

EXPLORING

Philmont

/2

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
FOR ALL CAMPERS



ISSUED BY

Philmont Scout Ranch

CIMARRON, NEW MEXICO

PHILMONT PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Philmont is the "Biggest boys' camp on earth" and it was given to the Boy Scouts of America by Mr. Waite Phillips for a purpose. We quote from the plaque that hangs in the foyer of the patio entrance to the Big House at Philmont.

"THE PHILTOWER BUILDING
THE PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH

THESE PROPERTIES
ARE DONATED AND DEDICATED
TO THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERPETUATING
FAITH - SELF RELIANCE - INTEGRITY - FREEDOM
PRINCIPALS USED TO BUILD THIS GREAT COUNTRY
BY THE AMERICAN PIONEER

SO THAT
THESE FUTURE CITIZENS MAY
THROUGH THOUGHTFUL ADULT GUIDANCE
AND BY THE INSPIRATION OF NATURE
VISUALIZE AND FORM A CODE OF LIVING
TO DILIGENTLY MAINTAIN THESE HIGH IDEALS
AND OUR PROPER DESTINY"

"WAITE PHILLIPS
DECEMBER 31, 1941"

In addition, we wish to offer opportunities here for the Explorer:

- To put his Scouting Skills to the test;
- To have pride in membership in the Boy Scouts of America;
- To receive training and leadership in such outdoor skills that will prepare him to be of more help to his unit leader back home;
- To have fun and share experiences with Explorers from other parts of the country here on this big western ranch.

Therefore, the primary purpose of Philmont is to offer an attractive program of camping, training and high adventure to the Explorers of America.

SOME *Tips*

ON PREPARING for *Philmont*

WHILE HERE, YOU CAMP . . .

The one skill that contributes most to the enjoyment of an outdoor program is the camping. Philmont expects all units to be good "housekeepers" and to be so equipped that they can sleep comfortably on the ground, skilled in outdoor cooking so that they can eat well-balanced meals.

"Be prepared" for a real mountain camping experience . . . be willing to cooperate . . . and ready to explore Philmont.

CARE FOR YOURSELF . . .

Personal hygiene is becoming young men with a Scouting background. Such things as skin diseases, constipation, blisters on feet, or back, may make your experience at Philmont most miserable. Probably the most important item in this category is the care of the feet.

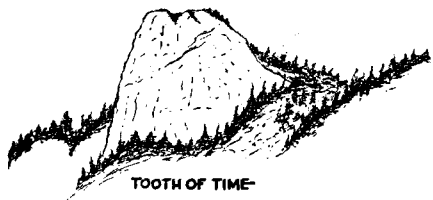
In choosing your shoes, the size is of primary importance. Be sure that they are plenty large so you can move your toes freely, but not so large as to let your heels move about. High tops of about six or eight inches, lace to the toe types are preferable. Leather soles are not the best for mountain hiking. Before coming to Philmont, break them in and get used to them on short hikes. However, don't wear them out. This is no place to bring old shoes or old clothing.

It is a matter of personal choice whether you wear cotton or wool socks. Most experienced hikers prefer wool

because it absorbs moisture, cushions the foot, and is warm even when wet. It is generally best to wear two pair of socks. (For winter camping, a pair of thin silk socks next to the feet helps.) You should have at least six pair of well-fitting socks.

Remember these simple rules: Keep your toenails trimmed short and square. Do not round the corners. Always treat cuts and sores immediately with antiseptic and bandage. Blisters should receive special and immediate attention whenever they occur. Your group will be glad to wait while you care for your feet because if neglected, they may become a serious menace to a happy camping trip by all. Cleanliness of feet and socks is understood by all good hikers, and always wash before and after a hike.

Our Scout Oath reminds us that we will keep ourselves "Physically Strong" so we ask that you do not smoke while at Philmont. Even though you may do it at home no tobacco of any form will be available to you here and we will have to ask that you do not bring your own.



TOOTH OF TIME-

WHAT TO BRING . . .

- * 2 T Shirts
- 2 shorts
- * 6 pair woolen socks
- 1 pair hiking shoes or boots. (6 to 8" tops)
- 4 Handkerchiefs
- * 1 Jacket
- * 1 Poncho or raincoat
- 1 pair moccasins or tennis shoes
- * 2 or more complete Explorer Uniforms
(This will be your trail clothes as well as for use at the base camps. Your outfit might want to be uniformed alike).
- * 1 Sleeping bag or 3 blankets.
- * 1 Ground Cloth
- * 1 Mess kit with eating utensils.
- * 1 Canteen
- * 1 Flashlight
- 1 Camera
- * 1 Shaving Kit
- 2 Towels, wash cloths.
- * 1 Toilet kit with soap, toothbrush, toothpaste.
- * 1 Pocket knife.
- * 1 Pack or pack board.
- * 1 Notebook and pencil

* These items are available at our trading post if you wish to secure them after your arrival here.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES . . .

We have two Chaplains assigned to Philmont, one furnished us by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting and the other is by the National Protestant Committee on Scouting. The Protestant Chaplain not only will be available for conferences and services but also will set the pat-

tern of all Protestant services being conducted at Philmont by Camp Directors and Senior Crew Leaders at the various base camps. The Catholic Chaplain also will be available for conferences and confessions throughout the week and on Sunday will conduct the early morning Mass at Ponil, Cimarroncito and Carson-Maxwell.

We make a special effort to see that all Catholic boys within five miles of a service are transported to the service and returned to their campsites—that is, where roads and program permit. A special dispensation exists in this Diocese that excuses the Catholic from a service if he is over five miles away. Our Chaplains endeavor to contact groups that are back in the mountains as soon as possible sometime during the week for conferences and confession.

Our camp menus on Friday are such that the Catholic campers can live up to regulations of diet.

For those of the Jewish faith who are at Philmont, we furnish them with the booklet "Jewish Religious Service" issued by the Jewish Committee on Scouting and encourage them to use this in a religious service of their own.

MEDICAL ATTENTION . . .

Philmont has the services of three or more Doctors. One, an older established Doctor with authority to practice in New Mexico, will be the General Supervisor of our first aid and medical program. Then we will have two young Doctors, either in their senior year or Internship at a recognized Medical College, who will be giving physical rechecks and traveling about the ranch attending to the sick and injured. Each base camp has its first aid station supervised by a reputable first aid attendant.

PACKING YOUR EQUIPMENT . . .

A real Camper knows how to live from his pack. We suggest you pack your belongings in two separate pieces of

luggage. First—pack your personal items and equipment that you will need enroute to Philmont in pack sack or kit bag. Wear your uniform and be sure all articles are marked with your name and home town. Second—pack the articles you will not need until you reach Philmont: Camping equipment checked through in heavy duffle bags, clothing, bedroll, etc. If coming by train or commercial bus, forward your baggage at least three days ahead of your departure.

YOUR PROPERTY . . .

It is important that every camper coming to Philmont has every item of his personal gear with a name tag sewed on it or in some way properly identified. Therefore, we have instituted the following system and will want all coming to Philmont to acquaint themselves with it.

LOCKER SYSTEM:

1. A padlock with individual key on each locker.
2. One key to be issued to leader or Advisor of group when lock is issued; the second key to be in custody of adult in charge of the lockers.
3. No one to be allowed to open locker to put in or take out equipment except the leader to whom key is issued or member of his group to whom he has assigned key.
4. Any equipment sent in from base camps to be put into locker must be accompanied by leader of group or member to whom he has assigned key. The party accompanying the equipment to be returned to his group as soon as conveniently possible.
5. At no time is any property to be returned to lockers by our staff members (truck drivers) unless said property is accompanied by member of group to whom it belongs.

LOST AND FOUND:

All articles to be turned in at one location and registered in a book provided for same.

TRANSPORTATION . . .

CHARTERED BUS

Those coming by chartered bus should indicate their destination as Philmont — not Cimarron. Philmont is 5 miles south of Cimarron on state highway 21. (Your bus driver is welcome to lay-over here at Philmont if the bus is to be parked here during your group's stay. He should bring his bedroll and we assign a bunk in the Rocky Mountain Shelter. Meals and lodging at casual camper rates — \$3.00 per day.)

COMMERCIAL BUS

If you and your group are coming via commercial bus line, your destination is Cimarron. Upon arrival in Cimarron, call the Philmont camp office and ask for the Dispatcher who will send a vehicle in for you.

TRAINS

Those coming by train are to get off at Raton. Arrangements can be made with us beforehand to pick you up there with our bus. This service increases your fees \$2.50 per person, round-trip Raton to Philmont.

If your arrival time in Raton is around midnight, get some rest by reserving rooms at either the Yucca or El Portal hotels there in Raton. (We have found some hardy groups asleep in the bedrolls on the lawn there at the depot.)

YOUR SCOUTING APPLIED AT PHILMONT . . .

Camping is a basic skill of Scouting. Very few men go camping for camping's sake. They do go fishing, hunting, exploring or just vacationing and their ability at the skill of camping determines whether or not they enjoy the trip. When you were a Boy Scout, you were taught this basic skill on hikes, overnight camps, etc.; and if you were attentive to your duty as a member of the

Patrol or as a leader in the troop, you probably learned much that has to do with "housekeeping along the trail."

One reason the Boy Scouts of America decided that Philmont was to be a National Explorer Camp is that they felt that Explorers — having a knowledge of this basic skill — would so conserve the natural beauty that it would be left year after year just as it is. Let's join together and be worthy stewards of that trust placed in us.

CAMP KEEPING: Have your camp ready for inspection by 8:30 each morning.

RANGERS REQUEST

Scrub inside of chuck box and clean the outside of all containers in the chuck box.

Burn all paper and cans thoroughly. Be sure that all garbage is completely removed from the cans by burning.

Wash the inside of all bottles to remove anything in which flies might breed.

Avoid burning of bottles in fireplaces. When the bottles are taken from fireplace, it is impossible to prevent scattering of glass over the campsite.

Break the clean bottles into the can pit. This eliminates the accumulation of water in the bottles in which flies or mosquitos might breed. The bottles also take up less room this way.

Avoid raking the campsite as much as possible. This helps prevent erosion by leaving a porous top covering to the soil.

Garbage Disposal: It is very important to burn garbage, paper, and cans. Trash left around marks a poor camper. Refuse, including cans, should be burned — it will be hauled away or buried later.

Scrub off all serving shelves with hot water so that all garbage is removed in which flies might lay eggs.

Use the grease trap for all of your wash water. Be sure to scrape all of the garbage off of the grease trap screen. Burn it in the same manner as all other garbage.

WHEN WASHING DISHES MAKE SURE YOU RINSE THEM IN BOILING WATER.

Wash out your cooking utensils — including dutch ovens — with hot soapy water. Rinse and dry with heat. (After your dutch ovens are thoroughly clean and dry, rub a thin skim of clean grease on the inside — then put cover back on to keep out dust.)

Follow these simple rules of cleanliness and you will have a much happier and healthier stay at Philmont.

Ditching Tents: With so many campers using our campsites in a season, we have found it advisable not to ditch. Pick a spot where the tents will have a good natural drainage and build your bed up off the ground. Lay old pine needles or leaves two or three inches deep underneath your poncho or groundcloth. This will enable you to keep your bed dry.

Hikes: At Philmont we always hike or explore in groups of three or more, never alone, then always with permission of the Outfit Advisor, who is expected to know where his members are at all times. We know you have come here to enjoy the mountain trails and we want you to get all of that you can; we disapprove of trips along the highway or to town. Generally speaking, it is better to follow the trails and not cut across the country. Lots of short-cuts turn out to be impassable. As you hike through fenced areas, be sure to close gates or leave them open, according to the way you find them. Help us keep our trails cleared. If you find a big rock on the trail, move it off. If there is a tree across the trail, cut it out.

Comfortable high top shoes and plenty of wool socks will help in mountain hiking. We also recommend an athletic supporter for both hiking and riding.

Water: It is important not to pollute or disturb the mountain streams. All water taken from open streams for

drinking purposes must be treated with Halazone. See your Camp Director for instructions. Remember that down the stream a little way is another camp using it for drinking water.

Latrines: Your Unit is responsible for taking care of the latrine near your Unit camping site. We furnish a deodorant and larvacide which you can get from the Camp Director in your camp. Good health rules are practiced by Explorers and that means washing your hands immediately after using the latrine.

First Aid: Carry a First Aid Kit with your outfit on all trips and have one handy in Camp. There are not many Rattlers, but it is best to have a snakebite treatment kit. Report all illness or accidents to the Camp Director at your base camp.

Firearms & Fireworks: If for any reason you brought firearms and ammunition or fireworks, they must be "checked in" upon arrival to the Quartermaster at Camping Headquarters. At Philmont no guns are allowed except at approved ranges. It is against the law to shoot fireworks in New Mexico.

Axe and Knife: Handle the axe and knife properly. Cut only the trees marked by the Camp Director. Avoid sticking or throwing an axe or knife into live trees. All trails have been "blazed" — 'nuf said.

Sunburns: Sunburns are as serious as any other kind of burn. They are a mark of poor camping. Accustom yourself to the bright sun gradually. Keep your shirt off only a few minutes at a time until you can take it. Watch those shorts or you are liable to sunburn those knees — especially behind.

YOUR MAIL . . .

If you wish to receive letters, inform all concerned that your address is (your name), Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico, c/o Schedule. (If your Schedule is Wagon Train 222, that should appear on the envelope.)

Try to eat all the cookies and sweets — that only your mother, aunt or best girl can cook — before you arrive. Packages are generally held at the Central Post Office until you come in “off the trail.” It is hard enough to get letters to you. Our string of pack horses is limited, and necessary supplies must go through. We do try to get your letters to the Base Camps ahead of you.

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS . . .

Yes, we have a telephone, rural and on a party line, so please inform all concerned that it is most difficult to reach you by phone or have you to call home by phone, and that any phone calls should be an **emergency only**. Another thing is that most of the time here at Philmont you will be long distances from the telephone, and that the party calling for you should be prepared to wait from three to thirty-six hours. It is important also that anyone having to call you for emergency purposes, should be ready to tell us what schedule you are on here at Philmont. During the peak of the season, we have some 2,200 here as our daily population, and we don't always know where “Johnny” is, but we do know where his schedule is. Here at the information office, we make it our business to keep in touch with the schedules as they move about this 200 square mile ranch.

YOUR COOPERATION AT PHILMONT IN WILDLIFE AND NATURE CONSERVATION . . .

Fishing: We are fortunate in having some nice trout streams and they are well stocked with trout. There are thousands coming to Philmont and we won't have enough fish for all unless we have your support. The following regulations will, of course, be observed by all true sportsmen:

1. We must follow the State Laws in the matter of licenses. All Explorers must have a license. Those fishing without a license will be prosecuted in the same manner as any other violator. For those who are 14, 15, 16, and 17 years old, the special 10-day license fee for fishing in Philmont waters is \$1.10; for those older, \$3.00. For those needing a license for a longer period or fishing other than Philmont waters, the out-of-state fee is \$5.00. Get your license at any one of the Primary Base Camp Trading Posts. Help us to observe these regulations so we can continue to have good fishing at Philmont.
2. Fishermen are limited to ten fish in any one day.
3. Put all fish under six inches back into the stream. Be very careful in taking small fish off the hook.
4. These fish are to be eaten by the party catching them or fed to their group — the **CAMPING GROUP WHILE AT PHILMONT**. No fish are to be taken away from Philmont Scout Ranch.
5. Fishing at Philmont is allowed to registered campers only.

Fires and the Forest: The forests are a grand and valuable heritage of the people — their loss would be a major disaster. At certain seasons of the year, it is very dry here; and we must do everything to prevent forest fires. Build small fires back away from trees or roots on a cleared spot; and upon leaving a fire, be sure it is out. Plenty of water or sand or damp earth may be used — especially water. But, be sure it is **OUT**.

Avoid building fires out on the grass as it destroys one of our principle assets. We have found that it takes several years for the grass to start growing again in fire spots.

It is good camping to be on the alert for fires. If you see a white smoke boiling up, you have spotted a forest fire. Prairie fires spread out and the smoke seems to be sweeping. When in doubt, report to your Advisor who in turn will report to the nearest Camp Director; or upon the advice of your Guide, will send "runners" for help.

The Forest Service says all campers should observe and put into practice a few simple fire precautions as follows:

1. Rake away all inflammable material before lighting a campfire.
2. Don't toss your match away — put it in the fire.
3. Never build a fire against a log, tree, or stump.
4. Never leave a fire burning or try to kick it out.
5. When you leave, pour plenty of water on your fire, stir it up, and put more water on it.
6. When you think it is out, feel it with your hands to make sure.
7. Campers should dispose of burnt matches in true sportsman style: Hold the match till it stops smoking then break it between the thumb and fingers of one hand before stepping on it.

Rocks: We have many interesting kinds of rocks but collecting of relics or specimens is possible only with a special permit given by the Director. While on high points and around edges of cliffs, there is always a temptation to roll rocks down the hillside. This is very dangerous — someone may be under the cliff or behind brush on the hillside. Rolling rocks also starts erosion, and it so happens that there is a State Law prohibiting it.

Flowers: We have many fine wild flowers. They can be identified by looking in the Rocky Mountain Flower Book. Pick flowers for specimens only — no bouquets, please! We want the flowers to grow and to seed.

Birds: Birds and their nests are fascinating, too; observe them only.

Animals: Stalking the antelope and other small animals on the Ranch to get close-up pictures is a skill which some Explorers develop. The camera record is a proof of achievement. The Buffalo and Longhorns should be given a "wide berth," and we do mean wide.

REMEMBER: Removal from Philmont of relics, fossils, or any nature specimens of any sort is allowable only with a written permit of the Director.



Remember - Only you can
PREVENT FOREST FIRES

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