

# PHILMONT AMBASSADOR UPDATE

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SERVING BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD

FALL 2018

## Philmont 2019: The Adventure Continues



Members of the Philmont Recovery Corps remove the protective wraps that helped save backcountry structures from damage from the Ute Park Fire.

Philmont's backcountry is tough - so tough that it can endure the fires of 2018 and still carry on the tradition of providing adventures to thousands of Scouts in 2019 and beyond.

"Our Itineraries team has been doing their best to plan Treks that accommodate everyone coming next year," explained Dominic Baima, director of Marketing. "Not everything will be 100% the same, but it'll still be a great experience."

Crews who have Treks scheduled for 2019 will be receiving their planning materials in the Spring. Itinerary changes in the materials will reflect the areas affected by the fires. The selection process is the same.

Crews select their top three choices, and the odds are excellent they will get to do and see what they want.

Because of all the extra activities going on at the ranch this season, the Philmont Lottery for 2020 has been moved back a few days. It will now run from October 30 to December 2.

Understandably, many crews who had their Treks cancelled in 2018 have been rescheduled for the few open slots in 2019 or prioritized for 2020. Therefore, space will be pretty tight for the remaining 2020 openings. Still, getting a Trek in 2020 is possible, but crews need to enter the lottery just as in any other year. **P2**

### New Scout Museum Opens Doors

The National Scouting Museum—Philmont Scout Ranch officially opened to the public on June 8 just in time for conference families and visitors to be among the first to venture into this 19,500-square-foot home of BSA history. A few days before at a May 29 ceremony, more than 1,100 guests and Philmont staffers witnessed the museum's ceremonial ribbon-cutting.

Philmont Ranch Committee Chairmen Jim Ryffel addressed the crowd. He told them about the new museum and encouraged the staff to deliver another amazing summer to the visitors who will arrive soon at the BSA's training and high-adventure base.

The museum is open 9 AM to 5 PM from August 23 to May 31. Summer hours starting June 1 are 8 AM to 5:30 PM.

The National Scouting Museum - Philmont Scout Ranch combines the National Scouting Museum, previously located in Irving, Texas, and the Philmont Museum—Seton Memorial Library.

"These two historic institutions are now one comprehensive museum which will tell the story and preserve the legacies of the Boy Scouts of America," said Kevin Dowling, Philmont's general manager. That means visitors can experience



Officials cut the ribbon opening the Scout Museum.

firsthand the 108-year history of the BSA through priceless Scouting artifacts and fascinating exhibits. They'll learn the story of Scouting, the Order of the Arrow, Philmont and the American Southwest.

Although Philmont had a museum at base camp for many years, a much bigger structure was needed. Museum architects from Santa Fe, NM, were hired, and the buzz of design and construction began soon after. A year and a half later, the beautiful new museum facility is ready to welcome guests. It faces the Sangre de Cristo mountains to the west and is

surrounded by native grasses of the high plains. The 19,500 square feet of interior space allows for a gift shop, library with reading room, visiting scholar's room, two large exhibit halls, and an 88-person conference room. A big workshop, administration area and two-room collection storage area are new luxuries for the staff.

In December 2016, the BSA announced it would relocate its National Scouting Museum to Philmont. The new location offers the chance to introduce the BSA's rich history to the 32,000 people who visit Philmont each year. **P2**

**Click here to download the 2020 Unit Registration Packet**

### Who's Who at Philmont

## Dominic Baima - Marketing Manager

#### Duties at Philmont:

I oversee all marketing activities at Philmont. I also oversee the IT department. I am responsible for our websites, e-commerce, email promotions, graphic design, photography, social media, and many other duties as assigned.

**Number of years at Philmont:** Two part time and two seasonal.

#### Prior positions at Philmont:

2014 summer - NPS Marketing Staff.

2015 - NPS Lead Marketing Specialist.

May 2016 - February 2018 - E-Commerce Manager at the Tooth of Time Traders

#### Most memorable experience at Philmont:

My most memorable experience would be my trek in 2011. It was an unforgettable adventure that I will always remember and helps motivate me everyday, knowing that what I do helps others get to have a similar life-changing experience.



#### Most Humorous Experience at Philmont:

My most humorous experiences occurred when I would work the register in the Tooth of Time Traders during some of the dinner rushes. I always loved when a participant would ask me if there was a discount for being a Scout or for doing a Trek. Some of my favorite memories also come from working the registers and talking to crews who came back off the trail. I could see how much they grew and enjoyed their Trek.

**P2**

## Welcome New Ambassadors!

We are pleased to welcome these new Ambassadors into our community.

Name	Area	Council
Forest Bjerkaas	SR	Sam Houston Area
Jeremy Brown	WR	Southern Sierra
Maria Brown	WR	Southern Sierra
Mary Chesser	SR	Atlanta Area
Laurie Cowan	CR	Pathway To Adventure
Donald Fidler, Jr.	SR	Alamo Area
Steve Jackson	CR	Ozark Trails
Preston Keeler IV	WR	Denver Area
Clyde Keller	NE	New Birth of Freedom
Matt Kreps	SR	Cherokee Area
Scott McAllister	SR	Longhorn
Gregory McDaniel	SR	Indian Waters
Teddi McQueen	NE	Greater New York
Timothy Munday	CR	Pony Express
Keith Nathan	WR	Montana
Michael Pratt	WR	Great Southwest
William Richey	WR	Oregon Trail
Kenneth Rudny	CR	Three Fires
Donald Shoemaker	NE	Columbia-Montour
William Sloan	SR	Greater Alabama
Brenda Swan	WR	Las Vegas Area
Joseph Torlucci	NE	Northern New Jersey
Kevin Wills	CR	Three Fires

**Eric Gabbart**  
**1957 - 2018**



### Philmont Ambassador Newsletter

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This newsletter is published quarterly for the benefit of Philmont Ambassadors in the spirit of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Every effort is made to provide accurate and complete information. However, the newsletter publisher does not guarantee that there will be no errors, nor does it make claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents of the newsletter and expressly disclaims liability for errors and omissions in the contents of this newsletter. Scout's Honor!



# Post-Fire New Growth Benefits Wildlife

The forests and woodlands of the Southwest evolved with the natural, seasonal force of low intensity fire sweeping through the landscape every two to ten years. For over a hundred years, land managers across the United States have suppressed natural and human-caused fire which “cleaned” the forest floor.

Timber harvest has not mimicked the thinning action fire once played over the Ponderosa Pine forests, rather establishing homogeneous and dense second-growth forests. The shaded thickets choke out grasses, forbs, and shrubs and limit nutrients needed by native wildlife.

Through the Ute Park Fire itself and new objectives for the summer, Philmont recognizes the need for restoration of the natural ecosystem despite obvious destruction. While the fire has undoubtedly brought negative short-term effects to the creatures in the backcountry, in the long-term the populations will benefit.

The immediate desolation of our blaze certainly displaced many animals in the path of the flames, pushing them to unaffected areas. Scientists in similar habitats in New Mexico and Arizona have observed bears migrating out of high altitude burn areas to lower elevations and different mountainous regions, but bears will stay in unburned forest on the edge of burn country to feed in the early morning as vegetation returns.

Wildfire releases minerals like Phosphorous and Nitrogen from standing trees and litter on the forest floor and encourages a diversity of new growth packed with protein particularly needed by calving elk to grow and feed healthy young. Over the next few years, Philmont’s elk and deer populations will thrive on this growth, especially in the high country near streams



Photos of a typical forest fire area taken just months apart show how new plants on the forest floor appear rapidly and provide food and habitat for many animals in the wake of destruction. Deer and small animals especially benefit from the new vegetation.

and lakes.

If the elegant white trunks of aspen stands were blackened in the fire, find solace in the fact that new growth from aspens will feed generations of animals with densely packed nutrients in the shoots and leaves. The Philmont Recovery Corps plans to execute large scale timber stand improvement around Philmont over the next months to protect significant resources and values like roads, streams and backcountry camps from future fires.

This disturbance will have additional rewards for our wildlife populations somewhat similarly to historical,

healthy fires by removing small trees and moving closer to the savanna-like understory of the past. Thinned forests in the Sacramento Mountains to the south of Philmont have yielded higher richness, abundance, and activity of mammals of all sizes compared to dense, overgrown forests. Additionally, research on Vermejo Park Ranch, one of Philmont’s neighbors, showed elk and deer utilize the increased understory growth after thinning and prescribed burning.

Fire and open forests are the natural friends of our wildlife and help balance a healthy ecosystem. Before the Conservation Department was estab-

lished, before Waite Phillips bestowed the Ranch to Scouting, and before the first white settlers arrived here, fire was the one force that executed the primary land management in the Sangre de Cristos. Regular fire came with summer storms and brought a balance of new growth to the forest floor while protecting towering Ponderosas.

Today, the Ranch steps towards a budding health which fire once brought the land - for the safety of humans, the benefit of wildlife, and the integrity of the land.

(Article from Phil News, June 22, 2018) P2

## Ambassadors Get Up Close and Personal Treatment During Conferences

After a year of careful and detailed planning followed by seven weeks of frantic scrambling because of the Ute Park Fire, Philmont Ambassadors began arriving at Philmont Scout Ranch on August 5.

Attendees were a diverse bunch. One Ambassador had been to all 400 National Parks, monuments, and other properties. One had made a video contrasting Philmont with Fairmont, a luxury hotel. One is a former head of Philmont security. Two had a son working Philmont Staff. There was a Father – Son team and two Husband-Wife teams of Ambassadors. Outnumbering them all were the seven Ambassadors from the Heart of America Council.

Ranch where they saw first hand how dangerously close the fire came to the buildings. The burnt hillside nearby was but a stark reminder. A large earth mover that belongs to Chase Ranch was used to make many of the fire breaks that saved portions of the entire Ranch from destruction.

Fortunately, everything at the ranch survived, including the fossil dinosaur bone that Chase family member Gretchen Sammis used as a doorstop and the ranch’s 1940’s Willy’s Jeep that is still in use.

One of the big topics of interest was the effect of the Ute Park fire on the Ranch. Both groups heard from the Philmont Forester, Zach Seeger, who is responsible for all 90,000 forested

### Ambassador I Highlights

One of the great incentives for attending a Philmont Ambassador seminar is walking over to Marketing and Photography Services to have your photo taken and made into your personal Philmont Ambassador ID Badge. It serves as a unique souvenir of your visit as well as identifies you as someone who knows the ropes at Philmont.

Newer Ambassadors got a unique perspective of the Ranch from Dr. Dan Miller. He led the group on an in-depth tour of Camping Headquarters (CHQ) and the administrative areas that visitors don’t get to see. At an extended stop by the Conservation Department, they were briefed on the activities of the three hundred plus staff who decided to stay at Philmont after the fire and do conservation work.

Grant Reigelman, the new Philmont Training Center (PTC) Director, discussed the variety of programs available in a presentation on the conferences, Family Adventure weeks, and PTC family programs. He can be contacted to assist Ambassadors in getting the resources we need to sell PTC to prospective attendees.

A-1 attendees got to visit the Rayado Ridge Camp where the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) session was in progress led by Rob Jones, a Philmont Ambassador who is also a NAYLE advisor.

The last A-1 session, simply named **Selling Philmont**, started with a discussion on how to engage Council scouters back home to help get access to key leaders and executives and to develop opportunities and events for Philmont marketing. Ambassadors reviewed a roadmap for their first 180 days as a Philmont Ambassador to give them an idea of what they should be working on during their first few months. A discussion on displays, business cards, presentations and available resources helped focus these initial efforts.

### Ambassador II Conference Features

More experienced Ambassadors toured the Family Program facilities to see the gamut of activities for families of attendees. While many of the Ambassadors had been to PTC, they now got the opportunity to experience the family activity side of the program.

Putting their new knowledge and experience to the test, Ambassador II attendees were challenged to create a display about some facet of



Ambassador 1 attendees pause for a group photo at Rayado Ridge Camp.

Philmont operations. Topics were assigned to teams. Gift cards to the Tooth of Time Traders were supplied to acquire props. The Craft Center provided art supplies and display boards while Marketing chipped in brochures and banners. In the afternoon, each team presented their display as if they were talking to a Scout group that requested them to speak on that particular Philmont program.

Presentations and displays were rated by the other A-2 groups. Then the Ambassador I group walked through to admire the displays and also rate them. The winning group was presented with webbed Philmont belts.

Friday morning, Grant Reigelman returned along with Steve Nelson, Camping Director, to explain the “Second Season” at PTC. Specifically, it provides ways a Scout Council Executive could inspire their Board of

Directors or major donors. One example is the Fishing Tournament where Philmont caters for all the participants and houses them in PTC buildings while they get to try their luck in Waite Phillips’ favorite fishing spots. PTC also provides flexible scheduling for opportunities for Board retreats. On Sportsman Adventures, the more adventurous at heart can on hunting expeditions for bear, elk, and other big game. Philmont will arrange to have their game butchered and frozen for shipment home.

Both conferences achieved their objective to inform and excite Ambassadors about the many opportunities available to Scouts and Scouters back in their home Councils. Next year’s sessions will benefit from heading into the backcountry again.

**Dave Lyons and Rob Welander provided information for this article. P2**



Ambassadors get ready for a tour of Ranch facilities.

Those who had not already attended an Ambassador Seminar enrolled in the Ambassador-I (A-1) sessions while those who had previously been through it were in the new Ambassador-II (A-2) conference. The two groups sometimes met together when the material pertained to both and at other times split for specialty topics.

The Ambassador Program itself continues to grow, and Jim Ellis gave his perspective on how we have helped Philmont attract Scouts and Scouters to the many opportunities at Philmont. In fact, “One Ranch - Many Opportunities” was the way the A-1 group summarized their experience.

Interest in the new Scout Museum ran high among attendees, and they were rewarded with a special Ambassador Reception and Tour of the new facilities. Participants heard stories and saw Scouting memorabilia going back to BSA beginnings including items belonging to Earnest Thompson Seton, Daniel Beard, James West and William Boyce.

Both groups got a tour of Chase

acres on the ranch. He gave his first hand run down of the Ute Park fire and described his hectic life during the early summer.

All Ambassadors heard from Dominic Baima and Heather Bermudez on the support that the Philmont Marketing Department provides. Brochures, banners, and computer graphics for making displays are all available by contacting the department.

Ambassadors learned that by being confident in our 3-**E**’s, we cannot fail in our purpose.

- We’ve **E**arned the right to talk about the subject. Philmont Ambassadors are generally Scouters who go to Philmont regularly and know a lot about it.
- We’re **E**xcited about the subject – no explanation required. If we weren’t excited about Philmont, we would not have signed up as Ambassadors.
- We’re **E**ager to tell others about the subject – It doesn’t take much to get us talking about the place, does it?

## New Conference Set For Scout Historians

Next Summer, the first-ever week-long summit for Scouting Historians will be held at PTC. Jointly sponsored by the Order of the Arrow and the National Scouting Museum, the program will immerse participants in the “Rules, Tools, & Strategies” for capturing and preserving Scouting’s rich heritage. Scouting Historian experts will guide Scouts and Scouters in a variety of essential topics including:

- Archival & Preservation best practices
- Preservation and strategic practices

- Developing Scouting history websites
- Conducting living histories and interviews
- Historical narrative story telling
- Preserving your Council and Lodge history
- Scouting art detectives
- Advanced management of collections.

The Course will be held during Week 1, June 9- 15, 2019. Pass this information along to your Council and OA Lodge Historians and encourage them to attend. **P2**



# A Voice from the Past

## Waite Phillips Explains His Gift of Philmont Ranch

Reprinted from the January, 1942 issue of Scouting Magazine. Used by permission.

Waite Phillips of Tulsa, Okla, has again demonstrated his interest and confidence in the program and lead-



ership of the Boy Scouts of America by an outright gift of the Philmont Ranch involving 91,538 acres of land with buildings and other improvements, with approximately \$100,000 worth of livestock, together with a modern 23-story office building in Tulsa known as Philtower Building, to provide an endowment for the operation of the Scout Ranch and “for the advancement and development of the Program of Scouting”. In excess of \$5,000,000 investment is involved in the two properties.

Originally, Mr. Phillips gave 25,857 acres of land together with the sum of \$51,000 for physical equipment, and this for three years has been successfully operated as the Philturn Rockymountain Scoutcamp. The additional acreage will enlarge the opportunities for wilderness camping. The name Philturn Rockymountain Scoutcamp will be discontinued and the whole acreage will be known as the Philmont Scout Ranch.

Mr. Philips is of the opinion that an actual ranch in operation on a sound basis will aid to the attractiveness of

the camping experience of those who visit Philmont. His hope is that a large number of the Scouts and Scouters throughout America will have the opportunity for camping among the mountains, valleys and streams of this beautiful country and at the same time see for themselves the operation of a typical and successful ranch. The property abounds with relics of an historic past, as it was the scene of much of the activities of Kit Carson and his associates. In fact the former ranch home of Kit Carson is on the property.

Mr. Phillips, identified with the oil industry since 1906, in presenting this second gift to the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, made the following Statement:

“In viewing conditions today, I am impressed with the responsibility of this generation to adequately train its youth - physically, mentally and morally - to meet the problems they must face in the future. It is my opinion that nothing can be more valuable to this generation that to enlarge this Scouting program, which develops initiative, self-reliance and dependability.

“It has always been my belief that the best contribution to that kind of development is by living close to nature and through learning to live in the great out-of-doors. It is also my belief that the romance, history and traditions of the country in which this Ranch is located will contribute much toward perpetuating American idealism and patriotism among boys from all parts of America, and it is with these thoughts that I felt impelled to furnish an endowment so that all Boy Scouts and their leaders - now totaling approximately 1,500,000 - would have an equal opportunity to participate.

“To summarize is to say - the proper training of the American boy is today the most urgent duty of this American adult - the Boy Scouts of America has the most efficient plan and organization to do such work - the environment of a well developed Mountain Ranch is the best place to achieve this objective.” **P2**



Fishing is just one of the numerous activities that draw Scouters and their families to the wonders of Philmont Scout Ranch.

## Family Adventure Program Grows to Four Weeks in 2019

Philmont Family Adventure Week is no longer a once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience the Philmont Scout Ranch like never before. It's been extended into 2019 and looks like it will continue to be a vital part of the PTC program. Open to all registered members of the BSA and their families, Scouters will have a chance to participate in all of the incredible activities offered at Philmont and make memories with families that will last a lifetime.

The program was such a success that it's being expanded to a four week opportunity in 2019. Next year's program will run during Weeks 3, 4, 8 and 9 (6/23-6/29, 6/30-7/06, 7/28-8/03 and 8/04-8/10).

Over 80% of attendees in 2018 had never been to Philmont before. Therefore, this is a great opportunity for Ambassadors to encourage Scouters to enjoy the wonders of Philmont and then later encourage them to return to attend a PTC conference.

The Philmont Scout Ranch Family Adventure is designed to meet the needs of families and build bonds through exciting and interactive programs. The program operates in an open enrollment format where Scouters and family members have the chance to choose activities that appeal to them individually. Families will meet for morning and afternoon program sessions daily where they choose their activities. Additionally, there are day-long activities such as hiking to Inspiration Point and rock climbing at Cimarroncito. A parent must accompany their youth on all programs.

### Inspiration Point Hike

Guided by a Program Counselor team from the Philmont Training Center, families have the opportunity to hike to a spectacular view on the side of Urraca Mesa. A trail lunch is provided in lieu of lunch at the dining hall.

### Nature Trail

Families discover different plants and animals that live in this area and explore some of the science that makes our environment unique. This trail is across from the Philmont Training Center.

### T-Rex Hike

Philmont is home to one of only two confirmed Tyrannosaurus Rex footprints in the world! This hike takes participants to the Philmont North Country to see this cool and rare footprint.

### Rock Climbing

This is a day-long session beginning with a mild hike from Cimarroncito Turnaround to Cimarroncito Backcountry Staff Camp. Once there, participants will attend a safety briefing and climbing demonstration followed by a chance to climb several different routes on natural rock.

### Urraca Loop Trail Hike

The Urraca Loop Trail is an easier hike and is also one of PTC's 'traditional' family outings. This 3-mile loop focuses on the changing geology and fauna from the plains up to the low hill region of Urraca Mesa.

### Lovers Leap Hike

Lovers Leap is an iconic spot at Philmont. The 2.5-mile hike from Lover's Leap Turnaround to Lovers Leap itself has some elevation change, climbing from the base of the canyon at 6,500 feet up to the jutting cliff face at 7,372 feet. Visitors to this ancient rock get to discover the legend that gave it its name.

### Philmont Living History Day

Many visitors are interested in learning about Philmont history from the days of the dinosaur to the present. The Living History Day will begin with a hike to the T-Rex Track and then onto Indian Writings for a lesson about the petroglyphs of the early inhabitants of the North Ponil Canyon.

### Craft Center

The open program format at the Craft Center allows participants to show up for instruction for any of the craft activities offered. These include the chance to work with ceramics, wearable art (clothing and accessories), leathercraft, stamp art, Southwestern crafts, and home decor. Please note that Craft Center supplies are an additional purchase based on what crafters would like to make.

### Shooting Sports

Shooting sports are offered in two ways. In the "Archery" blocks, the emphasis is on teaching Archery as well as safe use of Slingshots and Tomahawks. This program is tailored for youth up to age 11. In an alternative session, "Shooting Sports – Rifles/Shotguns", the emphasis will be on .22 rifles, shotguns, and air guns. Participants will start by learning the fundamentals or move on to aerial targets if they are more experienced. The "Shooting Sports – Rifles/Shotguns" program is available to youth and adults ages 11 and up.

### COPE

COPE stands for Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience which consists of initiative games, trust events, and high and low ropes courses. Some activities involve a group challenge while others develop individual skill and agility. This program is offered in the afternoon sessions and gives participants the opportunity to experience High COPE and Low COPE course challenges together. Philmont's new COPE tower is available with elements to challenge individuals of all ages and skill levels.

### Horseback Riding

For families interested in learning about life in the saddle of a Northern New Mexico cowboy, they can make the trip down to Cattle Headquarters. While there, wranglers provide an introduction to saddles and tack before taking the group on a trail ride. For the safety of the rider and the horse, there is a 200-pound weight limit and minimum of 24" inseam for all riders.

### Mountain Trek

The mountain trek program is specifically designed for youth ages 14-20 who are attending a full week session with their family. Mountain Trek crews hike 20 to 30 miles into the backcountry where participants stay at several camps that offer a variety of exciting programs along with time to relax and enjoy the natural beauty of Philmont. Crews are supervised by Philmont Mountain Trek Rangers.

### On-Your-Own Activities

Although the Philmont Family Adventure program offers a packed schedule for families to enjoy the outdoors together, it should be noted that participants are not required to attend all scheduled events. They may choose to shop at the Tooth of Time Traders, enjoy an ice cream cone from the Cantina, check out the Philmont museums, or explore the surrounding areas such as Cimarron, Eagle Nest, Angle Fire, and Taos.

Cimarron was the home of Lucien Maxwell who built the Aztec Grist Mill. It was built to provide ground grains for the Maxwell Ranch and the Jicarill Apache Indian Reservation as well as Santa Fe Trail travelers.

Taos Pueblo is over 1000 years old and appears much as it did when Spanish explorers came to the area in the 1500's.

**P2**

## Action List for Treks for the Coming Months

There's a lot for Crews to do way before their Trek begins. Here's the list of actions for Council Contingents (cc) and Units (u) to get ready this fall and winter.

- Conduct critique with a previous year's expedition advisers. (cc)
- Council Philmont kickoff. (cc)
- Determine attendance objective for council and districts. (cc)
- Establish schedules for mailings, meeting, promotion. (cc, u)
- Confirm two-deep leadership per crew with at least one alternate. (cc, u)
- Announce details in council bulletin. (cc)
- Share Philmont plans with promotion camping committee. (cc)
- Share Philmont plans with promotion unit committee. (u)
- Promote Philmont at Roundtables. (cc)
- Collect first payment from each participant. (cc)
- Collect reservation fee payment from each participant. (cc, u)
- Transmit reservation fee payment to Philmont. (cc May 1; u January 31)
- Collect advance fee payment from each participant. (u)
- Have Philmont committee meet with all selected expedition leaders and reviews plans. (cc)
- Conduct Philmont parents rally. (cc, u)
- Sign up 100 percent of quota by end of month. (cc)
- Share risk advisory statement with parents. (cc, u)
- Arrange transportation and overnight accommodations to and from Philmont. (cc, u)
- Make plans for training and the second parents' meeting. (cc)
- Receive health and medical records from Philmont. (cc, u) **P2**





Keeping flintlock muskets clean is important to the black powder rifle shooting program at Black Mountain.

### Focus on the Backcountry

## Black Mountain Camp

**Staffed Camp**

**Elevation:** 9,040 ft.

**Activities:** Black powder rifle shooting, blacksmithing, mountain living

**Water:** Stream. Must be treated

**Description:** The camp is a recreation of life in the old west by settlers after the Civil War. Settlers homesteaded in the mountains with the barest of necessities. This is reflected in the fact that Black Mountain is one of two camps (the other being Crooked Creek) that does not have road access. Consequently, all food and supplies must be hauled in and out by mule. There is no trash drop off or swapped food at Black Mountain.

**Nearby Camp:** Beaubien

**Itineraries with program at Black Mountain (2018)**

Trek 4 - Day 7

Trek 6 - Day 4

Trek 9 - Day 6

Trek 32 -Day 10

**P2**

Important Dates	
Philmont Lottery Opens	October 30
Philmont Lottery Closes	December 2
2020 Unit Reservation Fee Due	January 31
PTC Ambassador Seminars	July 21-27

Ambassador Profile

## John Phelps Helps Cover Mid-America

John Phelps puts in a lot of distance in his efforts to spread the word on Philmont to the Mid-America Council. The Council covers 58 counties in western Iowa, eastern Nebraska and south-east South Dakota. Spread over that vast territory are 18,646 scouts and 5,465 volunteers.

That's a lot of ground to cover, and John has spent up to 4 hours driving to parts of it. While he mainly covers the Iowa side, his fellow ambassador Charles Argo covers the Nebraskan side. Being good Scouts, they share the part of the Council in South Dakota.

He's been to Philmont many times, starting with a conference in 1995 when he took along his son who went on a Mountain Trek. Both of them fell in love with the area, and they returned in 1998 to do a Trek with their Troop. Returning became a family tradition it seems. His son was on staff for two summers while John has attended 7 conferences.

"A big highlight of my experiences was attending the national pilot course for Wood Badge in the 21th Century at Zastro in 1999," recalls John.

After attending a conference in 2012, he received a letter from Andrea Watson encouraging him to apply to be an Ambassador. It's a decision he doesn't regret.

"I love Philmont and enjoy talking to people about the Ranch," notes John. "My best experiences have been doing presentations at Roundtables."

John's words of wisdom to fellow Ambassadors: "Get to Philmont and attend an Ambassador Conference. You will be renewed. Other than that, just be available. I find that Scouters love learning about Philmont." **P2**



John points out some of his favorite Philmont spots using one of the giant maps available to Ambassadors. [To purchase a map, contact Stephen Duke at [Stephen\\_duke@hotmail.com](mailto:Stephen_duke@hotmail.com).]

# Train the Trainer at Philmont Training Center? What a Concept!

Getting trained on training at the Philmont Training Center - what could be more natural? Although 2019 courses have not been finalized, many popular conferences described here do repeat from year-to-year.

If you know someone whose Scouting job involves training other leaders, you should show them this article and encourage them to attend these volunteer development conferences, supported by ScoutingU's Learning Delivery Team.

cuss everything your job entails, including meetings you are expected to attend, training you are expected to provide, and goals you and your unit are expected to meet. You will learn techniques for recruiting and leading your district training team and for providing both online and instructor-led training courses in your district. The course covers how to plan, organize and implement a unit/district/council training plan. The latest "What makes a Trained Leader" information will be shared.

understanding of the process, you will apply the lessons learned to develop a plan for your own council/district. As part of this practical exercise, you will consider the percentage of direct contact leaders trained, the number of untrained leaders, the best practices for getting them trained, and the Journey to Excellence metrics. You will also cover many more factors that will help you to maximize your council/district training successes.

**BSA Training in the Digital Age**

This conference is a general overview of "everything you wanted to know about training in the BSA but didn't know what to ask." You will be guided through the BSA Learning Center and you will learn how to navigate My.Scouting tools, including how to run training reports. The conference will cover how a leader becomes qualified to conduct instructor-led training. You will examine the Journey to Excellence goals for training and you will learn where to find the latest information on volunteer training. Best practices for getting leaders trained will be shared. Anyone wanting or needing a broad, general overview of BSA training is welcome.

**How Do I Become an Excellent Trainer/ Presenter?**

Do you have a passion for training but need help to do an excellent job of presenting? Are you excited to be part of the training team but are not that confident that you can be interesting, dynamic and effective? Do you need help in preparing to present material? Is death by PowerPoint the only type of presentation you know? Do you have the real desire to improve your presentation skills? Then this conference is for you! Led by experienced BSA trainers, this conference will provide you with both knowledge and practical experience in presenting material to eager-to-learn participants.

**Adapted from the blog Bryan on Scouting. Used by permission. P2**



Scouters of all levels will benefit from attending one of the conferences focused on improving the delivery of Training programs to adult volunteers.

They'll cover topics relevant to any unit-, district-, council- or national-level volunteer who trains his or her fellow volunteers.

**Training Your Cub Scout Leaders**

You recruited leaders for your pack, now they need to be trained. This conference can help! Council, district, and pack trainers, Cubmasters, pack committee members, and commissioners will explore ways to prepare units to welcome families to Scouting, reach new volunteers and leaders, and build and support high-functioning training teams. They'll learn to use the Journey to Excellence to strengthen packs and make learning fun and purposeful for today's volunteers. They will also review the training continuum for Cub Scout leaders. Information on instructor-led and online courses will also be covered.

**I Am a New District Training Chair. Now What?**

For all the district training chairs and district training committee members, this conference will educate you on how to meet and exceed the training needs of your district. You will dis-

**I Am a New Council Training Chair. Now What?**

For all the new council training chairs as well as those who have been in the position for a while, this conference will help you understand your role in your council's training program. You will learn both how to fulfill your role for the council and how to maximize the success of your district training chairs. You will learn how to plan, organize and implement unit/district/council training plans as well as how to organize and train your council training committee. The latest information on face-to face instructor-led and online training will be provided.

**Strategic Training Planning for Councils and Districts**

This conference is for council and district training chairs and training committee members. You will participate in the Strategic Training Plan, an exercise that analyzes a council composed of districts with various training problems. You will examine the issues and develop a detailed plan for solving those problems. With an



**Patch Commemorates Fire Recovery Efforts**

To recognize the efforts of the Philmont Recovery Corps, Philmont created this special patch to honor their hard work and dedication to making Philmont safer and help re-

cover from the Ute Park Fire. The patch is 4-1/4" diameter and is available from the Tooth of Time Traders for \$5.99. **P2**