

Troop 116 Super Scout Grand Circle Trip 2006, Personal Equipment Checklist

Be sure to label all of your clothing and equipment with your name, including and especially your water bottles, bowl, cup, and spoon, using a permanent marker.

YOUR PERSONAL EQUIPMENT	Check	Double Check
Packing		
Backpack with padded hip belt (with ID on flap)	_____	_____
capacity: external frame—4000 cubic inches +/-		
internal frame—4800 cubic inches +/-		
pack cover—waterproof nylon	_____	_____
6-12 1-gallon Zip Lock plastic bags to pack clothes.....	_____	_____
misc. stuff bags for clothes and other items.....	_____	_____
Sleeping		
sleeping bag in waterproof stuff sack and/or		
lined with plastic bag	_____	_____
sleep clothes—worn only in sleeping bag.....	_____	_____
foam sleeping pad (closed cell or Thermo-Rest)	_____	_____
Clothing		
Layer A (Hiking Clothes)		
hiking boots—well broken in (with extra laces).....	_____	_____
lightweight sneakers or similar	_____	_____
3 pairs of heavy socks.....	_____	_____
3 pairs lighter inner socks (polypro)	_____	_____
2 hiking shorts (quick-dry fabric)	_____	_____
2 short sleeve shirts (light color, wicking fabric preferred).....	_____	_____
1 hat or cap—flexible, with full brim, should be light color.....	_____	_____
Layer B (Cool Evening)		
1 long sleeve shirt (not cotton)	_____	_____
1 long pants, synthetic fabric (not heavy jeans).....	_____	_____
1 pair insulated long underwear (polypro).....	_____	_____
Layer C (Cold)		
sweater or jacket (wool or fleece).....	_____	_____
stocking cap (wool or polypro).....	_____	_____
1 glove liners or mittens (wool or polypro)	_____	_____
Layer D (Cold, Wet, Windy)		
1 sturdy rainsuit (no ponchos).....	_____	_____
Eating		
deep bowl (small, plastic).....	_____	_____
cup (measuring style).....	_____	_____
spoon.....	_____	_____
paper towels (12 sheets).....	_____	_____
above 4 items is stuff/ditty bag	_____	_____
4 one-quart water bottles (or equivalent capacity)	_____	_____

YOUR PERSONAL EQUIPMENT	Check	Double Check
Personal and Miscellaneous		
daypack for side hikes (with ID on flap)	_____	_____
small pocketknife with scissors	_____	_____
flashlight (small with extra batteries and bulb).....	_____	_____
compass—liquid-filled	_____	_____
personal first aid kit including, at minimum, band aids,		
large bandages, sports tape, antibiotic ointment,		
moleskin, bandanna, ace bandage, duct tape	_____	_____
bandanna or handkerchiefs	_____	_____
sunscreen at least 30 SPF	_____	_____
sunglasses (inexpensive).....	_____	_____
chapstick lip balm (high SPF)	_____	_____
soap, biodegradable.....	_____	_____
small pack towel.....	_____	_____
toothbrush/toothpaste/personal toiletries	_____	_____
prescription medicines ***	_____	_____
toilet paper in Zip Lock bag	_____	_____
large ditty bag (for personal items in bear bag)	_____	_____
sewing kit with heavy thread and needle	_____	_____
tent with required number of stakes.....	_____	_____
6 extra small metal tent stakes	_____	_____
waterproof ground cloth (size equal tent footprint)	_____	_____
fifty ft. 1/8" nylon cord.....	_____	_____
4 large safety pins and a few sturdy rubber bands.....	_____	_____
2 to 4 cinch straps (36" or longer, for fastening things onto		
pack frame) - no bungee cords	_____	_____
insect repellent - non aerosol.....	_____	_____
bottle of Polar Pure (in 2 Zip Lock bags)		
or Katadyn Micropur MP1 tablets.....	_____	_____
watch ***	_____	_____
whistle	_____	_____
personal spending money ***	_____	_____
wallet to carry money and ID ***	_____	_____
drivers license or other official photo ID (if you have one) ***	_____	_____
note pad and pen ***	_____	_____
trekking poles *.....	_____	_____
camera *.....	_____	_____
Crazy Creek seat *	_____	_____
foot powder *	_____	_____
*** Must carry with you onboard airplane		* Optional

This list is a combination of the Camping Equipment Checklist from the Troop Booklet and from the Philmont Scout Ranch Expedition Guidebook. Proper personal equipment preparedness is of extreme importance. Please refer to the included Advice & Recommendations handout and pay attention to discussions on this topic on the scheduled backpacking and training trips.



Troop 116 Super Scout Grand Circle Trip 2006

High Adventure Camping Personal Equipment Advice & Recommendations

For most first time High Adventure backpackers, it is not unusual to spend \$300 to \$500 in equipment. The most often purchased items are boots, sleeping bags, packs, and rain gear. This list of recommendations follows the same general sequence as the Personal Equipment Checklist.

Scout Uniform Your Official Scout Uniform ("Class A") will not be required or used on this trip.

Light Weight Always keep weight in mind for every item. Always. Smaller, lighter is best.

Mark Everything Put your name on everything, including, and especially, your eating bowl, cup, spoon, and water bottles, using an indelible permanent marker.

Backpack This could possibly be the first time that you have ever carried personal and crew gear, food for several days, and several quarts of water in a pack at one time. Packs that made it for years on troop campouts simply don't have enough volume to handle what you and your crew will be carrying on the trail for multi-day High Adventure backpacking. Some campers may get a new pack before this trip. It is difficult to recommend a type of pack to bring. Pack selection really boils down to individual choice and the amount that you are willing to pay for the pack.

- **External frame packs** are the most common beginning pack and generally cost less than internal frame packs. They allow you to strap on additional equipment giving you greater flexibility in what you can carry. External frame packs usually come with lots of built in pockets that provide easy access for needed gear. They are also slightly cooler to wear. An external frame pack for a High Adventure backpacking trek should be a **minimum** of 4200 cubic inches.
- **Internal frame packs** are becoming more and more popular. They are basically bags that are built around a hi-tech suspension system. They fit closer to your back and almost become a part of you while on the trail and consequently are far more comfortable and easier to carry than an external frame pack. Since sleeping bags are carried inside of an internal frame pack, minimum size for a High Adventure trek should be **no less than** 4800 cubic inches. 5000 to 5200 is better. Most experienced backpackers prefer an internal frame pack. Cost can be \$200-\$300 or more.

Whether external or internal frame, make sure that the pack is large enough to carry all the your personal gear plus your share of crew gear. When packed with all your personal gear, it should not be much over 1/2 to 2/3 full and should weigh not much over 30 to 35 lbs. You will need space to carry your share of provisions (up to 4 days worth of food), and crew gear (stoves, pots, fuel, dining fly, bear bag hanging ropes, and more).

There are additional things that you must do to ensure that your pack is ready to go. First, check to see that the pack is fitted properly. The hip belt must fit snugly around the waist to allow the full weight of the pack to be carried on the hips while at the same time providing enough padding to protect the hips. The shoulder straps should be padded and fit the width of the shoulders. When viewed from the side, shoulder straps should be level (or a little upward) from the shoulders to the pack frame. Second, check the condition of the pack. Most have probably never rinsed the salt and sweat from their pack's suspension system. Dry rot of pack's stitching and fabric may already have started. Check the stitching at all stress points in the pack material. Check the grommets on the shoulder straps and hip belt to ensure that they have not pulled out of the pack material. Check the pack frame welds to ensure that they are not cracked. Make sure you bring along one or two replacement clevis pins and O-rings. JanSport packs require special nuts, bolts and wrenches that are not readily available in remote locations.

If absolutely necessary, you can rent a pack.

Backpack Attachment Straps (for external frame pack) Get straps (36" or longer) to attach sleeping bag, tent, sleeping pad, etc. Don't use bungee cords or rope to tie. Must have straps that have nice easily cinchable buckles.

Daypack Good if backpack has detachable lid or other piece that can be worn independently as a small day pack for side hikes to carry rain gear and water.

Pack Cover A pack cover that is designed to fit your pack. is important. A pack cover will beat a trash bag any day. However, trash bags will work. Just plan on bringing several (4-5) because they will rip and tear on the trail.

Tent If you have your own tent that you want to take, please discuss it with your Expedition Leaders. They will want to see it and discuss with you its appropriateness, size, weight, previous usage, etc.

Tent Stakes Each crew member will need to bring the tent stakes required for his tent, plus approx. 6 extra ones, 6 to 7 in" length (not bigger), metal (not plastic). Must be sturdy. Ground is hard. Get steel or thick aluminum. You need tent stakes for use with your own tent and many other needs.

Sleeping Bag Need good mummy type sleeping bag in 15-25 deg F temp range. It should weigh less than four pounds. A mummy bag is lighter and warmer than other design types. At the higher elevations in the southwest, the temperature can get into the thirties at night with a stiff breeze blowing. Other than boots, the sleeping bag is the most important piece of equipment a camper will bring on a High Adventure expedition. Crewmembers need to know that the one and only place where they will always be warm and dry is in their sleeping bags, inside their tents. Synthetic fill is often preferred over down. Down sleeping bags lose their insulating capability when they get wet and require extreme extra caution and care to avoid this situation. Even though most sleeping bags come with a "water-proof" stuff sack, an additional plastic trash bag or waterproof bag should be placed in the stuff sack to provide a second layer of protection.

Compression Stuff Sack for Sleeping Bag A "compression" stuff sack is great, but a regular, tight-fitting one is okay. A favorite is the Air-Line made by Granite Gear, with the newest hi-tech ultralight fabric. It may be hard to find locally, but is available at REI online. (Other brands of this ultralight fabric are also available at REI.) You almost need to have your sleeping bag to test to see which size stuff sack is best. A Medium size Granite Gear for a synthetic sleeping bag, and a Small size for a down sleeping bag is a good guess. The stuff sack that typically comes with the sleeping bag is probably not a compression sack. The compression sack has straps that allow you to cinch down the bag after it is stuffed and make the whole thing smaller to go in the backpack.

Sleeping Pad An inexpensive closed cell pad is a must for all crewmembers. Not only does it provide a comfortable sleep even on those not-so-level places; it also prevents heat loss downward and provides a barrier against moisture should your tent leak in a heavy rain. For economy and a good value, Cascade Design produces the Z-Rest, an excellent pad that is very comfortable, is less bulky than traditional pads, and can even be used for a camp seat. A Therm-A-Rest sleeping pad is highly recommended for those who don't mind a little extra expense. Therm-A-Rest pads come in different thicknesses and the ProLite3-Short is the lightest and quite adequate for summertime use. It is 3/4 length and slim thickness and is recommended because of its smaller pack size and weight with little sacrifice in comfort. But again, personal preference is a factor.

Hiking Boots (See NOLS Fitting Instructions on separate page.) Some outfitting stores recommend leather hiking boots because of the support they provide when compared to hi-tech synthetic boots. However, leather boots cost more and are harder to break in. Spending \$150 to \$225 on leather boots just does not make sense when a synthetic pair of boots costing \$50 to \$100 will work just as well. Outfitting stores may say that synthetic boots will fall apart due to the ruggedness of certain trails. Not necessarily so. A youth will outgrow his boots well before they will wear out. The jury is still out on Gore-Tex boots. Often the boots that get the wettest during a heavy downpour are Gore-Tex. However, many love their Gore-Tex boots. In any case, if new boots are needed, plan on purchasing them in March. This will provide enough time to break in the boots while reducing the possibility of them being outgrown by summertime. Whatever you buy, make sure that they have been waterproofed several times before you head out on the trip. Some hikers have replaced their boot's insole with a more expensive type insole. If you choose to do this, be sure to try out the new insoles during your shakedown hikes. Sometimes a new insole raises the heel out of the boot's heel cup and causes a blister or may reduce the overall boot size. Remember, boots that fit too snug is one of the biggest mistakes.

Lightweight In-Camp Shoes Hikers also need to pack an in-camp shoe that can be worn once you get into camp and can get your boots off. A set of moccasins or running shoes makes an excellent in-camp shoe. Most Scout use sneakers they already own. Tevas and other sandals are not good for many activities. Getting into in-camp shoes gives your feet a rest and gives you an opportunity to sun dry your boots. Whatever type of in-camp shoe you choose should have a low impact sole that keeps it from further damaging the ground of your already over camped camp site. In-camp shoes should be easy to get on and off for those late night visits to the latrine. And finally, they should be comfortable and sturdy enough for you to hike in to the next camp site, if you are having severe boot problems.

Socks Always, ALWAYS, hike in good socks WITH sock liners!!! You should ALWAYS wear two layers of socks. The inner layer should be synthetic (polypropylene or CoolMax) sock liner. The liner wicks the moisture away from the foot to the outer sock. When the foot is dry, there is a decreased chance of a getting a blister. Some of the new hi-tech socks state that an inner layer sock is not required. You may even encounter another "experienced" Scout or adult who will say the same thing. Not good advice! If you want to reduce the chances of getting blisters to the minimum, you WILL ALWAYS hike with inner sock liners. Heavy wool socks as outer layers are great. However, some do not like the feel of wool socks and they take a long time to dry out once they get wet. Other suggestions might be (1) the all-synthetic Thorlo Hiking sock that does it not itch and dries quickly because it contains no wool, or (2) Smart Wool or Merino wool socks - even though they do contain wool, they are very soft and dry much quicker than the all-wool ragg socks. For the liners, SmartWool, CoolMax, polypro are all good. Many adults use medium to heavy weight liners. Most youth use light weight liners. Don't go with silk-weight. Get something at least reasonably substantial. Again, MUST HAVE liners. Don't be fooled by any claims that liners are not needed!!! Blisters are the biggest bugaboo, and this is an important ingredient to prevention. Like most backpacking equipment, much of it really comes down to a matter of personal choice. Whatever type you use, pack three pairs of outer socks and three pairs of sock liners. Make sure that you check the condition of your socks before you head out for this trip. Too often, hikers will buy new boots and neglect to buy new socks. Socks do wear out! If the socks' padding capability is worn down, get new ones. Be sure boots fit nicely over your heavy sock combination. Boots too snug is one of the biggest mistakes.

Stuff Bags and Ditty Bags These are a really good to have, in different colors, especially if using an internal frame pack. They are great for keeping things, both large and small, organized inside your pack. They can provide reasonable (but not perfect) waterproof protection. They are more durable than simply using ziplock bags, though using them in combination with ziplocks can provide perfect waterproof protection. Most experienced campers suggest taking along several spare gallon, quart, and pint size ziplocks. (Use freezer ziplocks - they are more durable.)

OR (Outdoor Research) makes the best and easiest to find stuff sacks and ditty bags, and both Jesse Brown and Great Outdoor Provision Co carry them. However, the newest HydroLite models, made of ultra-light gossamer, may be found only on the Web. Go to <http://www.outdoorresearch.com> and select Storage Systems/Stuff Sacks from the left menu panel. Look for the Quick Sacks and HydroLite Stuff Sacks and Ditty Bags.

OR HYDROLITE STUFF SACKS: The #2 size is recommended. They can be used to put socks in one, t-shirts & shorts in another, fleece shirt and long pants in another, rain gear in another, etc. Use different colors so you can tell apart w/o opening. You can also put some things in a gallon ziplock before putting in the stuff bag for the most protection, but this is not always necessary except maybe for socks and special items that MUST be kept completely dry.

OR HYDROLITE DITTY BAGS: Use Small and Medium ditty bags mainly to collect small loose things like your whistle, tooth brush, tooth paste, sewing kit, safety pins, flashlight, comb, medicine, personal first aid items like band aids, antibiotic ointment, moleskin, etc. If anything must really be waterproof, like medicine or band aids, etc, put these items in pint ziplocks before putting in the ditty bag. (Very small waterproof plastic bottles for medicine and pills, like Tylenol, Aleve, Benadryl, and Imodium are good.)

OTHER BAGS: It good to have some cheaper, lighter weight, off brand, stuff bags for a couple of other things - (1) to hold your in-camp shoes (keeps possibly dirty soles from touching other things in pack), (2) to hold your bowl, cup, and spoon which are inside a ziplock, and (3) a larger and empty stuff sack to throw in all your "smellables" that must be collected each evening to go into a bear bag - try to have an odd color, like purple or orange or yellow, so you can ID yours quickly in the morning when it gets dumped out on the ground with all the others.

T-Shirts CoolMax and other 100% polyester hi-tech performance fabrics are great. Wicks moisture from skin, dries in no time when wet. CoolMax, Patagonia Capilene (or equiv) shirts are available lots of places - Jesse Brown, Campmor. Light colors are strongly recommended. Don't worry about style. Will probably want to burn shirt(s) worn on the trail when it's over. And don't bring any shirt with inappropriate themes (tobacco, sex, drugs, violence, etc.)

Hiking Shorts 2 or 3 prs. Again, don't worry about style. Best is basic quick-dry and light weight, running shorts, material like supplex. Built-in underwear is good. Cotton boxers can be problems for many and chaffing can be a problem - though usually for heavier guys. Cotton is bad outdoor fabric for most parts of the body.

Long Sleeve Shirt Need 1 long sleeve shirt for cool evenings - or rare insect problems in camp. A 200-weight fleece shirt is good. A cotton sweatshirt is NOT good. A fleece shirt with a Goretex rain jacket is the most you should ever need for warmth.

Long Pants Need 1 pr long pants. No cotton. No jeans. Get light weight. Must have long pants for a few specific activities, and good for warmth in evening.

Long Underwear Suggest one set (top & bot) light wt long underwear. Patagonia Caplinene (or other polypro synthetic) light or medium weight is fine. May not actually ever need. It's expensive. Jesse Brown carries.

Stocking Cap Suggest 1 stocking cap, wool or fleece. May not ever need.

Full Brim Hat Must have 1 full-brim hat for sun & rain protection. Light color is strongly recommended.

Gloves 1 pr light weight gloves (or glove liners) a good idea, but may never need.

Rain Gear It is really difficult to give advice to backpackers on rain gear other than it is a must and it should be good quality. Ponchos are NOT recommended; a rain jacket is needed. Any experienced backpacker will tell you that an inexpensive rain suit is far superior to the most expensive poncho. A Gore-Tex, or water-proof and breathable equivalent, rain suit be recommended. Gore-Tex allows perspiration to escape while keeping rain out. However, a Gore-Tex rain suit typically costs \$150 to \$300 and can be heavier than coated nylon. A lightweight coated nylon rain suit works almost as well and costs under \$60. Do not purchase the less expensive, but much heavier PVC rain suit. The beauty of a rain suit is that the jacket can also be used to keep warm, when layered with a wool or fleece sweater. Before you buy any type of rain gear, make sure that it states "waterproof" and not "water resistant." Water resistant fabric may handle a light dew, but will become water logged and soak the wearer after only a few minutes of an afternoon rainstorm. Prior to going on this trip, you should test your rain gear. Your neighbors might get a chuckle, but wear a light colored t-shirt under your rain gear and get sprinkled with the water hose for about 10 minutes. This will provide a good test to determine whether your raingear needs to have a treatment such as Nikwax's TX-10 Direct applied. Some have been known to stand in the shower at home to check out raingear!

Eating Kit For eating, only need a bowl-type plate, a cup, and spoon (all plastic - should be sturdy). The plate should not be of such large diameter that it won't fit into the cooking pot for cleaning and dipping into boiling water for sterilization - a bowl-type plate is the best. Cup should have measuring marks on it. Best if it actually holds more than 1 cup. A plastic spoon must be strong and sturdy and unbreakable for continued use.

Water Containers Dehydration is the most common ailment that disrupts or prematurely ends a hiker's trek, and must be guarded against with utmost seriousness. Each crewmember must have water bottles for a minimum of 4 quarts. More Scouts are using hydration systems (Camelback, Platypus) on the trail. Although these systems offer the convenience of being able to take a drink through a tube without having to take off your pack, many advisors are not big fans of them for several reasons. When you drink from one of these systems, it is really hard to tell if a crewmember is really drinking enough. Additionally, hydration systems can build up mildew in their drinking tubes if they are not properly cleaned. Sometimes they even tend to leak. Taking a water break, whether it is a short "picks on" break or a longer "picks off" break, and taking a good slug of water is often the best procedure. During the break, you can quickly assess by looking at the level in the water bottle to see how much water is being consumed. In addition, most packs have external pockets that provide easy access to a water bottle if you need a drink while you are walking. Nalgene Lexan wide mouth water bottles are highly recommended. They now come in several different colors. Many prefer three that are 1 qt size and two that are 1 pt size to give more flexibility. The wide mouth design works best for scooping water and for adding drink mix. Do not attach Nalgene water bottles to your pack by clipping onto the strap of the lid. Weight and motion while hiking will cause the strap to break in a day or two.

Pocket Knife SMALL (key chain size) pocket knife - WITH SCISSORS - important.

Flashlight Small - NEVER any bigger than a mini-mag (2 AA batteries) size. The new LED bulb models are great. Petzl, Priceton Tec, and other, make good LED bulb headlamp styles, very bright, very small and light, batteries last a LONG time.

Compass Must have.

Bandannas Should have 2.

Towel for Trail Small hand size is plenty big enough for trail use. A "Pack Towel" is highly recommended. They are small and hold LOTS of water - like a chamois, only soft & fuzzy.

Sunscreen Never take the whole container. Get a few small, 1 or 2 oz, water-tight screw top bottle containers for stuff like this (and medicine). Nalgene makes them.

Camera & Film Optional. Digital pictures when processing are preferred for easier sharing.

Watch VERY IMPORTANT. One with alarm is great. One with altimeter is also very nice but more expensive.

Personal First Aid Kit Each Scout must have his own. Should contain band aids, large bandages, sports tape, antibiotic ointment, moleskin, bandanna, ace bandage, and a small supply of duct tape.

Crazy Creek Seat Optional, but very desirable. Can be folded and easily strapped to pack.

NATIONAL OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL (NOLS) FITTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR HIKING BOOTS *

Your footwear is arguable the most important part of your gear, especially if you are planning to hike long days or climb difficult peaks. Poorly fitted boots will leave your feet an ugly mess of blisters. It is best to shop in the afternoon since feet tend to swell during the day. Always fit your larger foot. The key to proper fit is to determine the correct length. A boot which is too small (short) will cause more problems than one which is too large.

In fitting your boots, bring along the type of socks you plan to use in the mountains. At NOLS we have had the most luck with boots worn and fitted with a medium-weight liner sock next to your foot and a thick wool or polyester sock on the outside. The two pairs of socks pad the foot, reduce friction, and wick moisture away from your foot. Therefore, you may have to wear boots in a size or two larger than your street shoes. A good rule of thumb is to put the boots on with no socks, push your toe to where it is touching the front, and still have a finger's width of space between your heel and the back of the boot. Fit any tighter, and your feet will be squeezed and uncomfortable, not to mention cold. Fit any looser, and you will not have the "feel" for the trail that you need to cross bolder fields and slippery terrain. Spend time walking around the store and try different brands. Every brand has its own individual fit and shape because each company uses different foot models around which to design their boot. Some people have "high volume" feet and require a wider, deeper boot. You may find a size ten in one brand fits well in the length but is too tight on your instep. Try on another brand.

Before you go out on your trip, break in your boots with day hikes or even wear them to work. Try to log at least 20 miles on your new boots before you take them out on your extended trip so you can make sure they fit you well.

* *The National Outdoor Leadership School's Wilderness Guide*
The Classic Handbook, Revised and Updated 1999
by Mark Harvey
Published by Simon & Schuster
Chapter 3, pages 67-70
NOLS is "the Harvard of the wilderness schools"

Notes & Acknowledgments

Superior Outdoor Outfitting Retailers

Jesse Brown Outdoors, Sharon Shopping Center (across from SouthPark) You can't beat the helpfulness of most of the folks at Jesse Brown, plus they give a 10% Scout discount (with Scout ID card).

Great Outdoor Provision Company, Park Road Shopping Center

REI, on the Internet at www.rei.com. Nearest store is Cary, NC

Campmor, on the Internet at www.campmor.com.

Physical Preparation A High Adventure backpacking trek can be physically demanding. Even if you are able to pass a physical exam with flying colors, you will need to get in shape for steep, rocky trails with 1,000-foot climbs being typical, and carrying a 35 to 50 lb. pack at elevations where there is 20 to 35 percent less oxygen. A program of regular aerobic exercise is important. Jogging, hiking uphill or long flights of stairs, and hiking with a full pack are excellent preparation. Training hikes that will prep you for boots and feet are good. Actual overnight backpacking with a loaded pack is good whenever possible. Any opportunity to use your clothing & equipment is helpful, as a lot of it may be new and you're trying it out. It's good to see in the field what you like, what works, how it works, etc.

Mental Preparation A positive mental attitude, teamwork, and maturity are of paramount importance. The physical and mental stresses of a High Adventure trek can be challenging. Maintaining a positive attitude and displaying good teamwork is a MUST, will go a long way to overcoming all of these challenges, and will allow you and everyone else to stay safe have fun.

Acknowledgments

1. *Philmont Advisor's Guide*, by Cooper Wright, National Capital Area Council , and Wally Feurtado, Baltimore Area Council
Coop and Wally are Scouters with multiple Philmont trek experience who, with input from many other experienced sources, have created this well written guide as a supplement to official Philmont publications. Some of the recommendations from this guide have been included in this document in the sections about boots & footwear, sleeping bags, backpacks, rain gear, and water containers.
2. *Philmont Guidebook to Adventure*
Some information has been taken from this pocket-sized booklet made available to all Philmont Expedition participants.
3. *The National Outdoor Leadership School's Wilderness Guide*
The NOLS boot fitting instructions comes from chapter 3 of this book. NOLS, headquartered in Lander, Wyoming, is the acknowledged leader in providing challenging outdoor leadership experiences from bases around the world that last from a few weeks to several months. It is "the Harvard of the wilderness schools."
4. Expedition Leader Julian Love
Most of the content of this High Adventure Camping Personal Equipment Advice & Recommendations document comes from the experiences of Julian Love. He has planned and led eight Philmont expeditions since 1992, including three for the council and five for his troop. He has planned and led many other successful Scout High Adventure trips since 1984.