



# The *Philmont*

## NORTHBOUND EXPEDITION



The Expedition is a trek with burros carrying the bedding and foodstuffs over all Philmont's eighty-one miles of main trail. There are opportunities, program-wise, to qualify for all the segments of our badge, as outlined in the Philmont Program Handbook, except the Philmont Horseman, unless he has had previous riding experience. At Ponil and Cimarroncito Base Camps you will have chances to "do" the field sports areas. The nature trails at Ponil and Abreu Base Camps are quite interesting, and the opportunities for Naturalist and Woodsman work at some of the other camps are worthwhile projects.

With the training that is given at Olympia Training Camp for the leaders of the Northbound, the "stage" is set for a most worthwhile and interesting trip at Philmont even to the mountain camping that is experienced along the trail in the high country.



### *Your Itinerary . . .*

The Northbound Expeditions register at Headquarters on the first day and go to camp at Carson-Maxwell. On the second day at Olympia there is basic training in nature, field sports, fishing and campcraft. Then, on the third day, following your breakfast at Carson-Maxwell Base Camp, you mount horses and ride to Abreu Base Camp. There is another full day at Abreu, where you pick up more program including burro packing. On the fifth day, packing up burros, you head for Rayado Base Camp **without guide**. On the sixth day the objective is Clear Creek Trail Camp near the foot of Clear Creek Mountain. Then on the seventh day you feel what it is like being on top by going over Clear Creek Mountain, 11,600 feet high, and ending up at Cimarroncito Base Camp. There is another full day of activities there and on the ninth day you pack up and leave for Harlan Trail Camp. On the tenth day Dean Trail Camp is the objective, and on the eleventh day you end up at Bent Base Camp. Following a rush program of finishing up requirements for segments of the Philmont Awards as outlined in the Philmont Program Handbook, you leave for Headquarters the afternoon of the twelfth day and after breakfast on the thirteenth, it is good-bye for home.



## *Some Definitions . . .*

**THE PHILMONT SCHEDULE** — The Schedule is what is offered the Councils and, in the case of Junior Leader Training Troops and Ranch Pioneering Treks, the individual Explorers at Philmont. It isn't called an itinerary or 'flight plan', or even a camp period — it is called a Schedule. The regular Schedules at Philmont are the Wagon Train, 22 days; the Southbound and Northbound Expeditions, 13 days; and Lucien Maxwell and Kit Carson Treks, 10 days each; and the Cavalcade, 7 days. Because of the number we handle out here, daily population being some twenty-two hundred, we necessarily have to set up for scheduling groups through Philmont.

**THE PHILMONT OUTFIT** — Just like the western terms in describing the above different schedules, the term Outfit is Western. (When some cowboy out here meets another at a rodeo or on the trail, one of the first questions he asks is "What outfit are you with?"). The answer may be the Diamond A or the W-Bar or some other big ranch, and we go by the "Slash Reverse S Outfit.") However, this is the unit we prepare for along the trail. We set as an arbitrary figure, eleven. That is three crews of three each, a Senior Crew Leader and an Advisor, which makes eleven people. So our packaging of food, our lay-out of tents, chuck boxes, camping gear, horses, etc, are set up to take care of that unit. Now there may be just nine or there may be thirteen, but anyhow they travel as an outfit here at Philmont.

**THE ADVISOR** — An adult, someone twenty-one years of age or older, who accompanies an outfit to Philmont as a program man. His fees are waived here in case he is accompanied by ten campers or more, and that figure has been set as ten — not nine. To serve as program man, we give him a lot of good training at Olympia on the first day of his visit here. One Advisor generally spends a day with our nature man, another with our field sports man, and another with the fishing instructor. Then as the Schedule moves along our trails stopping at the different base camps, these men are the ones that serve as program men in their various fields.

**SENIOR CREW LEADERS** — This is the elected leader of the outfit and the one that our guide or service crew men work directly with. You will find that our staff is instructed to not take the leadership of a group away from the Advisor and Senior Crew Leader, but rather they are instructed to be of service to these two men.

**THE APPLICATION FEES** — A \$5.00 fee must accompany application blanks. In case the application is for thirty campers and three Advisors, then that means we should receive application fees in the amount of \$150.00 or \$5.00 for each camper. This is the fee that is non-refundable, but can be transferred if another camper is substituted for the original applicant. It is a separate fee from the camper fee.

**CAMPER FEE** — Camper fees as established for the schedule selected are due as follows: one-half March 15 and the balance on arrival at Philmont.

**BACK PACK** — The term "back pack" means, in that particular schedule where the term back pack describes part of the operation, that the camper takes everything on his back including the food stuffs, the utensils, the personal gear, bed roll, and everything, and you will find that the two trek schedules are "back pack".

**BURRO PACK** — Here we issue a burro to a schedule that is using burros for burro packing; about three burros to each outfit. It is important that these little animals be packed correctly and cared for correctly on the trail. So there is much instruction given at the time the burros are issued to the outfit in training the group in packing the burros, using the diamond hitch, and how he is to be cared for in the various trail camps and base camps for the stop-overs.

**HORSEBACK** — Now the horse in the western country is primarily transportation, and we have somewhere along the trail arranged for part of your trip to be by horseback. Here in western style we walk our horses in line and enjoy seeing part of Philmont from the back of a trusted steed.

Remember — Philmont Scout Ranch is the National Camping Area for Explorers — it affords an Explorer-size experience.