

CHIEFTAINS' CHALLENGE

for the year 2021

"A SCOUT'S HONOR IS TO BE TRUSTED."

Dear Braves, Warriors and Men of Paint:

In the year 2020, largely due to the COVID pandemic and other issues, Scouting's membership declined an astonishing 49%. We know that joining a troop generally happens when Webelos cross over at the end of their Cub Scout years. If it does not happen then, the only proven method of recruiting new Scouts occurs when one Scout extends a personal invitation to another youth. Many young people today are not in Scouting only because no one ever asked them.

In the summer of 2021, at each of the six Friday night ceremonies, the Council of Chieftains presented a special challenge to Tribesmen assembled to make a commitment **to ask one youth to join Scouting** and be persistent in your effort. Over the course of the summer, an estimated **300 Scouts and Leaders** stood proudly to accept that challenge. If you stood to make that challenge, then you know who you are. You made a commitment and we know you will keep it. Your character and your leadership were among the qualities found in you that made your selection in Mic-O-Say happen, whether that was this past summer, or many moons ago. No records were made of who made this commitment. In Scouting, that would not be necessary— because you made your promise as a Scout and as a Tribesman.

You may not be fully aware of just how important that promise will prove to be. Scouting is in a fight for its existence and continuation. And it is going to depend on Scouts like you keeping the solemn promise you made. It really is up to you whether Scouting and therefore, Mic-O-Say will continue for those who follow after you. When you have completed your obligation, complete this questionnaire below and have your Scout leader bring it or mail it to the Council Service Center.

Tribesmen who complete their obligation will be recognized in a special, one-time way at the Mic-O-Say Conclave and those who complete their obligation after that time, at the Tribal Feast next spring. In order to be recognized, properly, we need to be in possession of your "testimonial" about 3 weeks before each event.

If you did not stand for a commitment this summer but now wish that you had, you, too, may now accept the Chieftains' Challenge. The Boy Scouts of America and the Tribe of Mic-O-Say thank you for the promise you are about to keep. Every young person you bring into Scouting will enjoy the program that you have enjoyed and may someday enjoy the even deeper fellowship of the Inner Circle of Mic-O-Say. **And it will be because of you, and you alone.** That should give you a great deal of pride and satisfaction.

The Council of Chieftains

I kept my Promise

Print everything below very clearly and legibly

My Name _____ Troop _____

My Tribal Rank and Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

I am: a Scout a Leader

Phone _____ Email _____

Name of Scout That I Recruited _____

If you are a Scout, give this form to your Scout leader who will then bring it personally to the Council Service Center or mail it. Address: Council of Chieftains, Pony Express Council, 1704 Buckingham Street, St. Joseph, MO 64506. If you are a leader who honored the challenge, just drop off the form or mail it.

If you misplace this form, a PDF version will be available on the Mic-O-Say website until just before the 2022 Tribal Feast.

