



PHILNEWS

Issue No. 6: Scouting Paradise



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**Stream at Phillips Junction.
Photo by Gabriel Milby.**



Seedling replanting. Photo by Julia Manipella.

Cita Seedlings

By Riley Brown and Julia Manipella



Seedlings being planted at Cimarroncita. Photo by Julia Manipella.

On July 14, 2025, 3,000 ponderosa pine seedlings were delivered to Philmont Scout Ranch from their nursery in Mora, New Mexico. Moved into their new climate-controlled home in Cimarroncita's facility, the young seedlings were in for big changes across the ranch in the days to come. The Ute Park Fire in 2018 stripped vital nutrients and plants out of the land on the 26,000 acres burned across Philmont and reforestation efforts needed to be put in place. Without the crucial Ponderosa pines, the area the fire impacted is prone to erosion and sediment build-up in the Cimarron River. Without the noble reforestation efforts from Philmont's Conservation department, Scouts,

and the help of neighboring organizations, it would be generations until regrowth was possible in the burn scar. Marty Parson, one of the foresters at Philmont, stated, "The fact we're putting the first trees in the ground to start to restore this burn scar is an incredible accomplishment for the Philmont Scout Ranch. It shows an incredible dedication to conservation and restoring the natural forest." Philmont's neighboring partners are equally as passionate about the conservation work being done. The Cimarron Watershed Alliance, the Colfax County Soil and Water District, the US Forest Service, and state forestry

Cita Seedlings

have all contributed to devising plans and supporting the ranch in this massive reforestation effort. With nearly half a million acres to be reforested, Philmont is looking to produce a greater number of tree seedlings to meet their target number. With the help of the University of New Mexico and the JTH Forestry Research Center at New Mexico State University, there's more accurate data being gathered for Philmont to determine what's working and what doesn't within the seedlings planting process. Scouts are a quintessential asset to the progress being made within the reforestation effort. "Conservation has always been a primary part of the Scouting organization." Parson continues, "It's important that the young men and women that come to Philmont know what kind of effort it takes to restore a burn scar like this, so maybe they're more careful when they're out in the woods. They have a better appreciation for what they have and what can be lost so easily."

Within this particular conservation project, Scouts have helped prep the site by clearing the land of species such as Gambel oak that might've competed with the much smaller seedlings. The work is done without heavy machinery and all by hand to minimize the environmental impact. Currently, 1,000 acres are prepped with the additional help of restoration thinning, invasive species treatment,



Seedlings being distributed. Photo by Julia Manipella.

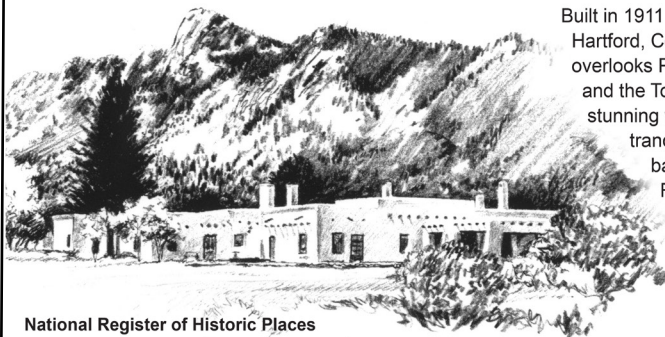
and controlled burns to begin planting the Ponderosa seedlings. Some of that work could appear counter intuitive to someone unfamiliar with the concepts of sustainable land management. Philmont conservation has a long legacy in working to protect the land the scouts where gifted. While some form of wild fires are inevitable and healthy for the region, fires like the Ute Park Fire are of the branch that remarkably destroy vegetation and biodiversity in the area. Lee Hughes, the Director of the Conservation Department noted that "Thinning is to prevent a situation like this from happening. As we thin the remaining green trees and reduce the likelihood to the catastrophic wild fire we have less acres we'll need to replant following [that] wildfire."

Seedling planting will allow for the land to cultivate new vegetation and diversify its future overgrowth exponentially earlier than without human interaction. However, to prepare for seedlings success restorative thinning maintains healthy more robust forests in the surrounding area and protects against catastrophic wildfires in the future. The work up to this point has been supported by federal funds, private partners, and donations. It's an expensive but worthwhile project that Philmont's conservation leadership hope to impress on the regions representatives.

Casey Myers, Philmont's Natural Resource Manager, commented that, "We've been fortunate there's been designated federal funds for Philmont to do this work and the state has brought matching dollars to those opportunities and we've been able to treat those 1000 acres." Looking forward they're pushing for

consistency of both treatments and the donations that make them possible. Myers believes "There's a mark on this landscape because of myself and the entire conservation department team and support of the ranch. And that's absolutely a great legacy to leave behind." As scouts work throughout the ranch on sustaining and restoring the natural landscape of this beautiful space. Myers knows "The Scouts are going home with a better understanding of it and we're able to redirect that narrative of thinning our forests is absolutely the right thing to do, it's the responsible thing to do, and they're just going to go out and beat that drum for us. And I know we're going to generate the next generation of those natural resource managers." Today this is shown most visibly in the number of scouts who have returned years or just days after their treks to take up the Philmont conservation legacy on staff.

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PSA Q&A

By Owen Traub



Outside of PSA building. Photo by Danielle Ballantine

The Philmont Scout Association (PSA) is an important part of Philmont. For over 50 years the PSA has united past, present and future Philmont staff, bringing fellowship beyond Philmont Scout Ranch. As the season wraps up for seasonal staff, the PSA works year round for the betterment of Philmont and its staff. Recently, Mr. Bob Mosher accepted an invitation to be interviewed, describing his work and the impact of the PSA as a whole.

What is your name and position within the PSA?

Bob Mosher, Executive Director of the Philmont Staff Association

How long have you worked with the PSA?

I've been with the PSA for about 3 ½ years.

Could you give me a short description on your position?

I work with an amazing team that includes full-time and seasonal employees along with a volunteer board of directors to fulfill our mission. My primary goal is to implement the goals and strategic priorities of our volunteer board, so I collaborate with these teams to oversee all aspects of membership, fundraising, events, stewardship, giving, and help to make sure that our members stay connected to Philmont.

Could you give me a description of the PSA for someone who hasn't heard of it?

The Philmont Staff Association (PSA) is dedicated to supporting the people, place, and programs of Philmont Scout Ranch. Its members help maintain the unique culture and

spirit of Philmont that make the experience impactful for Scouts. With nearly 4,000 members, the PSA is an alumni organization for anyone who has ever worked on Philmont staff, participated as a Philmont Training Center faculty, or served as a volunteer for seasonal programs such as Infirmary Physician, Museum Docent, Visiting Forester, Volunteer Geologist or Interpreter. Founded over 50 years ago, the PSA exists to unite Philmont staff—past, present, and future—for the purpose of serving the adventure, heritage and experience of Philmont and Scouting America. This is accomplished through activities such as reunions and gatherings, backcountry treks, service and fundraising projects, and our online member community.

How is the PSA involved in Scouting scholarships?

The PSA has provided scholarships since its founding in 1973. In the past year the PSA provided over \$60,000 in scholarships. Currently, we provide scholarships to assist scouts attending individual treks (Rayado, OA Trail Crew, ROCS, Trail Crew Trek, and Ranch Hands), to support children of families coming to PTC for the first time and to help Philmont seasonal staff financially with their education or certifications.

Information is available on the PSA website including the applications.

What are the responsibilities of the PSA in the off-season compared to the summer?

Welcoming members and visitors to the PSA office is a year-round enjoyment for our office staff! We love to say hello to anyone coming to Philmont or travelling in the area. Throughout the year we host several events. In addition to our PSA Summer Trek, we host a PSA Cavalcade and PSA Autumn trek. In October this year we are taking our national “HOMecoming” reunion event to Tulsa, Oklahoma where attendees will enjoy a great weekend connecting with one another while we all celebrate the hometown of Philmont founder Waite Phillips. A special highlight of the weekend is our gala celebration dinner at the Philbrook Museum of Art, which was home to Waite and Genevieve Phillips from 1927-1938. The PSA conducts several volunteer service projects in the off season too.

Volunteer Vacation takes place in September for a week of trail building. PhilBreak happens for two week-long sessions in March with backcountry improvements. Philmont Service Corps occurs in April and September with ranch facility improvement projects. We also host our board members at the ranch in September and April in conjunction with the Ranch Committee gatherings.

How does the PSA give back to Philmont?

Every member of the PSA has a deep connection to and love for Philmont. The projects and activities that are chosen reflect that

PSA Q&A



PSA Trek. Photo by George Segelken

affection. PSA members have supported capital projects such as the PSA Staff Dining Hall, the Silver Sage Staff Activity Center, fire recovery and mitigation after the Ute Park and Cooks Peak fires, the PTC dining hall veranda, and the National Scouting Museum. Also, the PSA provides thousands of hours of volunteer service every year through our Volunteer Vacation, Service

Corps and PhilBreak programs (4,944 hours in 2024).

Additionally, the PSA has provided over \$750,000 in scholarships.

Is there anything else you would like readers to know?

The Staff Amigo care packages that each backcountry camp and Basecamp department receive are 100% donated by PSA members!

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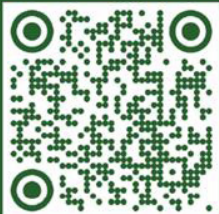
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In Defense of Darkness

By Matt Bolden

Zastrow Trail Race star gazing. Photo by Julia Manipella.

Out in the high country of northern New Mexico, where the Sangre de Cristo Mountains cradle the horizon and the wind tells stories older than memory, darkness still reigns. Its vast kingdom towering high above the artificial blanket of softened urban twilight that hovers above city skylines. It is not the murky orange haze cast by distant parking lots, but a pure, velvety blackness that reveals the heavens in their ancient glory. Here, above Philmont Scout Ranch, stars burn like ice against obsidian, and the Milky Way spills across the sky in a shimmering torrent. For thousands of Scouts who trek these trails each summer, this darkness is not something that requires vigilance and a headlamp, it's something to remember.

It's no accident that the darkness is preserved here. Philmont is surrounded by International Dark Sky locations, a growing initiative dedicated to protecting the world's remaining pockets of natural night. The program recognizes parks, communities, and reserves that work to limit artificial light and raise awareness about its environmental and cultural impacts. At Philmont, intentional practices, like shielding lights and educating staff and participants, make the darkness a priority, not a byproduct. Light from towns and roads can greatly decrease the amount of night sky that people can see. Utilities Manager Paul Behrendsen notes that, "depending on the direction, broad

light takes away from the overall amount of light that comes out of the sky. We try to make things a little lower, cast light straight down instead of a broad area. I want other people to have the chance to see a starry sky out here."

Behrendsen also details that Philmont has been, "swapping [light] fixtures out so that they shine straight down instead of a broad light fixture that can drown out starlight."

These efforts aren't merely cosmetic. Darkness isn't just an aesthetic choice; it's an ecological and educational one. Nocturnal wildlife relies on natural darkness to thrive, and humans benefit from an unfiltered view of the cosmos. When Scouts spend even a few nights under a sky like Philmont's, they often come away with more than just fond memories. They leave with a new sense of scale, a glimpse into the vast, slow machinery of the universe. That's precisely why astronomy plays such a vital role in the Philmont experience. At camps like Ring Place, staff lead evening star talks and telescope sessions, guiding Scouts through constellations with the same mix of myth and science that has anchored human storytelling for millennia.

Benjamin Jinkins, Camp Director of Ring Place, notes that whenever he walks outside alone, "it really sinks in just how vast the universe is." He goes on to note that, "We like to end

In Defense of Darkness



Star gazing at PTC Western Night. Photo from Sarah Peplow.

our program with an overview of how all matter was formed through fusion in the stars and so we're all kind of made of the same stuff and that kind of connects us in a way that's pretty deep if you think about it. Being connected in this way makes me think about how important it is to be courteous, kind, clean, obedient, et cetera. In the end, a lot of what really matters is how we treat each other and how we treat the earth."

For many Scouts, this is the first time the sky has ever seemed alive. They begin to recognize Orion's belt, trace the arc of the Big Dipper and other constellations, or spot Saturn's rings through a telescope. With each discovery, the sky grows a

little closer for these scouts.

And so each night, as the sun slips behind the western ridges and the last alpine glow fades from the Tooth of Time, the stage is set again; not just for another beautiful sky, but for a moment of transformation. Beneath the stars, something changes in people. Their breathing slows. Conversations grow softer. Eyes widen. The universe, once a distant abstraction, becomes deeply personal.

Because in that darkness, you remember what it means to wonder.

Twilight Trails

By Matt Bolden



Ghost photo at the villa. Photo by Logan Albrinck.

A heavy wooden knock echoes through an empty cabin. Voices of lives long past cry out in the night. Was that a branch rustling in the wind, or something far more sinister? Philmont has a long and storied history of supernatural encounters on ranch, but are these encounters merely something in the backcountry water supply, or are there really ghosts and spirits from the great beyond that inhabit this land? Deep in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of New Mexico, past the towering Tooth of Time and miles beyond the reach of cell service, there are stories whispered only around campfires. They're not found in crew guides or safety briefings, but

among scouts, rangers, and Philmont staff. These tales are as much a part of the trail as blisters and sunrise views. They're the ghosts of Philmont and if you hike quietly enough, you just might hear them.

For over 85 years, Philmont Scout Ranch has been a proving ground for tens of thousands of scouts. But along with stories of summits and survival come tales passed down from ranger to crew, trek to trek: tales of vanished miners, haunted cabins, flickering lanterns in empty camps, and ghostly voices drifting from long-abandoned mine shafts. Each ghost story is rooted in the land's long, layered past; Spanish colonists, miners,



Rayado Candlelight tour.
Photo by Gabriel Milby.

homesteaders, Indigenous peoples, all of whom left traces behind on the land that we call Philmont, intermittently populated by humans for over 1500 years. Some of those traces, it seems, have yet to leave. One of the most notable locations on ranch with a long history of paranormal encounters is Urraca Mesa. The word "Urraca," meaning Magpie, was taken from the language of the Native Americans that lived here previously who attested that a great battle between good and evil took place at the top of the mesa long ago. Even creepier, magpies have been seen across multiple cultures and people as omens of death. While hiking up the mesa, natural deposits of lodestone can obscure your compass, making backcountry navigation difficult. Blue lights and strange impish figures can often be seen haunting participants and staff on trail, even a disappearing campsite at Urraca Staff Camp that takes crews out of time and space, safeguarding them from bad weather have been

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reported. Is the lack of water getting to the minds of participants and staff or is there really a secret Anasazi portal to the underworld? Not all ghosts wear chains and howl in the night. Some just keep working. Tucked deep in the high country of Philmont, several backcountry camps, French Henry, Miranda, and Cyphers Mine, stand as living monuments to the ranch's mining past. Scouts come here to pan for gold, shoot black powder rifles, or tour old mines. But after dark, the lessons and programs get a little less official. For example, at French Henry, rangers have long warned crews to stay out of the mine shaft after sunset, not just for safety, but because the last miner inside might not have left. Visitors have reported pickaxes ringing, tools clanking, footsteps echoing through the tunnels, and even whispered voices carried on the mountain air. At Miranda, the haunting memories of a child killed in a mining accident are contrasted by the friendly, motherly spirit that reportedly cares

for staff members in their hour of need. This guardian angel, dubbed "Clarita's Mom" has been known to show favor upon those who bring gifts to her daughter's grave, echoing the care onto those who show care for her deceased daughter.

Not to mention at Cypher's Mine, lanterns flicker in the darkness even when the buildings are empty. Stories tell of a prospector who struck gold, but never left to claim it. Some say he still guards The Contention, warning off curious scouts with dreams, rattling gear, and gusts of icy wind in the hottest weeks of July. Whether these tales are legend, exaggeration, or something stranger, one thing is certain: the mountains remember. And the deeper you go into Philmont's mining past, the more you'll feel those memories watching, lantern in hand, merely a haze in the moonlight.

Long before miners dug into the hills

or scouts hiked the trails, this land belonged to the Jicarilla Apache and Pueblo peoples, nations who knew the mountains not just as geography, but as spirit-filled places.

Their stories spoke of sacred mesas, shape-shifting beings, and ancestral spirits who watched over the land long after the fires went cold. These aren't tales of fright, but of reverence, reminders that the line between the living and the departed is thinner here, where memory is stitched into every ridge and canyon. Whether it's a shadow in a mine, a voice on the wind, or a forgotten name in a summit log, every ghost story is a call to remember. A call not just to the people who passed through Philmont, but the cultures, histories, and truths that shaped it. And so we tell these stories not with the intention to scare, but to preserve. Because as long as someone listens, no spirit or story is ever truly lost.



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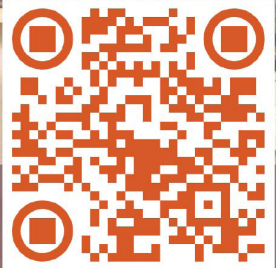
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Counselor Corner

By Dr. Luke Arnold, PhD, LMFT, NCC



As Philmont Summer 2025 begins to wind down, you may be filled with multiple emotions. Many of us find ourselves bracing for the transition to fall. The end of summer can be a bittersweet time, filled with nostalgia for carefree days and anticipation of the crisp autumn air. The shift in seasons can also bring about unease and restlessness. You may be feeling sad about leaving Philmont, you may be anxious about the next season of life, you may be wondering what the fall school term or job waiting for you will be like, you may be excited to see family and friends back home. Post-Philmont depression, whether it is for the end of the season or for your last season

(hopefully for just now), is a real thing many people experience. Continue to spend time outdoors. Spending time in green spaces has been shown to reduce stress and increase feelings of well-being, making it an excellent way to transition into the next season of life. Continue to practice mindfulness. By acknowledging your feelings and allowing yourself to process them without judgment, you can better adapt to the upcoming changes and maintain emotional balance. Adjust your sleep routine gradually. Maintaining a consistent sleep routine can help you feel more energized and alert during the day. Stay active. Physical activity is an excellent way to combat the mixed emotions that often accompany the end of summer. Regular exercise can boost your mood, reduce stress, and help you maintain a positive outlook as you transition to the next season. Gratitude journaling. Shift your focus from what you might be losing with the end of summer to what you have to be grateful for. Keep a gratitude journal and write down three things you are thankful for daily. By cultivating a sense of gratitude, you can reframe your mindset and maintain a positive outlook as the seasons change.



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NEW ITEM

Looking Ahead to 2026 at Philmont

Trail Notes from GM Andrea Watson

Philmont Scout Ranch is already preparing for a monumental 2026 and you're invited to be part of it! Next summer, we'll join the nation in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. Throughout the season, crews and families will have the chance to participate in special commemorative programs that highlight our country's founding and the role of Scouting in shaping tomorrow's leaders. A special edition Arrowhead patch and themed activities will mark this milestone summer, making 2026 a unique chapter in Philmont history.

Program Evolutions in the Backcountry

Philmont is always looking for ways to improve the experience while honoring the traditions that make this place special. In 2026, crews will see continued refinements to our backcountry programming, shaped by staff insight, participant feedback, and the evolving needs of the Scouting community.

One of the more notable potential updates is at Clark's Fork. While the camp will continue to celebrate its Western heritage, we're beginning a thoughtful transition away from traditional "dude" horse rides at Clark's Fork. This shift supports our



goals around sustainable programming and horsemanship education while preserving the cowboy spirit that has long made Clarks Fork a highlight for many. As part of this evolution, we're also exploring the addition of a cowboy action shooting range, which would offer a dynamic and engaging new activity that fits naturally within the camp's Western-themed experience. At the same time, we're expanding Cavalcade opportunities across the Ranch, giving more crews the chance to experience Philmont on horseback through this unforgettable backcountry adventure. The additional capacity will help move more crews off the waiting list, meeting the growing demand for this highly sought-after experience. We're also excited to reopen the Rayado and Kit Carson area full-time, welcoming crews

Looking Ahead to 2026 at Philmont

back into this historic and scenic part of the Ranch. It's another step forward in Philmont's recovery and growth.

Looking beyond just one season, Philmont will continue work on its long-range Master Plan. This effort is helping guide improvements across programs, infrastructure, staffing, and conservation to ensure the Ranch remains strong for the next generation of Scouts.

New Construction and Historic Restoration

Philmont's facilities continue to grow and evolve. By summer 2026, a new cabin at Beaubien will be completed, adding capacity and flexibility to one of our most iconic camps. At the same time, restoration work on the Villa Philmonte will continue, preserving the home of Waite and Genevieve Phillips and honoring the legacy that started it all.

Philmont is also investing in essential infrastructure to support safety, sustainability, and long-term operations. Projects include upgrades to water catchments, corrals, and roofs, improvements to backcountry roads, and the long-anticipated completion of a new road to Sawmill. These improvements not only enhance the overall experience for participants and staff, but they help ensure reliable access and long-term operational resilience



Rodeo watchers. Photo by Sarah Peplow.

across the property.

Conservation That Matters

Philmont's commitment to land stewardship is at the heart of everything we do. In 2026, our conservation department and participants will continue critical work across the Ranch, including restorative thinning to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest health, creek restoration projects that help slow runoff and recharge the water table, and replanting efforts in the Ute Park Fire burn scar to bring life back to affected areas.

This ongoing conservation work reinforces Philmont's mission to deliver adventure while caring for the land that makes it all possible.

A Summer to Remember

Whether it's your first time on the trail or your fourth summer working at the Ranch, 2026 promises to be a year of celebration, progress, and purpose. Be part of it by hiking, riding, volunteering, or serving as a member of the Philmont team. We can't wait to have you HOmE!



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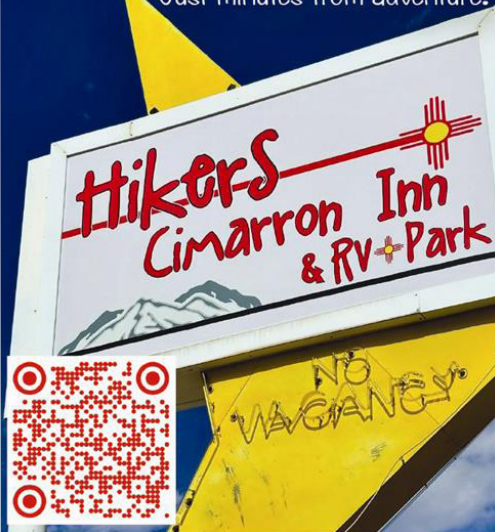
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MPS Spotlight

By Owen Traub



MPS staff photo at Lovers Leap. Photo by Mya Kacvinsky.

This season, each department at Marketing and Photography Services (MPS) has made great accomplishments. Photo takes pride in the amount of professional growth that has occurred in each individual photographer on staff this summer. Video is satisfied with the large number of projects that they have finished. Publications is happy to have found a writing style that works for the team, and to be able to write a large range of stories.

Like most Philmont employees, the MPS crew are grateful for the opportunity to work somewhere as beautiful as the ranch making art

for other Philmont enthusiasts to enjoy. Whether they're jumping out of bushes with cameras, hiking hot dogs up Baldy Mountain for a video, or brainstorming story ideas for the next issue of PhilNews, everyone in MPS worked this summer to contribute to the success of Philmont Scout Ranch as a whole. Keeping a department as differentiated as MPS organized and efficient requires strong leadership.

The leadership structure at MPS is simple and likely familiar if you have been keeping up with PhilNews this summer. Our full-time manager and seasonal manager, on top of their many other responsibilities to the

ranch, are present to assist the department with anything they might need from editing PhilNews to curating social media posts. While she has been present at the ranch for over 8 years, this is Kate Warrick's first time leading the Marketing department as the full-time manager. Along side her is Julia Manipella, the MPS manager with a background in production management but a passion for all things MPS. Of course, running a department as busy as MPS is more than a two-person job, which is why Riley Brown, Mya Kacvinsky, and Truman Attaway help run the publications, photography, and videography departments respectively. These seasonal assistant managers organize and assign tasks to seasonal employees, giving guidance whenever needed. This season, MPS is being recognized and supported by external forces as well. Bob Malish, the Senior Professional Product Specialist at Canon USA Inc., provided the department with professional quality camera bodies gear and lenses this summer. With this gear, MPS photographers and videographers have had the opportunity to expand their portfolios and work with professional quality equipment, setting them up for success outside of HOME. Similar to most departments on ranch, this season's MPS team had a range of experience levels, from first-time staff to seasoned full-time

employees, and everything in between. Department members come from diverse backgrounds and a variety of places in the United States but come together for a common goal. Throughout the past two months, staff here have developed true connections and friendships strong enough to withstand once their 'real' lives start again. In many ways, Philmont staff are affected just as much, if not more so than the participants that they're hired to serve, proving what a special place Philmont Scout Ranch truly is.

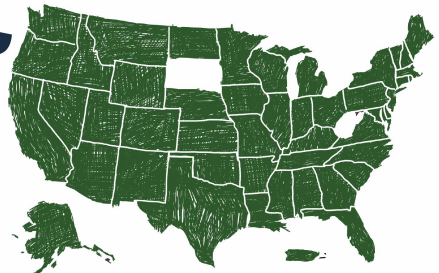


2025 SUMMER BY NUMBERS

17,424

PARTICIPANTS FROM

48 STATES & ONE TERRITORY



PHILMONT
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED
\$573,451



13 WELCOME CENTER
VOLUNTEERS

686 EAGLE SCOUTS ON STAFF



603 NEW STAFF

604 RETURNING STAFF



6,800
NALGENES
SOLD



2 CAMPS REOPENED
HARLEN & RING PLACE



4,200 PARTICIPANT
CELL PHONES CHARGED

 1,600
MAINTENANCE
SERVICE CALLS

2,000
INFIRMARY
PATIENT VISITS

3,000
NEW TREES PLANTED



ITEMS 
BRANDED @ CHQ
27,000

1,293
LOST ITEMS RETURNED




173 
MILES CLIMBED BY PARTICIPANTS

 636.9K
PEOPLE REACHED ON FACEBOOK

 149.6K
PEOPLE REACHED ON INSTAGRAM


RANGERS SPENT
7.5 YEARS
TEACHING BACKCOUNTRY SKILLS

 121,014
TRANSACTIONS
@ TOT

Thank you

By Riley Brown



Thank you for being a part of the history that makes up PhilNews Summer 2025! From every interview, revision, and printing session PhilNews as a whole has evolved over the summer. Thanks to not only an amazing publications team and Marketing and Photo Services department who has been supportive every step of the way, but also you. We've been so lucky to have such a captive audience this summer who are excited to receive new issues when they drop. Whether they're being delivered into the hands of Backcountry camps, stacks in dining hall, or in town businesses the receiving end has generated an energy that's kept this department motivated.

Encapsulating all of Philmont's wonder and various stories in the 28 PHILNEWS ■ Issue 6

form of written word isn't always easy. However, thank you to all who have helped us uncover the magic hidden within the piles of rocks that make this place HOmE. Teaching us traditions, history, and even personal tales we've been so lucky to be submerged in the Philmonty feeling every step of the way through this publication process with all of you. Covering so many talents, news, and hidden gems has been a genuine privilege.

And a special thank you to all our sponsors.

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To everyone who has loved, read, edited, and supported this publication every step of the way this summer. Thank you. Without you we couldn't have created something that's not only ours to be proud of, but the community's.

Signing off one last time,
Summer 2025
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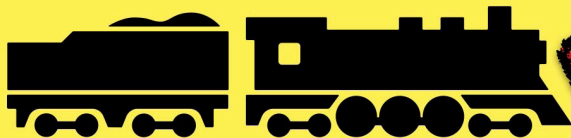
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