

The PhilNews



THEY'RE HERE!

ISSUE 9 • AUG. 1, 2008

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

On the cover:

Mike Griffis, Larry McLaughlin, Ellie Nickens, Tim Collver and Andy Gerhart of the Tobasco Donkeys. (photo courtesy of the Tobasco Donkeys)

From the desk: Editor's Note

Full speed ahead!

We are now in the month of August. The end of the summer is fast approaching.

But that doesn't mean the fun doesn't stop. We're in the midst of Philfiesta season, and we can still look forward to the opening of the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center. We can also look forward to what the weekend brings us: two concerts in the SSSAC pavilion.

Saturday's performance will be by The Split, a southern California-based band to which Roving Prospector Ross Robinson belongs. And Sunday evening means the Tobasco Donkeys will regale us with three hours of Philmont favorites.

This week, I visited with two of the original Tobasco Donkeys, Larry and Andy, in the house adjoined to the yarn shop where they recorded "The Yarn Sessions" (see pgs. 10-11). Within almost three hours, they filled me in on the Donkeys' history, as well as their own personal thoughts and reflections on their Philmont experiences. I'm amazed at the extent of the current staff's involvement in the Tobasco Donkeys' legacy. Had it not been for the Crater Lake and Cyphers' Mine staffs in 2006, there might have been no second album recorded last year, and certainly current staffers Tim Collver, Ellie Nickens and "Iron John" Logan played a huge role in that album. At any rate, I'm certainly excited about the music we'll all be enjoying this weekend.

For this issue, writer Jennifer Peters and I visited two camps near Six-Mile Gate: Indian Writings (see pgs. 20-21) and Dean Cow (see pgs. 18-19). Getting to those camps may be a little out of the way, due to the lack of neighboring staffed camps, but as you'll find out (that is, if you didn't already know), they are certainly well worth the hike.

The PhilNews is now down to one writer and myself, but we are still determined to keep up with the same quantity and quality of work we've produced so far this summer. The next issue is the last for which we'll accept content (the very final issue is reserved for photo contest results), so please be sure to send us any final submissions you may have, be they articles or blurbs or recipes or poems or illustrations or photos. We'd love to print what you have. Thanks for reading.

Sincerely,
Chris

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

Philmont documentary in the works

by Chris Dunn
PhilNews Manager

Former Philmont staffer Larry McLaughlin – known as “Dirty Larry” in his backcountry days – is filming and producing an as-of-yet untitled documentary about Philmont.

McLaughlin – who worked at Philmont for seven consecutive years, six of which were in the backcountry – has been commissioned by Philmont to produce a documentary focusing on Waite Phillips’ gift and Philmont’s impact on its many staff and participants.

“This is a very sacred place to a lot of people, so I hope I can capture that,” McLaughlin said. “One thing I’m not interested in doing is having this documentary be like a supplement or replacement for a Philmont experience. There are certain things I won’t show. I don’t want to show a crew up on Baldy.”

McLaughlin, who has been on the ranch for almost two weeks as of press time, has been working on capturing general footage and gathering interviews with individuals varying from Director of Program Mark Anderson to participants fresh off the trail.

The project will not near its completion stage for another two years, as McLaughlin will also follow a crew next summer. His intent is to cover the crew from its planning stages in Austin, Texas; follow them while on the trail; and catch up with them six months later in order to capture the full scope of their experience and reflections about Philmont.

McLaughlin is a graduate of the Colorado Film School, and has made a number of short films and

commercial spots, as well as a low-budget feature film. This will be his first documentary.

“So this’ll be a great first subject, of course – something that I know very well and love,” McLaughlin said. “But of course there’s got to be a story in there somewhere. There’s so much stuff, and how do I throw that together into a story? It’s really the big challenge, and that’s the thing that’ll keep me busy.”

“Everybody has their idea about Philmont,” he also said. “I hope, with my experience, that I can do the best job possible, and I hope people will understand how much I love this place, and I hope that comes across in the film.”

The documentary will be a straight-to-DVD production, and will be owned by Philmont Scout Ranch and sold in the trading post. McLaughlin said he hopes the documentary will inspire potential participants to come on a trek, as well as help assuage former staffers’ and participants’ nostalgia pains.

In the 60s and 70s, two documentaries about Philmont were produced. McLaughlin described them as simply being film strips.

“Really cheesy, and they were made by people who just didn’t understand Philmont at all,” he said. “My dad would rent the film strip when I was eight years old, and he would show it to crews he was taking out before I was able to go to Philmont.”

“And I just looked forward to going to Philmont so much, just from watching those old films,” McLaughlin continued. “And so I hope I can do the same thing, just give people a sense of what Philmont is and get them excited about it.”

Be a blood donor!

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5

If you are 17 years of age or older, weigh more than 110 pounds and have not given blood within the past 56 days, you may be eligible to donate blood. Eat a good meal and drink plenty of fluids beforehand, and bring a picture ID and donor card to the Bloodmobile near the staff lounge. Donors receive free cholesterol testing.

Cocontact Associate Director of Program Steve Nelson to sign up or for more information. All donors will be entered into a drawing to win a \$1,000 gift card.

Foundation stones

submission by Mark Anderson

Director of Program

Rollo C. Hester defined a firm foundation for success with a few stones to remember:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. The wisdom of preparation. | 11. The inspiration of cleanliness. |
| 2. The value of confidence. | 12. The satisfaction of serving. |
| 3. The worth of honesty. | 13. The power of suggestion. |
| 4. The privilege of working. | 14. The buoyancy of enthusiasm. |
| 5. The discipline of struggle. | 15. The advantage of initiative. |
| 6. The magnetism of character. | 16. The virtue of patience. |
| 7. The radiance of health. | 17. The rewards of cooperation. |
| 8. The forcefulness of simplicity. | 18. The fruitfulness of perseverance. |
| 9. The winsomeness of courtesy. | 19. The sportsmanship of losing. |
| 10. The attractiveness of modesty. | 20. The joy of winning. |

As I reflect on this list, I would ask you to consider several of the “stones” as they relate to your summer here at Philmont.

The value of confidence –

Through practice and study, you are able to present information and support to our many visitors. Recently, I was visiting in Logistics and observed a trip planner studying and making notes about an itinerary that he was going to review with a crew in a few minutes. It struck me that even at the end of July, we still need to practice and study so that we can support our many visitors with confidence.

The satisfaction of service –

On a visit to the Conservationist worksite at Devil’s Washbasin, I watched the staff teach and guide crews in the construction of a new trail that will connect Devil’s Washbasin to Deer Lake. I know that the staff have guided hundreds of trekkers through the process, some quickly understanding the concepts and contributing to the construction of a great trail and others deviating from the plan, requiring corrective work at a latter date.

Through it all, I observed great satisfaction of service by the staff. This same commitment is demonstrated by all of you throughout each day across the Ranch.

The buoyancy of enthusiasm –

While attending the Cantina Show at Ponil, I ob-

served the staff demonstrating the buoyancy of enthusiasm. Even though the staff had done the show each evening since early June, the trekkers were given a performance that brought great joy and excitement to this moment of their trek. The enthusiasm was contagious.

I know that as they departed for their campsites, the show capped a day of enjoyment and accomplishment and would provide encouragement for what lay ahead on their trek. This same buoyancy of enthusiasm is occurring everyday across the Ranch by each of you.

The rewards of cooperation –

I enjoy visiting the many worksites across the Ranch and watching the teamwork that has developed to achieve our goal of “Delivering a Wilderness Adventure that Lasts a Lifetime.” This teamwork depends on the cooperation each of us gives to the effort.

Our demonstration is important for each crew. As they watch us work together, they are given an example of the value of learning to cooperate and to support a team. Thank you for sharing the rewards of cooperation.

I am proud of each member of the Philmont Staff. Please reflect on Mr. Hester’s “Foundation Stones.” They are all important parts of our summer experience.

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2008 Entry Form

Name _____

Department _____

Photo title _____

Category (circle one):

Landscape

Sunrise/Sunset

Storms and/or Rainbows

Flowers/Plants

Wildlife

Humor (no vulgarity)

Digital creations

Staff activity

Camper activity

Black & White

Bring or send your photos to the CHQ Activities office by Wednesday, Aug. 6. Each photo must be labeled with your name, department and the category in which you are entering it.

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The Conservationist

The cost of transportation

As many of us consider or solidify plans for returning to our respective homes, we are again faced with a quandary in the form of what type of transportation we will utilize on this journey. Whether it be via air, rail or road, there is a cost that comes with each of these choices we make.

In addition to our long distance travel, this cost also appears in our everyday commutes and trips to the store. Since the enactment of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956, the automobile has been the primary method of transportation in the U.S. Unfortunately, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, automobiles are the largest source of CO₂ emissions in the country.

Being more conscious of our use of automobiles and the long-term effect our level of consumption will have on our environment is an important step toward change. Owning a car seems like a necessary part of our everyday life; in some situations, it may be, but let's take a look at some of our other options.

Carpooling or ride-sharing is one option for commuting. Many of us live in urban or suburban areas where the responsibility of driving can be shared with others. On-line carpool websites allow us to connect with a network of others in our communities also seeking to reduce their impact. After registering on the website, you are able to view listings arranged by state and city. Each listing offers days of the week rides are available, contact information for the organizer and space for comments, such as the departure and return times. In the long run, you may benefit in the form of financial savings on gas and the formation of friendships with those in your community whom you otherwise may never have met.

Commuting by mass transit is another option that is sometimes overlooked because it may seem like too

much of a hassle. However, it all depends on your situation. You may find there is a bus or train line nearby that will take you exactly where you want to go.

The other benefit of public transportation is that it allows you to utilize your time more wisely. A great example is the town I hail from in New Jersey. Many of the people living in my town commute to work in New York City every morning. This can be an hour to an hour-and-a-half-long drive, which involves fighting traffic and the stress of dealing with disgruntled motorists. On the other hand, my father commutes to work via train, which gives him the time to prepare for work, read the newspaper or even just relax for two hours each day.

Another option which many of us may not have considered is the utilization of our own manpower to propel us to our places of work. This can be in the form of walking, biking or a myriad of other self propelled devices. Not only will these forms of transportation save you money and reduce our emissions, but they will also help you stay in good physical shape. Why drive your car to a gym to ride a stationary bike like a gerbil in a cage when you can ride your bike with a purpose? With a bit of planning, any of these options can be a very real possibility for many of us.

For others of us, it may require some lifestyle changes that will pay off in the long run. Going back to our trips home, you can utilize some of these same principles on your return journey. Ride-sharing, train, and bus are probably some of our best options; unfortunately the energy cost of flying negates many of the pros of its value as public transportation.

Don't feel guilty if you have a plane reservation. Now that we have this knowledge, we can work to plan ahead and prepare for next year, when we once again return to the ranch.

"The Conservationist" is a weekly column by Environmental Educator Chris Ives.

For more information about ride-sharing, carpooling and public transportation, visit the following Web sites:

www.carpoolconnect.com

www.craigslist.com

www.amtrack.com

www.erideshare.com

www.greyhound.com

From the Ranger Department

Adventures at Crater Lake

Last week I received an I-Camp from the boys at Crater Lake, pointing out how I had mentioned other campfire programs to visit in my “Evening Getaways” column, but had failed to mention the Crater campfire. Of course, I was embarrassed that I had made such a mistake. So, to rectify the situation, I am devoting this week’s column to adventures in the Crater Lake area.

Getting There

Crater Lake is a perfect location for getting out into the backcountry to a campfire camp, while not requiring a car to get to the turnaround. Start hiking either from base or Lover’s Leap turnaround.

The scenic route is to hike the trail past Lover’s Leap, down to Lover’s Leap Camp. Walk past the trail sign, up and through a ditch to the meadow for Lover’s Leap Camp, and the trail will continue on to Crater Lake. Do not turn left at the trail sign, as it will take you past the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience encampment, and eventually Stonewall Pass.

The second option is to follow the road to Crater Lake. At one point, the road splits at a “Y.” Take the left fork, as the right one leads to Miner’s Park.

If planning on getting to camp in time for campfire after work, catch an early dinner and try to get hiking no later than 5:30 p.m. – earlier if hiking out of Base Camp. This allows for two hours for you to get to Crater before the campfire begins.

Cool Views

From the campfire bowl, there is an excellent view of Shaefer’s Peak, the Tooth of Time, Tooth Ridge and the plains below. If you turn around you can see Trail Peak looming behind and to the left of the cabin. The mountain looks impressive at night when the stars are out, as you see this dark mass looming up into the sky. Also behind the cabin is a rock field, which offers another view of the plains, as well as a meadow area. These can be excellent places to view sunrise.

Hiking Trail Peak

Trail Peak is a great hike, with the trail from Fowler Pass going straight up the side of the mountain. There is a view of the Beaubien meadow from

the summit, and there are remains of the B-24 Liberator. There is also a memorial placed by the Mic-O-Say, dedicated to one of the crew who was a member of the organization. Hike the mountain early in the day to avoid afternoon thunderstorms.

The Campfire

Bring a warm jacket and camp chair, and let the crews have the front row seats. The campfire is a good show, and if you haven’t seen it yet this summer, I don’t want to spoil it. Let’s just say there’s a combination of music and storytelling. The guys often stay after campfire is over to play more songs.

Things to Remember

Bring the ten essentials for hiking, food, and a sleeping bag for staying overnight.

If working the next day, be sure to be back in Base to report to work on time, clean, and in a fresh uniform.

Avoid night hiking.

Take advantage of the program, but make sure the crew participants go first.

Bring baked goods for the logger children, or have baked goods sent to:

Crater Boys
47 Caballo Road
Cimarron, NM 87714

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



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Highlight on the 27,391 Reasons We Are Here

Venturing turns 10 years old

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the start of the Venturing program. Over the past 10 years, the program has become the fastest growing program within the Boy Scouts of America.

Venturing is unique in that both male and female young adults, of ages 14 to 19, can be a part of the program.

Western Region Venturing President Matthew McGroanty explained how, in Venturing, you can "truly make the program what you want."

A Venturing crew can create a focus for its unit, such as rock climbing or community service. However, if they so choose, they can explore a broad range of high adventure activities.

This week – Aug. 3-9 – is Venturing week at the Philmont Training Center. During this week at PTC, adult leaders will receive training specific to Ventur-

ing units and the Venturing program.

Also this week, all of the mountain trek participants will be going through Kodiak, which is the Venturing leadership training program.

In honor of the tenth anniversary of Venturing, the Venturing program is giving a 100,000 service hours to the Boy Scouts. Units from the around the country are doing service work, and then sending in a record of their hours into the national office to be recorded.

Once the National Venturing program has collected record of 100,000 hours, the office will present the service hours to the National Council as a gift in honor of the tenth anniversary.

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

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The debate rages on: Who has the best porch view?

We might have opened a can of worms with this one. In Issue 5, Head of Dean claimed to have the best porch view on the ranch. In Issue 6, Sawmill demanded a retraction, asserting that they have the best view. In Issue 8, Carson Meadows declared to have the best porch view.

We invited camps to make a stand and defend their porch views. Here are the responses we received for this issue. We welcome more responses, especially since next issue is the last issue of The PhilNews before the Final Issue, in which only the photo contest results will be published.

Sawmill's response to Carson Meadows

Dear NPS,

As a proud Sawmill staff member, I feel obligated to point out the obvious fallacies spouted by the Carson Meadows staff in the eighth issue of your publication. Their assertion that their view is superior to ours simply does not ring true.

On a recent trip to Carson, I myself was able to witness their view firsthand. While their van-

tage of the Tooth is quite impressive, it lacks any other major features.

Our view, on the other hand, stretches so far and encompasses so much that it is impossible to label it all here. Not only is our sunrise picturesque, but our porch commands a view of building storms through the canyon, clouds that are never the same twice, the occasional B-1 refuel-

ing flight, a fantastic sunset that is constantly changing and at night, all the stars in the sky. All of this can be viewed from our luxurious porch swing.

Had any member of the Carson Meadows staff visited Sawmill this year, they would never have been able to write such slanderous lies about our view.

— Efrem Lirtzman

Baldy Town's objection

by the staff of Baldy Town

We recently skimmed over a column discussing the best porch view, and we feel offended that there is even discussion. The fact is that Baldy Town – and it is a town – has the most sought-after view on the ranch, and our porch rivals the White House in size.

Furthermore, if a zombie invasion was ever to occur (and we've survived several already), our position would be the most

defensible on the ranch.

Things we can see from our porch:

Baldy Mountain, side of Touch-Me-Not, Black Mountain, Cito Peak, Shaefers Peak, Tooth Ridge and the Tooth, Deer Lake Mesa, Ute Park, Miranda meadow, Ute Meadows, Springer, the truck stop on I-25, Midnight Mesa, 2002 Fire Break, Baldy Skyline, the bottom of Aztec Ridge, Horse Mesa, Highway 64, Express

Ranch and Cimarroncita.

So to the staff of Carson Meadows, Head of Dean, Sawmill and any other staff that claims this honor, visit the home of the biggest mountain, the biggest chairs, the biggest porch and the most badass cat in all the land, the sweetest croquet field – and we will prove you wrong.

— Dr. Drey and Biggy Smalls, for all my honeys that I lost along the way

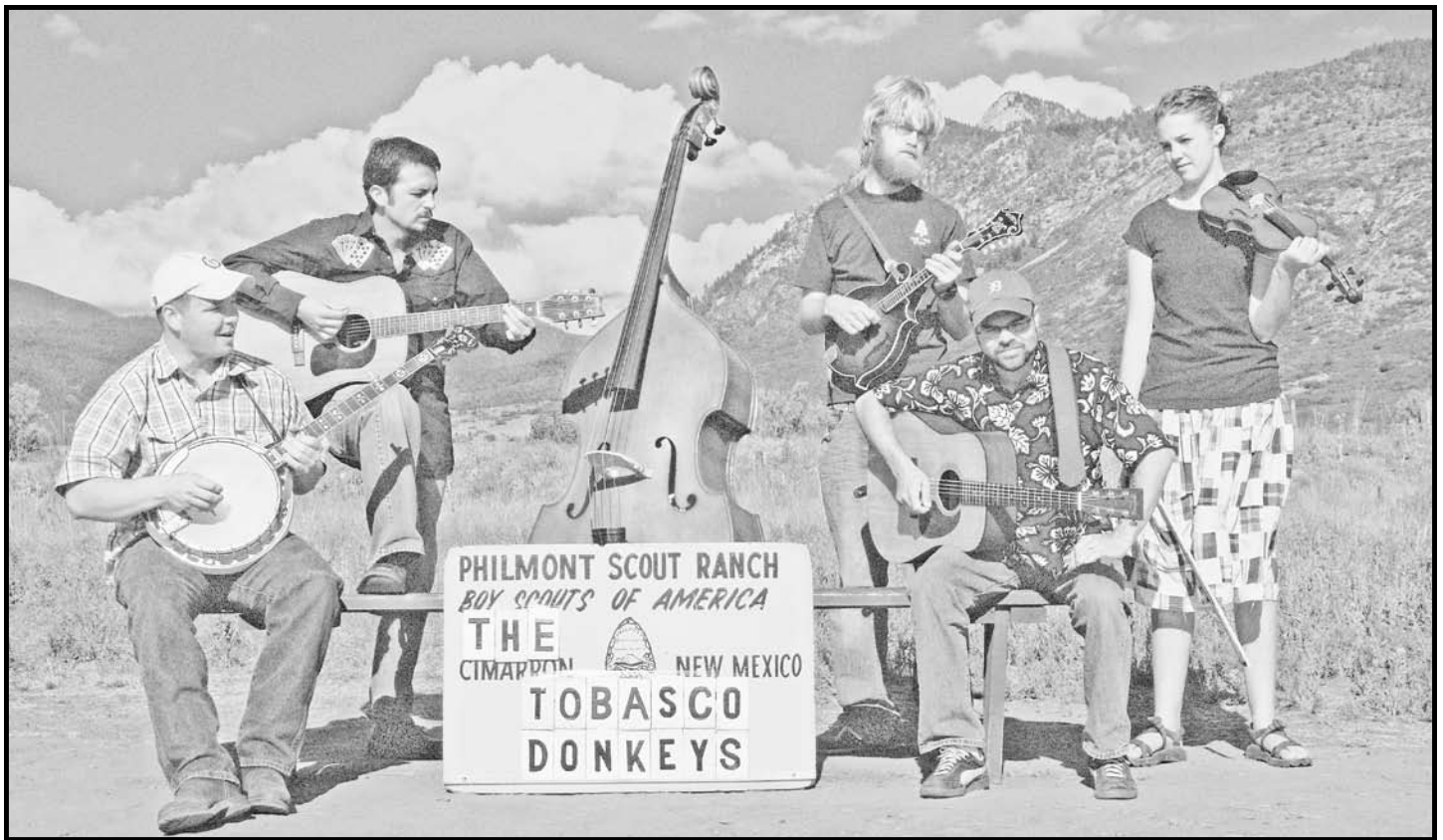


photo courtesy of The Tobasco Donkeys

Mike Griffis, Larry McLaughlin, Tim Collver, Andy Gerhart and Ellie Nickens will reunite with other Tobasco Donkeys on Aug. 3 to perform at the SSSAC.

The Tobasco Donkeys are coming to town

by Chris Dunn
PhilNews Manager

More than 10 years after the name “Tobasco Donkeys” was coined at Cyphers’ Mine, Philmont staff band the Tobasco Donkeys will perform at the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center on Aug. 3.

Former Philmont staffers Larry McLaughlin, Andy Gerhart, Mike Griffis, Eric Voss, G.S. Harper, Doug Cram, Heath Shelton and Peter Bingen will reunite with current staffers Tim Collver, Rod Taylor, Ellie Nickens and “Iron” John Logan for the event.

The original Tobasco Donkeys recorded the album ‘Sawin’ on the Strings’ in 1999. The album consisted of a variety of songs, many of which are now regularly played at backcountry campfires.

“Originally, the idea was just to make a mix tape for our friends,” McLaughlin said. “If anybody out here had access to a studio, they’d want to record mu-

sic from the backcountry. And that’s what we did.”

‘Sawin’ on the Strings’ was first sold from McLaughlin’s dorm when he was a backcountry manager in 1999, but eventually the album became a mainstay in the Tooth of Time Traders. But before the album even went into print, McLaughlin was worried that he would lose money on the album and that no one would like the album..

However, Gerhart convinced him to at least try and make his money back. One of his points was that the album would help out Philmont participants.

“As we were working backcountry, it seemed like every night, campers and advisers would approach us and ask us, ‘Where can I get these songs?’” Gerhart said. “And we’d say, ‘Well, “Far Mountain”s on this album, and you can find “Paradise” on this other album.’ We had talked for years about how it sure would be great if we put it together on one CD so we could say, ‘Just go to the trading post and buy a collection of

songs that are played in the backcountry.”

Since the album was released, the Tobasco Donkeys’ songs have become a staple of backcountry music, and the one-time band – whose members had never played together except for a few times in base camp and for the recording – grew in reputation in the Philmont backcountry culture.

In 2006, McLaughlin, Gerhart and Griffis went on a Philmont Staff Association trek into the backcountry. On their first night on the trail, they were at the Crater Lake Philfiesta, where upwards of 50 current Philmont staff had gathered after hearing that members of the Tobasco Donkeys would be present.

“They all got up on the porch and sang, ‘Ugly Girl,’” recalled McLaughlin. “And then we started going, ‘Hmm’ – because we never thought we were going to record again. But there was always a lot of songs that we still wanted to record.”

Then, a few days later, the three former Donkeys were at the Cyphers’ Mine Stomp, where the staff were performing ‘Shady Grove’ and ‘Colfax County.’

“We didn’t even know they were playing these songs at Philmont, because we never played them at campfires,” Gerhart said. “So when we heard them play these couple of songs at the Stomp, Mike, Larry and I just stepped out behind Charlie’s cabin.”

“I remember Mike was like, ‘We have to record another CD, guys!’” McLaughlin said. “And I was like, ‘Okay, cool, but there are only three of us now. We have to have current staff.’”

As a result, Collver, Nickens and Logan were asked to join the Tobasco Donkeys as they reunited to record a second album. In the summer of 2007, eight former Donkeys and three new ones, plus Rod Taylor, recorded ‘The Yarn Sessions.’

Like ‘Sawin’ on the Strings,’ the second album is a mix of folk, bluegrass and mountain music. Gerhart said that fast-paced banjo and fiddle music has enjoyed

popularity at Philmont only in recent years. Before, the majority of music performed in the backcountry was folk music – a style characterized mostly by vocals and guitar strumming.

“At the time [of ‘Sawin’ on the Strings’], it was pretty much Ron [Powers] on the whole ranch who played fiddle, and Mike was the only person on the whole ranch who played banjo,” Gerhart said. “So it was fortunate that we were able to get together on basecamp – Larry, Mike, myself, Ron – and just start trying out these bluegrass songs.

“In our mind, there’s a whole bunch of good cowboy and mountain man songs out there that weren’t meant to be acoustic campfire songs,” Gerhart continued. “But actually, they would cater really well to campfire music.”

The informality of campfire music is what the Tobasco Donkeys try to bring to the table. For ‘The Yarn Sessions,’ they often recorded songs after practicing them only one or two times.

“About our recordings – they’re very immediate, very real,” McLaughlin said. “The way it should sound at a campfire. You know, if there’s a gold miner sitting around and playing at a stomp – they weren’t professional musicians sitting around, figuring stuff out.”

Now, a little more than a year after ‘The Yarn Sessions’ was recorded and a few months after the album became available on the market, the Tobasco Donkeys who contributed to the album will perform at the SS-SAC on Aug. 3. This will be the first time the Donkeys will perform live as a band, and McLaughlin and Gerhart admitted to a little nervousness, and excitement.

“The show is a little nervewracking; it really is,” McLaughlin said. “I hope we don’t disappoint people. The cool thing about this is, it’s just good friends getting together and playing music. It’s going to be like a Philfiesta. We’re just going to have fun, and we hope other people have fun.”



Mark your calendar! The Tobasco Donkeys will perform at the back pavilion of the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center at 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 3.

Everyone from The Yarn Sessions will be there.

T-shirts will be sold for \$15 (only 100 will be available for sale!), and bumper stickers will be sold for \$5.

Visit the 1850s at Kit Carson

by Megan Stolz

Program Counselor at Kit Carson

Rayado is the place to be! Home of three lovely ladies who can shoot as well as they can cook, our rose-making blacksmith and camp director and three wise men who have a combined 150+ years of experience. During the day, we spend our time pursuing such 1850s hobbies like brain-tanning, tomahawk-throwing (the closest from base camp!) and sewing suspender buttons.

Becky, our resident herbalist, is known to make a mean apple cinnamon bread while curing your ailments with leeches and herbs. Come watch Pork Chop, our mountain man, banter with our hacienda owner, Don Samuel – those two Texans sure know how to keep the crowds laughing!

The program at the Kit Carson Museum at Rayado is changing this summer, from a third person to a first person interpretative, as well as making the interior and exterior of the hacienda more historically accurate, and it's hoppin'.

So come see us here at the Kit Carson, hiding down in the southeastern corner of the ranch (yes, we're still part of Philmont) and see what all the buzz is about.



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photo courtesy of Lee Bass, Horseman

Horsemen Jackie Magnan and Lee Bass rode their horses up the south side of Baldy, all the way to the summit, on July 10.

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The Split to perform on Aug. 2

Roving Prospector Ross Robinson will perform with his band The Split on Aug. 2 in the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center, starting at 8:30 p.m.

The Split is a southern California-based band specializing in classic rock, and draws on blues-based rock and roll from the 1950s through the new century to create an enjoyable blend of music. Major features of the band's eclectic play list include Led Zeppelin, The Pretenders, Jimi Hendrix, Sheryl Crow, U2, Queen, Eric Clapton, The B52s, Tom Petty, Fleetwood Mac and The Beatles.



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Places to visit when you're on days off

by Jennifer Peters and Tawny Slaughter

PhilNews writers

Though you may feel like you are in the middle of nowhere, there really is a lot going on in northeastern New Mexico. Don't laugh – I'm serious.

However, after a PhilNews trip to the Cimarron Visitors Center, we realized there was more around us than dust and mountains. Below are just a few of activities we found interesting. There are many more ideas of what to do at the Visitors Center if you're still looking for things to do, or for more information on the ones listed below.

Fort Union National Monument Santa Fe national historic Trail

Fort Union was once one of the largest military posts in the Southwest. There is a self-guided tour and interpretive programs in the summer. The most visible Santa Fe trail ruts are visible here. [Eight miles off I-95 on SR 161.]

Capulin Volcano

Capulin is an extinct volcano near Raton. There are two self-guided trails: one to into the vent of the volcano, and the other around the rim. There are beautiful views from around the rim and on the drive to the top of the volcano. [64 east out of Raton to 325.]

Salman Ranch

This ranch has a you-pick it raspberry farm, the Salman Ranch Café and the Salman Ranch Store. [Open 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily, located at the junction of SR 518 and SR 442 in La Cueva.]

Trinidad History Museum

In this one stop, there are the Santa Fe Trail Museum, Baca House, Bloom Mansion and Historic Gardens. [Open 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily, located at Exit 13B off I-25.]

Music from Angel Fire

Aug. 15 – Sept. 1 is the Music from Angel Fire in Angel Fire, Taos, Las Vegas and Raton. It features chamber music masterpieces played by world-renowned artists. [Location and ticket information is available at www.musicfromangelfire.org.]

Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park

This is the only state park dedicated to Vietnam War veterans. There are guided tours on weekends, and night sky events throughout the year. [For more information, call (575) 377-6900 or go to www.angelfirememorial.com.]

Maxwell

Maxwell National Wildlife Refuge offers wildlife observation, fishing, boating and camping. Maxwell is nestled between 505 and 445 here in Colfax County. [For more information call 505-375-2331.]

Support the Cimarron Ambulance!

There will be an enchilada dinner fundraiser at the Sister Hildegard Parish Hall on Aug. 2, 1-7 p.m. Adults' meals are \$6, senior citizens' meals are \$5 and children's meals are \$4. You may dine in or carry out.

The fundraiser will go toward a new ambulance, computer programming and defibrators.

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Presence



by Father Don Hummel

Catholic Chaplain

From the lofty mountain peaks' purple grandeur,
To the lush, secret dusty-emerald valleys.
From silver sage-carpeted wildflower meadows,
To ice-blue water teeming with glistening life and energy.

From whispering pines and shimmering aspens,
To limitless vistas that see into forever.

- You are powerfully and richly present

In cool, crisp morning's light,
Scorching, oven-hot midday
Surprise explosion of unrestrained thunder and lightning,

With the drenching afternoon showers and hail,
And soothing soft evening breezes around a languid campfire.

- You are lovingly and reassuringly present.

In the eagles' soaring, gliding flight,
Or cheerful squirrel and chipmunk chatter.
In harmonious hymn of bear, antelope, deer and coyote.
Or ink-dark, starlit symphony of evening vespers.

- You are gracefully and gently present.

Under strain and sweat of pack-strap,
Through shared frustration and exhilaration.
On dust-dry paths and bare-rock summits,
Through the shaken-down, arm-in-arm comradship of the trail.

- You are personally and intimately present.

In the sudden, unexpected trail-turn,
That reveals that life-transforming,
Never-be-the-same-again glimpse –
Your divine face.

We boldly, hopefully reach
And touch –

And we know profoundly.

- You are mystically, eternally present.

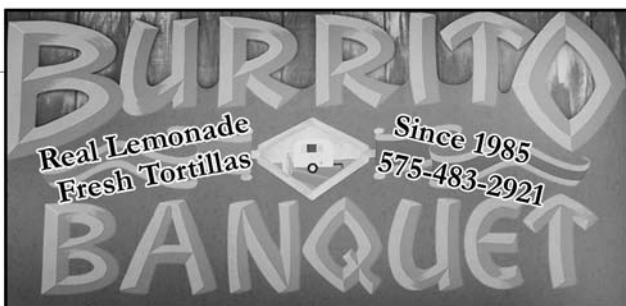
We listen,
With the ear of the heart.

We see,
With the eye of the soul.

Those who have not,
Cannot.

Those who have,
Are certain.

- You are Presence.



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The camp where “maximum fun” is law

by **Chris Dunn**

PhilNews Manager

It's a hot day at Dean Cow, and most of the staff is up on the rocks for the 1 p.m. program. Program Counselor Stephen “Razorhawk” Aulbach is demonstrating to campers how to go up Climb 2 as Head Rock Alex Moore watches from above. Meanwhile, Camp Director Alex “Huckleberry” Durio and other program counselors wait until they, too, can help campers get up and off the rocks.

Then the rain comes. Just a few drops at first, but the clouds brewing from beyond Dean Canyon prom-

ise this will be more than just a short drizzle. Durio stands up, looks around and decides to call off program for the day.

“It's agony to have to make that call, when it's kind of raining but kind of not,” Moore said later. “All the time, I'm thinking – and I'm sure everyone else is, too – about how these kids are going to get only today to climb. They're not going to be here tomorrow or the next day when it's nice out.”

By the time the staff has stowed all the ropes and gear into the boxes and reaches the cabin, they are soaked to the skin. A crew of wet campers stands under the shelter of the porch, huddled and shivering.

Suddenly, Durio looks around at his staff and says, “Let's play superheroes!”

Immediately, everyone takes off and runs through the wet, muddy field, arms outstretched like Superman. The campers on the porch watch, amused and shocked, as the staff form a Flying V and engage in games such as Screaming Toes, Evolution and Piggly Wiggly.

In some ways, that's a typical day at Dean Cow, but in many other ways, it's not.

Dean Cow does not normally have four crews a day, with only two arriving before afternoon program. Additionally, rain is not always torrential enough to shut down program for the rest of the day.

But, regardless of the crewload or the weather, the staff always strive to make each crew's experience at Dean Cow a good, fun one. As the North Country's designated rock climbing camp, Dean Cow offers sandstone rock faces for campers to climb, as well as a climbing tower for evening program.

“Our program is an introduction to the sport of rock climbing,” Moore said. “We make it maximum fun.”

Also available at Dean Cow is an environmental program. Mark Sherberg is the camp's current Environmental Program Counselor.

“The environmental program is designed to introduce participants to the environmental science here at Philmont, in an interactive way where they can go around and tell what's around them,” Sherberg said. “It's designed to enhance that hiking experience.”

Geographically, Dean Cow is tucked away into a corner of Philmont that's not very easily accessible. From Six-Mile Gate, it's a relatively short hike, but the

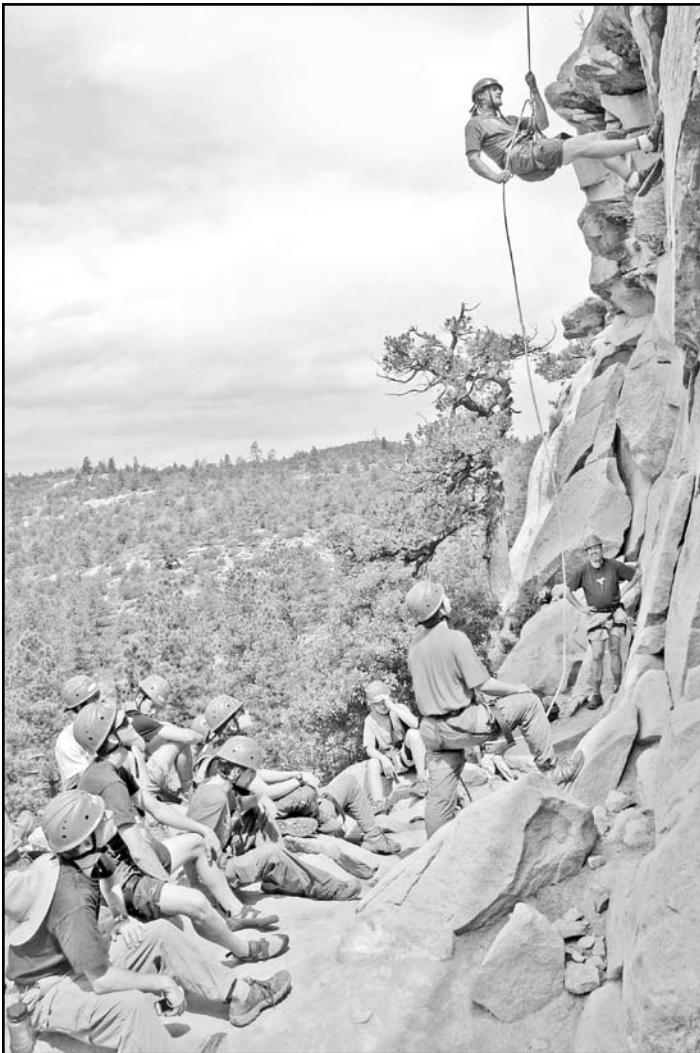


photo by Lisa McCarthy, NPS Photographer

The rocks at Dean Cow are a type of sandstone, which presents a much different climbing experience than those at Cimarroncito or Miner's Park, which feature dacite rock climbing.

staff often feel a little out of touch.

"I know this isn't terribly true since we're the only rock climbing camp in the North Country, but I feel like we're auxiliary, like we fill the gap," Durio said. "Whenever you go on days, you try and schedule camps that are near each other if you go on a hike. Dean Cow is a dead end; it's not on a loop at all."

Which is why the staff do their best to make everyone – campers and visiting staff alike – feel welcome. For example, if you're a guest and offer to do the dishes after dinner, Aulbach will threaten to carry you out of the kitchen. And, whether you're a staff or a participant, you can count on a hearty welcome upon arriving at Dean Cow.

"As soon as we see a crew, we're shouting at the top of our lungs, 'Welcome to Dean Cow!'" Aulbach said. "We're so glad to get people in our camp."

"We have to face it, we're kind of at a disadvantage to interpretive camps and camps like Ponil that have campfire program, because they have characters," Durio said. "They have a lot more face time than a belayer does. So we have to make up for that with enthusiasm and personality, and doing things regularly, like evening program and exciting porch talks."

Fortunately, the Dean Cow staff is teeming with enthusiasm and personality. They actively engage in conversation with campers when on the rocks or the porch. They assign nicknames to campers, and make sure to remember those nicknames for as long as the campers are in camp.

"I remember when I was passing this one kid, I was like, 'Sup, Spider Monkey,'" Program Counselor Kat Martin said. "And he just got the biggest smile on his face. I will not forget the smile he had on his face when I called out his nickname."



photo by Chris Dunn, PhilNews Manager

Dean Cow Program Counselor Kassie Humphrey, Head Rock Adam Moore, Camp Director Alex Durio and Program Counselors Stephen Aulbach and Kat Martin form a "Flying V" in the field during a torrential rainstorm.

In addition to being incredibly personable, the staff are incredibly passionate about rock climbing. Most of them go rock climbing during their free time, even seeking out good rocks in the area when on days off. So far, they have discovered three good climbs near Dean Cow's designated climbing area.

This passion is something the staff try to share with campers: if there's enough time, the staff will let campers get more than one or two climbs done during program.

"You never know if this one experience of rock climbing at this camp will get some kid hooked," Martin said. "And that kid will go home, buy a pair of climbing shoes and beg his mom for a harness, and then go climbing and become the next Chris Sharma. I think it'd be really cool if some kid, just from coming to Dean Cow, were to discover that rock climbing is his passion in life."

The fastest way to get to Dean Cow is from Six-Mile Gate – which is a brutal hike if the sun is shining at full force. But the good rocks and great staff are more than worth the hike. Just be prepared for lots of enthusiasm, personality and passion.

Indian Writings: where history lives on

by **Jennifer Peters**

PhilNews writer

Let your imagination run wild while trying to understand the Anasazi, the ancient ones who lived here before us. Be entertained by the current residents of the North Ponil Canyon area.

Indian Writings, named after the petroglyphs that adorn the North Ponil Canyon, is actually one of the oldest camps at Philmont. In 1939, when Philmont Scout Ranch was still Philturn Rocky Mountain Scout Camp, Indian Writings was called Scribblins.

Indian Writings is a great place to learn about the rich history of the people who lived in the area over 1,000 years ago up to the present.

The program includes daily tours of the petroglyphs, the three ancient human dwellings and an archeological digs on the top of Burnt Ridge.

"We have archeology [at Indian Writings], so we take people on about an hour and a half long tour of the petroglyphs," said Camp Director Chelsey Gruver. "We also have a historic dwelling and two Anasazi dwellings that we take them to see, and then we do an archeological dig."

The Anasazi name comes from the Navajo word that means "enemy ancestors," but they are now referred to as the pre-Puebloans, or "ancient ones" by their descendants.

"Their name was given by another group of natives that lived in the plains, the Navajo," said Program Counselor Michael Shelton. "Today, the natives that have roots to the Anasazi refer to them as the 'ancient

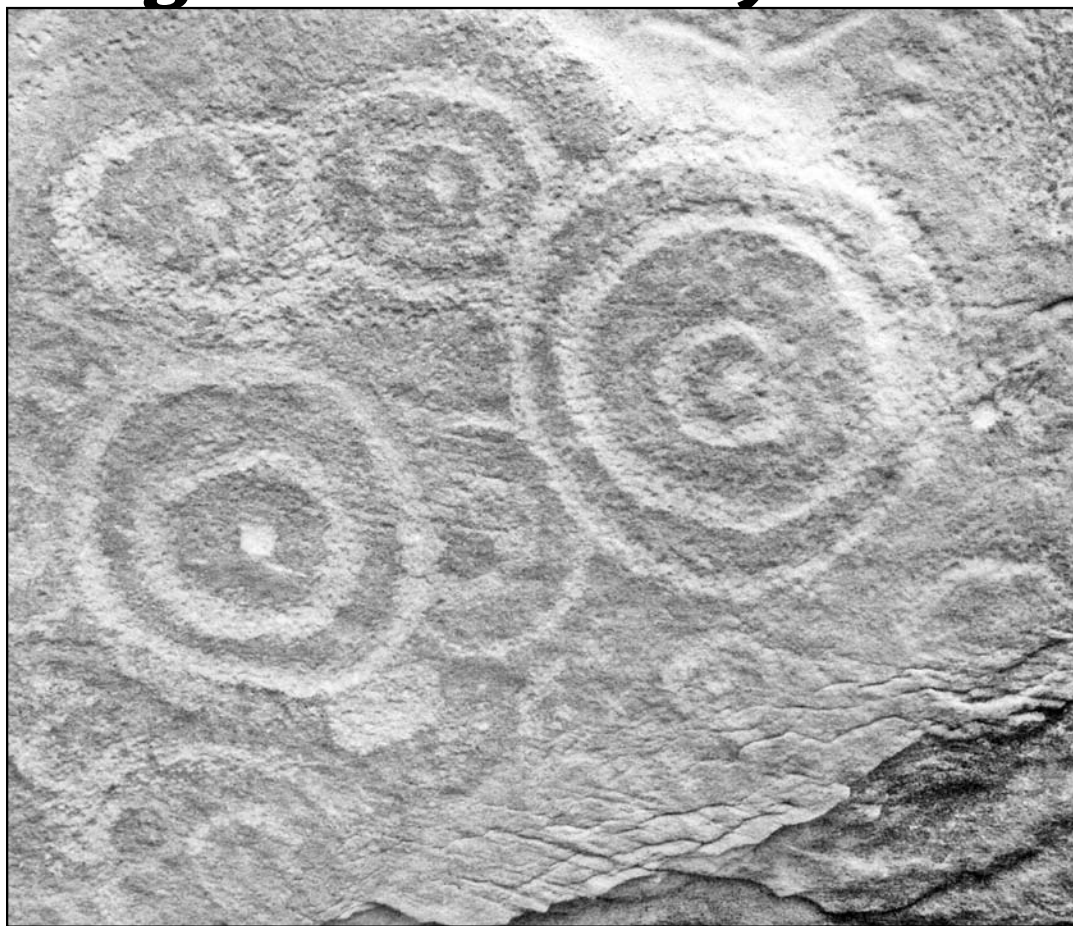


photo by Ben Boettger, NPS Photographer

Concentric circles may have represented the afterlife in the pre-Puebloan culture.

ones' or the ones that came before them. We refer to them as the 'pre-Puebloan culture,' and the natives that live here now are the Puebloans."

The pre-Puebloan people lived here between 800 and 900 years ago, and there are still remnants of the lives that they left behind. They were pre-historic, meaning their lives predated a written language. Scientists can make only educated guesses about their culture. Stories and ideas have been passed on from generation to generation, and some of the culture is still alive in their descendants, but there are many questions left unanswered. But the petroglyphs remain.

"Petroglyphs come from the Greek word meaning 'stone carving,'" Shelton said.

There are actually both pre-Puebloan and Apache petroglyphs in North Ponil Canyon, but the Apache petroglyphs are not a part of the tour.

A common theme among the pre-Puebloan people was concentric circles and the Kokopelli. Both of these

images can be found on the walls of North Ponil Canyon. The concentric circles may have represented their ideology of the afterlife and the different worlds they have to pass through on their journey. The Kokopelli is a very important deity in the local Native American cultures, that represents fertility and agriculture.

The tour at Indian Writings also includes two pre-Puebloan dwellings and one dwelling built by someone of unknown human descent.

The pit house was dug into the ground, and is the oldest of the dwellings. In the pit house, there are a fire ring, air shaft and a storage pit. The bones of a 13 or 14 year old girl were found buried in the structure, with no definitive answers as to what caused her death.

The other pre-Puebloan dwelling is called the slab house. A grinding stone, or Mano Matate, and three separate rooms are still visible in the slab house, even though their purposes are not historically documented.

"You can see three different rooms that they had and where it was divided," said Gruver. "They probably had a storage room, a sleeping room and a living room or all-purpose room."

A small museum is located at Indian Writings, which includes artifacts that have been found at the archeological dig site and around the area. Artifacts from the pre-historic era, along with artifacts from the turn of the century, are on display in the museum. Pottery, tools, axe heads, bones and a stone necklace are some of the Native American artifacts in the museum, along with railroad ties and knives from the turn of the century.

The artifacts that are found at Philmont are catalogued by the staff or crew member that found them. Then the artifacts are either put into the museum at Indian Writings or they are kept in the cabin, but they are all taken to the Seton Museum at the end of the summer. This summer, four or five different arrowheads and some pieces of obsidian, which is not native to this area, have been found.

Additionally, the cabin at Indian Writings is inhabited not only by the living, but quite possibly the dead. Some of the staff at Indian Writing claim to have heard footsteps across the porch and others claim to dream of the same red-headed cowboy.

Philmont has its fair share of history, and Indian

Why you should come to I-Dub

by the staff of Indian Writings

15. "From Scribblins to Old Camp." Enough said.
14. The best arts and crafts available on the ranch.
13. Cage matches, ghosts, and T-Rex.
12. Only here does the canyon wave back.
11. We have the KT layer.
10. We are the real Indiana Joneses.
9. You can see Rob dance.
8. Petroglyphs rock.
7. Anasazi Ball is the best sport this side of Ponil.
6. Our conservationists double as models.
5. Playing in the dirt is our specialty and finding rocks is exciting.
4. Forest fires are so six years ago.
3. You can find 65 million years' worth of history in our museum.
2. Because moisture is overrated.
1. We got gurlz.

Writings is one of the best places to learn more about it.

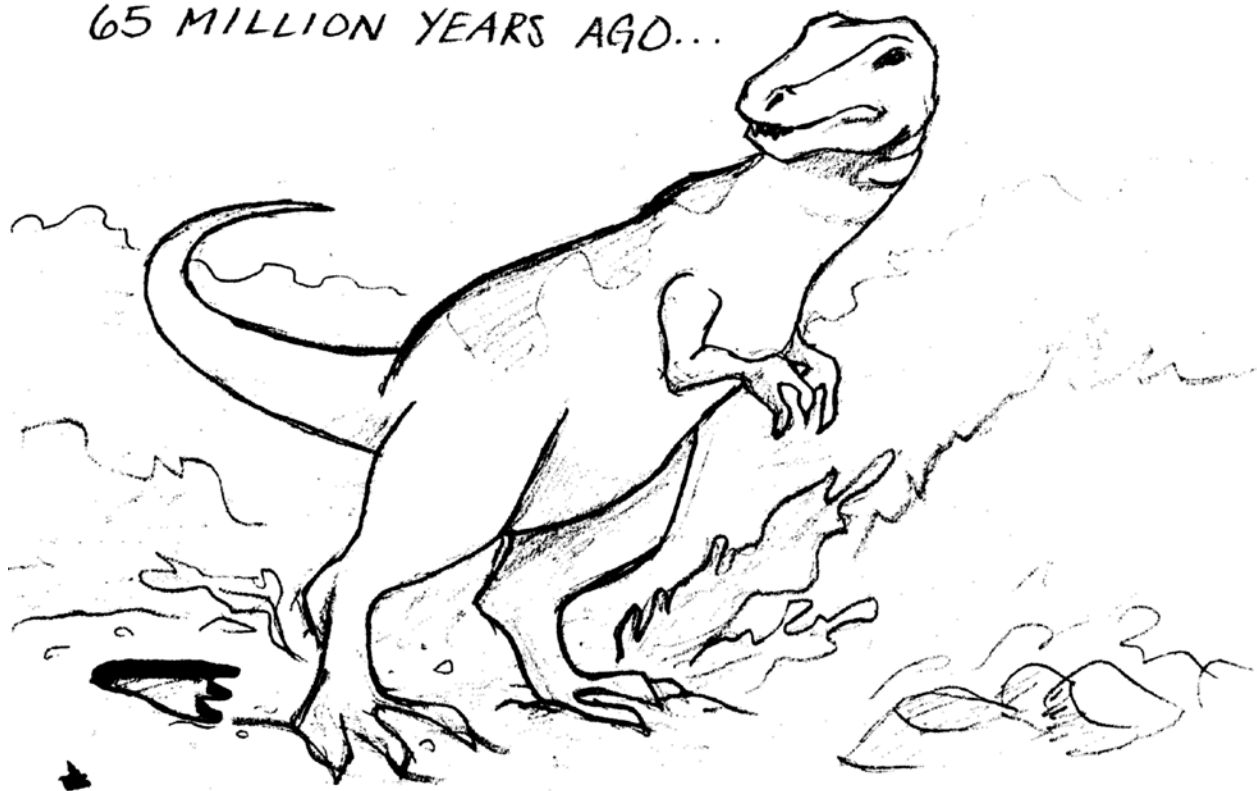
"There is so much history in this canyon [North Ponil]; it is one of the most historically rich places on the ranch," said Program Counselor Emily Benson. "If you start with the [Tyrannosaurus Rex] track, you're looking at a human pre-history 65,000,000 million years ago.

"Then you move up to the Anasazi 800 to 900 years ago, living here, carving their houses, and carving things into the wall," she continued. "You've got the turn-of-the-century settlers coming in with the railroad, and then everybody in-between with Apache, Pueblo, Hispanics and now the Boy Scouts."

To learn more about archeology or the Native Americans who lived here hundreds of years ago, or for a chance to hear something that goes bump in the night, visit Indian Writings.

~ The History of Indian Writings ~

65 MILLION YEARS AGO...



900 YEARS AGO...



86 YEARS AGO...



SHORTY
MURRAY

Dec. 8
1922

Dec. 8
1930 UU

2 DAYS AGO...



What's going on around the world?

Dutch man unwittingly grows marijuana

A 73-year-old Dutch man unknowingly grew marijuana plants among his begonias on his doorstep. The man promised he would destroy the plants, and said believes that they were planted by local kids. The Dutch government set up a task force to cut down on marijuana growers in the Netherlands earlier this month, even though the sale of it is legal in coffee shops.

Saudi Arabian women may get license to drive

Saudi Arabian King Abdullah may issue a decree allowing women to legally drive, some reformers speculate. The decree could happen by the end of year or on Sept. 23 on Saudi National Day. Saudi police have reported random incidents of women driving, but it does not seem organized like the last movement in 1990, which was very organized and unsuccessful.

German airline employees go on strike

A strike involving 4,000 Lufthansa cabin and ground crews began on July 27, and may threaten to disrupt air travel for many passengers in Europe this summer. The German air industry workers are hoping to get a 9.8 percent pay increase for one year, while

Lufthansa is trying to keep expenses down due to rising gas prices. A spokesman for Lufthansa said on July 28 that the strike has caused only minor delays in flight time. The Ver. di, a union that represents 52,000 members of the air industry along with the members now on strike, has said that the effect will continue to grow.

Coalition criticizes Sudanese government

The United Nations-African Union force (UN-AMID) will fail in Darfur without more support, said Darfur Coalition spokesman Dismas Nkunda, in a report released on July 28. "UNAMID is in danger of becoming the world's latest broken promise," the report stated. The coalition blames the Sudanese government and donors for delaying the UNAMID and also criticized the UNAMID for not utilizing the troops that are already in Darfur to protect the civilians from rape and attack. Currently there are 9,000 peacekeeping troops in Darfur, with the full capability being 26,000.

Suicide bombers kill more than 50

Three female suicide bombers blew themselves up in the midst of a Shi'ite religious pilgrimage through the streets of Baghdad on July 28. The bombers killed 28 people and wounded 92, Iraqi police said. Another suicide bomber in the city of Kirkuk, Iraq, killed 22 people and wounded 150 at a protest to dispute the local elections. A security official said that this act could have also been done by a female. The U.S. military has said that women have carried out at least 20 suicide attacks in Iraq this year, and even though security is better, bombers can still get by security.

AIDS death toll is reduced

A United Nations report shows that the AIDS death toll is down for the second year in a row. The report attributes this decrease in deaths to more people in remote parts of the world being able to get the drugs that allow them to live longer. In 2007, the number of AIDS deaths was at 2 million, which was a little down from the 2.1 million in 2006. The number of cases for newly HIV infected people was around 2.7 million, which was almost the same from that two-year period.

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What's going on around the U.S.?

Proposed budget deficits could set records in 2009

The Bush administration said on July 28 that the proposed budgetary deficit could reach almost half a trillion dollars in fiscal 2009. Jim Nussle, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, cites the causes of the growing deficit as the government stimulus checks and the lagging economy. The deficit could hit a record in absolute dollar terms with \$482 billion, said Nussle, but when it is compared to the overall gross domestic product (the percent of the nation's total economy) percentage, the deficit for 2009 will be below the GDP percentage deficit for 2004.

Wildfires threaten Yosemite

Wildfires in Yosemite are 15 percent contained as of July 29. Authorities have confirmed that at least 25 homes have been destroyed, and another 300 have been evacuated in the towns of Midpines and Coulterville in the Sierra Nevada foothills. A major highway was also shut down on July 29 so that the firefighting crews could try to keep the blaze from destroying more homes.

The fire started on July 25 and has burned 46 square miles. Red Lodge Fire Chief Tom Kuntz warned residents that if they are told to leave, they need to evacuate immediately. Fire officials said that more evacuations were possible due to strong winds that may push the fire closer to the Red Lodge area.

New Web service to rival Google, Yahoo

Former Google engineers launched a new Web search service called Cuil Inc (pronounced "cool") on July 27. They hope to compete with other search engines such as Google, Yahoo and Microsoft. Cuil will classify Web pages differently, by looking at the context of each page instead of tracking Web site visits.

"Our significant breakthroughs in search technology have enabled us to index much more of the Internet, placing nearly the entire Web at the fingertips of every user," said Tom Costello, Cuil Chief Executive and co-founder in a statement. Cuil was founded by Costello, wife Anna Patterson, Russell Power and Louis Monier — all pioneers in the field of Web search engines.

McCain treated for potential cancer

Republican presidential candidate John McCain had a spot removed from his face for biopsy on July 28 in Phoenix. McCain, who has previously suffered from skin cancer, had the spot removed as a precautionary action and have the mole-looking spot biopsied for cancerous cells. McCain has had four malignant melanomas removed.

McCain urges all Americans to wear sunscreen and stay out of the sun as much as possible. He also said that melanoma is preventable and to remember that the sun damage people receive when they are young sometimes comes back later in life.

Commercial passenger spaceship revealed

British billionaire Richard Branson revealed on July 28 in the Mojave Desert part of his commercial space program, the world's first commercial passenger-carrying spaceship. The White Knight Two, or mothership, is a four-engine jet that holds a separate rocket called the SpaceShipTwo, which will actually take passengers into space for four minutes and then land like an airplane. The project is a combined effort by the billionaire and famed aircraft designer Burt Rutan. The rocket ship can hold up to eight people.

Branson, his family and mother and father will be among the first passengers. The mothership is named after his mother Eve, and her picture is one the side of the rocket. Over 250 people have already paid \$200,000 to ride in Branson's spaceship. The program may be up and running by the end of the decade.

Southern California rocked by earthquake

An earthquake rocked southern California on July 29, just 35 miles east of Los Angeles in the Chino Hills area. The quake, originally reported at a magnitude of 5.8, has been reduced to 5.4 and could be felt as far away as Las Vegas to the east and San Diego to the south. As of press time, no major damages or injuries have been reported. At least 16 aftershocks were recorded, ranging in magnitude from 1.4 to 3.8 by the U.S. Geological Survey. Major airports in the area of the epicenter, Ontario International and Los Angeles International Airports, reported no disruptions and no flight delays.

What's going on in the different states?

Alabama

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is granting the state \$12.7 million, to be used to prevent, prepare for and respond to terrorist attacks and disasters.

Alaska

Sen. Kim Elton took post in his new position as chairman of the Legislative Council on July 28.

Arizona

Salt River Project officials announced the state's first wind-energy farm could be operating by late next year. Utility officials are expected to purchase enough power from the wind farms to power more than 15,000 homes.

Arkansas

Chesapeake Energy Corp. made a \$29.5 million deal with the state to lease parts of wildlife management areas to search for natural gas. The deal marks the company's largest mineral-rights lease with the state.

California

State and national educators and business leaders in the state are in a quarrel as to how high test standards in algebra for eighth graders should be. The groups are in a stalemate, as the National Mathematics Advisory Panel sits on the fence with the issue.

Colorado

An ill person in Montezuma County submitted a jalapeno pepper that tested positive for salmonella, adding to clues of the national out-

break. While it is undetermined where the pepper was grown, the FDA has said that peppers grown in the U.S. are safe.

Connecticut

Officials are fighting over the Army's selection of a Westfield site for a regional training base.

Delaware

Citizens of Delaware and nearby states donated 7,504 pounds of food to the Food Bank of Delaware.

Florida

A Princeton Review study gave the University of Florida at Gainesville its first No. 1 party school title in the nation. The title was declared after the Review released results from a survey of 120,000 students.

Georgia

More than 500 elementary and middle school students who failed the CRCT on a second try this summer will have to appeal or prepare to repeat a grade.

Hawaii

Gov. Linda Lingle criticized the candidacy confusion for state political positions, saying it was "shocking and embarrassing," as some positions up for grabs have no one running since the deadline to announce candidacy. One of the candidates had been disqualified, and still two others are being challenged.

Idaho

Former director of the Idaho State Police Dan Charboneau, 60, was

announced to be in critical condition July 29 after a rafting accident on the Middle Fork on the Salmon River.

Illinois

Seasonal employees of the state-run historic sites were given lay-off notices for July 31 as the states deals with \$1.4 billion in cuts from the state budget.

Indiana

Rep. Craig Fry challenged the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to test air around a wood recycling plant in western Elkhart County to see if it could be emitting potentially dangerous fumes, including formaldehyde.

Iowa

The Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission is considering using prison labor to optimize money it receives to rebuild areas torn apart by recent storms.

Kansas

The Kansas Energy Council and other officials are pushing for a decrease in the Kansas interstate speed from 70 to 65 miles per hour. The American Trucking Association is also backing this change, saying ATA needs help in its efforts to conserve fuel.

Kentucky

A Kentucky miner was killed last week from injuries he received when he was pinned to a roof of a mine in Bell County. Joseph D. Roberts, 45, was riding on top of a

scoop when the accident happened at Butcher Branch Mine.

Louisiana

The Department of Social Services was nearly overcharged \$50,000 by the Community School for Apprenticeship Learning Inc. The state caught the mistake before paying the company for the after-school program.

Maine

As food prices continue to increase, schools are facing budget cuts, which include cutting staff and reducing menu options.

Maryland

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced July 28 that this year's blue crab population has dropped below last year's perilous levels.

Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority announced July 28 that it would not offer loans for the coming academic year. The authority said disruptions in the capital markets caused the cease in loans.

Michigan

Legislature was passed that allows for a tracking system for domestic-violence suspects. GPS devices would be placed on suspects before trial, which can be used to alert victims if alleged abusers are nearby.

Minnesota

The National Transportation Safety Board said it has not ruled out fault in the failure of the Interstate 35W bridge.

Mississippi

The Government Accountability Office said that less than \$200 million out of \$5 billion in government aid went to Hancock County, a county considered Katrina's ground zero.

Missouri

Republicans argued that Attorney General Jay Nixon's \$700 million health care expansion proposal will force budget cuts or require increase. Nixon said the federal government would pick up half the cost.

Montana

The Montana Public Employees Retirement Board is working with a police group in releasing previously secured data of retired officers, to analyze how a deferred-retirement program affects police officers' retirement funds.

Nebraska

Members of anti-alcohol group Project Extra Mile are fighting the proposal of the classification of malt beverages products as beer. The group says it will only make these products they claim are aimed at children to be easier to obtain.

Nevada

University system Regent Howard Rosenberg said he may challenge the Nevada Supreme Court decision that prevents his re-election. A constitutional amendment that went into effect in 1996 limits Rosenberg to 12 years in office.

New Hampshire

The University of New Hampshire scored a perfect 99 on The

Princeton Review's new "Green Rating." The 534 schools surveyed completed questionnaires about energy use, recycling, food use, transportation and the availability of environmental studies courses to make up the rating.

New Jersey

Assemblyman Neil Cohen resigned July 28 after being confronted by two fellow lawmakers a week ago about suspected child pornography in the legislative office they share. Cohen leaves office after 17 years as an Assemblyman.

New Mexico

The state Department of Health has moved to electronic medical record systems. As part of Gov. Bill Richardson's telehealth and health-information initiatives, the move is said to allow doctors more time to spend on patient care.

New York

Assemblyman Richard Brodsky asked the Yankees why the proposed value for land under Yankee Stadium appears inflated in an IRS tax estimate.

North Carolina

The last of North Carolina's 115 school districts have adopted no-tobacco policies. The policies include off-campus events

North Dakota

Anti-tobacco advocates are saying the state only spends about a third of the money it should to discourage tobacco use. A vote qualifying 15,667 signatures on a petition were turned in to Secretary of State Al

Jaeger's office July 28, illustrating the feeling of its anti-tobacco-passionate citizens.

Ohio

Investigators are looking into suspicions that a top aide of former Ohio Attorney General Marc Dann misused office money to buy new vehicles for the office. Anthony Gutierrez, Dann's general services chief, spent \$1.8 million on 94 vehicles last summer, twice making purchases using money from a state fund intended to assist victims of violent crimes.

Oklahoma

Legislators can now sign up for a "no gifts list" to prevent lobbyists from giving them any item of value.

Oregon

U.S. District Judge Ann Aiken gave preliminary approval to a settlement that will force the state to pay a total of \$1.7 million to thousands of families who adopted foster children and then had state assistance reduced due to budget shortfall.

Pennsylvania

Internet pay lenders in and out of state who make consumer loans to Pennsylvania residents will now have to be licensed.

Rhode Island

The state Supreme Court refused to impose in a case seeking to reverse a decision blocking five potential GOP candidates from running for the General Assembly. The decision reported was made in response to the Republican Party's tardiness in asking for help.

South Carolina

The state Supreme Court publicly reprimanded former Beaufort County magistrate Peter Lamb, who called crack cocaine addiction a "black man's disease." Without the state Supreme Court's permission, Lamb can never serve on the bench again.

South Dakota

The second annual South Dakota Great Day of Play took place this week. The week was organized to get people outside and be physically active.

Tennessee

Gov. Phil Bredesen announced that the state has received more than \$20 million from the federal government to aid in readiness to respond to disasters. The funds are an increase of \$550,000 more than the state got last year.

Texas

Officials claim the state will more than likely appeal a court ruling mandating a new language program for junior high and high school students who do not have command of the English language.

Utah

Elizabeth Hitch will temporarily fill in for Utah Valley University President William Sederburg, who is leaving the school to become Utah's commissioner of higher education.

Vermont

The state is proposing a "Wood Wars" initiative that would make split firewood available to low-

and middle-income people under a voucher system. Small lots in state forests would be tagged for the people to cut and split themselves on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Washington

State data shows that closing cases of alleged abuse or neglect at childcare centers is taking longer than it should. Less than half of these cases are closed within three months, leaving other cases hanging longer.

West Virginia

State Division of Highways proposed an offer to give the option of state-maintained memorial signs near crash sites. Officials said it is a matter of making it a safer situation for families wanting to put up memorials.

Wisconsin

According to FEMA, just over half of Wisconsin households that applied for flood relief over the spring and summer have received money. Fifty-three percent of those who sought relief received relief money—which could total \$28,800.

Wyoming

A new report states many veterans returning to the state from Iraq and Afghanistan are not getting the mental-health help. Officials said the main problem is that vets do not always seek help.

All stories were gathered from <http://www.stateline.org>, a conglomerate news Web site that gathers major headlines from a variety of news sources.

What's going on in sports?

Carlos Sastre wins Tour de France

Carlos Sastre, of the CSC-Saxo Bank team, won the final yellow jersey in his maiden Tour de France win on July 27. He is the eighth overall Spaniard to win the title, and the third consecutive Spanish rider to win the race.

Australian Cadel Evans, of the Silence-Lotto team, was runner-up for the second consecutive year. The third place winner was Austrian Bernhard Kohl, of the Gerolsteiner team.

Rockets to acquire Artest

The Sacramento Kings have traded forward Ron Artest to the Houston Rockets. This trade could turn Houston into a legitimate NBA contender. No. 1 draft pick Bobby Jackson will go to the Kings, as well as another, as-of-yet undetermined player. The trade will not be officially announced until Aug. 1.

Favre submits reinstatement

Former Packers quarterback Brett Favre sent in his reinstatement paperwork to the NFL on July 29. He is now awaiting approval from commissioner Roger Goodell. If Favre is granted reinstatement, the Packers will have 24 hours to release Favre or welcome him back to their active roster.

Steelers punter out on injury

Pittsburgh Steelers punter Daniel Sepulveda tore the ACL in his right knee for the second time in three years, and is expected to sit out this season.

American League

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Tampa Bay	61	43	0.587	-	Lost 1	6 to 4
Boston	61	45	0.575	1	Won 1	5 to 5
NY Yankees	58	46	0.558	3	Lost 1	8 to 2
Toronto	53	52	0.505	8.5	Lost 1	6 to 4
Baltimore	49	55	0.471	12	Won 1	4 to 6

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Chicago Sox	59	44	0.573	-	Lost 1	5 to 5
Minnesota	57	47	0.548	2.5	Won 2	4 to 6
Detroit	53	51	0.51	6.5	Won 1	6 to 4
Kansas City	47	59	0.443	13.5	Won 1	4 to 6
Cleveland	45	58	0.437	14	Lost 2	5 to 5

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
LA Angels	64	40	0.615	-	Lost 1	8 to 2
Texas	54	51	0.514	10.5	Lost 1	5 to 5
Oakland	53	51	0.51	11	Won 1	2 to 8
Seattle	39	65	0.375	25	Won 1	3 to 7

National League

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
NY Mets	57	48	0.543	-	Won 1	6 to 4
Philadelphia	56	49	0.533	1	Won 2	5 to 5
Florida	55	50	0.524	2	Lost 1	5 to 5
Atlanta	49	55	0.471	7.5	Lost 2	5 to 5
Washington	38	67	0.362	19	Lost 6	2 to 8

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Chicago Cubs	61	44	0.581	-	Won 1	4 to 6
Milwaukee	60	45	0.571	1	Lost 1	8 to 2
St. Louis	58	49	0.542	4	Lost 1	4 to 6
Cincinnati	50	56	0.472	11.5	Lost 3	4 to 6
Houston	48	56	0.462	12.5	Won 1	5 to 5
Pittsburgh	48	57	0.457	13	Lost 3	4 to 6

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Arizona	53	51	0.51	-	Won 3	6 to 4
LA Dodgers	52	52	0.5	1	Won 3	7 to 3
Colorado	48	58	0.453	6	Won 5	9 to 1
San Francisco	43	61	0.413	10	Lost 3	4 to 6
San Diego	41	65	0.387	13	Won 3	4 to 6

Join the Club!

Philmont Staff Association

A fellowship of current and former Philmont staff



It's just \$15.00 for a year's membership!

That gets you 6 issues of *High Country* with updates, news and stories all about "God's Country", plus access to our online membership directory listing former staff living all over the world, and a nifty PSA car decal.

We also have cool Nalgene water bottles, t-shirts, CDs with great Philmont songs, and more.

Just I-Camp this form to the PSA, or stop by our office (we're next to the Beaubien Room) at PTC. Office hours are 8:00am to noon and 1:30pm to 5:00pm Monday through Friday, 1:30pm to 5:00pm on Saturday, or 8:30am to 10:30am on Sunday.

Please enclose \$15.00 with this form.

SIGN UP NOW!!!

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The Manly Men of Crater Lake know all

Q: What is the meaning of life? - *Socratic thinker*

A: August 4th - our Philfiesta.

Q: How do you get strings for your instruments in the backcountry? - *Curious*

A: By rocking out, blowing minds and melting faces such as what will be happening at our Philfiesta August 4th.

Q: If you could have a lifetime supply of any one flavor of Pringles, what would they be? - *The PhilNews*

A: Bacon. Or anything else you bring to our Philfiesta on August 4th.

Q: I'm a fit young man in need of looking awesome on the trail. What is the coolest kind of trekking pole I can buy? - *Ranger Rick*

A: Pansy poles, sissy sticks and wussy wands are not allowed at our Philfiesta on August 4th.

Q: I recently discovered I'm waterproof. Do loggers wear raingear? - *Wet Willy*

A: This is a horrible question. August 4th Philfiesta. Come.

Q: If one kind of baked good were to represent Crater Lake, what would the ingredients be? - *Amateur baker*

A: Anything made by Barbara Garcia, who we sincerely hope comes to our Philfiesta which is August 4th. Seriously, Barbara is an angel.

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

Tell us your troubles!

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

Pueblano to Health Lodge.

This is Health Lodge. Go ahead.

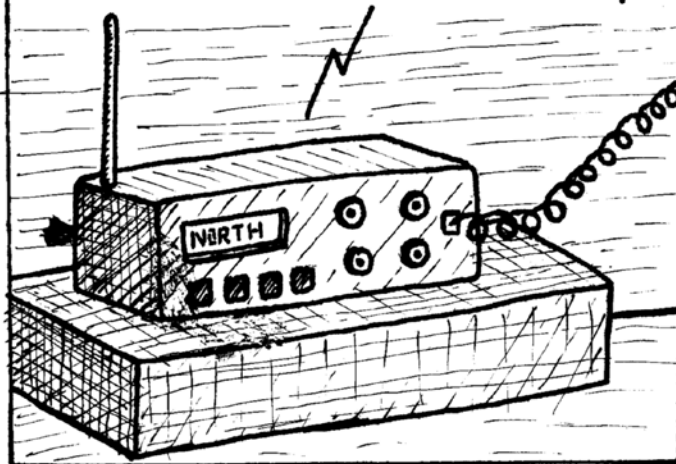


We have a 10-30 10-12, initials Whiskey Tango, expedition 623 Romeo 3.

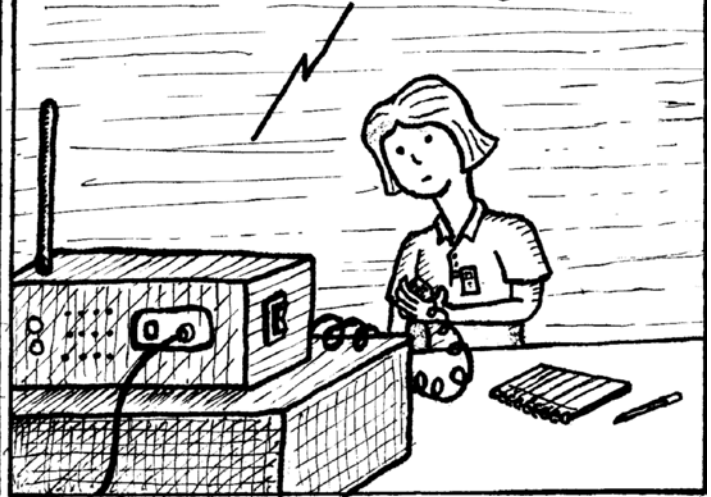
10-4. What are patient's vitals?



Pulse is zero, breath rate is zero, skin is cool and clammy.



Patient is requesting "brains."



Have patient take one million milligrams of ibuprofen, hydrate with forty gallons of half strength gatorade...

OW!



... and hike on!

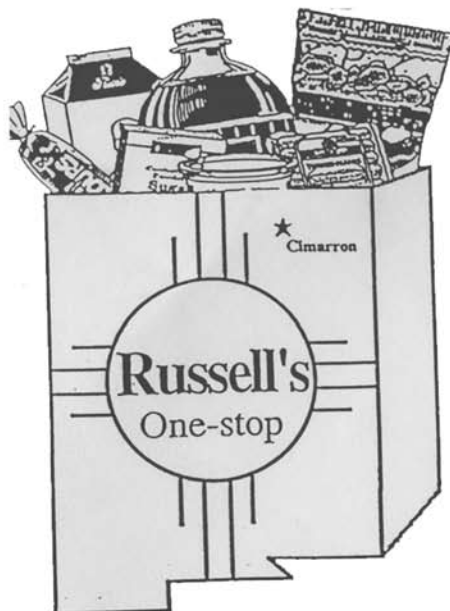
He bit me!



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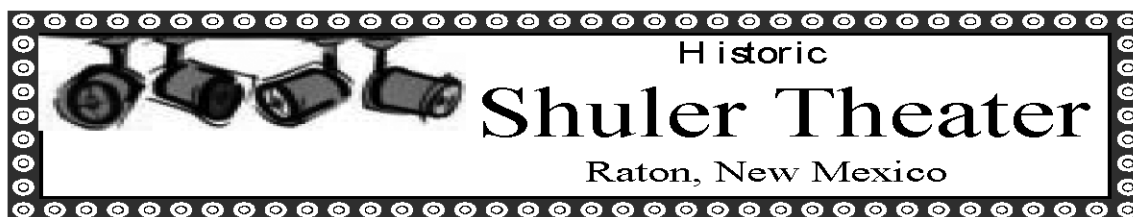


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Professional Repertory Theater

“Driving Miss Daisy”

August 6, 7, 8, 9 8:00 pm

This warm-hearted and humorous comedy won the Pulitzer Prize, the Outer Critics Circle Award for theater and the Academy Award for Best Movie. The Shuler Theater version stars Barbara Farrar as Miss Daisy and movie actor, Mathew Greer, as driver, Hoke. J. Michael Craig plays the son, Boolie. Tom Evans directs.

\$14 adults - \$12 seniors - \$5 students

Or buy a book of 10 for \$100 for the good for the entire summer season.

**131 North 2nd Street
Raton, NM 87740**

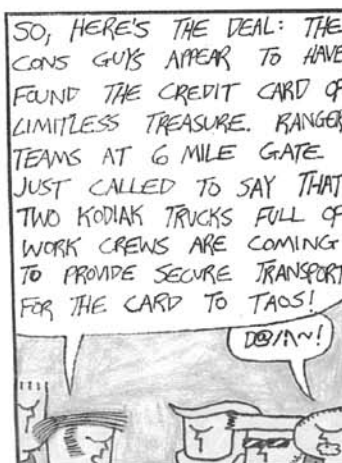
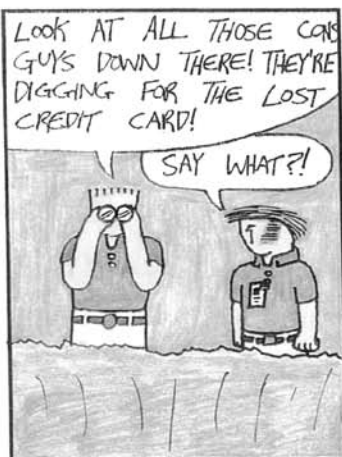
**575-445-4746
bill@shulertheater.com**





① YEARS AGO, PHILMONT ADMINISTRATION CREATED SEVERAL NO-LIMIT, UNTRACEABLE CREDIT CARDS FOR RANCH PURCHASES. PROBLEMS AROSE, AND THESE RISKY CARDS WERE QUICKLY REPLACED WITH SAFER ALTERNATIVES...

② ALL EXCEPT FOR ONE...



Get your sudoku on!

Level: Easy

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

sudoku courtesy of websudoku.com

SUMMER IN THE SOUTHWEST
CAPTURE THE ESSENCE OF NEW MEXICO



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Mon. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



cartoon by anonymous?

CHQ Activities Calendar

Friday (Aug. 1)	Soccer (8:15 p.m., field outside staff lounge)
Saturday (Aug. 2)	The Split performs (8-10 p.m., SSSAC pavilion)
Sunday (Aug. 3)	Tobasco Donkeys perform (8:30 p.m., SSSAC pavilion)
Monday (Aug. 4)	5K Run (5:15 p.m., meet at Welcome Center pavilion)
Tuesday (Aug. 5)	Blood Drive (10 a.m. - 4 p.m., SSSAC)
Wednesday (Aug. 6)	Ice Cream (8:15 p.m., outside staff lounge)
Thursday (Aug. 7)	Brat day! (11 a.m.- 1 p.m., outside staff lounge)
Friday (Aug. 8)	Movie Night (8:15 p.m., Advisers' Meeting Room)

[PLEASE NOTE: Locations of activities are subject to change if SSSAC is completed!]

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



5K.....Again!

3.1 miles

+Monday, August 4th

+Meet at Welcome Center pavilion at 5:15PM, race begins at 5:30

Music, refreshments, and prizes!

Be Phil-famous!

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