



Gulf Ridge Council Elects Its First Latino Board President

(Tampa, FL) January 23, 2014

At its Annual Meeting, the Gulf Ridge Council of the Boy Scouts of America officially elected its 2014 - 2015 Board of Directors, with Jose Valiente servicing as its President. Mr. Valiente is the first Latino to serve as president of the Gulf Ridge Council.

“Scouting teaches ethics, honesty, and integrity...and these attributes are for everyone, from all walks of life,” Mr. Valiente said in his acceptance speech. “More than ever, our children need the Scouting principles and strong moral foundation to help them deal with the daunting obstacles they face. In this age of social media and high tech communications, our children have to be able to tell right from wrong instantly. Learning and living the Scouting principles will help them to do just that.”

Mr. Valiente was born in Cuba and has lived in the Tampa area for 50 years. He is a graduate of the University of South Florida and is a retired partner from the public accounting firm of CliftonLarsonAllen. Mr. Valiente is on the Board of Directors for USF’s Foundation and is Chairman of its Latin Community Advisory Committee. He is a recipient of the 2009 Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award from the Boys Scouts of America.

“We are extremely pleased to have Mr. Valiente on board with us for our Diamond Jubilee year,” said George McGovern, Gulf Ridge Council CEO. “We are celebrating 75 years of being in this community as well as kicking off a capital campaign at the end of this year. With his background in the community and his experience at leading different Boards like ours, having his leadership during this time will ensure our success.”

The 2014-2015 Council Executive Committee

Board Position	Name	Company
VP Sales	John Astrab	Mission Search
VP National Initiatives	Mark Campbell	Tampa General
VP Marketing	Susan Chrzan	Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority
VP Council Initiatives	Christine Crowell	Alltrust Insurance
VP Programs	Nick Digirolamo	Raymond James
VP Property Strategy	Casey Ellison	EWI Construction, LLC
EVP Operations	Bill Guglielmi	Lockheed Martin (Ret)
Treasurer	Richard HineLine	Gerdau
VP Finance	Tom Hochhausler	Deloitte & Touche
VP Endowment	Kenneth Hyatt	Kenneth Hyatt & Associates
Legal Counsel	Latour Lafferty	Holland & Knight
VP National Initiatives	George Mitchell	Z Mitch L.L.C.
Council Commissioner	Mark Rose	Busch Entertainment Corporation
Council President	Jose Valiente	CliftonLarsonAllen (Ret)

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About the Gulf Ridge Council

The Gulf Ridge Council, BSA encompasses eight counties in west Florida. The Council serves more than 31,000 youth in 235 Cub Scout packs, 189 Boy Scout and Varsity Scout troops, 73 Venturing Crews and 55 Learning for Life units. For more information, please visit <http://gulfridgecouncil.org>.

About the Boy Scouts of America

The Boy Scouts of America provides the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training, which helps young people be "Prepared. For Life.®" The Scouting organization is composed of 2.6 million youth members between the ages of 7 and 21 and more than a million volunteers in local councils throughout the United States and its territories. For more information on the Boy Scouts of America, please visit www.scouting.org.

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