

PHILMONT AMBASSADOR UPDATE

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SERVING BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD

Winter 2020

PTC 2020 Entices Scouters of Many Interests

Philmont Training Center's 2020 schedule offers Scouters and their families an abundance of opportunities for fun and education. The BSA Family Adventure Camp keeps growing, and this summer it will be offered every week of the season and into the fall. Popular conferences, like Scout Advancement, continue to be offered. New ones on timely topics provide valuable tools and techniques for today's challenges.

Here are descriptions of just some of the conferences being offered.

On June 7-13, PTC kicks off with Commissioners Week, providing an opportunity to meet and interact with BSA's National Commissioner Ellie Morrison and members of the national service team while networking with commissioners throughout the country. The week also includes a new opportunity, the Philmont Backcountry Sneak Peak, which is designed to teach future adult advisors and crews the ins and outs of High Adventure planning, preparation, and practices for Philmont. It will also include an opportunity for participants to experience the backcountry first hand.

During June 14-20, there is a conference for LDS families on locating a new chartered organization, starting a new unit, and other skills necessary to continue in Scouting. A conference

called "Finding Your Way" teaches orienteering and geocaching, while "Navigating Your Next International Adventure" helps leaders understand opportunities in the wider world of the Scouting movement.

Trained leaders are essential to a quality Scouting Program, and PTC conferences during June 21-27 teach "How to be a Better Trainer." Council and District Training Committee members can get the latest tools, techniques and practices at their own conference. One of the six National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) courses starts this week as well.

Cub Leaders won't want to miss the "Cub Scout Extravaganza" from June 28 to July 4. It's a Philmont-sized version of University of Scouting just for them. They can select from four different sessions depending on their position and interests. Topics include outdoor skills, training, administration, pack management, Webelos transition, Cub Scout fun and pizzazz. This week also features conferences on Scouting in the Baptist, Methodist, and Jewish communities.

The Philmont Ambassador Seminars are held during July 5 to 11 along with National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) and BSA Advancement conference.



The BSA Family Adventure Camp provides opportunities for everyone to experience Philmont at its best. Philmont Photo.

The challenge of keeping youth engaged in Scouting takes center stage during July 12-18 which is sponsored by the Central Region. Conferences on "Delivering The Promise To Older Youth", "Making Scouting Incredibly Fun" and "Older Youth Program Breakouts" provide Scout Leaders what they need to know to retain youth in the program.

During July 19-25, the Western Region Week will focus on four primary themes: council and district leadership and structure, volunteer / professional expectations, building a new council culture, and effective approaches to fundraising. Important conferences on Scouting in the Catholic and in the Lutheran Churches help

integrate the Scout program into youth ministries.

During Northwest Region Week from July 26 to August 1, two programs on Scouting for youth with special needs are featured: "Adaptive Special Needs Conference" and "The Zia Experience: A Philmont Adventure for Scouts with Special Needs". The latter provides special needs Scouts with a Philmont experience. Conferences for Scout executives, membership growth and keeping older scouts engaged are also presented.

The BSA Family Adventure Camp and Philmont Backcountry Sneak Peaks fill out the remainder of August.

The fall sessions, from September 20-26 allow Scouters to learn in the backcountry with sessions on angling, climbing, COPE, conservation, shooting, outdoor skills and wilderness first aid. National Camping School and Outdoor Program Professional's conferences are offered as well.

Ambassadors are encouraged to familiarized themselves with the full PTC schedule on-line (<https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/2020-conferences/>). It's a great way to "Be Prepared" to encourage Scouters of all ages and experience to get to "God's Country" at Philmont during this coming summer. **P2**

Who's Who at Philmont

Dave Werhane - Director of Philmont Museums



Duties at Philmont: Oversees the operational, curatorial and programmatic components of the National Scouting Museum, Seton Memorial Library, Philmont Archives, Villa Philmonte and the historic Chase Ranch Museum

Number of Years at Philmont: 8 fulltime.

Most Memorable Experience at Philmont: Grand Opening of the National Scout Museum. It was great having so many of our supporters and long time friends travel from distances, great and small, to celebrate such a huge project and the continuing legacy for the BSA and Philmont Scout Ranch.

Most Humorous Experience at Philmont: Most recently, it had to be when a summer staff member came into the library demanding that we make public the archival files proving the existence of a portal/gateway to the cosmic forth dimension on the west end of Uracca Mesa. He also wanted to see the "photographs of the 6th century Navaho Shaman time traveler responsible for guarding that portal". We're still cracking up here over that. **P2**

Make Your Plans Now To Attend Ambassador Seminar

Have you ever gone on a vacation using a friend's outdated guidebook and map? You soon discover that attractions have changed, roads have been rerouted and that great restaurant they raved about has turned into a fast-food joint. This is why Ambassadors need to get back to Philmont. We must be reliable sources of information for our Councils' members.

The Ambassador Seminars, scheduled for July 5 to 11, 2020, provide a great opportunity to update and refresh your Philmont knowledge. To attend an Ambassador 1 Seminar you must be an approved Ambassador. To attend an Ambassador 2 Seminar you must be an approved Ambassador and have attended an Ambassador 1 Seminar.

As a newer Ambassador, you will learn about the history of Philmont and the surrounding area which will prepare you for visits to Philmont museums, a backcountry tour and a behind-the-scenes view of Camping Headquarters.



Ambassador seminar attendees receive a customized patch.

You will explore techniques to market Philmont in your council, ways to engage Scouters, and methods to meet key leaders and executives. You'll learn from experienced Scouters about the best ways to reach your audience of prospective Trekkers and PTC attendees.

You'll also gain valuable insights into the workings of both the camping and training sides of the ranch. This is especially helpful if you have only

been on a Trek or have only been to Philmont Training Center (PTC).

More experienced Ambassadors at the second-level seminar will get a first-hand view of a Trek Crew experience as well as insights on Family Adventures and PTC operations. They'll also learn more about how the whole ranch operates from hearing from staff and seeing operations in action. Visits to the backcountry will further instill an appreciation of the beauty and history of the Ranch.

All Ambassadors will benefit from learning new techniques for presentations and displays.

And no matter how many Treks or PTC conferences you've attended, you'll find that Philmont not only constantly updates routes and classes, but it also adapts its offerings to keep current with the Scouting program. The Ambassador II seminar will provide details on these and many more changes.

Make your plans now to get back to PTC! **P2**

Recap of the December Webinar

Sneak Peaks, Zia Experience Coming to 2020 Training Center

Philmont Training Center Director Nick Hutchinson presented information on the latest and greatest happenings at Philmont during a live webinar in early December. These webinars give Ambassadors an opportunity to hear about changes at Philmont first-hand as well as to ask questions directly.

Before he really got going, though, Nick introduced the new Philmont Training Center webpage that Dominic Baima developed. The new page is more dynamic and is available as an app for your portable electronic devices.

Nick introduced the new Sneak Peaks (pun intended) program designed to train Adult Advisors and Crew members on the skills needed for a successful Trek. By doing progressively difficult hikes culminating with overnights in the backcountry, participants will learn tips to bring to their units on how to prepare for a Philmont Adventure.

Philmont saw a need for such a program based on the number of crews arriving who did not have all the training necessary to undertake the rigors of the Sangre de Cristo mountains. Although it would be ideal if all members of a crew could take a Sneak Peak, just having a few adult advisors and youth leaders attend who can then train their units back home will be of great benefit.

Philmont is now partnering with the National Ability Center in Utah to design a fantastic Scouting Experi-

ence for special needs Scouts called “The Zia Experience”. It will feature programming on an individual basis to provide participants with activities that are challenging and fun for them. Adaptive COPE, climbing, mountain biking and shooting sports are just a few of the adventures that will be available.

Flyers on the Zia Experience will be available on-line in early 2020.

The Zia Experience is different from the conference titled “Adaptive Special Needs Conference”. This conference teaches best practices in outdoor programs and camping to Scout leaders for integrating special needs scouts with units in their home council.

Ambassadors are reminded that promotional materials are available on the Philmont website by going to <https://www.philmontscout ranch.org/resources/promote philmont>. You can request promotional materials and posters, download brochures, and see videos on this page. It also has links to other High Adventure Bases if you are ever asked to provide information on them.

When you are ordering materials, Nick requested that you get enough for all the promotions you'll be doing in the near future. Bundling your order saves Philmont a lot on postage costs.

Family Camp at PTC has been folded into the BSA Family Adventure Camp program. Scouters attending PTC will

still be able to bring their children to Philmont, and PTC will still provide counselors for them. Traditional activity groups like Broncos, Ropers, Trailblazers, etc., will be combined with Family Adventure Camp participants doing the same activities.

The BSA Family Adventure Camp is taking off as a program at several select BSA high-adventure bases and council camps. Because of the need to have a consistent program across all locations, PTC registration was delayed but is now accepting applications.

Nick congratulated Ambassadors for doing a great job at promoting PTC and providing general information on high adventure programs at Philmont. Your service is important toward getting as many Scouts and Scouters to enjoy Philmont as possible.

When it comes to giving specific information about Trek preparation, though, Ambassadors are asked to refer questions to Philmont's Trek Prep staff at 575-376-2281. Trail conditions and recommendations change constantly in the backcountry, and Philmont wants to make sure that Crews have the latest and best information available. Trek Prep staff have the most up-to-date material to ensure a successful Philmont experience for all participants.

The full webinar program is available at www.philmontscout ranch.org/resources/promote philmont/ambassador-resources/webinars/

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At Clear Creek, scouts load and fire black powder rifles at their own targets like bandanas and hats which make unique souvenirs. Photo by Tom Baltutis

Focus on the Backcountry

Clear Creek Teaches Fur Trapping History

Staffed Camp

Elevation 10240 Feet.

Clear Creek lies on a bench at the head of Rayado Creek canyon near the Philmont border. The main cabin looks out across a meadow with a tomahawk throwing area. The 50-caliber black powder rifle shooting is up the hill to the west. Campsites are pleasant and scattered up the valley to the north. At over 10,000 feet, nights can get quite chilly there.

Activities

Rocky Mountain Fur Company, cabin tour. Black powder rifle shooting. Tomahawk throwing. Evening fur trapping stories.

Water

Clear Creek has some of the best tasting water at Philmont.

Nearby Camps

There are no other staffed camps



within a mile of Clear Creek.

Trails

The north trail goes to Mt Phillips - this is the steeper side of Mt Phillips. To the southeast, an excellent trail follows Rayado Creek to Comanche Creek and on to Phillips Junction. The southern trail goes past Garcia Peak to Wild Horse and on to Crooked Creek.

Treks Camping at Clear Creek

Trek 1, 4, 11, 15

Treks with Day Programs

6, 8, 9, 10, 18, 19 P2

2019 Treks Broke Records

By Mark Cordeiro, PhilNews Writer

Summer 2019 was a record-breaking year for Philmont in terms of numbers.

In order to show just how massive the Summer 2019 season has been, several departments around Base Camp have shared their numbers. Through the raw data, it's possible to finally put the season into perspective.

First, the participants: The number of participants that took to the Backcountry this summer was just over 24,000. That's roughly 480 Greyhound buses worth of youth and adults over the course of approximately two months.

Those 24,000 participants, between 7-day and 12-day treks, hiked over 1,630,000 miles combined. That's more than 3 trips to the moon and back. Or, to keep things terrestrial, Philmont participants walked the circumference of the Earth 65.5 times over.

Inside the borders of Philmont, participants saw nearly every inch of the backcountry. As far as numbers for staff camps go, Ponil saw the most campers this summer with 8,305 visitors coming from 828 crews. As part of their Chuckwagon program, 7,963 of those participants were served dinner.

Speaking of meals, around 385,800 meal bags were prepared and distributed to campers for their treks. With each meal bag weighing about half a pound, those meals come to a grand total of 192,900 lbs. Altogether, that means that participants carried the equivalent of about 15 African elephants through the backcountry.

The most prepared and distributed meal was Lunch 4, which consisted



of bagels, Sun Butter and strips of jerky. The most popular spot for Crews to pick up meals in the Backcountry was Baldy Town which distributed nearly 60,000 meal bags to 12,335 Participants.

In Base Camp, the number of meals served at the three dining halls tell a similar story. By the end of the season, food service staff at Philmont estimated that they served around 330,000 meals. Using those numbers, they can calculate that they've served more than 100,000 burritos and 720,000 sausage links.

As far as the Philmont staff goes, all 50 states and many U.S. territories were represented during the summer. Texas had the most Philmont Staffers with 173 of the 1,302 that were here this summer. Only one other state had over 100 Staffers: Colorado with 101. New Mexico came close with 98. Additionally, Philmont saw the inclusion of 29 international staffers throughout the season.

These approximations show just how massive this season has been. Behind each of these numbers was a person, whether they were preparing meal bags, hiking the trails, or cooking Chuckwagon dinners. Each of those people, from participants to Staff, helped make summer 2019 Philmont's best season yet.

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Rocky Mountain Trappers Showed Settlers the Way

Philmont's living history program is at the top of its form at Clear Creek, literally the highest staffed camp on the Ranch. Fittingly, staff portray the mountain men and women who led the way to and through the Rocky Mountains in search of valuable furs.

Mountain men were most common in the North American Rocky Mountains from about 1810 through to the 1880s. Approximately 3,000 men ranged the mountains between 1820 and 1840, the peak beaver-harvesting period. While there were many free trappers, most mountain men were employed by major fur companies.

The life of a company man was almost militarized. The men had mess groups, hunted and trapped in brigades, and always reported to the head of the trapping party. This man was called a "boosway" which is a crude version of the French term **bourgeois**. He was the leader of the brigade and the head trader.

The Rocky Mountain Fur Company started a rendezvous system in which company representatives would haul supplies to specific mountain locations in the spring, engage in trading with trappers, and bring pelts back to communities on the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, like St. Louis, in the fall.

The annual rendezvous was often held at Horse Creek on the Green River, now called the Upper Green River Rendezvous Site, near present-day Pinedale, Wyoming. Another popular site in the same general area was Pierre's Hole. By the mid-1830s, it attracted 450-500 men annually, essentially all the American trappers and traders working in the Rockies, as well as numerous Native Americans.



Jim Bridger as one of the foremost frontiersmen of the Old West.

In the late 1830s, the Canadian-based Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) instituted a policy to destroy the American fur trade. The HBC's annual Snake River Expedition was transformed to a trading enterprise. The HBC was able to offer manufactured trade goods at prices far below that with which American fur companies could compete. Combined with a decline in demand for and supply of beaver, by 1840 the HBC had effectively destroyed the American system. The last rendezvous was held in 1840.

A second fur trading and supply center grew up in Taos in what is today New Mexico. This trade attracted numerous French Americans from Louisiana and some French Canadian trappers, in addition to Anglo-Americans. Some New Mexican residents also pursued the beaver trade, as Mexican citizens initially had some legal advantages. [Editor's Note:

Charles Beaubien, once the owner of the Philmont area, was one of these fur traders. See the Ambassador Update, Summer 2018 issue.]

Trappers and traders in the Southwest covered territory that was generally inaccessible to the large fur companies. It included parts of New Mexico, Nevada, California and central and southern Utah. After the decline of the beaver and fur trade and with some emigrants to the West using the Mormon Trail, former trappers found work as guides and hunters for the traveling parties.

Mountain men were instrumental in opening up the various Emigrant Trails (widened into wagon roads) allowing Americans in the east to settle the new territories of the far west by organized wagon trains. They travelled over roads that had been explored and in many cases, physically improved by the mountain men and the big fur companies originally to serve the mule train based inland fur trade.

As the fur trade declined, mountain man Robert Newell told Jim Bridger: "[W]e are done with this life in the mountains—done with wading in beaver dams, and freezing or starving alternately—done with Indian trading and Indian fighting. The fur trade is dead in the Rocky Mountains, and it is no place for us now if ever it was."

Adapted from Wikipedia, "Mountain man," Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Mountain_man&oldid=923790953 (accessed November 5, 2019).

- P2

Shooting Staff Undergoes Extensive Safety Training

Staff learn both firearm history and safety from experienced instructors.

By Mark Cordeiro, Philnews Staff writer.

Ready. Aim. Fire. The simultaneous crack of thunder from the six black powder rifles dwarfed the clap of thunder rolling in from the mountains. The men of Black Mountain, Clear Creek and Miranda have been training for days, learning the history and safe usage of their muskets so they can become Philmont shooting instructors. The students wasted no time honing their marksmanship skills on metal targets downrange.

James Schneider, a second-year staffer soon to be portraying a Civil War soldier at Black Mountain, bounced between practicing his own firearm handling and being a safety observer for other staffers. Being a safety observer requires staff to sit on one side of the firing line and monitor their fellow instructors while calling out reminders for safety concerns. "I'm really big on gun safety and I'm excited to be able to teach young Scouts about it," Schneider said.

In the days leading up to training,

staffers like Schneider are in the classroom learning an NRA course made specifically for the BSA. NRA trained instructors run through the modules for the staff.

One of the instructors, Mark Abramson, has about 20 years of firearm experience and serves in his own council as an instructor. He's currently teaching training at Philmont along with fellow shooting instructor Ken Craft, who has worked with firearms for about 31 years. Their shared half-century of experience was put to good use during training.

The instructors taught the backcountry staff how to safely use a firearm and how to communicate their skills to others. Staff learned about firearm history, the mechanical parts of the firearm, shooting theory and more.

"There's a greater depth of knowledge now that [staffers] are asking us the questions as students now," Abramson said. "We think the classes will be run more smoothly, with greater knowledge, and with greater confidence so we can deliver a great program all summer long." With new training techniques and skilled teachers, Philmont's shooting staff is one of the most highly trained teams in recent memory. Staff will have the chance use their skills after crews start to arrive in June. **P2**



A program staff member practices handling firearms. Photo by Alex Fields.



Stephen Duke's daughter is dwarfed by the size of his outdoor which includes his super-sized maps of Philmont. Photo by Stephen Duke.

Ambassador Profile

Stephen Duke Goes Big To Promote Philmont

Avid former staff member became an ambassador to share his enthusiasm for Philmont.

Being 1700 miles away from New Mexico and surrounded by water are just some of the challenges faced by Stephen Duke from the Costal Carolina Council in Charleston, SC. "Most of the scouts here are more interested in doing water activities and attending Sea Base. Not only that, but finding a good spot to train for Philmont here is hard where everything is flat. It's challenging to find a decent training location for Philmont when we need to drive four to five hours to the western Carolina mountains."

Stephen uses his Trek experience and knowledge of Philmont gained from being on staff to tell the Philmont story to excite prospective attendees. "I worked at Philmont for three years, two as a Ranger and my last year as a Trail Crew foreperson. Ever since I had to turn down my fourth summer's position as Assistant Camp Director at Head of Dean, I have wanted to go back and do as much as possible to promote Philmont and all the programs they offer."

That's why Stephen signed up to be

an Ambassador as soon as the program started. Being the only Ambassador in his Council, he's kept busy with doing promotions whenever he can.

"I do the normal stops at our Scouting University, OA Fall Fellowship, Round Tables and even a few Pack Blue and Gold Dinners," says Stephen. "As our District's Cub Day Camp Director, I do a presentation on Philmont and the other BSA High Adventure bases trying to show them what they have to look forward to as Scouts. My busiest promotion is at our yearly OA Fall Fellowship since that is where most of the Scouts are of Philmont age."

"Any chance I get I promote Philmont, and I do get interest from Scouts wanting to attend. Since most are individual Scouts I push the individual programs at Philmont. At Cub events I put a larger emphasis on PTC and the new Family Adventure program. I have gotten enough interest from families that we might even look into going as a group trip this summer for one of the BSA Family Adventure Camps."

Stephen finds that he is most effective when he shares his own experiences and provides pictures or YouTube videos of units at Philmont. While using a small Philmont map on a rainy

day, he got the idea to create an extra-large water-proof vinyl Philmont wall map. Stephen got to work with the Philmont Conservation/GIS department to get the correct file from their GIS application to create it.

"When we did this, we thought the map would last us for a few years, but the year after our initial release of the map came the Philmont fires of 2018," recalls Stephen. "That drastically changed the Philmont landscape so we had to go back to the drawing board and create a new map. At the same time, Philmont was working to get access to other ranches bordering its property, so we had to adjust the size and dimensions on the map to cover the larger area. We also wanted to mark out the burn areas and try and get as many of the new camps and trails that would be used during the summer of 2019."

Stephen has found that having the extra large Philmont map shows the expansiveness of Philmont and the other lands around Philmont that the Scouts get access to while they're on a trek. The revised large map is available to Ambassadors by using the link on Page 4 of this issue. Maps are \$50 plus \$12 for shipping. See Box on Page 4 to order one.

P2

You Don't Need Nearby Mountains To Prep For A Trek

By Tom Baltutis, Editor

One giant misconception about preparing for a Philmont Trek is that you have mountains nearby to get ready. Not so. Training at altitudes and hiking up mountains are not as important as you think.

Fitness is far more vital than those mountain trails. The Department of Health and Human Services recommends that healthy adolescents and adults include aerobic activity and strength training for three 60-minute sessions each week.

- **Aerobic:** Most of the 60 minutes or more per day should be either moderate- or vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity.
- **Muscle-strengthening:** As part of their physical activity, adolescents should include muscle-strengthening exercises at least 3 days a week.
- **Bone strengthening:** Adolescents should include bone-strengthening physical activity on at least 3 days a week as well.

This doesn't mean running marathons or lifting weights. Basketball, rock climbing, gymnastics, dancing, biking, hiking, swimming and the like all build endurance, strength, and bones.

Building on this fitness baseline with some Trek-specific training will go a long way to having a successful adventure. Simultaneously, you can develop your camping and backpacking skills no matter what your local



Weekend hiking with packs at a nearby state park or recreation area provides excellent training for a Philmont adventure. Photo by Tom Baltutis

terrain affords you.

For example, on a weekend "car-camping" trip to a local state park or Scout camp, bring only what your backpacks can hold instead of hauling your troop trailer with all its equipment. You'll soon learn to whittle things down to only the essentials you need.

In preparing for our Philmont Trek, we did a three-day backpacking trip at a 1500 acre park with just 12 miles of trails. The park was an easy one hour drive from the city. We reserved a group camp site so that we could simulate camping Philmont-style with only our backpacking tents and rainfly.

On Friday evening, we drove to the park. Instead of parking near the camping area, we parked at the picnic grounds in another section of the park. We hefted on our fully-loaded packs and hiked a circuitous route to our site. There we set up our tents and fly, cooked a one pot dinner on our backpacking stoves, and spent the evening watching the stars go by.

The next morning, we packed everything up into our packs and did a 10 mile trek around the park, arriving back at our group site and repeated the set up and cooking routine. On Sunday, we again loaded our packs and hiked the long way back to our

cars. We could hear thunder in the distance, and so we took time to talk about lightning safety.

In contrast, we could have driven eight hours and back to a longer, more rigorous trail, but it was much more beneficial to spend those 16 hours hiking rather than sitting in a car.

The experience helped everyone learn to organize their packs, set up camp, and figure out which of their equipment worked or didn't. One of our scouts found his pack was too tight, and he was able to exchange it for a better fitting one before heading to Philmont. That ever make a big differ-

ence for him during our Trek.

Our troop did several other of conditioning and skills outings. We participated in local Orienteering meets to hone our pathfinding skills and get used to recognizing terrain features. We also did day hikes wearing our packs at local state and county parks. While it would be nice to have big, long hill climbs nearby, you can usually find a trail with some ups and downs, even small ones. This may mean going around in circles a few times up the same hill, but your body will still get used to going up and down carrying a pack. You could also do a "steps workout" at a high school stadium,

Getting into routines of spacing ourselves out along the trail, taking standing rest stops, purifying water from streams all help ingrain habits that served us well later.

On our trip to Philmont, we scheduled a day at Colorado Springs where we could acclimate to the altitude by taking a day hike on local trails. Remember, that even once you get to Philmont, the first few days of your Trek you will be at elevations below 8,000 feet to acclimate you even more before you start up into the real high country.

So rather than not attempting a Philmont Trek because you live in the flatlands, make the most of what your area offers. You'll find many places to train if you look for them.

P2

Strut Your Stuff by Earning Philmont Master's Track Knot

Ambassadors are highly encouraged to complete the requirements toward earning their PTC Masters' Track square knot. As with most other uniform knots, performance standards must be met to receive this recognition. There are three tracks involved in earning the knot.

The first track requires that you have attended a conference at Philmont Training Center (PTC) after June 1, 2008.

The second track has three parts to it. First, applicants must attend a second PTC training course during the summer or fall. Going to an Ambassador Seminar is a great way to check off this box. The next requirement is to recruit three people to attend a PTC summer or fall conference. Ambassadors naturally recruit potential PTC attendees whenever they are meeting with Scouters, and often there are many more that we recruit than we can keep track of.



Master's Knot with device.

However, all it takes is a little asking around and feedback from attendees to discover those who we had directly influenced.

The third requirement is teaching a course about PTC at a district, council, area or regional event. This can be fulfilled by teaching about PTC at a University of Scouting or College of Commissioner Service at your local council. You may also have an opportunity to present at an Order of the Arrow Section or Area Conclave as well. Remember to get your Council or Area Chairperson's approval prior to working on the course.

After completion of the first two tracks, you mail the appropriate forms to Philmont Training Center which will send you your knot.

By completing the Third Track, you can earn a device to be worn with the knot. Part 1 of the track requires you to serve as faculty at a PTC course or attend a third PTC conference and recruit three more PTC attendees.

Part 2 of the third track first requires you to coordinate at least one training event approved by the Council, Area or Regional Cluster. Part 2 also requires you to complete one of three other requirements:

- Coordinate and staff a promotional booth for PTC at a Council event,
- Coordinate a Philmont Family Meeting to share information on PTC and encourage family participation, or

- Teach a training course in a foreign country – coordinated and approved by the BSA International Division.

Earning the Training Master's Track knot is a great way of showing your dedication and enthusiasm toward Philmont. It also gives you the opportunity to explain to a fellow Scouter all about Philmont when they notice the brightly distinctive knot on your uniform and ask, "How'd you earn that one?" The application form is at

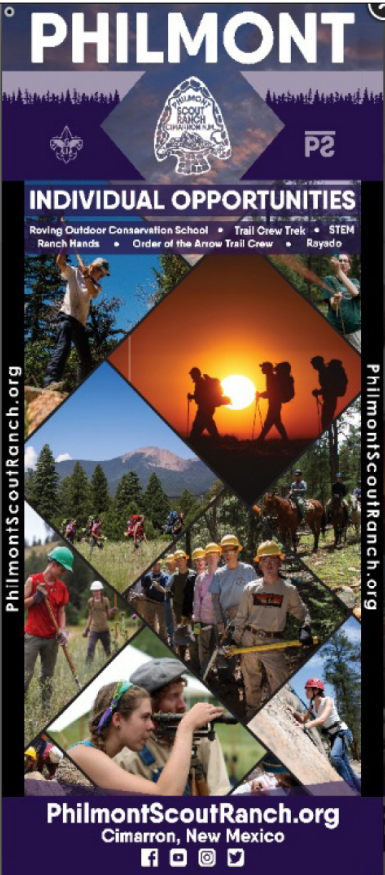
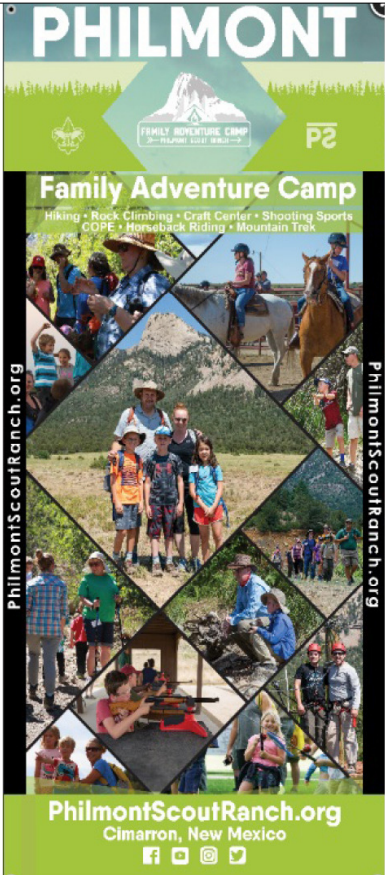
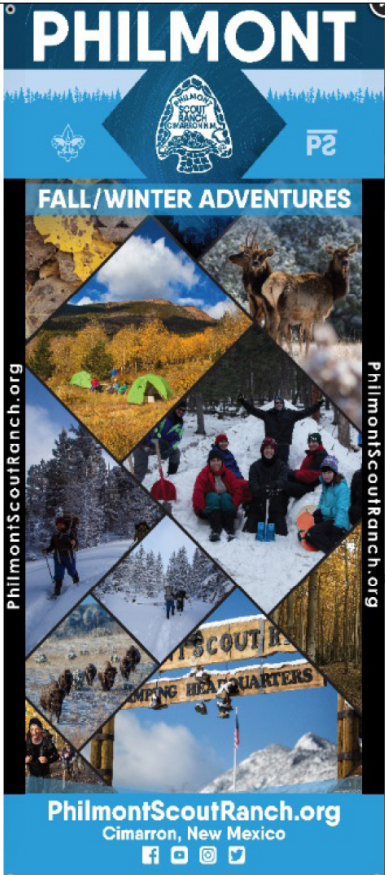
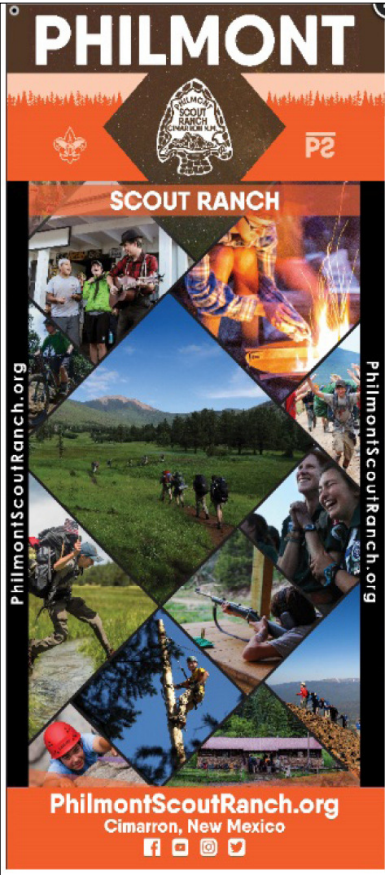
As with any Scouter Knot, what you do to continue supporting Philmont after you earn the award is what counts the most. **P2**

Click here for the link to the Master Track Application.



If you are divided among yourselves, you are doing harm to your country. You must sink your differences.

If you despise other boys because they belong to a poorer class than yourself, you are a snob; if you hate other boys because they happen to be born richer and belong to higher class schools than yourself, you are a fool. - From Scouting for Boys, Robert Baden-Powell.



Banners Add Colorful Punch to Philmont Displays

Adding banners to your display is a great way to make it stand out in a crowd.

New banners are available that provide a colorful, eye-catching punch to your Philmont display, making it stand out from all the other table-top posters at Scouting events. Five different aspects of Philmont are highlighted - Treks, Fall/Winter Adventures, Family Adventure Camp, Individual Opportunities and Philmont Training Center (PTC). You can tailor your exhibit by displaying only the ones you want to emphasize such as PTC at a Council training day or Individual Opportunities at an Order of the Arrow event.

The new banners are available with an X-frame stand. This gives you the flexibility to attach the banner to the stand or affix it to your own sturdy backing using its grommet holes. You can order an X-Stand for each banner you get or use the same one for different banners.

One of the nice things about a portable banner is that it lets you do a "Pop-Up" display with minimal effort. All you have to do is bring the banner to an event and set it up. Stand by it with a handful of literature and soon you'll be surrounded by people wanting to know more about Philmont.

Each of the banners are 32 inches

wide by 72 inches tall. If we can place an order for 10 or more banners of each design, the price will be \$40. Each X-Stand is \$64.

In addition to the banners, Ambassadors can also order a custom Philmont feather flag emblazoned with the Arrowhead, PTC and Philmont bull logos. It comes with a pole that provides sturdy support for outdoor displays. The bright yellow background color will be sure to attract attention at camporees, OA conclaves, and fishing derbies.

The feather flag measures about 24 by 80 inches. The cost is \$135 which includes a pole and stake for it. For \$150, you can get the feather flag with the pole and a cross-shaped base that can be used on floors. You can also order the large Philmont maps. Cost of the maps is \$50.

Use the link below to order these items. Shipping costs are \$12, or they can be picked up at the Ambassador Seminar at PTC this summer.

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Click here to order banners, feather flag and maps. Deadline is January 15.



X-Bracket provides flexibility for displaying banners.



A tall feather flag brightly draws attention to your display.

Philmont Ambassador Newsletter

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