

## **Introduction**

Thank you \_\_\_\_\_, for the introduction. I'm happy to be here today sharing how Scouting leads the way to life-long civic involvement. To continue this mission, the Northeast Iowa Council needs your help.

## **Why Scouting**

According to a Harris poll, Scout vs Non-Scouts are more likely to:

*Succeed in school, having greater academic achievement*

*Have Higher graduation rates from both high school & college*

*Be a leader among peers*

*Greater levels of physical fitness*

*Higher self-confidence*

The Northeast Iowa Council serves annually over 2,000 Scouts and over 1,000 leaders in 6 counties.

You, and other local Scouts, are leading the way by collecting over 9,000 lbs. of food and over \$8,500 for local area food pantries in 2020. Our Scouts are setting an example of civic involvement by annually having 30 Scouts earn the highest rank of Eagle. In 2020 we had 28 Scouts earn this prestigious honor.

## **Personal Scouting Story (Please keep it in the vicinity of 3 minutes)**

### **What Friends of Scouting Supports**

The Friends of Scouting campaign contributes towards our annual operating expenses. While we are supported by funds from generous businesses and individuals, a large percentage comes from families like all of you, families who see the value in Scouting and what it does for your child.

Scouting is not funded by government funds or the National Office. The annual membership registration fees you pay go directly to the National Office for handbook development, training materials, youth protection services and volunteer background checks.

Also, while some of you may give funds through your work to the United Way, know that the United Way no longer funds any of our Scouting programs.

So, as you can see, your support is needed now, more than ever, to help local Scouting.

The donated funds are used for several things such as

- Strategic and long-term planning to grow Scouting in the area
- The year-round maintenance of Camp C.S. Klaus and Camp Burton
- Enable Council and District Activities fees to stay low
- Processing and maintenance of all membership and advancement records
- Ongoing leader workshops including Roundtable and special training days
- Recruitment materials, plans, and support
- The Council Service Center and locally run Scout Shop
- Scholarships for camp fees and registration
- Professional and administrative support for unit leaders and parents
- Subsidized accident insurance to all youth and adults involved in the program
- Outreach program for at-risk youth in partnerships with other local non-profits

### **Make the Ask**

Think about what it takes to support your Scout. To support the program in the Northeast Iowa Council, it costs over \$350 per registered youth annually. Just think if you make a \$350 pledge to be paid quarterly in February, you are only paying \$87.50 four times in the year.

If \$350 is outside of your ability, we ask that your family considers a gift of \$175, just \$14.60 a month. (Make sure to do the math for month to end December 2021) \$175 will cover half the amount needed for each Scout in 2021.

## **Recognition Opportunities**

Those who give at least \$350, will get a framed print of the OA teepee at Camp C.S. Klaus. At the \$175.00 level you will receive a patch of this print.

If you are unable to give at \$175 please consider giving what you can. Any amount assists the Northeast Iowa Council in providing a quality program for all youth in our area. Consider what Scouting gives to your child and what it's worth

Things to consider as you are making your decision:

- You do not have to pay tonight.
- You can be billed
- Payments can be broken up quarterly or monthly. Paid by the end of December 2021.
- We take credit cards.
- Many employers match donations.
- Plus, your contribution is tax deductible.

You should have a pledge card with your information on it in front of you. If you do not have one, please raise your hand and we will get you one. In order to keep your program moving and so I don't take too much more time, I ask that you please take a moment to complete the card and I will walk around to collect them. (If you are staying tell them where so they can give you cards throughout).

If you are unable to give, please "note" that on the card as we do follow-up by mail and phone to contact those we do not hear from.

Give the gift of Scouting Adventure with your Friends of Scouting pledge today! You'll be making a difference in the lives of young men and women in your community for years to come.

## **Thank Group**

Thank you everyone for your generosity of time and pledges.