

PHILMONT AMBASSADOR UPDATE

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SERVING BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD

September 2023

Trek Planning Made Simple for 2025

Good news from Philmont! All crews applying for a 2025 Philmont Trek will be assured of a spot. The lottery process has been discontinued because of the decrease in the number of units applying for a Trek. Applications for 2025 Treks can be submitted starting October 16.

Ending the lottery is the result of many factors including fewer youth involved in Scouting and the increased number of alternative high adventure opportunities. The upshot is that Scouts can now definitely plan on getting a Philmont Trek.

"We are currently able to accommodate all who are interested in attending Philmont," says Matt Hart, Philmont's new Camping Director. "We do not anticipate having capacity issues."

This does not necessarily mean that all crews will get their first itinerary choice on their preferred date, but with some flexibility they will be able to Trek Philmont during the summer of 2025 on a route that offers their desired program features.

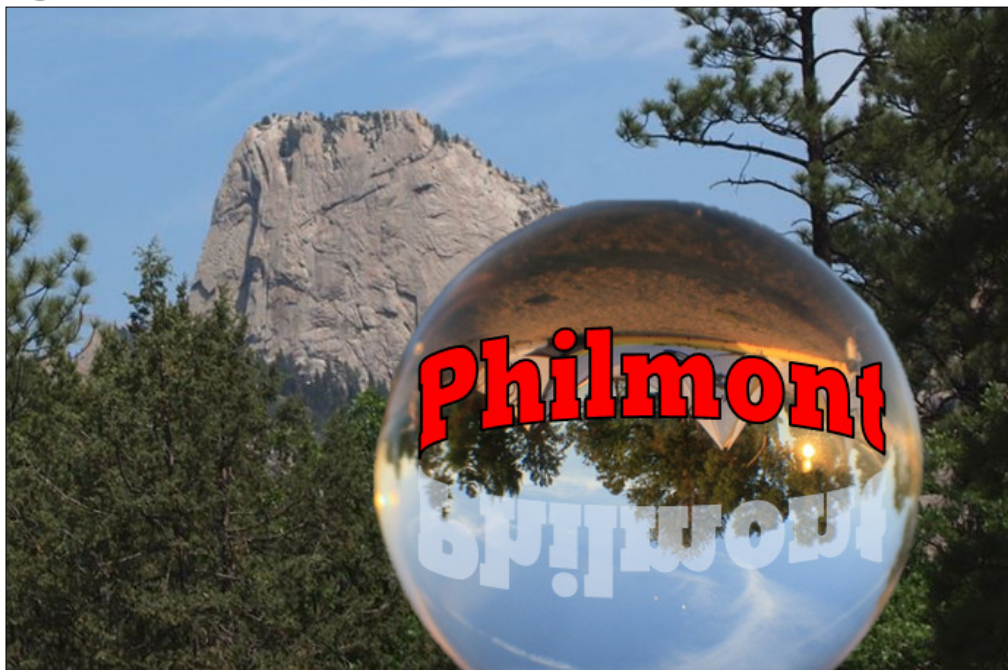
Ambassadors play an important part in getting out the word out on the new application process during the coming months. It is essential to have a presence at upcoming fall camporees, Universities of Scouting and other Scout gatherings to let Scouts and leaders know of the new procedure.

2024 Treks

Philmont still has a number of slots available for crews thinking of a high adventure trip in 2024. This is great for those units who are in the beginning stages of planning their coming Scouting year.

Councils which have not sent a contingent in 2022 or 2023 and who register for a 2024 contingent will get a 20% fee credit that they can use to offset their costs to bring a crew. If they bring two crews, they

Treks (Continued on page 3)



There is no fortune-telling Merit Badge, but Scouts can foresee high adventure by planning a Philmont trek in 2024 or 2025. *Graphic by Tom Baltutis*

Our Message to Scouts

"Put Philmont In Your Future"

Fall brings many opportunities for getting Scouts to think about Philmont. The excitement that comes from a summer of camping, the desire to do something more adventurous, the enthusiasm of leaders in new positions wanting to improve their knowledge – all these make fertile ground for planting the seed to 'Put Philmont in Your Future' in a Scout's mind.

Fall Camporees are great for promoting a Philmont trek. Senior Patrol Leaders and Adult Advisors need to know that this is the time to submit an application for a 2025 Trek. No longer do they have to worry about whether they will get a slot in the lottery. Every unit that applies will get a Trek so that their plans can be nailed down

with certainty.

Fall University of Scouting is a prime time for educating Scouters about conferences at Philmont Training Center. The majority of courses available for the summer of 2024 have been finalized so Scouters can find one that fits their position and make plans to attend.

University of Scouting Deans are always looking for courses that appeal to a variety of Scouters, and promoting Philmont fits that need. You don't have to come up with a presentation about Philmont. An annotated editable PowerPoint is available for Ambassadors to download on the Philmont

Future (Continued on page 8)

2024 PTC Schedule Taking Shape

Philmont Training Center starts its 75th year of operation in 2024 with a full slate of memory-making programs, both in and out of the classroom. The following is just a sampling of what's available, so check out the [current PTC schedule here](#) for more course information and updates.

Winter activities abound at Family Adventure Camp during January and February. Snow sports take center stage as partici-

pants can ski, snowshoe, go sledding, snow tubing, and even build snow shelters. Roofed housing provides warm and comfortable accommodation during evenings filled with crystal skies full of stars.

Spring brings Camp Ranger Basic Training, National Camp Schools, and Scout Executive retreats during March and April.

As fish begin to be more active in May, there are courses for Certified Angling In-

structors and Program Directors who will get the opportunity to wet their lines in backcountry lakes and streams.

Family Adventure Camps with both half week and full week options start up again in June. Family opportunities extend even into October, so there are plenty of weeks of fun available. Don't forget to tell Scouters about [daily stays](#) now available at PTC if they are vacationing in the area.

The summer training season begins June 9 to 15 with **Commissioner-Week** with courses to inform and enable seasoned Scouters to grow Scouting in units, districts and councils. Especially beneficial will be the "Technology for Commissioners" conference on the many tools available for tracking the success of youth in their area.

The week of June 23 to 29 has conferences on building Scouting relationships, Scouts with special needs, the Zia Trek, and Key 3 development along with the Philmont Ambassador Seminars. The Zia experience is being offered again June 30 to July 6. Mid-June kicks off six consecutive weeks of National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) sessions.

July 7 – 13 features **Religious Relationships Week** because so many units are sponsored by churches, synagogues, mosques, etc. All faiths will be involved in these informative sessions.

Cub Scouters can learn how to energize their Packs with outdoor programming during the week of July 14-20. That same week, District and Council Key 3s can find out how to enhance and grow Scouting in their area. Wood carvers and map enthusiasts have courses in their specialty in July as well.

Training youth for future leadership roles requires well qualified Adult Leaders. That is why **Scouting U - Training Week** takes center stage during the week of July 21 to 27. A number of sessions for Wood Badge training, course directors, and train-the-trainer will be offered.

Taking Wood Badge at Philmont is possible during sessions offered by the Circle Ten Council in early August and by the Longhorn Council in Late August. Catholic Wood Badge is offered in late August. For those who have completed Wood Badge, the Philmont Leadership Challenge provides a capstone experience during the week of August 18 to 24.

Who's Who At Philmont

Kiley Conner Keeps Base Camp Operations Humming

What are your duties at Philmont: As the Base Camp Manager, I directly oversee and support five departments at Philmont: Activities, Logistics, Mailroom, Outfitting Services, and the Welcome Center. I also facilitate coordination between other Philmont departments as needed. In addition to my departmental duties, I am also responsible for ensuring that all the facilities in Base Camp are maintained and well-kept.

How did you come to work at Philmont: I first heard about Philmont when my younger brother's Boy Scout troop signed up to go on a trek in 2016. I was instantly jealous, and I wheedled until they agreed to let me tag along [as an Adult Advisor]. After our first day on the trail, I knew I wanted to be a Ranger the next summer.

Number of years at Philmont: 5 years - 2017, '18, '19, '20, and 2023

Prior positions at Philmont: Ranger, Ranger Trainer, Service Academy Coordinator, Forestry Work Crew, Autumn Adventure Guide, Base Camp Manager

Prior Scouting positions outside of Philmont: I was an assistant Scoutmaster for a couple years; that was how I was able to go on our Philmont trek!

Most memorable experience at Philmont: I have many treasured memories at Philmont, but one that stands out to me was when I hiked the Ranger Marathon my first summer as a Ranger. I completed the challenge, but it wasn't without its fair share of difficulties! It was a grand adventure that set the tone for my Philmont career, and it showed me what I was capable



of enduring.

Most humorous experience at Philmont: I may or may not have provided some of my fellow staff with a memorable mountain lion encounter. My "scream" was bone-chilling and it was dusk... what else could it have been?!

What do you like most about working at Philmont: Definitely the people I get to work with, both participants and staff. It's such a diverse group of people, and I've been fortunate to see life-changing moments happen for many of them, including myself. Philmont is a special place, as are the people who enjoy it!

What's your favorite off-duty activity: When I'm on days off, I try to take advantage of Philmont's beautiful backcountry as much as possible!



Steve Nelson gives a speech at his surprise retirement party in Baldy Pavilion on August 4, 2023 at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, N.M. *Photo by Zoe Cranfill*

Steve Nelson Retires

Steve Nelson, Philmont's Camping Director, hung up his Philmont hiking stick after many years of Scout service in August.

Nelson grew up in Scouting and followed the trail from Cub Scout to attaining Eagle in 1973. He attended the National Junior Leader Instructor Training Camp in 1972. Due to the great leadership training and experience in staffing his local Council Junior Leader Training course, he decided that he wanted to spend his life as a Professional Scouter. After attending Brigham Young University majoring in Youth Leadership and Recreation Management, Nelson began his professional Scouting career on January 1, 1983, in Reno, Nevada, serving as an Associate District Executive.

Over the next few years, Nelson served as District Executive in various Nevada councils. He left the BSA for a short period of time when he worked as the Program Director at Aspen Grove, a family camp operated by the BYU Alumni Association. He then transferred to his home state of Idaho in 1990 and worked as a senior District Executive, Program Director, Field Director, Director of Field Service, and finally Scout Executive of Snake River Council from 2002 to 2008.

In 2008, Steve received a call, letting him know that he had not been hired for a job in the Western Region, BSA. But from that call, he heard about a vacancy at Philmont. He called about the job, talking to

the General Manager and Director of Program, and was thrilled to interview and be selected to fill the vacancy.

He began as Associate Director of Program in charge of personnel and basecamp operations, and then was promoted to Comptroller. He served in that role for nine years before becoming Director of Camping in 2018. The Director of Camping is responsible for all backcountry programs, along with the Ranger, Activities, Logistics, Welcome Center, Infirmary, Commissary, Tent Repair and Food Services departments. As a member of the Philmont management, he works to coordinate all aspects of the camping program with departments and operations across the Ranch.

When Steve stepped into the role, he wanted to improve upon the legacy of those who came before him. "How do we excel at delivering the wilderness adventure that young people are coming here to experience? How do we continue to change lives? Those were my goals," said Nelson. But it wasn't so simple.

In the six summers that Nelson has served as Director of Camping, he helped the Ranch navigate through the two large fires: Ute Park in 2018 and Cooks Peak in 2022. There were two cancelled summers, for the fire in 2018 and Covid-19 in 2020, followed by the two largest summer sea-

Trek Changes

Treks (Continued from page 1)

get a 25% fee credit, and a third crew will get a 30% credit.

The trails have not gotten any easier, though, so crews will need to embark on an accelerated training and conditioning schedule. Fortunately there are 10 months ahead to fit in practice hikes and backpacking trips. Adult Advisors facing a weight challenge will have to double down on their diet to meet the physical requirements.

Changes Coming for 2024

Trek participants also need to be aware of other changes coming in 2024 and 2025. In 2024, Philmont is recommending that every crew have a minimum of 3 advisors and a maximum of 4 advisors. In 2025, it will be a requirement to have 3 advisors. Philmont has witnessed too many instances of having insufficient adult leadership when a medical or conditioning issue arises with an adult. In addition, in 2024 Philmont is recommending that 3 individuals be certified in Wilderness First Aid/CPR. This will then transition to a requirement in 2025. The requirement for Wilderness First Aid/CPR can be fulfilled by either an adult or youth. In fact, it's a good idea for the entire crew to get certified in Wilderness First Aid/CPR. It is an excellent training for Scouts and Leaders and would be beneficial for the crew.

There are several changes happening in the backcountry for the 2024 season. As the Ute Park burn area recovers, parts of the Ranch affected by fire will be returning to use. Harlan camp will be reopened with shotgun shooting and reloading programs that had temporarily shifted to Santa Claus. Santa Claus itself will revert to being a trail camp. There will be other trail camps opened in the Ute Park Burn Area, specifically in the Deer Lake Mesa, Vaca, and Dean Cow areas. In the Valle Vidal, Ring Place will open again with new program ideas being explored along with the Astronomy program. Carson Meadows and Hunting Lodge will also be rested as a staff camp in 2024 but will be used as trail camps. The PTC will be using Hunting Lodge as an overnight program location for some of their youth groups as well as Family Adventure Camp.

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Nelson (Continued on page 8)

Ambassadors Get Full Philmont Experience During Inaugural A-3 Conference In June

By Rob Welander

From June 25 to June 30 this past summer, the Philmont Training Center hosted the inaugural "Ambassador 3" session with five participants and Ambassador faculty members Dustin Taylor and myself. One of the primary goals of the course was to focus on the trekking experience, with a particular focus on using the experiences from the week to help prepare crews for upcoming treks. An additional goal of the course was to perform service for Philmont.

The first goal was accomplished by participation in a one-night trek. This participation started by replicating what the first 24 hours is like for an arriving Philmont crew, including spending time in Registration and Logistics, checking out gear from Outfitting Services, collecting trail food from the Commissary, going through the medical recheck process, having a crew photo taken at the base of the Tooth of Time, and attending the various leadership meetings (Crew Leader, Chaplain's Aide, Wilderness Pledge Guide, and Adult Advisor). We followed that up on Tuesday with an 8:00 AM bus ride to Ponil where we hiked into camp, heard a porch talk, set up our campsite, received training from our Ranger, and spent time in the Trading Post and Cantina debating which root beer was better (Crunchy or Creamy). In the evening, we participated in the chuckwagon dinner and attended Ponil's evening program.

The following morning, we woke up early and hiked to Sioux camp to do three hours of trail building as part of our conservation work. Afterwards, we hiked back to our Ponil, broke camp, and hiked out to the turnaround for a bus ride back to base camp. We ended the day by attending the closing campfire on the trekking side.

On Thursday, we attended Family Adventure Camp activities as participants (not as visitors) to see first-hand what attendees and PTC family members experience. For some, the highlight was the friendly competition at shooting sports to see who could pop a balloon using a bow and arrow in the least amount of shots.

On Friday morning we visited Tent Repair where we continued to provide service



Ambassador 3 Participants pose for their traditional photo with the Tooth of Time. First Row, Left to Right - Kristin Chioma, Dustin Taylor, Maeve (Ranger Trainer), Robert Welander, Robert Jones. Second Row, Left to Right - Michael Williams, Don Hall, Leland Kammerer (Philmont Photo)

to Philmont by performing clean-up and maintenance tasks that staff hadn't yet had time to get accomplished. We closed out the day Friday learning about examples of Philmont Ambassadors who are actively reaching out to local crews attending Philmont to help support and mentor them in their preparations.

Because this was the first time this course was offered, there were aspects of the course that warrant improvement. Key changes that have already been made for the 2024 course are (1) re-branding the course as "The Ambassador Experience" (instead of "A3"), (2) changing the timing of the course to be the same week as A1 and A2 (instead of the week after), and (3) elimination of the requirement of having attended A2 to participate.

If this course sounds like something you would be interested in, mark your calendars now for June 23 to June 29, 2024. Please note that you must complete parts A, B, and C of the Philmont medical form, and your doctor must sign off on your ability to participate in a high adventure experience. You must meet Philmont's height/weight and blood pressure restrictions.

If you have any questions about this course, please reach out to Dustin Taylor

(CoronadoPhilmontAmbassador@gmail.com) or myself, Rob Welander (HOACPhilmontAmbassador@gmail.com).

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Ambassador Conferences Set for 2024

The 2024 Ambassador Conferences have been set for the week of June 26 to 29, 2024. The Ambassador 1 seminar is essential for new Ambassadors to learn the details of how Philmont works so they can better promote all its programs. The A2 Seminar goes into more of Philmont operations and helps you refine your presentations and displays. The Ambassador Experience (formerly A3) gives you a first hand understanding of a Trek and Family Adventure Camp along with the opportunity to give back to Philmont through service.



Scouts learn to take careful aim before firing at the metallic silhouette targets at Sawmill camp. *Philmont photo*

Focus of the Backcountry

Scouts Hone Their Shooting Skills at Sawmill Canyon

Elevation: 9580 Feet

Water: Potable tap

The original programs at Sawmill camp, built in 1965, involved forestry and lumbering which were industries active in the area during the early 1900s. The .30-06 rifle range was built in 1972. Sitting at the head of Sawmill Canyon, you get a great

view down the valley all the way out to the prairie to the east.

Scouts learn firearm safety and reloading and then use rifles to shoot at metal targets. Their first three rounds are free, and additional rounds may be purchased at three for \$1.

A big plus at Sawmill are the wood-fired hot showers that are available.

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What's A Thirty-Aught Huh?

There are a lot of numbers involved when it comes to guns and ammo. Twenty-two, or more properly 'twenty two long rifle' (0.22 LR) refers to the popular 0.22 caliber rimfire ammunition. The 'twenty-two' refers to the bullet's diameter or caliber of 0.22 inches. This size cartridge is used in a wide variety of rifles, pistols, revolvers and other firearms. The 'twenty-two' is the most common form of ammunition in the world today. It's used by the BSA for the rifle shooting merit badge.

Likewise, Forty-five and thirty-eight also refer to bullet diameters of 0.45 and 0.38 inches respectively.

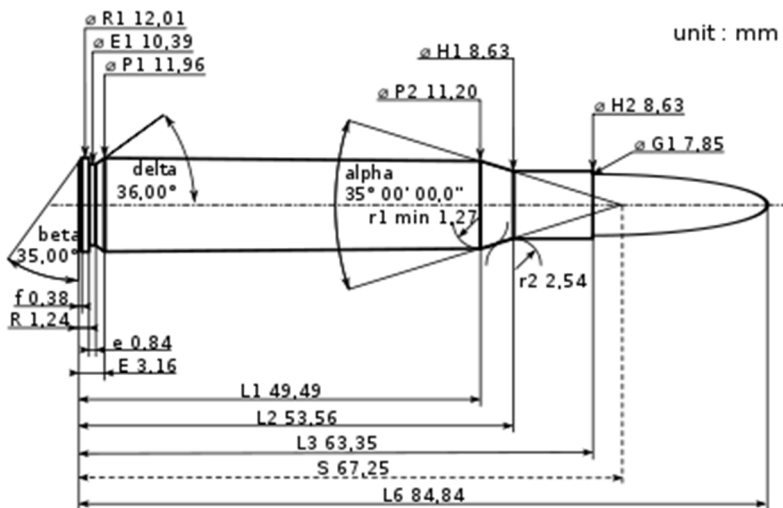
In a similar fashion, the first part of the .30-06 refers to the bullet's diameter of 0.30 inches. The '06' (aught six) term harkens back to its military origins. During the early part of the twentieth century, the science of firearms and bullets was developing rapidly. To distinguish new cartridges from others, the year of introduction was added. The U.S. military developed a new, lighter cartridge in 1906 - the .30-06 which was short for "cartridge, ball, caliber .30, Model of 1906". It replaced the .30-03 which was the first U.S. military cartridge to use smokeless powder and had a round nosed bullet which was introduced in 1903. The 1906 design had a more aerodynamic pointed bullet.

'Thirty-aught six' ammo is popular for hunting because it combines effectiveness with low recoil "kick".

Another popular cartridge used for hunting is the .30-30. In this designation, the 0.30 refers to the caliber, but the second '30' refers to the grains of powder used in the cartridge. The 30 grains results in a recoil that most shooters can comfortably handle yet has enough power that it is effective when hunting deer.

At Black Mountain, Clear Creek and Miranda camps, the programs have muzzle-loading guns. Instead of a cartridge that has primer, powder and bullet, Scouts get to load a gun with powder, patch, ball, and percussion cap to shoot a .50 or .58-caliber muzzle-loading rifle. Using this firearm, they discover that it packs quite a wallop compared to the 0.22 they may be used to shooting.

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The specifications for a .30-06 cartridge are very precise as you would expect for a munition with a military origin. (Diagram from Wikipedia)

Maps Add Dimension To Philmont Displays

Every Scout knows that a map is useful for finding your way around. Philmont Ambassadors also know that a Philmont map is useful for inspiring Scouts to find their way to God's Country.

A map shows just how big Philmont is; 140,000 acres is a lot of property. Combined with surrounding areas like Chase Ranch and the Valle Vidal, it's awesome for scouts to realize the extent of land Philmont programs include. The overall Philmont map available from the Tooth of Time Traders is based on U.S.G.S. 7-1/2 minute quad topographic maps and does represent the overall landscape very well.

However, it's good to compare Philmont's size to something Scouts are familiar with like their local resident camp. For example, you can relate it to your local camp. ("Do you realize that Philmont is 50 times larger than Camp Strake in our Sam Houston Council?") It's useful to compare it to a camp or state park that Scouts are familiar with and do the math.

Another aspect of having a Philmont map is the memories that it invokes. Scouts who have been on a Trek will invariably start tracing their route, finding camps and landmarks that they remember. Their stories not only inspire others to want to do a Trek, but also can bring out that "I wanna

go back to Philmont" spirit that leads to a second trek or maybe an employment application.

Most Scouts have an appreciation of topographic maps, so seeing contour lines bunched together lets them know that they are in for some rigorous elevation changes along Philmont's trails. You'd like them to say, "Let's plan a few more hiking trips."

For those not as familiar with reading contour lines, a 3-D relief map brings those lines into clear perspective. The peaks and valleys come alive, and you can tell which trails follow the tops of scenic ridge lines and which follow rivers through narrow canyons. Those seemingly short hikes become much more challenging when you see the change in elevation along the route.

The 3D Philmont Scout Ranch map has recently been updated and is available at the Tooth of Time Traders. It adds a great visual accompaniment to other hiking gear you have at your display.

The large Philmont maps present the size of the Ranch on a scale that helps Scouts visualize the vastness of the property. Ambassadors can order these maps about twice a year. Both the overall Philmont Map and North and South sections are available.

Displaying these large maps does take



Alvin Crown combined grey 3/4" schedule 80 PVC with more economical white schedule 40 fittings for his large map stand.



A 3-D Philmont map makes the topography come alive so you can actually see how the terrain relates to the contour lines. *Photo by Tom Baltutis*

some preparation. If you are fortunate, you may have a wall available to tape the map onto. Be sure to check that it is permissible to do so and use tape that does not damage the wall surface.

Ambassadors have built display stands using PVC pipe available from local hardware and building supply stores. A typical stand is made of 1-1/4 or 1-1/2 pipe using several elbows and tees to form the frame. There are many examples on the Ambassador Facebook pages. The white PVC pipe is designated "schedule 40" and provides good support. "Schedule 80" pipe has sturdier, thicker walls and is usually a grey color. Schedule 80 pipe lets you use a smaller 3/4-inch diameter for the same strength and the grey color is a more neutral shade. Schedule 80 pipe may not as readily available as is common white PVC, and fittings will be more expensive to use. Gluing the frame is usually not necessary because pieces friction fit together well for a temporary set-up.

Cavalcades

Relive Old West

Way Of Travel

Riding the range was common in the 'Old West', and Scouts can relive that experience on a Cavalcade. Philmont Cavalcades are similar to regular expeditions except that instead of hiking, crews ride horses through the rugged mountain wilderness like the famous trappers who first explored the West.

Eight-day cavalcades with 10 to 15 people per crew are offered on specific dates each summer. The final day of the Cavalcade is spent in competition at an equestrian gymkhana.

Cavalcade registration takes place at the same time as Expeditions.

Due to safety concerns of both the horse and participant, there is a 200-pound weight limit for all riders. There are no exceptions. All other Philmont health restrictions also apply.

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Scouts get to show off their skills during the Gymkhana (games on horseback) at the end of their Cavalcade Trek. *Philmont Photo*

3D PHILMONT MAPS



Newly Updated in 2023



New Member Special!

to celebrate Seton's Birthday

Join before Sept. 14, 2023, to receive membership through Dec. 2024 (new members only)

What We Do:

- Collect oral histories from those influenced by Seton's work.
- Digitize and archive Seton family historical documents.
- Provide information on where to find Seton collections.
- Collaborate with Woodcraft/Woodcraft-like organizations worldwide.
- Collaborate with organizations with outdoor youth programs.
- Give presentations and workshops about ETS's philosophies on Indigenous cultures, nature conservation, character building, and more!

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Basic: \$ 30 **Friend: \$ 50** Supporter: \$ 100
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Sustainer: \$ 250 Underwriter: \$ 500 Angel: \$1,000

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The Institute is recognized by the US IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are deductible to the extent permitted by applicable law.

Camping Director Steve Nelson Retires

Nelson (Continued from page 3)

sons in the history of Philmont. In 2019, Philmont served 24,029 participants. This record was quickly broken as Philmont served 25,001 total participants in 2021.

After dealing with several consecutive seasons of difficult circumstances, Nelson adapted well to the chaos. Numerous itinerary changes were made due to burn scars and the closing of some camps and programs. He found new ways to manage program while navigating through the pandemic and working with crews who contracted Covid. But above all, Nelson worked through those challenges and strived to be an example of positive attitude and servant leadership.

"There's always going to be hard times, but I think we're at a good spot now where we can continue to grow our staff and our



Steve Nelson poses for a photo with his wife, Diane at his retirement party on August 4, 2023 at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, N.M. Photo by Victoria Case

leadership. Going forward, we can meet the challenge of how we attract more participants that are able to enjoy an exciting Philmont adventure. By building a quality program and experience, and having that word spread, we can attract more people back to Philmont."

When Nelson announced his retirement, Philmont knew there would be big shoes to fill. Matt Hart was hired on as the next Director of Camping in April 2023. Shadowing Nelson's final summer, Hart was able to gain an understanding of the magnitude of the operation and the complexities of delivering an exceptional wilderness experience.

Hart grew up in Georgia and has served various scouting councils in the Southeast for almost thirty years. He received a phone call from Roger Hoyt in April, looking for someone passionate about camping and Scouting.

"First and foremost, we've got to keep Philmont at that level," said Hart. "It's very easy to rest on your accomplishments, but we can't wait. We've got to find ways to get more people here. We have got to find ways to keep our staff engaged. There's a lot of passion on the Ranch, there's a lot of knowledge, there's a lot of brand loyalty, and there's a lot of folks who want to be here for the right reasons. You can do a lot with that."

Hart's first trip to Philmont was in 2009. One of his most cherished memories is summiting Mount Phillips with his oldest son on Father's Day that year. He wants to keep creating experiences people can look back on 10, 20, or even 50 years later.

"As [Hart] learns the operations of Philmont, then he's going to put his mark on what Philmont is. Now being here in this special place, with the special staff here, we're going to excel beyond what we've ever done before," said Nelson.

In his retirement, Nelson plans to move back to Idaho where he can spend more time with his grandkids. He plans to relax a bit, golfing and gardening, but he also wants to continue to find opportunities to serve others along with his wife.

"This has been an incredible journey. And I have received far more than I've ever been able to give. I want to have that continue. This is joy. This is happiness, to stand on top of the Tooth of Time and look out over the horizon and see there are still more opportunities to grow."

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Philmont Ambassador Newsletter

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Put Philmont In Your Future Plans

Future (Continued from page 1)

website [here](#). Contact newsletter editor Tom Baltutis at tfbaltutis@gmail.com if you need help in adapting the presentation for your needs.

New leader training courses in the fall are also an excellent place to do a presentation or set up a Philmont display. What better Wood Badge ticket item can there be than to attend a conference at Philmont Training Center or accept the Philmont Leadership Challenge?

It's never too early to start Scouts thinking about Philmont. Families with Cub-

aged youth can attend Family Adventure Camp. This is an economical whole-family vacation opportunity that has activities for everyone and can lead to Treks and PTC attendance as they progress in Scouting.

Many councils have a newsletter, either in print or electronic, that reaches most adults. You can tap into this resource by sending in the news article available on the Philmont website [here](#) for publication. Be sure to include your contact information and Philmont webpage link so readers can find out more as needed.

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