



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

On Thursday, December 17, 2015, the Executive Board of the West Central Florida Council (WCFC) of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) voted to adopt the *Articles of Merger Agreement* with the Gulf Ridge Council. This agreement will lead to the formation of a new combined Council that will be better able to serve the Youth of Tampa Bay.

This new Council will serve 30,000 young people through 539 units and 6,000 registered adult volunteers in nine counties; Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sumter. The Executive Board of the Gulf Ridge Council will vote to adopt the same *Articles of Merger Agreement* in early January.

The *Articles of Merger Agreement* includes:

1. Board Governance: The initial governing board will be composed of the existing members of each Board (approximately 62 members in total), with a goal of bringing the size of the board, through attrition, to 50, the maximum permitted in the National BSA bylaws. Each area served by the council will have representation on the board.
2. New name: The Greater Tampa Bay Area Council.
3. Scout Executive: Bill Davis, current Scout Executive of WCFC.
4. Camp properties: No discussion on disposition or sale of properties for at least two years
5. Transition Team: A transition team composed of 4 individuals from each council will be appointed by the West Central Florida Council President and the Gulf Ridge Council President. The team will provide advice and guidance to the leadership of the new board.

A special meeting of the council will be called to ratify the board's action. Chartered Organization Representatives and duly elected members at large will be notified as to the time and place of the vote.

Providing a quality program based on Scouting's long treasured values to our current membership and future generations of Scouts has always been in the forefront of both council's deliberations.

The WCFC board values your input and will continue to post items on the website, www.wcfbsa.org. Please visit the website to read the "Frequently asked Questions" document for more information. You can also send your comments to wcfbsa@gmail.com.

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