



International newsletter

International Department
 Boy Scouts of America
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MESSENGERS OF PEACE

Program Overview

Launched in September 2011, Messengers of Peace is a global initiative designed to inspire millions of young men and women in more than 220 countries and territories to work toward peace. 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. The initiative is inspired by the World Scout Committee, administered by the World Scout Bureau, and driven by youth volunteers worldwide.

Defining Peace

In terms of the Messengers of Peace initiative, peace encompasses three dimensions:

1. The personal dimension: harmony, justice, and equality
2. The community dimension: peace as opposed to hostility or violent conflict
3. Relationships between humankind and its environment: security, social and economic welfare, and relationship with the environment

Any Scout or Scouter who participates in a project that has had a significant impact on the community in any one of the three dimensions above can qualify as a Messenger of Peace.

Submitting Projects

Submitting MOP-related projects is easy for BSA units. All they need to do is check the Messengers of Peace box when entering a service project through the Journey to Excellence website (www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence). Doing so will add the project to the map on the Messengers of Peace website (<http://scoutmessengers.com>) and will generate a unit certificate.

Recognition Item

Any Scout or Scouter who participates in a qualifying project is eligible to wear a Messengers of Peace ring patch around the World Crest on his or her uniform. To purchase these ring patches, a unit representative should take the unit certificate to the local Scout shop or council service center.

For more information:

www.scouting.org/messengersofpeace

"In all of this, it is the spirit that matters. Our Scout Law and Promise, when we really put them into practice, take away all occasions for wars and strife among Nations."
 - Lord Baden-Powell

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 the interaction with local Scouts and Scout leaders at those special events. Consequently, it provides us, our BSA Scouts and adults, an excellent opportunity to learn about other countries, people, and cultures through Scouting activities, plus 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.

In order 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.

UPCOMING TRIP:

JamCam 2013



Date: Jan. 4-11, 2013
Country: Colombia
Location: Metropolitan Florida Park, Bogota, Colombia
Host: Scout Association of Colombia
Interamerican Scout Region
Age: 15-18 (Boy Scouts, Venturers) and Adults
Contingent size: 8 youths + 2 adults
Contingent gathering: Jan. 2, 2013
Cost: \$1,400 (includes travel [round trip, U.S.-Colombia], lodging, food, event fee, tent, patches, bags and fun!!)
Nomination deadline: October 30, 2012

14th World Scout Moot



Date: Aug. 8-18, 2013
Country: Canada
Location: Awacamanj Mino Base Camp, Quebec, Canada
Host: The Association des Scouts du Canada
Age: 18-20 (Venturers) and 21-25 (young adults) + over 25 adult leaders
Contingent size: 30
Contingent gathering: Aug. 7, 2013 (Ottawa, Canada)
Cost: \$1,100 (lodging, food, event fee, patches, bags and a whole lot of fun!!)
Nomination deadline: March 31, 2013

BSA contingent nomination forms:

www.scouting.org/international

WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND



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

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, item 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.

INTERNATIONAL CAMP STAFF PROGRAM WITH DOMINICAN AND INDONESIAN SCOUTS

Imagine yourself being on staff at a Scout camp in another nation, where you speak a foreign language and eat strange food. For many years, the BSA has been giving this opportunity to leaders from Scout associations around the world at camps across America.

Since 1999, Rhode Island's Narragansett Council has helped by recruiting 51 different international staff from the Dominican Republic and Indonesia who have worked in 26 BSA camps in 19 states. The BSA International Department's great staff has helped make this program succeed.

This resulted from the initiative of a 55-year Scout leader veteran with connections in both nations. Neil Ross, a Rhode Island Scouter and former staff at Camp Yawgoog, served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic in 1962-64 where he worked with the Dominican Scout Association. When he returned to that Caribbean island nation in 1997, he reconnected with Dominican Scout friends and decided he wanted to help bring some younger leaders to Yawgoog Scout Reservation as staff. His council liked the idea and asked him to recruit qualified Dominicans; since then, 28 Dominicans have worked at Yawgoog with outstanding success.

Having lived with his family in Indonesia in Southeast Asia, and with one of his Eagle Scout sons now working there, Ross met the Indonesian Scout Association president in 2008. He was surprised to learn that Indonesia has the world's largest Scout association with more than 20 million members, yet had never sent anyone to be an international camp staff with BSA. Ross explained the program and invited them to participate. Their president enthusiastically accepted and sent their first international staff the next year and each year since for a total of nine thus far. Indonesia also sent its first ever delegation to the 2010 BSA 100th Anniversary Jamboree and plans to attend more jamborees.

This summer four Dominicans and two Indonesians are on staff in seven camps (one moved to a second camp after the season ended at his first one) in Rhode Island, New York, Virginia, North Carolina, Mississippi, Colorado, and California.

Ross has seen how this BSA camp staff program benefits all nations.

First, each international staff member has a fun summer in our camps. They learn how BSA programs are organized; meet American boys and adults; earn money toward their university fees; visit our cities, malls, national parks, and homes; and more. All report having the time of their lives and making wonderful lifelong memories.

BSA camps benefit by getting to know Scouts who are enthusiastic "ambassadors" from their nation and culture. They teach us different ways to tie knots and how to speak



their language, and perform interesting campfire cheers used back home. Thousands of Americans now have Scout friends from these two countries. Already some American camp staff have visited the Dominican staff in their homes.

Every international staff returns home at summer's end with great memories of this country, long lists of American friends to connect with on Facebook and by email, and new BSA skills to share with their Scout association and fellow Scouts. Each nation's former staff regularly give illustrated presentations to other Scouts about their great BSA summers, thus recruiting new applicants for future years.

"I know that several of these staff now serve on national and regional program planning committees incorporating Scout skills they learned in our camps," Ross explained. "Some have been elected onto national Scout executive committees where they are sharing their experiences and recruiting future BSA international staff. The best evaluation of this program success is that all of them would love to return for more summers at BSA camps and 12 international staff have already done so. I predict that many international staff will come back to their camps with a Scout group and to our national Scout jamborees in years ahead."

This is a people-to-people Scout program that works exceedingly well.

RIO+20

Growing up, I was always told that Scouting would take me places. And it has. Coastal redwood forests, alpine lakes, meandering rivers. My journey as a Boy Scout has brought me to all of these places and many more. If you had asked me when I started the program some 10 years ago where I expected to go with Scouting, I never would have said Brazil. Yet as fate would have it, that was exactly where I found myself just last month, attending Rio+20, the United Nations

GRUPO 109, COSTA RICA

After a business trip to Costa Rica, I came back interested in international Scouting. I had seen a side of Scouting that I did not see in the U.S. and made some suggestions on how my son's troop might change to be more like them. A friend asked me, "Why are you so gung-ho about international Scouting?" I took the opportunity on that trip to look for Scouts there and set up a meeting with Grupo 109, Coronado. They invited me to come to a troop meeting and later set up a trip to the only Scout camp in Costa Rica, Iztarú. By the end of the meeting, I had been accepted as a member of the troop, and to this day I wear their neckerchief with pride as part of my BSA uniform. At this meeting, I saw something that made me think that we could do better in our troop. I saw young men and women playing and learning in the middle of a rainstorm. Why were they in the rain? Simply because, for the most part, troops in Costa Rica don't meet in school gyms or church basements. They meet in public parks. Can you imagine 75 Scouts in Scout shirts running around the park in the center of your town, playing games, learning things, building camp gadgets? Can you imagine the parents that see your Scouts having fun and decide they might want their sons and daughters to experience the same thing? I tell you, there is no better advertisement than seeing it all happen in front of your own eyes.

So, why am I so gung-ho about international Scouting? I explained to him, that it's a different way to do the same thing. The principles are the same. The method is different. Is it better? Maybe yes, maybe no. Can we learn something? Definitely.

My family and I just returned from a family vacation in Costa Rica last week. We spent the last three days visiting my friends at Grupo 109 and more friends at Grupo 8, Desamperados. My son, a Life Scout, had heard me talk about how the Scouts here were different, how they made do with less, how they carried Scouting in their hearts and in the smiles on their faces. He saw on his first trip what I saw on mine. He got to participate in the troop meeting at Grupo 109. He learned firsthand how this troop was run, how they



Conference on Sustainable Development, as a member of a youth Scout delegation.

Although I donned the uniform that had become so familiar over the years, this Scouting experience was completely unlike any other I have had the opportunity to participate in. I was joined by 16 other Scouts from Brazil, Mexico, France, and Canada, all of whom were chosen to represent their countries and respective Scout programs at this United Nations event. It was the first time that I had ever met Scouts from these countries, but despite some minor language barriers, I found that becoming friends with them was extremely organic. Our shared background in Scouting and our shared stakes in the outcome of the conference created a feeling of solidarity and companionship, and despite the short duration of the event, I know that I will cherish these relationships for the rest of my life.

As a group, our purpose was to experience the conference as fully as possible by attending side events and sustainable development learning courses, and soaking up information. Outside of these events it was often the case that people would approach us to learn about Scouting's presence at the conference. Through these conversations we deepened existing relationships with both government and NGO leaders who were Scouts themselves but also forged new ones with people unfamiliar with the Scouting movement.

Despite some organizing issues at the event, I walked away from the Rio+20 Conference hopeful. Meeting the people I did and seeing the passion they have for their communities has led me to conclude that international civil society is ready to spearhead the movement for social and environmental justice. In 1971, Cat Stevens asked "Don't you feel a change a coming?" After my experience in Rio, I can answer with a definitive yes. And I am honored to have had the opportunity provided by Scouting to have been present at the crucible that, I believe, will give form to this change.

Jon Harmon, Eagle Scout, Pacific Skyline Council

interacted, how they played, and how they learned. Another friend of mine used to tell everyone that Scouting is fun with a purpose. My son got it. That simple phrase sunk in for him. They were learning things and having fun, only they didn't really notice they were learning.

When he told me that he wanted to bring some of the things he learned in Costa Rica back to his troop in Indiana, I knew once again that he was making me proud. He saw how things could be done better. As he finishes his Eagle project in the next few months and wraps up his last few badges, I hope that he can focus on teaching our troop the things he learned.

Why am I gung-ho about international Scouting? Because it opened my eyes. It opened my son's eyes. I hope it someday opens many other people's eyes to the possibilities that Scouting opens for youth around the world.

Siempre Listos, Be Prepared,
Bryan Ray, IR, Lincoln Heritage Council

JAMBOREE-ON-THE-AIR 2012

Jamboree-on-the-Air for 2012 will be held October 20-21. Through JOTA, Scouts are introduced to radio technology and to other Scouts around the U.S. and around the world. They get a chance 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.

The most successful JOTA events around the U.S. occurred during camporees or other troop, district, or council events. This allowed a wide range of Scouts to tour ham radio stations and, if they desired, talk on the radio with a microphone or even with a keyboard using digital communication. Several JOTA events offered foxhunting-amateur radio direction finding used to locate hidden transmitters, a fantastic outdoor Scouting activity.

Reach out to your local amateur radio clubs and get your council involved in the largest Scouting event in the world.

For more information: www.scouting.org/jota.

JAMBOREE-ON-THE-INTERNET 2012

The 16th Jamboree-on-the-Internet (JOTI) will be held October 20-21, along with Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). The JOTI and JOTA events always occur on the third full weekend in October and the World Organization of the Scout Movement sponsors the events.

The Internet has sparked a revolution in communication. JOTI is becoming more user-friendly and is responsive to these advances.

JOTI invites all youth and organizations that support Scouting to join the Internet revolution. This event utilizes computers and the Internet so thousands of Scout groups can be contacted during the weekend. Computer use is growing exponentially; Jamboree-on-the-Internet is prepared to keep pace with that growth.

For more information: www.scouting.org/joti

JOTA/JOTI PATCHES

The 2012 Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) and Jamboree-on-the-Internet (JOTI) patches will be available August 1! The patches are temporary insignia to be worn on the right pocket of the Scout uniform or on jackets/vests, and they cost \$4 each.



In addition, we also have previous years of JOTA and JOTI patches still available for sale. Previous years of JOTA patches available for purchase are 1999, 2002-2005, and 2007-2011. Previous years of JOTI patches available for purchase are 2005 and 2007-2011. The 2006 patch was a combined patch for both programs and is also available. Prices vary, so please call the International Department for details.

Checks or money orders will be accepted and must be made payable to Boy Scouts of America. We also accept American Express, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover credit cards. Send requests for patches to:

Boy Scouts of America
Jamboree-on-the-Air S221
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Or call the International Department at (972) 580-2405.

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 could be crucial to your event's success. For a large event in 2012, only 85% of the contingent leaders and 78% 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.

PHILMONT COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE CONFERENCE

June 17-23, 2012, was an amazing week to be at the IR conference at Philmont. The excitement of the patrols (Fugu, Globetrotters, Kokopelli, White Dove, Roku, and International Indigo Iguanas – 3i) was so contagious, it was impossible not to be excited about international Scouting. The 2012 IR Conference met and surpassed many of the participants' expectations. The participants were very active in the presentations. They asked very good and specific questions about how to make these programs work in their councils. A great deal of information was provided to both new and experienced IRs.

In an attempt to share the knowledge communicated at the conference, all the presentations will be posted on our website in the near future. Check our site to see the updated section with tools for all IRs to bring International Scouting even closer to the Scouts in your council.



UNITED STATES FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL SCOUTING

The International Committee annually appoints a five-member committee to serve as directors of the United States Fund for International Scouting (USFIS). This fund provides project money for national Scout organizations, World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) regions, and the World Scout Bureau (WSB). A summary of the grants for 2011 and 2012 to date is as follows:

2011	Scout Association of Azerbaijan	National Scout Training Center Upgrade
2011	Scouts de Colombia	Better Colombia Project – Phase II
2011	Eurasia Region	Seminar - Making us stronger
2011	Scouts of Georgia	Publishing leader's handbook
2011	Scout Association of Fiji	National Scout Training Centre Renovation
2011	Scout Association of Moldova	Re-rovering – Re-discovering, re-inventing, re-exploring Scouting
2011	Scout Association of Ecuador	First Scout Camp
2012	Scout Association of Ukraine	Website + Eurasia Region Training Center

INTERNATIONAL SCOUTING ITEMS FOR SALE THROUGH INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

International Scouting flag – Purple flag with white World Crest. 3x5 flag is \$65 and 4x6 flag is \$100.

World Scout Foundation - Royal Anniversary Linens. High-quality tablecloth, placemats (set of 10), and napkins (set of 10) for \$150 each or any three items for \$400. These are a “must have” for your elegant Scouting events.

WHAT'S UPCOMING

Korea National Jamboree – Korea

Aug. 2-8, 2012 (A BSA contingent will attend.)

International Jubilee Plast Scout Meeting – Ukraine

Aug. 18-25, 2012 (A BSA contingent will attend.)

JamCam – Colombia

Jan. 4-11, 2013 (A BSA contingent will attend.)