team, he was also responsible to hire and lead all of the Sherpas in hauling the supplies up the mountain. This was truly a team expedition. One part of the team would exhaust themselves just to get equipment up the mountain for the next group. Two man teams would work their way up the mountain, finding a path, cutting steps, securing ropes. And then they would be finished, having spent themselves so that the next team could go farther up the mountain. Finally they were in the position to push for the summit. Two teams would try; if one team failed then the other team would try. The first team failed but came back and gave all the information they could to the last team. That last team was made up of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay. Because of all of the preparation that they had made and all of the work of the hundreds of others on the team, on May 29, 1953, Hillary and Norgay stood on top of the world.

The question then is could Hillary and Norgay have made it alone? Of course not, it took the entire team. As here at Philmont it takes the entire team. No one person or one department can make this experience happen alone. It will take all of us working together, each one doing their part to make others successful in order for the Philmont experience happen for all who come to these mountains of New Mexico this summer. So go the extra mile, and give a helping hand to the other members of this great team of Philmont staffers.

Blood Drive at Philmont Scout Ranch!

United Blood Services will be at Philmont Scout Ranch twice this season! Please sign up in Activities to donate blood! We really need you!

• Day 1 – Thursday, June 2
  9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
  We need 45 people to signup and donate blood.

• Day 2 – Friday, June 3
  9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
  We need 55 people to signup and donate blood.

Please bring photo ID on the day you donate.

Walk-ins are welcome, however, we highly encourage you to sign up in advance in the Activities Office ext. 1244. We need you to be a hero! Please sign up to donate blood and save lives!

ALL DONORS WILL GET AN ACTUAL PINT OF ICE CREAM THE DAY OF DONATION!!
The Best of the Best
By Owen McCulloch, Associate Director of Program

We are already setting records. This summer, Philmont will serve a record number of participants with over 22,700 Scouts and Scouters in our backcountry programs and over 4,000 through the Philmont Training Center. Each one of these 26,700 participants will have their lives impacted by not only this place we call home, but by the job each one of us will do this summer.

We’re also setting records for our staff. This year we received well over 2,100 applications, and we have picked from among the very best to be our 2011 staff. Congratulations on having a job that will make a difference.

I am a professional Scouter because I believe in the value of the programs and the positive impact we have on families. My Scouting career has taken me to many wonderful places: Portland, Oregon for 6 years; Boulder, Colorado for 4 years; the Florida National High Adventure Sea Base in the Florida Keys and Bahamas for 4 years, and Jacksonville, Florida for 2 years. Now in my third year at Philmont, I’m more excited than ever for our season to start.

I want all of us to do the very best in all our jobs this summer, wherever you are working. Each of us counts on every other person here at the Ranch to make sure we deliver the promise of an adventure made to our 26,700 guests and over 1,070 staff this summer. Remember: attitude, efforts and results: these are the three things people will pay you for.

Love of the Land
By Bob Ricklefs, Ranch Superintendent

Welcome back or welcome for the first time to this amazing place called Philmont. While you are here, take advantage of the beauties of Philmont and of the wonders of this great state of New Mexico. I meet agricultural producers all across this state, and invariably they have great respect for this place and the impact we have in the lives of the thousands of youth who come here. And make no mistake, Philmont is part of the reason that New Mexico is such a unique and wondrous state.

As part of Colfax County and New Mexico, we cannot forget that we are part of the great desert southwest of the United States. And yes it has been dry. But it has been dry before, and I’m sure it will be dry again. The weather station maintained by Philmont has been in existence since 1931 when it was started by Waite Phillips. With 80 years of data, the first four months of 2011 had only 66% of the long term average precipitation. And May, as of this writing is 1.5" below average. Clearly, concern for fire danger is warranted.

As a team, the Philmont staff has always been able to overcome any adversities presented by Mother Nature or by any others. This great staff, all of us, through dedication, hard work, and deep seated love and caring for this land will maintain and improve this awesome resource called Philmont now and for the future. But beyond that, of course, is the care and attention given to the thousands who come here expecting and receiving the Adventure of a Lifetime.

Time to Meet Others
By Greg Gamewell, PTC Associate Director of Program

The beginning of the Philmont summer season is without a doubt the most exciting time of the year. Returning staffers catch up with old friends. New staffers bring a fresh perspective and energy. The mountains return to a (somewhat) lush green. And the Philmont family grows even larger.

Philmont is arguably one of the largest and most unique hubs of personal change and growth. At the Philmont Training Center (PTC), the summer conferences are centered on providing the best educational experiences for adult Scouting volunteers and professionals. Each week, the faculty and teachers (comprised of the top experts in the field) expand the knowledge of conference participants and provide pivotal insight into making Boy Scout programs successful and relevant to youth.

An integral component to PTC is the family program, which provides age appropriate activities to all family members of the conference participants. The kids and spouses go on hikes, learn about the local wildlife and ecosystem, take tours of nearby and neighboring cities, visit the ranch museums, work on colorful craft projects, and go on overnights in the backcountry. By Friday, all of the kids are reluctant to leave, especially those who were unsure of breaking away from their parents at the beginning of the week. Some of them return to Philmont years down the road and work as seasonal staff to continue the tradition of giving others the same Philmont experiences that enriched their own lives.

During these first few weeks, as well as the rest of the year, I encourage you to meet others from all the departments across the ranch. 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, with music from the one and only Wannabe Band. On Tuesdays, our buffalo barbecue takes place at 5:30 PM on the Greensward, followed by a Western Night dance at 7:00 PM in the Assembly Hall. Wednesday evenings, we feature the classic Boy Scout movie ‘Follow Me, Boys’ at 7:00 PM in the Assembly Hall. Thursdays, we host Philmont Jeopardy for the conference participants and a star study at the Program Bowl at dusk. Our Opening Program is on Sundays and Closing Program is on Fridays. The Handcraft Lodge is open and available for staff as well. It’s the perfect place to work on craft projects or make gifts for your friends and family back home.

There will be a couple of weeks when these evening programs will be different, so make sure to read each issue of the PhilNews for updated times and locations.

“Philmont is arguably one of the largest and most unique hubs of personal change and growth.”

Welcome home.
Welcome to Philmont! Working out here has taught me a great deal, but the most important learning experience was with my 1st crew as a Ranger. We had just hiked up Bonita Canyon from Old Abreu and were approaching our destination for the night, Lookout Meadow. Before reaching camp, a violent hail storm came over the ridge. We scurried to the outskirts of the meadow to take cover in the trees. I remember not knowing exactly what to do, but took out the dining fly and set up a makeshift shelter. When the rain finally slowed, we hiked the rest of the way to camp, set up our tents, and prepared dinner.

To my disappointment, the rain started again as we finished washing our dishes. I had wanted to take them to the watch the sunset from Crater Peak, but we retreated to our tents to keep dry. While I was writing about our day in my journal, the weather finally started to clear. I dropped the pen, checked the clouds, and gathered everyone as quickly as possible. It's not a far hike, but we moved very slowly. As we neared the top, the sun was slowly sinking to the mountain filled horizon. It was gorgeous. There was a sense of calm and renewal that left us silent. Even though we were strangers, we had a common trust and connection that night that I will never forget. I had been able to share one of my favorite places with them... just as it had been shared with me so many years before. On the way back down to the meadow, everyone spoke of the amazing night. Despite being worn out, we sat and talked in the meadow while watching the stars.

Before going to bed that night, I went back to finish the journal passage that had been left several hours earlier. I wrote about how fulfilling it was to share that moment with my first crew. I wrote about the look on their faces. I wrote about the multicolored sunset. I wrote about how sitting in the meadow with those eight Scouts and two advisors made me feel completely at home. The closing line of the entry read, “I've got the best job in the world.”

This is something that I hope all of you have the opportunity to learn and feel this summer. Enjoy your time here, but remember that we are all here for the same reason. Do whatever it takes to share your love and enthusiasm for Philmont with everyone you come into contact with... participants, fellow staff members, etc. No matter what department you work in, we all have a responsibility to provide an unparalleled outdoor experience for all of our customers this summer. So work hard, kick back, hike on, and enjoy the ride!

Greetings staff and welcome back to Philmont! It is very exciting to see the continuous flow of staff members arrive for duty for the summer of 2011. Whether you are a veteran staff member arriving back to the ranch for another season, or you are that brand new first year staff member, I hope that you are both prepared for and excited about the possibilities this summer holds for you. I know I am!

As a veteran Philmont staff member, and now as one of the new Associate Directors of Program for the Backcountry, it is great to be back HOME myself! My wife Dollie and our two daughters Lillie and Kelsie arrived to the ranch on April 24th so I could begin my duties on April 25th. It has been a whirlwind of activity since then, but we couldn't be happier to be here at Philmont. It has been a pleasure to meet so many new people and to have the opportunity to work with such a quality team. It is going to be a great year!

My first treks at Philmont were in 1992, and ever since then it was a goal of mine to come back. (Like everyone else that comes here!) So, in 1995 I came back and served as a PC at Apache Springs, and in 1996 I was a PC at Iris Park, back when the Mountain Biking program was still hosted there. I then completed my studies at Texas Tech University, and after a stint in the banking world I decided to change careers and became a Scouting professional.

I joined the staff of the Buffalo Trail Council in Midland, TX in 2001 as a District Executive, and was fortunate enough to spend the first 10 years of my professional career in the same council. My duties later changed to those of a Senior District Executive, District Director, and most recently as Field Director. All the while, I was also the Camping Director and had the distinct pleasure of serving as director for the beautiful Buffalo Trail Scout Ranch in the Davis Mountains of Texas. It was a great 10 years in the Buffalo Trail Council!

And now, as I make my return home to Philmont Scout Ranch, I could not be more excited and humbled about the opportunity to continue my Scouting career at such a magical place. I have always believed very strongly in the outdoor programs of Scouting, and what they can do for the youth that participate. I have seen first-hand what a single week of summer camp can do for a Scout. I remember that magical experience I had back in 1992 at Philmont. I remember that magical experience I had in 1995 at Apache Springs, and in 1996 I was a PC at Iris Park, back when the Mountain Biking program was still hosted there. I then completed my studies at Texas Tech University, and after a stint in the banking world I decided to change careers and became a Scouting professional.

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Stay involved throughout the year!

Keep up-to-date with the latest High Country, regional reunions, access to the member’s directory, cool stuff, and much more...

A fellowship of current and former Philmont staff

SIGN UP NOW!!!
It’s just $15.00 for a year’s membership!

I-Camp Randy Saunders with the form below or stop by our office (next to the Beaubien Room) at PTC.

www.philstaff.com

Name: ______________________________________________
Position/Department: ______________________________________
Permanent Address: ______________________________________
City, State, ZIP: ______________________________________
Birthday: __________________________________________
Email: ______________________________________________
Signature: ____________________________________________

Payment method (Check appropriate box):
CASH _______ CHECK _______

CREDIT CARD: #_______________________ EXP. DATE: ______
PAYROLL DEDUCTION (through July 31) ______

Chaplain’s Corner

Welcome to Philmont!!

On behalf of the Chaplaincy at Philmont this summer I would like to congratulate you on being part of this esteemed group of individuals called “STAFF.” This is a great time to be involved in the BSA. For all of us the upcoming days at the Ranch will be ones of happiness, challenge, stress, and excitement. As Chaplains we want to let you know that we are here to strengthen, support, and serve you, as you serve others around the Ranch.

In 1920, Lord Baden-Powell stated, “There is no religious side to the movement, the whole of it is based on religion, that is, on the realization and service of God.” Later in 1926, he added this comment related to religion and Scouting: “I have been asked to describe more fully what was in my mind as regards religion when I instituted Scouting and Guiding. I asked, ‘Where does religion come in?’ Well my reply is: ‘It does not come in at all. It is already there. It is the fundamental factor underlying Scouting and Guiding.’” Today, the Boy Scouts of America has stated that, “… no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God …” (BSA Adult Registration Application).

Here at Philmont, we each have the unique opportunity to participate in numerous activities and events. As a Chaplaincy it is our hope that you will take some time to visit and enjoy one (or all) of the various worship services that we offer at the Ranch. Whether you are Catholic, LDS (Mormon), Jewish, or Protestant you are always welcome to attend any of the religious services of these faith beliefs.

I would like to also encourage you to take some time and work on the Philmont Scout Ranch Duty to God Program for Staff. As you know the mission of the BSA is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices with integrity over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. In a small way, our Duty to God program here at Philmont has been designed to enhance your own personal value system, by reflecting on God’s handiwork around us, and to earn some recognition at the same time. Even Chaplains realize that Scouts enjoy earning a patch or two at times!

As a Chaplaincy, you will find out quickly that we are all individuals and unique. We have a strong willingness to work together even as we continue to represent our individual faith beliefs. Regarding the interaction between different faiths, Alwi Shihab, a past presidential advisor to President Obama of Indonesia once stated, “We must strive for acceptance of the other based on understanding and respect. Nor should we stop even at mere acceptance of the other; rather, we must accept the other as one of us in humanity and, above all, in dignity.” Also, one of the basic tenets of the LDS faith states: “We claim the privilege of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.” The key for all of us is to work with each other and savor our differences.

It is exciting to know that at Philmont each of the Chaplains is here to represent their own specific faith belief. But even in this diversity of faith, we want to assure each of you that we are all united in service to you and our guests. Without surrendering any element of our doctrines and beliefs, we are Philmont Chaplains; striving to be neighborly, helpful, kind, and generous to everyone no matter what their own belief may be. So, please feel free to talk to any and all of us during the summer. We are here to serve you and make your life more enjoyable while you experience God’s Country here at Philmont.

May peace be with you, this day and always.

2011 Philmont Chaplains
Pax tecum. Shalom.
As-salaamu alaykum. Peace.

Q & A with Barbara Garcia

Q: Can I get a direct deposit?
A: No. We are not able to offer direct deposit at this time. The National office sends the checks to Philmont, who only distributes them.

Q: May my friends and family visit me at Philmont?
A: Yes! Friends and family are welcome to visit at Base Camp, however, Philmont cannot offer any accommodations. Friends can purchase a meal ticket: $5 per person per meal - to eat with you in the dining hall. Family should sign-in and get a Visitor’s badge, which will allow them to eat three consecutive meals in the dining hall. Philmont will also try to make sure that your family is able to see you in your program area, but will not allow family members to spend the night.

Q: Is there anything else that you would like to add?
A: Yes. If you are doing Philmont driver’s training on the 31st, go to the website of your local DMV and request your driving record. There are lots of people being trained, and the lines to sign an affidavit have been very long. Getting your paperwork completed in advance will help you get in and out of driver’s training efficiently. There are computers located in the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center that you can use to access your DMV website.
Meet the Philmont Chaplains

Sometimes referred to as the “God Squad,” Philmont’s Chaplains are always willing to lend a hand.

Elder David A. Wilson, LDS Chaplain

For 2011, I have been given another opportunity to serve as the LDS (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) Chaplain. 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 PADI certified Scuba Instructor, and I enjoy re-landscaping my yard on a regular basis. When not at Philmont I call Orem, Utah my home. At Philmont this year, I have the blessing to have with me my very patient wife Charlene and my youngest daughter Amber who will be a 1st year Ranger.

As a last point -- Never Fear True Believers -- as in years past, I shall strive to continue to assist the CHQ Dining Hall staff with the creation of creative eggs’ on Friday mornings (Flat Egg Fridays!) as well as distributing ‘Tootsie Pops’ to all who ask throughout the summer.

Chaplain Adam Carrico, Catholic Chaplain

I’m happy to be here as one of the Chaplains for the entire summer! I’m a Catholic seminarian, and I am halfway, three years out of six, to ordination to the priesthood. This is actually my very first visit out to Philmont, and I am very excited about what the summer has in store for me. I have also had limited experience with the Boy Scouts; I believe that I made it through the Cub Scouts and into the early levels of Boy Scouts before our elementary school troop temporarily disbanded. There are very few things that I would have done differently in life. One thing that I would have done differently is to have been more active with the Scouts, but I’m hoping to make up for lost time while here. I am sure there are many things that all of you can teach me along the way.

I received a degree in history from the University of Louisville before entering seminary, and I have earned a Master’s Degree in Philosophy from Saint Meinrad Seminary in southern Indiana. I am currently working on a Master’s in Divinity. I grew up outside of Louisville, Kentucky, and I began thinking about the priesthood when I was in third grade. While at that time this was by no means a final decision, it certainly planted the seeds that God would later bring to fruition. I enjoy talking with people about their faith, and I look forward to meeting you all as the summer gets underway.

“I have been asked to describe more fully what was in my mind as regards religion when I instituted Scouting and Guiding. I was asked, ‘Where does religion come in?’ Well my reply is: ‘It does not come in at all. It is already there. It is the fundamental factor underlying Scouting and Guiding.’”

Lord Baden-Powell

Chaplain Norm Williams, Protestant Chaplain

It has taken a long time to get to be a part of the Scouting experience at Philmont. As a boy from Troop 45 in Seaman, Ohio the thought of getting to go to Philmont was only a wish. While in Troop 45, I earned the Eagle Award in 1952 and the Bronze Palm in 1953.

My wife Sue and I have been married 51 years and have three children all over the age of 40. We have one grandchild.

We served United Methodist Churches in Ohio for 14 years before entering the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps in 1974. The old saying “Join the Navy and see the world” is true! I retired as a Captain in 1999.

We now live in Aguanga, California enjoying hobbies and watching weeds grow.

Chaplain Charles Jones, Protestant Chaplain

Charles (Danny) Jones has been married for 40 years, with two children and four grandchildren. He is a U.S. Navy veteran, and has been a Church of Christ minister for 37 years. This is his third year as a Philmont Chaplain. For 2011, I have been given an Eagle Scout before our elementary school troop temporarily disbanded. There are very few things that I would have done differently in life. One thing that I would have done differently is to have been more active with the Scouts, but I’m hoping to make up for lost time while here. I am sure there are many things that all of you can teach me along the way.

I received a degree in history from the University of Louisville before entering seminary, and I have earned a Master’s Degree in Philosophy from Saint Meinrad Seminary in southern Indiana. I am currently working on a Master’s in Divinity. I grew up outside of Louisville, Kentucky, and I began thinking about the priesthood when I was in third grade. While at that time this was by no means a final decision, it certainly planted the seeds that God would later bring to fruition. I enjoy talking with people about their faith, and I look forward to meeting you all as the summer gets underway.

Chaplain Charles Jones has served United Methodist Churches in Ohio for 14 years before entering the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps in 1974. The old saying “Join the Navy and see the world” is true! I retired as a Captain in 1999.

We now live in Aguanga, California enjoying hobbies and watching weeds grow.

Fr. Mike Wheelahan, Catholic Chaplain

From Guymon in the panhandle of Oklahoma, I am Pastor of the entire panhandle of Oklahoma—all 5,707 square miles (bigger than the state of Connecticut). I am closer to Philmont than the offices of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. I was a Wrangler at Ponil during the summers of 1972 and 1973. I came back last year as a Catholic Chaplain for the year end and gather. I am here for my second go-round.

They call me the cowboy Priest. I have two horses (they wanted me to leave them at home) (sniff). I do chuck wagon cooking and cattle drives. I also went across the state of Oklahoma on our centennial cattle drive. It was a month on the Chisolom Trail with 400 longhorns and 40 very tired cowboys. I had a blast.

I am looking forward to a great start here this summer. See y’all on the trail.
Acronyms for Navigating Basecamp and PTC

You've probably noticed by now that Philmont is a large and complex camp with a unique vocabulary. For example, Phil- can be attached to virtually anything as a prefix. Because of this unique vocabulary, we have compiled a list of frequently used acronyms and abbreviations to help you in your first few days on the ranch.

ACD: Assistant Camp Director
ACR: Associate Chief Ranger
AMR: Advisor's Meeting Room
Baldy: Baldy Pavilion (when referring to events), also used for Mt. Baldy and 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
HOnE: 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
S'AC: Silver Sage Staff Activities Center
Swapbox: A place to trade your unwanted food
TC: Training Crew
TOTT: Tooth of Time Traders
TP: Trading Post
The Val: the Valle Vidal
Valle: the Valle Vidal

Andrew Ivey, a clerk at the Tooth of Time Trading Post poses with gear on May 23, 2011.