**TOP CLOUDS: 11-22-13** 

## **NEW BSA HEADLINES:**

### **BSA NATIONAL NEWS:**

Dr. Robert M. Gates To Serve as National President-Elect. The BSA National Executive Board has elected former Secretary of Defense and former CIA Director Robert M. Gates to the National Board of the Boy Scouts of America. Dr. Gates will serve as a member of the board's executive committee and as the national president-elect. Gate's appointment was made upon the recommendation of national volunteer and professional leaders including the BSA national nominating committee.

Upon approval of the voting members of the National Council, Dr. Gates will begin a two-year term as the BSA national president in May 2014. Following the National Councils' approval of Dr. Gates' two-year term as the BSA national president beginning in May 2014, Randall Stephenson, chairman and chief executive officer of AT&T Inc., has agreed to serve as the president-elect of the BSA.

Dr. Gates is a past member of the National Executive Board, past president of the National Eagle Scout Association, a distinguished Eagle Scout, and a recipient of the Silver Buffalo Award.

#### **MECKLENBURG COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS:**

TreesCharlotte is looking for scout volunteers to help plant trees on December 7<sup>th</sup> at Brawley Farms Subdivision, East Side from 8:30 AM 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: <a href="https://www.mccscouting.org">www.mccscouting.org</a>. for more details. You can also contact David Cable, Director, TreesCharlotte at <a href="mailto:dave@treescharlotte.or">dave@treescharlotte.or</a> or 7004-577-2004.

#### **DISTRICT ITEMS:**

APACHE DISTRICT AWARDS BANQUET is scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup> 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: <a href="mailto:delwhittaker@msn.com">delwhittaker@msn.com</a>, 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. <a href="mailto:Reservation">Reservation</a>

# <u>deadline is December 1<sup>st</sup>.</u>

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.

<u>Updated William T. Hornaday Award:</u> The William T. Hornaday Awards are for distinguished service in natural resource conservation. "Conservation and the Boy Scouts of America have been partners for a long time. Camping, hiking, and respect for the outdoors are a part of the Scouting heritage. Many of the requirements for advancement from Tenderfoot through Eagle Scout call for an increasing awareness and understanding of the natural sciences. Many former Scouts have become leaders in conserving our environment and protecting it from abuse. Right now Scouts are involved in learning about environmental problems and actively working to make a difference."

Please go to: <a href="https://www.mccapache.org">www.mccapache.org</a>. for the latest guidebook for both youth and adults to earn this prestigious award.

# **Key Apache District Dates:**

Apache District Recognition Banquet December 12<sup>th</sup>, MP Pres. Oxford Hall

Apache Web Site Helps: Please go to our district web site at <a href="www.mccapache.org">www.mccapache.org</a> for two segments that we believe will be beneficial to both units and adult leaders. The first segment is aptly named <a href="Around the Campfire">Around the Campfire</a> 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 <u>Fundraising Section</u> 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.

#### TRAINING:

<u>Environmental Science Merit Badge</u> will be offered at McDowell Nature Center from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM on January 11, 2014. Boy Scouts can earn this merit badge, which is an Eagle Scout Rank Requirement, by completing this course.

Registration will be required and can be done by calling the McDowell Nature Center at 704-588-5224. The fee for this course will be \$15.00 which includes a pizza lunch. Payment will be required at registration.

Scouts will need to be between the ages of 12 -17 in order to participate; however, there are no rank requirements. You will also need a signed blue card by your Scoutmaster in order to participate.

Please go to: <a href="https://www.mccapache.org">www.mccapache.org</a> for more specific details.

McDowell Nature Center is located at 15222 York Road, Charlotte, NC 28278. Phone number is: 704-588-5224. Fax number is: 704-588-5226.

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:

# **ORDER OF THE ARROW:**

The Catawba Lodge Annual Banquet will be held on Friday, December 6, 2013 @ Belk Scout Camp. Come to the Annual Banquet to celebrate the year with your fellow brothers. Enjoy great food, while listening to an inspirational speaker and having fun with friends. This is also a time to award and help celebrate our amazing lodge members. Hope to see you there! Registration deadline is November 26th. Register at the Council Office - cost \$13.

## To Submit a Notice:

If you have any information you would like to share with the district, please send that information to <a href="mailto:e-newsletter@apachemcc.org">e-newsletter@apachemcc.org</a> 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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