



International newsletter

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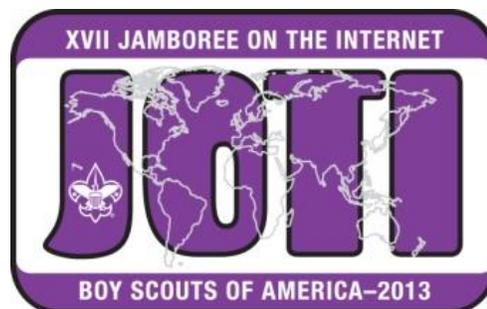
2013 JAMBOREE-ON-THE-AIR AND -INTERNET

Jamboree-on-the-Air and Jamboree-on-the-Internet will be held Oct.19 and 20, 2013. JOTA and JOTI are annual World Scouting events that provide an opportunity for Scouts to communicate with other Scouts from around the world!

Last year, JOTA worldwide participation reached just short of 700,000 Scouts operating from more than 13,500 amateur radio stations, operated by 22,500 amateur radio operators across 142 countries, while JOTI had almost 16,000 Scouts and leaders registered in the worldwide JOTA-JOTI database in 146 countries!

Through JOTA, Scouts use radio technology to talk with one another and share information that broadens their perspective on other cultures, on geography, and on the technology and hobby that provides the means for their communication.

We encourage you to reach out to your local amateur radio clubs and get your council involved in the largest Scouting event in the world. If you need help identifying ham radio clubs in your community, let us know and we will provide a list. Additionally, you can find more information at www.scouting.org/jota.



JOTI uses the Internet allowing Scouts to “meet” other Scouts from around the world and share more information than just “Hi.” The exchanges can include such information as name, location of event, Scout rank, age, and hobbies. Some exchanges lead to long-lasting friendships.

Be sure to visit www.scouting.org/joti for additional information and how to participate in this exciting event!

Pictured above are the official BSA patch designs for the 56th Jamboree-on-the-Air and the 17th Jamboree-on-the-Internet.

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WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND

Do you know how to get World Friendship Fund brochures, coffee can labels, or posters for your next collection?



**WORLD
FRIENDSHIP
FUND**



Well, let us tell you! Contact your local council and ask them to order the items from the National Distribution Center via bin inventory. The item numbers are brochure, No. 130159; label, No. 22620; poster, No. 22609. We also have limited supplies of World Friendship Fund DVDs, No. 22611, so be sure to order one today before they are gone!

We can accept World Friendship Fund donations online! To donate online or to download the brochure, please visit

www.scouting.org/international/worldsupport.

COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL EVENT GUIDELINE

If your council is planning to host international Scouts as participants at a local council event, the International Department will work with your event registrar to verify contingent leaders and International Service Team (IST/staff) are registered and approved by their own WOSM Scout association to attend your event.

This may seem like an unnecessary step in your event planning, but it can be crucial to your event's success. For a large event in 2012, only 85 percent of the contingent leaders and 78 percent of the IST that applied were approved by their Scout association. Contact the International Department to verify the registration and approval of your international Scouts.

INTRODUCING THE INTERNATIONAL SPIRIT AWARD!

The International Spirit Award is a temporary emblem that is awarded to registered Scouts and Scouters who have completed the necessary requirements, have gained a greater knowledge of international Scouting, and have a greater appreciation and awareness of different cultures and countries. This award serves as a replacement for, and therefore eliminates, the International Activity emblem and the Youth Exchange emblem. International Spirit Award emblems are \$4 each and



are purchased from the International Department. Please visit www.scouting.org/international/applications to see the requirements and apply for this new award.

BSA CONTINGENT PROGRAM

As a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, the Boy Scouts of America gets invited to many different international/national events in different countries every year. This is a great opportunity for the BSA to connect with the world through interaction with local Scouts and Scout leaders at those special events. Consequently, it provides our BSA Scouts and adults an excellent opportunity to learn about other countries, people, and cultures through Scouting activities, as well as to learn Scouting skills and make new friendships as part of the adventure.

Depending on the locations, time, availability of Direct Service units, attendees, and budgets, a contingent may be formed for these international events. Once a contingent formation is approved, BSA Scouts and Scout leaders will be selected to join this contingent (Boy Scout troop or Venturing crew).

The BSA would like to send contingents that represent geographical diversity. Contingents will be formed with Scouts and Scout leaders from all over the country, not just from one troop/crew in the same council.

To qualify for a BSA contingent, Scouts and Scout leaders must be nominated to the International Department by their council international representative and approved by their council Scout executive.

BSA contingent nomination forms:

www.scouting.org/international



UPCOMING TRIPS:

Second National Scout Jamboree and the 20th Anniversary of Scouting in the Republic of Georgia

Date: Aug 6–16, 2013

Location: Borjomi, Republic of Georgia

Age: 15–20 (Boy Scouts, Venturers) and Adults

Contingent size: 8 youths + 2 adults

Contingent gathering: Aug 2, 2013

Cost: \$1,200 (includes travel [round trip, U.S. gateway city—Republic of Georgia], lodging, food, event fee, patches, bags, and more fun!)

Nomination deadline: May 10, 2013

MESSENGERS OF PEACE

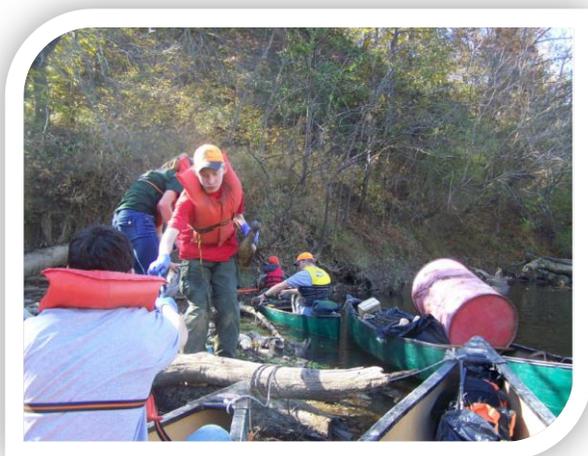


Launched in September 2011, Messengers of Peace is a global initiative designed to inspire millions of young men and women to work toward peace through personal, community, and relationship service projects. Using state-of-the-art social media, the initiative lets Scouts from around the world share what they've done and inspire fellow Scouts to undertake similar efforts in their own communities.

In conjunction with North Carolina Big Sweep, the Johnston County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Messengers of Peace, Venturing Crew 122 led Venturers of Crew 122 and Scouts of Troop 33 in an air and water pollution conservation effort to clean up nearly half a ton of trash from the Neuse River.

The North Carolina Big Sweep was founded as "Beach Sweep" in 1987 by Dr. Lundie Spence of the North Carolina Sea Grant College Program. In that seminal year, the Sweep was little more than a hastily planned coastal cleanup. However, their success that year, attracting over 1,000 volunteers and collecting over 14 tons of debris, allowed the Sweep to grow and rapidly expand inland.

Registered adults and Scouts cleaned a 9.5-mile portion of the Neuse River by canoe. The trip took almost 10 hours. Thirty-four garbage bags of trash, a 55-gallon drum, a propane tank, and three tires were recovered. A sunken johnboat, a wheel barrow, and a golf cart could not be recovered. The top five items collected were plastic beverage bottles (400-plus), glass bottles (70), toys/balls (52), aluminum cans (37), and Styrofoam/paper cups (36). The group was briefed ahead of time about the riparian buffer and its importance, Leave No Trace, Safety Afloat, and Trek Safely. At the end, participants



completed feedback forms. Comments were very positive, and almost all responded that they learned something from the experience and said they would go again. The Scouts were 11 to 18 years old. All participants were surprised there was so much trash. The original plan was to cover 14.3 miles, but we ended short based on daylight and the volume of trash we had to carry with us. Two empty canoes were used as trash barges and towed behind. There were a couple of areas we could not collect from and a few isolated areas that would require several hours and many more people to clean correctly. The total project represents 217 man-hours of labor.

We are Messengers of Peace, come and join us!

www.scouting.org/messengersofpeace

AMBASSADOR JAMES B. SMITH IS GUEST OF HONOR AT TROOP 257 COURT OF HONOR

The U.S. Embassy in Riyadh is proud of its long-standing relationship, a kinship with Boy Scouts of America Troop 257, as the troop has visited the embassy on numerous occasions in the past four years for completion of various Scouting advancement requirements. Events have included Citizenship in the Nation merit badge completion, Fingerprinting merit badge completion, etc.

On Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, the embassy again warmly welcomed Troop 257 to Quincy House for a milestone event, an Eagle Scout court of honor. U.S. Ambassador James B. Smith participated in the court of honor to award the prestigious Eagle Scout rank to Henry Johnson, Daniel Phipps, and Yajur Sondhi. Henry is a high school senior at British International School Riyadh (BIS-R), and Daniel and Yajur are high school seniors at American International School-Riyadh (AIS-R).

As for the significance of the Eagle Scout Award, Bill Steele, director of the National Eagle Scout Association, sums it up the best: "No matter what year the award is earned, its value is timeless. In 100 years of the Eagle Scout Award, the name and logo—a symbol of America, a bald eagle—has stayed the same. The name 'Eagle Scout' stands for something very powerful. It stands for kinship, fellowship, and a network of other men who stepped up to the challenge and achieved something great."

Ambassador Smith's court of honor remarks provided the 120 assembled guests and Scouts with a keen perspective of what it means to attain the Eagle Scout rank. The ambassador's remarks included reference to the following passage from *The Last Lecture*, a book that's been a best-seller that was written by a Carnegie Mellon University professor (Randy Pausch): "I'll take an earnest person over a hip person every time, because hip is short-term. Earnest is long-term. Earnestness is highly underestimated, it comes from the core, while hip is

trying to impress you with the surface. ‘Hip’ people love parodies. But there’s no such thing as a timeless parody, is there? I have more respect for the earnest guy who does something that can last for generations, and that hip people feel the need to parody.”

“When I think of someone who is earnest, I think of a Boy Scout who works hard and becomes an Eagle Scout. When I was interviewing people to work for me, and I came upon a candidate who had been an Eagle Scout, I’d almost always try to hire him. I knew there had to be an earnestness about him that outweighed any superficial urges toward hipness. Think about it. Becoming an Eagle Scout is just about the only thing you can put on your resume at age fifty that you did at age sixteen-and it still impresses.”

BSA Troop 257 is currently in its 34th year as a troop in Riyadh and is made up of approximately 50 Scouts and leaders from 16 different nationalities. Including Thursday’s recipients, 26 Troop 257 Scouts have earned their Eagle Scout Award in these 34 years.



VÄSSARÖ SCOUT CAMP EXPERIENCE

Traveling to Sweden to work at Vässarö Scout Camp was the single greatest experience of my life. Now I’m not going to sugarcoat it and tell you it was all peaches and cream, because it wasn’t. In fact, it challenged me in areas I thought I was already pretty good at, such as work ethic, patience, and communication, but that was what made it such a special experience. It was a chance for me to not only represent the USA to people from many different countries, but it was also a chance to learn about other cultures and grow into a better world citizen and ultimately a better person.

When I first arrived in Sweden, I was almost completely overwhelmed trying to take it all in, but gradually began to acclimate to the new culture I had jumped headfirst into. My first and foremost mission was to represent the USA and the BSA in a way that would make everyone back home proud. All the Swedes, of course, had many questions about life in America, and what Scouting was like. I quickly began to dispel any stereotypes the Swedes had about most Americans

being fat, lazy, and ignorant. They also asked a lot of questions about guns, the BSA’s policy on homosexuals, and the fact that we separate guys and girls Scouting, which they found to be ludicrous ideas. While they didn’t agree with it, most of them understood the reasoning, and I was actually able to have insightful discussions on the subject matter with a few of the friends I made. At this point, I was thanking God for blessing me with wonderful parents who raised me to be an open-minded individual with broadened horizons, which I attribute to being the reason I was able to integrate into the Swedish social groups. This allowed me to learn so much more about the Swedish culture.

After my peers eventually got to know me and what I stood for, I made a number of friends that taught me so much more about the Swedish culture than you could ever learn from any book or documentary. At times, I felt like an anthropologist studying an exotic tribe deep within Papua New Guinea because of many of the different ideals the Swedes had that would be considered almost radical here in the states. For example, all of the staff was considered pretty much equal to each other, despite their age differences. While it is true that during Eagle Scout projects we are taught to lead adults, that separation is still there no matter what is done or said. At Vässarö, there were 18-year-olds in charge of 30-year-olds, and it didn’t seem odd to them in the slightest. Also, their form of delegation was primarily based on volunteering. When the area director of Flagdan (the waterfront) was assigning work, he would describe the jobs to be done for the day, and people would volunteer for what they wanted to do. It was very rare to get a job you didn’t want, and if someone wanted a special project and there weren’t many campers to supervise, usually the area director gave us the freedom to work on whatever we wanted as long as we stayed productive.

One of their customs I particularly enjoyed they call “fika,” which is, in essence, a coffee and cookie break. Now these breaks could last anywhere from five to 20 minutes, and we would have three or four of them a day. I thought they were amazing, and really recharged us for work; however, as time went on, my American tendencies began to return. I have always been trained to execute a job with as much efficiency as possible, which I attribute to our capitalistic society. In Sweden, they thrive off socialism, which I saw in their laid-back manner toward work and little desire to “get ahead.” Don’t get me wrong, they are not lazy, they just have the attitude that even if they don’t finish, they can always continue the next day, even if they are close to completion. I found myself becoming so frustrated at times when everyone else went to take a fika, that I would keep working through the

100th Anniversary of Scouting in 2013:

*Bahamas
Colombia
Cyprus
Japan
Portugal
Slovakia
Venezuela*

break in order to finish sooner; however, they reminded me that fika was more than a break. Fika was a chance for fellowship, and ended up being the times when I learned the most about my friends and vice versa. It was the first time I had to discipline myself to not work, and it taught me that work ethic isn't just knowing how to work hard, but also knowing when to take a break and focus on other things that matter, like friends and family.

In addition to all the many challenges and new things to get used to, my job was a total blast! My first three weeks I worked at Flagdan, where I learned a lot, and was exposed to many new things. Seeing as though it was the beginning of the summer, our first job was to take all of the boats out of this huge shed with a trolley system, and put up the masts and tie down all of the cables. Then I had to learn to sail a boat by myself, if need be, so that I could teach the Confirmants (campers) how to sail. After the Confirmants were proficient enough to sail on their own, I was given the freedom to learn more things like how to operate a motorboat, how to windsurf, how to fix up a boat, and most importantly how to improvise with what I have. The Swedes are masters at this, which was really impressive, and has helped me to think outside of the box. When we weren't working we had free roam of the entire island, and got into all kinds of things like board games, socializing, cliff diving, hiking, driving tractors, and hanging out in the sauna.

The last two weeks, I was moved to the kitchen, where I met a whole new group of people, and had a whole new work schedule. You should know that I had never worked in a kitchen before. It was more than just the challenge of learning to cook that I had to overcome, but also communication that was a difficulty. The camp director, Sannah, who was also in charge of the kitchen and recipes that we were to cook, did not speak much English, and she was the one giving most all of the directions. This coupled with the lack of culinary experience put me at a great disadvantage with the jobs I could do. It was very slow going getting accustomed to the new job and very frustrating, but the more Sannah and I worked together, the more we learned from each other. She taught me some Swedish and how to cook, and I helped her with her English. It felt good to overcome that language barrier and really made me feel like I can do anything I set my mind to. When preparing for the big banquet for almost 200 people at the end of our term that signified the campers Confirmation, I was able to observe Sannah and her assistant Mattias as they expertly organized, mobilized, and delivered a very

impressive, professional banquet that I was honored to be a part of. It was a perfect closing to my time at Vässarö, and left a lasting impression.

When Pete Armstrong first introduced me to the idea of going to Sweden to work at a Scout camp over the summer, I had no idea that I was signing up for something that would change my life indefinitely for the better. I could still write many more pages filled with amazing things that I was able to do; this is just a brief overview. I would never trade that experience for anything, and highly recommend it to everyone

Cameron Barnett

DIRECT SERVICE TROOP 2012 RECEIVES THE HISTORIC TRAILS AWARD



The 223-kilometer-long Larapinta Trail is one of Australia's most spectacular bushwalking and trekking experiences and one of Central Australia's most unique and spectacular attractions.

After learning about the trail's history from park rangers, Troop 2012's members decided to volunteer to complete the annual maintenance for section 1 of the trail, which is 23.8 kilometers, stretching from Telegraph Station to Simpson's Gap and reaching an elevation of 790 meters (2,500-plus feet) at Euro Ridge.

On the first morning, the park rangers met with the troop and reviewed use of the tools. They were divided into two groups—two leaders and three Scouts in one group to walk from Simpson's Gap to Wallaby Gap (10 kilometers), and two leaders and two Scouts to walk from Wallaby Gap to Telegraph Station (13 kilometers). Each group was accompanied by a ranger. Each person carried three liters of water, plus their lunch and tools. Their work included clearing six fallen trees, correcting rocky areas in order to limit soil erosion, pruning bushes, and replacing damaged or missing signs.

The groups returned to camp tired but feeling quite happy with how much they were able to accomplish. With bellies full of campfire dinners, peach cobbler, and kettle corn, they sat around the campfire watching a sky full of shooting stars.

After breakfast the next morning, they broke camp and packed up for a shorter morning hike on section 2 of the trail. Section 2 gave the younger Scouts an opportunity to review identification of native plants as the trail meanders through grassy flats with witchetty bush and mulga (both in the acacia family).

The work on the trail allowed the troop to meet the requirements for the Boy Scouts of America's Historic Trails Award.



JOIN THE BADEN-POWELL WORLD FELLOWSHIP BEFORE THE 2013 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE

The Baden-Powell World Fellowship recognizes individuals for their contributions to the World Scout Foundation to help support Scouting. Membership is open to individual men and women throughout the world. Each member receives a special medallion, certificate, and lapel pin in recognition.

The Baden-Powell Fellowship receptions are periodically held in different parts of the world to both inform members about Scouting and to welcome new members. There will be a reception at the Baden-Powell Fellowship event to be held in conjunction with the 2013 National Scout Jamboree this July. There has not been a Baden-Powell Fellowship event in the United States since 2009; this would be an excellent time to become a member and be recognized in West Virginia this summer!

You may join the Baden-Powell Fellowship with a payment of \$10,000 (or \$5,000 and balance payable over a period of up to three years), and people under 30 may join with a single payment of \$1,000 and decide at the age of 35 to continue their membership by pledging to pay the remaining \$9,000.

Click here to download [the Baden-Powell World Fellowship Enrollment Form](#). [PDF]

Contact us at international@scouting.org if you have any questions about the program.

WHAT'S UPCOMING

JamBe2013 (A World of Imagination)

Host: Guiding and Scouting Belgium
Location: Belgium
Date: July 29-Aug 8, 2013

30th Asia Pacific Regional Scout Jamboree/16th Nippon Jamboree

Host: Japan Scout Association
Location: Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi, Japan
Date: Aug. 2-9, 2013

14th World Scout Moot

Location: Awacamanj Mino Base Camp, Quebec, Canada
Host: Association des Scouts du Canada
Date: Aug. 8-18, 2013



Direct Service Troop 2012



Messengers of Peace, Crew 122/Troop33

Tuscarora Council, North Carolina