

# PHILMONT AMBASSADOR UPDATE

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SERVING BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD

WINTER 2018

## Winter Dreams of Philmont

Colder weather encourages us to hunker down and think of last summer's adventures. It also gets Scouters to thinking about their family vacation plans for the coming year. This makes it the perfect time to coax them to bypass the lines at Disneyland or other such tourist areas and head for the wide open spaces of Philmont in New Mexico.

Many Scouters don't realize what a bargain PTC is until they factor in the hotel, restaurant, and admission costs of commercial establishments. PTC fees cover most everything

including accommodation and meals. PTC programs include everyone in their family from 6 months to young adults. Instead of waiting in those long lines, they could be having real adventures!

The 2018 PTC schedule is now available along with the more comprehensive description of the conferences in the 8-Page "Conferences and Family Planning Program Information". Printed copies can be ordered from the Resources page on the Philmont web site.



Although Philmont's bison are accustomed to the snow and cold of winter in the backcountry, they also dream of warmer weather and summer visitors.

## Philmont Leadership Challenge Perfect Follow-up for Wood Badge



Adults learn to internalize and practice their leadership skills in the action-packed Philmont Leadership Conference (PLC) in the backcountry. The conference hones the skills learned in Wood Badge in an outdoor experiential learning environment. PLC underscores the values of Scouting and teamwork while promoting the concept of servant leadership.

"I heard about PLC from our Philmont Ambassador at a Roundtable," said Michelle Pitt, an Assistant Scoutmaster in the Northern Star Council covering parts of Minnesota and Wisconsin. "I loved being on Wood Badge staff, and I wanted more."

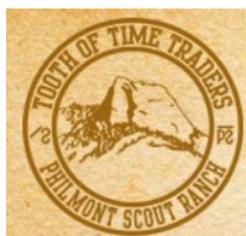
"It was a treat meeting and making Scouting friends from all over the country. I loved the real scenario drills as well as learning all about UTM coordinates. I learned that I was stronger than I thought. PLC

helped me find those strengths so that I could help others find theirs."

"My best memory of PLC was the re-dedication to Scouting ceremony on our night hike up the mesa, while standing under that great dome of stars," recollected Michelle.

Participation is open only to those who have successfully completed the Wood Badge course, but all ticket items do not need to be completed before taking the PLC. Like all backcountry experiences, Scouters have to meet Philmont's health requirements, Parts A, B and C.

Two dates are available in 2018: Week 4 from July 1 to 7 and Week 11 from September 16 to 22. Participants should be aware that they will be in the backcountry during their entire PLC course. If they have children in the Family Program, another parent or guardian must be at the Philmont Training Center to care for them.



## Tooth of Time Traders Boosts Display Appeal

Tooth of Time Traders is the place to go for items and apparel to show your Philmont spirit. Shirts and hats identify your connection with both the camping program and PTC as you make the rounds. Stickers, backcountry camp patches and posters give your display an added dimension.

Many Ambassadors accessorize their displays with custom Philmont-themed items. "We help lots of Ambassadors who call asking for the vectors [computer files] that they can use to print logos on their clothing and on table coverings for their exhibits," offered Shelley O'Neill, Director of Business Operations. "We supply the artwork, and they have a commercial printer put it on their materials."

Philmont maps are popular because they illustrate the Ranch's ever-increasing program areas. Scouters who have not been there lately may not be aware that treks have expanded into the Chase Ranch and North Country. Maps help Scouts re-live their trek routes and inspire them to go to Philmont again.

The store stocks books that expand your knowledge of the Philmont area and its stories. Beyond the Hills, The Journey of Waite Phillips by Michael Wallis follows Waite from his birth in Iowa to his passing in California in 1974. A Million Miracles, 75 Years at Philmont Scout Ranch by David Mullings explores the area's history from the footprints of a T-Rex to those of the Millionth Trekker.

[Click here to go to the Tooth of Time Traders site.](#)

## Summer Jobs Entice Young Adults

Each summer, Philmont hires more than 1,100 staff members, mostly young adults from 18 to 26 years old. People with a wide variety of backgrounds and skills are needed

**Ambassadors can help recruit the staff Philmont needs by including information in their exhibits about the unique opportunities that Philmont has to offer young adults.**

for the many jobs to be done. They operate and support outdoor skills training, backcountry programs, living history programs, a national training center, food service, maintenance, retail operations, guest services, museums, administration, ranching and horse programs.

Applicants must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America or

## Who's Who at Philmont

### Grant Reigelman, Philmont Training Center Director

**DUTIES AT PHILMONT:** I am thrilled to be coming on board to serve as the Philmont Training Center Director. Previously I was on the full time staff as Associate Director of Program managing backcountry operations along with Autumn Adventure and the Fly Fishing Invitational.

**NUMBER OF YEARS AT PHILMONT:** 6

**PRIOR POSITIONS AT PHILMONT:**

- 2007 - Program Counselor at Apache Springs
- 2009 - CD at Baldy Town
- 2010 - CD Sawmill

**PRIOR SCOUTING POSITIONS OUTSIDE PHILMONT:** Served a District Executive in the Conquistador Council for 4 years prior to coming to Philmont in 2014.

**MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE AT PHILMONT:** I have many, but the one that comes to mind was from my Autumn Adventure trek in 2013. I had the chance to hike with my dad for a week in October of that year and it was one of the most memorable hikes I've ever been on. We got to hike through Cyphers Mine and over the Tooth of Time. The weather was perfect, and the fall colors were at their peak.

**MOST HUMEROUS EXPERIENCE AT PHILMONT:** Over my time working with Backcountry Staff, I always get a good laugh out of watching participants work with Burros and climb spar poles at Pueblano and Crater Lake. It's great to see and hear their reactions as they conquer new challenges in both of those activities!



## Important Dates

January 1, 2018	Trek \$100/participant deposit due
March 1, 2018	Second 1/2 fee (balance) for 2018 Treks
March 20, 2018 (est.)	2019 Itinerary Guidebooks mailed out
April 4-5, 2018 (est.)	Philmont Itinerary Selection Gateway Open
June 1, 2018	2019 Participant 1/2 fee due
June 8, 2018	Treks begin
June 10, 2018	PTC Opens

## Philmont

### Ambassador Responses Keep Rolling In

Thanks to the many of you who are continuing your important role as Philmont Ambassadors. We look forward to hearing back from everyone soon. If you have questions or need other information, please contact your regional coordinator listed on this page.

We also welcome your ideas for newsletter articles. Contact Tom Baltutis, Editor, with your suggestions at [tfbaltutis@gmail.com](mailto:tfbaltutis@gmail.com).

## Two New Weeks of Conferences

Philmont Training Center staff are hard at work lining up conferences and instructors for two additional weeks this summer. The decision of the LDS to discontinue its leadership conferences at PTC provides an opportunity to address new opportunities in the Scouting program and increase the number of conferences in popular topics.

No schedule is available as of this date, but Ambassadors will be kept fully informed on developments.

## Philmont Ambassador Newsletter

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## Winter Fitness Key to Summer Trek Preparation

Summer may seem an eon away weather-wise, but we know there are only 6 short months before Crews begin stepping onto Philmont Trails. So now is the time serious effort goes into physical conditioning.

Hopefully, advisors were able to attend one of the PASS or PAW sessions last fall. There they learned many of the ins and outs of how to get their scouts and themselves ready. For those who did

out there. Winter day outings or overnights that include skiing are great endurance-building adventures. Earning the Snow Sports Merit Badge by completing the Cross-Country Skiing requirements is a great way to keep Scouts focused on fitness.

Other ways of keeping fit during the winter include swimming or playing basketball. The important thing is to build and maintain cardiovascular endurance. Completing the Personal Fitness merit badge is a great motivator.



not, there is still a wealth of advice on the internet and from fellow Scouters on what to expect.

Those in southern climates have the advantage of milder winters to continue to work on hiking and camping skills. Being in cooler weather now helps them prepare for the brisk morning air in Philmont's mountains that they'll experience even in July. Knowing how to layer to be comfortable when morning temperatures are in the mid-30's aids in planning just what little extras like a stocking cap or light gloves can mean.

Northerners have different challenges, but can more than compensate.

Cross-country skiing is about the most cardiovascular-intense exercise

hiking up it and down several times gets your body used to the different muscles you'll be calling on during your summer Trek.

"Feet time" is a concept from marathon racing that is a useful training tool. "Feet time" means that it's important to spend as much time on your feet as you expect to run or hike. For Philmont, it means that if you expect to hike for four hours a day, they you should practice being on your feet for four hours a day just walking or standing. You don't have to walk the same distance, but just be on your feet that long. This strengthens your lower body so you don't get 'leg weary' while on the trail.



### Table Top Tips Effective Display Ideas from Pros

Many ambassadors use tabletop displays to show all the information on what Philmont has to offer. Unfortunately, there's almost TOO much information provided, often in small print when using available Philmont promotional brochures and posters.

On-line tips from the advertising world are readily available to help us out. Some of the eye-catching techniques the pros use to make their displays stand out are:

- **Adding attractive graphics**  
Philmont Banners add height and color to make your display stand out.
- **Incorporating large images**  
Big photos make big impacts and attract attention.
- **Eliminating unnecessary text**  
Bullet points make it easy to read key information
- **Using readable fonts**  
Simple fonts like Ariel are easy to read quickly

- **Using a table cover**  
Covering up a drab table makes it more professional looking.
- **Interacting with passers-by**  
Stand in front of, not behind, your display and reach out to people instead of having them come up to you.
- **Reducing clutter**  
Keeping your table neat and clean makes it look professional.

Philmont banners which are loaned for free or can be purchased for \$150 are a way to enliven your display with bold graphics.

You can create your own posters using software like Microsoft Publisher. While printing large format posters is expensive, a lot can be done with 11 x 17 tabloid sized sheets. Some home printers can accommodate the larger size paper or you can have them printed at a local copy shop. Using cardstock instead of paper makes them more durable.

## FAQS

- Q. I also serve as my district's communication chair, and I'd like to develop some council/district-specific marketing pieces for Philmont. Is there a Philmont-specific branding guide available beyond the BSA Brand Guidelines, or is there any specifics for keeping consistency with the updates in Philmont's marketing?
- A. There is no official brand guide for Philmont at this time. We ask that you honor the standard brand guidelines that all brands have and don't manipulate (distort, skew, add to/remove anything) the logos and use common colors (nothing too out there). Until the marketing manager position is filled you can email me (dominic.baima@scouting.org) and I am happy to send you logos for your ambassador needs. Please let me know which logos you need and what format you need them in (jpg, vector, pdf, etc.) Vectors are also available through the Tooth of Time Traders.
- Q. Is there a PDF flier for PLC/NAYLE?
- A. There is one posted on the Philmont Ambassador page by Jim Ellis.
- Q. Where is the laundry facility at PTC?
- A. The one at CHQ is between the TOTT and the Staff Dining Room. The PTC laundry is between the Small Fry building and the Buster Brown building.
- Q. How soon can I sign up for PTC Conferences?
- A. PTC registration is now open.

## Philmont Area Museums Attract Thousands

Visitors to the Cimarron area can immerse themselves in several facilities run by the Ranch's Museums and Philmont Education Center. Silverados in particular can take advantage of their time by touring them all.

### National Boy Scout Museum

Heading the list for 2018 will be the



Artist's concept of the new Scout Museum entrance.

National Scouting Museum which is relocating from Texas to New Mexico. The museum's move to Philmont--which 32,000 people visit every year--will introduce even more to Scouting's story. Scouts throughout the country will be able to see its unique collection.

The move was done with the generous donations of many, including contributors to the "Buy a Brick Program".

Committed to preserving the rich, 100-plus-year history of the Scouting movement, the museum staff collects, organizes, preserves and displays Scouting's treasures. This collection not only documents Scouting's unique influence on American culture, but it also tells the story of a movement that has positively affected the lives of more than 110 million young people.

Visitors to the museum will learn surprising new Scouting lore, like John F. Kennedy was the first Scout to become President.

### Seton Memorial Library

The Seton Memorial Library is home to the personal art, library, and natural history collections of the founder

and first Chief Scout of the Boy Scouts of America, Ernest Thompson Seton. The library will be part of the National Museum.

### Kit Carson Museum at Rayado

Philmont lies on part of a land grant given to Carlos Beaubien and Guadalupe Miranda by the Mexican government in 1841. Mountain man Lucien Maxwell founded a colony on the grant on the Rayado River in 1848. A year later, he was joined at the settlement by frontiersman Kit Carson. Their ranch on the Rayado was visited by many traders traveling on the Santa Fe Trail.

In 1950 the Boy Scouts of America built an adobe museum at Rayado to serve as an interpretive area to portray its history and recount the exploits of Maxwell and Carson. It was named in honor of Kit Carson.

Staff at the Kit Carson Museum dress in period clothing and demonstrate frontier skills and crafts like blacksmithing, cooking, shooting, and farming. Each room in the museum is outfitted with reproduction furniture and objects typical of New Mexico in the 1850s. The Rayado Trading Company, located at the museum, sells books, maps, reproduction tools and equipment, moccasins, and blankets.

The Kit Carson Museum is seven miles south of Philmont's headquarters on New Mexico Highway 21.

### Historic Chase Ranch Museum

Founded in 1869, the Chase Ranch was successfully owned and operated by the Chase family for over 143 years. The historic adobe ranch house offers a glimpse of ranch life starting around the time of the Colfax County land grant war, through the territorial & statehood periods and into modern times. This ranch and the Chase family were instrumental in transforming western ranching into what it is today!

During the summer months, guided tours are available of the main house, grounds, orchards and tack room. The site includes restrooms, picnic amenities and a gift shop.

### Villa Philmonte

The gem of the Philmont museums is the Villa Philmonte, given by Waite and Genevieve Philips, to form the basis of Philmont Training Center.

The Villa was the summer home of Waite and Genevieve and their family. It was constructed in the Spanish Mediterranean style from 1926 to 1927 and is 28,400 square feet in size. The Villa Philmonte is a house museum today. Tour guides tell the story of the Phillips family, their Philmont Ranch, and the gifting of their ranch in two parcels to the Boy Scouts of America in 1938 and 1941.

## Philmont Facts

- Philmont is the world's largest youth camp, consisting of 140,171 acres, or about 220 square miles. There are 315 miles of trails, 35 staffed backcountry camps and 770 campsites.
- Over 22,000 Scouts and Leaders are expected to go on 12-day treks this summer. Every day, 350 arrive, 350 leave, and 3,500 are hiking in the backcountry.

## FOCUS ON THE BACKCOUNTRY

### Apache Springs

Staffed Camp  
Commissary  
Elevation 9,400

**Description:** Located in the far SW corner of the ranch, Apache Springs sits on the edge of a large alpine meadow. The program relates the history and culture of the Jicarilla Apache who inhabited the area until the mid-19th Century.

**Activities:** History and lifestyle of Jicarilla Apache, make arrowheads, "sweat lodge", archery.

**Water:** Potable spigot

**Nearby Camps:** Lost Cabins, Agua Fria, Bear Canyon

**Trails:** Apache Springs is in the far southwestern part of camp. Trails from Bear Canyon Camp, Agua Fria and Lost Cabins lead to the camp. To Aqua Fria Creek, you descend the 'seven deadly switchbacks' built as part of a conservation project or you can take the gentler route through Lost Cabins and down Turkey Creek.

### Treks Stopping at Apache Springs (2017):

- 1- Day 5 - Pass through
- 2-Day 8 - Pass through
- 3-Days 7 & 8 - Layover Camp
- 5-Days 5 & 6 - Layover Camp
- 12- Day 5 - Pass through
- 14- Day 7 - Camp stop
- 17-Day 6 - Pass through



(Above) Jicarilla Apache life interpreter explains the ways of southwest natives.



(Below) Archery ranges challenge Trekkers to hit 3-D targets.

## New Pueblano Staff Cabin Ready for Summer Trekkers



Philmont may seem timeless, but time and nature do take their toll on human-built structures. The staff cabin at Pueblano was no exception. Members of Philmont staff along with local contractors built a new cabin, pictured here, to replace the aging structure. Outfitting its interior will take place next spring so it will be ready come June for the next wave of Trekkers, along with anything nature throws at it.

### Waite Phillip's Epigrams



Epigram. *Def.* A brief, interesting, memorable, and sometimes surprising or satirical statement.

Waite Phillips collected epigrams that inspired him. One of his own is:

"A boy is fortunate who learns to work, either by his own initiative or through necessity. That, in my opinion, is God's plan for humanity and therefore an important part of my religious principles."

A pamphlet containing Waite's epigrams was first published by his son, Elliott (Chope) in 1964 and is available from the Tooth of Time Traders.

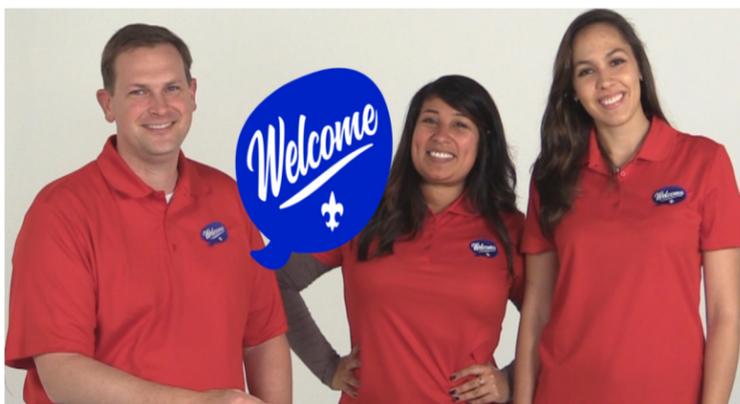
### Conference Spotlight

## "Everyone Likes To Be Welcomed" Conference Helps Recruit Families

Sustaining strong membership in a unit depends not only on having new members join the unit, but also on engaging youth and their families in the unit experiences so that they feel welcomed and want to stay. The role of the *New Member Coordinator (NMC)* is to ensure that both keys to success

them home to share with fellow Scouters.

This conference is recommended for New Member Coordinators, unit leaders, and Membership Committee members of all levels including Scouters who want to help grow Scouting.



Philmont's "Everyone Likes To Be Welcomed" Conference teaches New Member Coordinators to go all out to make families new to the Scouting program feel they belong and are valued.

take place. Recognizing the importance of whole-family recruiting, the BSA has created a committee-level position called "New Member Coordinator" to help ensure that boys, and soon to be girls, as well as their siblings and parents, feel part of the Scouting Family as soon as they join.

On-line courses are available at [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org). Better still, attending the 2018 PTC conference "Everyone Likes To Be Welcomed – Reaching and Engaging Scout Families" is an excellent way for a Council or District Membership Committee member to learn key concepts and bring

The course will be offered during Week 8 which is from July 29 to August 4.

In itself, the New Member Coordinator position has been designed to:

- Be a fun and engaging position.
- Form relationships with new members and their families.
- Use a team approach by encouraging more than one NMC in a unit, allowing them to tailor their work to individual interests/expertise, as well as to recognize the



Paul Yelk stands ready to inform attendees about all Philmont's programs at the Inland Northwest Council's volunteer recognition dinner.

### Ambassador Profile

## Paul Yelk, Inland Northwest Council

Anyone who has checked out our Ambassador Facebook page is familiar with Paul Yelk's frequent comments and advice. Paul became an Ambassador in 2013 as soon as the position was inaugurated.

"I was attending the Advancement Issues conference at Philmont in 2013, and Andrea Watson (then PTC Director) made a presentation about the Ambassador program," remembered Paul. "After seeing how great the area around Philmont was, plus the awesome staff and great programs offered there, I decided I needed to promote Philmont."

Paul's role as Ambassador to the Inland Northwest Council has provided him with a multitude of challenges. The Council has headquarters in Spokane WA, services more than 10,000 youth and involves over 5,000 adult volunteers.

It covers eastern Washington state and northern Idaho from the Canadi-

an border south to Grangeville ID (a distance of over 200 miles) and from near Ritzville WA on the west to near Orofino ID in the east (a distance of over 125 miles) – a big piece of the country encompassing almost 30,000 square miles!

In order to cover the extensive territory, which can be especially treacherous in the winter, Paul relies on his trusty Jeep Wrangler.

The distances don't phase him, though. "I've driven as far as 75 miles to make a presentation at a District Roundtable," commented Paul. Such dedication pays off whenever someone new enrolls in a PTC conference.

Paul has found many other places to spread the word. The Council's annual University of Scouting, STEM University (to promote backcountry Treks), Wood Badge and Scout Shop camping sale events have all hosted Paul and his winning smile.

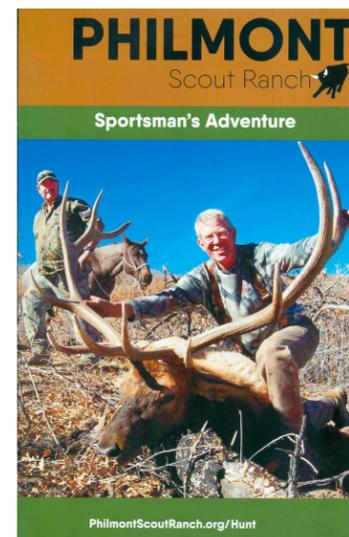
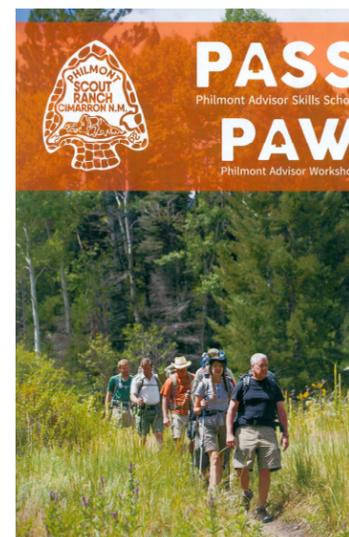
## 2018 Trek Preparation Now Gets Serious

Philmont preparations shift from being a great idea to an impending challenge during the early months of 2018. Here's what Crews should be doing and expecting in the coming months.

In early 2018, Advisors should:

- Check that each participant has scheduled their medical exam and review the completed medical forms prior to shakedown activities.
- Continue updating Philmont news in their unit bulletin.
- Begin a physical fitness training plan. Adults carrying any extra weight should lose it now.
- Plan a series of training experiences prior to arrival at Philmont (two or three are recommended); start easy and increase the difficulty, with several days of camping and hiking with full packs.
- Send reminder for the final fee payment due to Philmont by March 1.

Crews should be considering how far they want to hike, the scenery they want to enjoy and the programs they want to experience. Treks vary year-by-year. Taking a look at the 2017 routes gives Crews a good idea of the range and scope of the adventures ahead. Crews will be notified in March of their itinerary selection window which happens over a two day period in April.



## New Pamphlets on Trek Prep and Hunting Opportunities

Philmont has developed two brochures that are available to describe opportunities not widely known to potential Philmont attendees.

One covers trek preparation courses that are held at Councils that historically have had high Philmont attendance as well as at Philmont.

### Philmont Advisor Seminar (PAW)

PAW is a two hour long classroom session to prepare Advisors. Training will be held during 2018 for those scheduled for 2019 treks.

The PAW seminar covers basic topics like setting up a unit Philmont committee, youth training, and conditioning suggestions.

### Philmont Advisors Skills School (PASS)

Field-PASS is an 8-hour program offered at Councils around the county. It provides hands-on training in addition to the organizational information provided at PAW. Backcountry techniques on safety, sanitation, and camp set up are covered.

PSR-PASS is a weekend course given at Philmont which has more hands-on backcountry training.

### Sportsman Adventure

Waite Phillips was attracted to the Cimarron area for its opportunities to hunt and fish. He often invited friends to join him in the backcountry on fishing and hunting expeditions.

Since the 1940's, Philmont has been offering guided, invitational big game hunts to those actively involved in Scouting. Sportsmen are considered upon recommendation from a local council Scout Executive. If approved, Sportsmen will be able to submit an application to hunt, which must be accompanied by a deposit. If successful in the draw, Sportsmen will receive a letter of acceptance. If unsuccessful, Philmont will refund the deposit and Sportsmen will remain on the mailing list for future hunts.

All hunters must purchase a Game-hunting or Game-hunting and Fishing License before applying for any big game draw license.