

PHILNEWS

JUNE 14, 2019

ISSUE 2

Crew 608-AA comes Home

Mark Cordeiro
PhilNews Writer

It was only a few days before their trek when crew 608-AA received the call: Philmont was closed for the summer.

“I wasn’t sure how excited I was [for the trek] last year until we got the call that said ‘we’re canceling,’” Chad Brockermeier, one of the crew’s adult leaders, said. “I felt like I’d been kicked in the gut. That was tough.”

Now, roughly one year after the Ute Park Fire, they’re finally at Philmont.

They are among the first crews to arrive for the 2019 season. The 10 person team, comprised of six Scouts and four advisors, drove to Philmont from their hometown of Houston, Texas.

The Scouts are a year older but still chose to come to Philmont together. Their arrival was marked with laughter and excitement as they met their Ranger and completed the

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The history is in the details

Sherry Hamilton
PhilNews Writer and Photographer

For Conor Timoney, history is nothing without attention to detail. As Philmont’s Backcountry Wardrobe Specialist he analyzes endless amounts of Civil War forage camps, infantry fatigue jackets, canteens, clothing and ensemble.

His appreciation for history started when he was a child living just outside of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Timoney was surrounded by his family’s rich Irish heritage



ABOVE: Trek 608 AA was scheduled to come to Philmont last summer and was unable to due to the fire. Amazingly, every original participant made it to Philmont this year. Photographed by Chris Langlois.

and appreciation for history. His father started re-enacting before he was born, his mother and sister participated in competitive Irish dancing.

Timoney’s grandmother would make handmade traditional Irish dance dresses for all four of the dance schools his family owned. Between the ages of 12 and 13, Timoney started making historical clothing as well.

“I remember watching my grandmother make these dresses in the basement and thinking, ‘if she can do that, then I can create my own things too,’” Timoney said.

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Garden of opportunity

Monica Dunn
PhilNews Writer and Photographer

One set of hands rakes fallen cacti and weeds into piles as the sun slowly sinks. Another fills trash bags with debris. They work for about five minutes in perfect tandem— as if they’ve known each other for some time.

The hands belong to Margaret and William Pearson, who have been married for 42 years. Moving from their home state of Texas to work at Philmont Scout Ranch marks a new chapter for the Pearsons.

“We sold our house; We have our fifth-wheel trailer, and we just took off,” William Pearson said. “This is the beginning of our journey of wherever we will end up... we have no idea where that will be.”

They’ve spent the first part of their journey settling into their summer roles. First-year Philmont Scout Ranch gardener Margaret Pearson is in charge of beautifying Philmont’s grounds and William Pearson is head of lost and found in the security office.

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ABOVE: William Pearson works on clearing the area around a cactus. Photographed by Curtis Waidley.

Garden of opportunity continued

Monica Dunn

PhilNews Writer and Photographer

Continued from page 1: Although William Pearson isn't a gardener, he loves helping with Margaret's work when he can. The couple had a garden together at their home in Texas; a way for them to bring wholesome food into their lives.

"I started looking at our health and the country's health," he said. "I said we really need to know what we're eating. The way to know what we're eating is to grow it ourselves."

The Pearsons are now tackling a much larger gardening project: all of Base Camp. Getting to Philmont to pursue that project hasn't been easy, however.

William Pearson was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2016 right before his first year at Philmont. In 2017 he learned that it had spread. After multiple treatments and surgeries, he stayed at home that summer to heal.

He has been cancer free for two years and

is finally back at Philmont with his wife for the summer.

To the Pearsons, Philmont is a second chance at life. It's a chance to change both the lives of others and their own.

"Look at how many people are affected by what [the Phillips] gave," Margaret Pearson said. "There's 25,000 kids plus employees that are affected by what they gave every year."

As the summer winds down they will decide where to go next on their journey. For now, the Pearsons are looking forward to fishing and hiking this summer while enjoying the beauty of Philmont.



ABOVE: The Pearsons dig deep trying to unearth weeds at Base Camp. Photographed by Curtis Waidley.

BELOW: Margaret and William Pearson pose together at Base Camp. Photographed by Curtis Waidley.



Crew 609-AA comes H0mE continued

Mark Cordeiro

PhilNews Writer

Continued from page 1: check-in process.

Their first day on the trail was spent skirting the burn scar's southeastern border, going from Webster Turnaround up to Arrowhead trail camp. The steep hills and sharp elevation change from their lowland home made the journey difficult but, sweating and panting, they eventually reached their destination in the early afternoon.

The crew's inaugural hike was difficult but their rapport never wavered. At every stop, the Scouts were quick to think of a joke, often in the form of puns and friendly ribbing. Good humor and high spirits were a hallmark of their group. There was hardly a moment when they weren't smiling.

"We're all really outgoing, we all like to put everything out there," Crew Leader Patrick Dunn said.

The Scouts of crew 608-AA attend different schools but have remained tight-knit for years. Cody Brockermeier, who was planning on doing the 2018 trek, came back to Philmont this year as an adult advisor just to experience it with his friends.

"It's only been one day," he said, " but

we're growing closer with each other, making jokes about everything. It's a really good experience.

Their joy and charisma weren't lost on their Ranger, Keelia Rogers. Rogers is working at Philmont for a month through the Air Force Academy and leading crew 608-AA was her first time working with Scouts this summer.

Rogers spent a few days with the crew getting to know them and helping them navigate Philmont's Backcountry.

"Honestly, I love this crew," she said. "I couldn't have asked for a better one."

Crew 608-AA proved worthy of their double "A" rating. Their puns, pranks, and infectious laughter were a perfect start to the 2019 summer season.

The history is in the details continued

Sherry Hamilton

PhilNews Writer and Photographer

Continued from page 1: In college, Timoney became the youngest mass producer of exact replicas of Civil War forage hats in the U.S., owning multiple originals. He has coordinated with reputable museums and examined original ensembles to ensure his replicas are exact.

Apart from contacting museums, Timoney consults numerous books and period tailoring manuals which provide correct fits and weights of material. His research ensures that the replicas are exact, which is of utmost importance to Timoney.

“If it can be right, it should be right,” he said.



ABOVE: Timoney portraying a Union soldier. Photographed by Chris Langlois.



Timoney has worked closely with Lionheart Filmworks for several notable productions and Artistry in Motion to outfit museums.

Timoney found himself at Philmont Scout Ranch after obtaining a degree in American history from York College of Pennsylvania.

During the 2018 fire, he received a material budget to construct costumes from scratch but also has to use recycled materials. Sometimes he will use old canvas tents to make coal miner’s hats for Staff at Cyphers Mine and French Henry.

Regardless of whether his costumes are made from scratch or recycled materials Timoney’s ultimate goal is to ensure that they are accurate.

“It’s like being given a painting to repaint,” he said. “You have to follow the artist’s style instead of what you know to be true.”

This year he is outfitting about sixteen Backcountry camps with historical actors portraying years from 1831 to 1941. Timoney has worked with as many as 13 camps in one day, recreating the appropriate era with each camp on the fly.

Timoney aspires to help Philmont become the most sought-after destination for living history.

“I promote mild anxiety to always be doing something more,” he said. “I choose the word anxiety with purpose and emphasize it because everyone should have the attitude to strive to be better.”



ABOVE: Timoney sorts through a myriad of historical clothing. Photographed by Sherry Hamilton.

LEFT: Up close with some period cowboy hats. Photographed by Sherry Hamilton.



ABOVE: Staff lug their belongings up the hill to French Henry. Photographed by Mark Cordeiro.

Backcountry camps open for 2019

Mark Cordeiro
PhilNews Writer

It was hard to focus on anything but the majesty of the Backcountry as the sweet sounds of Jimmy Page’s double-necked guitar solo filled the Philmont Suburban.

The Suburban was hauling the Staff of French Henry to their camp on June 6 as part of Philmont’s three days scatter period. During scatter Staff load up their belongings and move into Backcountry camps where they live for the rest of the summer.

“[Scattering] is the process of the Staff of a camp moving in and setting up camp so that it’s ready not only for ourselves but for campers when they come,” Camp Director Arizona Duff said.

The caravan of Suburbans passed through Cimarron Canyon, working its way up the rough Backcountry roads. The caravan was loaded with three vehicles’ worth of personal gear, food, mining equipment and cleaning supplies.

Crews have quite the job ahead of them when they arrive. The camp’s cabins need to be dehaunted, the mines inspected and the grounds maintained.

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Activities Calendar June 14 - June 22

June 15: Music Jam Session @ SSSAC porch, 8:00pm

June 17: Dodgeball @ Baldy Pavilion, 8:00pm

June 18: Ice Cream @ Steve Nelson's lawn, 8:00pm

June 20: Brat Day @ Baldy Pavilion, 11:00am-1:00pm

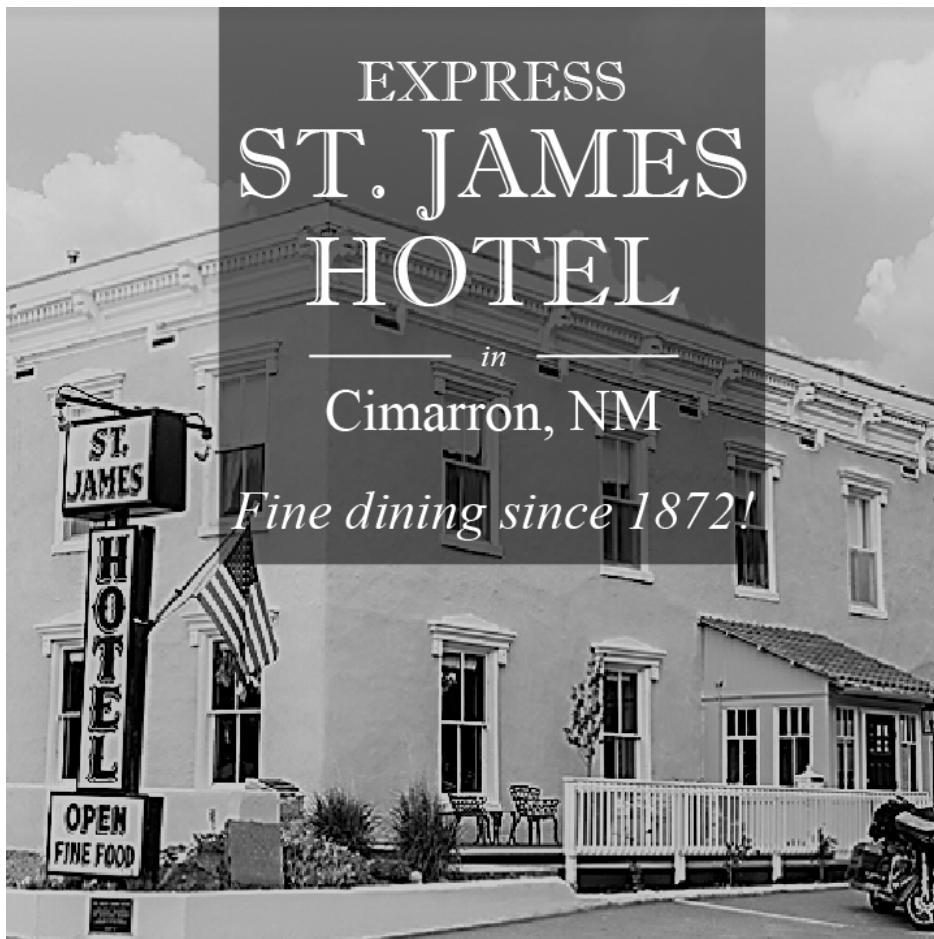
June 22: S'mores Night @ SSSAC backyard, 8:00pm

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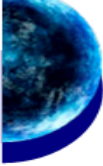
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Lug your mug

Erin Atwood
Sustainability Coordinator

The 2019 summer season is quickly approaching, as are thousands of Scouts on their way to having life-changing experiences.

With heavy traffic this summer there comes a responsibility that we as Staff members have to the earth and land. Philmont is a leader in trail construction, maintenance, campsite design and overall land conservation. Being a role model in these fields presents a chance to become a leader in sustainable resource and material management as well.

The strong suit and primary focus of Philmont's sustainability program is recycling. Our team manages the recycling stream and makes sure that quality reusable materials are later transformed into new items like paper. Recycling isn't the only opportunity to improve sustainability on the ranch, however.

This summer we are implementing an overall reduction in unnecessary materials. These materials include single-use items like straws, cutlery, plates and coffee cups. These materials can't be recycled so they end up filling landfills and hurting wildlife.

Single-use plastics counteract the meaning of sustainability and take away from the Scout mission of protecting the environment. A simple way to solve this problem is to use your own plates and cutlery, or "lug your mug." By bringing utensils to events like brat day in Baldy Pavilion or ice cream socials at Steve Nelson's lawn, you will be diverting trash from the landfill, lowering our overall waste and being the environmental steward that all Philmont Staffers should be.

Almost everyone who works at Philmont will spend some time hiking and have a mess kit ready to go. If you store the mess kit in your backpack it will be ready for whenever you might need it. This same goes for bringing your own coffee mug to the dining hall or bringing your own reusable bag to stores. By bringing reusables you're not only redirecting waste but also supporting the sustainability mission of the ranch.



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ATTENTION DRIVERS!

Please be careful and respectful as you are driving around the backcountry, both on and off Philmont property. Some of the roads can be bumpy, but we ask that you stay on the roads to preserve the land around them. When parking at a staff camp, please consult the Camp Director for direction if there is no clearly marked parking area. Our goal is to leave no trace and, when possible, to leave these wild places better than we found them.

Join the PSA! We NEED YOU!

Dollie O'Neill
 PSA Executive Director

Hello Philmont Staff! We the PSA would like to welcome you HOME for the summer! Whether you are a 1st year Staffer or in your 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 20th or more year here at Philmont, we are so glad you are here! It is so much fun watching you all roll in and bring your excitement with you! It has been a lot of fun meeting many of you so far!

What is the PSA? We are the Alumni Association of Philmont Staff Past Present that was founded in 1973. Our Mission Statement is: The PSA is a non-profit organization that unites the Philmont Staff – past, present and future – for the purpose of serving the adventure, heritage, and experience of Philmont and the Boy Scouts of America. But I like to think we are just more than a mission statement. I like to think we are THE Philmont Family.

Here are a few highlights on what we do for Philmont & Philmont Staff:

- The PSA currently has over 3,800 members
- We award scholarships for current Staff enrolled in a college, university or educational institution. In 2018 we gave out \$68,000 to 68 Philstaff.
- In 2018, The PSA raised over \$400,000 for the Philmont Fire Recovery Fund.
- We give scholarships for youth pioneering their Philmont Experience through Rayado Treks, ROCS and STEM treks.
- For former Staff, we provide opportunities to go on summer, autumn & winter treks as a PSA crew. We also have service weeks to build trails and do TSI & Forestry work with our Volunteer Vacations and this past March PhilBreak.
- We help host fun events during the summer for that will consist of Backcountry Music Festival, Salsa Nights, and Brat Day Cookouts, etc.

For Philmont, we have raised over 4 million dollars over the course of several years & multiple Capital Campaigns for the Staff dining hall, the Silver Sage Staff Activity Center and Baldy Pavilion, and provided the new bathrooms for PTC in Dining Hall II

and provided new furniture for Backcountry camps. Also included is the newest campaign we have raised money for the New Scouting Museum and the New PSA Office Building.

If you are not a member as of yet, then I officially ask you to join us in our support for Philmont Scout Ranch. Wouldn't it be great if we could get every Staff member here to join the PSA and help us further our Mission? The opportunities are endless!

Have a fantastic Summer!



ABOVE: Dollie O'Neill, PSA Executive Director.

Backcountry camps open for 2019 continued

Mark Cordeiro
PhilNews Writer

Before all of that can happen, however, Duff must officially open the camp by speaking a few words into the radio.

“French Hen is 10-8 for the summer, give a cheer Ghosts and gold await,” she said.

The haiku sends cheers through the gathered Staff, and the process of readying the camp begins.

Duff and a few others perform a preliminary inspection on the mines before a specialist comes for an in-depth safety inspection later in the afternoon. A chainsaw trained representative from the Conservation Department, Pete Bergene, hacks away at fallen branches and debris obstructing the grounds.

The rest of the French Henry Staff starts dehaunting.

“First, we spray everything down, sweep, spray everything down with bleach, get rid of any rats’ nests, mice or any other critter that



made a home in French Henry’s cabin,” PC Drew Chapman said.

The team puts on masks and eye wear for the operation, each working hard to return the cabins to livable conditions. Their work will take a few days to complete.

Once they are fully unloaded, the caravaners only stay a short while before leaving the French Henry Staff and moving

along to another camp.

The Staff of French Henry then eagerly await the arrival of crews, ready to show them why Philmont is Heaven on Earth.

Tips for avoiding ankle sprains

John Price
Philmont Infirmary

Ankle sprains are one of the most common injuries among hikers. A wrong step on a steep or uneven surface can injure the ankle and delay a hiking adventure. Every year, the Philmont Infirmary and Backcountry camps care for ankle sprains in Scouts, Staff, and advisors. This article hopes to offer assistance in preventing, managing and recovering from ankle sprains. It can also help the hiker know when to seek assistance from the Philmont Infirmary.

Prevention and Recovery: The best way to treat any ailment is to never experience it in the first place. Strengthen lower muscles by running and cycling. Losing weight can also help, as extra pounds increase stress on the

ankle. Wear good boots with ankle support. Perform warm-up and balancing exercises that stretch the calf and heel at the start of the day. Avoid hiking on uneven terrain in the dark. Pay attention to your surroundings, especially loose gravel, roots and slippery rocks. These practices are also a good way to recover and prevent future ankle sprains.

Manage: Remember “RICE.”

- Rest: Get off the damaged ankle immediately.
- Ice: Reduce swelling with ice packs or cloth soaked in cold water.
- Compress: With an elastic band, squeeze the joint without cutting off circulation.
- Elevate: Place the injured limb above the level of the heart.

RICE for twenty minutes and let the ankle rewarm for another 15 minutes. If the injured Scout is able to carry on with the hike, continue for up to 2 hours at a safe and slower rate. RICE and repeat until reaching camp for further assistance with ibuprofen

400-600 mg or acetaminophen 325-650 mg and rest letting it heal. Performing RICE will shorten healing time, reduce swelling and get the Scout back on the trail.

When to get help: Keep in mind, “toughing it out” can lead to permanent injuries that will require lifelong physical therapy. Get help if:

- Unable to bear weight for at least 4 steps
- Significant pain to the touch at the posterior tip of tibia or fibula (back/sides of the ankle)
- Significant pain to the touch at the base of the fifth metatarsal (outside of the foot near the back)
- Significant pain to the touch at the navicular bone (top of the foot near the front of the ankle)
- Altered sensation or decreased circulation to the affected limb
- There is visible bone

Please contact the Philmont Infirmary for assistance.

Ranger's mile

Jenny Washburne

Assistant Chief Ranger

Welcome to the Ranger Mile! Here, members of the Ranger Department will have the pleasure of sharing with you some of their favorite destinations on the Ranch (and tips on how to get there) throughout the summer. Philmont is a gold mine of unexpected beautiful places on and off the beaten path. Our hope is that you will be inspired to visit some of the stunning but perhaps less-frequented trails and trail camps around Philmont and the surrounding area and explore the Ranch on your own to find more hidden gems.

The Notch

You won't find the Notch named on your map, but you'll know it when you see it! This south country jewel lies along the trail from Carson Meadows to Fish Camp. A few miles in, the gradually sloping trail takes a sharper turn upward, and then suddenly edges out

from under the trees to reveal a spectacular view. To the west, you can see (and hear!) the Rayado river along the canyon as it cuts its way into the Rayado and Crater Peaks to the north. A look over your shoulder to the east is just as stunning. The canyon's mouth gradually widens out to meet the New Mexico plains, stretching away into the horizon as far as the eye can see. The rocks around this point provide a nice place for a lunch break, or just to sit and think, and maybe watch a thunderstorm a hundred miles away.

Finding the Notch isn't particularly difficult. Just follow the trail about four miles west of the Zastrow Trailhead, through Old Abreu (the hike is only about three miles if you park in the Abreu Staff parking lot). For a beautiful view of the Tooth and to top off water, stop by Carson Meadows Camp on your way and say hello to the Staff there. The trail up to Carson is steep, so make sure to take the nice trail with switchbacks instead of the killer road straight up the hill. From Carson, the trail is well-marked heading west. Keep hiking and you'll be at the Notch in no time.

Fun fact: the trail from Carson Meadows to Fish Camp was the first trail Philmont's Conservation Department constructed (shortly after that department was created in 1966), and they purposefully guided the trail up through the Notch for our enjoyment. Thank you, Cons!

Things to Remember on a Philmont Hike:

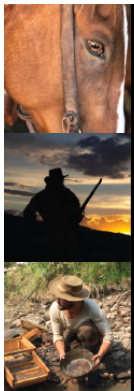
Take a buddy (or two: co-ed friends must travel in groups of three).

Always pack the Essentials for Hiking at Philmont, and bring plenty of water.

Follow all backcountry procedures! Turn in a backcountry access permit before you go.

When visiting staffed camps, represent your department well by respecting the Staff, their living quarters, and their program needs. Campers go first when participating in program activities.

The Backcountry Warehouse reserves most Suburban rides for Staff on work assignments, so you'll need to plan your hikes around established Trailheads. Questions about hiking routes? Stop by the Ranger Office; we're happy to offer suggestions.



Philmont Staff Photo Contest

Hey Philmont staffers! As you start your summer, remember to take photos, document your adventures, and capture some sweet moments this summer and enter them in the Staff Photo Contest. Entries will be accepted from July 1st to July 21st. Prizes will be awarded!

Categories

- Tooth of Time
- Landscapes
- Miscellaneous
- Staff Activity
- Philmont Skies
- Porch Views
- Camper Activity
- Humor
- Animals and Wildlife



Puzzle Corner

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6			3	9	2			

Riddle: The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?

Answers: Footsteps

Calling All Staff Artists!

The TOTT is looking for Philmont staff to design the 2020 adventure patch!



Guidelines:

- Must be a traditional patch shape
- Needs to have the words:

- Adventure
- Philmont Scout Ranch
- 2020

Patch designs should be submitted by August 1 to ToothofTimeTraders@scouting.org