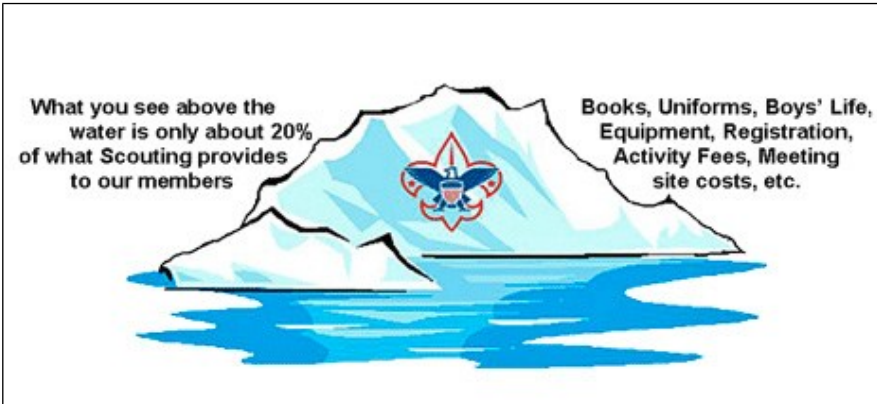


Why Should We Support the annual Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign?



By Council FOS Chair Todd Petersen



The natural next question is:

Why should I give money to the Mount Baker Council? Sometimes we answer with what we call "The Iceberg Analogy."

The Iceberg Analogy

The thinking here is that Scouts and volunteers see only 20 percent of what councils provide to members. There's a whole lot more beneath the surface. I know this well. When I first became a Boy Scout, I had no idea that there were council professionals working behind the scenes to make the Scouting magic happen. I just assumed those silver-looped Scouters were other volunteers. As I've met many of these wonderful professionals, I've grown to understand their role. They support you, the volunteer, so you have more time to enjoy the life-changing fun of Scouting.

What's beneath the iceberg's surface (what do councils do for us)?

- **Volunteer and Staff Training**
- **Insurance Coverage** to protect volunteers, chartered organizations, staff members and properties
- **Support Staff** for registration, publications and other program support
- **Camp promotion** for Cub Scout day camps, Boy Scout summer camps, high-adventure activities and more
- **Camp Rangers** to keep Fire Mountain Scout Camp up-to-date, in good repair and ready for Scouts and families



- **Camp Equipment**, like tents, cooking equipment, camp vehicles, building repairs, canoes, equipment replacement and repair, and general upkeep of council camps
- **Recognitions for leaders** who complete training, volunteer for special projects and help in many Scouting roles
- **Professional Staff** who work with volunteers to organize new units, manage fundraising programs, conduct training, assist in membership recruitment, provide counsel and direct support to the District Committee, to camps, activities and other programs
- **Administrative needs**, including record keeping, communication, registration services, printing, mailing, facilities maintenance, professional services, travel, conferences, outside printing and much more.
- **Two Council Service Centers** & Scout Stores to give additional support to volunteers
- **Audio-visual supplies** used in training, at camps and in volunteer meetings
- **A council Website** and other media sites to keep you informed
- **Reference publications** and resources, including program planning kits and to camping guidebooks
- **The Opportunity Fund** for camperships, uniforms and registration fees for disadvantaged young people

As you can see, there's more happening at your council than the average volunteer sees. And it can't happen without the support of volunteers, parents, chartered organizations and other Friends of Scouting like you.