



Former Staff Trek Philmont

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer

The Philmont Staff Association (PSA) held its annual PSA Reunion August 5 through 7 at Rocky Mountain Scout Camp, followed by the annual PSA Trek. The event brings together former and current staff members from all over the nation. "It's a chance to come back out with old friends, to make a lot of new friends and to just to relive memories," says Lee Huckstep, one of the coordinators and founders of the PSA Trek.

Events included a campfire at Rocky Mountain, featuring the Wanna-Be Band, an ice cream social, a Rabbi Zeke Palnick Porch Talk and a silent auction. Proceeds from the silent auction were given to the PSA Scholarship Fund, which awards \$25,000 each year to staff members.

"I liked seeing people I hadn't seen for a while [at the Reunion]," says Rick Touchette, who worked at Philmont throughout the 1970s.

The Reunion also celebrated the Philmont Conservation Department's 40th Anniversary with a Trail and Tool Fair hosted by the Conservation staff. The fair provided demonstrations and explanations of tools and techniques the department has implemented across the Ranch. Bob Birkby, the first Director of the Conservation Department, also spoke to attendees about the Conservation Department's role at Philmont.

Celebrations and honors continued with a ceremony for the 2011 Silver Sage Award recipients. The Silver Sage Award

is the highest honor bestowed by the PSA, and, according to PSA guidelines, is awarded "in recognition of distinguished and exceptional personal service or contributions of an important and lasting nature... for the benefit of Philmont Scout Ranch...and/or...personal service or achievement by a current or former Philmont staff member in any field of human endeavor that brings honor and credit to the legacy of the Philmont staff." This year, Silver Sage Awards were presented to David Caffey, Edward Pease and Mark Stinnett.

David Caffey began his Philmont career in 1965 and has served as a Ranger and as the Chief Ranger. He has also served on the Philmont Ranch Committee, the Museum Task Force and contributed to the second and third editions of the *BSA Fieldbook*.

Edward Pease began at Philmont in 1985 as PTC faculty. He has since served on the Philmont Ranch Committee, chairing the PTC and Rayado Task Forces, Order of the Arrow, the BSA Fieldbook Task Force and the National Advisory Board. He is a past PSA President and the current editor of the PSA bimonthly magazine, *High Country*.

Mark Stinnett worked at Philmont four years in the 1970s and has served as a former PSA President and the longest-tenured editor of *High Country*. He has also served on the Philmont Ranch Committee, the Program



Matt Prokosch—PhilNews

TRAIL: Members of the PSA participate in the 25th PSA Trek on Monday, August 8. The PSA Trek lasts five days and the trek pictured will hike Baldy Mountain.

and Risk Management Task Force and the Health Lodge Task Force. Stinnett has also chaired the BSA Outdoor Programs Committee, the Fieldbook Task Force and the Biannual National Outdoor Conference.

Events also included several service projects, one of which focused on the Ponil Creek. PSA members and participants spent an afternoon building trout dams to help reestablish the Cut-Throat Trout in the Ponil Creek (as part of a six-entury initiative). The PSA completes multiple projects throughout the year at Philmont in order to "give back to Philmont and Scouting," explains Ray Batchelor, Philmont staff member from 1961 through 1963.

Following the completion of

the reunion, PSA members had the opportunity to participate in the 25th Annual PSA Silver Trek, a six-day, five-night trek that allows former staff members to revisit and experience the Philmont backcountry once again. This year, 92 PSA members and their families, split among eight crews, participated in the trek, the highest number in the trek's history.

"Everybody wanted to come back. It's that simple," says Huckstep. He explains that the Trek is an "opportunity for each PSA member to share with his or her family members why they love this place, why they keep talking about it 30 years later."

According to Exchange Program Coordinator Alex

Nepple, who is a member of the Charles L. Sommers Alumni Association, "the Trek and Reunion give participants a closer connection to other alumni in the PSA and Philmont. I also think it's pretty important that when you're supporting an organization that you understand how the program operates."

To help the PSA's efforts, all are encouraged to check out the new Philmont Hymn ringtone and six Philmont wallpapers available for cell phones. The ringtone costs only \$2 and the wallpapers \$1. Both are available at www.philstaff.com. All the proceeds go directly to the Philmont Staff Association Scholarship fund.

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Kyle Soyer —PhilNews

IDOL: Activities staff member Jake Schaub sings "The Pokemon Theme Song" during Phil-Idol on August 7.



Brendan Best —PhilNews

NERF: Staffers duel with foam swords during the all-day Nerf battle at the Stockade on August 4.

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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: The PTC events listed from August 14-17 in last week's activity calendar will not occur because PTC program will end on Friday, August 12.










pg. 17: Scouts reload 30-.06 shells.

Activities Calendar Aug. 11 to Aug. 22

Thursday 11	Friday 12	Saturday 13	Sunday 14	Monday 15	Tuesday 16
<p>6 p.m. Ranger CT: Thru-Hiking</p> <p>7-9 p.m. *PTC Handicraft Night</p> <p>8:15 p.m. Rugby and Ultimate Frisbee</p>	<p>6 p.m. Ranger CT: Native History</p> <p>7:15 p.m. *PTC Closing Program</p> <p>7p.m. Meet in the parking lot for <i>Rise of the Planet of the Apes</i></p> <p>8:30 - 9:30 p.m. Yoga w/ Jason</p>	<p>12 - 4 p.m. Pool Party in Raton (free with badge); meet in the parking lot</p> <p>6 p.m. Ranger CT: Thru-Hiking</p> <p>8:15 p.m. Dance @ the S³AC</p>	<p>6 p.m. Ranger CT: Pop Can Stove Clinic</p> <p>8:15 p.m. <i>Willow</i> Movie Night in the S³AC</p>	<p>6 p.m. Ranger CT: Pop Can Stove Clinic</p> <p>8:15 p.m. Field Day in the field by the Health Lodge</p>	<p>8:15 p.m. Ultimate Frisbee in field by Health Lodge</p>
Wednesday 17	Thursday 18	Friday 19	Saturday 20	Sunday 21	Monday 22
<p>7 p.m. Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC</p> <p>8:15 p.m. <i>Iron Man</i> Movie Night in the S³AC</p>	<p>8:15 p.m. Game Night in the S³AC</p>	<p>8:15 p.m. Humans Vs. Zombies in the field behind the S³AC</p>	<p>8:15 p.m. Soccer Night in the fields by the Health Lodge</p>	<p>8:15 p.m. <i>Unbreakable</i> Night in the S³AC</p>	<p>8:15 p.m. <i>The Lion King</i> Movie Night in the S³AC</p> <p>Final Day of Scheduled Staff Activities</p>

* 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 Aug. 11 to Aug. 20

Thursday 11	Friday 12	Saturday 13	Sunday 14	Monday 15
 <p>Partly Cloudy High: 86 Low: 55 Rain: 10%</p>	 <p>Scattered Thunderstorms High: 89 Low: 56 Rain: 40%</p>	 <p>Scattered Thunderstorms High: 82 Low: 55 Rain: 40%</p>	 <p>Scattered Thunderstorms High: 81 Low: 56 Rain: 40%</p>	 <p>Partly Cloudy High: 85 Low: 54 Rain: 10%</p>
Tuesday 16	Wednesday 17	Thursday 18	Friday 19	Saturday 20
 <p>Partly Cloudy High: 86 Low: 54 Rain: 10%</p>	 <p>Partly Cloudy High: 87 Low: 54 Rain: 20%</p>	 <p>Partly Cloudy High: 86 Low: 55 Rain: 20%</p>	 <p>Mostly Cloudy High: 86 Low: 54 Rain: 20%</p>	<p>Historically on This Day:</p> <p>Averages High: 81 Low: 51</p> <p>Records High: 95 Low: 44</p>

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Thank You for Making This Summer A Success

By John Clark, General Manager/Director of High Adventure



Thanks for a great summer! All of you have been awesome as a staff! You have been a part of making history for Philmont.

Each of you should be proud of the role you have played in making the summer of 2011 a huge success.

The numbers are still being tallied, but we know that over 23,100 individuals have participated in backcountry programs this summer and over 3,300 have attended PTC. Each of you should be proud of the role you have played in making the summer of 2011 a huge success. If you haven't visited with Owen about an application for next year, do so before you leave.

Many of you have made new friends, seen unbelievable sunrises and sunsets, experienced the brilliant lightening storms, hiked trails, seen breathtaking vistas, taken pictures and, most of all, created experiences for a lot of Scouts and Scouters.

Thank you again, have a great fall and spring and we hope to see you next summer!

Last(ing) Impressions

By Mark Anderson, Director of Program

Every day of the summer, many last(ing) impressions are made. We greet someone and say good-bye. We help someone at our work site and they leave heading to the next stop along their Philmont Journey to have yet another last(ing) impression. We see something and continue on or someone sees something and continues. Over and over this takes place in lots of different ways to each of us and to each participant and visitor to Philmont.

Behavioral research by Nobel psychologist Daniel Kahneman shows that our memories are very selective. In particular, no matter how extended an event, we form our view and make our evaluation based—with dramatic skew—on the “most intense moments” and the “final moments.”

As I read evaluations, receive

messages and letters and talk with participants, visitors and staff, I know that every one of us has had “most intense moments” during our 2011 Philmont Adventure.

Take a moment and think back over the summer and reflect on your “most intense moments.” I know that some of mine have been in the backcountry, some have been at CHQ and some have been at the Philmont Training Center. Watching the light bulb turn on for a conference participant at PTC is exciting. These special moments will impact others as the person returns home and puts in practice new knowledge that will affect many young people involved in the Boy Scouts of America.

Many of my “most intense moments” have involved you, the 2011 Philmont Staff. Through the emergencies of the summer, the

day-to-day delivery of a world-class program, being in service to your peers and your internal and external customers and enjoying time with new friends, you have demonstrated the concepts that we talked about at the first of the summer as we examined the “brand” of Philmont (the pile of rocks, the unique history of the land, Waite and Genevieve Phillips, the lasting journey of each participant and the passion displayed by each staff member.)

Now we come to the last(ing) impressions. What will they be? We certainly don't want anything to go wrong as everyone experiences the exit door of their 2011 Philmont Adventure or for that fact a normal conclusion of an encounter with us during these final days. Consider those last impressions: tear them apart, tiny step by tiny step by tiny step. They must be memorable,



compelling, emotional, “aggressively right” and, above all, “obsess on the endings!”

I hope you will ensure that your last impressions are “lasting impressions,” and I hope that as you enjoy last encounters with others that you will be part of their “lasting impressions.”

Thank you for a great summer! I am proud of the job each of you has done throughout the summer.

Make and enjoy “lasting impressions” as your 2011 adventure here at Philmont comes to an end. I look forward to 2012!

Challenges Build Us

By Steve Nelson, Comptroller

We have come to the conclusion of another very successful summer season here at Philmont Scout Ranch. This has been a summer of record-breaking attendance, amazing adventures for participants and staff, new friendships, unbelievable views of mountains, wildlife and sunsets and, above all, a staff that has consistently gone above and beyond to provide these fantastic experiences for all who came to Philmont in 2011.

I was reading recently and came across this employment advertisement: “Men wanted: for hazardous journey, small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger, safe return doubtful. Honour and recognition in case of success.” Why would someone respond to such an advertisement? This advertisement was placed by Sir Ernest Shackleton in preparation

for an expedition to the Antarctic. He recruited a crew of 28 from the ad, and they proceeded on the expedition. Their ship got stuck in the ice, they had to abandon the ship and were forced to live on a barren patch of rock in sub-zero temperatures. Their leader, Sir Ernest Shackleton made a historic trip 800 miles in a lifeboat with five crew members across the most treacherous ocean seas to secure a rescue party. The entire crew of 28 were rescued after 22 months and all gave credit to the strong faith and example of their leader.

We have experienced a summer together that has challenged us and tested all of us to provide wilderness adventures to others. Through these challenges, and outstanding customer service, we have been able to improve our own skills and become better leaders. Each of us will have opportunities in the

next few months to continue to serve others, to be the leader in our schools, communities and families. We will have the opportunity to step up and lead, to be an example to others. Use the skills that you have developed over your time here at Philmont to be that leader that inspires others to accomplish great things.

I appreciate all of you and the great things you have done for me personally as well as all of our participants. You inspire me each and every day to try and be a little better. Our determination to be leaders helps us overcome many obstacles. I found this final quote recently, and it helped me understand that it is our determination, our belief that helps us to accomplish amazing things.

“I believed in belief, for its own shining sake. To believe in the face of utter hopelessness, every



article of evidence to the contrary, to ignore apparent catastrophe—what other choice was there? We are so much stronger than we imagine, and belief is one of the most valiant and long-lived human characteristics. To believe, when all along we humans know that nothing can cure the briefness of this life, that there is no remedy for our basic mortality, that is a form of bravery. To continue believing in yourself . . . believing in whatever I chose to believe in, that was the most important thing”

Lance Armstrong, *It's Not About the Bike*

See You Soon!

By Owen McCulloch, Associate Director of Program

August brings us to another change of seasons at Philmont—the last Brat Day, the last campfires, the last PTC Western Dance and the last days of our summer jobs. While the tents may be coming down and participants heading home, know that your impact this summer will be remembered by the thousands of participants who called Philmont “HOMe” this summer.

We’ve broken our attendance records for this summer in the number of participants and staff that have called this place home: 23,100+ backcountry participants, about 3,500 training center participants and 1,079 staff on payroll. In addition to our regular seasonal staff, we’ve had many volunteer staff join our efforts as well. In total, 1,287 staff have signed in for this summer alone. Academy Rangers, doctors, chaplains, geologists, foresters,

archaeologists and more have all been part of our 2011 staff.

Our staff continues to be diverse. This summer, the highest staff populations came from:

1. Texas, 131 staff
2. New Mexico, 108 staff
3. Kansas, 62 staff
4. California, 56 staff
5. Missouri, 50 staff
6. Florida, 41 staff
7. Illinois, 40 staff
8. Maryland, 39 staff
9. Colorado, 37 staff
10. Ohio, 36 staff

And our highest campus representations:

1. Oklahoma State University
2. Texas A&M
3. BYU
4. Purdue University
5. Ohio State University
6. Kansas State University

7. University of Idaho
8. Eastern NM University
9. Indiana University
10. University of Nebraska

Additional information about our staff:

- 790 male staff, 289 female staff
- 509 first year staff, 570 returning staff (112 with 5+ years)

And our top returning staff:

Nurse Lucy Brazil, 32 years
Gene Schnell, 27 years
Julie Vigil, 27 years
Rock Rohrbacher, 20 years
Fr. Don Hummel, 18 years
Fr. Kevin Smith, 18 years
Michelle Wagoner, 18 years
Andy Schmit, 17 years
MaryAnn Martinez, 16 years
Henry Ostrander, 14 years
Paul Grasse, 14 years



Whether it was your first year or your umpteenth year, I hope you had a great summer and were able to accomplish the goals you set out to accomplish at the beginning of this year.

We’ve put a record year onto the books at Philmont, but as always we’re looking forward to not just what we’ve been through on the trail, but what the next turn in the trail or hill to climb will bring.

Best wishes for a great fall, and I hope to see you back soon!

Always Live with Purpose

By Chris Sawyer, Associate Director of Program



Congratulations on a job well done this summer!

In the beginning of the summer, I wrote an article about my first year on staff at Philmont. It was about taking out my first crew as a Ranger and about figuring out that I had “the best job in the world.” A job that was rewarding, a job that made an impact in the lives of others, a job that I was fully committed to, a job that truly made me happy, a job represented what all jobs should be like.

I hope this is something that all of you were able to learn and feel over the course of the summer. In a perfect world, this is something that I would want each person to feel at the end of a long work day. Now that you know what it is like to feel this way, you will forever compare all other jobs and experiences to yours here at Philmont. While you remember how great of a summer you had here, I challenge you to remember a couple things in the offseason...

Remember that working at Philmont is a small part of what you do. Remember it’s the people, the mission, the purpose, the growth, the development, the excitement and the reward of doing what you love that really counts. Don’t lose sight of that when you return home, because all of these things can be found if you are committed to taking the right steps and searching in the right places. Find something you love, give back to a worthy cause, and remember to live with purpose in all that you do!

Together Everyone Achieves More

By David O’Neill, Associate Director of Program

An ancient Japanese proverb says that “A single arrow is easily broken, but not ten in a bundle.” For Philmont Scout Ranch, there are approximately 1,079 proverbial arrows in our bundle...our staff! Working together this summer, this staff successfully operated the largest Scout camp in the world! No small task to be sure, but it certainly exemplifies the old team building saying that “T.E.A.M.—Together Everyone Achieves More.”

As the summer of 2011 is quickly reaching an end, we can all look back on this summer and be proud of the work we have done to serve the approximately 23,000 youth that will have passed through the gates. Each of these Scouts may have come to the Ranch with different

skills and experiences as well as varied leadership abilities. But they all came in with one thing in common: high expectations about the adventure that they were about to embark upon.

As a staff, it was our responsibility to meet and exceed those expectations and to facilitate a wilderness adventure that helped them to grow as leaders, and one that will last them for a lifetime. The good news is we ALL delivered! But don’t just take it from me, here is what a few of our youth had to say about their crew’s experience at Philmont!

“We loved the spiritual sense of growing of all the members in our crew and the growing unity and conquering Baldy and Tooth.”

“The operation that Philmont runs is huge and intimidating;

however, when we were there, it was pulled off cleanly and without a hitch.”

“Philmont was definitely a once in a lifetime experience, and I know my crew had an amazing time!”

“Everything was excellently run. It seemed that Philmont has been and always will be a well-oiled machine that runs smoothly and efficiently.”

There are many more comments very similar to the ones above, as well as many kind words said about the many staff that helped them during their experience here. To earn those glowing reviews, each department and every staff member on the Ranch played an important role in the Scouts’ experiences, from beginning to end. One arrow



was not enough. All 1,079 were needed!

From all of us in backcountry management, we are grateful for the work every staff member in Basecamp did to get those crews ready for the trail. And to the backcountry staff, thank you for taking care of them when they got to your camps! We all worked together to deliver a “wilderness adventure to last a lifetime” for all of those Scouts! Our work this year makes me excited for the possibilities in 2012 and makes me look forward to working with such a quality group of people again next year!

Chaplain's Corner

Make Moments to STAWGD

By Danny Harvey, Protestant Chaplain

Let me tell you one of my favorite scripture passages: Mark 1:35.

“and in the morning, a great while before day, Jesus rose and went out to a lonely place, and there He prayed.”

I'm curious when some people tell me that they don't have the time to pray. Perhaps they are just too busy. I would like to suggest to those people who are too busy to pray that they take another look at their life and priorities. If it was important for Jesus to spend time alone with God His Father, how much more important is it for you and I to have daily time alone with God?

Daniel was a person of prayer—in the sixth chapter of Daniel you will see how consistent he was in his daily prayer time (6:10-11). He had a custom to pray three times every day saying “thank you before his God.” You may be familiar with the rest of the story of Daniel in the lion's den, but did you notice verses 26-27? In these verses, King Darius made a decree that “in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel.” This was King Darius' response to the evidence of the fruit of Daniel's prayer life.

I have a word, an acrostic, that I would like to leave you

with—STAWGD. It can be used to mean the following:

Spend
Time
Alone
With
God
Daily

I would encourage you to STAWGD. In fact, I dare you to STAWGD and see how your life will change. I may see you here at Philmont and ask you “Have you STAWGDed today?” What will your answer be? I'm curious as to what effect STAWGDing will have on your life.

Quitting Tobacco Use

Reality Check: Smoking Costs More than Health

Graphic by Rory Chapman, NPS Manager

If you smoke...



Half a pack a day for two years, you will spend \$1,689.95 (enough for a 7 day Disney vacation for two).



Three packs a day for six years, you will spend \$30,419.10 (enough to buy a Ford Mustang convertible).



One pack a day for five years, you will spend \$8,448.75 (enough to pay for a year of in-state tuition at a public university).



Half a pack a day for one year, you will spend \$844.96 (enough to buy an Apple iPad).



One pack a day for four years, you will spend \$6,759.80 (enough for a guided climb of Denali).

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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 degree 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

Sustainability Statement End of Season Sustainability Statistics

By Sarah Burgess, Sustainable Resource Specialist

Philmont Food Sustainability Facts

In summer 2011, there were 59 banquet packout meals served from the Philmont Dining Hall. They provided re-useable dishes, cups and utensils for all but two packouts and served 3,159 people. The banquet team even sent out the dishes and utensils in large Tupperware containers to avoid the use of plastic bags. Thanks to the PTC Dining Hall Packout Team for their hard work and foresight in serving delicious meals in a sustainable way.

Activities Staff served over 1,200 Brat Day meals on re-useable trays versus the usual Styrofoam. The trays came from the camper and PTC dining halls, since the introduction of new eating dishes this season.

Philmont 2011 Recycling Totals

- 1,000 pounds of rechargeable batteries
- 1,240 pounds of plastic trail meal bags
- 1,600 pounds of mixed paper
- 4,400 pounds of aluminum cans
- 16,200 pounds of plastic bottles #1/#2
- 38,000 pounds of corrugated cardboard

62,440 pounds, or 31.2 tons, of waste diverted from the landfill!

Solar Lighting Facts

Philmont's lighting inside buildings and tents is all compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs. These bulbs have a lifespan of eight-15 times longer than an incandescent bulb.

There is a newly completed solar-powered lighted walkway between CHQ and PTC, passing the Seton Museum.

Philmont's total solar power generation on the Ranch is 9,600 kilowatt hours from 83 different backcountry systems.

News From the Top You've Got Mail: Basic Shipping Guidelines

By Linda Anderson, Seasonal Mail Room Manager

Days are getting shorter, crowds are thinning and sunflowers are beginning to bloom, all sure signs that the 2011 Summer Season is beginning to wind to a close. Most of you are turning your thoughts toward home, school or jobs in the outside world. Unless you arrived at Philmont by car, you may also be thinking about how you are going to get your gear home.

Here are some basic guidelines to keep in mind for shipping your stuff:

- The Philmont Seasonal Mail Room can initiate either UPS or USPS, but the larger and heavier a box, the cheaper it is to ship UPS. We can accept FedEx packages only if you have a prepaid label. You can expect a foot locker to ship for around \$30 to \$50, depending on weight, dimensions and distance traveled.
- UPS carries an automatic \$100 of insurance on each package. This amount can easily be increased to whatever value our customer declares. Additional insurance costs approximately \$1 for each additional \$100 of value.
- Weight limit is 70 pounds.
- Items which are shipped UPS and are not encased in cardboard require an additional \$5 surcharge.
- Shippers generally do not appreciate duct tape and may refuse to pick up packages sealed with

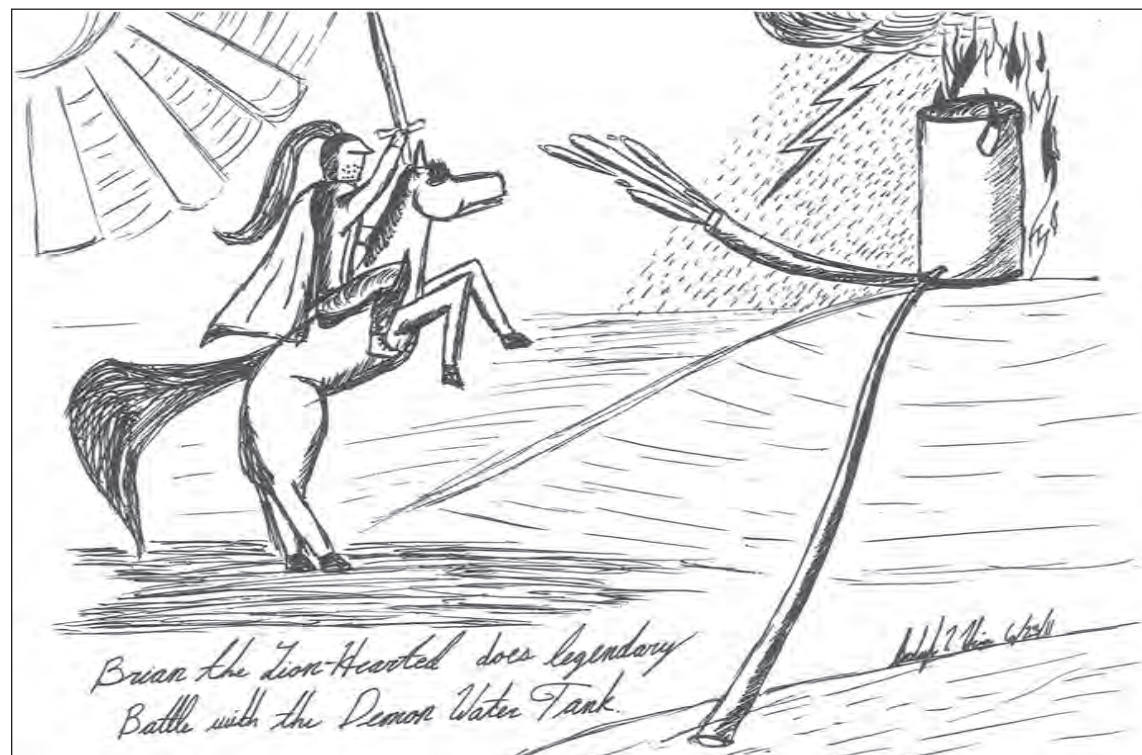
it. Duct tape peels up on the edges and gums up machinery and conveyor belts. We have plenty of plastic tape in the Mail Room which is free for your use.

- All matches, lighters, iso-propane canisters, bear spray or other hazardous materials (if in doubt, ask us) must be removed. White gas fuel bottles must be washed out with hot, soapy water and air dried for at least 12 hours. Stoves with attached tanks (Peak One, Exponent, etc.) must be purged (burned until they sputter and go out) and aired with the cap off of the tank for as long as possible.
- We have boxes in a wide range of sizes and packing materials available for your use, free of charge.
- We anticipate that our busiest shipping days will be August 18th, 19th and 20th. If it is possible for you to avoid these days, it will shorten our lines and your waiting time.
- Please remember that we are not able to take plastic for payment, just cash or check. An ATM is available in the Snack Bar.

Shipping will be possible at the Summer Mail Room through noon on August 26th. Until that time, we will be open from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week. Remember, **NO DUCT TAPE!** Please travel safely and come back next year!

*This information is current as of August 11, 2011.

Staff Cartoons



Schuyler "Sky" Heiss, Conservation Environmental Educator



Kira Redzinak, Camp Director Cyphers Mine

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Urraca Man: “Philmont Mystery”

By Ben McNair,
PhilNews Writer

This summer, a team of archaeologists is investigating a mystery death that occurred a century and a half ago at the base of Urraca Mesa.

The deceased, nicknamed “Urraca Man,” died in the late 1800s between the ages of 55 and 59 of injuries related to a fall, says Dr. Warren Lail, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at New Mexico Highlands University. Lail is the primary investigator on the case.

Lail and his team of student archaeologists spent several weeks at the site earlier this season and have done extended forensic research on the man’s bones in university and hospital laboratories. They will return later this month to finish collecting evidence.

The discovery of the man’s body was originally made in 1970 when a Scout stumbled upon exposed bones off the side of the trail leading to Inspiration Point from Urraca camp. The body was removed that year, and Lail and his team recently reopened the case.

Thousands of X-ray computed tomography (CT) scans on the skeleton have helped researchers understand more about the man’s physical traits and condition at the time of death. Through these medical images, Lail believes that the man has traits consistent with both European and African ethnicities, meaning that he was most likely a Moor, or a black Spaniard. DNA testing this fall will determine his genetic makeup.

The scans also reveal that the man was in poor health when he died. His bones show that he suffered from Saber Shins, a condition caused by syphilis or a deficiency in vitamin D. His thighs show fractures consistent with a fall from a great height, but due to the man’s weak bones, those injuries could have been sustained from a



Kyle Soyer—PhilNews

URRACA: Archeologist Dr. Warren Lail, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at New Mexico Highlands University, gestures to where Urraca Man might have fallen from.

fall of only eight to 10 feet.

This season, Lail and his team discovered a few of the missing bones not recovered four decades ago, along with some of the man’s few personal belongings. Jeweler’s tools, including a small hammer, triangular file, knife with a battered blade and copper, were found at the site of his death. These items led researchers to believe that he was a trader who would have crafted copper bracelets to trade with Native Americans in the area.

Small white and blue glass beads are some of the most prolific finds. Lail’s team has recovered over 15,000 beads, only

three millimeters in size, over the course of their field work.

According to Lail, the investigation is a combination of archaeology and microhistory. “We can learn about the area through him, through the artifacts and through his remains,” he says. “If he was a minority, it gives us a chance to talk about how minorities were treated, and maybe how he was marginalized after the U.S. government took over this area.”

The outcomes of the research will be published in a book, and when the research is finished, Urraca Man’s body will be reinterred at the site of his death.

Reflections on the Summer

Photos and Article by Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer

As the 2011 season comes to a close, staff members reflect on this summer's successes, challenges and rewards.



Rick Atmore, Security Manager

For me and my department, it's been the most professional staff I've had to date. There's been a genesis in the staff all the way around. People are anxious to do a good job, and it's shown all the way around.

During the 2011 season at Security, we've been streamlining our operation. There have been a lot of good mindsets in here, a lot of good people giving us some good ideas from inside. The season has gone fast. It's been enjoyable all the way around.

This was my second year being a manager and my fourth year here. Last year, being a manager for the first time around, was a learning experience for me and an opportunity to make some changes. I'm bearing the fruits of that labor this year, and it's awesome. Management is treating us well, the operation itself is streamlined, processing procedures for lost and found have gotten better, our return rate is up in the 60th percentile, which is better than it's ever been, so the season has met my expectations, and then some.

The challenges are the same this year as they always are. We, by nature of the job, are in the position to have a negative ripple.

It's a challenge of the job to turn any kind of negative encounter into something positive. Most of my dealings with staff are because something has gone wrong. It's a challenge to make that encounter a growing experience.

There have been a lot of good mindsets in here, a lot of good people giving us some good ideas from inside.

Out of the 24,000 participants, this is a cross-section of humanity. You get the good and the bad. It's been our job to deal with what hasn't exactly been the good. I enjoy meeting people from other places, and where else in the world can you hang out and let the whole world shuffle by you and meet them as they come by instead of going all over the place? It's a unique environment.

I want to make sure that by the time my staff leaves for the season they have had the best summer they could have had. It's not all about us making sure the participants are all having fun. It's also the staff, that they're getting along, that the operation is worth doing.

I think the season went really well. One of our employees, Eric Hepler, was mentioned four times in evaluations, so that was pretty cool. In some areas, we did notice that we were affected by the large number of people. We had to stop handing out [trail] lunches to staff. I think that overall, the Scouts who came through had a good time. They enjoyed the short time they were with us getting their equipment.

I had a lot of fun at this job. Kind of like in FISH!, you make the job fun. Some of the days when we had 45 crews come through and had a lot of stuff going on, moving around everywhere, trying to get things done, were surprises.

I think the most rewarding aspect of the job is making sure Scouts have a good experience when they came through this department. We understand that they're here to go to the backcountry, but we do want them to have that experience like every crew is coming here for the



Greg Pope, Services Staff

first time, and we're acting like it's the first crew that we're giving the speeches to.

Some of the most memorable moments for me have been joking around with crews. Eric and I throw jokes back and forth. He makes fun of my accent, being from Chicago. Just having fun

with the crews is what I liked about this job the most.

Something I'll take away the most is interaction with people. We see every crew twice, and we are able to affect their experience as much as we can.



Victoria Everitt, Trading Post Clerk

I think the season was awesome. In the Trading Post, we're all a big, happy family, so it's been nice. Sales were really good.

Before the season started, I thought we were all going to be very close, and we are. One of the challenges was trying to not be tired for customers. You get up at 7 a.m. and have to smile and help people, and you're ready to go home, but you still have to keep going and everything.

My goals for the season were to stay here the entire time and not want to go home, and I succeeded in that. My department was really welcoming, and now, at the end, I love it. I definitely want to come back. Friendships are what I'll take away.



Jennifer "Peaches" Holmes, Mail Room Clerk, Jillian Forestiere, Mail Room Clerk, and Linda Anderson, Mail Room Manager.

Anderson: A major reflection for me is having the best staff I've ever had. It's been a really good year. It seems like the staff overall has just been exceptional this summer. All across the Ranch, it just seems like people, because of the fire danger, have stepped up to a higher level. The fires have been the scariest thing this year.

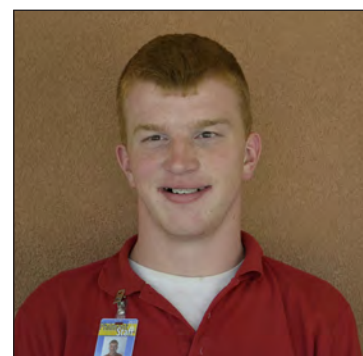
We have a staff that's full of fun. We know each other well, we have a good time together and we're a well-oiled machine when it comes to knowing what to do. When a delivery comes in, everyone just jumps on their task, and it all gets done without us even having to ask each other to do anything. It's so smooth this year. This is my sixth

summer here, and all this has been smoother than it's ever been.

We get to know all the staff because they all come here, some more often than others.

Forestiere: It's been a lot of fun this year. We've gotten a Frisbee and a hula hoop, and we get to talk to people from all over.

Holmes: The coolest package that we got this season was two coconuts. Somebody shipped five pallets of gear to Albuquerque, so for a while, we were driving back and forth to Albuquerque, picking up boxes. I'd be, like, "Hey, Jillian, want to come with me? I gotta go get more boxes! Oscar, want to go down this time?"



Travis Carder, Activities Staff

reliable than I was when I first got here. I met those goals.

My first closing campfire with Spud, Michael and Asher was the most fun campfire I've had so far. Closing campfire and the first week out here, meeting everybody, those were my favorite parts.

Working in Activities teaches reliability and makes you work better. You have to keep yourself in check at all times. If you get out of line, your managers will yell at you nicely for it. Accountability is the biggest thing.

My feelings about Philmont have gotten a lot stronger since the beginning of the season. It's been a life-changing experience this summer, just like last summer as a camper, but this time as a staff member.



Christian Jacobs and Julie Patton, Seton Museum Clerks.

Jacobs: We definitely learned a lot. It was a good experience; there were lots of different skills that we picked up. We learned how to deal with different personality types and different managers and how to excel in those kinds of situations.

I didn't know what to expect when I first came to Philmont. I discovered a lot about myself. I was in a comfortable spot back home, but being taken away from what I'm used to has been an interesting experience. You learn about yourself because you're not in your comfort zone. You kind of get tested and tried and see if you come out on top.

I think the atmosphere of the museum has a lot of potential.... I think that it's been rewarding to have challenges and come out on top of them. I've had some situations that have been tough, and I thought there was no way I was going to be able to get through it and look at me now.

Patton: Last time I was here, I was a teenager. It was a very big transitional time in my life, and I came here not with the expectation that that would happen, but it's certainly what has happened here. I feel like that part of Philmont in general is still true as far as it being a place where you can really spend time reflecting, whether you're in the backcountry or in Basecamp. Being such a closed community, you really have time

to yourself and to really learn how to accommodate other people and compromise. There's no walking away from things here because there's nowhere to go. You have to face your own challenges and help people face theirs.

I got to go into the backcountry a couple of times, and hiking was really exciting. It's been 17 years since I was here last, so being in some of the places like Cathedral Rock and the Tooth and having them look exactly the same, just as I remember them, and being able to look at photographs and being like, "This is exactly how I remember it was when I took that picture so many years ago," was definitely a highlight. Seeing wildlife was really exciting, being in a place where antelope graze on the side of the road, that just doesn't happen at home back East.

Jacobs: I think it's been a really good experience to be able to meet people from all over the country that come as crews. If not for Philmont I never would have met them, so that's been really cool. I know when I get back to California, like everybody, I'm going to bring up a random story: "Oh, this one time when I was in New Mexico at Philmont..." The experience of being here has been neat. Not everybody gets to live in a tent all summer.

Patton: Philmont is always going to be a very special place

that promotes change and growth. I think as far as a work environment it hasn't been what I anticipated, but the atmosphere as a place hasn't changed at all.

Jacobs: I didn't really know what to expect when I first came to Philmont. You hear things about New Mexico and you envision what it's like, and when I first got here, everything that I thought about New Mexico was pretty true, the art and architecture and all of that.

From the position, I learned that you can't make everyone happy. You can only do your best. Personally, I learned that you can't do things alone. You can try. You can try to be strong, but it's spiritual help or help from your friends, family, you just learn to grow in that sense because you rely more on them.

Patton: I'm taking away the abundance of choice. Certainly at home I don't think about every choice that I make because the place is familiar, the people are familiar, the job is familiar. Here, I really stop and think before I speak and before I act because everything is a choice. How I choose to present myself during the day, if I choose to smile or not. Everything is a choice, so that's been a good reminder.

Review: Blue Corn Cafe

By Bo Bordas,
NPS Marketing Staff

Here's something cool: you can have Christmas on your very own plate in Sante Fe! We discovered this at the Blue Corn Cafe where, upon ordering enchiladas, our waitress asked, "Green, red or Christmas?" She meant the chile, of course, and instantly picked up on our tourist scent when we just blinked stupidly at her. If you want to pass as a native, know that 'Christmas' is BOTH red and green chile. The restaurant is located in a shopping center full of western stores, boutiques of overpriced Asian costumes, carpets and, of course, galleries! Purely for research purposes, I dipped my fork in everyone's plate and mooched in the pursuit of a very accurate review. I had the tortilla soup, which was delightful but lacked the expected and promised chicken. I looked at the plate beside me and that's where it must have went, fighting for



room in the overcrowded (chicken) enchiladas. Let me now rant about the spinach salad that I wished I had ordered—it was beautiful, and whoever decided to top it with (amongst other things) pecans and bacon was a pure genius. It was fresh and pretty as a painted picture. Here's a tip that will go a long way—eat out with lots of friends with very shallow appetites. Then feast on the leftovers.

I feel as if over the course of this summer I have made in my heart

a special place for New Mexican food. I think it might have even bumped Chinese food down the line, but hush-hush on that. Being from Texas, I understood the craze about the one state pepper—back home we're nuts about jalapenos. The New Mexican green chile has had to fight valiantly to earn a place alongside it, and I hope many people will venture out and learn to appreciate the cuisine of this region as I have.

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Real Advice from Real Men

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With our country's current financial situation, how would you guys diversify your portfolios?
—Worried Investor

Dear W.I.,
Your best bet would be to invest in gold. Your paper money will be worthless once the country defaults. Also, stockpiling ammunition and firearms is always a good precautionary measure.

—Men of Sawmill

Dear Men of Sawmill,
If I should learn to play one instrument, what should it be?
—Eager Musician

Dear E.M.,
Hands down, the best instrument to learn would be the jazz flute. Contact Ron Burgundy for lessons.
—Men of Sawmill

Dear Men of Sawmill,
What would be an ideal date for a Sawmill Man?
—Interested Female

Dear I.F.,
We are simple men. We would enjoy a casual taco night followed by watching a Nicholas Sparks movie or listening to a Bloodhound Gang album. If you really want to impress us, bring Baked Alaska.

—Men of Sawmill

Dear Men of Sawmill,
What are some tips for light backpacking?
—Heavy Hiker

Dear H.H.,
The lightest way to hike would be to hire a Sherpa to carry your pack. The only thing you should carry is a rifle of your choice.
—Men of Sawmill

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From I-Camp to "I Do"

By Jennie Cowan, PTC Assistant Program Director 2010

Their eyes met over the serving line, she noted his all-American pearly smile and he detected her sophisticated British tones while dishing out a slab of Salisbury steak. If you fear a nauseating tale of love at first sight, don't worry, it wasn't, not between the young Scouts or where the Salisbury steak was concerned. However, who can resist a good tale of Phil-love? If you are sitting comfortably, then I shall begin...

It was the summer of 2008 and Jennie was anxiously packing to fly over the pond as part of the BSA's International Camp Staff Program—from the little-given information and a Hollywood understanding of America, it seemed she was heading into the Wild West. Meanwhile, Chris was finishing up school and heading cross-country for his now-routine summer at Philmont. The improbability of their meeting was

as immense as the inconvenience it caused, but let's not get ahead of ourselves just yet.

The summer progressed enjoyably and adventures ensued, but none resulted in romance. Not watching the Eagle's Nest fireworks from a truck bed; not after Chris had had his first taste of a homemade British spotted dick dessert; not even the wail of a mountain lion on a hike that involved more head lamps, rain and twisted ankles than desirable could prompt a nervous hand grasp! Eventually the river of PTC kids dried up, and it was time to leave, although with a mutual understanding the two Scouts would meet again...

Fall for Chris meant a semester of calculus, thermodynamics and stats, and fall for Jennie meant a four-month Greyhound tour of America visiting more than half of the states. Yes, Jennie's life then was much cooler. However cool

she was, she didn't have an invite for Thanksgiving and this, dear Reader, is where finally our Phil-couple became just that! Inspired by those early British pilgrims and their new American friends, Chris invited Jennie to his Thanksgiving celebrations to share the harvest, and feast they did!

It is with great regret though that I report the trip to be short; visas ran out, flights were taken and the harsh Atlantic Ocean far from resembled a frog-filled pond to the new couple.

But, the five-hour time difference would not stop passion! And what followed was two years of sleep deprivation, skipped meals, seven transatlantic flights and rendezvous in six countries. There were also two more Philmont summers with blissful days of hammock swinging. (Hours in the dishroom, bus loads of hyperactive children and fish tacos have been



Jennie Cowan and Chris Daniels, Former Staff

omitted from this tale to enhance romance.) Philmont provided the simple pleasures of life, like being in the same time zone.

Against all odds, the brave duo pulled through, a diamond appeared, a wedding was planned and, on June 4 2011, in Bournemouth, England, the happy couple tied the knot! They

now intend to continue their lives of adventure together in North Carolina and live happily ever after!

This picture is for all our Phil-friends at the PTC and all over the Ranch.

Sorry we couldn't come this year, we were otherwise engaged!

Love,

Chris and Jennie

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Kilimanjaro Via Philmont

By Randy Saunders, PSA Executive Director

On the afternoon of June 19, 2011, I am sitting on a rock pile in Kosovo camp, elevation 15,900 feet above sea level. Our crew of seventeen trekkers has just completed a rather enjoyable day of hiking. We ascended 2,000 feet in just under six hours. We passed through Barafu camp (elevation 15,300 feet), where most people will take their final rest before attempting to hike to Uruhu Point, the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro (elevation 19,339 feet). From Barafu camp, hikers wake up at midnight and hike for six hours in the dark to reach the summit by sunrise. Thank goodness our crew is not following that plan. Our crew passed through Barafu camp and continued on to Kosovo camp, where we will stay for the night. From Kosovo camp we will hike to Crater camp at 18,700 feet, then summit the next morning.

I have been climbing towards the top of Kilimanjaro for six days. Our crew started the trek at 7,700 feet above sea level. I have been above 12,441 feet, Baldy's elevation, for four days now. Most of our crew is taking Diamox to combat the effects of high altitude and thinner air. Everyone is doing well. No sickness, no injuries, only minor aches and pains. From the rock pile I am sitting on at Kosovo camp, all is well. I am enjoying the ample sunshine and lack of gusty winds. From the rock pile I am sitting on, I hope that the winds have died down at Philmont. I hope for New Mexico rain to soak Philmont. The summit of Kilimanjaro is visible from the rock pile I am sitting on. The view of Africa's pinnacle reminds me of the view of Baldy from the Baldy camp commissary. So close, so attainable.

Mount Kilimanjaro is located in Tanzania. At 19,339 feet above sea level, Kilimanjaro is the highest point in Africa. Kilimanjaro is also the highest free-standing mountain in the world. Nearly 40,000 people attempt to summit every year, with only 50% of them making it all the way to the top.

I am amazed that the gradual ascent of Kilimanjaro has come so easily to this point. The guides set a pace for our crew. "Pole-pole" (pronounced poleepolee), meaning "slowly slowly", is the mantra the guides enforce upon us. "Pole-pole" is a hard concept for us Americans to embrace. However, our guides, native Tanzanians, know what they are doing. All of them have climbed Kilimanjaro many times. This pace, "pole-pole," will get our entire crew to the summit. We hike with day packs, carrying water, snacks, first aid supplies, cameras, rain gear and clothing layers. My pack weighs about 20 pounds. I am using trekking poles, a new concept for me. I must admit that the trekking poles are very helpful. The trails are rather steep and lack switch-backs. Our crew pines for the gradual ascent of the well-built Philmont trails.

To climb Kilimanjaro, one must employ a contingent of guides and porters. At the entrance gate, there is a long line of locals waiting for the opportunity to be hired by trekkers wanting to trek to the top of Africa. Most trekkers will select an expedition company prior to arrival in Tanzania. Our crew is trekking with Berg Adventures. Berg Adventures is operated by Wally Berg. Wally worked at Philmont for eight summers during the seventies. Wally's company conducts expeditions all around the world, including Mount Everest. Berg Adventures will employ eight guides and a support crew of 100 staff for our trek. The guides will hike with us. The support crew will set-up and take-down camp, carry crew gear, carry water, and prepare hot meals three times a day. The food is absolutely wonderful and fulfilling.

Wally Berg is hiking with our crew. He has completed 46 successful summits of Kilimanjaro. Wally says that his Philmont staff experience inspired him to a life of high adventure. He has successfully climbed the highest summits on

all seven continents, including Antarctica. Wally hikes with us, keeping a "pole-pole" pace.

While I am sitting on the rock pile at Kosovo camp, I hear Wally sharing stories of his adventures with others in our crew sitting in a circle nearby. I catch another glance of the summit as the sun begins to set. I am so close to making it to the top.

As I am sitting on the rock pile at Kosovo camp, I remember the first time I hiked at Philmont. I was 15 years old. The bus dropped our Mountain Trek crew off at Turkey Creek. Our Ranger led our crew on the eternally long (or so it seemed at the time) hike to Harlan. I hated every step of that hike. Vaca camp seemed like an outpost for demons. I dropped my pack there and resolved myself to not take another step towards Harlan. Thankfully, our Ranger did not allow me to quit. Once our crew made it to Harlan, I began to relax. Our burro won the race that night. Our Ranger didn't give up on me. He left with some words about appreciating the journey, not just the destination. From that point, I embraced the journey. Each day was better than the previous. At the end of our expedition, I wanted to come back to Philmont... soon. I wanted to be part of Philmont. I learned how not to quit on that Mountain Trek.

I worked at Philmont for four summers while I was in college. I worked at Phillips Junction in 1990, Baldy in 1991, Logistics in 1993, and Apache Springs in 1994. Each summer at Philmont reminded me of my first hike, my breakdown at Vaca, my first Ranger and not to quit. My Philmont experiences enabled me to finish college. Philmont will have a life changing effect on most of us that spend any time in its mountains. Now, sitting on a pile of rocks with the view of Kilimanjaro's summit in front of me, I didn't even consider quitting. I have thoroughly enjoyed this particular journey.



Randy Saunders—Special to PhilNews

I reach the top of Africa at 3:30 p.m. on June 20, 2011. There is a rickety wooden sign there to congratulate hikers. Everyone in our crew made it to the summit. We pose for photos. The former Philmont staff in our crew, Wally Berg (1971-78), Rick Touchette (1971-72, 1974-77), Lee Huckstep (1971-72, 1974, 1976-77), David Ramos (1981-84, 1986-90), Bob Birkby (1970-74, 1976), Jim Lynch (1977-78) and I gather for a photo in front of the Philmont flag. Someone exclaims "we all made it," and I immediately think about the crews hiking down the Tooth of Time into Basecamp with the thrill of completing their trek. I am excited and relieved to be at the top of Kilimanjaro. It took our crew seven days to make it all the way to the summit. We all made it.

From the summit, we hike down to Crater camp. Exhaustion sets in. It is extremely cold. The thin air doesn't provide enough oxygen. We eat dinner quickly and all crawl

into our tents to sleep. Several of our crew need oxygen to get through the night.

The next day is the toughest hiking day of the whole trip. We hike for eight hours and descend 9,000 feet to our last camp. Despite being tired, everyone in our crew is in great spirits as we spend our last night on Africa's highest mountain. Following a short downhill hike, we arrive at the exit gate. There are local vendors selling all kinds of Kilimanjaro souvenirs. Berg Adventures puts on a massive feast to celebrate our crew's accomplishment.

It now occurs to me that the summit of Kilimanjaro is an experience that I have been preparing for since that first hike I did at Philmont in 1987. I am grateful for that Ranger's pep talk. The spirit of adventure that Philmont has provided me has taken me many places. Every single journey has been worthwhile. I am looking forward to the next one.

Families at Philmont

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer



Brendan Best—PhilNews

FAMILY: Marshall Nuccio, Logistics Assistant Manager, poses with his son, Derek "Spud" Nuccio, Male Tent City Manager. Rebecca Nuccio, also on 2011 staff as a Villa tour guide, is not present in the photograph.

Beginning with Cub Scouts, the Boy Scouts of America aims to encourage and bring together families. According to the STEM/NOVA study, "A Year in the Life", 97% of Cub Scout parents experienced "more parent/child togetherness" from Scouting. As Scouts grow and advance, the emphasis on family is encouraged, especially at Philmont.

Whether on trek, on staff or as participants at the Training Center, Philmont has a long history of fostering and encouraging a culture surrounding family.

Participant treks bring families together, as Scouts are often accompanied by parents serving as advisers. Sometimes a single trek will bring together three generations of a family.

Earlier this season, Richard Raymond from Milwaukee, Wis. celebrated his 70th birthday at Philmont, while on trek with his son, J.C. Moore, and grandson, Aidan Moore. The three were all able to experience their first Philmont trek together. "We kept each other going," says J.C. Moore, explaining that the encouragement and assistance was vital for difficult hikes, such as the hike up Baldy Mountain.

Other families grow closer through Philmont Training

Center programs. Members of the Shortridge family have not only attended PTC five times, but several have also gone on to become Philmont staff members. Current Seally Canyon Program Counselor Reid Shortridge has also worked as a Ranger and in Logistics in past years. His brother, Jeff Shortridge, is currently a Program Counselor at Rich Cabins and has worked in Maintenance, at Dean Cow and at French Henry in the past. Their sister, Jackie Shortridge, who has participated in both a Venture crew trek and a Rayado Trek, hopes to work as a Ranger in the future.

Other families begin their Philmont experiences as staff members on the Ranch. There are 85 sets of family members working at Philmont this year. Tent City Manager Derek "Spud" Nuccio explains that his family has been staffing at Philmont together for years. "I was out was before I was even born...the second time I was out here I was on my dad's back [in a little backpack]," says Nuccio.

"I guess my Grandpa Nuccio was the first one to come out here in the 50s or 60s," says Nuccio. Nearly 50 years later, Nuccio's sister, Andrea, came out to work at Philmont. She was followed by their brother, AJ, in 2003 and their parents in 2004. Nuccio joined his family on staff in

2006 and currently works with his mother, Villa Staff Becky Nuccio, and his father, Logistics Assistant Manager Marshall Nuccio. He explains that when they all worked at the Ranch, the family was brought closer through the time they spent together during the evenings, playing cards and relaxing.

According to Nuccio, Philmont and the Boy Scouts of America encourage a culture of family through the "aspect of a team....Working together definitely helps out a family....A family is just a team."

Seasonal Personnel Administrative Assistant Barbara Gracia, known to many staff as the Ranch's official PhilMom, explains that she treats the staff like her own kids. "Everybody is nice, and everybody is watching out for people...and that to me is family."

She says that she enjoys providing the staff with whatever they need, and that the desire to help one another is commonplace here at Philmont.

"With everybody coming from all over the United States, and even international staff, this place is so open-armed," Garcia explains. "I want to go back to Philmont' is all you start seeing from December on, and then [the staff] gets here, and it's like they're one big family."

Continue Your Training in Wood Badge

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer



"Every boy deserves a trained leader," said Lord Robert Baden-Powell. Shawn McFarland, Activities Manager, echoes Baden-Powell's statement adding that "without trained leadership, it's kind of like the blind leading the blind. How do we as leaders expect the boys to gain as much as they can out of the program if we don't put in as much time and effort as they do?"

Around Philmont, there are members who wear Class A uniforms with two wooden beads on a leather cord around their neck. This is a sign that they have attended and finished their Wood Badge tickets.

"It's leadership and team development training that the Boy Scouts of America provides in a way that I think is easy to understand. It provides tools that I've been able to use in both Scouting and at work," said Tom Giugni, Logistics Trip Planner.

Wood Badge was founded by Lord Robert Baden-Powell in 1919 when he held the first course at Gilwell Park in London, England. This advanced training consists of two phases. The first phase is the practical phase and the second phase is the application phase.

Phase one consists of two full weekends at camp plus two mid-week patrol meetings between the weekends. This is where participants learn skills, such as conflict

management, and take them back to use in the second phase. They participate in workshops and team building activities about managing conflict and communications skills.

David Lagesse, Camping Services Staff, said, "I found that it helped me negotiate with people and Scouts and problem solving, especially conflict solving."

The second phase occurs after the weekends and consists of "working your ticket." In this phase, participants use the leadership skills they have learned and developed during the practical phase. Each participant will work with a Troop Guide to help them accomplish the goals that they developed within an 18 month time period after which they will receive their beads.

Wood Badge principles are not only for Scout leaders and the Boy Scout organization but for anyone who is in a position of leadership within their religious faith, business or even their family unit.

"[Wood Badge] is an application of leadership skills that you can use at home and work. For my purpose at work, it was easy to describe the leadership skills the way that Wood Badge described it so people could understand the leadership styles for the different stages of team development," said Giugni.

Many people hear about Wood Badge and are hesitant to attend because of the time commitment it involves. However, Giugni encourages anyone to attend and said that many of the people he knows who attended Wood Badge are very grateful they went.

Giugni said that Wood Badge is "really *the* leadership training for Boy Scouts of America. Wood Badge talks about team development...and that's what Scouting's all about."

Maverick Rodeo

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer



Brendan Best—PhilNews

RODEO: A cowboy competing in the Wild Cow Milking event at the 2nd Annual Maverick Ranch Rodeo on August 6 attempts to capture a recalcitrant cow. Once lassooed, a 4-man team raced against the stopwatch to subdue and milk the cow.

Cows moored and ran around as two men on horses each roped a cow around the neck, pulling it across the white line and to the three waiting team members. Once the cow passed the line, two team members tackled the cow to the ground and held it while the third team member quickly grabbed the cool branding rod and struck the cow on the flank before his team members released it back into the herd.

16 Ranches from New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma came together at the Cimarron Maverick Rodeo grounds on Saturday, August 6 for the Annual Ranch Rodeo.

The Ranch Rodeo depicts what ranch hands do on a day-to-day basis while working on a ranch. This includes events that would be similar to a regular Rodeo, like bronc riding and wild cow milking. In the Ranch Rodeo, there are also events which are unique, such as team branding, calf sorting and calf gathering.

This is the second year the Ranch Rodeo has been held in Cimarron. It is one of the qualifying Rodeos for the Working Ranch Cowboy Association's (WRCA) National competition held in Amarillo, Texas. If the team wins the qualifying round and the national competition in Amarillo,

they receive a nice paycheck and bragging rights, according to Cory Chaney, employee for 3-Lazy-S Rodeo Company.

In order to compete in the National WRCA competition, individuals must work on a ranch (ie. receive a paycheck), be a member of the WRCA and win one of the qualifying Rodeos throughout the U.S.

Each of the 16 competing Ranches had a four-man or woman team who used their skills and knowledge in each of the events, such as branding, wild cow milking and bronc riding, to earn points which would put them in the lead and allow them to win the Rodeo.

Throughout the Rodeo, fans cheered on the teams as ranch hands tackled cows and heifers to the ground or fell off broncs and were almost trampled by the hooves as the horses bucked over them. Chaney said that bronc riding and wild cow milking excited the audience more than the normal day to day Ranch work.

According to Miss Maverick Rodeo Queen, Janna Mills, this Rodeo differs from the Fourth of July Rodeo because "this is more ranch work...a team effort" instead of an individual effort. "These are things they do every day," said Mills.

Roughing it at Rayado

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer



Haylee Train—PhilNews

HAPPINESS: A Rayado crew member returns to base camp with excitement and relief after a long and exciting trek on July 9.

"Every participant out there is getting a different experience but ultimately, it is all the Rayado experience," said John Sugg, Rayado Trek Coordinator. Rayado is a special 20-day trek that covers the entire Ranch where participants encounter mental, physical and spiritual challenges.

Each participant has a different experience because the rangers plan the trek based on guidelines provided by Sugg and his partner, Martin Jacaruso. "Each ranger is different...they set the tone for the participants. I think that's what is unique about the trek...every participant gets a different experience based on who the rangers are," said Sugg.

Rayado used to be called the Kit Carson program in the late 60s and then into the 70s and early 80s it changed to the Rayado program. In the last 10 years there has been a mission statement added by the Ranch Committee and Rayado has received more direction and more focus, according to Sugg.

Each summer there are two sessions of Rayado held at Philmont. According to Sugg and Jacaruso, the Rayado Trek is full of surprises. "[One] thing that we like to teach them is 'expect the unexpected' because they have no idea what they're going to be doing each day," said Sugg.

Unlike the 12-day trek, participants are placed into a group of six to eight people who come from all across the country, who have never met before and do not have any advisers. Sugg said that "the rangers facilitate the whole experience" because there are no advisers.

During the trek, participants will cover the entire Ranch, according to Jacaruso and Sugg. The itineraries are unique because each trek is designed by the Rayado Rangers, to take participants through challenges that teach them to adapt to change. These challenges help the participants grow into "outdoor leaders who give back to their home troops

and friends" according to Sugg.

As participants travel through the backcountry, they learn skills such as wilderness first aid, advanced navigation techniques, Leave No Trace and backcountry cooking through a combination of Ranger Training and participating in programs offered at the backcountry staff camps.

"These elements are tough for the kids, but ultimately they're going to come out of it with a higher sense of self and a lot more confidence, a lot more outdoor skills," said Jacaruso. When Rayado has finished, each participant leaves with the tools to plan and lead their own backcountry trips.

At the banquet held to welcome back and honor the participants after the trek, one ranger and one participant from each crew stands up and shares an experience or thought they had on the trek. "No matter what our Rangers threw at us...we held our heads high. We can take that with us. No matter what life throws at us...we can hold our heads high," said one participant in Rayado Men 2, from the first session of Rayado.

Another participant, Michael

"These elements are tough for the kids, but ultimately they're going to come out of it with a higher sense of self and a lot more confidence..."

Trent, from the first session of Rayado shared his thoughts about his experiences on the Rayado trek. "It was really hard...I think I really enjoyed it because it was a physically demanding trek and not a piece of cake," said Trent who continued to say, "They were long days but it was worth it."

Philoween

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer



Ephraim Moore—PhilNews

SKELETON: Martin Bergstrand-Reiersgard, from Oslo, Norway, watches a Halloween themed movie during the Philoween activity, August 4.

Philmont staff members celebrated Halloween early this year at the first-ever Philoween, hosted by the Activities Staff on August 4. The Silver Sage Staff Activities Center was transformed into a haunted lair, as staff members enjoyed the best aspects of the holiday: candy, costumes and fear.

According to Activities Assistant Manager Jericka Lambert, the decorations were the most intensive aspect of the event. The event took place in the S³AC, which was transformed with fake cobwebs, balloons, shredded garbage bags and illusion pictures for the haunted event. The staff even hung body bags with Philmont IDs from the ceiling for added effect.

Attendees enjoyed a night of sugar, games and movies. Candy was provided throughout the night by the Activities Staff and given to winners of the evening's games. Games included a Mummy Wrap Race, where contestants raced to

cover teammates in toilet paper, and Apple Snapping, which challenged Philoween-goers to bite an apple off a string without using their hands.

A costume contest was also held, and all contestants, dressed in an array of costumes from vampires to cats to goths, were awarded candy prizes.

To add fear to the evening, movies were shown throughout the night. Featured films included Van Helsing, Nightmare Before Christmas, The Ring, Dracula, Hocus Pocus, Children of the Corn and The Invisible Man.

"Our summer staff is not here during Halloween, so we put on our own Philoween for everyone to celebrate Halloween while they work here during the summer season," explained Activities Staff Sammy Williams.

"It was an outstanding activity," says Williams, who arrived at the event after Opening Campfire. "I wish I could have been there for more."

"Roadies" Serve PTC

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer



Ephraim Moore—PhilNews

SERVING: PTC staff serve the PTC faculty food at the faculty barbecue.

Week in and week out at the Philmont Training Center, a special four-person team works to ensure that every program goes off without a hitch.

Meet PTC's "roadies," the members of the Services department. "We do all the behind-the-scenes stuff" for the "awesome concert show" that is the Training Center.

The Services team's job description is all over the map. Their main responsibilities include overseeing all of the support for every conference at the Training Center. In recent years, an increasing number of faculty members have incorporated technology into their classes, and both opening and closing programs rely heavily on audiovisual equipment.

In addition, staff members help keep PTC clean, set up and break down tables and chairs, assist with the faculty barbecue every Friday and bake cobbler.

According to PTC Services Director Lindsey Shelton, "the biggest problem is having a ton of things to do and not necessarily enough people or time."

"At the beginning, it was kind of difficult for us to be in five places at once," says Katie Anne

Hessenius, PTC Services Staff. Over the course of the season, staff members have refined how they approach tackling so many different tasks.

While much of their work is behind-the-scenes, it often affects the success of classes and programs. Shelton says that they must "make sure that everything is done perfectly," such as having audiovisual elements and tables and chairs ready, "because if it's not, it gets noticed."

Their work also affects how people rate their stay at the Training Center. "If it weren't for us, people probably wouldn't have as exciting or as cozy a stay," says PTC Services Staff Andrew Mikusch. Mikusch and his colleagues routinely clean bathrooms and clear away belongings that participants leave behind in PTC's tent cities. "We know it's not a five-star hotel, but we do a pretty good job of keeping things maintained so people do have an enjoyable experience when they're out here."

Despite being faced with the constant challenge of keeping technology up and running, facilities cleaned and cobbler fresh, Services staff members enjoy interacting one-on-one

with faculty members. "A lot of them have really interesting jobs," says Shelton. Hessenius adds that "they've done a lot of things in Scouting that are inspirational."

Although PTC is very much a part of the Ranch, PTC Services staff and Camping Headquarters share a "neighbor relationship," says Hurt. "They have their way of doing things and we are self-sufficient," but lending equipment back and forth is not unheard of.

None of the four staffers have worked at Philmont in the past, and the experience has been educational for each. Hurts says that he will take away a new appreciation for "effective communication." Mikusch says that he has learned the importance of focus and time management. For Shelton, the greatest lesson was that "you can't sweat the small stuff. With this job, there are things that are cropping up all the time. You have to do it and not get stressed about it at the time," she says.

More than anything, these "roadies" have "learned to actually work together instead of separately," Hurt says. That group dynamic enables them, says Shelton, to fulfill the "very important role" they play "in the success of PTC."

The Sky is the Beginning

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer



Brendan Best—PhilNews

STARS: A Venture Scout looks through Ring Place's reflector telescope during the astronomy program on August 4.

For many, the sky is the limit. At Ring Place, the sky is just the beginning.

Every season, Philmont participants come from a diverse array of national and international home cities, many from urban areas where light pollution prevents an uninhibited look at the night sky. Ring Place, located in the Valle Vidal, remedies that deprivation, if only for a night.

"Most participants are not from areas where they can see stars," says Program Counselor Edie Adkins. "It's amazing how exciting it can be for them, just to be able to distinguish a constellation, to be able to be in an area where they can see the stars and not be outshone by city streets and lights."

Every night, Ring Place staffers start out with storytelling and myths. Some of the storytelling is participatory, and campers work both individually and together to create narratives. In one activity, participants are given a notecard with a fictional constellation drawn on. They are then tasked with making up a story about the constellation. "They're not really made to be

anything in particular; they just sort of use their creativity," says Adkins.

Other stories, usually centered on Greek and Chinese mythology, are recounted by staff members as participants gaze at the sky from the camp's open meadow, an ideal vantage point for stargazing.

The camp is equipped with professional star-gazing equipment, including mirrors, laser pointers, a StarScout (used to locate and identify stars, planets and constellations) and a powerful telescope. Participants have the opportunity to peer through the telescope, which the staff orients towards the moon and Saturn, and can observe the moon's craters and Saturn's rings. "It's really neat to see peoples' reactions because most of the time, people haven't seen Saturn up close," says Adkins.

On cloudy nights, program is moved inside the cabin, which has a night sky painted on the ceiling.

In addition to stargazing and storytelling, Ring Place staff also teach meteorology and folk weathercasting, says Program Counselor Matt Wilk. In this component of program, "we

explain how the weather works, components of weather, types of clouds, weather patterns and folk myths that are used to predict the weather," adds Eric Schettek, Program Counselor.

Living in the Valle Vidal has proven to be a positive experience for the staff. "It's absolutely gorgeous," says Schettek. He enjoys the "beautiful meadows, rolling hills [and] the fact that you can really hike wherever and really explore."

Like their peers at the two other Valle Vidal camps, Ring Place staff members were temporarily displaced when the Carson National Forest closed in June and July. Most staff members found their stays at other camps interesting and insightful.

Like many camps at Philmont, Ring Place gives participants a chance to do something they may have never done before. "I think that a lot of kids want to get into astronomy, but they don't have the means to or they don't know anything about it," says Program Counselor Molly McGuirt. "We give them a taste of it so they can go home and eat it all up."

Ute Gulch

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer



Matt Prokosch—PhilNews

COMMISSARY: Dylan Palmer, the Trading Post Manager at Ute Gulch, assists campers on Friday, July 29.

"Generally we're open 6 a.m. to midnight with other hours available upon request," explains Ute Gulch Camp Director Brian Jordan. Ute Gulch, a commissary camp, provides food pickups for more than 30 crews each day.

In order to supply their heavy crew load, which is one of the largest in all the backcountry, the camp receives two commissary orders a week. Each order brings seven pallets of trail meals.

While at Ute Gulch, passing crews will collect food for the next three to four days. They can also pick up special food packages for Scouts with dietary needs, tortillas, hot cocoa and cider mixes, condiments and fresh fruit, such as apples, pears and oranges. "The real highlight of our program is the fresh fruit," explains Jordan. Spare packs, bear ropes and bags, tents, dining flies, hand sanitizer and toilet paper are also made available to Scouts.

According to Jordan, the commissary would not be able to run without Commissary Manager Clifford Eade, who "is the luminary and the star of the commissary." Eade has been working at Ute Gulch for the past eight years. "It's a great place to come back to," he explains.

Ute Gulch is also home to one of Philmont's backcountry trading posts. "We're really well-stocked," says Jordan of the post, which

is lined with Nalgene, belts and buckles, socks, carabiners, patches for all the backcountry camps, first aid needs, Crazy Creek chairs, trekking poles, fleeces, books, hats and dishes. "[Trading Post Manager Dylan Palmer] spent a lot of time on layout," says Jordan.

Although the crews typically only spend an hour or two at the camp, the staff tries to make their stay as enjoyable as possible. "We work hard and play hard, too," says Program Counselor Spencer Zimmerman. The staff offers Scouts a swimming program in a turtle shaped kiddie-pool and putt-putt golfing. Jordan explains that they have 75 golf balls and a few putters for Scouts to use on the camp's course. The staff has also created several sitting areas in the shade for crews to relax as part of this year's Legacy Project.

Jordan explains that even though the camp does not have a program for crews to participate in, the staff works hard to ensure the Scouts have a great experience while at Ute Gulch.

Jordan adds that the staff is particularly proud of their 'Over 1 Million Served' sign that hangs above the commissary. He explains that the number refers the number of meals they have dispensed, not necessarily the number of Scouts. "We try to provide for them as best we can...as fast as we can."

Casey Family History Alive at Crooked

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer

As Scouts walked on the path through the meadow and up to the cabin at Crooked Creek on Wednesday, August 3, they heard the cows moo, chickens bawk and burros whine.

"I came out here...to teach the kids not to be afraid," said Jessie Hurt, Program Counselor, as she explained how most of the Scouts have not been around farm livestock before in their lives.

Crooked Creek is a homesteading camp set in the year 1857 when the Casey family moved from Tennessee for a better life. The staff interpret orphaned brothers and sisters whose mother died of consumption and father died in the Civil War.

Scouts participate in programs such as wood chopping, debarking logs, cabin tours and playing with the cows, burros and chickens.

According to Hurt, Scouts love to chase the chickens. One adviser from New Jersey, with the expedition number 628-J, said that their Scouts tried to place the chickens on one another's heads.

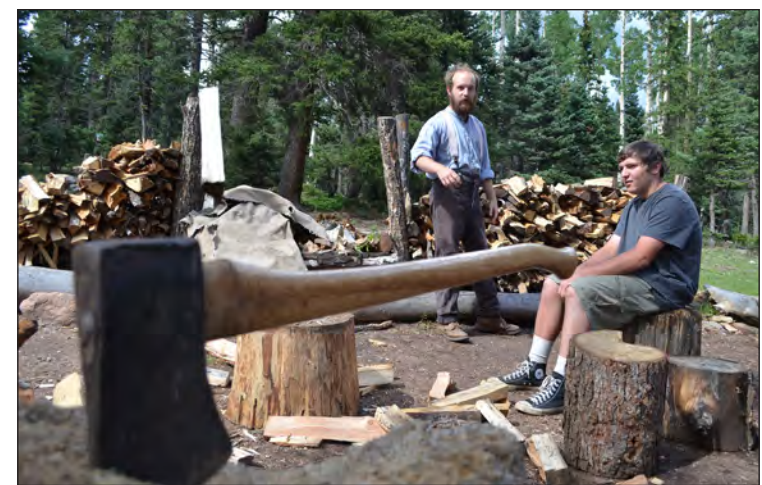
Since Crooked Creek is a homesteading camp, Scouts learn how to chop wood in the lumber yard and how to milk a cow during their evening program. As Hurt said, many Scouts haven't been around livestock before, especially cows. Liam Higgins, Program Counselor, shared an experience about one Scout who came through Crooked Camp, "We had one kid last night that was terrified of the cow, not as terrified of the cow as the udder."

Clark Chapman, Camp Director, explained that they don't really have a set schedule of when to do program except for

touring the cabin. "Since we don't have a set schedule, I try to get them very interested in whatever homesteading task we do...there are so many things to be done around here...and we get them involved in that," said Chapman.

One thing they involve Scouts in is working on their root cellar, where items such as vegetables, fruits and other foods would be kept at a low temperature and steady humidity. Root cellars help prevent food from spoiling during the summer months by keeping it cool and keep food from freezing during the winter months. According to Swendsen, that is one of their big homesteading projects.

Being a homesteading camp in the South country, Crooked Creek is secluded unlike many of the other camps at Philmont. Like Black Mountain camp, there



Matt Prokosch—PhilNews

AXES: Ben Hoffman, a Program Counselor at Crooked Creek, gives campers a safety talk about wielding axes on Wednesday, August 3.

is no road that leads directly to Crooked Creek. However, the staff likes the seclusion and peace of the green meadow and creek down the hillside from the cabin. "It's a

blessing and a curse...off the map almost," said Chapman as he talked about the seclusion of Crooked Creek, "but I love it."

Whiteman Vega: Biking in the Backcountry

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer



Brendan Best—PhilNews

BIKING: A participant rides a mountain bike during Whiteman Vega's program on August 5.

In the Valle Vidal, Philmont's northern-most region, there are no bear cables, no sumps, no defined campsites and, save one, no trails. That lone trail is located at Whiteman Vega, the Ranch's only mountain biking camp.

The trail, which is four miles in length, is the one of the main components of program at Whiteman Vega. According to the staff, it usually takes crews two hours to complete the trail from start to finish, due to the physical challenge it poses to riders.

Mountain biking is "something completely out of the norm for just about all of the riders that come out here," says Program Counselor Andrew Waters. "For most kids that come through, they usually do it pretty successfully," although the staff sees its share of minor crashes. In the evenings, participants have the opportunity to test their skills on a trial course, a 40-foot wooden structure set up in a central meadow.

In addition to biking, the camp offers the three to five crews that arrive each day the chance to do conservation work on the

biking trail. The work thus far has been "superior," reports Camp Director Jada McGirt. The ongoing project gives participants a new appreciation for the work that goes into building and maintaining trails.

Unlike camps located inside Philmont property, Whiteman Vega is one of three camps located on borrowed land in the Carson National Forest. The location offers staff the "special opportunity... to practice full Leave No Trace," says Waters.

With a lighter crew load, "we have way more time to spend with the crews in an environment where we can talk about Leave No Trace," says McGirt. "We can exemplify the [Wilderness] Guia [and] give them a good feeling about being in a leadership position."

Staff members ensure that participants follow the guidelines set forth by the National Forest, but teaching Leave No Trace ethics is "not just preaching to the choir," says Waters. "It's doing." The knowledge that participants gain about low-impact camping is applicable outside of Philmont, says Program

Counselor Graham Johnson. "I like to tell kids to imagine what they can actually do with the skills that they learn here. They can go out and do it anywhere else," he says.

Whiteman Vega, along with Seally Canyon and Ring Place, found itself in an unusual situation earlier this summer. When the Valle Vidal closed in June, the camp's staff members were dispersed to other areas on Philmont property. For some, like Johnson, leaving Whiteman Vega was "depressing." For others, like Waters, "being apart made us realize how fortunate we are" to have a lighter crew load and the opportunity to live in the National Forest.

The Valle Vidal reopened on July 24, and Waters says that the reunion was "beyond joyous." Since being "back home," says McGirt, the staff has been able to continue doing what it does best: instilling in each participant another facet of love for the outdoors through biking, and encouraging confidence, control and commitment, both on and off the bike, in everyone who rides.

Scouts Missing at World Jamboree

Twelve Scouts from Sierra Leone are missing at the end of the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden. One Scout has returned to the Jamboree's city of Rinkaby, but it is believed that the eleven still missing are in neighboring Denmark. It is believed that the eleven intentionally left the Jamboree with the intent of avoiding return to Sierra Leone. In the past, Sierra Leonean Scouts have fled gatherings to avoid return. More than 39,000 Scouts from 146 different countries attended the Jamboree.

London Riots

Three days of riots have broken out in Tottenham, London after a man was killed by police in a gunfire exchange. Riots began June 6 after 300 protesters demanding justice for the man and his family set a police vehicle on fire. Several other fires have erupted throughout the city, including a double-decker bus that was set ablaze and multiple petrol bombs that were detonated. Looting has also erupted throughout Birmingham. At least 215 have been arrested and 25 charged since the violence began and 26 police officers have been injured.

Hiroshima Remembers Atomic Bomb with Nuclear Protests

Japan commemorated the 66th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. Many used the event to protest the use of nuclear weapons and energy. The nuclear meltdowns caused by the tsunami earlier this year have many Japanese reconsidering the nation's use of nuclear energy. Prior to the new focus on nuclear energy, many had viewed nuclear weapons and nuclear energy has separate entities, but as the reactors continue to leak radiation and waste, the difference is beginning to blur.

Zimbabwe Torture Camp Discovered

A torture camp was discovered in Zimbabwe's Marange Diamond Field. The camp, run by military forces, is just one mile from the area's main mine that the European Union hopes to approve exports from. Reports of abuse included extensive daily whippings, beatings, rape and dog mauling. The Zimbabwean government has yet to respond to the reports, but EU and Kimberley Process officials insist such camps and practices are condemned and that the push toward a partial lift on the 2009 ban on diamonds from the area only pertains to approved mines.

French Court Orders Investigation of IMF Chief

A French court ordered an investigation into the new IMF Chief Christine Lagarde over the \$400 million arbitration deal for Bernard Tapie that was settled while she served as France's Finance Minister. The order for investigation comes from the Court of Justice of the Republic over speculations that Lagarde should not have allowed the deal to settle. Lagarde's lawyer announced that the IMF Chief welcomes the investigation, and Lagarde has known about the possibility of investigation since she took over as Chief of the International Monetary Fund last month.

Al-Shabaab Withdraws from Somali Capital

Somali Al-Shabaab Islamists have withdrawn from the nation's capital, Mogadishu. President Sheikh Sharif Ahmed reported the Islamist rebels were defeated, but Al-Shabaab officials claim the move was a change of tactics. Although forces for Al-Shabaab have been reported to be patrolling areas surrounding the city, the withdraw has allowed aid to be brought into the famine-stricken area. An air-lift delivered aid to the war-torn city for the first time in five years.

Largest Cyber Attack Uncovered

IT security firm McAfee announced it has discovered on of the largest series of cyber attacks in history. Over the past five years, 72 organizations were attacked, including the International Olympic Committee, the Indian government, the steel industry, defense firms and the United Nations. McAfee has not released who they believe to be responsible for the attacks, but speculations point to China. Investigators were able to uncover that in many cases intellectual property had been stolen. It is suspected that it could be used to improve existing products or to beat a competitor, posing serious economic threats.

Mexican Police Force Resigns

The entire police force of a town in northern Mexico has resigned following the murder of two fellow officers by suspected drug traffickers. The 26-member department quit for fear of continued attacks in their town of Ascension, which have risen sharply in recent months. State and federal police and soldiers have been deployed to patrol the town in the police force's absence.

Syria Update

Syria's neighbors, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain, have increased diplomatic pressure on the Assad regime by withdrawing their ambassadors from the nation amid continued violent crackdowns on anti-government protests. Saudi Arabi's King Abdullah condemned the Assad regime's actions, calling for urgent reforms.

Journalist access to the nation continues to be restricted, but reports claim more than 50 people have died in government attacks on the city of Deir al-Zour, which have left the city's hospitals closed and thousands wounded, and many more have died in violence in Hama.

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Ohio Shooting Spree

Michael Hance was named as the gunman in a shooting spree that took place on Sunday, August 7 in the town of Copley, Ohio. Police say Hance shot his girlfriend, her brother and four neighbors before he started chasing people in the neighborhood, shooting one, and then killing an eighth person in another home. He died in a gunfight with the police after killing the eighth person. Names of the individuals have not been released by the police yet because they want to inform family members.

US Credit Rating

After narrowly passing a debt deal and nearly defaulting on its \$14.3 trillion debt, the United States' credit rating has been lowered by multiple domestic and international credit rating agencies. The most prominent of these, Standard & Poor's, lowered the U.S. from its previous, untarnished AAA rating to a rating of AA+. Another of the U.S.' "big three" rating agencies, Moody, maintained the AAA rating, saying that it expects the nation's economy to improve. The Dagong Global Credit Rating Co., based in Shanghai, downgraded the U.S. to an A+, then again to a single A rating. In the past two weeks, U.S. stocks have fallen 15 percent, and global stocks are on the decline.

Helicopter Crash

Remains of 38 U.S. and Afghan personnel arrived in the U.S. on Tuesday, August 9 after a helicopter was shot down over the weekend in Afghanistan. There were 30 Americans who died in the crash including 22 Navy SEALs. Since the beginning of the Afghan war, this has been the worst single-incident loss of American life. The crash was so bad, it was hard to identify the remains. Once the remains are identified, the Afghan remains will be sent back to their families.

Warren Jeffs Sentenced

Polygamist sect leader, Warren Jeffs, was convicted in San Angelo, Texas for sexual assault. The leader of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (not recognized by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints) was found guilty of forcing two teenage girls into "spiritual marriages" and fathering a child with one of the girls while she was 15 years old. The charges were brought following a 2008 raid on Jeffs' remote west Texas ranch. The jury delivered sentencing Tuesday after only 30 minutes of deliberation. Jeffs was sentenced to life in prison on one account of aggravated sexual assault with an additional 20 years and a \$10,000 fine for the second account.

FAA Shutdown Deal

The Federal Aviation Administration shutdown was partially ended on Friday when Congress passed a bill that will fund the organization through September. The shutdown was caused by a failure to renew the FAA's reauthorization, which expired on July 22, and by Republicans who demanded \$16.5 million in federal aviation spending cuts for rural air service (although the government lost \$250 million in tax revenue during during the two-week shutdown). Four thousand FAA employees were prevented from coming to work while policy was in limbo.

Verizon Strike

More than 45,000 Verizon Communications workers have gone on strike after failing to reach an agreement on union contracts. Communication Workers for America, the Verizon workers' union, claim Verizon refused to make any concessions and that the strike would continue until the company began bargaining more effectively. The company reports that Verizon Wireless customers will not be affected by the strike.

Freddie Mac Requests Bailout

Government-run mortgage company Freddie Mac applied Monday for \$1.5 billion in additional federal aid after reporting a \$4.7 billion loss during its April to June quarter. Standard Poor, a credit rating agency, dropped the rating for Freddie Mac, along with sister company, Fannie Mae, from AAA to AA+ based on the companies' dependency on government funding. Fannie Mae announced Friday it experienced a loss of \$5.2 billion in its second quarter. American taxpayers have already spent \$150 billion to rescue the mortgage giants and it is expected that number will rise as high as \$259 billion to fully rescue the firms.

Juno Probe Launch

NASA's \$1.1 billion unmanned spacecraft, named Juno, launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station on Friday. Its destination is Jupiter, and its estimated time of arrival is July 2016. With the spacecraft, NASA hopes to learn about the origin of the gas giant. The probe is expected to make at least 32 orbits around the planet and is powered by 18,000 solar cells mounted on its three wings.

72 Charged, 52 Arrested in Child Pornography Ring

The United States charged 72 members of the online site called Dreamboard and arrested 52 of them for sexually exploiting children from 12 years old to as young as infants. There are about 600 men who belonged to the members-only online bulletin board, which has now been taken down. According to authorities, the site encouraged and rewarded members who sexually abused young children and made them cry. The ring is based in the United States but reaches across five continents and 14 countries.

MLB Scores as of August 9, 2011

American League						
East	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Boston Red Sox	71	43	.623	--	--	Won 3
NY Yankees	69	44	.611	1.5	--	Lost 2
Tampa Bay Rays	60	54	.526	11.0	9.5	Won 1
Toronto Blue Jays	58	56	.509	13.0	11.5	Won 1
Baltimore Orioles	44	68	.393	26.0	24.5	Lost 2
Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Detroit Tigers	61	53	.535	--	--	Lost 1
Cleveland Indians	56	56	.500	4.0	12.5	Lost 1
Chicago White Sox	56	58	.491	5.0	13.5	Won 4
Minnesota Twins	51	64	.443	10.5	19.0	Lost 5
Kansas City Royals	49	66	.426	12.5	21.0	Lost 1
West	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Texas Rangers	65	51	.560	--	--	Won 2
LA Angels	63	52	.548	1.5	7.0	Won 1
Oakland Athletics	51	63	.447	13.0	18.5	Won 2
Seattle Mariners	49	65	.430	15.0	20.5	Lost 2

National League						
East	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Philadelphia Phillies	75	40	.652	--	--	Won 1
Atlanta Braves	67	49	.578	8.5	--	Won 2
New York Mets	57	57	.500	17.5	9.0	Won 1
Washington Nationals	55	59	.482	19.5	11.0	Won 1
Florida Marlins	55	60	.478	20.0	11.5	Lost 5
Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
Milwaukee Brewers	65	50	.565	--	--	Won 4
St. Louis Cardinals	62	53	.539	3.0	4.5	Won 4
Pittsburgh Pirates	55	59	.482	9.5	11.0	Won 1
Cincinnati Reds	55	60	.478	10.0	11.5	Lost 1
Chicago Cubs	49	66	.426	16.0	17.5	Lost 1
Houston Astros	38	77	.330	27.0	28.5	Won 1
West	W	L	Pct.	GB	WCGB	Streak
San Francisco Giants	63	53	.543	--	--	Lost 1
Arizona Diamondbacks	62	53	.539	0.5	4.5	Lost 1
Colorado Rockies	54	62	.466	9.0	13.0	Won 1
LA Dodgers	52	62	.456	10.0	14.0	Lost 2
San Diego Padres	51	65	.440	12.0	16.0	Lost 1

NFL Tests for Human Growth Hormones

The new NFL labor deal recently signed and put into effect includes a mandate that will regulate hormone testing. The deal, which is in effect for the next 10 years, legalized unlimited, random blood testing on any and all NFL players to test for human growth hormones. The screening program will begin on Sept. 8. The NFL is the first professional sports league in the U.S. to mandate hormone testing.

Adam Scott Won with Tiger's Caddie

Australian golfer Adam Scott won Sunday's WGC-Bridgestone Invitational in Akron, Ohio. The 31-year-old didn't just defeat golf superstar Tiger Woods, who tied for 37th, but did so with Woods' former caddie of 11 years, Steve Williams.

Real Madrid Signs 7-Year-Old

Football club Real Madrid signed 7-year-old Leonel Angel Coira of Argentina on Monday. The prodigy will begin his one-year contract on the club's youngest team, called the "Benjamins," on Sept. 6.

Beach Volleyball Begins in London

2012 Olympic Beach Volleyball preparations have begun in London with the London Prepares Series. The event, serving as a dress rehearsal for next year's Olympic games, will host 24 teams for the 54 matches taking place over six days. The United States' team of Jennifer Kessy and April Ross, number one in the world currently, are expected to take the tournament, but China's Chen Xue and Xi Zhang are expected to be strong competition.

NBA Draft Picks

The NBA completed its 2011 Draft picks. Highlights include the Cleveland Cavaliers choosing Kyrie Irving of Duke University as their number one pick and Tristan Thompson of Texas as another of their top four picks. The Minnesota Timberwolves landed Derrick Williams of Arizona as the number two pick and the Washington Wizards picked up Jan Vesely of the Czech Republic, the number six pick, who expected to complement the team's centerpiece, Wall. The Salt Lake City Jazz picked up Enes Kanter of Turkey to complete the number three pick.

61-year-old Attempts 60-Hour Swim

Endurance swimmer Diana Nyad attempted to swim some 103 miles from Cuba to Florida starting on Monday. The swim was estimated to take 60 hours. After 29 hours, Nyad opted to end her swim, due to unfavorable winds and currents. This was the second time she has attempted the swim; the first was in 1978. This time, however, she set out without using a shark cage.

World Badminton Championships

The World Badminton Championships began Monday in London. China, Japan and Indonesia represent the largest contingents in the competition, which is a prelude to the 2012 Summer Olympic Games.

Keselowski Wins Pocono

Nascar driver Brad Keselowski won Sunday's race at Pocono. The win was his second of his year, and he holds one of the two wild-card spots that could land him in the Chase. Keselowski drove on a broken ankle, an injury suffered during a test run in Atlanta a few days before.

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Exhibits at the Philmont Museum tell the history of Philmont, the Boy Scouts and Northeastern New Mexico. The Seton Memorial Library houses the personal library and artwork of Ernest Thompson Seton. Native American jewelry, art, collectibles and one of the largest book selections in the county can be found in the Museum Gift Shop.

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Tour Times: Early Bird at 7:45 am

On the hour and half hour:

8:00—11:00 am

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 First Avenger

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 Taos, NM 87571
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Show times generally start around noon. The last showing starts at 9:45 p.m.

30 Minutes or Less (R)
 Final Destination 5 3D (R)
 The Help (PG-13)
 The Change-Up (R)
 Rise of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13)
 Cowboys & Aliens (PG-13)
 The Smurfs (PG)
 The Smurfs 3D (PG)

Live Music in Taos

There is live music on the Taos Plaza every Thursday fro, 6-8 p.m. It is free admission and runs through September, 8, 2011.

Albuquerque Film Festival

August 18 through August 21 from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Doors open at 12 a.m. There will be feature films shown such as Amigo and panels where people can hear from the top Hollywood insiders about the latest trends, rumors and advice. Tickets range from \$30 to \$199 for passes although for an individual film it costs \$10. Passes can be purchased online at <http://www.abqfilmfestival.com/> and picked up starting Wednesday, August 17 at The KiMo Theatre on 423 Central Ave. in NW Albuquerque.

US Supercar Tour

Featuring Ferrari, Lamborghini, Bentley, and Aston Martin
 Date: Saturday, August 20, 2011
 Time: 7:30 a.m.
 Venue: El Monte Sagrado Resort - A Kessler Hotel, Taos, NM
 317 Kit Carson Rd., Taos, NM, 87571

Bruce Lee's Fur-Lined Jacket Sells for \$70,000

The fur-lined jacket of Bruce Lee was bought at an auction in Hong Kong for \$77,000 by a US couple on Saturday August 6. The jacket was worn by Lee when he was filming Game of Death in 1973, which was not finished because he died later that year at the age of 32. This was the largest auction of Bruce Lee memorabilia sold by a private collector.

Competitive Facial Hair Contest

Whisker Wars— a reality series about competitive facial hair—debuted on IFC Friday, August 5. The show will follow "Beard Team USA" as it competes in preparation for the World Beard and Mustache Championships held in Norway.

Pottermore Site Hit by Con Men

Scams revolve around the early access to the Pottermore site where JK Rowling will release more stories and background from the world of Harry Potter. However, scammers and con men have been selling fake accounts for the site that claim to give fans early access when the site does not open to the public until October. There are beta accounts for those who are among the fastest to complete a magical quill challenge on the Pottermore site, but the challenge runs through July 31 to August 6. Scammers are also using search engine poisoning to direct Potter fans to sites that are seeded with viruses and other malicious programs.

Warhol Sculpture Unveiled

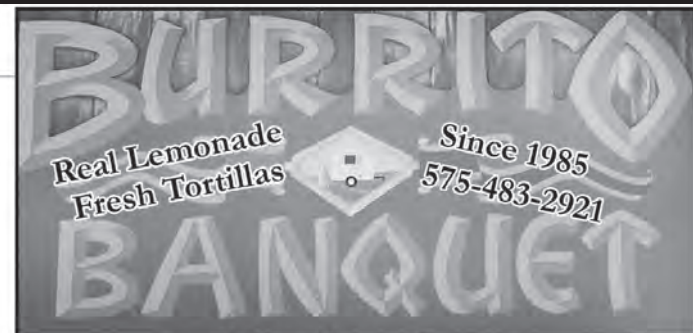
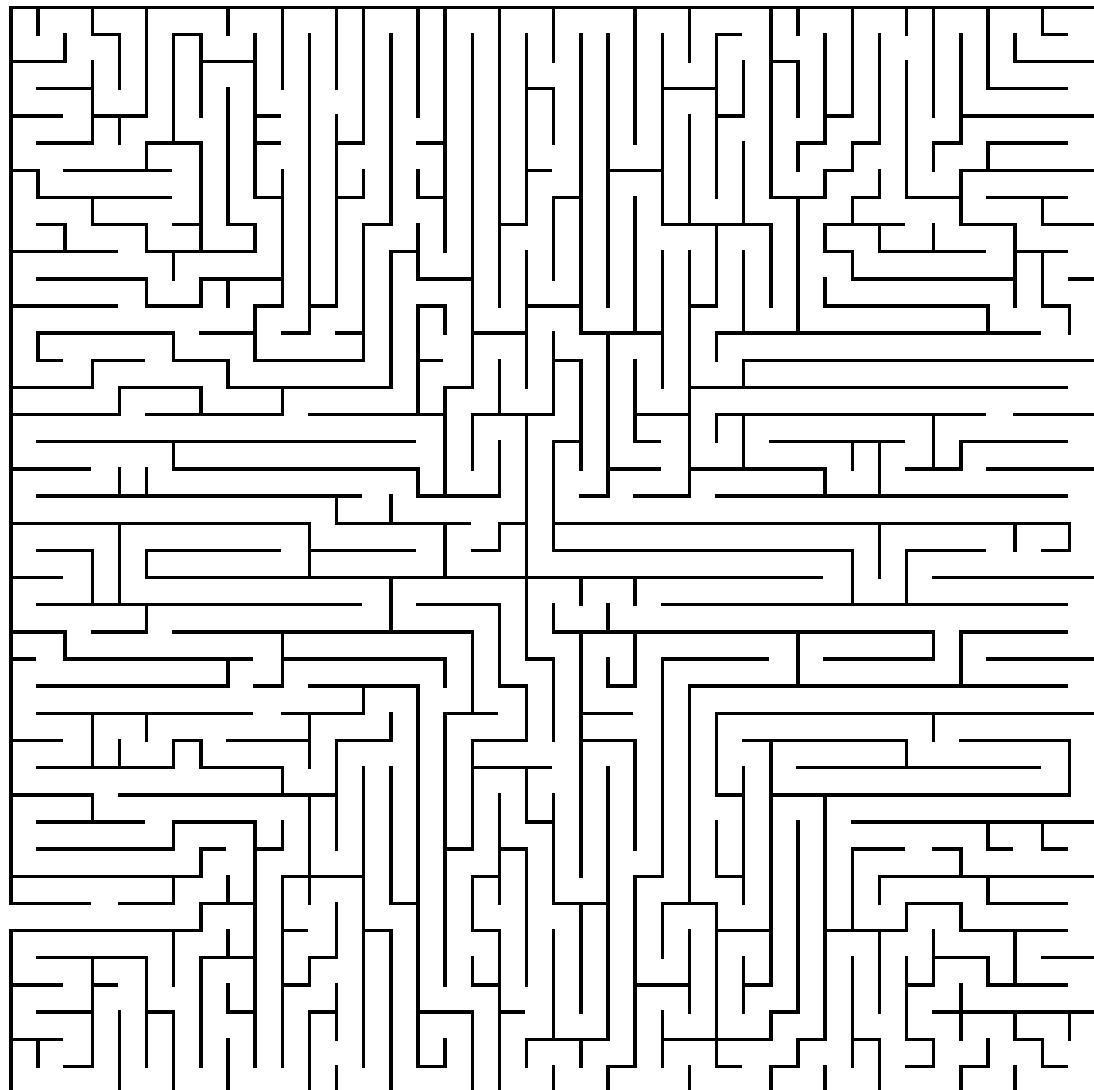
A sculpture of pop artist, Andy Warhol, was unveiled on Friday August 5 depicting what he might of looked like if he was still alive. The sculpture was unveiled to mark his 83rd birthday and made by Artist Edgar Askelevic who spent three months working on the piece. Askelevic had sold his car to buy silicone and clay used to create the lifelike work which is based on an old photograph of Warhol before he died in 1987 at the age of 58. The sculpture shows Warhol with deep wrinkles and without his teeth and in a squatting position.

Poppins Musical Dominates Helpmann Awards

Mary Poppins, a musical production, dominated the Helpmann Awards at the Sydney Opera House in Australia on Monday, August 2. It won eight of the 12 categories it was nominated in along with the show's stars, Matt Lee and Verity Hunt-Ballard, who both won acting prizes. Walt Disney production also took the coveted best musical award and Geoffrey Rush and Cate Blanchett each won a prize. Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Love Never Dies* won three prizes.

Cuba Opens Beatles Bar

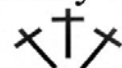
The Beatles wafted through the air, played by the house band at a new bar in Cuba called the Yellow Submarine where such an act might have led to arrests in the mid-1960s. The entire crowd began singing along, swaying or belting out the chorus to "Let it Be" when the band played one night. Many Cubans recall having to sneak a listen to whatever Beatles album they could find in the wake of the Cuban missile crisis and the American trade embargo. Cuban authorities—some of them—saw anything English as American and practically treasonous.



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

Puzzle number : 541286796
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Level : Easy

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

Puzzle number : 398761845
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Level : Medium

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

Puzzle number : 694418337
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Level : Evil

Sudoku Answers (Hold Up to a Mirror)

8	3	9	1	5	4	2	8
8	5	2	3	4	9	8	1
1	4	1	8	2	8	5	3
5	8	1	9	8	3	2	1
3	2	4	1	5	1	9	8
1	9	8	4	8	2	3	5
2	1	8	5	9	4	1	8
4	8	3	2	1	8	1	5
9	1	5	8	3	1	8	4

3	5	9	8	2	1	1	8
8	1	2	1	4	3	9	8
4	1	8	8	9	3	1	2
1	8	8	2	3	4	5	1
2	9	4	5	8	1	8	3
1	3	5	9	1	8	4	2
8	4	1	3	1	9	2	8
9	8	1	1	5	2	8	4
5	2	3	4	8	1	9	1

5	3	1	1	9	8	8	4
8	2	9	3	8	4	1	5
8	4	1	5	1	2	9	3
2	1	8	5	1	3	9	4
4	1	5	1	3	9	2	8
9	8	3	4	2	8	5	1
3	5	8	9	4	1	1	2
1	8	4	2	1	5	8	3
1	9	2	8	3	4	5	1