



Telephone 575-376-2281

Website www.philmontscoutranch.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2017

PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS

Cimarron, NM, December 6, 2017– Philmont Scout Ranch is excited to announce the promotion of four employees into key leadership roles as Philmont plans for the future. The Boy Scouts of America and Philmont Scout Ranch have had the opportunity over the past year to develop a succession plan to meet the current and future missions of the BSA while delivering wilderness and educational experiences that last a lifetime. The following promotions will become effective January 1, 2018.

Steve Nelson, Team Lead/ Director of Camping Services (Unit 2) is a graduate of Brigham Young University, where he graduated Cum Laude. He began his professional Scouting career as an Associate District Executive in the Nevada Area Council, Headquartered in Reno, Nevada in 1983. He transferred to the Boulder Dam Area Council in Las Vegas, Nevada where he was promoted to Senior District Executive. He separated from the Boy Scouts and worked for his Alma Mater, BYU, as Program Director at their Alumni Family Camp near Provo, Utah. In 1990, he returned to the Boy Scouts as a Senior District Executive in the Tendoy Area Council in Pocatello, Idaho. Steve was promoted to Program Director in the new Grand Teton Council in Idaho Falls, Idaho. His leadership was recognized as he was then promoted to Field Director and subsequently Director of Field Service in the same council. In 2002, he was selected as the Scout Executive of the Snake River Council in Twin Falls, Idaho, guiding the council to consistent membership growth and financial stability. In 2008, he was selected to serve as Associate Director of Program at Philmont Scout Ranch and since 2009 as Director of Business Operations. In this position Steve has managed the Business and Full Time Personnel operations of Philmont. Steve and his wife, Diane are parents of three grown children and have five grandchildren. Steve is an Eagle Scout and Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow, and enjoys cycling, hiking and fly-fishing.

Shelley O'Neill, Team Lead/ Director of Business Operations (Unit 3) comes from an avid Scouting and camping family. She started working seasonally at Philmont Scout Ranch in 1989 during her summers between college semesters. After graduating from the University of Michigan with a B.A. in Political Science, she returned to Philmont Scout Ranch and was offered a full-time position running the

Philmont store in 1996. After 15 years of managing the Tooth of Time Traders, the store was awarded the 2011 Outdoor Retailer of the Year award for Growth of Outdoor Sports and 2012 Outdoor Retailer of the Year for Youth Involvement from SNEWS and Backpacker magazine. In both 2014 and 2015 The Tooth of Time Traders was recognized as one of the top 100 outdoor retail specialty stores in the country. The Grassroots Outdoor Alliance has also recognized the Tooth of Time Traders as one of the top 50 specialty stores in the country. Shelley joined the Outdoor Industry Association in 2007 and brought the industry to the attention of the National Boy Scouts of America. That spurred the effort to connect Scouting and the outdoor industry. She has served as president of the Cimarron Kiwanis Club for 4 years, on the board of the Cimarron Chamber of Commerce and chaired the Cimarron Strategic Plan Committee. Shelley and her husband Tim have been married for 20 years and have two boys active in Troop 68 in Cimarron, NM and spend as much time as possible outside with her boys skiing, hiking and canoeing.

Dave E Werhane, Team Lead/ Director of Museums (Unit 6) grew up in an active Scouting family. By 1983 he had hiked well over one thousand miles and camped out over 125 nights with his troop, attended Charles L. Sommers once and Philmont twice; once with a crew and again in the individual Rayado program. In June of 1984, after working the majority of his summers on his grandparent's farm, *and* just five days after his 17th birthday, Dave began working his first summer season at Philmont. In total Dave would work 7 summers at Philmont, starting in food service then moving to living history in the Backcountry and Museums and finishing his last summer in the Health Lodge. Since graduating from Indiana University with a BS in Biology, Dave has owned two businesses, worked for the United States Forest Service, contracted with the New Mexico State Engineers Office, and worked in both the "for-profit" and "non-profit" sectors. Prior to returning to Philmont in February of 2012, Dave worked at the High Desert Museum in Bend, Oregon. Many of the large traveling exhibits he created there are still being shown throughout the United States and Canada. Dave volunteers as the Cub Master for local Pack 68, Assistant Leader in Troop 68 and on the Cimarron Ambulance Board.

Grant Reigelman, Team Lead/ Program Administration/ PTC (Unit 9) served for three summers on the Philmont seasonal staff. He was Program Counselor at Apache Springs in 2007, and as the Camp Director of Baldy Town and Sawmill (2009 and 2010 respectively). After graduating with a BS in Criminal Justice, Grant began working as a District Executive for the Conquistador Council in 2011. While in that role he had numerous camping assignments overseeing the Dowling Aquatic Base and Wehinahpay Mountain Camp. In 2014, he was promoted to the Associate Director of Program at Philmont Scout Ranch, Backcountry Operations. He serves as a board member of the New Mexico Search and Rescue Council. Grant is an Eagle Scout and is an OA High Adventure Triple Crown recipient. He is married to Roni and have a son, Garner.

Additionally, Philmont would like to recognize Matthew Rendahl for his contributions to Philmont over the past couple of years as he moves to Atlanta to serve as the Director of Camping on January 1, 2018.

Matt Rendahl, Associate Director of Programs/PTC, will serve as the Director of Camping in the Atlanta Area Council starting January 1, 2018. Matt has served as the Associate Director of Program-PTC, since

October 2015. His commitment to connecting with the National Service Center in supporting the summer PTC courses has made a positive impact as we prepare for the future of PTC. He has been a dedicated Philmont team member and worked diligently in making a positive impact in this important piece of the Philmont operation.

Matt has served on staff at three of the High Adventure programs including full time at Northern Tier and Philmont. At Philmont he served as an instructor for NJLIC including Senior Patrol Leader. He served as a Ranger in 2001-02; Logistics, Autumn Guide and Maintenance Staff in 2008 and CD at Miranda in 2009. He has served the High Adventure Base team well and looks forward to working in the Atlanta Area Council where camping starts for the Scouting family.

Philmont Scout Ranch is the Boy Scouts of America's largest national High Adventure Base. Its 35 staffed camps and 55 trail camps provide an unforgettable adventure in the high country along hundreds of miles of rugged, rocky trails. More than 1 million Scouts, Venturers, and leaders have experienced the adventure of Philmont since the first camping season in 1939.

The Philmont Training Center (PTC) is the national volunteer training center for the Boy Scouts of America. Since 1950, the PTC has provided a unique environment for training volunteers, creating leaders, and hosting family friendly experiences and adventures. Each year, more than 6,000 Scouters and their families attend the PTC.

###