



Scare Us Submission: The Lantern Man

By Matt Welch,
Ranger

We stalked through dusk among the deadfall and along the dry and brittle ground, slowly and carefully feeling out each footfall, toe-heel, toe-heel, cringing against the occasional muffled snap of a twig beneath an errant boot heel and the subsequent venomous glare from Sergeant Judkins. We cadets watched the burly enlisted man raptly, knowing that in 10 days we, too, would be evasion instructors, members of the Air Force Academy's Combat Survival Training Cadre.

Yet in the meantime, somewhere out there were other sergeants, all listening for us, all hunting us.

Dark fell heavy among the trees, and it was slow-going through the pitch. For what seemed hours we stumbled sightlessly through the thick undergrowth of this once-inviting forest made menacing by the night, like blind trespassers of the underworld. Our hands groped and probed at the ends of our outstretched arms, searching for a familiar shoulder and guarding against phantom limbs. We moved single file and as silent, the only sounds our ragged breaths coming from the depths of all that vast darkness.

A long while later, a Cheshire-cat grin of a moon rose above the trees, gracing some light on our path. As I looked up to it with grateful eyes, I saw a thin, bluish light moving among the trees far to the north. I reached out and shook the shoulder of Judkins himself,

LANTERN

continued on **Page 13**



Brendan Best—PhilNews

GYMKHANA: A Ranch Hands participant competes in a gymkhana flag barrel race at the at the end-of-trek Ranch Hands rodeo at Ponil on July 22.

Youth Give Ranch a Hand

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer

The Ranch Hands program is a "great opportunity to see a big part of the Ranch" says Horse Foreman Ben Vargas. The program offers up to 15 Scouts, ages 16 to 18 the opportunity to work with the Ranch Department and to experience a cavalcade, each for eight days.

While working with the Ranch staff, participants rotate between two of the four horse camps: Ponil, Beaubien, Clarks Fork and Basecamp (Cattle Headquarters). During these rotations, participants work with the camps' Wranglers and learn to saddle, scoop, ride and feed the horses along with hay hauling

and general horse care. They also help with the dude rides and learn horse and burro packing. According to the Wrangler staff, the Ranch Hands program gives participants a taste of what it is like to wake up early every day, work all day and get some dirt under their fingernails.

"You have to get up early... get the horses, feed the horses... tack them, groom them, saddle them and then wait for the first dude ride after breakfast and then untack them, feed them and let them go," explains Ranch Hands participant Amanda Muir. The experience they gain while working at the camps makes them

a good source for the Ranch and Horse departments, according to Vargas. "We end up hiring a lot of these kids," he explains. "You learn a lot, and if you're interested in equestrian work...it's a good way to learn about animals," says Ranch Hands participant Mark Burmaster.

Some of the participants come into the program with the intention of gaining experience to work here at Philmont. Muir says she came out to Philmont on trek last year and "fell in love with the horses, fell in love with the place, fell in love with it and made a promise to myself that I am coming back here and doing

the Ranch Hands program twice and then in the summer of 2013, I want to work here [as a wrangler]."

Following the week of hard work, the Ranch Hands participants go on a cavalcade trek through Philmont. The crew, led by a Horseman and Wrangler, passes through the northern country of the Ranch, with stops at Dan Beard, Rich Cabins, Baldy Town, Pueblano and Dean Cow. In a typical year, the Ranch Hands crew is permitted to take their horses into the Valle Vidal

RANCH HANDS

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Scott Allen—PhilNews

CASINO: Camping activities assistant manager Derek (Spud) Nuccio helps teach poker during casino night at the S³AC on July 21.



Ephraim Moore—PhilNews

DANCE: PTC Participants and staff enjoy an evening of dancing at the PTC western dance night.

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Submit to PhilNews

PhilNews welcomes submissions and letters to the editor. Please I-Camp your submission to PhilNews, email it to philmontnps@scouting.org or drop it by the NPS office. All submissions must include your full name, contact number, location and the date! Photographs must also include a description of the photo. For a submission to be considered for the next issue, please have it to us by Friday at 5:00 p.m. All submissions become property of Philmont Scout Ranch.

Corrections










pg. 2: In the corrections section "one" should be "on."
pg. 2: The Crater Lake article is on page 12 and the Pueblano articles are on pages 12 and 13.

Activities Calendar July 28 to Aug. 10

Thursday 28	Friday 29	Saturday 30	Sunday 31	Monday 1	Tuesday 2	Wednesday 3
6 p.m. Ranger CT: Poops and Prints 7-9 p.m. *PTC Handicraft Night 8:15 p.m. <i>Unstoppable</i> Movie Night @ the S ³ AC	Art & Photo Contest Announcements 6 p.m. Ranger CT: Tracking 7:15 p.m. *PTC Closing Program 8:15 p.m. Soccer Night @ field by Health Lodge 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. Yoga w/ Jason	11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Brat Day!!! @ Baldy Pav. 6 p.m. Ranger CT: Nature Writing 8:15 p.m. Dance/Rave @ the S ³ AC	No Events (Activities Phil Fiesta) 4:30 p.m. *Interfaith Chapel Service @ PTC 7:15 p.m. *PTC Opening Program	6 p.m. Ranger CT: Nature Writing 7-9 p.m. *Handicraft Night @ PTC 7 p.m. *Wanna-Be Band 8:15 p.m. <i>Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory</i> Movie Night & candy @ the S ³ AC	5:30 p.m. *Buffalo BBQ @ PTC 6 p.m. Ranger CT: Special Treks 6 p.m. Professional Scout Reception @ Villa 7 p.m. *Western Dance @ PTC 8:15 p.m. Ultimate Frisbee in field by Health Lodge	6 p.m. Ranger CT: Photography 7 p.m. *Follow Me Boys @ PTC 7 p.m. Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC 8:15 p.m. Craft Night @ S ³ AC
Thursday 4	Friday 5	Saturday 6	Sunday 7	Monday 8	Tuesday 9	Wednesday 10
12 p.m. Philoween all afternoon and after chapel 6 p.m. Ranger CT: Speical Treks 7-9 p.m. *PTC Handicraft Night 8:15 p.m. Ultimate Frisbee in the field by Health Lodge	6 p.m. Ranger CT: Photography 7:15 p.m. *PTC Closing Program 8:15 p.m. Humans Vs. Zombies in the field behind the S ³ AC and Dodgeball in the field by Health Lodge	6 p.m. Ranger CT: Philmont Land Management 5 - 8 p.m. Volleyball Tournament and BBQ with quiet hours during chapel	4:30 p.m. *Interfaith Chapel Service @ PTC 7:15 p.m. *PTC Opening Program 8:15 p.m. Phil Idol in the S ³ AC	9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Blood Drive @ the S ³ AC 6 p.m. Ranger CT: Philmont Land Management 7 p.m. *Wanna-Be Band 7-9 p.m. *PTC Handicraft Night 8:15 p.m. <i>Avatar</i> Movie Night 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. Yoga w/ Jason	9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Blood Drive @ the S ³ AC 5:30 p.m. *Buffalo BBQ @ PTC 7 p.m. *Western Dance @ PTC 8:15 p.m. Ultimate Frisbee in the field by Health Lodge	11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Last Brat Day!!! @ Baldy Pav. 7 p.m. Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC 7 p.m. *Follow Me Boys @ PTC 8:15 p.m. HVZ behind the S ³ AC

* We ask that staff members wear full uniform at PTC events (Staff may, however, wear western attire at Western Night) and that they be considerate of our participants during the programs.

Weather Forecast July 28 to Aug. 6

<p>Thursday 28</p>  <p>Afternoon Thunderstorms High: 86 Low: 56 Rain: 40%</p>	<p>Friday 29</p>  <p>Scattered Thunderstorms High: 82 Low: 56 Rain: 40%</p>	<p>Saturday 30</p>  <p>Isolated Thunderstorms High: 84 Low: 55 Rain: 30%</p>	<p>Sunday 31</p>  <p>Mostly Sunny High: 85 Low: 56 Rain: 0%</p>	<p>Monday 1</p>  <p>Isolated Thunderstorms High: 86 Low: 56 Rain: 30%</p>
<p>Tuesday 2</p>  <p>Isolated Thunderstorms High: 85 Low: 55 Rain: 30%</p>	<p>Wednesday 3</p>  <p>Scattered Thunderstorms High: 85 Low: 54 Rain: 60%</p>	<p>Thursday 4</p>  <p>Scattered Thunderstorms High: 84 Low: 56 Rain: 60%</p>	<p>Friday 5</p>  <p>Scattered Thunderstorms High: 85 Low: 55 Rain: 60%</p>	<p>Saturday 6</p> <p>Historically on This Day:</p> <p>Averages High: 82 Low: 52</p> <p>Records High: 96 Low: 44</p>

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Mark's Minute A Simple Thank You

By Mark Anderson, Director of Program

With the extreme fire danger this summer, we have had nine lightning fires during July from the timid monsoon thunderstorms. We were ready. Our preparation paid off. Staff members from all departments have helped to insure that we are able to safely provide a program to all 23,000 backcountry and 3,500 training center participants regardless of the emergencies that we face.

The simple words "Thank You!" seem inadequate for the appreciation that I have for each of you. Since July 6 we have had nine fires on the Ranch.

- July 6: 25 acre lightning caused fire along our boundary with the Barker Wildlife Area near Wilson Mesa. The fire was discovered by Philmont Staff. We evacuated crews from Pueblano Ruins, Pueblano, Flume Canyon, Bent and Rich Cabins. We modified these crews for one day and had them back on their original itineraries. The fire was extinguished by the Philmont Fire Department and several other fire teams from northeast New Mexico.

- July 11: Small lightning fire near Deer Lake Mesa Camp.

The fire was discovered by New Mexico State Forestry. We evacuated Upper Bench, Deer Lake Mesa and Devil's Wash Basin Camps. These crews were moved successfully as well. The fire was extinguished by the Philmont Fire Department.

- July 13: Small lightning fire near Webster Pass and Fish Camp. The fire was discovered by a crew hiking the trail. Trails in the area were closed for several hours until the fire could be extinguished. Fire was extinguished by Philmont Staff, the Philmont Fire Department and State Forestry Fire Team.

- July 16: Small lightning fire near Elkhorn. Fire was discovered by a Ranger hiking back to base. The fire was extinguished by Philmont Fire Department.

- July 18: Small lightning fire near Head of Dean. The fire was discovered by Philmont Staff hiking between Head of Dean and Pueblano. The fire was extinguished by Philmont Staff and the Philmont Fire Department.

- July 19: Small lightning fire between Pueblano Ruins Camp and French Henry Camp.

The fire was discovered by a crew hiking along the trail. The fire was extinguished by Philmont Staff, the Philmont Fire Department and State Forestry Fire Team.

- July 21: Small lightning fire near Fish Camp. The fire was discovered by Philmont Staff hiking between Apache Springs and Fish Camp. The fire was extinguished by Philmont Staff and the Philmont Fire Department.

- July 23: Small lightning fire near Flume Canyon. The fire was discovered by Philmont Staff. The fire was extinguished by the Philmont Fire Department.

- July 24: Small lightning fire near Miners Park. The fire was discovered by the Philmont Staff. The fire was extinguished by the Philmont Fire Department and State Forestry Fire Team.

A special thank you is also extended to each member of the Philmont Volunteer Fire Department. This team of dedicated Philmont Employees has taken the training to be prepared for a summer like 2011. Their extra efforts have kept each of the fires of the season as small as possible.

During our early summer



training we discussed the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America. The motto of the Boy Scouts "Be Prepared" offers two simple words to live by. They require us to act.

In the opening issue of this year's PhilNews, I quoted E.L. Matthews who wrote, "Unless a person has prepared themselves for their chance, the chance will only make a person look ridiculous. A great occasion is worth to a person exactly what his preparation enabled them to make of it."

Based on the events over the last few weeks, each of you has prepared yourself to be ready for each "great occasion." Thank you!

As we begin to enjoy the monsoons, please continue to practice an important part of another of the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America, "On my honor, I will do my best..." This commitment insures that we continue to help each participant and our fellow staff members live their expectations!



professional Scouting, contact Owen McCulloch at Camping Headquarters, 575-376-1131 (office) or 575-447-2115 (mobile), or I-Camp your name and department. An invitation is not required, but please RSVP so we have an accurate count of attendees.

Apply now for a Philmont Staff Association Scholarship!

Awards of \$500 for first year staff, \$1,000 for second year and \$1,500 for third year staff will be made for the Fall 2011-Spring 2012 academic year.

Scholarship recipients must be accepted by an accredited institution for enrollment as a full-time student (at least 12 credit hours). Recipients may also be enrolled in a graduate program.

Scholarship funds must be used for tuition, fees related to degreed course work, books or housing (in that order) at any accredited institution of higher learning.

REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must be current Philmont Staff Association members.

Applicants must be current seasonal staff members.

Applicants must be applying to work at Philmont for the upcoming summer.

Applicants must need financial assistance for education.

Applicants must complete the application in full. The final evaluation from the applicant's staff leader will also be added to the application.

The application deadline is **August 31, 2011**. Applications may be submitted to the box provided in the Silver Sage Staff Activity Center or mailed to:

Philmont Staff Association
17 Deer Run Road
Cimarron, NM 87714

Application forms are available in the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center, the Registration office and the Philmont Staff Association office.

Last year, the PSA received 60 applications and awarded \$25,000 in scholarships! Apply today!

www.PhilStaff.com

Owen's Corner Consider a Career in Professional Scouting

By Owen McCulloch, Associate Director of Program

Pro-Scouting Interest Reception—Tuesday, August 2, 6 p.m., Villa Gallery

On Tuesday, August 2, 6 p.m., a reception will be held at the Villa Philmonte Gallery Room for individuals interested in learning more about professional Scouting. Joining the reception are several

Scout Executives (who are the CEOs for local councils), District Executives and representatives from regional and national offices of the Boy Scouts of America to answer questions about professional Scouting.

The BSA website has this to say about professional Scouting: "Today's professional Scouters are a diverse group of men and women

sharing a dynamic career offering independence, achievement, and stability. This is work that makes a difference . . . work that calls one to continual learning and challenge . . . work that offers solid compensation, benefits, and advancement."

If you are interested in attending the reception or want to learn more about

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Chaplain's Corner "O-Mok-See" or Riding Big

By Fr. Ray Facticeau, Catholic Chaplain

Like most staff members at Philmont Scout Ranch, I have a favorite trail to hike, a favorite camp to visit, and a favorite activity to watch. A gymkhana is an activity held here at Philmont Scout Ranch at the end of each Cavalcade Trek, either at Camping Headquarters or at Ponil. A gymkhana is a lot of fun to watch. Staff are always welcome to attend.

Cavalcade participants compete in various timed events on horseback. The training and talent of both riders and horses are on display. Games may include barrel racing, flag relay and steer herding. Participation, however, seems more important than

competition. Each participant is enthusiastically encouraged by all participants and wranglers. Good sportsmanship and fair play are evident. The Scouting Spirit is alive and well at a PSR gymkhana.

"Gymkhana" is Hindi-Urdu in origin and refers to "a place where skill-based games are held." Similar games and events are held by Native Americans. The Blackfoot Indian Tribe refers to its most colorful performances on horseback as "O-MOK-SEE" or riding big. The following prayer is still used to begin their games:

O God,

We pause, mindful of the many blessings You have placed along our path. We do not ask for

special favors, nor do we ask that the blessings granted our opponents be diminished. Instead, we thank You for allowing us to experience friendship in one of its truest forms, and to be able to gather with friends and loved ones to pay tribute to the great sport of O-Mok-See.

We ask that You guide us up the greatest path of all, and that You, as our final judge, will allow us to ride once more, where the sun never sets, and where happiness rides beside us, and never behind us.

For this, O God, we thank You.

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Sustainability Statement

Managing Forests Well Preserves, Protects Ranch

By Sarah Burgess, Sustainable Resource Specialist

This article is the first of two discussing the forest and range management practices of Philmont Scout Ranch and the surrounding properties for which we have special use permits.

Philmont has a clear and purposeful plan for the management of our rangeland and forests. Waite Phillips requested that the land be maintained as a working ranch. Although no timber harvesting methods were allowed for almost three decades, managers saw the need to begin a formal management practice or the no-management hazards we were experiencing would continue.

Our forest management plan tries to mimic natural processes that influence our land, as well as keep in mind the safety and program objectives of our participants and staff.

The management of these forests focuses on protecting our recreational and educational assets as well as protecting our infrastructure from catastrophic forest fire. Forest management at Philmont also means maintaining our ability to deliver nationally recognized Scouting and High Adventure Programs. Several other objectives include a focus on long-term forest health and protecting our watersheds and wildlife habitats.

The unique part of our forest management policy is that our use practice extends to the neighboring lands we have agreements with, including the Vermejo Park Ranch, Carson National Forest unit and the state of New Mexico Fish & Game Department. The policies and guidelines set forth in these land use agreements are consistently followed and in turn create successful contracts between Philmont and our neighbors. Through Philmont

Ranger training and backcountry staff guidance, crews are prepared in following the various permit policies.

It is easy to see how the differences in land management correspond to what the primary purpose of the land is. In the Valle Vidal unit of the Carson National Forest, overseen by the US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service division, a varying vegetation level is present from mid-elevation forest of pines, junipers and several fir species to the alpine tree line on Little Costilla Peak. The noticeable and most distinct feature of the Valle Vidal compared to Philmont are the grasslands. These follow the drainages and give excellent open

“Forest management at Philmont also means maintaining our ability to deliver nationally recognized Scouting and High Adventure Programs. Several other objectives include a focus on long-term forest health and protecting our watersheds and wildlife habitats.”

views across the rolling hills and up to Little Costilla Peak. These meadows are thought to be natural, versus the result of wildland fire or clearing for grazing, because there are no tree stumps in the soil horizon. These features of the land provide excellent grazing and habitat areas for an animal like the Rocky Mountain elk. Part of the Valle is closed for several months

from spring to early July to allow elk calving to be uninterrupted. Ted Turner’s herd of bison stray into this area as well.

When hiking north towards Rich Cabins from Ponil or across Wilson Mesa, you cross a fence line for the Elliott Barker State Wildlife area. The posted sign clearly indicates that no activity is allowed from late May through late July because of deer fawning. The purchase of this area in 1966 by New Mexico Game & Fish (NMDGF) was to provide a prime habitat for viewing of deer, bear, turkey and elk. Our special use permit agreement with the NMDGF allows our hikers to travel within the area during these closure times because we follow the guidelines of staying on trail, hiking during daytime hours only and refraining from camping or making campfires in the area.

On Philmont Scout Ranch property, near the Cimarroncito Reservoir, we maintain a Demonstration Forest. This program is a collaborative effort involving our ranch, the American Tree Farm System, and the New Mexico State Forestry (NMSF) division. The NMSF manages all non-federal, non-tribal, non-municipal and non-pueblo lands, providing wildfire suppression services and technical assistance in resource management of watershed quality, timber harvesting and insect disease suppression. Our 45-acre Demonstration Forest is one of six forests in the state used to educate students, Scouts and visitors about healthy forest management and timber cut methods. This area, along with the whole of our forests, is part of our long-term commitment to maintaining forest health and sustainability.

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RANCH HANDS: continued from Page 1

as part of the trek. "The cavalcade was interesting. I can't believe I ever actually hiked the trails instead of going on horseback," says Ranch Hands participant Quintin Bergman.

Once they have completed their trek, the participants compete in a gymkhana rodeo at Ponil, where they face a cavalcade crew in several events, including barrel racing, flag relays, figure eight race, flag race and burro herding. The gymkhana is the highlight of the program for many of the participants. Ranch Hands

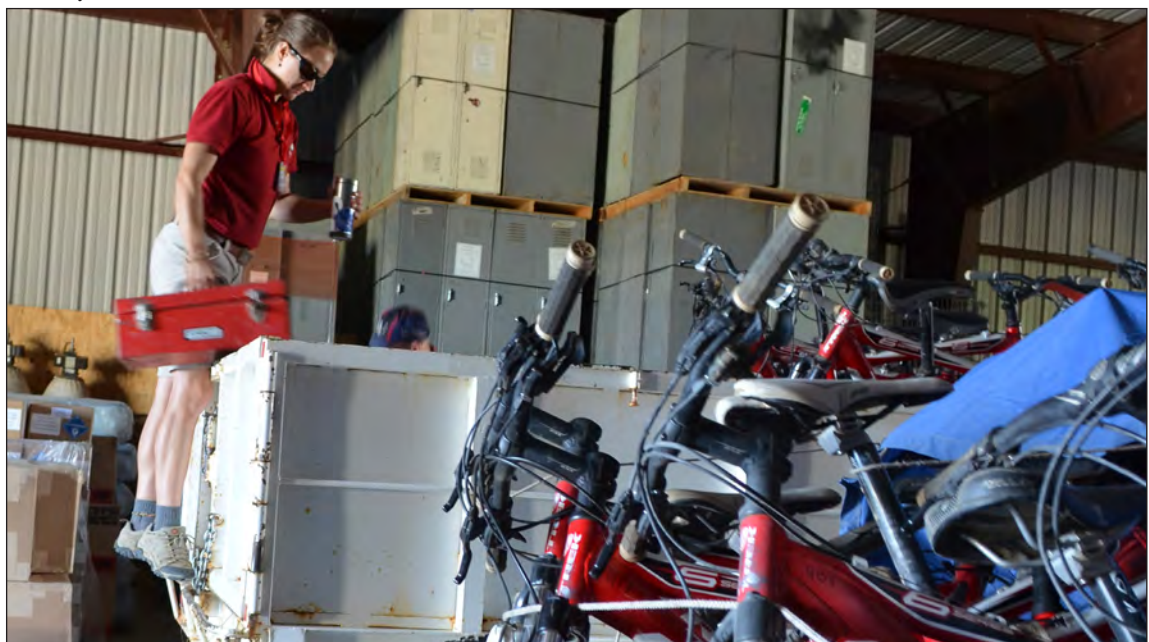
participants Mark Burmaster and Muir agree that the event was one of their favorite aspects of the program.

Throughout the program the participants also develop as individuals and learn an array of skills. According to Ranch Hands Crew Leader David Burmaster, the Ranch Hands program will "teach [participants] responsibility and... leadership, and it'll also teach them personality and special skills." Scouts also learn about horses and horse management.

"You learn about working with other people when it comes to horses. You learn different styles of working with horses, and people who don't have a lot of experience gain a lot of knowledge," says Ranch Hands participant Arin Keryeski. She adds that she learned about the business side of ranching while working at Ponil. Bergman explains that working with the staff allowed him to get to know what the [Ranch Hands] program is about and to understand the horse department.

Valle Rescatter

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer



Matt Prokosch—PhilNews

RESCATTER: Jada McGirt, the Camp Director of Whiteman Vega, inspects equipment on a trailer during their second scatter of the season on Sunday, July 24.

After being closed for 27 days, the Valle Vidal reopened July 24. The Valle Vidal section of the Carson National Forest is home to three Philmont backcountry camps: Seally Canyon, Whiteman Vega and Ring Place.

On June 27 the area was closed along with the rest of Carson National Forest due to the extreme fire danger. Following the closing, 17 staff members were displaced and redistributed and 144 crews received modified itineraries.

The modified crew itineraries

rerouted Scouts to camps throughout the Ranch's north country, so that many of the northern camps saw a significant increase in crew load.

The Valle staff members were redistributed across many of the other backcountry camps and into basecamp departments such as Conservation and Logistics, and they are very excited to be returning to their original camps. "All the Whiteman staff kept the strong faith that our home would once again be open to delivering the

promise to all Scouts at Philmont," says Whiteman Vega Camp Director Jada "Jada Day" McGirt.

According to Logistics Manager Sid Covington, Carson National Forest has reopened because although "the fire danger is still high, it's not as high" in the area. The first crews to reenter the Valle Vidal arrived at Seally Canyon July 24, just after the staff arrived back at their camp. This summer Philmont will schedule 5,700 crew days in the Valle Vidal, down 400 from last summer.



Ask Sawmill

Real Advice from Real Men



Dear Men of Sawmill,
What are the best trekking poles to use while hiking?
-I Love Hiking

Dear I.L.H.,
A real man's trekking poles are contained within his body: legs.

Dear Men of Sawmill,
What is the best way to get rid of head cuts in streams?
-Stream Fixer

Dear S.F.,
The simplest solution is to destroy the headwaters. An easy way to do this is by throwing old cars and tires into the headwaters. Contact Motor Pool for supplies.

Dear Men of Sawmill,
What is the best way to get to Sawmill?
-Activities

Dear A.,
A helicopter is the fastest and most effective way to Sawmill. Don't forget your Backcountry Access Permit.

Dear Men of Sawmill,
I have a crush on a girl. How do I ask her out? Should I use a song? Which one?
-Searching For Song

Dear S.F.S.,
The easiest way to ask a girl out is to open your mouth and just ask her. But if you must use

a song, try "Eye of the Tiger" while fighting a bear, or rent a helicopter and buzz her while playing "Flight of the Valkyries" on a loudspeaker.

Dear Sawmill,
Are the rumors about your program true?
-I Love Sawmill

Dear I.L.S.,
Yes, all rumors about Sawmill are true. Life is awesome up here. Come visit and join in the fun.

If you have questions that you would like the Men of Sawmill to answer, please send them via I-Camp.

An Invitation for One and All

By way of gregarious DECLARATION, the CRATER BOYS, in their marvelous PANACHE, VERVE and CHARM cordially invite the entirety of Philmont Scout Ranch to come and see their original musical, *THE AGITATORS*, premiering on the day of their spectacle-ridden wonderland of a PhilFiesta.

Before an unmatched backdrop of mountains and plains, in our WELL-SEASONED and STORIED campfire ring, the CRATER BOYS will lead the audience on an EMOTIONAL SOJOURN from SLAPSTICK HUMOR to the DEEPEST PATHOS. It is likely that the sensitive men and women in the audience will weep and the younger spectators will forget that they will ever grow old.

The story finds a venomous strike troubling the Continental Tie & Lumber Company, as the workers of the Company (who share a flattering resemblance to DAN IMHOFF, STEPHEN RICH, STUART BABCOCK, JARED WICKER and ZAK BUTLER), having no other recourse, lay down their axes to further the rights of the working man. The owner of the company, Charles Schomberg (played by the mustachioed KARL "SPARKS" SMITH), makes a stand against their demands and refuses to be bullied by the tyranny of the majority.

The drama begins on the 30th, but this opus premieres on the 31st at 7:30 p.m. Additionally, *THE AGITATORS* will be showing on Aug. 4 and 5. Don't miss the screaming apotheosis of the CRATER BOYS 2011.

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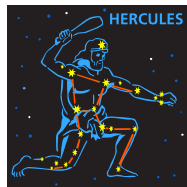


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Other telescopes welcome!**

Information: 575-377-2293



Taos Pizza Out Back

By Bo Bordas,
NPS Marketing Staff

Suppose you need to get away, have a little adventure. Let's get out of this town, you think, let's get wild in New Mexico. Grab a buddy, turn on the Johnny Cash, put on your shades, but don't forget about your appetite! We already know the Cimarron pizzerias—Simple Simon's, the St. James pizza, and Colfax Tavern. Each have their own thing going for them- there's the ridiculously close one (St. James) with the delicious #5 pizza (ranch sauce, chicken, bacon, onions and green peppers. Om nom nom), there's the farther one with the scenic drive to get there (Colfax Tavern) that looks like a cross between your grandma's cozy house and a bar, and the out of the usual franchise Simple Simon's that I have yet to visit. But if you're taking the winding road to Taos, there's scrumptious pies there



too. Taos Pizza Out Back offers pizzas, pastas, salads, calzones, soups and more, including desserts. Why do they think they're worth the drive? Not just because the slices are hearty and delicious, but because they feature local organic greens and vegetables, non-dairy dough and organically grown flour. Service does take a little longer, but that just builds the anticipation! Make conversation with those around you, and take in the sight of

the strung lights if you are sitting outside, enjoying the weather. You can order from the list of staple pies already assembled or be creative with your taste buds and create your own from a whole variety of ingredients. You don't even have to argue, because they sell them by the slice, so you don't have to lose your cool over what to order if you're trying to impress a date. In fact, be a little seductive in your creation. Just don't forget to add the green chile!

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Casa Del Gavilan: The White Citadel on the Mesa

By Ned Gold Jr., Owner Casa Del Gavilan

It had been a long five days, and I was anxious to return to HQ for a day of rest. In those days—some 46 years ago (1959)—Rangers spent five days with their groups. All Rangers know the feeling; you just want to get back and rest before the next group. I was hiking back over Urraca Mesa, mainly bushwacking. Suddenly I realized that I was about to enter the forbidden lands of “The Nairn Place,” the place we now call “Casa Del Gavilan”—“House of the Hawk.” C.E. Dunn, the Rangers’ respected icon and mentor, had warned us: “Never venture near The Nairn Place.” Legend had it that the caretaker had once shot an errant staff member. And so I went miles out of my way through the bramble and deep arroyos that separate the mesa from the plains. And that was my only encounter with “The Casa” the whole of my six years I was on the staff; I never again went near it. Nor afterwards

—until 1993 when my wife, Debbie, and I, after leading an expedition, spent a night there because the Faudres, the then owners of both the Casa and the UU Bar Ranch, had turned the Casa into a bed and breakfast.

And then in 1994 the Faudres decided to sell everything—the UU Bar and the Casa. That is when it occurred to Dave Emery, a young man whom I had mentored through Scouting in our town of Warren, Ohio, and me that we should try to buy it. I had helped Dave get a job as a Ranger and even taken him as an assistant expedition leader on a few expeditions. So he too had the same love we all share for the place and spirit we call “Philmont.”

Frankly, we were justifiably concerned that the wrong person or group would buy it and perhaps use the land, some 225 acres landlocked by Philmont, in a manner that would bring damage



Taylor Thorne—PhilNews

BREAKFAST: Ginger Black and her son Jonathan, who just completed Philmont’s NAYLE course, enjoy breakfast at the Casa Del Gavilan with DeeDee Miller and Aron Cannon of the Double D Ranch in Taos on July 23.

to our beloved Philmont. So we put together a group of Scouters/Philmonters—mainly former staff members, formed a limited liability company and bought the Casa and its lands! Now, 16 years later, the same group—with a few changes—still owns it. And we still run it as a B & B which opens it for all to share.

As guests disembark in front of the Casa and survey the grand escarpment lying before them, inevitably one word comes to mind: “Incredible!” The great western author, Zane Grey, spent time at the Casa in its early years when it was owned by Jack Nairn, a wealthy Scotsman who had begun construction on the place in 1910. Grey centered his book *Knights of the Range* at the Casa. In it he calls the vast panorama the “grandest view in all New Mexico.” Even with New Mexico’s unparalleled landscapes, it is hard to call Grey’s comment an exaggeration.

Upon entering the Casa, one is immediately as taken with its interior surroundings as with the view. Despite its large size, it has a western hominess to it that is accented with a valuable art collection highlighted by its collection of western bronzes. Its high ceilings are supported by large vigas. The wide walls are real adobe, not the fake adobe that is so common today. It is a step back to a bygone era. The library with its vast collection of books, and other publications, forms a quiet comfortable place to unwind and let your mind wander. So too is the beautiful patio with its fountain and gardens which are humbled by the best view anywhere of the Tooth of Time. Many a couple has sealed their vows in this most romantic of places, including my son, Greg, with his wife, Muriel.

Quiet—the magnificent sound of Quiet, broken only by the light tapping of a nearly perpetual

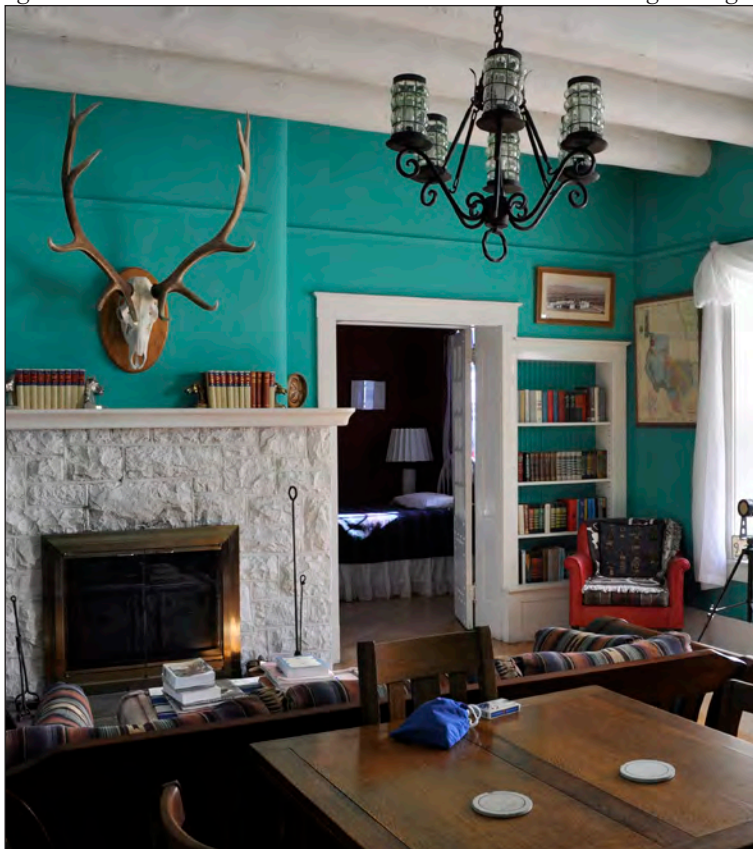
mountain breeze, is the hallmark of the Casa.

It is almost certain that deer or elk or antelope or coyotes will amble by during your stay. And you are bound to see for yourself why the Casa is dubbed “House of the Hawk.”

Each bedroom is uniquely appointed with southwest comfort and art. Perfect for a deserved rest.

There are a number of easy trails perfect for relaxing strolls with views of the Tooth, Urraca Mesa and the vast plain with vistas of fifty miles or more and private places to picnic.

Someday, on a day off, go on up. Visit the Casa. First call Robin, our very accommodating inn keeper to be sure she is available to assist you. Spend the night. Bring your friends and your family. You’ll see for yourself why our group is determined to preserve this magnificent “White Citadel on the Mesa” for posterity.



Taylor Thorne—PhilNews

NAYLE Teaches Servant Leadership

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews writer



Kyle Soyer—PhilNews

REALISTIC FIRST AID: Crew Guide Ted Grace of St. Louis, Mo., receives care for a mock mini-bear attack and rock climbing accident from NAYLE participants during a realistic first aid scenario on July 25. The participants made fake blood and skin beforehand.

“At the beginning of the week [the participants] don’t know each other....and by the end of the week there’s real joy in what they’re doing and they’re figuring out how to work together as a team,” explains National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience Session 4 Senior Crew Leader Katy Kline.

The National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) program is a week-long opportunity for 14 to 21 year old Scouts and Venturers to learn leadership skills, particularly the aims of servant leadership, in a unique outdoor environment at Philmont’s Rocky Mountain Scout Camp. This summer, more than 185 Scouts and Venturers will go through the NAYLE

program as participants and 76 as staff members.

Participants selected to come to NAYLE must have completed a local National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) at their local council or an equivalent course in councils that do not offer NYLT courses. “NAYLE participants get a chance to put the tools they learn in NYLT into practice,” says Session 4 NAYLE Course Director Ron Moore.

NAYLE participants learn leadership, team-building and communication techniques and skills during the course. “They can learn a lot of leadership and management skills if they participate and are open to learning... it’s a management course that is equivalent to what

some companies and industries are giving to their junior executives,” according to Rocky Mountain Scout Camp Director Charlie Nutter.

Kline explains that crews gain “a better understanding of how the skills that they’re learning in NYLT... translate into real life situations.” Participants get “a refinement and a focused look at what leadership skills can do for them,” adds Moore.

Staff selection for the program is very intensive, according to Nutter. Most of the staff have completed both local NYLT courses and NAYLE here at Philmont. The staff and participants are also evaluated thoroughly at the end of each summer in order to determine

future staff members.

“In my opinion staffing the course is actually doing the course. The participants are there to facilitate us learning,” says Kline.

The NAYLE program was previously National Junior Leader Instructor Training Course (NJLITC) until seven years ago. There are some differences between the programs however. According to Charlie Nutter, NJLITC focused on more traditional Scouting skills, while NAYLE’s servant leadership emphasis focuses on management skills and “is more like adult woodbadge.” Last year, the program was expanded to include Venturers, making it a coed program, and

this year the NAYLE course has evolved to include regional courses. The regional programs aim to “afford more Scouts and Scouters, Venturers included, the opportunity to participate,” says Moore.

While the program is opening in other parts of the country, the NAYLE program is very integrated into Philmont culture and history, according to Nutter. “Throughout the course of the week, in one way or another, NAYLE is supported by 16 other [Philmont] departments,” including News and Photo Services, the Commissary, PTC Dining Hall, the Ranger Department, the Conservation Department, Tooth of Time Traders, the Villa Philmonte, Owen McCulloch and upper management, Medical, the Bear Researchers and the C.O.P.E. course.

There are also multiple aspects of Philmont and Ranch history included in the syllabus, says Nutter. “You have to rewrite and substitute [the course material] for something else if you’re going to do [the course] somewhere else because you don’t have the Tooth of Time. You don’t have Waite Phillips. You don’t have the Villa Philmonte.” Moore adds that one of the aims of the course is to leave a legacy and “nowhere is that more prevalent than in the legacy that Waite Phillips left to the Boy Scouts of the America.”

The Scouts that come through NAYLE “get a neat camping trip, a hike to the Tooth and some camaraderie. They come out of here with some great friendships. “It’s really incredible how strong some friendships come out after only a week of participation together,” says Nutter.

History Haunts Hotel

By Ben McNair PhilNews Writer



Brendan Best & Matt Prokosch—PhilNews

GHOST: This set-up photograph illustrates a fake ghost in the St. James Hotel on Thursday, July 21.

Visitors to Old Town Cimarron are sure to find many remnants of the village's colorful history. At the St. James Hotel, one is bound to find not only physical evidence of the 1800s but may encounter lingering 1800s-era souls, as well.

Henri (Henry) Lambert, the hotel's founder and owner, was born in October 1838 in Nantes, France. He ran away from home at age 12 and enlisted in the navy, when he was sent to South America on an early submarine. During his time on the ship, he decided that a life at sea was not the life for him. He abandoned the ship once it hit land and joined a traveling circus as a cook. He reached the United States in 1860. In 1862, he was a chef for President Lincoln, after being recommended by General Ulysses S. Grant. After a while he was transferred to the Fifth Army Corps, and then to Washington.

Lambert left Washington in 1863 for the West, where he, like so many others, dreamt of striking gold and becoming rich. While he eventually found success, it was not through gold;

after little success in mining, he gave it up and once again began cooking.

In 1872 he built the St. James Hotel while staying with his friend Lucien Maxwell. The hotel quickly became an oasis for those traveling through and eventually saw many of the West's most famous outlaws. Some of the St. James' most notable guests include Jessie James, Billy the Kid, Pat Garret, Bat Masterston, Clay Allison, Doc Holliday, Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley.

At least 26 people died in the hotel since its opening—many of the deaths the results of drunken debauchery and fighting.

Though the hotel has existed for nearly a century and a half and has changed throughout the years, bullet holes are still evident in the pressed tin ceiling near the bar. The sturdy furniture is a spitting image of the furnishings of the past.

Aesthetics are not the only aspect of the past lingering around. Some guests and employees of the St. James have encountered spirits of those who died in the hotel. Sometimes one can hear giggling

children running through the halls, even if there are no children staying in the hotel. A cloud of rose-scented perfume comes out of nowhere. After employees set up the dining room, they return to find the silverware piled in the middle of the tables. The ghost of a cowboy looks at guests from a hallway mirror.

Among the most famous of the St. James ghosts is that of Thomas James Wright, who after winning the rights to the hotel in a poker match was shot in the doorway of Room 18, where he was staying. His violent spirit remains in the room, which has been locked by the staff and is rarely opened.

Another is the ghost of Mary Elizabeth, Lambert's second wife. Her spirit hovers around Room 17, the place where she birthed all of her children and eventually died. She is said to watch over the hotel.

The hauntings at the St. James Hotel have been investigated on popular television shows such as *Unsolved Mysteries* and *A Current Affair*.

Mysteries Abound at Mesa

By Ben McNair PhilNews Writer

Two thousand feet above neighboring Cimarron, N.M. and Basecamp lay the site of many of Philmont's most well-known myths.

It is said that Urraca Mesa, when viewed topographically, resembles a skull. Atop the mesa, near the edge, is a depression that many refer to as the "eye." The significance of this geographical phenomenon can be traced back centuries and has roots in Native American mythology. According to indigenous groups in northeastern New Mexico, the eye is a portal between two worlds: ours and the underworld.

One myth tells that the portal is guarded by six totems. If all of those totems fall, the portal will re-open and the world as we know it will end.

Over the past seven decades, the tens of thousands of Scouts that pass through the Ranch each summer have created new mesa myths.

In the days of film cameras, many photographers found it difficult to capture clear images atop the mesa. When developed, many images were blurry and blotchy. Some even had mysterious white lines running from one end of the photograph to the other.

When trying to navigate across the top of the mesa, some Scouts find themselves lost and unable to use even their most basic orientation tools. Compasses notoriously give false indications of which cardinal direction lies where.

While some believe that distorted photographs and misleading compass readings are the work of supernatural forces, there are scientific explanations for these rumored mishaps. The mesa's geological makeup includes high quantities of lodestone, one of two rare materials that is found

magnetized in its natural state.

Compasses use magnetized pointers that are attracted to the Earth's magnetic poles, but the introduction of a second, competing source of magnetic charge complicates compass readings. The reason for the lodestone's natural magnetic charge is itself a mystery, but some geologists point to the frequent lightning strikes that occur atop the mesa as the reason. The mesa has the highest occurrence of lightning strikes in the state.

The mesa's high magnetic charge is also the cause of the eerie, aurora-like blue lights that sometimes appear on or near the mesa.

There are also rumors of occurrences that cannot be so scientifically explained. Some Scouts and staff members report sightings of monks wandering around the mesa's flat summit and an indistinguishable horseman dressed in black. Others report encountering a lost Scout dressed in a vintage uniform who has been separated from his crew. The Scout asks if he can hike along with crews until he finds his own. Some crews are rumored to consent to the request, only to turn around and see that the Scout has disappeared.

The mesa's name itself has an extensive history. "Urraca" means "magpie" in Spanish, but can be traced further to the Latin word "furax," commonly defined as "thievish." From the ninth through 12th century, "Urraca" was a common feminine given name in Spain and Portugal.

For more information on the mesa's strange happenings, or to read some of the Ranch's ghost stories for yourself, pick up a copy of *When The Sun Goes Down*, available at the Tooth of Time Traders and at www.toothoftimetraders.com.

LANTERN: continued from Page 1

who had stopped momentarily to study his compass.

"What is it?" he hissed.

I wetted my lips and said thickly, "Up north. I saw a blue light moving east in those trees down there."

Sergeant Judkins stood peering for a moment northward, not speaking.

"Do you think it was the point?" I asked meekly. "I mean, someone could be playing a trick, maybe moving it on us--"

"We only got green glow sticks this year. Not blue ones."

"Yes, Staff Sergeant."

We stood there, shifting in our shoes and kicking at the loose rocks we stood upon while Judkins once again opened his compass, the iridescent dial briefly lighting his face and exposing his wide, unblinking eyes.

"Is everything okay, Sergeant Judkins?" asked the lead cadet.

Judkins stood silent in the black and unfamiliar forest. The night had begun to grow cold, and a thin layer of ground fog had coalesced around the twisted trunks of the pines, a mist made lifeless gray by the meager light in the sky.

"Boys, I think I'm going to catch heck for this one. What's the emergency heading again?"

"Two-seventy," we said in unison.

"Right. Due west to Rampart Range Road. I've never had to take a two-seventy in my entire career. Lets go."

The moon-silver was now high in the sky.

After a long spell of feeling our way westward through these still, mist-laden woods, now unconcerned with footfalls and traces, we stopped to take a break and drink some water. We sat breathing hard in the cool dark, our sweat stinking and chilly in the light breeze. I looked behind us and down the ravine and saw a dim, bluish flicker moving upward through the trees and toward us. And from somewhere within that strange flicker I found a sickening fear that crept its way into the pit of my stomach. But just as I spoke,

the light went out, leaving me to stare into the void it had occupied, the phantoms of its glow engrained upon my eyes even as I clenched them closed.

"What now, Welch?" snapped Judkins, trying to catch his breath from the long draught he had taken from his canteen. "Did you see the Lantern Man again?" For a terrible moment I felt as a child among men.

"What's the 'Lantern Man?'" asked a nearby voice.

Sergeant Judkins snickered. "There's lots of versions, but the one my granddad told me was about a devil with a long, knotted beard and nothing for eyes 'cept black, empty sockets. This specter carries around a lantern lit with a ghost flame, and if he finds you lost he'll steal your eyes and drag you kicking and screaming down to Hell with him. The other versions I've heard are scary, but for some reason the man with no eyes, some evil thing that claws out your peepers for its own use is the scariest for me."

Silence surrounded us as we all peered through the mist, searching for such a flame, none of us breathing, sitting lost beneath a dim sky and dark forest canopy.

"Why does he take the eyes?" asked a nearby voice.

"Because he's lost himself, and wants eyes to see his path up and out from damnation. Or some such nonsense. But I'd be a lot more afraid of not hitting the point. Break's over." The mist had risen higher now, its vaporous fingers beginning to tickle the lower branches of the trees.

As we pushed westward, none of us dared to glimpse the path we were leaving behind. And I, now bringing up the rear, could not get rid of that horrid feeling I had felt when I thought I'd seen that light among the trees above the mist, a light that had seemed to be searching for us.

We went on for a long time though the eerie silence. Finally Sergeant Judkins stopped, sighed, and said in an anguished voice, "I

think that road we passed some time back was Rampart Range Road. We're in some trouble here."

We did not speak, only listened to our own somnolent hearts beat and the ringing of our ears.

Judkins flipped open his compass, his wide hazel eyes made mutant green in the glow of it. He turned the housing 180 degrees and locked it in. "Let's get going. Dawn can't be too far off, fellas. And this is one screw up I don't want to admit to. If we get back to the road, not a word of this, got me?"

We nodded in agreement, although in the complete darkness we could not see each other



"Fearful Folly"—Francisco De Goya (A.D. 1848)

acquiesce to this covenant of silence.

The Cheshire moon had now slipped below the mountains.

"I still don't know how I—"

He stopped mid-step and sentence and gaped up at the low ridge directly in our path. In a clearing at the top the blue flicker had appeared, and a faint figure, twisted and huge, could be made out standing sentinel within it.

Somehow it knew we were there, huddled and afraid and seeing it. It pointed toward us and then slid like a perverse liquid down the ridge.

"I don't know who that is, but I don't like it," said Judkins, watching the light move faster and grow brighter as it approached, the pale blue illuminating the canopy from beneath like a series of satanic searchlights. "Let's move."

We took off faster than I ever thought possible, careening down the slope, crashing through the dense brush and slipping over hulking boulders as we went. At the

bottom of the steep hill I chanced a glance behind and saw the light stopped at the top of the hill where we had stood only moments ago. Then it went out.

We continued on our blind easterly heading, all of us too terrified to speak, and soon realized how much trouble we were in. The road had never emerged. We were utterly lost in utterly foreign wilderness.

"Fellas, I'm going to crawl up on that low ridge right next to us and try to get my bearings, see if I can't spot the road. You all stay here. If I give a shout, holler back so's I can find my way back."

"You think he's gonna find the road?" someone asked hopefully as we watched Judkins' silhouette move up the slope.

"Doubt it," blurted another.

For a long time we stood huddled with our heads down and ears cocked like dark conspirators, listening for Judkins' shout. Then the lead cadet looked

to the east and let out a strangled groan. Rushing across our path was the bent and hellish figure from the ridge, bathed in flickering blue light that exploded forth with dead, empty malevolence from a hand-held lantern. The thing's head snapped toward us as he glided through the dark, and we all saw the yawning, hollow darkness where a man's eyes should have been placed. Then it grinned and moved upward with demonic speed toward the ridge where Sergeant Judkins had gone.

Unable to scream, unable move, we watched the blue light race up the incline, and then with equal horror saw the small, pitiful glow of Judkins' compass briefly appear then extinguish at the bleak summit like a lonely, distant firefly. The blue light was racing up the opposite side of the hill, surely hidden from Judkins' view.

Near the top, the devil's light stopped and hovered, as if trying to read tracks along some game

trail, and we all silently pleaded with Judkins not to move, hoping that this night apparition had lost him. But then he hollered down to us, his voice coming faint and enthusiastic.

"I see the road, boys! I see it! Just off to the—"

The blue light rushed upon him like an apocalyptic tide, and for a split second we saw the two figures together, illuminated by the ghostly flame held within that terrible lantern. Then the light extinguished, and cascading down from the darkness came the agonized screaming of Staff Sergeant Judkins.

We ran. God help us, we ran until we collapsed upon a wide road that emerged from the forest, the road to our salvation. We lay there panting and bleeding, and within my boot my ankle throbbed and swelled, pushing tight against the leather. Somewhere along the way I had broken it, but in my terror I had never felt it.

* * *

I was told, while I was getting a cast put around my foot, that what was left of the group led a rescue team to the spot where they believed Sergeant Judkins had disappeared. It wasn't until weeks later that they found Sergeant Judkins' body more than a mile away. They said it was likely an animal had gotten to him.

A month later I found Sergeant Judkins' home unit phone number and asked the answering Private for the unofficial story.

"Something got to him," he said. "I talked to one of the SAR team members and he said he was sticking half-way out of the ground, buried nearly to his stomach. When they dug the rest of him out, the entire lower half of his body looked as if burned to a crisp. That SAR dude said it looked like something had been a-clawin' at him."

I gulped back the urge to scream. "What about his eyes?" I managed to croak. "Did he say anything about his eyes?"

"Well, that's the kicker, isn't it?" he said. "They never found them."

Then the line went dead.

Scare Us Submission: The Lakeshore Light

By Andrew Carr, Camping Services Staff



Public Domain Image

LAKE: Lake Haward, Winter Hacen, Fla. Photo by HenryTandy (1920's).

Egan Hughes woke up one night in his canvas tent at Rainy Mountain Scout Camp, sweating profusely on top of his mummy sleeping bag. He decided that he'd had enough and flung his legs off the cot, making it creak. Careful not to disturb his roommate, he gently placed his heavily callused feet on the rough wooden floor and slipped on his sandals. The humidity of the region did little to ease the sleeping conditions; in fact, Egan had woken up in the middle of the night every night so far to take a stroll around the enormous camp. Making sure that no one was following him, he grabbed his flashlight, switched it on and headed for the road that snaked down to the hub of the entire camp. After awhile he turned his flashlight off and just listened to the sounds of the nocturnal creatures.

Only there was no sound, no sound but the crunch of the gravel under his feet and his low, even breathing. He gazed up at the cloudy night sky, straining to find any constellations he could, but was unable to make any out due to the cauliflower cumulonimbus clouds.

Further down he walked, feeling slightly cooler and more refreshed outside. He decided to head down to the lakeside and skip rocks, or perhaps just sit and enjoy the night. From where he stood, he could see a blanket of fog beginning to roll over the lake. Of all the nights he spent wandering around in the dark, this night was the quietest. He

usually heard crickets chirping, or a fish splash in the lake, but there was nothing. He shuffled down to the dock and plopped down right at the edge. He could feel the refreshing cool water cover his feet as he dipped them in. He wanted to take a dive into the lake, but resisted, knowing full well that one mistake could lead to his demise and there would be no one there to save him.

A hundred yards in front of him, Egan could make out the fog creeping its way to where he sat. It's just fog, just mist, he told himself. A few minutes later, the mist arrived, floating around him. Just a few more minutes and I'm outta here.

"Egan," a voice whispered. It sounded ancient, pleading.

He whipped his head around frantically looking for the origin of the voice, but it seemed to come from everywhere and nowhere. The voice repeated his name, but this time he saw a light in the water glowing a sharp blue. He stared down at the blue light at the bottom of lake, wondering why he was doing so.

"Egan," the voice repeated again. This time it was a different voice, it sounded familiar but he couldn't place it. The blue light began to pulse like a bomb about to go off. His deep gray eyes flashed blue, and suddenly he couldn't control himself. "Go...grandson."

The boy fell face-first into the now icy water, sinking towards the rapidly pulsing blue light. He found

himself reaching for the light. All that mattered was the blue light; he didn't even realize that he had stopped breathing. Down and down he went, for what seemed like forever. He felt something dig deep into his back, it felt like claws, maybe even jaws. "Egan," it said one last time. The blue light pulsed once more and then exploded with sapphire phosphorescence.

He came to his senses and immediately felt someone or something pulling up from behind at a rapid pace. When he broke the surface, he inhaled so much air that he felt like he was wearing a funny gas mask at the dentist. Several strong arms pulled him on to the deck with Egan giggling uncontrollably because he thought the arms were part of some human octopus.

"Egan."

He immediately stopped giggling, hearing his name reminded him of the voice that tried to drown him.

"Egan, you almost drowned!" a husky voice yelled in ear.

"What happened to me?" he asked.

"You were sitting on the dock and fell in the water, and almost drowned!" The man grabbed him from underneath the armpits and hoisted him to his feet. "No one told you about the Lakeshore Ghost, did they?"

"No," he shook his head, "they didn't."

"He haunts the dock at night. People say that he drowned in the lake because he saw a light." Egan shivered, "It wasn't blue was it?"

"Yeah it was." The man wrapped a warm towel around Egan's shoulders, "Come on, let's get away from here. You need to get some sleep."

"The light was blue." He zoned out, "The Lakeshore Light was blue."

FIRE DANGER – EXTREME Philmont Scout Ranch July 26, 2011

The Fire Danger status on Philmont Scout Ranch has been established as Extreme.

This is the result of continued low humidity, strong winds, warm temperatures and low levels of moisture during the winter and spring.

Extreme means that fires start quickly, spread furiously, and burn intensely. All fires are potentially serious. Development into high intensity burning will usually be faster and occur from smaller fires than in the very high danger class. Every fire has the potential to become large. Expect extreme erratic behavior. NO outdoor burning should take place in areas with extreme fire behavior. Fire restrictions will be in place.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS

- Open fires and fireworks are prohibited.
- No crew campfires in the backcountry. All crews must use stoves for cooking. The stove should be located in or adjacent to the fire ring. The area must be cleared of all flammable vegetation. A pan of water must be located near the area.
- Smoking is restricted to safe designated areas:
 1. PTC – Curtis Multiplex Pavilion
 2. PTC – Staff Area behind shower house.
 3. CHQ – Advisor Lounge Smoking Room.
 4. CHQ – Dining Fly behind the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center at the edge of the fence line.
 5. CHQ – Dining Fly near the Staff Fitness Center.
 6. Cattle Headquarters – Designated area.
 7. Designated fire ring at Staff and Trail Camps. No smoking along the trail.
 8. Inside a motor vehicle equipped with an ash tray.
- Program restrictions:
 - No program campfires. Backcountry Camps will use kerosene lanterns at program campfire locations.
 - Use of fire places is prohibited.
 - Wood fires at Chuck Wagon, Mexican Dinner and Cobbler Delights are prohibited. Charcoal Fires at Zastrow are prohibited. Use of Tabasco Donkey water heater systems is prohibited.
 - Temporary use of wood burning stoves will be allowed on a camp by camp basis depending on current multiday rain events.
- Black powder shooting (in a designated cleared area), use of propane at designated areas, and use of Black Smith Forges at Kit Carson, French Henry, Cyphers Mine and Black Mountain Camps are permitted

Carson National Forest - Valle Vidal – Stage II Fire Restrictions – Effective July 22, 2011 at noon.

- No Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, wood or charcoal burning stove or grill.
- No Smoking. (Smoking is allowed only in vehicles or inside buildings.)
- No Possession or discharging of any kind of fire work or other pyrotechnic device. Fireworks are banned.
- No motor vehicle use off-road, except when parking in an area devoid of vegetation.
- Gas and propane stoves are permitted in a developed area or on bare dirt.

Violations of the regulations are punishable as a Class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months or both.

Notice of fire restrictions status will be posted at Logistics, Welcome Center, Philmont Training Center Bulletin Boards and Backcountry Staffed Camps. Everyone should be watchful of potential fires. Report fires to Logistics at Philmont Extension 1239 or call 911.

Scare Us Submission: *Fate Never Deals Fair*

By Eden Hafernik, Program Counselor at Rich Cabins



Brendan Best & Matt Prokosch—PhilNews

HAUNTED: This set-up photograph illustrates a fake ghost in the Ponil cantina on Saturday, July 23.

“Blast!” The old cowboy thought to himself. The rain was now puring down even harder than it had an hour ago. The lightning strikes and thunder were so close together at this point that his horse, Trigger, was starting to get antsy.

“We better find some cover soon partner, if we’re going to make that poker game in Cimarron tomorrow.” As the drops pored off the brim of his weathered hat, Billy Anders raised his eyes to try to squint ahead. Hoping to see anything—shack, woodshed, lean-to, barn, any form of shelter for himself and Trigger.

Within moments his gaze grasped an image he hoped was a cabin. Muttering a small prayer under his breath for the lightning bolt which afforded him this, he pointed Trigger in the direction of the building and whispered, “It’s dry in there, lets get!” The old dapple-gray, knowing full well what his rider had said, found his stride and took off toward the cabin.

As Billy rubbed his old friend down with a worn blanket

he had found in the cabin’s attic, he was still in awe of their luck. The uninhabited homestead had two small rooms attached to a large dining room and a decent sized kitchen containing a wood burning stove. He hung his slick, chaps and socks to dry and started a pot of coffee. After Trigger was as comfortable as he could be, the cowboy left him standing in the corner of the dining room and went to check that the pot wasn’t boiling over.

As Billy stirred the fire and added more wood, his mind wandered to the same place it had for the last thirty years. His little brother, Rivers, had been the best card player in the South. He was in his late teens and the best friend a brother could hope for. Rivers had never professionally played a hand before, just for kicks with his friends and family, but he had heard about a game at the St. James hotel in Cimarron and he was bound and determined to play, and win.

Their parents had worked hard all their lives, their father

was a logger and their mother did mending to bring the family a little extra cash. Rivers had told Billy he was going to win the tournament and buy their parents a homestead with some cattle so that their father could get out of logging and do what he really loved—start a horse ranch. Billy wished his brother luck—knowing he would win but not realizing this would be the last time he’d see his brother alive.

Billy blinked back angry tears as his thoughts turned back to that fateful night.

Rivers had won most of the pot and was on his final hand. (So Billy had been told.)

He had raised the bet with everything he had gained and there was only one man left standing. The man was known as Chris “Wild Eyes” Murray. Had Billy known he’d be there, he never would’ve let Rivers go. “Wild Eyes” never played fair, always cheated, and never, ever lost. Rivers had to have known he was taking a risk, betting it all against him in that last round, but he was filled with the hopes

and dreams of saving his parents from their life of poverty. That and he had four aces. “Wild Eyes” had gone all into the match his bet, and laid down a strait—a ten of hearts, a Jack of Diamonds, a Queen of Spades, a King of Clubs, and the Ace of Hearts. When Rivers put down his four Aces, everyone in the bar knew that someone was cheating. And all bets were one “Wild Eyes.” He immediately stood and accused rivers of being a “no good, two timing cheat” and before Rivers could defend himself, “Wild Eyes” had drawn his six-shooter from his hip and shot him in the chest.

Billy couldn’t stop the tears at this point. He found out later that “Wild Eyes” had grabbed the winnings and bolted from the bar. As his brother lay dying, he had asked someone there to make sure his family received his body.

That was the last night Billy had gotten a full night’s sleep. He’d been tracking “Wild Eyes” for three decades now and was ready to bring his revenge and River’s soul to rest.

Tomorrow, at the St. James Hotel, another poker tournament was being held, and he knew that “Wild Eyes” would not be able to resist. And Billy would have the upper hand, so to speak. He had worked hard to become the best card player he could, and also had one of the fastest draws anyone had ever seen. He was tired of being a hired gun and knew that “Wild Eyes” would have no idea that he was River’s brother. He probably didn’t even remember the young kid he shot so long ago. And that is why, Billy thought to himself, this will be so sweet.

Billy stirred the pot of rice and beans, dished out a couple of bowls and downed four cups of steaming coffee. He poked his head out of the kitchen, making sure Trigger was comfortable and said “sweet dreams” to his best friend. He spread his bed roll on top of the table in the kitchen and stretched out glad to be warm and dry. And satisfied in the knowledge that by this time the next day he’d finally be able to get a good night’s sleep. So, with a small smile playing on his lips and a prayer said for his family, the cowboy Billy Anders closed his eyes for the very last time.

The famous quick draw cowboy died that night on the table in the kitchen of Rich Cabins. Some say he froze to death, but that is unlikely. Some say he died of old age, but no one really knows for certain. What we do know is that because he never avenged his brother’s death his spirit haunts the kitchen to this very day. Unsatisfied that his revenge plans were foiled by his own death, he restlessly stalks the kitchen floor late at night. Unable to leave the room and furious that “Wild Eyes” died at the hands of someone else.

If you come to Rich Cabins, you are welcome to spend the night in our kitchen and have a conversation with Billy. But we don’t guarantee your safety or mental stability the morning after.

Mapping Earth and Stars

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer



Scott Allen—PhilNews

PORCH TALK: Program Counselor Peter Keiser gives a porch talk at Zastrow on July 17.

"Zastrow is one of the places that's in the backcountry...but at the same time we have a turnaround and a lot of conveniences," says Program Counselor Peter Keiser. Zastrow backcountry camp provides Scouts with land navigation courses and several evening programs.

The land navigation courses are divided into three sections, according to staff. The newest program for orienteering involves high resolution images of the camp that have been made into high resolution maps for Scouts to orient and follow. The program is a timed event, and crews that beat the record win a prize. Scouts can also participate in a geocaching course, where they learn to use a map and compass or a GPS. The final program teaches advanced orienteering, during which Scouts learn to use Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates to find points on the course. This program is often the most difficult for Scouts but "we've got a pretty high success rate," explains Program Counselor Charlie Wyman.

In the evening, crews can participate in extreme cake baking with the staff. Extreme baking has replaced the Dutch oven cobbler program during the fire ban. Scouts are given an array of cake toppings and frostings to use while they listen to heavy metal music with the staff. "We give them ridiculous sugar highs and then hang out with them for a while," explains Keiser.

Evenings at Zastrow also include astronomy lessons, where Scouts watch stars and learn about the history of the constellations and stars. According to Keiser, the lessons can be "a little awkward because we don't have a real telescope, but we do have out resident astronomer, Charlie." Wyman adds, "I can't do deep space astronomy...but I still do Greek mythology and stories, the Chinese mythology and a little bit of Australian Aborigine stuff."

Typically two to three crews will stay the night at the Zastrow and an additional four or five crews staying at the Rayado River camp will pass through or spend the evenings at Zastrow. Keiser explains

that it is not always the programs that Scouts will get the most out of. The camp is "a really fun time and a fun place to hang out, and it's really a great second day camp...or end of the hike camp," he adds.

"It's a lot of fun working with these [Scouts]. They're always in good spirits. They like to joke around. They're at Philmont and having the time of their life," adds Wyman.

Another highlight of the camp is the six member staff. "The people here are great. They have a really good staff this summer," says Ranger Megan Navia. The staff explains that they love to goof around with one another. "We're six guys in the middle of nowhere," explains Keiser. The staff also loves to entertain guests. "We're known as Hotel Zastrow for a reason," adds Keiser.

The Zastrow staff also invites everyone to attend their Philfiesta on July 30. They promise good food, good times and complementary cans of pineapple for visitors.

Climb in the Park

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer



Matt Prokosch—PhilNews

CLIMBING: Nick Cerveny (left), the Head Rock at Miners Park and Jade Fitzgerald (right), a Program Counselor, check climbing equipment on Wednesday, July 20.

"You all have to meet here on the porch 45 minutes before 1:30 p.m." said Ben Cerveny, Program Counselor and Head Rock, as he gave a porch talk to a Scout crew on July 20.

As part of their program, Miner's Park offers rock climbing at different times throughout the day along with climbing the traverse wall from seven until it gets too dark to see. Crews arrive on the porch with Nalgene's and their boots 45 minutes before their scheduled rock climb because the hike up to the rocks is about 30 to 45 minutes.

According to Cerveny it's a hard climb because it gains 400 feet in elevation from the camp which is at 8,000 feet. The path leading to the rocks is off to the north side of the porch, traveling past a meadow, two signs and up one switch back where it finally ends at the rock face.

Once the Scouts have reached the rocks, the staff explain procedures and safety rules of rock climbing to them. They show how to put on a harness, explain basic climbing techniques and then assist the Scouts with advice or help them relax with jokes and casual conversation.

Scouts are excited to climb the rocks, but they are more excited to try climbing the traverse wall. If the Scouts climb completely around the wall, without falling off or

touching the top, they receive a bag of donuts.

John Smith, Program Counselor, explained to a crew of eight Scouts, "If each of you can climb all the way around the wall...a horseshoe shape...you could get up to eight bags of donuts."

Miner's Park was named after the workers from Cyphers Mine who would take a break from their labors and go to the park (meadow) where Miner's is located now. "They would bring their families and play...it was literally like a park," said Garrick Lancaster, Cook, as he explained the origin of the camp's name.

The staff of Miner's not only worked with the Scouts on rock climbing but also spent time with the Advisers. Smith explained various confusing mind games that he would teach the advisers during Advisers' coffee. These advisers are then able to take them back to their crews and, as Smith said, "torture their kids with [them]" during the rest of their trek or on their way back home.

All the staff looked like they enjoyed working together and Lancaster was excited to work at Miner's park because he got both his first and second option on his application. "Backcountry cook and rock climbing...Thank you," said Lancaster.

Scouts Climb to New Potential at Cito

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer

"Climbing!"

"Climb on!"

Calls like these are commonplace at Cimarroncito, Philmont's central country climbing camp. Cimarroncito offers the "opportunity for kids to reach a new potential that they never knew they had by having them engage in an activity that is extremely terrifying but extremely safe," says Program Counselor Matt Eccleston.

Led by the camp's 22 staff members, participants scale rock faces located a short distance from the main cabins and then rappel 40 feet back down to the ground. Before Scouts take hold on either of the two most commonly-used rock formations, named "Turtlehead" and "Don't Touch The Tree," the staff gives a crash course in climbing rules and safety.

Because of the extensive requirements for staffers, Meyer says that "our staff is all specifically

trained and hand-picked..." "...by God," quips Eccleston. "By Barbara [Garcia]," Meyer clarifies.

Every Program Counselor at Cimarroncito is a certified Boy Scouts of America climbing instructor. Some have additional certification from the Professional Climbing Instructors Association. During training, "we did all types of anchor setups and rescues. It was pretty intense," Meyer says.

Four climbing sessions are offered daily throughout the morning and afternoon. Climbing "Turtlehead" and "Don't Touch The Tree" are not the only aspects of Cimarroncito's program, however.

As crews arrive for their porch talks, Head Rock Stephen Aulbach entertains participants and adult advisers alike with an almost never-ending array of jokes. The camp also includes a traverse wall and a fully-furnished bouldering gym.

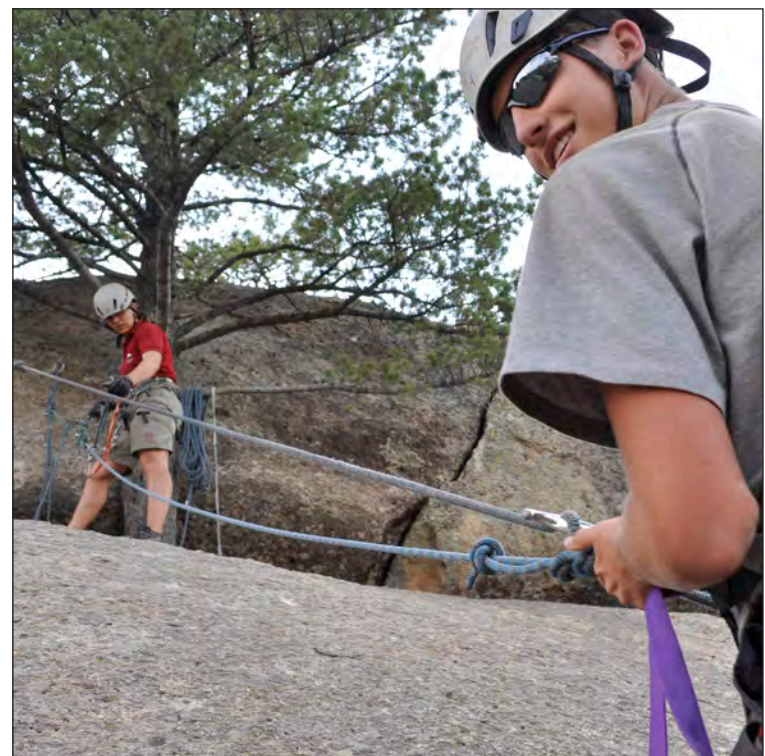
"If you do the whole traverse

wall, you get to write your name on the inside of the wall and it's there forever," says Meyer. In the gym, which is located in the camp's old cabin, he adds that "we like to bump some music and hang out with the climbers and have fun."

Every night, Eccleston says that staff members "offer [participants] the opportunity to lose" in a volleyball match on the camp's sand court. "It's a service we provide here, and we're very proud of it," he adds. So far this season the staff is undefeated.

In addition to all of this, the staff offers a letter-writing service for Scouts wishing to express their love for ladies (or gents) back home.

Facilitating climbing sessions, the traverse wall, bouldering gym and volleyball matches all adds up to a 13-and-a-half hour work day. "We give 110 percent every time," says Eccleston.



Taylor Thorne—PhilNews

CLIMB ON: Kate Beiswanger helps a Scout rappel himself down the rocks at Cimarroncito on July 6.

Unexpected Fun, Laughs at Phillips Junction

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer



Kyle Soyer—PhilNews

FLYING FOOD: Inspired by the training video "Fish," staff tosses food to a crew at Phillips Junction on July 5.

As Phillips Junction staff members prepare for another day in the backcountry commissary, the day's first light illuminates a sea of brown inside their wooden warehouse: brown walls, brown floor, brown boxes stacked four high, arranged in rows from Breakfast 1 through Dinner 10. Save the sometimes eccentric relics of staffs past inked onto virtually every interior vertical surface, nothing appears to be out of order here.

Au contraire.

"What we specialize in is organized chaos!" shouts Chris Trepky, commissary manager at Phillips Junction, PJ for short. "That's right, we're going to see if we can pick up your morning a little bit." Trepky gives quite an energetic welcome to one of the backcountry commissary's first crews of the day.

"We're kind of like a glorified grocery store out here, except going to the grocery store isn't very exciting, so we try to, I don't know, spruce it up a bit." Trepky and the rest of the Phillips Junction staff

have taken the philosophy of the customer service-themed film FISH!, a well-known staple in Philmont staff training, to heart.

Camp Director Brian Payne explains that instead of simply handing bags of food to Scouts, the staff has developed a system that incorporates fun into their method of food distribution.

It goes a bit like this: the Crew Leader and one other helper go inside the commissary building. Several other crew members stand just outside the commissary's wide front door and assume a yoga-esque pose called the "All Compassionate Trail Food Catcher."

After identifying which meals the crew is scheduled to pick up at Phillips Junction, the "organized chaos" begins. A staff member shouts as he counts the number of bags of each meal that he tosses to the crew leader (anticipating, just like in FISH! an echo of whatever number he shouts), who passes the bags one by one to his assistant, who in turn piles them into the awaiting

arms of the All Compassionate Trail Food Catchers. Throughout the day, the commissary is periodically filled with the sounds of "One! One! Two! Two! Three! Three! Four! Four!"

Before the fun begins, crew members don safety goggles because, as Trepky warns, "Phillips Junction-ing is an extreme sport!"

The method took a while to perfect, but Payne says that the staff has found a system that minimizes food damage and maximizes smiles.

In addition to the hype of the commissary, Phillips Junction also has a trading post that sells both treats, like Toblerone chocolate and meat sticks, and trail necessities, such as Nalgene bottles, batteries and can openers.

Having fun at PJ is "pretty easy to do," Payne says. Their system "seems to make [crews] happy, and the staff is happy." Commissary Clerk Bryce Rees agrees. One crew, he remembers, was "dog tired and looked awful" when they arrived at PJ, but as they left "they were smiling and laughing."

Restoration Preserves Rich History

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer



Haylee Train—PhilNews

RESTORE: Wesley Wortham and Tyler Hall of Cabin Restoration work hard at Rich Cabins on July 19.

A two man team, living and working interpretively at Rich Cabins for the summer, is restoring the 130-year-old cabin of the Rich family.

Tyler Hall and Wesley Wortham have been working in the Cabin Restoration Department for about the past two years and have been working on Rich's cabin since last year.

"We probably are the second hardest working department after Cons," said Hall, Cabin Restoration Foreman.

What they do is restore various cabins to look like their original state, using tools and supplies as if they were back in the time period the cabin was built in. "Historical buildings are a very scarce resource, we only have so many to learn from," said Hall.

The Cabin Restoration Department has been around since 1995 according to the most recent documentation but it has probably been around longer according to Hall. The last year Cabin Restoration had been at

the Ranch was in 2007. In 2009, Hall talked to Mark Anderson, Director of Program, about getting a crew together to restore the cabin at Rich.

There is some confusion on the Ranch about which department they work out of, but Hall cleared it up saying that they work out of the Backcountry Department and report straight to Anderson. According to Hall, the reason they work out of the Backcountry Department is so then they can blend more with the staff and also have Scouts help them as part of the program at the camp.

Scouts helped with various projects around the cabin such as, "strip logs, move logs, move rocks and do a lot of that kind of stuff," said Hall. The Scouts are not able to count this service as their conservation project on their trek but they are able to count it for the service requirement for the 50 Miler award. A lot of the Scouts also enjoy helping out according to Hall and Wortham.

"They try to find the biggest,

baddest rocks," said Wesley Wortham, Cabin Restoration Staff. One of the biggest rocks that Scouts had brought back was about "two feet and 20 inches," according to Wortham and was placed into one of the holes in the corner for foundational support.

This year they started the big repairs on the cabin itself. They have lifted the cabin up about two inches in order to pull out rotted logs and replace them with new, 24 foot long logs cut directly from the property up at Rich Cabins.

Wortham explained how restoring the Rich cabin is satisfying to him, "I think one of the more satisfying things about it is you can kind of leave...a legacy...because this is going to be here a long time."

Hall added to Wortham's comment and shared his passion for restoring historical buildings as he said, "Why would you want to restore this cabin? It's a good question...it's because it's historic...take care of the buildings."

Commissary Compiles Meals, Memories

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer

400,000 trail meals are packed from January to April, before seasonal staff and Scout crews start arriving in May and June, by a 12-person team at the Commissary building.

Commissary, located down by Administration and Merchandise Warehouse, buys and supplies the food for Philmont. "We pull all the food, unload the trucks as they come in, put food away... and deliver to 34 camps," said Al Johnson, Commissary Driver. Commissary mainly fills out orders for the backcountry camps, the commissary camps like Phillips Junction and Baldy Town and the dining halls at PTC and Camp Headquarters.

There is roughly around \$3 million spent on food at the Ranch and about \$2 million of that is spent on trail meals

according to Derek Shiney, Head of Commissary. The other \$1 million is spent on summer foods like fruits, vegetables and canned items. This year the commissary slices all of Philmont's deli meat instead of buying it. By the end of the summer they will have sliced 19,000 pounds and saved \$19,000.

Brody Garcia, Commissary Clerk, was one of the 12-person team putting the trail meals together for this season. He said it was pretty intense, and they packed about 8,000 meals on average every day. According to Garcia, they "set the record for [packing] the most in a day. It was like 8,900 and something." Packing the trail meals is like a conveyor belt line in a factory. It is setup in the Commissary warehouse and each person puts in an item, seals the bag or packs the box and fills up

the warehouse to where there is no more space.

"One of our biggest challenges is space," said Shiney motioning to the Commissary building behind him. At the beginning of the summer, the warehouse is very full, but the boxes disappear by the end of the summer. The staff don't know exactly how many people will be coming each year and have to make an educated guess on how many trail meals to pack for the summer. Shiney said, "a group may have signed up for 11 people to come but end up bringing 12 people. That's an extra 15 meals."

Most of the clerks said that they like working in the Commissary because they get a work out while working. Garcia said, "It's a good workout...once you start, you won't stop sweating."



Ephraim Moore—PhilNews

COMMISSARY: T. Brody Garcia, from Raton, N.M., and Robert "Boby" Longoria, from Albuquerque, NM., load a truck with food for backcountry camps.

Food “Made with Love”

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer



Ephraim Moore—PhilNews

PTC DINING: A PTC participant waits as Alexander “Alex” Detmering, from St. Charles, Mo., refills the eggs for breakfast, Friday, July 23.

Each week, as a new group of Scouters and their families arrives at the Philmont Training Center for leadership training and other activities, seasonal staffers do their part to provide them with enjoyable experiences, and every week, the PTC Dining Hall staff is integral to that effort.

The 32 PTC Dining Hall staff members are responsible for feeding about 300 people, including the Training Center’s approximately 70 staffers, breakfast, lunch and dinner every day. During certain weeks, like LDS weeks, that number more than doubles.

“[PTC participants] are very happy with our food,” says Lead Cook Georgina Maestes. “A lot of people come back for seconds.”

Although every day’s menu is exactly the same in both PTC and Camping Headquarters dining halls, “they feed a lot more” in Basecamp, according to Maestes.

The staff is divided equally between those who work in the kitchen and those who work in the front of the house. While front of the house staff regularly interact with participants, “they kind of leave us [kitchen staff] back there by ourselves,” Maestes says.

Working in the Dining Hall comes with its own set

of challenges, among the most common are dietary restrictions, say Maestes and Prep Cook Ryan Gonzales. The kitchen staff regularly prepares for participants who are vegetarians, need a gluten-free diet and have food allergies.

The PTC Dining Hall has changed over the years; it has been around long enough that Prep Cook Ryan Gonzales’ grandparents retired from working there.

The food at PTC is “made with love,” says Swing Cook Caitlin Zerr. Salad Bar Prep Michael Howes points out that the chairs in the Dining Hall have cushions, and Gonzales draws attention to the large picture window that offers both an abundance of natural light and an appealing view.

The staff works well together, they say, and Maestes says that they “work very hard..., always.” She adds that after the most recent health inspector’s visit, PTC Dining Hall “passed with flying colors.”

Although the Dining Hall comes with challenges and requires hard work, Maestes takes heart in “seeing everybody happy with the food” and “hearing them tell us how good everything is.”

Learning to C.O.P.E.

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer



Taylor Thorne—PhilNews

TEAM-BUILDING: Participants help each other cross an improvised bridge during an activity called “Islands,” July 19. This activity involves the group crossing between platforms without touching the ground.

Groups going through the Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience (C.O.P.E.) course usually start out quiet, but by the end of the week, they are a solid group according to Training Center C.O.P.E. Director Catherine Pederson.

During the course, participants from the Training Center’s Bronco and Silverado groups along with outside groups such as National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) learn the eight basic principles of C.O.P.E.: leadership, trust, decision making, problem solving, communication, goal-setting, self-esteem and team-building. The principles are taught through the five main components of the course, which include warm-up, initiative, low ropes, high ropes and trust activities.

Before receiving participants, the staff undergoes training with Pederson, where they learn what C.O.P.E. is, its different components and basic safety training. The staff also participates in training throughout the year. “Every day or every other day we all bring a new game or something that we can do with the participants that come through, so we’re always learning new activities,” explains Pederson. C.O.P.E. instructors start the

course with warm up and initiative activities to assess the group’s strengths and weaknesses. The groups, will then move on to low ropes course elements, which focus on team work and problem solving. Once a group has completed a low-ropes course, they can move to a high ropes course. High-ropes are typically a personal experience, explains Pederson, but still involve a lot of trust. “You have to trust in the staff and in the rest of the group.”

At the end of each event, the group goes through a debrief, during which they discuss what they did and how they solved problems. According to Pederson, the staff tries to let participants lead the discussions. “It’s about what they experienced from it and not what we experienced.”

The staff emphasizes that the group’s self-development. “You’re not telling them how to do it; you’re helping them figure it out on their own... They have to do the work, but you help them get to that point,” explains Pederson.

After completing the course, participants typically work better as a group. PTC Group Leader Chun-Man Chiu explains that after completing the spider web element, his group became a lot closer and grew to trust one another.

The staff “may have a specific goal in mind as to what we want to teach, but that isn’t necessarily what the participants are going to get out of it,” says Pederson. “What they learn and what they take away is dependent on them because we all have different life experiences and we all come to the course thinking different ways,” she adds.

According to the staff, watching the participants develop during the course is one of the best parts of working at C.O.P.E.

“We present them with a challenge and then you can see them go through that process of processing what it is and maybe getting frustrated with it, but when they finally succeed at it, just seeing that expression of success that they feel and being a part of that is just so cool,” says Pederson.

Anyone interested in participating in the C.O.P.E. course can sign up for an all staff C.O.P.E. day on August 4. Sign-ups will be available in the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center and at PTC. Staff members can sign up to participate in the morning low ropes course or in the morning course along with the afternoon high ropes course. Space will be limited to 50 people in the morning and 30 people in the afternoon.

Norway Bombing and Gunman

Norway's capital, Oslo was struck by twin attacks on July 22—a large bomb blast that destroyed many of the city's buildings and a shooting attack on youth at a Labour Party youth camp on an island just outside Oslo. The bombing is believed to have killed seven people and the shooting killed at least 68. A Norway extremist, Anders Behring Breivik, admitted to the attacks, claiming his actions were necessary to change society. His first court appearance was Monday July 25.

Veil Ban Enforced in Belgium

Women in Belgium may no longer wear full Islamic veils in public by enforcement of a new law. Belgium is the second European Union nation to pass such a law, which bans any clothing that obscures the identity of the wearer. The law was passed on the grounds of security, in order to allow police to identify people, and violators will face a fine of \$197 and up to seven days in jail. The law is already being challenged by two women who wore full veils in Belgium's constitutional court on the basis that the law is "a disproportionate intrusion into fundamental rights."

Kenyans Hold Ivory Burnings

Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki set \$16 million worth of ivory ablaze in efforts to curb poaching in the nation. The burnt ivory was confiscated in Singapore, and testing revealed that it derived from Malawi and Tanzania. The two nations, along with Kenya, signed an agreement earlier this year to collectively take a stance against the growing illegal poaching, and the event was intended to send a clear message to poachers in the area.

Somalia Drought and Famine

The United Nations World Food Program announced it will be airlifting food to Somalia's capitol, Mogadishu, in order to combat the severe drought and famine affecting the nation. U.N. estimates report that if aid is not given to the nation, more than 3.5 million people will starve to death. While the WFP along with the World Bank and the U.N. Security Council have all committed to help, the majority of the nation is still in dire need, as the Islamists that control most of Somalia are denying that the famine is occurring and have placed a ban on U.N. aid in the areas they control.

Ghana Promoting Gay Genocide

Ghanain Minister, Paul Evans Aidoo has released statements calling for citizens of Ghana to report neighbors and friends they suspect of being homosexual, which is illegal in the nation. Aidoo announced he wanted to rid society of gay people and take them all to court. Multiple human rights groups have raised alarm over the nation's laws and the minister's urges, claiming the nation is promoting hatred and quickly approaching a genocide.

China Bullet Train Collision

Two high-speed trains collided in eastern China, killing 39 people and injuring over 200. The two bullet trains collided after one stopped, having been struck by lightning. Two train coaches fell off a bridge after being derailed by the collision. The Chinese government has begun to compensate the victims and their families for the event and has ordered a two month nationwide safety review of the railways and train system.

Australia and Malaysia Sign Asylum Deal

Australian and Malaysian officials signed a deal that would allow Australia to send 800 asylum seekers to Malaysia, and in return Australia will take in 4,000 refugees from Malaysia over the next four years. The deal is intended to stem the flow of refugees traveling by boat to Australia, but several rights groups, including Amnesty International have opposed the agreement over concerns regarding Malaysia's treatment of refugees and asylum seekers.

Chile President Changes Cabinet

Chilean President Sebastian Pinera made eight changes to his cabinet in his second government reshuffling in recent months. The changes come in response to both student and copper miner protests. Most notably, Laurence Golborne, who played a key role in the miners' rescue last year, was appointed to the Public Works Ministry and Felipe Bulnes, the former Justice Minister, was moved to the Education Ministry.

Korea Nuclear Talks

North and South Korea began nuclear talks this week. While neither country has committed to an agreement, both nation's nuclear ambassadors met with one another at a regional conference. The thaw in the nations' relations has led to the allowance of the first humanitarian aid into North Korea since 2008. South Korea permitted 12 trucks to deliver a 300 ton shipment of flour to battle food shortages in North Korea.

North Korean nuclear officials have also been invited to the United States to discuss nuclear policy this week. An invitation was extended to Deputy Foreign Minister Kim Kye Gwan, but Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stressed that the negotiation talks must be meaningful.

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Anthony Sowell Found Guilty

Anthony Sowell, the Cleveland man accused of raping and murdering 11 women, was found guilty of aggravated murder, kidnapping, tampering with evidence and abuse of a human corpse in all 11 cases. He was also found guilty of attempted murder of three additional women. The victims' bodies were discovered in October 2009 after police investigated reports of odors from Sowell's house. The case drew heavy criticism toward the police department, who were accused of not properly investigating reports when the women began disappearing in 2007. Sowell's sentencing will begin on August 1.

Man Kills 5, Self at Texas Roller Rink

A Texas man opened fire at a Texas roller rink Saturday, killing five roller skaters before killing himself. Four others were injured. The victims were family members of the man's estranged wife, all of whom were attending a birthday party for his son. Neither the son nor the couple's second child were injured and are currently in the care of other family members.

GOP Candidate Update

Nine GOP candidates will appear on the ballot in the Aug. 13 Iowa Straw Poll. Candidates include Michele Bachmann, Herman Cain, Thaddeus McCotter, Tim Pawlenty, Ron Paul and Rick Santorum, who reserved space on the ballot, along with Mitt Romney, Jon Huntsman and Newt Gingrich, who were included on the ballot without having decided to compete. The Iowa Straw Poll is an important indicator of where candidates stand among their competitors. Bachmann and Romney currently lead the field.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Repeal Certified

President Barack Obama, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Michael Mullen issued their certification of the repeal of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy concerning lesbian, gay and bisexual members of the armed services on July 22. The policy, which has formally been in place since 1993, legalized discrimination against lesbian, gay and bisexual members of the armed services by allowing and encouraging their superiors to discharge them if their sexualities became known. Once DADT is repealed, lesbian, gay and bisexual identifying people will be able to serve in any branch of the U.S. armed forces without facing legalized discrimination. The ban on DADT will come into full effect on Sept. 20 after the full 60-day review period is up.

Grizzly Bears Attack Students in Alaska

A Grizzly bear and her cub attacked a group of seven students learning wilderness survival skills in the Alaskan wilderness near Anchorage on Saturday. Four of the students were injured during the attack, and two of the four were left in serious condition. The group was found Sunday by emergency responders using a locating beacon and was transported using a helicopter.

Three Yosemite Hikers Go Over Waterfall

Three California hikers are presumed dead after climbing over a guard rail in Yosemite National Park and falling into the Merced River on July 19. All three were swept over the 317-foot Vernal Fall after failing to escape from the river's swift current. Their deaths bring the total water-related deaths in Yosemite National Park this season to six.

Debt Talks Continue

The United States government has yet to strike a deal over the looming debt crisis. If the debt ceiling is not raised by the August 2 deadline, the nation will either have to pay off creditors by drastically cutting spending or manage the consequences of default. These consequences would include the government not being able to pay wages to its staff, higher interest rates, a halt to social security payments and severe damage to the global market. Currently President Obama has three options for response to the debt situation: make concessions and agree on a deal with Congressional Republicans, take the Republicans' proposed six to eight month deadline extension, or brinkmanship, which could include ignoring the ceiling and risking impeachment.

Former Chairman of Joint Chiefs Dead

John Shalikashvili, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, died Saturday of complications following a stroke. He was 75. Shalikashvili entered the army as a draftsman and rose through the ranks to become Joint Chiefs chairman in 1993. He retired from the position in 1997. Shalikashvili served in Vietnam, was a leader in NATO and supported international relief efforts. Shortly before his death, he announced his support for the repeal of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

Gates Foundation Reinvents the Toilet

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has pledged \$41.5 million to reinvent the toilet to improve sanitation for the world's poorest nations. Proposed ideas include waterless toilets and hygienic waste processing. It is hoped that the project will help to improve school attendance, reduce child illness and help the 1.5 million children killed each year by diarrheal disease.

MLB Scores as of July 26, 2011

American League						
East	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Boston Red Sox	62	38	.620	--	--	Lost 1
NY Yankees	60	40	.600	2.0	--	Won 2
Tampa Bay Rays	53	48	.525	9.5	7.5	Lost 1
Toronto Blue Jays	51	51	.500	12.0	10.0	Won 1
Baltimore Orioles	40	58	.408	21.0	19.0	Lost 1
Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Detroit Tigers	54	48	.529	--	--	Lost 1
Cleveland Indians	52	48	.520	1.0	8.0	Won 1
Chicago White Sox	50	51	.495	3.5	10.5	Won 3
Minnesota Twins	47	55	.461	7.0	14.0	Lost 2
Kansas City Royals	43	59	.422	11.0	18.0	Won 1
West	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Texas Rangers	59	44	.573	--	--	Won 1
LA Angels	55	48	.534	4.0	6.5	Lost 1
Oakland Athletics	45	57	.441	13.5	16.0	Won 1
Seattle Mariners	43	59	.422	15.5	18.0	Lost 16

National League						
East	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Philadelphia Phillies	64	37	.634	--	--	Lost 1
Atlanta Braves	59	44	.573	6.0	--	Lost 3
New York Mets	51	51	.500	13.5	7.5	Won 1
Washington Nationals	49	52	.485	15.0	9.0	Lost 2
Florida Marlins	49	53	.480	15.5	9.5	Won 2
Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Pittsburgh Pirates	53	47	.530	--	4.5	Won 2
St. Louis Cardinals	54	48	.529	--	4.5	Won 1
Milwaukee Brewers	54	49	.524	0.5	5.0	Lost 2
Cincinnati Reds	50	52	.490	4.0	8.5	Lost 1
Chicago Cubs	42	60	.412	12.0	16.5	Won 3
Houston Astros	33	69	.324	21.0	25.5	Lost 4
West	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
San Francisco Giants	59	43	.578	--	--	Won 2
Arizona Diamondbacks	55	47	.539	4.0	3.5	Won 2
Colorado Rockies	48	55	.466	11.5	11.0	Lost 3
LA Dodgers	46	56	.451	13.0	12.5	Won 3
San Diego Padres	45	58	.437	14.5	14.0	Won 1

NFL Lockout Ends

The executive board of the NFL Players Association (NFLPA) and 32 team representatives voted Monday to end the now four-month NFL lockout. The new deal lacks an opt-out clause and is good for 10 years. The end of the lockout means the end of the only NFL work stoppage since 1987. Ten training camps opened on Wednesday, with 10 more scheduled to open on both Thursday and Friday. The final two training camps are set to open on Saturday. 2011 draft picks and rookie free agents were allowed to begin signing with teams on Tuesday. Some players insist that there are still details that need to be worked out in order for them to be entirely satisfied, but board members and owners do not need to vote on the policy again.

Woods' Ranking Falls

Golf legend Tiger Woods fell out of the top 20 ranked golfers for the first time since 1997. He cites consistent knee and Achilles tendon injuries as reasons contributing to his poor performances.

Aussie Wins Tour de France World Cup

Cadel Evans of team BMC won the Tour de France and was the first Australian to do so. At age 34, he is also the Tour's oldest winner since before the second World War. The race's second- and third-place winners were brothers Andy and Frank Schleck of Luxembourg.

Yao Officially Announces Retirement

Yao Ming, the 7-foot-6 Chinese NBA player, is now retired, he announced during a press conference Wednesday. Yao, the 2002 No. 1 draft pick, played center for the Houston Rockets. His retirement, though already in the works, was expedited by injuries. Last year he suffered a third stress fracture in his left foot. Now that he is no longer a player, he will return to work for the Shanghai Sharks, his hometown team, which he currently owns. Yao will also continue to work with his philanthropy, the Yao Foundation, which supports educational opportunities for children in the United States and China.

Uruguay Takes Copa America Title

Uruguay defeated Paraguay in the final game of the Copa America tournament in Buenos Aires, Argentina's Monumental Stadium on Sunday. The Uruguayan squad shut out their South American neighbors 3-0, with two goals from Diego Forlan and one from Luis Suarez. The win is Uruguay's 15th Copa title, one more than international football force Argentina and twice as many as Brazil. Both Argentina and Brazil were upset in the quarterfinals of the tournament. Uruguay has not been crowned champion in the tournament since 1995.

Boxer Amir Khan Dominates Zab Judah

British boxer Amir Khan defeated Zab Judah of the U.S. in a fifth round knock out last Saturday at the Mandalay Bay Events Center. Khan walked away with a junior welterweight title. The 24-year-old boxer has been facing opponents in the U.S. since May 2010 and shows an uncanny willingness to fight anyone in his weight class.



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12:30—4:30 pm

The 7:45 am, 11:00 am, and 4:30 pm are abbreviated to accommodate meal times.

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8/12 Captain America: The
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Show times generally start
around 12:00 p.m. The last
showing starts at 9:45 p.m.

Captain America: The
First Avenger (PG-13)
Friends With Benefits (R)
Harry Potter and the
Deathly Hollows Part 2 - 3D
(PG-13)

Harry Potter and the
Deathly Hollows Part 2 (PG-
13)

Winnie the Pooh (G)
Horrible Bosses (R)
Zookeeper (PG)
Transformers: Dark of the
Moon in 3D (PG-13)

**Anthony Leon &
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Venue: St. James Hotel
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band to preform live in
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Rodeo**

When: August 6th at 10 a.m.
Where: Cimarron Maverick
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Rodeo Dance 7p.m. August
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Time: 6:00 p.m.

Venue: Angel Fire
Community Center, Angel
Fire, N.M. 15 CS Ranch Rd.,
Angel Fire, N.M.

Tickets: \$10.00

**Amy Winehouse
Dead at 27**

Brit and Grammy award-
winning singer, Amy Winehouse,
was found dead at the age of 27 in
her Camden, north London home
on July 23, by one of the members
in her security team. Winehouse
had struggled with drink and
drug addiction for many years
and recently spent time in rehab.
Police are not saying if her death
was drug related or not at this
time. Winehouse made her last
appearance on July 20 when she
joined her goddaughter, Dionne
Bromfield, on the Roundhouse
stage in Camden, England.

**Aborigine Actor
Dead at 44**

44-year-old *Crocodile*
Dundee Aborigine Actor, David
Ngoombujarra, was found dead in
a park on July 17 Fremantle, near
Perth, Australia. According to
police, there is nothing suspicious
about his death. Ngoombujarra
was one of Australia's best-known
actors and played in films such
as *Blackfellas* and *Ned Kelly* and
won the Australian Film Institute
(AFI) award three times. He
was born in Meekatharra, West
Australia and adopted by a white
family in Perth, as David Bernard
Starr, under an Australian
government assimilation policy
for Aboriginal children.

**Former Rehab Worker
Sues Lindsay Lohan for
Assault**

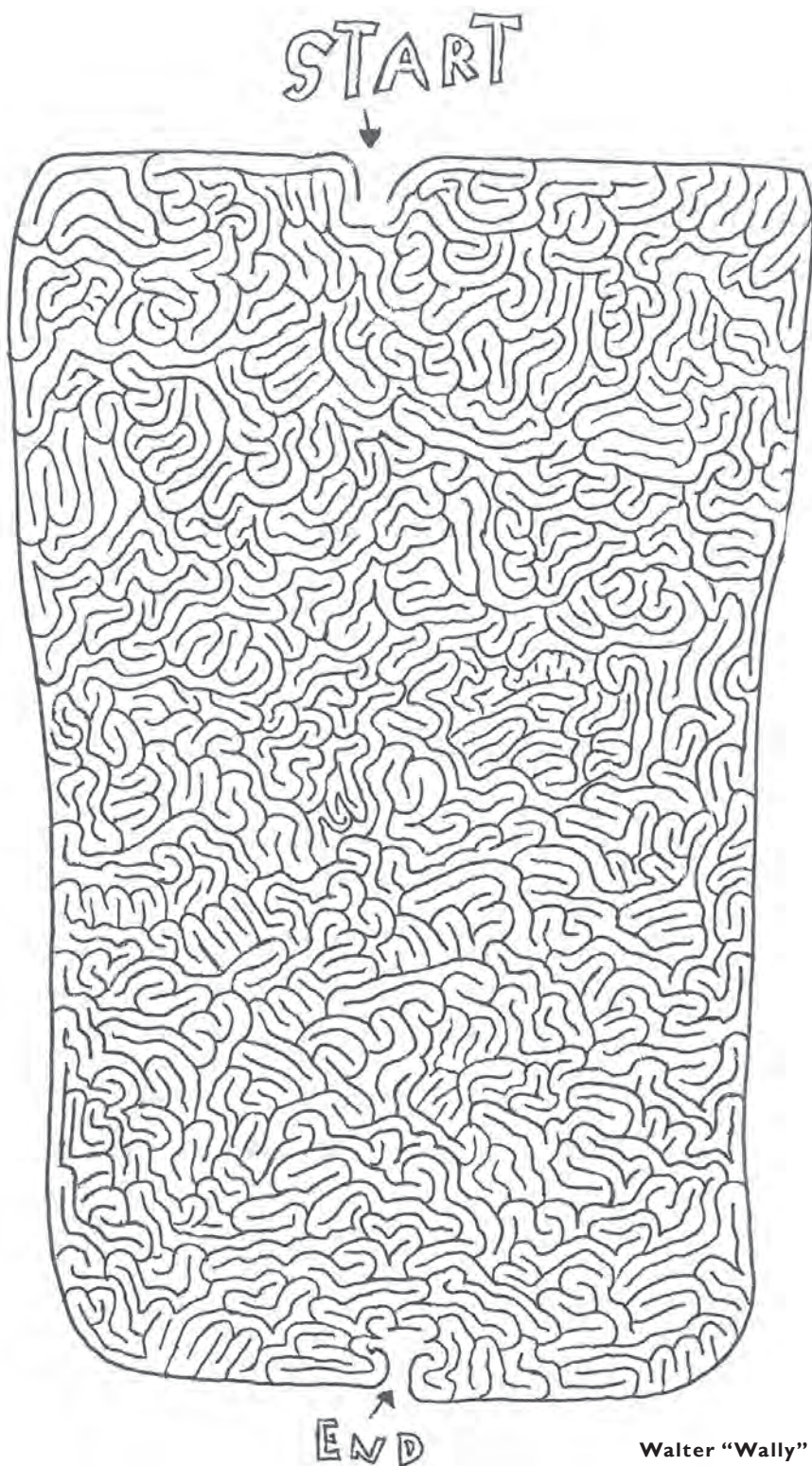
Rehab worker, Dawn Bradley,
is suing actress Lindsay Lohan
for assault and battery after an
argument with Lohan and then
being fired from the Betty Ford
Center in Los Angeles, California.
Bradley says that she was seriously
injured during an argument with
Lohan last December and will need
surgery on her wrist. According to a
probation report, Bradley had tried
to give Lohan a breathalyzer test
after she missed curfew and was
with two other girls who admitted
to drinking that night.

**Israeli Chamber
Orchestra Plays
Wagner in Bayreuth**

After an unofficial ban on
Richard Wagner's music back in
1938 by the Palestine Orchestra,
now the Israel Philharmonic, the
Israeli Chamber Orchestra broke
tradition by playing Siegfried
Idyll at the Bayreuth's Wagner
festival on July 26, conducted
by Roberto Paternostro. Hitler
admired Wagner's work along
with his theories on Germanic
racial purity. Therefore, not many
Israeli musicians play the work of
Wagner which was admired by
the Nazis.

**Angry Bird App
Maker Being Sued**

Lodsys LLC is suing Rovio
Mobile Ltd., makers of the Angry
Birds app, for violating patents
with games on Apple's iOS
platform and Google's Android
as of July 21. Lodsys is a company
that licenses patents and added
five new defendants to a suit filed
in May with the United States
Federal District Court for the
Eastern District of Texas. Some
of the other companies that are
on a list of companies to be sued
are Electronic Arts and Take-
Two Interactive which makes the
Grand Theft Auto game.



Walter "Wally" Wolanin,
Training Center Group Leader

Last Week's Answers

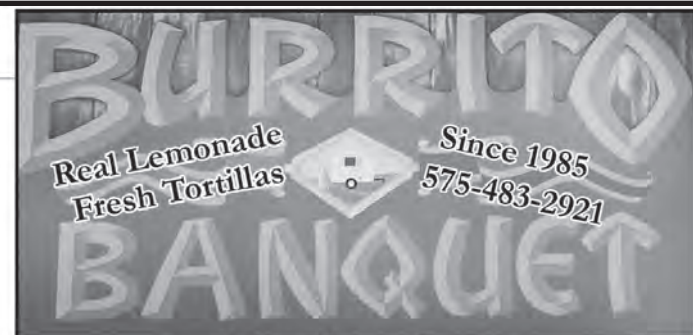
Across

1. Crater Lake
2. Sustainability
3. Billy
4. Ventriloquist
5. Kwahadi
6. Koshare
8. Head of Dean
11. Bear Researchers
15. Merchandise Warehouse

Down

1. Continental Tie and Lumber
7. Conservationists
9. Pueblano
10. OATC
12. Chuck
13. ROCS

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