



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Woodmeister Gift Benefits Treasure Valley Boy Scout Camp**

(Holden, Mass.) Next summer hundreds of enthusiastic Treasure Valley Boy Scout campers will eat their three meals a day at brand new tables and benches, thanks to a gift from Woodmeister Master Builders. The Holden firm will deliver the twenty-two wooden tables and eighty-eight matching benches to the Mohegan Council's camp in Rutland on Thursday, December 11. The furniture is valued at \$40,000 and will be used in the facility's rustic East Lodge dining hall.

According to Camp Director Stephanie Keimig, the new tables will be used for a number of functions, but primarily the Cub Scout and Boy Scout residential summer camps. "These guys are not only going to eat on them, but pound fists upon them frequently in song and in cheer to really embody what scouting is," she explained, adding that benches were chosen over individual chairs for camaraderie during meals and because they will be easy to put up on the tables for cleaning the floor.

Replacing well-worn dining room furniture that survived countless camp mealtimes over many years, the gift "is very welcome," Keimig said. "The quality of the tables is tremendous. They're all wood and go hand-in-hand with the building," a beautiful lodge of all wood construction.

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Keimig said 700 boys attended Treasure Valley this past summer, and the Council expects 900 campers in the summer of 2009. Boy Scouts come to the camp from all over Massachusetts, as well as from Connecticut and Vermont.

Mohegan Council Scout Executive Jay Garee said the Woodmeister donation is a major capital gift for the non-profit organization. “For the Boy Scouts to have to make that kind of program expenditure would’ve been significant,” he explained. “This was a tremendous need for us...and (this) local company was able to find a creative way to support scouting so that we didn’t have to absorb the expense.”

Woodmeister President Gary Ludden said the business, known for its luxury home construction and fine woodworking, chose to fund the Treasure Valley project because “Scouting offers boys the start of life-long learning and character building, as well as civil responsibility and leadership skills. These are qualities that Woodmeister values and expects of its employees.”

“We feel by supporting Treasure Valley, where much of this important learning takes place, we are helping to shape young minds who might be our future workers and leaders,” Ludden said

Woodmeister supports the Mohegan Council in other ways as well. The company donates wood for projects, and holds Scout workshops for earning merit badges in its Holden factory. Participating Cub and Boy Scouts have learned drafting (CAD), shop safety, and tool use for building birdhouses, catapults, and race cars.

Woodmeister Master Builders is committed to caring for its neighbors through its Community Relations Initiative. With employee involvement, the program provides support to organizations that foster youth development and that sow the seeds of a future workforce with strong values and skills.

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