

The PhilNews



ISSUE 1 • JUNE 9, 2008

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The PhilNews is a staff newsletter published weekly by Philmont Scout Ranch.

On the cover:
Rich Cabins program counselor Ellie Nickens plays the violin during Heritage Day at Abreu. (photo by Stephen Bush, NPS photographer)

From the desk: Editor's Note

Exciting times

Summer is upon us, and we are almost ready for the nearly-30,000 participants who will visit us at CHQ, PTC and Double H this season. By the time you are reading this, the first crews will have begun arriving, and PTC will be on its second week of participants.

We at News & Photo are excited about the beginning of the season. As I said in my editor's note in the Banquet Issue of The PhilNews, we at this newsletter will be working hard to bring you the news and features that you want to see. Based on feedback I received from former and current staffers before the season began, we will have a weekly feature on a backcountry camp that has not been in The PhilNews in the past few years. Additionally, we will cover Philmont-related news as it happens.

It gets even better. We are bringing back the advice column, this time with the help of the Manly Men of Crater Lake (see pg. 28). We're featuring columns by Ranger Trainer Bill Sassani (pg. 7) and one of our writers, Tawny Slaughter (pg. 8). Starting next week, we'll also be running columns by Environmental Educator Chris Ives and the Double H staff.

And, of course, we have a cartoon and sudoku. The crossword will come later.

Overall, this issue of The PhilNews is a great example of what we can and will become this summer. We have two solid features, two great columns and more submissions than I ever expected for the second issue of the season.

I highly encourage you to continue submitting your own work. We want your reflective pieces, recipes, poetry, photos, illustrations, cartoons and anything else that we can publish. Keep it up, and keep reading.

Sincerely,
Chris

Please be aware that the views expressed in this column do not necessarily represent those of The PhilNews, Philmont Scout Ranch or the Boy Scouts of America.

CORRECTION: An info box on pg. 7 in the Banquet Issue stated that reservations are not necessary for Villa tours. This is incorrect. You must make a reservation at the Philmont Museum/Seton Library in order to have a Villa tour. The PhilNews regrets this error, and urges readers to report other such errors that they may find in this publication.



photo by Stephen Bush, NPS Photographer

Mark Anderson and Activities staff management show their excitement for the SSSAC following their tour on Sunday.

Activities staff revs up for new center

by **Chris Dunn**
PhilNews Manager

Director of Program Mark Anderson and the Activities staff are working to make sure the Silver Sage Staff Activity Center is up and running soon.

The SSSAC, sponsored by the Philmont Staff Association, has been under construction during the off-season and is scheduled for completion by June 30.

Kevin Faragher, Assistant Manager of Programming in the SSSAC, is in charge of the transition from the current activities center to the SSSAC. He and the rest of the Activities staff toured the not-yet-complete SSSAC with Anderson on Sunday.

"I felt like it was this wrapped Christmas present under the Christmas tree that I just can't see yet," Faragher said. "Our staff were like kids in a candy store, and some of them have never even been to Philmont before."

New features and facilities in the SSSAC include an expanded computer room, a TV room with two 50-inch flat-screen TVs, a larger kitchen, a wraparound porch and a conference room. An open-air pavilion can be used for closing campfires if the weather is inclement, as well as other activities.

Although certain rooms already have assigned functions, Female Tent City Manager Ashley Manning said the design allows much flexibility.

"Everything's very versatile and can be used for different things, and can also be changed if we realize something isn't working," Manning said. "Anything we came up with during the tour, [Anderson] had a solution for, like they already talked about it."

"To put it in Mark's words, if we have concerns, we're going to find out about them once we get in there," said John "Bear" Wajda, Assistant Manager of Opening and Closing Campfires.

Among the changes the SSSAC would incur are more activities for staffers. Faragher said there will be a concierge who can provide information and equipment to inquiring staffers.

"The feeling we want is controlled chaos," Wajda said. "We want things to be going on all around, but it's going to be under control."

Because of the many transitions the Activities staff will have to make once the SSSAC is complete, staff may not be able to partake in a sudden increase of activities right away. However, the Activities staff still welcomes staff to take a look once the facility is open.

"Every day you come in there, you're going to see something new just because we'll still be setting up, but we'll want to open the doors as fast as possible," Faragher said. "Even if there's absolutely nothing in the building, staff can still walk through it and see what it looks like before we move in."

Committing to the extra degree

submission by Mark Anderson

Director of Program

Our 2008 summer here at Philmont is moving forward rapidly. The initial training for all staff, as well as the first week of the Philmont Training Center, is completed.

I recently had the chance to read the book “212° The Extra Degree” by Sam Parker and Mac Anderson. Let me quote the opening passage:

“At 211 degrees, water is hot. At 212 degrees, it boils. And with boiling water, comes steam. And steam can power a locomotive.

Raising the temperature of water by one extra degree means the difference between something that is simply very hot and something that generates enough force to power a machine – a beautiful, uncomplicated metaphor that ideally should feed our every endeavor – consistently pushing us to

make the extra effort in every task we undertake.

It reminds us that seemingly small things can make tremendous differences.”

As we approach the summer and prepare for our part in interpreting the Philmont Experience and “delivering wilderness adventures that last a lifetime,” I would challenge you to raise the temperature of your efforts by one degree and watch the difference. One degree each of the 72 days over the summer will make a tremendous impact to the thousands of participants that we serve.

“212 degrees is not only a message of action – it’s a message of persistent and additional action – the continual application of heat (effort) to whatever task or activity you undertake in order to achieve not only the primary objective you seek, but to reap the exponential rewards that are possible by applying one extra degree of effort.”

Let’s all commit to that extra one degree!



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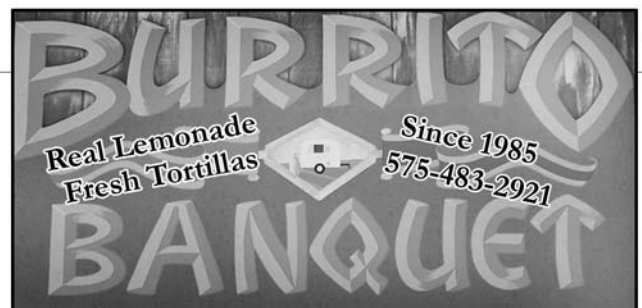
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Philmont Scout Ranch Fire Restrictions

as of May 29, 2008

On May 28, 2008, the Colfax County Fire Marshal issued an Open Fire Ban for Colfax County, New Mexico.

- No burn permits shall be issued.
- No outside smoking is permitted except within a 3 foot diameter barren area.
- The use of “exterior” fireplaces, stoves or barbeques (except for gas-propane stoves and barbeques) and open flames in all unincorporated areas of Colfax County is prohibited.

The only exemption to the open fire ban shall be in District 1, Philmont which shall be as follows:

- Fires at three backcountry locations, contained in metal fire boxes and used for Chuck Wagon dinners and branding boots and belts.
- Homesteading camp for the making of candles.
- The fire used to heat rocks for the sweat lodge at Apache Springs.
- The three backcountry blacksmith forges.

Based on the Colfax County Open Fire Ban, Philmont has implemented the following fire restrictions for the 2008 camping season:

- No smoking along trails or trail camps!
- Smoking is restricted to designated areas:
 - CHQ = Advisors Lounge or Staff Lounge Dining Fly or Staff Dining Fly between Male and Female Tent City.
 - PTC = East Tent City Pavilion.
 - Within vehicles equipped with ashtrays while on paved roads or surfaced roads only.
 - Designated area at backcountry staffed camps.
- Open fires and fireworks are prohibited. Camp stoves may be used in campsite fire rings or immediately adjacent on bare ground.
- Campfires in designated fire rings are prohibited.
- Program campfires (base and backcountry) are prohibited. Propane campfires in base camp and kerosene lanterns in the backcountry will be permitted.
- Blacksmith forges and black powder shooting at designated ranges will be permitted unless otherwise notified.

Why you should visit Cyphers Mine

by Mark Emde

Camp Director of Cyphers Mine

If you're looking for a camp that's full of fun, adventure, excitement and the greatest miners on the Ranch, Cyphers Mine is the place for you! Charlie Cyphers is the mine boss, works a tight shift and knows how to have fun at night with a little party in his cabin. Every night at 7 p.m., he holds stomp, telling stories, jokes and playing hardcore music. While working at Cyphers, you can learn to forge with the blacksmith or take a chance mining deep in the ground in the Contention Mind. This year, Cyphers is celebrating the Fifth Annual Rubber Ducky Races and its Tenth Annual Slip and Slide Trick Contest! Everyone's welcome to the mine, or paradise in the valley where the sun never shines! Visit often, because you never know what's gonna happen – Viking feast, dance party, pool day or hat day, just to name a few. Hope to see you up there!!!

Burro racing at Harlan

by Byron Sprott

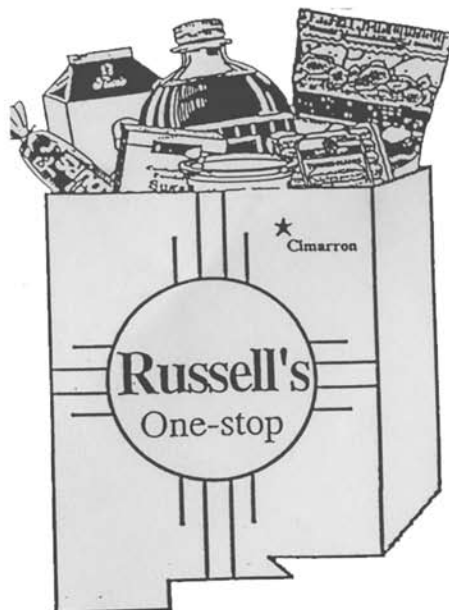
Camp Director of Harlan

I stood by Dog, looking out across the range. A bird rustled by; I asked Dog if he saw the size of that chicken. Just then, a flash of orange and black flew across my path. My Ruger Red Label over-under shotgun reported turning the pigeon into dust. Squinting, I spotted Mark and Chris with their burros, Dust and Clay. Both animals reared up, kicking the sky. Smiles gleamed and all knew the race was on. Shotguns on the burro's side reflected sunlight as we rounded the rocks. Dog's muscles rippled as he lunged sweat-foamed, and drool slung from his muzzle. This was another win for Dog. The sun's glare loosened, and dust settled, revealing Little Costilla. The great mountain focused on us, bright with shining snow. Its look was peaceful and its call was but a whisper muffled by a snow cap.

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From the Ranger Department

Tips for hiking at Philmont

Welcome to Philmont! My name is Bill Sassani, and I am a Ranger Trainer. This summer, I will be writing a weekly column covering backpacking and hiking advice, such as where to hike on Philmont, fun adventures and where to go off-ranch.

For this week's edition, I want to talk about what you need to know before heading into the woods. With over 137,000 acres to explore, Philmont is truly a "Scouting Paradise." However, like any large national park or forest, there are certain policies and procedures to keep in mind, as well as some backcountry common sense.

Preparing for a Hike

When hiking on Philmont property, staffers are to abide by certain policies. Philmont recommends that staff members hike in at least groups of two, three if coed. All groups must leave an itinerary of their planned route with Logistics, and if that plan changes, groups must radio Base Camp. Staff can check out backpacks, tents, cooking gear, trail food and white gas from the Camping Services building. Make sure to have a copy of your backcountry itinerary form with you.

Backcountry Hiking

It is expected that, when hiking in the backcountry, staffers wear the appropriate Philmont uniform. This includes the staff polo shirt or activity t-shirt, name tag, Philmont or BSA belt and shorts, hiking socks and closed-toe shoes. Stay on designated trails, remember not to cut switchbacks and avoid hiking on logging roads.

Visiting Camps

If staying at a trail camp, staff must follow Philmont camping procedures and bear safety guidelines. These were covered by the Ranger Trainers and Camp Directors at the all-staff training on May 30. If you are staying at one of the backcountry staff camps, keep in mind some common rules of courtesy.

Once arriving in a staff camp, report to the cabin to let the person on duty know that your group has arrived. Be sure to follow camp expectations, and respect staffers' personal living areas. Do not expect to be fed by the camp staffers, but if they do offer a meal, then thank them for their hospitality by offering to help wash dishes, chop firewood, etc.

When participating in program, keep in mind that crews take priority over visitors. Also, all staffers who are in a camp fall under the direction of the Camp Director, and may be asked to provide assistance in an emergency situation.

Remember that a backcountry camp is not only a workplace, but also a home for the people that work and live there. Respect their space as you would want someone to respect yours.

The 10 Essentials

If you haven't looked at those blue backpack tags lately, there are 10 essential items that Philmont recommends all hikers take with them into the backcountry. These are meant to provide some margin of safety in case unexpected situations, such as weather or a medical concern, should arise. These include:

- Water – at least three or four quarts of water for hydration.
- Rain Gear – a rain jacket and pants, or a sturdy poncho.
- Food – trail food can be checked out from "The Wall" at Services.
- Map and Compass – know how to orient the map to north, interpret map features and use UTM grid coordinates.
- First Aid Kit – should include a CPR shield, gloves and any personal prescription medications.
- Extra Clothing Layers – weather and temperature can change quickly.
- Suntan Lotion and Insect Repellent – for protection from the sun and bugs.
- Matches/Lighter – in case of emergencies where heat may be needed.
- Pocket Knife – good for opening trail meal bags.
- Watch – not just for telling time, but also an alarm clock, and for taking vital signs in a medical emergency.
- Tell Someone Where You are Going – leave a backcountry itinerary form at either the Mail Room or Logistics, as well as with your supervisor.

"From the Ranger Department" is a weekly column by Ranger Trainer Bill Sassani.

Highlight on the 27,391 Reasons We Are Here

The different divisions of Scouting

Every summer, over 22,000 Scouts and Scouters come to Philmont to venture into the backcountry on a wilderness trek or participate at the Philmont Training Center. This column will highlight these participants with stories, information and news focusing on the driving force for why we are here, Scouts.

There are those that say college is the time of your life. I spent every Wednesday night of my undergraduate career teaching Scouts to build fires, ties knots, make a duty rosters and generally survive life as a teenager. The guys of Troop 121 out of Bloomington, Ind., are the 32 little brothers I never had. I didn't imagine my choice to attend law school across the country would cause outrage among 11 year olds. Nonetheless, every Wednesday night I spent in the basement of the moose lodge and every weekend I spent putting up tents in the rain instead of out with college friends really was the time of my life.

In this column, I will take my 20+ years of exposure to Scouting and use them to put the spotlight on our participants.

The Sea of Tan

A sea of tan uniforms will soon pour into base camp as Scouts arrive for the summer's adventures. Among this sea of tan one will also find specks of green, blue and orange uniforms. The sea of tan represents the majority of Philmont participants – those who are part of a standard Boy Scout troop whose members are 11-17 years of age.

However, one should know that these specks of green and blue are not Scouts who forgot their uniform or happen to have washed it in the wrong load of laundry. They are Venturers, Sea Scouts, Explorers and Varsity Scouts. All these groups are smaller units under the large umbrella of the Boy Scouts of

America.

Venturers are young adults (boys and girls) 14-20 years old who are part of a Venturing crew. Typically, these units are focused more on high adventure activities and do many more high adventure outings than a traditional Boy Scout troop does. The easy way to distinguish between the different units within the Boy Scouts of America is by the uniform: Venturing crews wear green Class A uniforms with green epilate loops.

Sea Scouts are a smaller section within Venturing that focus on more nautical skills. True, there are no massive bodies of water in northeast New Mexico, but these Scouts seek out adventure and new experiences, as do other members of the Boy Scouts. Sea Scouts are also young adults who are 14-20 years old; however, they can usually be seen wearing a light blue Class A.

Explorers are part of the Learning for Life program, and are often chartered by career oriented organizations such as fire departments, sheriffs' offices and other skill-specific organizations. It allows for high school-age students to receive hands-on experience in specialized work place environments while teaching other important skills, such as teamwork, time management and self confidence.

Each of these units comes with different membership make up, skill focus and terminology. For example, traditional Boy Scout units are troops, Venturers are members of a Venturing crew, Sea Scouts are in a Sea Ship and Explorers are members of a Explorer Post. (When in doubt, just refer to all groups as units.) Though membership may vary among the groups, the drive to seek out adventure is the same.

"Highlight on the 27,391 Reasons We Are Here" is a weekly column by PhilNews writer Tawny Slaughter.

Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul.

— John Muir

Another mountain to climb

submission by Brian Jordan

Logistics

[This essay was written 10 years ago by Brian Jordan's daughter Caelan Jordan for a high school English class.]

I do something most girls my age don't do – and most people my age don't do, for that matter. I go backpacking every summer at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico.

Philmont Scout Ranch, you say? Yes, Philmont Boy Scout Ranch, the infamous mecca of Scouting's high adventure opportunities, known the world over for its physical, mental, and spiritual challenges.

Most people who go to Philmont are boys. Most people who go to Philmont go with their own Scout troop from their hometown. And most people who go to Philmont go for only 10 days.

I do not fit this mold.

I am a young woman. I go to Philmont by myself, traveling solo across the country to meet my crewmates – girls from across the nation. And in the summers of 1996 and 1997, I lived in the mountainous backcountry of Philmont for 21 and 28 days, respectively.

It is something I have come to love, and something at which I feel at home. I love to get up early and hike while the sun is still creeping up over the distant peaks. I love to eat peanut butter and crackers for lunch for days on end, and mix all my food together at dinner so that there will be less time spent cleaning and more time spent staring at the stars. I love to get dirty – so dirty that I think my hair will fall out when I finally do wash it. I love to look across a ridgeline of mountains and know that I have climbed every mountain here.

And I love it when my crew of girls from across the country, the only crew of girls on the Ranch, comes across a whining, complaining and often flirtatious crew of Boy Scouts only out for 10 days. They ask us if we're Girl Scouts, and we're offended because our mindframe is that Girl Scouts only sell cookies, but we play it off politely. We get our revenge when we pass them on the trail, showing them that girls own the mountains.

I know there will come a time in my life when Philmont will be put on a backburner. I may not always be able to return, but at least I will have learned a few lessons: I can never get too close to the stars, and there is always another mountain to climb.

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See the backpage for more details.

What's going on around the world?

South Koreans refuse U.S. beef

Protests have been held in South Korea over the countries that will possibly return to importing beef from the United States. The two countries are working to create an agreement that would restrict high risks products. South Korea also is calling for no beef to be imported from cattle over 30 months of age. This is because of the cases of mad cow disease in the United States in 2003, which caused for a five-year ban of United States-grown beef in South Korea. The two countries are working to resolve the issue.

Parents are outraged over aftermath of China earthquake

The aftermath of last month's earthquakes in China have caused outrage among the public. Several schools collapsed in the earthquakes, resulting in childrens' deaths as their classrooms collapsed around them. Officials had promised a thorough investigation, but parents of students do not feel that appropriate measures are being taken. Parents attempted to file a lawsuit but were stopped by police.

New planet discovered

Astronomers have discovered a previously unknown planet that is orbiting a normal star. The new planet is called MOA-2007-BLG-192Lb and is orbiting a low-mass star that is most likely a brown dwarf. It is 3.3 times the size of the Earth and probably has

a very thick atmosphere. It is this thick atmosphere that helps to keep the planet warm, a fact that has astronomers suggesting that the planet could have a liquid ocean surface.

General Motors closes plants

General Motors will be closing five plants in Ontario, Canada; Moraine, Ohio; Janesville, Wis; and Toluca, Mexico. A combination of rising gas prices and strikes at several GM factories has prompted the company to evaluate its business plan. The strikes have resulted in a lull in SUV production at several factories. The company is looking to produce more small, electric cars in response to the public's desire for fuel-efficient cars.

Fatal explosion outside Danish embassy in Pakistan

A blast in the street outside the Danish embassy in Pakistan killed six people and left 24 others injured. It is thought that Al Qaeda or an affiliate is responsible, but no group has taken responsibility. The attack is thought to be a response to a cartoon that was printed in Danish newspapers that some Muslims feel is an insult to their prophet. Six weeks ago there was a call by al Qaeda official Ayman al-Zawahiri for Muslims to retaliate for the publication.

UN Food Crisis Summit Overshadowed

Due to the raising food prices around the world,

Obama wins Democratic nomination

Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) defeated Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) to secure the Democratic nomination for the U.S. general election on Tuesday evening. A surge of superdelegate votes from Montana and South Dakota helped push Obama to his victory.

Clinton, in a subsequent speech, argued that she won the popular vote. She spoke with Obama via telephone on early Wednesday morning and, according to an Obama spokesman, declined an offer for a one-on-one meeting for Thursday. Clinton did confirm that, should she be offered a vice-presidential bid, she would accept.

Obama and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) now must face definite competition in the general election, as well as determine who will be their running mates

the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization gathered world leaders in Rome to address food security and supplies. However, the summit was overshadowed by the presence of Zimbabwe present Robert Mugabe and Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Several news sources end up covering the off-topic issues these leaders brought up and not the issues the summit was trying to bring to light.

Kennedy doing well after brain surgery.

Sen. Edward Kennedy had surgery on Monday to remove his cancerous brain tumor. He was feeling well afterwards, and had been up and about the hospital. The surgery was performed at Duke Medical Center, and he will be returning to Boston with the week.

Drunk driver interferes in bike race

In Mexico, near the U.S.-Mexico border, a driver drove his car into a bicycle race, killing one and injuring 10 others. Pictures of the race showed equipment and people being thrown into the air. The driver was apparently drunk and fell asleep while driving and crashed into the race.

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What's going on in the United States?

What's this?

This summer, people are coming from all 50 states to work at Philmont. Because of this, we at The PhilNews have decided to bring you a little news from each state. This is an entirely new feature (source: <http://www.stateline.org>), so we are still working out the quirks. If you have any feedback regarding this new feature, we'd love to know. Send us an I-camp or visit us at our office. Thanks for reading!

Alabama

Alabama held its national primary on June 3.

W.L. Langston goes to trial for stealing \$1.5 million for personal use, friends and other public officials.

Alaska

Gov. Sarah Palin has been given 60 days to convince legislators to build a new pipeline to get natural gas from Alaska to the continental U.S.

Snettisham hydropower plant in Juneau is working again, which will cut the Juneau residents' electric cost for the summer.

Arizona

A newly-released survey says people in Arizona are spending less money because of the continued rise in cost of living, which is negatively impacting state economy.

A committee is meeting to decide if it wants to propose a one-cent tax increase to generate more funds for public transit.

Arkansas

Gov. Mike Beebe is being pressured to set the date for the execution of Frank Williams, Jr.

Greenland, Ark., is considering a four-day school week because schools cannot afford to stay open on their current budget.

California

Part of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposal to expand medical coverage is being brought back to the legislator.

The November ballot will include a vote to define marriage as "between a man and a woman."

Colorado

Denver's largest charities spent more on fundraising than programs, according to Charity Navigator.

The Democratic convention is increasing the market for Denver billboards so that candidates can reach the estimated 50,000 people who will drive through the city.

Connecticut

State records with information about 2,100 people have been lost.

State tax on gasoline and diesel went up by 25 percent per gallon.

Delaware

Legislators are seeking tougher penalties for possessors of child obscenity, due to the ring of child pornographers recently found in the state.

Dover Prison was renamed Delaware Correctional Center June 3.

Florida

The state addressed child obesity

by passing a physical education bill on June 2.

Florida Supreme Court Justices are pushing for a pay raise because they cannot fill empty positions on current salary.

Georgia

WellPoint Survey revealed that breast cancer treatment is unfair among women of different races.

Gov. Sonny Perdue made the decision to freeze gas taxes until the end of the year.

Hawaii

Hawaii was given \$1.96 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation for its roads.

Budget cuts for funding have caused cuts on administration spending, but will not lead to cuts in student programs.

Idaho

An inmate escaped from the South Idaho Correctional Institution June 2. He has not been caught as of June 3. This is the fourth escape from the institution this year.

Gas prices are expected to go over \$4 a gallon by June 7.

Illinois

State budget has been reported by the governor to be \$2 billion "out of whack."

The governor will not sign reform bill that will prevent state officials from taking campaign money from contractors.

Indiana

Greg Zoeller won the Republican

race for state attorney general.

A 44 cents-per-pack tax increase on cigarettes dropped sales by 17.8 percent.

Iowa

The statewide smoking ban has new candidates running for election to change the law. The statewide smoking ban begins July 1, 2008.

Kansas

The state has not been paid back for dinners with abortion provider Dr. George Tiller at the governor's residence.

Kansas may be supplied with water from Nebraska through a pipeline that will run to the Republican River.

Kentucky

Legislation is trying to write a bill to fix the current pension system for state employees.

Gov. Beshear set up an advisory panel for state employees to discuss job concerns.

Louisiana

Chairman of Louisiana Democratic Party supported Sen. Hillary Clinton, giving her a super delegate vote.

Lawmakers are trying to make it illegal to display a noose as an intimidation tool.

Maine

State officials are trying to save Katahdin Paper Co. LLC.

Voters will decide the fate of a \$29.7 million plan that will help pay for transit, environment and natural resource programs.

Maryland

State department of Legislative

Services was subpoenaed by grand jury for all documents on Sen. Ulisses Currie.

Maryland residents might save \$2 billion in electric cost because of flawed federal regulations.

Massachusetts

This week 86,000 people paid a fine instead of buying health insurance because of a year-old state law that requires a resident to be insured.

Senate President William Bulger's partner, Thomas Finnelly, was disbarred June 2.

Michigan

Recall of House Speaker Andy Dillon faces problems and accusations of fraudulent petitions.

Director of Michigan's Gambling Control Board, Nelson Westin, died from complications due to prostate cancer.

Minnesota

Corn and soybean crops are behind schedule on their development.

Doctors at the University of Minnesota think they have a new stem cell treatment for Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa, a genetic skin disease that can be fatal.

Mississippi

Gov. Haley Barbour proposed a plan to increase funding for Medicaid by taxing hospital did not make it through the house, who would prefer to tax tobacco and alcohol.

Victims of recent tornadoes and storms are trying to get relief through disaster status.

Missouri

Missouri is readying to resume

the execution of prisoners after an almost three year break.

St. Louis Republicans formed a new committee aimed at protecting stem cell research.

Montana

Montana held primaries this week that brought in journalists from around the world.

Democrats are being accused of framing Republican for illegal automated calls.

Nebraska

The Nebraska Civil Rights Initiative is trying to end affirmative action in the state.

The governor of Nebraska is standing against a national speed limit of 65 mph that is being proposed by the trucking industry.

Nevada

Union workers on MGM Mirage's City Center project went on strike on June 2.

Gov. Gibbons and staff negotiated with tobacco companies for one large payoff to fill in the 14 percent budget gap.

New Hampshire

Lawmakers are trying to redo New Hampshire Retirement System in time to get it printed for next vote in legislature.

All renewed drivers licenses will be temporary for the next 60 days until more secure licenses are designed and printed.

New Jersey

Lawmakers are saying that the new state budget will not be done by original date of June 16.

Since 2006 the situations of chil-

dren living in poverty has improved significantly, according to KIDS Count.

New Mexico

The Justice Department must monitor primary voting in Cibola and Sandoval counties to see if federal standards for voting are met.

New York

A pension plan revisal group underestimated the cost of evaluating current pension plan by \$500 million for public employee unions.

Cigarette tax is now \$2.75 per pack, a \$1.25 increase, making it the highest tobacco tax in the U.S.

North Carolina

Recent laws limiting where sex offenders live when they get out of prison have prompted prison officials to propose that released inmates temporarily live in hotels at the public expense.

Proposed salary increases for teachers and state workers are not enough, according to representatives of the groups.

North Dakota

North Dakota health officials took blood samples from 738 people between the ages of two and adulthood who eat wild game shot with lead bullets to determine if the bullets are affecting those who eat the meat. Results will be released before hunting season in the fall.

Worker compensation will increase by 5.6 percent in July for all recipients.

Ohio

The American Legacy Foundation is trying to block \$190 million in antismoking campaign money

from being moved to be used to fill in part of a \$230 million gap in the state budget.

Oklahoma

The state's first case of West Nile virus was reported on June 2.

Lawmakers are taking steps to make up for years of under funding for public transportation.

Oregon

Gov. Ted Kulongosk rode his bike two miles to work to lead the fight for people to be more environmentally friendly by example.

The Interstate-5 bridge project is being re-evaluated because of less traffic due to raising gas prices.

Pennsylvania

The 75-year turnpike lease could be dropped with no repercussions to the state in interest rates raise.

Protesters met at the capitol June 3 to talk against Bill 1275, which is a bill proposed to eliminate school property taxes.

Rhode Island

A proposed merger of LifeSpan and Care New England would give the company 70 percent control of hospital services in the state.

Rep. Henry C. Rose is retiring after 16 years in the state's general assembly.

South Carolina

A veto by the governor on a drug access measure will cause those on Medicaid with cancer, HIV/AIDS and mental illness to have to have all drugs approved by more than their doctors, if allowed to stand. This will cause pauses in treatment plans of patients and could endanger their health.

Juveniles must now be given a trial within 24 hours of an arrest.

South Dakota

Primary elections were held this week. South Dakota was the state to end the national primaries,

Tennessee

Gas prices are hurting nonprofit groups that rely on volunteer driver to function.

The Nashville city government will shrink its car fleet by 10 percent to help save money with rising gas prices.

Texas

A polygamous sect signed a pledge to no longer perform underage marriages as nearly 400 children were released.

The nation's largest biodiesel plant opened June 2 in Houston, making Texas the leading producer of alternative fuels.

Utah

The head of the state school board is ineligible for re-election this year because of an insufficient resume.

Salt Lake County District Attorney Lohra Miller was cleared of any allegations of illegal activity.

Vermont

More than two dozen young people were punished with classes about Robert Frost after destroying his former home during a drinking party.

Unless the state reduces pollution flowing into Lake Champlain from the waste-water treatment plant, the federal government will interfere with an initiative to regulate the purification.

Virginia

Fairfax County Prison will sue the state of Virginia if the state rents out prison beds to other states.

Gov. Timothy M. Kaine voided a state law that allowed adults to have consensual sex with minors 14 years and older to avoid criminal charges if they then marry the child.

Washington

State health officers and law enforcement met June 3 define what a 60 day supply of medical marijuana is. Results are expected by July 1.

Obama received the super delegate from David McDonald.

West Virginia

U.S. Sen. Robert C. Byrd was admitted to the hospital this week because of fever.

Domestic violence that leads to murder happens to the most women in West Virginia, according to the department of Health and Human Resources. Men are also more likely to kill themselves afterward.

Wisconsin

Property taxes in Wisconsin rose 3.8 percent, according to officials, due to inflation rates.

Eighty-one-year-old Fred Risser, state senator, is running for his twelfth 4-year term.

Wyoming

The Wyoming Workers Compensation Division's denial of benefits for an oil rig worker was ruled wrong by the Wyoming Supreme Court on June 2.

Wyoming Republicans selected Rita Meyer and Colin Simpson to go to the national convention.

Baseball statistics

National League

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Philadelphia	34	25	0.576	-	Won 2	7 to 3
Florida	31	25	0.554	1.5	Lost 2	4 to 6
Atlanta	30	28	0.517	3.5	Won 1	4 to 6
NY Mets	28	28	0.5	4.5	Lost 1	6 to 4
Washington	24	24	0.414	9.5	Lost 2	4 to 6

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Chicago Cubs	37	21	0.638	-	Won 8	8 to 2
St. Louis	34	25	0.576	3.5	Lost 1	6 to 4
Milwaukee	30	28	0.517	7	Won 4	8 to 2
Houston	30	28	0.517	7	Lost 5	3 to 7
Cincinnati	28	30	0.438	9	Lost 1	7 to 3
Pittsburgh	27	30	0.474	9.5	Won 1	5 to 5

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Arizona	32	26	0.552	-	Lost 1	3 to 7
LA Dodgers	28	29	0.491	3.5	Won 1	3 to 7
San Francisco	25	33	0.431	7	Won 2	6 to 4
San Diego	23	36	0.39	9.5	Lost 2	5 to 5
Colorado	20	38	0.345	12	Lost 8	1 to 9

American League

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Tampa Bay	35	22	0.614	-	Won 3	8 to 2
Boston	35	25	0.583	1.5	Lost 1	4 to 6
Toronto	31	28	0.525	5	Lost 2	7 to 3
NY Yankees	28	29	0.491	7	Lost 2	6 to 4
Baltimore	27	29	0.482	7.5	Won 1	3 to 7

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Chicago Sox	30	26	0.536	-	Lost 3	4 to 6
Minnesota	30	27	0.527	0.5	Won 2	7 to 3
Cleveland	26	31	0.456	4.5	Won 1	4 to 6
Detroit	24	33	0.421	6.5	Lost 1	4 to 6
Kansas City	23	34	0.404	7.5	Won 2	2 to 8

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
LA Angels	35	24	0.593	-	Won 3	7 to 3
Oakland	31	27	0.534	3.5	Won 2	6 to 4
Texas	29	30	0.492	6	Lost 2	5 to 5
Seattle	21	37	0.362	13.5	Lost 2	3 to 7

The Roving Prospector returns to surprise

by **Tawny Slaughter**

PhilNews writer

This summer as Scouts start down the trail, much more is waiting for them than trail camps, breathless views, staffed camps and the wildlife of New Mexico.

Scouts will find completely unexpected program if their path crosses with that of the Roving Prospector who will be traveling Philmont from Abreu to the Baldy area. Philmont staff member Ross Robinson will

be delivering this unique program with his two burros, Peaches and Cream.

This spontaneous program will not be happening in staffed camps or be planned into any itinerary. As the Roving Prospector comes across crews out on the trail, he will engage them in programs varying from story-telling to gold-panning to team-building. Each interaction will be different, and catered to the crew at hand. Program, encouragement, surprise and history are combined in one strapping young Prospector traveling the land.

The idea of a Roving Prospector at Philmont first came about in the early 1990s, and the first one appeared on the trails in 2001. The position has been filled off and on since then, and is returning this year with Ross as the Roving Prospector "Ovie Robinson." While working at Rich Cabins in 2004 as a program counselor, Robinson interacted with that year's Roving Prospector, Crazy Charley, several times. These experiences developed his interest in traveling the trails of the backcountry as the Roving Prospector.

Robinson's character is based on the year 1868. He arrived in the area around 1863, when he traveled here with a regiment from California to fight in the Civil War. After the war ended, he chose to stay in the region and worked an array of jobs. Ovie the Roving Prospector is a young man in his 20s – always on the move and looking for a new adventure.

At that time, a prospector would pan for gold in the creek. When he found an area with gold, he could stake it out and register it with the state. Then he would need to drop a 10 feet deep exploratory shaft within 90 days, at the cost of



photo by Jamie Thorpe, NPS Photo Manager

Ross "Ovie" Robinson strikes a pose as this year's Roving Prospector.

crews this season

one hundred dollars. This would help to determine how much gold might be in the area. A prospector would possibly then sell it off to someone else, depending on the amount of gold he found. Most of the time, a prospector would not have the money to buy the equipment needed to mine for the gold.

Robinson, or "Ovie" as he will be known as the Roving Prospector, will travel with his two burros who help carry supplies and equipment. During the summer, Ovie will make one large loop through Philmont, telling stories, panning for gold and assisting crews. The stories he shares are drawn from several sources, including Philmont legend, previous prospectors and Ovie's own imagination.

Though he will be traveling most of Philmont, Ovie will mostly be near "living history" camps to continue the historical theme of those areas. He will be dressed in period-appropriate attire with the tools and "gear" of the time period. As Ovie travels along, he will stay in trail camps with his burros. He will stick close to the period ways of life, from the way he cooks to the shelters he sleeps in at night.

The skills and stories he will share also fall in with his 1863 character. Yet, if he comes across crews in need of encouragement or advice, he is ready to share his five years of Philmont backcountry experience.

He will also carry with him a miniature chaplain's box that will contain writings from several different religious affiliations. The mini chaplain's box will help him to connect and encourage crews on the trail as he comes in contact with groups and individuals of different religious backgrounds.

Robinson said the surprise and challenge of the job attracted him to the character of the Roving Prospector. He has worked at Rich Cabins, Crooked Creek, Harlan and Black Mountain.

"I really enjoy program," Robinson said. "That's my reason for being out here."

On the surface, the Roving Prospector is an unexpected program that crews may encounter and that would enhance their Philmont experience. Yet, to the crews in need of guidance, an encouraging word or directions, Ovie is like the glitter in the bottom of a tired prospector's gold pan. One small, unexpected treasure that can change everything.

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PAYROLL DEDUCTION _____

Order of the Arrow launches national conservation project

by **Jennifer Peters**

PhilNews writer

The Order of the Arrow and the U.S. Forest Service are training at Philmont for the largest conservation project the Boy Scouts of America have conducted since World War II.

The InstructorCorps – the leadership aspect of the ArrowCorps⁵ national conservation project – has been training at Philmont in the areas of first aid, safety and conservation programs.

The ultimate goal of the ArrowCorps⁵ is to teach Conservation USA techniques to youth and adults so they may take what they have learned and apply it at the local level.

“The ArrowCorps⁵ service project is an initiative by the Boy Scouts to make not only all Scouts aware of conservation, but more so the country,” Instructor Robert Mason said.

The ArrowCorps⁵ will be the second largest service project ever planned in conjunction with the U.S.F.S.

The project will take place at five national parks across the country, over a period of five weeks. The five U.S. Forest sites for the ArrowCorps⁵ project are Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri, Manti-La Sal National Forest in Utah, George Washington and Jefferson National Forests in Virginia, Shasta-Trinity National Forest in California and Bridger-Teton National Forest in Wyoming.

The InstructorCorps is a group of about 40 experienced conservationists, all of whom are members of the Order of the Arrow. They will be responsible for training crews and supervising the squad leaders

“They are actually spending the first few weeks here at Philmont getting trained, so that they’re experts on any type of service project or type of trail work that they are going to encounter,” National Chief of the OA Jake Wellman said. “And also they’ll be able to deliver the program to make the impact on the participants.”

The InstructorCorps has received training at base camp, Philmont Training Center and on the Anasazi Trail in North Ponil Canyon.

“We have done a lot of training here at Philmont,” Instructor Jack O’Neill said. “[We want to] make sure that all of the instructors are up to date and know exactly what their responsibilities are.”

The Conservation USA is an interagency program that the InstructorCorps will be using.

“The Conservation USA is something that has been implemented by the park service to train in conservation projects,” InstructorCorps member Joey Dworak said.

Each squad leader will be utilizing the Conservation USA material to keep the project sites running smoothly.

“All the squad leaders and crew leaders will be



photo courtesy of Robert Mason

InstructorCorps members set the base rock for a 40-foot wall along a trail.

conservation project, trains at Philmont

trained in Conservation USA to learn how to lead their squads, different management techniques,” O’Neill said. “It covers conservation issues; it teaches you to solve problems, to meld as a group together and make the week go by well.”

Throughout the summer, the ArrowCorps⁵ project will have about 5,000 staff and participants devoting over 250,000 service hours to the five national parks. The services that ArrowCorps⁵ will be providing to the U.S. Forest Service are valued around \$5 million that would not be done otherwise.

The relationship between the OA and the U.S. Forest Service began after the OA decided to expand its conservation programs to include Boundary Waters in Northern Tier, Site Liaison for Mark Twain Russell Bresnahan said.

“By working in Boundary Waters, we actually impressed them so much that we received the Chief’s Volunteer Award for Youth Volunteer Services, which is highest award given by the United States Forest Service,” said Bresnahan. “And since then we

were trying to think of what else could we do to help the Forest Service.”

The U.S. Forest Service gave the OA a list of different projects, from which the OA chose the five that could be completed in a week and that would also benefit the most amount of people, said Bresnahan.

The ArrowCorps⁵ initiative will be the second largest service project ever planned in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service.

“At the end of every site, we’re going to tell everyone there, ‘Now you need to go take back everything you’ve learned

and plant a tree,’” said Wellman. “We have a Web site where they are going to log onto and tell us where they planted their tree, so we can see the impact that we had just by the individual trees on a big map.”

Mason will be producing a documentary-style movie from the planning stages of the ArrowCorps⁵ project until the post wrap up and the video will be available for purchase.


“I’ll be preparing just some things about the legacy it leaves on us, as an organization of scouts, as well as on outside sources, the media, the states,” Mason said.



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Payroll Information

PAYDAYS ARE THE 15TH AND LAST DAY OF EACH MONTH. (If payday falls on the weekend, payday will be the Friday before)

Paydays are:

Friday, May 30 • Friday, June 13
Monday, June 30 • Tuesday, July 15
Thursday, July 31 • Friday, Aug. 15

If your **LAST** workday is before a payday or after Aug. 15, your final paycheck will be mailed to the address on your check.

Paychecks must be picked up and signed for by **YOU**.

Direct deposit is **NOT** available.

Due to banking requirements and national accounting policies, **PAYCHECKS SHOULD BE CASHED OR DEPOSITED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF ISSUE DATE.**

It's your check. Make sure the information/data on the check is correct (name, address, federal withholding, Social Security number, etc.).

If you lose your check, there may be a bank charge to place a stop pay on the check.

You must provide your Social Security number and show your drivers license/state ID if you cash your check at the International Bank in Cimarron.

Department heads will distribute paychecks to their staff. (Checks will be available after 8:15 a.m. on payday)

Wranglers, conservation and all backcountry staff will pick up their checks (in person) at the payroll office at Camping Headquarters after 8:30 a.m. on payday.

Training Center staff will pick up their checks at the PTC office.

Handy information

Closest locations of national banks

International Bank

6 miles away
31062 Highway 64
Cimarron, NM 87714

Bank of America

18 miles away
3380 State Highway Rd. 434
Angel Fire, NM 87710

Wells Fargo

20 miles away
400 Maxwell Ave.
Springer, NM 87747

Wachovia

149 miles away
720 North Main St.
Pueblo, CO 81003

Washington Mutual

246 miles away
4773 Milestone Ln.
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Nearby attractions

Eagle Nest, N.M. (24 miles away)

restaurants, general stores, shops

Angel Fire, N.M. (36 miles away)

restaurants, resorts, shops,
Veterans' Memorial

Raton, N.M. (41 miles away)

restaurants, K-Mart, shops, movie
theater, most major fast food chains

Taos, N.M. (56 miles away)

restaurants, Wal-Mart (8 a.m. -
10 p.m.), shops, movie theater, most
major fast food chains

Trinidad, Colo. (63 miles away)

restaurants, 24-hr Wal-Mart, shops,
movie theater, some major fast food
chains

Who's who in News & Photo Service?

MANY OF YOU may see us only as the staffers who process nametags, or who stroll up to backcountry cabins and start taking photos, conducting interviews for articles or shooting video.

But we're so much more than that. Here, we introduce ourselves to you. We work hard here at Philmont to get the best photos, articles and footage possible of everyone here. And we love it.



Name: James
Hometown: Roswell, Ga.
Age: 21
Job: News & Photo Manager
Qualifications: third year to work for NPS, worked in fall and for Kanik, went to school for photo-journalism
Favorite Gear: Crazy Creek chair

Name: Ian
Hometown: Los Cruces, N.M.
Age: 24
Job: Lead Video Technician
Qualifications: Because I'm Ian
Favorite Gear: Soft pillow and toilet paper

Name: Chris
Hometown: Houston, Texas
Age: 20
Job: PhilNews Manager
Qualifications: Philmont is my second love after journalism
Favorite Gear: Mansuit, zipped all the way

Name: Jamie
Hometown: Minneapolis, Minn.
Age: 25
Job: NPS Photo Manager
Qualifications: I went to school for photography; even though I never graduated, I got a degree in business
Favorite Gear: My sleeping bag



Name: Ben
Hometown:
 Union City, Ind.
Age: 20
Job: Photographer
Qualifications:
 I've been taking photos for a long time as a hobby; I was a photographer last year
Favorite Gear: Rope

Name: Jeanne
Hometown:
 St. Petersburg, Fla.
Age: 19
Job: Photographer
Qualifications:
 I'm an art major and I like to take photos
Favorite Gear:
 a sleeping bag – I get cold at night

Name: Lisa
Hometown:
 Greenville, Wis.
Age: 19
Job: Photographer
Qualifications:
 I've taken photo classes, and I like to hike
Favorite Gear: My knife

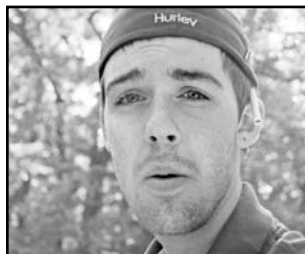
Get to know



Name: Stephen
Hometown:
 Chattanooga, Tenn.
Age: 21
Job: Photographer
Qualifications:
 I study graphic design
Favorite Gear:
 Canon XTi



Name: Danny
Hometown:
 Olathe, Kan.
Age: 18
Job: Photographer
Qualifications:
 I've taken pictures before; I did Rayado
Favorite Gear:
 My camera (Nikon D80) and my left sock



Name: Ryan
Hometown:
 Denton, Texas
Age: 18
Job: Photographer
Qualifications:
 Rayado; I've climbed most of the peaks in Colorado; took pictures during both
Favorite Gear:
 Toilet Paper



Name: Rebecca
Hometown:
 Sherman, Texas
Age: 18
Job: Photographer
Qualifications:
 I've taken photo classes at UNT
Favorite Gear:
 Climbing Gear



Name: Axe Man (Andrew)
Hometown:
 Colorado Springs, Colo.
Age: 21
Job: Photographer
Qualifications: I took classes in high school and I worked in NPS last year
Favorite Gear:
 My Nikon D50

your friendly News & Photo Service staff



Name: Jen

Hometown: Troy, Ala.

Age: 23

Job: Writer

Qualifications: I have a degree in Journalism

Favorite Gear: My headlamp – it's really awesome

Name: Shilynn

Hometown: Ardmore, Okla.

Age: 21

Job: Writer

Qualifications: I wrote for my college newspaper; English is my only language

Favorite Gear: my hat clip/ light

Name: Tawny

Hometown: Bloomington, Ind.

Age: 23

Job: Writer

Qualifications: I have a degree in Psychology and Criminal Justice; NPS needs me

Favorite Gear: My toothbrush



Name: Bryan

Hometown:

Port Orchard, Wa.

Age: 21

Job: Video Technician

Qualifications: I understand the beauty of Final Cut Pro.

Favorite Gear:

Any kind of camera

More about NPS

The News & Photo Service department is responsible for nametags; department, souvenir and marketing photos; and The PhilNews you're holding right now. In the event of breaking news or emergencies, NPS may also be responsible for press releases and may serve as Philmont's media contact.

Good Deeds – Service to All

by Elder David Wilson

LDS Chaplain

A young adult once recounted in a religious service an experience of having provided humanitarian service to residents of a leprosy colony in India. Among the people she met was a woman who had lost both hands to Hansen's disease; she had been reading a book, which lay open in front of her. The young woman said that, as she started to leave, she asked the afflicted woman if there was anything she could do for her that day. The woman asked the young visitor if she would turn the page for her.

This account demonstrated the importance of service, and the fact that no act of service is too small to be of benefit to someone else. Until she met the woman with no hands, the young humanitarian probably never thought that service could consist of an act as simple as turning a page in a book.

Sometimes we hardly notice what or when we have done something to help others, such as when a staffer here at Philmont recently told a close acquaintance "Thanks" for all that she had done to help her during her stay here at Philmont. The recipient of this comment was a bit puzzled; she could not for the life of her recall doing anything special or out of the ordinary for this individual.

"You have always had something kind or complimentary to say to me," the first staffer told her. "Your smile and cheery attitude brightens my day. I truly feel better after talking and briefly visiting with you."

As with the page turner mentioned above, the young staffer who received this comment never thought of service coming in such little acts of kindness as simply having a smile and a heartfelt "Good Morning."

The PhilNews is not large enough to contain the list of good deeds and small acts of kindness and service that occur daily around the Ranch. Some are heroic and extraordinary, while others are routine and seemingly mundane. Without doubt, we can all find ways to do follow that Scouting Slogan, "Do a Good Turn (Deed) Daily."

Additionally, I am sure that each of our respective religious beliefs never intends that compassion, kindness and charity should be demonstrated by a select few individuals alone. Certainly, as part of our doing our own personal "Duty to God," we are expected to exercise these characteristics and behaviors on a daily basis, much to the edification of all around us.

Nearly everywhere we look we can find something we can do to strengthen and provide service to others, as well as find evidence of good done by others. Our deeds ought always to be numbered among those that enable people all around us to say that there is much that is right about the young people of today. Opportunities to serve one another abound.

As we go about our daily activities around the Ranch this summer, I ask that we all strive to be able to give an affirmative answer to this simple question contained in a sacred hymn of the LDS Church, "Have I Done any Good in the World Today?"

Have I done any good in the world today?

Have I helped anyone in need?

Have I cheered up the sad and made someone feel glad?

If not, I have failed indeed.

Has anyone's burden been lighter today because I was willing to share?

Have the sick and the weary been helped on their way?

When they needed my help was I there?

Have I done any good in the world today?

Then wake up and do something more than dream of your mansion above.

Doing good is a pleasure, a joy beyond measure, a blessing of duty and love.

There are chances for work all around just now, opportunities right in our way.

Do not let them pass by, saying, "Sometime I'll try," but go and do something today.

'Tis noble of man to work and to give; love's labor has merit alone.

Only he who does something helps others to live.

To God each good work will be known.

Meet the Chaplains!



Elder David Wilson
LDS Chaplain

Elder Wilson is serving as the LDS (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) Chaplain for another season being in God's Country. During the summer months, Philmont has become his "home away from home." When he is not at Philmont,

Elder Wilson is somewhat gainfully employed as the Executive Officer for a non-profit organization specializing in energy efficiency, conservation and sustainability in the housing and construction industry throughout the Intermountain West.

Elder Wilson even has hobbies outside of Scouting and Philmont: he grows orchids, is a SCUBA certified Divemaster and (of course) continues to work in the Venturing Program of the BSA. When not at Philmont he calls Orem, Utah, his home.

At Philmont this year, Elder Wilson brought along some other members of the Wilson clan: his very patient wife Charlene, his daughter Heather (a Ranger Trainer) and his youngest daughter Amber.

As a last point – never fear, true believers – as in years past, Elder Wilson will continue to assist the CHQ Dining Hall staff with the creation of "creative eggs" on Friday mornings, as well as distributing the beloved Tootsie Roll Pops to all who ask throughout the summer.

Joseph Palacios was born and raised in Lubbock, Texas, and is a 2006 graduate of Texas Tech University with Bachelors degrees in Spanish and International Business. An Eagle Scout and Brotherhood member of the OA Nakona Lodge, he is a seminarian for the Catholic Diocese of Lubbock, and is currently studying at Assumption Seminary and Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas.

At Texas Tech, Palacios was a member of the Diocesan Youth Retreat Team, and was a member of The EDGE/LIFE Teen Core Team, which focuses on youth and young adult ministry. As a part of his degree program with the Rawls College of Business, Palacios studied abroad and lived in Seville, Spain, for four months, bringing the number of countries he has been in to four. He hopes to make that number grow very soon.

After moving to San Antonio, Palacios volunteered with ministry at the Catholic Student Center at San Antonio College. He was also a part of orga-



Joseph Palacios
Catholic Chaplain

nizing a retreat for the Catholic Boy Scouts of the Alamo Area Council.

Palacios is the oldest of three children in his family, and comes from a very large extended family, with over sixty first cousins. This is Palacios' second summer at Philmont, and it's going to be great!



Rabbi Rachmiel Tobesman
Jewish Chaplain

Rabbi Rachmiel Tobesman, ordained 1981 Hador haTorah Rabbinical Seminary, Breslover Chasid. Rabbi Rock is the current Chairman of the Jewish Committee on Scouting for the Baltimore Area Council. He is a member of the National Organization of Biblical Storytellers, and was an instructor at the Sharing the Fire Storytelling Conference in April 2008, to teach about Stories that Touch the Spirit.

Rabbi Rock returns to Philmont as the Jewish Chaplain with special Sabbath meals, holiday celebrations and plenty more stories. His special blend of teaching has touched many, and his stories have stirred people of all faiths.

What is Shavuot?

Shavuot is a major holiday for the Jewish people. This holiday marks the anniversary of the day when we received the Torah (Holy Scriptures) at Mount Sinai.

This is a biblical holiday, complete with special prayers, holiday candle lighting and holiday meals, and many forms of work and labor are prohibited.

The word "Shavuot" means "weeks." It marks the completion of the seven-week counting period between Passover and Shavuot. During these seven weeks, the Jewish people traveled from Egyptian slavery to Mount Sinai to enter into an eternal covenant with G-d with the giving of the Torah.

On this day we received a gift from Above, which we could not have achieved with our own limited faculties. We received the ability to reach and touch the Divine – not only to be cultivated among human beings, but Divine human beings who are capable of rising above and beyond the limitations of nature.

In preparation for receiving the Holy Word, Jewish people stay up the first night of Shavuot, studying Scriptures and other holy writings. The first morning, the Book of Ruth is read in the Synagogue. It is traditional to eat dairy foods at some of the holiday meals because King Solomon referred to the giving of the Holy Scriptures that it should be as "honey and milk upon your tongue."

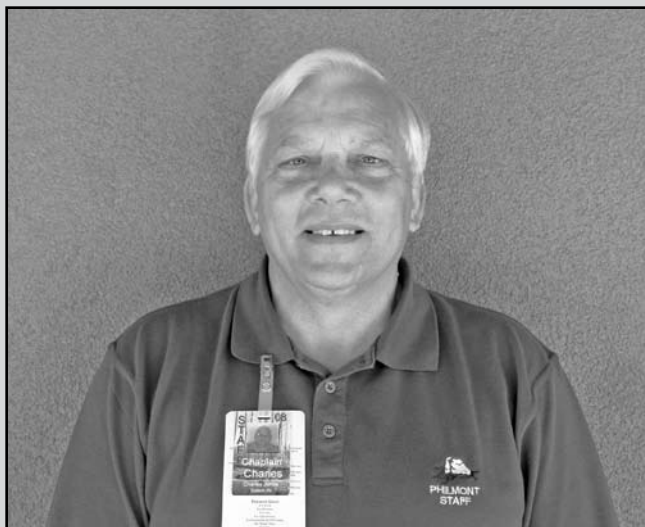
Every year on the holiday of Shavuot, we reenact this historic moment. G-d re-gives the Torah, and we lovingly re-accept, and reaffirm our fidelity to Him alone.

Rabbi Rock will host a special meal to celebrate Shavuot, in his home right after services on Sunday.



Dennis O'Rourke
Catholic Chaplain

Father Dennis is a priest of the Diocese of Phoenix, Ariz. He is currently serving as pastor at St. Gabriel's Parish in Cave Creek, Ariz. Only here for a few short weeks as we open the 2008 summer season, he is again spending part of his twentieth summer at Philmont as a Chaplain. Fr. Dennis has been registered with the Boy Scouts for the past 46 years and is active in numerous Scouting positions. He earned the Philmont Arrowhead by hiking a Philmont Trek in 1992.



Charles Jones
Protestant Chaplain

Charles (Danny) Jones has been married for 37 years, with two children and four grandchildren. He is a U.S. Navy veteran, and has been a Church of Christ minister for 34 years.

An Eagle Scout, Jones has been active in Scouting for more than 25 years. He is a Vigil member of the Order of the Arrow, 2005 Jamboree Chaplain and was the Senior Patrol Leader of crew 806C at Philmont in 1968 (40 years ago this summer). He is currently serving as a unit commissioner, and is on the Relationship Committee for Lincoln Heritage Council. He served seven years with the Council JLT program, and in 2004 served as course director for one of the regional pilots for the new National Youth Leadership Training conference.

Regular chapel services have begun!

Chapel services are held every evening at 7 p.m. Services for those of or interested in the Catholic, Jewish, Protestant or LDS faiths are available. Chapel services will run nightly until Aug. 20.

Additionally, see any of the chaplains if you have questions about the "Duty to God" program.

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Meet the Manly Men of Crater Lake!

In 2005, the C.O.P.E. staff taught us how to cope at Philmont. In 2006, the Pueblano boys found advice for us in the depth of their logging hearts.

In 2007, Philmont staffers went without their friendly neighborhood advice column. (Sad face!)

Now, in 2008, The PhilNews is bringing manly back in the form of the Manly Men of Crater Lake. We present to you the hardy staffers of that logging camp, and hope you will trust them to answer your questions.

*The wise and compassionate men at Crater Lake are anxiously waiting to help **you!** I-camp your questions to News & Photo Service to get answers and have your problems spread all over the Ranch.*

Name: "Top Hat" Mark Bryson

Age: 23

Hometown: Hudsonville, Mich.

If you could be a vegetable, which would you be and why?

Cornbread, ain't nothing wrong with that.

Least favorite swap box item: The pemmican bar.

Goal for the summer: Have one of the best campfires on the Ranch.

Biggest challenge on the job: Getting the logger children to the top of Trail Peak every morning.

What makes you qualified to give advice to our readers?:

1) Second year working for the Continental Tie & Lumber Co.; 2) Graduated from UNM-Taos with a degree in Logging Advice and a minor in Blowing Minds; 3) I survived an axe wound and a subsequent MRSA infection in my shin in 2007.

Name: Skip Meadows

Age: 22

Hometown: McAllen, Texas

If you could be a vegetable, which would you be and why?

Potato. Everybody loves potatoes.

Least favorite swap box item: Live minibear.

Goal for the summer: Scout body count of less than five.

Biggest challenge on the job: Cleaning up mess from "blown minds" at campfire/company meeting.

What makes you qualified to give advice to our readers?:

Long ago I was saved by loggers, then I became a logger. Now I'm here to save you... with advice.

Name: "Wise Owl" Pete Weber

Age: 19

Hometown: Golden, Colo.

If you could be a vegetable, which would you be and why?

Cauliflower, because it reminds me of my luscious, flowing golden locks.

Least favorite swap box item: My broken heart.

Goals for the summer: Break a world record, and always look good.

Biggest challenge on the job: Staying humble.

What makes you qualified to give advice to our readers?:

1) I survived the difficulties of logger childhood; 2) my slick brown cap.

Name: Bryce "The Blue Lagoon" Blankenship

Age: Turning the great 21 on the 22nd of June

Hometown: Kansas City – both the Kansas and now Missouri sides

If you could be a vegetable, which would you be and why?

An asparagus because I am mean, lean and quite potent

Least favorite swap box item: A camper.

Goals for the summer: 1) Not find a camper in the swap box; 2) climb a pole in under six seconds; 3) not get swallowed by the lake.

Biggest challenges on the job: Not getting swallowed by the lake, keeping the grooves coming out of my lil head, providing for my logger children

What makes you qualified to give advice to our readers?:

I can grow a sick beard – see me in three months. And I have woodchips in my blood.

Name: Brett "Redundant" Bretterson

Age: 7650 days old, plus change

Hometown: South Pole, Antarctica

If you could be a vegetable, which would you be and why?

Coma patient – I could use the sleep

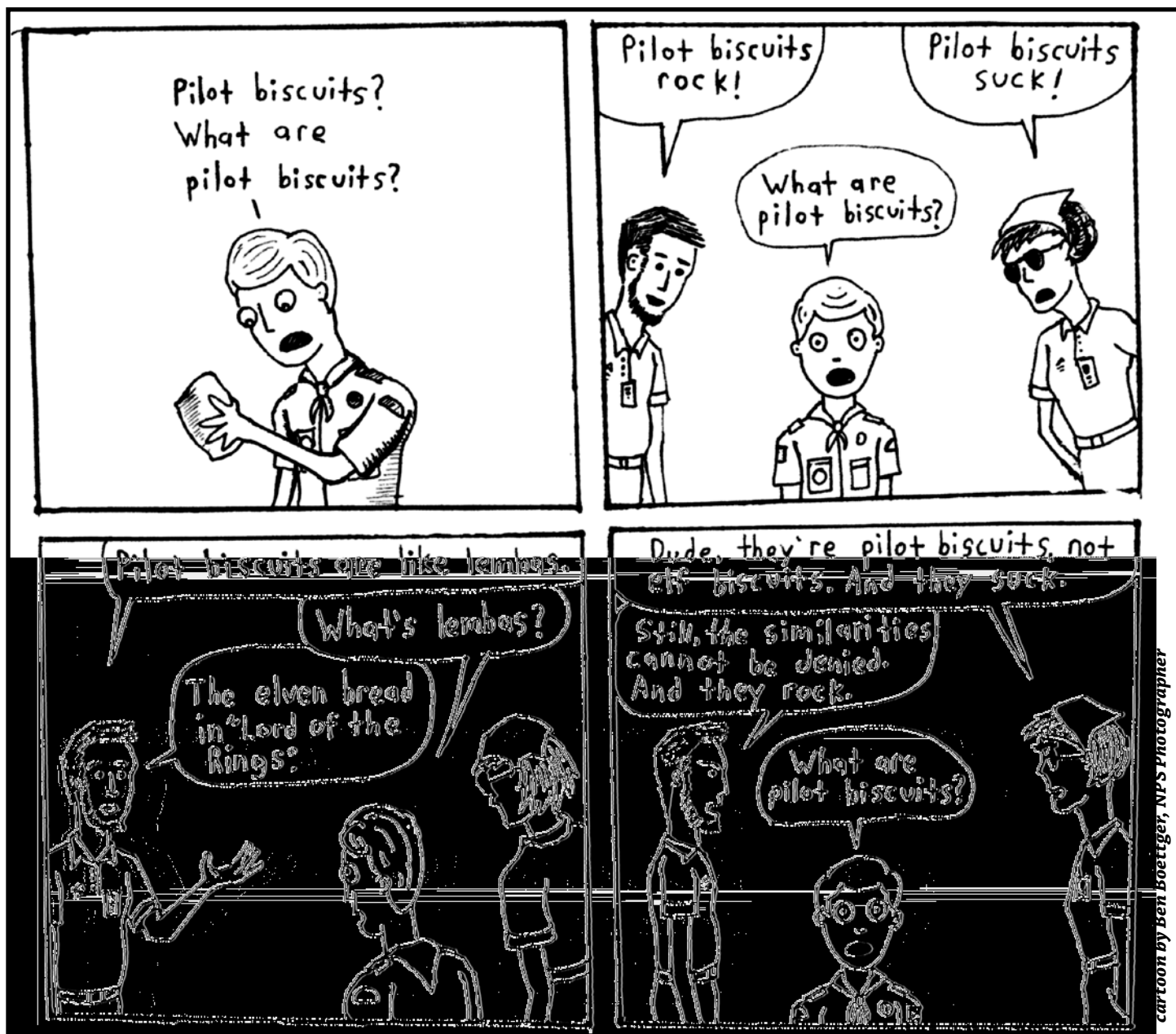
Least favorite swap box item: Anything that isn't Soft Batch or Grape Drink

Goals for the summer: Integrate spar-pole climbing into "American Gladiators"

Biggest challenge on the job: Fighting the urge to say, "That's what she said" on a daily basis

What makes you qualified to give advice to our readers?:

1) Have you seen the size of my hands?!? 2) I'm fly, therefore I'm hot and you ain't, therefore you're not; 3) I introduced Seal to Heidi Klum – have you seen that couple?!?



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Level: Evil

		4		2			8	
					3		5	
		6				3		1
		9		4	8			
	1		6		9		2	
			2	7		4		
5		8				6		
	3		7					
	4			5		1		

Level: Medium

2	8	4			7		9	
				9	3			
6	3			5				7
4	7							9
		1				7		
5							1	8
9				7			8	1
			1	6				
	5		4			9	6	2

Level: Easy

	2		4			1		
4			5					3
7		3			1	5		
3				2	6		9	
	7	2	9	4	5	3	8	
	9		1	3				7
		9	3			8		2
2					4			9
		6			9		3	

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CHQ Activities Calendar

Monday (June 9)	Basketball* (8 p.m., basketball court)
Tuesday (June 10)	Blood drive (10 a.m. - 4 p.m., by staff lounge)
Wednesday (June 11)	Kickball* (8 p.m., behind staff lounge)
Thursday (June 12)	Card game night (8 p.m., BBQ pavilion by staff lounge)
Friday (June 13)	Ice cream night (8 p.m., BBQ pavilion by staff lounge)

* Check with Activities staff if weather is inclement

PTC Evening Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Opening program 8:15 p.m.	Handicrafts 6:30 p.m. Cracker barrel 7 p.m.	Western night 6:30 p.m.	Movie night 7 p.m.	Handicrafts 6:30 p.m. Cracker barrel 7 p.m.	Closing program 7:30 p.m.	No events scheduled

CT Calendar

June 10 & 12	— Bus Tours
June 11 & 13	— Wilderness Pledge
June 14 & 16	— Stove Maintenance/Repair
June 15 & 17	— Group Dynamics
June 18 & 20	— Geology
June 19 & 21	— GPS/Navigation
June 22 & 24	— Crew Leader Development
June 23 & 25	— First Aid Revisited
June 26 & 28	— Flora and Fauna
June 27 & 29	— Ecology
June 30 & July 2	— Astronomy
July 1 & 5	— Leave No Trace
July 6 & 8	— Conflict Resolution

CTs (Continuing Training) are held at the Ranger Office during the evening. They are open to any staffer who wishes to attend, and are not restricted to the Ranger department.

Be Phil-famous!

Contribute to The PhilNews! Share your Philmont- and Scout-related stories, experiences and information by sending us content for publication. We want to see you published!

Articles, columns and other written submissions should be 300-600 words long, and will be edited for length, style and appropriateness. We also accept photos, recipes, cartoons and illustrations, poetry and letters to the editor.

Send us content via I-camp, at the News & Photo Service office or via e-mail (philmontnps@netbsa.org). All content must be turned in by **Monday at 5 p.m.** in order to appear in that Friday's issue. We look forward to hearing from you!