

## **What is Friends of Scouting?**

Friends of Scouting is an internal annual finance campaign. Much as your church and other organizations must do, we ask our members to help support the Scouting program of the council. Your support provides such things as heat and lights at the Council Service Center, year-round upkeep of camp facilities, help and materials for organization, recruitment, training, and activities. It also includes the people who take care of your questions, concerns, and paperwork: the registrar, Scout Shop personnel, camping support, clerical staff, and professional Scouters who give guidance to district, council, pack, and troop program.

### **Scouting's Funding Sources**

Include United Way support, special events, golf tournament, the popcorn sale, activities, endowment and other protected investments, and Scout Shop sales.

Registration fees do not fund our council; those are national fees that help pay for program development, training and handbook revisions, and accident and liability insurance.

Friends of Scouting bridges the gap between these funding sources and the total cost of council operations. Those dollars are in turn used to provide support services to local Packs, Troops, Explorer posts and Venturing Crews.

### **How Packs and Troops Help**

The Family Campaign is our direct solicitation from Scouting families, in early 2006 a district Scouter will call your Committee Chairperson to schedule your participation. There are two ways to help: Packs and troops can do an internal campaign with pledge cards supplied by the district, or a district representative can come to a pack or troop meeting and make a Friends of Scouting presentation to the parents and families.

Neither method is designed as a "hard sell". We're not demanding anyone's money, but it is important that we ask all potential supporters to make an investment in youth. Strong support from families strengthens the council's case for support with local business leaders and the United Way.

The small amount of money requested from the scouts does not come close to fulfilling the expenses in providing this top-notch program. In fact current statistics show that each scout is supported by the Local Council – Northwest Suburban, with a cost of approximately \$175.00 each scout, each year.

Where does the balance of funding to keep this great organization operating come from ?  
~~~ You'll find that People like you contribute over 26% of the budgeted income.

In the past few years the Council has found your previous support helpful and we sincerely hope we can count on you again ! We know these are hard times, but it's very important that we continue our work with these youngsters thru good times and bad.

**Please help us in our work – to better the world, one person at-a-time !**

Scouting has proven to provide some of the best leaders and members of our community !

**Thank you for your support!**