



## **GREAT CAMPS OF THE SMOKIES INTRODUCES INNOVATIVE GRANDFATHER LESSONS PROGRAM**

### ***-Teaching Grandfathers Meaningful Skills To Pass on to the Next Generation-***

LAKE SANTEETLAH, N.C. – A higher percentage of today’s Baby Boomer grandfathers have spent more time in boardrooms and sales meetings than walking barefoot in the snow or catching fish with their bare hands. To give grandfathers the tools and skills they need to be heroes in the eyes of their grandchildren, Great Camps of the Smokies, a collection of high-end wilderness vacation home retreats, has introduced its **Grandfather Lesson Program**, incorporating activities ranging from camping and fishing to pancake making and checker playing.

“The inspiration behind the Great Camps of the Smokies development concept came from the time I spent with my own grandparents in the Adirondacks years ago,” states Visionary and Founder Jose Rosado. “Our Grandfather Lessons Program is a result of residents’ request for tips on outdoor activities in preparation for their grandkids’ visits.”

Great Camps of the Smokies Grandfather Lesson Program incorporates the following activities:

- **Camping:** Graham County, North Carolina, comprised of 80 percent National Forest and home to some of the highest and most remote mountains east of the Mississippi River, is an ideal destination for sleeping under the stars in the forest or along the shores of pristine Lake Santeetlah. Grandfathers will learn the ins and outs of camping, including how to pitch a tent, tie knots, make a camp fire and even roast s’mores. To always be prepared for the unexpected, important safety tips will also be explained and demonstrated.
- **Lake & Fly Fishing:** From baiting the hook to reeling in the line, Great Camps Rangers offer the secrets to catching the big one off the shores of Lake Santeetlah or along one of the many creeks located throughout the communities.
- **Cooking:** Using freshly picked berries from the organic community garden, grandfathers will learn the art of pancake and muffin making to pass along to the little chefs.

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- **Woodlore:** Learn how to identify the different flora and fauna of the area, along with interesting facts and tales related to each one. Listen to stories about the surrounding areas as well as Native American and early settler legends that talk about the special significance of many plants, animals and historic places in the woods, lakes, streams and mountains.
- **Storytelling:** Great Camps will welcome professional story tellers and historians to share creative story telling tactics, such as using voice tone variations and hand motions. Taking place around an evening camp fire or in a secret garden room, Great Camps offers the perfect settings for inspirational storytelling.
- **Natural Wonders:** Skipping stones and making a whistle out of an acorn are more activities that Great Camps grandfather graduates can pass on to their grandchildren.

“A joy of mine is watching generations communing with nature together,” states Rosado. “Great Camps of the Smokies is a place where memories will be made that last a lifetime.”

### ***-Great Camps of the Smokies: Exclusivity, Escape, Conservation, Adventure and Serenity-***

Inspired by the wilderness ethic that gave rise to the Great Camps of the Adirondacks in the late 1800s, the Great Camps of the Smokies includes a collection of high-end vacation and second home retreats blending a respect and reverence for nature with careful land planning, thoughtful architectural expression and authentic adventure-filled recreational amenities that showcase the remoteness and beauty of each locale. Surrounded by North Carolina’s Nantahala National Forest, Great Camps’ communities include Santeetlah Lakeside, Wildsprings, Twelve Moons and Blue Winds. Each community will be equipped with a Great Camps Outdoors Counselor who can arrange activities as well as a dedicated concierge service. Amenities include The Santeetlah Canoe Club, which will provide amenities and access to the 3,000-acre Lake Santeetlah, Natural Havens, Organic Community Gardens and Great Meadow at Wildsprings. For more information, please call toll-free 1-866-813-5253.

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Contact: Gina Stouffer/Sabrina Lacle  
Lou Hammond & Associates  
305-443-8862  
[ginag@lhammond.com](mailto:ginag@lhammond.com)  
[sabrinall@lhammond.com](mailto:sabrinall@lhammond.com)  
[www.louhammond.com](http://www.louhammond.com)