

Dear James E. West Fellows- BUILD YOUR BRIDGE to PLANNED GIVING and YOUR SCOUTING LEGACY:

If you think you've seen this story before, you may be right! I initially sent a previous version in 2018 and have now updated it for three reasons, 1) to send my story of why I believe investing in Scouting today is so vital, 2) to encourage Planned Giving for the long term now that you're already a James E. West Fellow, and 3) to share your own story with your Scouts, Scouters, friends and families.

With the exception of 2020, my wife and I make our annual Memorial Day trip to my hometown of Blue Hill, Maine. That's when I march in the parade where my twin brother and I proudly carried the colors as Scouts and joined local Veterans, our high school band, kids on bikes, and fire trucks!

Growing up on Dad's dairy farm on the coast of Maine created endless lessons of life, connected with church, 4-H, and Scouting in Troop 97 and at Camp Roosevelt in the Katahdin Area Council. Our Dads all worked demanding jobs in farming, forestry and lobstering, so finding a Scoutmaster was a tall order. They persuaded Merle B. Grindle, Eagle Scout and Independent Insurance Agent to accept the challenge, since he had the only flexible schedule in the group and could shoulder Troop responsibilities while our Dads provided weekend camping support.

Right away our older cousins, my twin brother and I were hooked! Soon we were off to the challenging world of Camp Roosevelt, camping year-round and continually experiencing new adventures with our best buddies! We earned our Eagles, God and Country Awards, and Order of the Arrow Vigils together and worked summers at Camp Roosevelt, yet we still had no idea how Scouting endured. Fortunately, we know now that our Scoutmaster and Dads knew exactly what they were doing!

Somewhere between guidance from Dad and Scoutmaster Grindle, and our National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Endowment Celebration on Sep 26th 2020, we and many like-minded NCAC Supporters of Scouting figured out our Scouting legacies and how our NCAC Endowment ensures Scouting will continue to support future generations of youth long after we depart. After seeing Scouting Families in action first-hand, speaking at roundtables and camporees, kayaking Lake Merriweather at Goshen Scout Reservation, enjoying Family Camping at Camp William B. Snyder, attending National and World Jamborees at The Summit, and being inspired by our Scout youth speakers at every NCAC event, I am convinced more than ever that investment in our youth is essential for the future of our country! I loved my career in the US Navy, but for me, Scouting was absolutely foundational and precisely where I believe we all can have our greatest impact in honor of our first Chief Scout Executive Dr. James E. West and through Planned Giving!

As Endowment Chair I know that becoming Planned Giving Donors can provide sound, tax-free investment choices, both now and later through estate planning. Donations are "permanently restricted" and in 2021 will provide annual interest revenue on our \$14.6M principal that will distribute an all-time high of \$624K for camp maintenance (\$293K), for operations (\$244K), and for scholarships (\$87K). This has convinced me to invest at the James E. West Fellowship level annually...and I am still honored to march in my Navy uniform with my hometown Scouts on Memorial Day! What's your Scouting story?

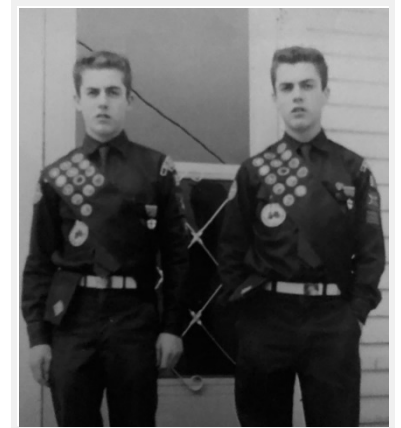
I ask you to continue your James E. West Fellowships while building your bridge NOW to Planned Giving, and cement your Scouting legacy like the Bob Dise Family and John Mosby Russell have done. Join your colleagues with estate planning, stock donations, Qualified Charitable Donations (QCDs) and Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) to continue supporting all those "Troop 97s" in our Council, now and in the future. Please consult your financial advisor, check out www.ncacbsa.org for further information, and call Craig, Mario, Jenna Welle (301-214-9113) or me right away! Please zoom in on March 23rd to answer your financial questions at our Annual Endowment Planned Giving Seminar - Register Here

Many thanks for listening – please join us in investing in youth through James E. West Fellowships and building your bridge to Planned Giving - you'll be forever proud and satisfied that you did!

Forrest A. Horton

Forrest

NCAC Endowment Chair
703-919-4636





- **March 23 at 12:00pm- Endowment Virtual Planned Giving Seminar- [Register Here](#)**
- **Save the date: May 22 for our Annual Endowment Ceremony**