

## **2018 Friends of Scouting Family Presentation Script**

Hello, my name is ..... and I'm a Northeast Illinois Council volunteer (with two kids involved in Scouting, volunteer for 10 years, etc.). I want to thank you for being part of the best youth development program in the country. I am here tonight to ask for your support for the Northeast Illinois Council

As many of you know, the Square Knot is one of the first knots a young Scout learns. It serves as a Scouting fundamental. It can be used to bring two ropes together or to join two ends of a single line to bind around an object. Like the square knot, Scouting brings many different types of people together around a common goal and instills positive values and strong character like being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly courteous, kind, obedient, thrifty, clean and reverent

Scouting has had an impact in my life by...

[After personalized story, lead back into and this is why...]

The Northeast Illinois Council supports Scouting in Lake County and Northern Cook County. The support it provides starts with recruiting new members every year and recruiting and training leaders for our programs. The council provides exciting activities like Boo Camp, Twilight Camp, Cub mobiles, and more! It also keeps the advancement record for your Scouts and maintains a Scout Store where you and your pack can buy the supplies your son needs. They maintain three camp properties that are available for your Scouts to camp at. Friends of Scouting helps to keep the cost of going to camp as low as possible.

There is a cost associated with all of the support that the council provides to you and your unit. In fact, it costs the council \$380 dollars per year to support one Scout for the year. The \$33 yearly registration fees that you pay go directly to the National BSA office and are not used to fund Scouting locally. The council raises money through special events like golf outings and fundraising dinners, the popcorn sale, and sales in the Scout Store. Those are all important, but Friends of Scouting is the largest single fundraiser each year. This year our goal is to raise \$750,000 through the Friends of Scouting program.

Everyone has an FOS Card in front them. At this time, I would like to ask that your family make a gift to the Northeast Illinois Council that covers the cost of at least one Scout for the year, or \$380. Of course, every donation is needed and truly appreciated. Gifts can be split into one time, monthly or quarterly payments between now and November.

To ensure that your credit card information is safeguarded, this year we are asking those who would like to give via credit card to text \_\_\_\_\_ to 71777 and follow the instructions, or put your contact information on your pledge card and someone from the Scout office will reach out to you to collect payment. If you choose to text-to-donate, you will receive a reply text with a link to your unit's very own online donation page where you can complete your payment. You will not be charged on your phone bill unless your carrier charges for texting.

As you fill out your card, I would like to explain the incentives we have. In order to raise the \$750,000 we set up goals for every unit. Your pack has a gold goal of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and a platinum goal of \$\_\_\_\_\_. If you raise your gold goal today, your pack will earn free rank advancements until May of next year. Your unit will also get 5% of what is raised back to your pack. If you raise the platinum goal, you will also get free tent camping at any of the council's camps in 2018.

We also have some personal recognitions for your gifts. At the \$1500 Eagle Giving Level, you receive a complete set of 2018 FOS Council shoulder patches. At the \$1000 \$750 and \$500 level, we have shoulder patches with border colors corresponding to each giving level. Everyone who gives at or above \$380 level, which covers the cost of one Scout for a year, will receive our special FOS travel mug. At the \$190 level you receive the standard council shoulder patch. Everyone who gives a donation will receive a button loop patch and everyone who turns in a card will receive a set of "Why Knot Scouting?" instruction cards.

Once again thank you for being involved in Scouting and thank you for supporting the Northeast Illinois Council!