

Preserving Our Legacy

The Chief Cornplanter Council Endowment Campaign

The Chief Cornplanter Council has the longest history of continual operation of any Scout council in America. We are determined to provide the finest Scouting experiences for all our members. In just the past five years this council has been able to grow our membership, increase our market share, increase retention rates, train more adult leaders, significantly improve the summer camp program, build new structures at Camp Olmsted, paint all of the buildings, refurbish the camp road, and upgrade our council office in Warren. Nearly 100 young men have become Eagle Scouts in Warren County in the past five years as well.

We continue to be dedicated to preserving the legacy of this council while growing our future. Achieving all of our objectives becomes increasingly more challenging each year. Financial resources must be secured now to preserve our council's heritage, our presence in Warren County and Camp Olmsted.

While we are financially stable and good stewards of all contributions, our typical annual budget of \$250,000 must be secured through gifts from the friends and families of Scouting, popcorn sales, special events, and our local United Fund. While still strong, support from these traditional sources has not been able to keep up with either our current growth or our anticipated growth.

A strategic solution to this responsibility to keep up with Scouting's growth is the development of our Endowment Trust Fund. This permanent, professionally managed fund is restricted in order that the principal remains in perpetuity with only the interest used for the support of Scouting programs.

In an effort to encourage contributions to our Endowment Fund, the council has established the Scouting Heritage Society program. Our objective is to encourage men and women who believe in keeping Scouting strong and local to invest in the future of the youth of Warren County. Our immediate goal is \$2 million. This figure will guarantee our future at our current rate of growth. When we've reached that goal, any additional funding will help us to accomplish even more, such as constructing new program buildings at Camp Olmsted, employing a full-time groundskeeper, and many other things that we simply aren't currently able to do. Those who make gifts to our Endowment will become lifetime Heritage Society members with appropriate recognition and privileges (see back cover). More importantly, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have enhanced the lives of generations of youth.

Every Boy Scout council needs endowment funds. Endowment is not part of our regular operating budget. These funds are invested in perpetuity and produce income to be used for filling in gaps and shortfalls in our regular operating budget each year. 2008-2009 was a particularly difficult time for everyone's endowment fund. In order to ensure that we keep our rich tradition and grow towards the future, we need to raise enough funds to realize enough interest to ensure that we stay on mission.

There are many ways you can help us prepare for the future:

Cash - The simplest and most common gift is a gift of cash. For income tax purposes, a cash gift is deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Stock - If you own stock, it is almost always more tax-wise to contribute stock than cash. This is true because a gift of appreciated stock generally offers a two-fold tax savings. First, you avoid paying any capital gains tax on the increase in value of the stock. Second, you receive an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the stock at the time of the gift.

Real Estate - A residence, vacation home, farm, land, or even a vacant lot may have so much appreciated value that its sale would mean a sizeable capital gains tax. By making a real estate gift, you may be able to avoid the capital gains tax and at the same time, receive a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the property.

Please join us in the most important task of our time, developing our youth. All gifts \$1,000 and above may be pledged and payable over time. For example, a James E. West gift can be payable over three-years with monthly payments of just \$28.

Levels Of Giving

1910 Society

For gifts of cash, stock, bonds, or other assets that may be readily converted to cash. The gift to endowment may be in the form of a pledge, but the pledge must be paid within five years of the pledge date. The 1910 Society was named for the year in which Scouting was founded in America. Those who make endowment gifts to further the Scouting movement are, themselves, modern-day visionaries. There are four levels of recognition in the 1910 Society:

- **Ernest Thompson Seton**, author of the first official American Scout handbook.
\$25,000 minimum gift
- **Daniel Carter Beard**, first National Scout Commissioner.
\$100,000 minimum gift

In addition, those giving at this level or above may also choose to have a campsite or road at Camp Olmsted permanently named in their honor.

- **Theodore Roosevelt**, first Chief Scout Citizen, President of the USA.
\$500,000 minimum gift
- **Waite Phillips**, donor of land in New Mexico which became Philmont Scout Ranch.
\$1,000,000 and up

Recognition: same as James E. West plus 1910 Society Members receive a leather-bound edition of the **Boy Scout Handbook** with their name embossed in gold on the cover. They also receive invitations to special members only events and receptions at National Meetings, Jamborees, and other major Scouting events.

Lord Robert Baden-Powell Fellowship \$10,000 to \$24,999

Lord Baden-Powell was founder of Scouting worldwide

Recognition: same as James E. West Level; A handsome wall plaque recognizing the contribution as a Baden-Powell Fellow; The thanks of thousands of young people.

William D. Boyce Fellowship \$5,000 to \$9,999

William Boyce brought the Scouting concept to America

Recognition: same as James E. West Level; A handsome wall plaque recognizing the contribution as a Boyce Fellow; The thanks of thousands of young people.

James E. West Fellowship Any gift of \$1,000 or more

James E. West was the first Chief Scout Executive of the BSA

Recognition: a certificate, personalized with the donor's name, date of gift, and council name; A distinctive lapel pin/charm; Invitation to attend the BSA National Annual Meeting; Public recognition of the gift (if desired); A limited-edition Patch; The thanks of thousands of young people.

