Here’s to Thee, Scouting Paradise

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 in the land of enchantment. For others, it is a return to Scouting paradise.
Regardless of your job or title, the goal is 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.
People come to Philmont for various reasons. As I watch our participants come and go, I often wonder if we met their expectations. Did we meet the staff’s expectations? The goal of our management staff is to say “yes” to both questions. Please let us know!
This summer you will be challenged and tested. You may get wet, cold, lose some sleep, be sore from activities you have never done before, and have more blisters than you have had in your life. However, my guess is within a few months of returning to college and the real world you will forget all that unpleasantness. Philmont has a way of making negative thoughts go away. It’s the magic!
The lifelong friends 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 you encounter is what you will remember.
This year will be another record setting year in our attendance. Congratulations in helping us write a new chapter in the history of Philmont Scout Ranch!

ATTENTION

All staff are advised to bring rain gear, sunscreen, and water bottles to the

All Staff Opening Program

Tuesday, May 29th

1:45 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

KATY MOONEY/PHILNEWS Horses graze on the north pasture Fri., May 25. The horses were shod this week in preparation for incoming Cavalcade crews.
Ranch Events and Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday 27</th>
<th>Monday 28</th>
<th>Tuesday 29</th>
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<td>Staff Opening Program on Villa Philmonte lawn</td>
<td>Blood Drive in the SSSAC</td>
<td>Blood drive in the SSSAC</td>
<td>Leave No Trace at Tooth of Time Traders lawn</td>
<td>FISH at Baldy Pavilion</td>
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<td>Speaker Wally Berg at Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>Yoga at PTC Small Fry</td>
<td>Duct tape craft night at Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>Mulan movie night at SSSAC</td>
<td>Ultimate frisbee at the Health Lodge field</td>
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<td>Music and fellowship at Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>Capture the Flag meeting at Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>Game System Night in the SSSAC</td>
<td>Disc Golf meeting at Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>Day trip to Raton Pool meeting at staff parking lot</td>
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Sunday 3 | Monday 4 | Tuesday 5 | Wednesday 6 | Thursday 7 | Friday 8 | Saturday 9 |
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<td>Coffee House at Baldy Pavilion</td>
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<td>Magic the Gathering tourney in the Walcutt Room</td>
<td>Yoga at PTC Small Fry</td>
<td>Game System Night in the SSSAC</td>
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**Philmont Scout Ranch Blood Drive**

Taking Place in the Activities Center

Wednesday, May 30th
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 31st
8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Call Tim Collver in the Activities Office at (575) 376-2281 Ext. 1244
OR
log onto www.unitedbloodservices.org
Sponsor Code: PhilmontScoutRanch

Please bring your photo ID to donate

Free cholesterol testing with every donation!

KATY MOONEY/PHILNEWS Katie Panek climbs the rock wall behind the SSSAC on Wednesday, May 23. “Climbing is like meditation, but while you’re moving,” she said.
Adventure Steps

By Mark Anderson, Director of Program

Though many of you are returning, some of you are calling Philmont home for the first time. Regardless, we are all in for an adventure. There are five equal parts to any adventure. The first is anticipation. This begins when you submit an application and heightens when you receive your letter of employment. You begin to visit with others through Facebook and share ideas about the summer. Second is the trip. The journey seems far away, but as time draws near, there is much mental preparation to be done. All along the way many emotions wash over you but when the mountains of Philmont come into focus the long wait is over. Events are third. Training is our initial focus. Each of us will learn, study, practice and review to prepare ourselves for the arrival of participants. Will Hays said, “Things do not happen in this world – they are the result of thought and action.”

It should be said: this summer you have the chance to facilitate a world class experience for nearly 23,000 campers and over 4,000 Philmont Training Center conference and family participants. They will come from all 50 states for this transformative experience. One crew describes their first day on the trail as follows: “Our Ranger woke us up before dawn, and in the dark, we scrambled to the top of a mountain to experience the sunrise. Sitting together in the gathering light, we watched the valley come into focus under an azure sky. When he had our attention, the Ranger said, “Before you is a unique opportunity to have an incredible experience at Philmont. Push yourself out of your comfort zone. Do things you don’t think are possible. Create memories for your lifetime. No one can do it but you.” These are good words for each of us as we think about events. I hope you will create memories for your lifetime.

The fourth part is the journey home. The journey home will come all too soon. It will be a sad but satisfying road. Your mind will be filled with countless memories. You will continue to communicate with friends as you transition back to school or work. You will anticipate your return.

The fifth is recall. You will be changed by the time you spent here. You will share memories with lifelong friends. You will make instant friends when you discover individuals who have also experienced Philmont Scout Ranch.

E.G. Letterman said, “Good luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.” I know you will enjoy your summer. We are glad that you are a member of the 2012 Philmont team!

Welcome all who have joined the 2012 Philmont staff. It is exciting to have you here in the incredible mountains of New Mexico.

The other night I watched part of the Giro d’Italia, a three-week bike race in Italy. This stage took place at the end of the second week. It was over 100 miles long with a total elevation gain of more than 12,000 feet.

Matteo Rabottini, a second-season professional cyclist, took an early break after only a few miles. Therefore other riders took the lead for the early part of the race. Later five of the riders dropped behind, so Rabottini and another racer continued together. With about 50 miles to go, Rabottini decided to go on alone. In most bike races it is rare for a break from the pack to successfully reach the finish.

The peloton (main pack of riders) worked hard to bring Rabottini back, but he continued to lead with a gutsy performance. Eventually one of the other riders, Joaquin Rodriguez, caught up with him. Rodriguez passed Rabottini with only a quarter mile to go.

Hearing worked by himself so long, Rabottini was spent. He could have settled for second place. But he didn’t. He decided, though he had given everything, he had more.

He rode behind Rodriguez, waited until the last few yards and sprinted past him for the win. He later said it was the best day of his life.

There will be days this summer when you feel you have been working alone and given all you can. Then, someone will ask for a little extra. You will have a choice. You can give up, or you can muster the courage and give more.

We can choose to be positive or unhelpful and resentful. I know we will make the right choice.

I am excited you are all here. You were chosen because of the special skills and talents you bring to our group. Enjoy every moment you have here. Make new friends and savor your time in the mountains of New Mexico.
Quality Equals Quantity
By Owen McCulloch, Associate Director of Program, Camping Operations and Seasonal Personnel Director

This summer will be our largest year yet. With over 1,070 staff, 4,000 Philmont Training Center (PTC) participants, and almost 23,000 backcountry camping participants we will have over 28,000 people here this summer.

I am excited for this summer not only for the participants, but also for the quality of our staff. We look for the best applicants for all positions because that is what it takes to “deliver wilderness and learning adventures that will last a lifetime.”

Our customers have high expectations, and they should. Our PTC participants have spent significant time and money for top level of training on one another at the Ranch to deliver the promise of adventure. Remember that attitude, efforts and results are the three things for which people pay.

Expectations Elevate Your Expectations
By Beverly Ponterio, Staff Writer

Some of you may have stood on top of The Tooth of Time (9,003 feet). Whether as a challenge to yourself or from your sheer love of hiking and exploring, you pushed yourself and your crew and made it to the top.

Wally Berg has climbed Everest (29,035 feet) four times in his life. He has also climbed Mount McKinley in Alaska (20,320 feet) four times, Mount Vinson in Antarctica (16,067 feet) twice, and Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa (19,339 feet) 25 times, to name a few of the peaks Berg has conquered.

In the 1990’s Berg climbed the Seven Summits, the highest peaks of the seven continents.

He has since led many expeditions. In fact, he has been on 10 Everest climbs, five he led, and on the 1998 GPS Expedition he installed a global positioning system near the summit.

So what does Berg have to do with Philmont staff? First, he is speaking at Staff Opening Program on May 29.

Second, before Berg became one of the most respected mountaineering guides he sat where you are now. Berg spent eight summers working in various backcountry positions here at Philmont Scout Ranch. According to an article by the Philmont Staff Association (PSA), Berg began climbing while attending college in Durango, CO between his years, he worked for the ski patrol at Copper Mountain and honed his skills in the Colorado peaks. Then he began to go higher and farther.

Berg and his wife now own and operate Berg Adventures. He continues to lead expeditions to peaks around the world. Philmont Scout Ranch provided Berg an opportunity to explore his passion, which has led to his exploration of the world.

Likewise, the staff of Philmont has been given their own opportunity “to go higher and farther.”

Take the Right Steps
By Chris Sawyer, Associate Director of Program

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 Bonita 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 what to do except to set up a makeshift shelter.

After the rain slowed, we hiked the rest of the way to camp, set up our tents, and prepared dinner, after which the rain started again. I wanted to take my crew to watch the sunset from Crater Peak. Instead we retreated to our tents.

While I was writing in my journal, the weather started to clear.

I dropped my pen, checked the clouds, and gathered everyone. As we neared the top of Crater Peak the sun was sinking into the mountain-filled horizon. It was gorgeous.

There was a sense of calm and renewal that left us silent. Even as strangers, we gained a common trust and connection that night. I had been able to share one of my favorite places with them just as it had been shared with me many years before.

On the way back, everyone talked about the amazing night. Despite being exhausted, we sat and talked in the meadow while stargazing. Before going to bed that night, I went back to finish the journal passage.

I wrote about the fulfillment of sharing that moment with my first crew, and seeing the look in their eyes. 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.

Continued on page 5, Steps...
Elevate Your Expectations

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We want you to lead happy and fulfilling lives so you can say you have the best job in the world, and make a difference in it at the same time.

Remember we are all here for the same reason. Do whatever it takes to share your love for Philmont and the outdoors with everyone. They will appreciate your unswerving work ethic, be inspired by your unmatched enthusiasm and remember your genuine interest in their lives.

No matter what department you work in, we all have a responsibility to provide an unparalleled experience for all staff and participants this summer. So work hard, kick back, hike on, and enjoy the ride!

The closing line of the entry read, “I’ve got the best job in the world.” This is something I hope you have the opportunity to feel, both this summer and life after Philmont. Enjoy your time here, but remember to take the right steps. Use each day to find your calling and to set yourself up for success.

Enjoy the fun of the new family program opportunities at PTC this summer. Everyone is welcome, regardless of their age.

One of the key elements of the Philmont Training Center (PTC) experience is the opportunity to enjoy the ranch as a family.

Family programs provided are designed to give each participant an age-appropriate camp experience, to strengthen families and inspire them to seek future high adventure opportunities.

Programs are geared to suit all ages.

All 2012 PTC programs have been upgraded. The goal is to integrate all Scouting age groups and focus on Baden Powell’s adage “Fun with a Purpose”.

Below are just a few of the new programs taking place at PTC this summer: Human Foosball at East Tent City, Giant Life Size Jenga games, Scouting skills for young men ages 8-13, geocaching, fishing and fly fishing emphasis.

Also, there is a “10,000 Step Fitness Challenge” for conference participants. Adults in conference will be encouraged to check out a pedometer from the PTC nurse and try to reach 10,000 steps a day during their time at PTC.

There will also be increased shooting sports such as tomahawks, slingshots, and air pistols, integration of the American Heritage Girls program, and a redesigned Broncos program with more options available. PTC looks forward to providing families the chance to create Philmont memories together.

Everyone is welcome at PTC to take part in our evening programs:

- Monday: cobbler night at the East and South Tent Cities.
- Tuesdays: our buffalo barbecue will take place at 5:30 p.m. on the Greensward, followed by a Western Night dance at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.
- Wednesday: we’ll feature the classic Scout movie ‘Follow Me, Boys!’ at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.
- Thursdays: the ‘Wannabe Band’ will play on the new Dining Hall Veranda, while we host Philmont Jeopardy and a star study at the Program Bowl.
- Our Opening Program will be on Sundays and Closing Program on Fridays.

The Handicraft Lodge is anywhere where you are now. Berg spent

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Welcome to Scouting paradise! Philmont is coming to life in many ways: the rains bring growth and beauty, and you and the staff make Philmont magic rise again.

As you traverse base camp, complete your job training, and move into your positions, remember the special opportunity you have this summer. You all have the privilege to affect a child’s life.

That may seem daunting with over 23,000 participants, but it is important for us to do our part to make this happen. The beauty and splendor of the land enhances the job, but it is the staff that makes the experience complete.

Troops and crews prepare for two years to come here. They watch videos, view photographs, and listen to the stories from past participants. Now it is their turn to see and experience it themselves. It is up to you to continue that legacy and change their lives.

The Philmont experience promises to deliver wilderness and learning adventures that last a lifetime. That begins the moment they step off the bus and continues until they return home.

We have to meet and exceed their expectations. We have to support the crew leader in this important youth leadership experience, and support both the enthusiastic and timid crew members.

We keep the program safe yet fun all summer long. We have to find new ways to make everyone’s day, every day and never stop until the last participant goes home. By doing these things we uphold the adventure of Philmont.

This summer I celebrate the twentieth anniversary of my first treks in Philmont. What awesome experiences those were. The staff that summer successfully turned those experiences into memories that I will never forget.

With the advantages of technology and social network sites, I have been able to keep up with some of my fellow crew members from that summer. They have become detectives, physician’s assistants, travelers, Ph.D. candidates, owners of their own organizations, and even a Navy SEAL.

We never know who our participants will become as a result of our impact this summer, whether directly or indirectly. I believe that Scouting and Philmont made profound changes on my fellow crew members and me.

Keep in mind the opportunities you will have to change someone’s life. Make every day special for crews and your fellow staff. Only then can we say Philmont delivers wilderness and learning adventures that last a lifetime. Have a great summer!

The Promise of Inspiration

By David O’Neill, Associate Director of Program

Chaplain’s Corner: The Chair in the Hallway

By Elder David A. Wilson, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Chaplain

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**I Can I-Camp**

How does one I-Camp? I-Camp is intercamp mail. When attempting to send I-Camps, one must address it with the proper name and department or camp and send it through the post office.

No postage is necessary when sending mail between offices at Philmont. For more information check in with your manager or the post office.

**Adventure in Here**

By Aaron Loncki
operations specialist

New merchandise. A yurt. National recognition. This season, the Philmont experience thrives at Tooth of Time Traders (TOTT). Philmont provides the adventure; Tooth of Time Traders provides the gear.

TOTT earned its second Outdoor Retailer of the Year award from SNEWS and Backpacker Magazine for youth involvement.

Lead retail associate Randa Celley works closely with store management, which provides an exceptional customer experience. Celley looks forward to “Empowering the staff here at the store to provide the kind of experience that the customers want and expect.”

So what can customers expect? TOTT is proud to introduce everything from new merchandise and performance Polos to the camp humor T-shirt section to exceptional gear. Trading post staff is displaying merchandise as received.

Also new this year is the TOTT yurt located next to the store. The yurt will be the new site of the sidewalk sales. TOTT will host a competition to name the yurt. The winner will receive a prize. Those interested in participating can send an I-Camp (intercamp snail mail) to the trading post with submissions.

Need to cash a Philmont paycheck? TOTT will do that as well as offer a 15 percent discount for seasonal staff and 25 percent discount for full-time staff on purchases of $10 or more. For all staff gear, stop by TOTT. Until then, adventure out there.

**Philmont Magic: Past and Present**

By David Werhane

Greetings and welcome Philmont staff! Whether it is your first or returning summer, I hope you're all ready to embark on an amazing journey.

If you have not heard, this place is magic. Any former staff will tell you. It's evident everywhere: the evening sky over Rayado canyon, the dinosaur track or century old native American ruin, the infectious smile on a camper's face as he reaches the top of a spar pole.

I was given the opportunity to return Home to Philmont as the Director of the Philmont Museum-Seton Memorial Library on February first. Since then I've been engulfed by the magic. To illustrate, I will share a story from my first week at the Museum.

Another account of this ‘magic phenomenon’ showed up the following day as I was reading "The History of the First Colorado Regiment of Volunteers." It is a firsthand account written by Ovando Hollister of the regiments journey to and involvement in the Battle of Glorieta.

At the beginning of 1862 they embarked on the journey from Denver to Santa Fe to help defend their homeland. Confederate forces were advancing north through New Mexico.

After weeks of enduring hunger, freezing temperatures, and overall misery, they crossed the Raton Pass. Many horses and mules were lost due to exhaustion, slowing the regiment's progress.

To some, the thought of surviving let alone making it to the battle, looked bleak. Yet when viewing what is now Philmont Hollister wrote, "The rough casting of the mountains, with the fine finish of the valley, formed together an assemblage of the sublime and beautiful to delight the worshipper of nature."

The Colorado Volunteer Regiment went on to do great things.

Within a few days they arrived at Rayado and acquired supplies. They moved south to Glorieta Pass, just north of Santa Fe, and stopped the northern advancement of Confederate troops.

They did this not by brute force, but by employing resourcefulness, teamwork and courage. These volunteers had blazed past adversity and succeeded.

Philmont's history is amazing. It has everything from dinosaurs to Astronauts. Our history has also had its share of adversity. Floods, fires and draughts are only a few of the obstacles faced. None, however, were actual disasters.

They show us that through teamwork, resourcefulness and courage we can help provide each participant with their Magic Moment. I believe that this is the true magic of Philmont.

I would like to encourage you all to experience what the Philmont Museum has to offer; tour the Villa, check out a book from the Seton Memorial Library, explore Rayado, and come to the Museum to learn about Philmont's diverse history.

Bueno Suerte!
USEFUL ACRONYMS FOR BASECAMP AND PTC

When one visits Philmont for the first time, it is easy to recognize that because of its size and history, Philmont has acquired 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 easy to pick up on. Here is a guide to Philmont’s most commonly used acronyms and lingo.

ACD: Assistant Camp Director  
ACR: Associate Chief Director  
AMR: Advisor's Meeting Room  
Baldy: Baldy Pavilion (for events), Mt. 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  
PhISAR: Philmont Search and Rescue  
PTC: Philmont Training Center  
RO: Ranger Office  
RO: Ranger Office  
SSSAC: Silver Sage Staff Activities Center  
Swapbox: A place to trade unwanted food  
TC: Training Crew  
TOTT: Tooth of Time Traders  
TP: Trading Post  
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Valle: the Valle Vidal 

ROCS: Roving Outdoor Conservation School  
RT: Ranger Trainer  
SSSAC: Silver Sage Staff Activities Center  
Swapbox: A place to trade unwanted food  
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TOTT: Tooth of Time Traders  
TP: Trading Post  
The Val: the Valle Vidal  
Valle: the Valle Vidal

Staff Opening Program
Detailed Schedule, May 29

1:45 p.m. Gather on Villa Philmonte lawn  
2:00 p.m. Opening Welcome with leadership introductions and staff activity led by Dr. Jim Cain  
3:15 p.m. Staff will break into small discussion groups led by Ranch Management, take walking tour of PTC and CHQ  
5:45 p.m. Ringing of the bell  
6:00 p.m. Opening staff dinner at Camper Dining Hall  
7:00 p.m. Optional Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, and LDS Chapel services  
7:50 p.m. All staff gather at Baldy Pavilion by SSSAC for speaker Wally Berg (Page 4)  
9:15 p.m. Music and Fellowship at Baldy Pavilion