



Scouting Around the World



April 2017

National Capital Area Council International Committee

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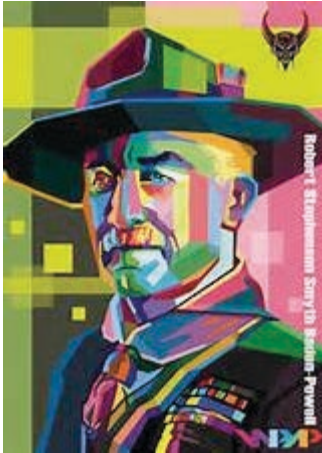
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The International Committee meets the third Thursday, every other month at the Marriott Scout Service Center, 7:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Upcoming meeting date: May 18, 2017

Newsletter editor: John Scheirer, Scouter8@verizon.net

B-P Bits:



B-P: Education Innovator - He looked to the social lives and imagination of children and young people. He placed a special value on adventure; on children and young people working together – and taking responsibility (his ‘patrol’ building on the idea of ‘natural’ friendship groups and ‘gangs’); on developing self-sufficiency; and on ‘learning through doing’. It has been one of the ironies of youth work over the last fifty years that while club and project workers may talk of participation and question many of the methods of uniformed organizations, one of the most sustained and widespread example of self-organization and participation flows from Robert Baden-Powell’s scheme set out in 1908.

Collectors’ Corner: Scout Volksmarch Medals from Europe



“Volksmarch,” or “People’s Walk,” has its origins after the end of World War II. Originally it was part of a mass culture movement and began as a timed, competitive event that was designed to help Germans keep in shape. This became very popular with the American military that were stationed in Germany at that time. These medals are mostly from the 1980’s.

24th World Scout Jamboree – July 22 to August 2, 2019

For the first time, a world jamboree will be hosted by three national Scout organizations: Scouts Canada, Asociación de Scouts de México, and the Boy Scouts of America. These three distinct cultures will join together to host the world Scouting community in a celebration of cultural exchange, mutual understanding, peace, and friendship. The theme for the 24th World Scout Jamboree, “**Unlock a New World,**” was developed by our youth bid team, known as the Dream Team. This theme speaks to the new adventures, cultures, and friendships that will be shared by Scouts from around the world during the event.

Scouting in: CUBA



**1940's Membership
Badge**

The Asociación de Scouts de Cuba (ASC, *Scout Association of Cuba*) was the national Scouting organization of Cuba from 1927 to 1961. Scouting in Cuba started in 1914, in 1927 the ASC was founded and became a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement the same year and was suspended from WOSM membership in 1961. At the end of the 1950s, the boys-only association had about 6,500 members. The first troops of Boy Scouts in Cuba met under the sponsorship of the American Legion, the *Mother's Club del Vedado* and the electric generating plant of the *Compañía Cubana de Electricidad*. During its first years, Cuban Scouting followed the model of the Boy Scouts of America, using the uniform, Boy Scout Handbook and many of their practices. Scouting existed in Cuba itself until the 1960s, when Cuban Scouting ceased operations after the Cuban revolution of 1959. Cuban Scouts rendered service during those times, directing traffic, collecting rations, helping in hospitals and establishing first aid stations. In 1961, the World Scout Conference terminated the WOSM membership claiming that the ASC had ceased to exist. In hopes of Scouting's eventual return, Cuban-American Scouts of the Boy Scouts of America are instrumental in annual Lincoln-Martí celebrations in Miami, Florida.

Celebrating International Women's Day 2017 - Message from the Secretary General of WOSM – WOSM is one of the organizations that consciously promotes equal opportunities or both women and men since its inception over 100 years ago. We are a non-formal educational movement for young people open to all, without distinction of gender, origin, race or creed, in accordance with the purpose, principles and method conceived by our Founder, Baden-Powell. The Scout Movement has been greatly enriched and diversified with girls and women taking an active role and contributing to the Movement. Today, there are close to 14 million women being enabled with knowledge and skills through the non-formal education offered in Scouting. This has also empowered girls and women to improve their own lives and enabled them to contribute their talent and resources to serve and create positive change in their communities. To create a better world, we need to allow and extend all opportunities to girls and women. But equally as important, boys and men need to continue in their efforts to better understand and support equal rights and responsibilities. In addition to the energy and endeavors made by young people in striving for equality, we take this opportunity today on International Women's Day to call on adults and all organizations to work together and commit to ensure equal opportunities for all so as to bring positive change to our world.

MEMORANDUM From the BSA General Counsel regarding Home Hospitality

TO: Janine Halverson and Matt Myers

FROM: Steve McGowan, General Counsel

DATE: **November 9, 2016**

RE: Hosting Scouts in Private Homes

Opportunities for Scout families to host Scouting youth from other countries or areas of the United States can offer a rich experience for everyone. However, when hosting has any connection to the Scouting program, it presents special challenges. BSA provides insurance coverage for only official Scouting activities and hosting Scouting in private homes is not an official Scouting activity. (Being in residence at a BSA camp or property may be a part of an official Scouting activity unless the event is private or non-Scouting in nature). As such, guidelines should be provided to all involved before any arrangements are made.

Additionally, if Scouting volunteers or staff are involved in making arrangements, they should know in advance that they are not engaged an official Scouting activity in doing so. Furthermore, any promotion of the hosting opportunity *as part of* official Scouting event is prohibited. In most cases an appropriate disclaimer to the effect that hosting is not part of the Scouting activity should be included in materials used to promote or arrange the hosting.

The following guidelines may be helpful for those involved in hosting Scouting in private homes. These are not policies of the BSA. Rather, they are offered for informational purposes only as you requested.

■ If a chartered organization or unit facilitates the arrangements, including the selection of both the visiting Scout and the host family, they should know that they are not engaged in an “official Scouting activity.”

■ If hosting is before, after or during the period for an official Scouting activity, the host family and Scout must acknowledge that the official Scouting activity begins and ends at the rally or assembly point for the activity. The activity does not include time spent at the host family home. An official Scouting activity does not include travel to or from the event.

■ While BSA’s youth protection guidelines may not apply to non-Scouting activities, the barriers to abuse and other BSA guidelines offer some best-practices the host family and Scout should *consider* following during the visit, including:

- Should a two-deep family presence be required while the visiting Scout is with the host family or in the home
 - Should a criminal records check should be performed on all residents of the home 18 or more years of age (a sponsoring organization may want evidence of such a check)
 - Has a suitability assessment been performed that considers the age, sex, sleeping and bathroom accommodations and the individual needs of everyone who will be in the home
 - What information should be shared before the Scout arrives – a profile of the host family, details of the accommodations and a schedule is always helpful and comforting
 - How should behavior expectations be determined and communicated - written code of conduct or household rules may be appropriate.
 - Should everyone who will be in the household complete Youth Protection Training
 - What visitors may be in the home while the Scout is present and whether an adult of the host family should be present.
 - Should neighbors be asked to keep a watchful eye.
 - What identification, emergency contact information, and authorization for medical treatment should be available and where it will be maintained
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Interreligious dialogue for peace at the WSIS 2017 follow-on comments from Rabbi Peter Hyman, NCAC

"Duty To God - Duty to Scouting" Symposium
January 27 - 29, 2017
Huntington, New York

The twelfth point of the Scout Law speaks not just to theology or religious affiliation. The twelfth point of the Scout Law is also a powerful statement about the Scouting community and what unites us as scouts. Duty to God is a unifying principle that, transcending religion specific ritual and dogma, defines the Scouting community in its breathtaking diversity and connects scouts around the world through a shared understanding of this foundational and defining value. Writing in the "Headquarter's Gazette" of November 1920, scouting's founder, Lord Baden Powell wrote:

There is no religious "side" of the Scouting movement. The whole of it is based on religion, that is, on the realizations and service of God. Let us therefore, in training our Scouts, keep the higher aims in the forefront, not let ourselves get too absorbed in the steps. Don't let the technical outweigh the moral...Our objective in the Scouting movement is to give such help as we can in bringing about God's Kingdom on Earth.

The 5th World Scout Interreligious Symposium, the theme of which was "Duty to God-Duty to Scouting" took place on January 27-29, 2017 at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, New York. Hosted by the BSA Religious Relationships Committee and the WOSM interreligious Forum, 130 scouters from 40 National Scout Organizations (NSO's) attended and participated in what was an in-depth, focused and challenging weekend aimed at encouraging a deeper and clearer understanding of Duty to God as a foundational scouting principle. Participants wrestled with the challenges and obstacles facing a modern understanding of this definitional principle. The goal of the 2017 Duty to God - Duty to Scouting Symposium aimed at developing strategies and action plans, curricula and measurable objectives that can aid and assist scouts in fulfilling their Duty to God.

The 5th World Scout Interreligious Symposium was, by every measure and standard, a successful and valuable experience. Representatives of the many and diverse faith communities sat in dialogue, analyzing and addressing how Duty to God informs us as scouts, irrespective of our faith traditions or our countries of origin.

One point that rapidly surfaced in these intense sessions was the recognition that all religions, irrespective of theology or ritual, embrace and are informed by a concept of peace and the necessity to work for peace; locally, nationally and globally. An important insight was shared with the entire gathering that helped make clear the unique relationship and interconnection between the concept of peace, Duty to God and Scouting. It was noted that the word "peace" in the Arabic language, *salam*, and the word "peace" in the Hebrew language, *shalom*, derive from the same root, the meaning of which is "completeness," "wholeness" or "unity." Both words suggesting that something broken or incomplete or lacking cannot know or be at peace. Peace is that state on completeness and wholeness. In a shattered world Scouting helps bring about peace through Messengers of Peace, the unique and worldwide program that allows scouts to repair bits and pieces of a broken world.

Launched in May of 2012, the BSA's Messengers of Peace initiative recognizes the efforts of Scouts who are working for peace, whether it's on objects that strive to solve conflicts in their schools, building links between divided communities, teaching their peers about health and wellness or repairing environmental damage, locally and globally. We were fortunate that Cynthia Marquez Cardoza, Global Projects Manager - WOSM and International Director - Messengers of Peace joined us and engaged with all who attended the Symposium.

It is gratifying to see how quickly the Messengers of Peace program gained recognition throughout the scouting movement. However, the need for strong and continued promotion highlighting the purpose of the Messengers of Peace program remains a priority. For the BSA, "Community service" is an integral component of the scouting experience. We teach our scouts that they have an obligation to help "repair the world" through service projects and services hours. The Messengers of Peace program supports the BSA's commitment to Community Service. Service to others and protecting the world in which we live are clearly components of Duty to God. The 5th World Scout Interreligious Symposium highlighted and underscored that scouting principle.
