TOP CLOUDS: 11-01-13

NEW BSA HEADLINES:

APACHE DISTRICT AWARDS BANQUET is scheduled for **December 12th** at Myers Park Presbyterian Church located at 2501 Oxford Place, Charlotte, NC 28207. The festivities start at 6:30 PM IN Oxford Hall and the cost is $15.00 per person. Please respond to Del Whittaker at: delwhittaker@msn.com. with your RSVP so we can have an accurate expectation of the total headcount that will be attending. You can pay at the MCC office and/or at the door the night of the banquet. If units are paying as one, please include the names of those folks that will be attending. **Reservation deadline is December 1st.**

This is our opportunity to recognize many of our scout leaders for their contributions to the youth of our district. Some of the awards presented will be the Cub Scout Leader of the Year; the Boy Scout Leader of the Year; Venture Leader of the Year; and, the Apache District Awards of Merit.

One other award that will be given out is the Annual Unit God Send Award that can be presented to one member of each unit that has shown the dedication and service to making a difference for that unit.

Nominations for all awards should be submitted to John Bittinger by November 15, 2013 so we can get awards properly made. Please go to the district website: http://www.mccscouting.org/Districts/Apache/DistrictAwards.aspx to get a copy of the nomination form. You can drop them by the council office or email them directly to john.bittinger@scouting.org.

Our goal is to get at least one person from each unit attending this event. Please support the district and help us recognize some of our many outstanding adult volunteers.

BSA NATIONAL NEWS:

MECKLENBURG COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS:

Mecklenburg County Council will Recognize the President James K. Polk Historic Site. MCC will present a Certificate of Recognition to the staff of the Polk Historic Site on **November 2nd at 1:45 PM** for their continuing support of Scouting through opportunities for Eagle Scout projects, unit service projects, and providing day trip opportunities for units.

The Council's recognition will be part of the annual birthday celebration of President Polk which will include historic cooking demonstrations, children's' games and other hands on activities from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The historic site is located at: 12031 Lancaster Highway, Pineville, NC 26134. Admission is free. We are also encouraging as many scouts as we can to attend the special ceremony at 1:00 PM.

Engineering Merit Badge will be offered on Saturday**, November 2nd from 9:00 – 11:00 AM** at the Marshall Steam Station. The Marshall Steam Station is a large capacity, coal fueled electricity generating plant on the Catawba River. Duke Energy is graciously offering a tour of this facility to a limited number of Boy Scouts interested in engineering and in the Engineering Merit Badge. We are able to register 12 Scouts ages 14 and above plus six supervising adults for this tour. The event will include a

PowerPoint presentation and a walkabout tour. Total time is estimated to be around two hours. Dr. Stuart Tucker will be coordinating the event. Please go to the following link for more details: www.mccscouting.kintera.org/MarshallStationTour.

TreesCharlotte is looking for scout volunteers to help plant trees at two upcoming TreesCharlotte events this fall:

- Saturday November 9th at West Charlotte High School from 8:30 AM – until noon
- Saturday December 7th at Brawley Farms Subdivision, East Side from 8:30 – until noon.

This is a fun and easy service project opportunity for all of you that want to connect with your inner "Johnny Appleseed" experiences. Please go to the council web site at: www.mccscouting.org. for more details. You can also contact David Cable, Director, TreesCharlotte at dave@treescharlotte.or or 7004-577-2004.

Thanksgiving Day Parade needs Scouts. Charlotte's Thanksgiving Day Parade has been revived with the help of Novant Health and this year will continue for the 67th year. Center City Partners is looking to make this a success and is looking for 100 Boy Scouts and 100 Girl Scouts to carry banners in front of the parade units. This will give Scouting a lot of media coverage as well as reinforcing the brand to the public. Details are as follows:

- Age Requirement: 10 years and older
- Attire: Scout Uniform
- Time Commitment: 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- Parking: Free Parking will be available at various lots around town. Specific details will be available later.
- Parade Route: Units will march down Tryon Street from 10th Street to Stonewall
- Weather: The parade will go on rain or shine
- Release Forms All participants will be required to sign a standard release form
- Training None is required. Instructions will be given at check-in.

Process is that interested individuals or groups should email the following information to Rachel Flood at: rflood@charlottecentercity.org. before November 8th:

- Scouts Name
- Scouts Age
- Contact Phone Number
- Parents/Guardian Name
- Parents primary and cell phone numbers

Please contact Rachel Flood at: rflood@charlottecentecity.org or at 704-332-2227 for more details and/or questions.

DISTRICT ITEMS:

The Spirit of Apache is the theme for this year's Apache District Fall Camporee that will be held at Belk Scout Camp on November 15th – 17th. The cost is only $10.00 per person and was due prior to October 7th.

As of right now, only eight units have signed on to participate in this event! So the real question is: where is the support that we traditionally have from our troops? This is a great event that provides an opportunity for camping; letting your Patrol Leaders get a chance to function in their capacities; having an opportunity for some folks to

work on rank advancement; and, provides an excellent platform to invite Webelos to attend as part of their Arrow of Light path, and more importantly … recruiting them to join your units very soon.

We also need support in running several of the stations for the Camporee. They are as follows: Blow Darts, Silent Observation, Tomahawk, Archery, and Tug-of-War.

The deadline has been extended, so please strongly consider supporting the Apache District Camporee by attending with your units. We need your help!

Please contact Lois Layer at 704-756-3209 or llayerowl@gmail.com for any questions. For more information as well as the Camporee handbook, please go to the Apache District web site at: http://www.mccscouting.org/Districts/Apache/DistrictActivities/Camporee.aspx

Key Apache District Dates:

Apache Camporee November 15th – 16th, Belk Scout Camp

Apache District Recognition Banquet December 12th, MP Pres. Oxford Hall

Apache Web Site Helps: Please go to our district web site at www.mccapache.org for two segments that we believe will be beneficial to both units and adult leaders. The first segment is aptly named Around the Campfire where unit leaders, parents and friends can see potential options for a weekend or day trip, suggestions where Eagle projects are needed, and just good old discussion topics. There is also an excellent resource guide for new parents to learn more about the BSA terminology as well as suggested gear guides for your families.

There is also a Fundraising Section where units can post specific information about an upcoming fund raising event so folks outside their immediate unit may have the option to participate and help out.

Survival Bracelet Opportunity: Pack 80 is selling Survivor Bracelets as a fundraiser to help purchase a new Pinewood Derby Track for the unit. Now … the question is … what is a Survivor Bracelet? It is a ten foot piece of 550 Type III Paracord that is woven into a bracelet that can be utilized as part of your outdoor emergency safety equipment.

Potential uses are only limited by your own imagination; however, here are a few proven uses: broken boot laces while hiking; quick thread needs; lashing material for a temporary shelter; replacing broken straps on a kayak or making filed repairs to a backpack; bear bag cordage, etc. Paracord is one of the most versatile pieces of equipment that you can take on a trip. It is convenient, tough as nails and it is inexpensive.

The pack is offering two color combinations: traditional green camo and a pink camo. Bracelets can be purchased as a kit with instructions which is a great activity for scouts or completely finished. They come in sizes: Xtra Small (6 inches), Medium (7 inches), Large (9 inches), and Xtra large (10 inches). Please measure your wrist and then add 1 ¼" to that for the correct sizing.

Bracelets cost $5.00 which covers the materials and contributes $2.50 towards the new Pinewood Derby Track. Please contact Angie White at: 704-588-0167 or pack80@scarycrow.com for more information.

TRAINING:

Please check out our web site: **www.mcctraining.org** for the latest and greatest training opportunities and course descriptions. Here are some of the upcoming events:

SEALS Training Camp	November 8th – 10th, Belk Scout
Outdoor Leadership Skills Camp	November 8th – 10th, Belk Scout

ORDER OF THE ARROW:

To Submit a Notice:

If you have any information you would like to share with the district, please send that information to e-newsletter@apachemcc.org and it will be forwarded to the team to be added. Please make sure you have your contact information included should there be any questions.

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