



“Project to memorialize the youth of the Little Sioux Scout Ranch tornado.”

Tragedy– On June 11, 2008 an F-3 tornado tore through 200 acres of the Mid-America Council’s 1800 acre Little Sioux Scout Ranch located at the Loess Hills, in Iowa. There were 124 Scouts and Scouters attending the Council’s National Youth Leadership Training Course – “Pahuk Pride” that night where we lost four Scouts.

Plan – To install a replica of the exclusive McKenzie Statue at the entrance of the Mid-America Council – Durham Scout Center, as a tribute to not only the four young men, but also to the 120 others that personified the scouting movement that night with their heroic actions and compassion for their fellow Scouts.

Location – 12401 West Maple Road, Omaha, NE 68164

Web site – www.mac-bsa.org

What is the McKenzie Statue?

Dr. R. Tait McKenzie was a surgeon, physical educator, artist, and sculptor. He was a personal friend of Lord Baden-Powell. Dr. McKenzie was a member of the Philadelphia Council Executive Board from 1911 until his death in 1938. When asked in 1914 to create something tangible “that would stand as a symbol of what scouting stood for, “Dr. McKenzie sculpted his beloved statue portraying the “Ideal Boy Scout.”

The sculptor portrayed in his statue the traits of character he knew the movement to install in a boy. To Dr. McKenzie, the uncovered head represented reverence and obedience; the ax on which the hand rests was a symbol of George Washington’s truthfulness.

The Philadelphia Council (now known as Cradle of Liberty Council) sells these life-size cast bronze statues only as a special request. Since the first was erected, 31 statues have been cast (including one for our Council) and are located around the world. Each of the life-size statues weighs 500 pounds and stands 6’ feet tall. They are individually cast, which is a very time consuming process and can take up to 6 months to complete. Considerable time, effort, and skill is required to supervise each casting. This is done by the Sculptor-in-Residence at Princeton University, one of Tait McKenzie’s students. He approves the location of each statue.

Recognition – A list of the Council’s that support the project will be listed on the base of the statue.



The Gerald R. Ford Council has made a \$1,000 commitment to this memorial. We are inviting all Scouts, Scouters, and units in our Council to join us in supporting this project. Please indicate your support below. Questions can be forwarded to Aaron Gach, Council Program Director at 1-888-BSA-GRFC

YES, we would like to support the **McKenzie Statue Project**:

NAME: _____

Amount: \$ _____

Check/ Cash Enclosed Please take amount above from our unit account, unit number _____ per _____

Credit Card Number _____ Signature _____
Expiration date _____

Other Informational Opportunities:

- Please Contact us about Friends of Scouting / Popcorn and our units' 2009 Team Player Status.
- Please contact us about protecting Scouting's future here in west Michigan thru our council endowment fund.
- Please contact us about celebrating Scouting in west Michigan at the annual Building Character Celebration, a celebration of Eagle Scouts, Silver Award Recipients!

Name _____ Unit # _____

Email _____ Phone _____ District _____