



# TRIBAL GUARDIAN PROGRAM

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **What is the Tribal Guardian program?**

The Tribal Guardian program is the comprehensive program for the Tribe of Mic-O-Say to pay for Tribal facilities, fund the ongoing operation of the Tribe and create an endowment to provide for future maintenance of our facilities and the operations of the Tribe.

### **How does the Tribal Guardian program work?**

The Tribal Guardian program has three parts – the Annual Tribal Guardian, the Lifetime Tribal Guardian and the Founder Tribal Guardian.

### **Seems very complicated – what is the reason for these various parts?**

The goal of the Tribal Guardian program is to have a single program that enhances a number of different fundraising programs that we currently have as a Tribe. The Annual Tribal Guardian program takes the place of our Self-Denial/Annual Giving program. The Lifetime Tribal Guardian program takes the place of the current Dog Soldier program. And to address a very important current need of the Tribe, there is a Founder Tribal Guardian program that will exist only until December 31, 2017 – or until 5,000 Tribesmen have donated. Then the Founder Tribal Guardian program will go away forever!

### **Tell me more about the Founder Tribal Guardian program.**

For a number of years, the Lone Bear Spirit Council and the Council of Chieftains has been aware of the need to create build a Tribal Records Center to preserve and maintain our Tribal history. Plus, as we have grown Parry Lodge to better serve our Tribe and to allow all Tribesmen (particularly our younger members) the opportunity to create Tribal attire with assistance from others, we have identified a growing need to improve Parry Lodge as well. The Founder Tribal Guardian program is designed to meet those needs.

Most Tribesmen are familiar with the effort that led to the construction of the Mic-O-Say Memorial Lodge and Chapel. Rather than call upon a few Tribesmen to fund the construction, Medicine Man Swift Eagle (Chuck Henion) determined to proceed in a different fashion. Recognizing that the Memorial Lodge and Chapel, which was originally built to honor Tribesmen, Swift Eagle called upon all Tribesmen to assist equally in the construction by offering Twelve Pieces of Wampum (\$12) to support the construction of the Great Hall – a building that to this day welcomes Tribesmen to our beloved Reservation. The Founder Tribal Guardian program is inspired by that effort.



# TRIBAL GUARDIAN PROGRAM

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

With one exception, the Founder Tribal Guardian program will accept gifts only in the amount of \$100. Each Tribesman who becomes a Founder Tribal Guardian will be an equal participant with every other Tribesman in the creation of our new Tribal Records Center. The only exception to the \$100 contribution amount is the option to become a Founder Tribal Guardian by contributing – either by automatic credit card charge or automatic withdrawal from a bank account – \$10 per month for one year. This option was created because of the strong desire of the Lone Bear Spirit Council and the Council of Chieftains to allow as many Tribesmen as possible the opportunity to become a Founder Tribal Guardian.

### **How long will I have the opportunity to become a Founder Tribal Guardian?**

The Founder Tribal Guardian program will end no later than December 31, 2017. However, once 5,000 Tribesmen have made their commitment to become Founder Tribal Guardians, the Founder Tribal Guardian program will end.

### **How will the money raised from the Founder Tribal Guardian be used?**

The funds will be used for these purposes:

- Construction of a new Tribal Records Center at Bartle.
- Improvements to Parry Lodge.
- Any remaining funds will be deposited in an endowment fund to support of the Tribe, including the future maintenance, preservation and improvement of Tribal facilities.

### **How will Founder Tribal Guardians be recognized?**

Founder Tribal Guardians will be recognized in several ways. First, each Founder will be awarded an exclusive recognition to be worn on the Founder's tribal attire. Each Founder will also be able to wear that recognition on their Scout uniform. Images of the new recognition will be available as soon as manufacturing is complete. Second, the name of each Founder will be placed in the cornerstone of the new Tribal Records Center. You will literally be part of the foundation of that new facility! Third, we are developing plans (not yet finalized) for an interactive station at the Tribal Records Center that will allow for electronic display of the names of all Founder Tribal Guardians.



# TRIBAL GUARDIAN PROGRAM

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **If I elect to pay my Founder Tribal Guardian commitment in installments, when will I be provided with my recognition?**

Tribesmen who elect to pay their Founder Tribal Guardian commitment in installments will be given their exclusive recognition at the time they complete their payment.

### **What is the Lifetime Tribal Guardian Program?**

The Lifetime Tribal Guardian program will replace the lifetime Dog Soldier program. One new element of the Lifetime Tribal Guardian program is the opportunity for a Tribesman to continue to expand his/her commitment to the Tribe. The first level of the Lifetime Tribal Guardian program is achieved by a Tribesman contributing \$1,000 to the Tribe's endowment. This may be achieved in either a single gift or in installments (minimum installment is \$50, and Tribesmen who elect to pay in installments must also participate in the Annual Tribal Guardian program). Lifetime Tribal Guardians may receive additional recognition for continuing to contribute after achieving Lifetime status. The additional recognition is achieved when aggregate Lifetime gifts (Founder and Annual gifts excluded) total \$5,000 (She-She-Be Lifetime Guardian) and \$10,000 (Lone Bear Tribal Guardian).

### **How will Lifetime Tribal Guardians be recognized?**

Lifetime Tribal Guardians who are also Founder Tribal Guardians will be given an additional symbol to be attached to his or her Founder Tribal Guardian emblem to recognize the achievement of Lifetime status. Lifetime Tribal Guardians who are not Founder Tribal Guardians will be given a specific recognition to be worn on the Tribesman's tribal attire. Each Lifetime Tribal Guardian will also be able to wear that recognition on their Scout uniform. Images of the new recognition will be available as soon as manufacturing is complete. Those that give at the Lifetime level will also be recognized as James E. West Fellows.

### **If I elect to pay my Lifetime Tribal Guardian commitment in installments, when will I receive my recognition?**

Tribesmen who elect to pay their Lifetime Tribal Guardian commitment in installments will be given their recognition at the time they complete their payment.

### **What is the Annual Tribal Guardian program?**

The Annual Tribal Guardian program is the backbone of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say – an annual gift to the Tribe to continue to allow us to deliver the high quality program that changes the lives of those Scouts



# TRIBAL GUARDIAN PROGRAM

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

and Scouters who participate. While all contributions to the Tribe are welcomed and appreciated, a minimum donation of \$75 is required for a Tribesman to receive recognition. However, a Tribesman who in a particular year contributes – either by automatic credit card charge or automatic withdrawal from a bank account – \$5 per month for one year will be eligible to receive recognition in as an Annual Tribal Guardian. This option was created because of the strong desire of the Lone Bear Spirit Council and the Council of Chieftains to allow as many Tribesmen as possible the opportunity to become an Annual Tribal Guardian.

### **How will the money raised from the Annual Tribal Guardian be used?**

Since the founding of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, there has been one financial constant – the Tribe pays its own way, and no general funds of the Heart of America Council, Boy Scouts of America, have ever been used to pay for Tribal expenses. From the beginning until the present, that has been one of the guiding principles of the Tribe. So each year, the Tribe funds the costs of all supplies for the young men who hear their names called to begin their journey to the Inner Circle, or to undertake additional responsibility. The Tribe also funds the cost – including meals – of all of the youth and adult staff who deliver our program during summer camp. The Tribe also funds the mailing of Cedar Smoke, and maintains the Tribal facilities at the cost of Tribesmen, never the Heart of America Council.

Additionally, the Tribe contributes annually to the Camp Staff Scholarship program, recognizing that attracting the best possible staff to our camps is the best way to make certain that the young people in Scouting receive the best program. The Tribe has long recognized that the better the camping program offered, the longer our youth stay in the Scouting program, allowing more opportunities for our program to work and improve the lives and futures of the young people of our community.

Finally, the Tribe has made a commitment to fund improvements to H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation beyond the portions that are used for the Mic-O-Say program. All of these items will be funded from the dollars raised by the Annual Tribal Guardian program.

### **How will Annual Tribal Guardians be recognized?**

Each year that a Tribesman participates in the Annual Tribal Guardian program, the Tribesman will receive a specific recognition to be worn on the Tribesman's tribal attire. Each Annual Tribal Guardian will also be able to wear that recognition on their Scout uniform.

For Annual Tribal Guardians who are not also Founder or Lifetime Tribal Guardians, the recognition will consist of a patch – the patch will be specific for each year, and it is appropriate to wear or display only the current year's patch. For Annual Tribal Guardians who are also Founder or Lifetime Tribal Guardians,



# TRIBAL GUARDIAN PROGRAM

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

the annual recognition will be added to the Founder or Lifetime Tribal Guardian recognition and worn on the Tribesman's tribal attire and Scout uniform. A unique recognition will be given for each year that a Founder or Lifetime Tribal Guardian also provides support to the Tribe as an Annual Tribal Guardian, and it is appropriate to wear or display only the current year's recognition.

Images of the new recognition will be available as soon as manufacturing is complete.

### **What happens to the existing Dog Soldier program?**

All current lifetime Dog Soldiers will be designated as Lifetime Tribal Guardians, and may continue to wear their current medicine wheels. All persons who have been making installment payments toward Lifetime Dog Soldier will have those payments credited to achieving Lifetime Guardian status.

### **For the Founder Tribal Guardian programs, why is the cost different for monthly givers?**

The Founder Tribal Guardian program is a one-time only program that will end by the end of 2017 at the latest. The goal was to make this special opportunity accessible for every Tribesman, so even though the total gift required is \$100, the Council of Chieftains and the Lone Bear Spirit Council wanted to allow Tribesmen to pay in monthly installments. But there are costs to the collection of the payments over time, and it was decided that the most fair approach was to ask those Tribesmen who elect to pay in installments to pay a little extra to cover those added costs.

### **So why isn't that same logic used in the Annual Tribal Guardian program? In that program I can receive recognition if I pay a minimum installment of \$5 per month, while the amount of the required one-time contribution to receive recognition is \$75.**

While the Founder Tribal Guardian program is a special one-time only program, the goal of the Annual Tribal Guardian program is to encourage each Tribesman to participate each year. The goal is to encourage participation from every Tribesman each year, and one way to accomplish that objective is to make the minimum amount needed to achieve recognition an amount that every Tribesman could afford. While the Council of Chieftains and the Lone Bear Spirit Council realizes that there are Tribesmen who cannot afford to give any financial support to the Tribe, even though they realize the importance of the Tribe to assisting young people in growing into adults with values and a moral compass, the decision was made to try to place the minimum annual contribution amount at a level that would not create a burden for most Tribesmen to participate. The option for all Tribesmen, and particularly younger



# TRIBAL GUARDIAN PROGRAM

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

Tribesmen who have less financial means, to be able to give monthly at a very reasonable monthly level was created to encourage broad support.

And of course a minimum is just that – Tribesmen who have the means to contribute at a higher level are encouraged to do so. It is hoped that all Tribesmen will evaluate the importance of the Mic-O-Say program to them, consider their means, and give accordingly. The more Tribesmen that participate in the Annual Tribal Guardian program, the easier it is to maintain the costs of delivering the promise of Mic-O-Say to future generations.

### **Other Questions?**

If you have other questions that haven't been answered, you may email your questions to Dave Frantze, Chieftain Silver Blue River, who serves as the Finance Committee Chair of the Lone Bear Spirit Council: [dfrantze@kc.rr.com](mailto:dfrantze@kc.rr.com)