

# INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE

OCTOBER 2016



## UPCOMING EVENTS

2016

Oct. 15–16 [Jamboree-on-the-Air](#) and [Jamboree-on-the-Internet](#)

Dec. 27–Jan. 2 [Interamerican Jamboree and Interamerican Scout Camporee, Guayaquil, Ecuador](#)

2017

July 19–28 [2017 BSA National Scout Jamboree, Summit Bechtel Reserve](#)

July 22–30 [Jamboree 2017, Sønderborg, Denmark](#)

July 25–Aug. 2 [World Scout Moot, Iceland](#)

Oct. 21–22 [Jamboree-on-the-Air](#) and [Jamboree-on-the-Internet](#)

## 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, Scouts from around the world can share what they've done and inspire fellow Scouts to undertake similar efforts in their own communities.

If you would like to know more about Messengers of Peace, please visit

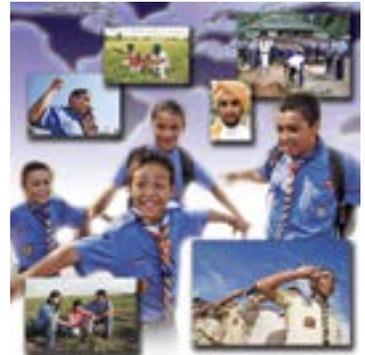
<http://www.scouting.org/messengersofpeace>.

## WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND

### Where do contributions go?

Collected contributions are used to assist developing National Scout Organizations (NSOs) around the world.

Any NSO that is recognized by the World Organization of the Scouting Movement (WSOM) can submit a grant request for projects to enhance their growing organization. Every February, May, and October the United States Fund for International Scouting Committee (USFIS), appointed by the National International Committee, reviews these grant requests. The approved grants receive the funds requested and must validate the appropriation of these funds toward their proposed enhancement projects.



In 2015 the United States Fund for International Scouting Committee approved the following grants:

- Guatemala Scout Association's request for assistance in hosting the 2015 Interamerican Leadership Training
- Scout Association of Mongolia's Safe Scouting project providing a shower, modern toilet facilities, and clean water for hand washing at their National Scout Camp
- Scout Association of Dominica's Scout Den construction to be used for troop meetings, council meetings, and training camp
- The construction of the Bhutan Scout Association's National Scout Center

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. You will need these item numbers:

Brochure, No. 130-159  
Label, No. 22620  
Poster, No. 22609

We also can accept World Friendship Fund donations online! To donate online or to download the brochure, **please visit** [www.scouting.org/international/worldsupport](http://www.scouting.org/international/worldsupport).



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

# INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE

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## INTERNATIONAL CAMP STAFF PROGRAM

This summer camp season was another wonderful experience for our international camp staffers as well as all the BSA Scouts and Scouters who had the great opportunity to attend camp with an international camp staffer. Please see the two international camp staff interviews below, and don't forget to apply for the 2017 camp season by visiting <http://www.scouting.org/International/applications.aspx>.

*International Flag Day at Ben Delatour Scout Ranch in Red Feather Lakes, Colorado, with international camp staffers Emilia Jimenez from Ecuador and Noelia Rubin de Celis Castillo from Bolivia.*



## 5 QUESTIONS

### EMILIA JIMENEZ—QUITO, ECUADOR

International Camp Staff—Ben Delatour Scout Ranch, Colorado

**Hi, Emilia! Thanks for joining us for 5 Questions. How was your summer?**

We had absolutely a great time in the summer camp. The best experience ever. I would like to do it each year. Thank you for let me be part of the program.

First of all, my name is Emilia Jimenez. I am 19 years old, I live in Quito, Ecuador, I have been Scout for 10 years and my group [unit] is No. 1 Colegio La Salle.



**How is Scouting similar or different from Scouting in your country?**

About Scouting in Ecuador, we have four divisions in each group. The first one is Manada—like Cub Scouts. There we have kids from 7 to 11 years old. Then is Tropa—like troop; there are people from 11 to 15 years old. The third one is Caminantes; that is Scouts from 15 to 18 years old. And the last one is Rovers—like Venture Scouts—people from 18 to 23. When you are 23, you have the opportunity to be a leader in the group.

Our Scout groups are mixed—both boys and girls. Everyone participates in the same activities. We have a lot of types of merit badges, but unlike the U.S., they are not like requirements to get your rank. Talking about ranks, in Tropa, the highest rank is "Condor Scout" that is like the Eagle Scout, and then when you are adult and you are in Rovers, the highest rank is BP (Baden-Powell).

There are several differences between Scouting in Ecuador:

- We don't have summer camps like yours with COPE (high ropes) and climbing, fishing, rifle and shotgun, and that kind of stuff. We don't have any kind of summer camps.
- You have a full uniform with BSA—that is the brand. We just have the Scout shirt.

**What were the highlights of working in a U.S. camp?**

There were lots of highlights:

- The experience of getting involved with the Scouts without being their leaders.
- The opportunity to know about the American people, their history, and culture.
- To learn how a camp unfolds in another country, and with this take some ideas back to my country.
- To improve your skills in areas that you know, as in my case, horsemanship, nature, rappelling, and fishing. And to learn things that I've never done in my life, like rifle, shotgun, geocaching, canoeing, and kayaking.

Another highlight was the organization of these events.

**What one thing do you want Scouts to know about your country or Scouting in your country?**

Ecuador is one of the most beautiful countries in South America. We are located on the equator, and we are in the middle of the world. That is why we have a lot of diversity of flora and fauna. Also, Ecuador is the country with the highest concentration of biodiversity in the world.

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You have to discover Ecuador and its wonders like the Galapagos Islands, the Amazon, and protected areas like Yasuni. Also, the mountains, the coast, everything. Even the wonderful people that we have.

Scouting in my country—as well in all countries of the world—it is very different. You just have to travel and learn more about it. It will be the best experience that you can have in your life.

### **What is your next Scouting adventure or project?**

I'm going to attend the JamCam in December. It takes place in my country. This is the InterAmerican Jamboree. Then I'm

planning to go to U.S. to the national jamboree the next year and then the World Scout Jamboree in 2019 (in the United States). That will be my third World Scout Jamboree, so I'm excited.

### **What will you remember the most?**

Basically the people that I met, the friends that I made, the moments I lived with them—that's what I'll remember forever.



## **SALEH GAMALY—TANTA, EGYPT**

International Camp Staff—Philmont Scout Ranch, New Mexico

### **How is Scouting similar or different from Scouting in your country?**

The Scout movement started in Egypt in 1914, four years after the BSA, by Prince Omar Tuson. Since then, it has been playing a really important role in the growth and development of our youth. The number of Scouts in Egypt is estimated to exceed 1 million.

The Scout practices in the Arab world, though, started before that. Hundreds of years ago, Arabs lived in the desert with nature; they slept in tents, enjoyed the outdoor life, and used the stars to guide them at night. Even rich people who lived in cities used to send their kids to the desert while babies to live with the Bedouins. This was great to keep those kids "physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." It kept their pure nature.

Scouts in Egypt, the U.S., and all over the world share the same Scout Promise and Law. In Egypt though, we don't have the

three phrases at the end of the BSA Scout Oath (to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight).

Egyptian Scouts are members of the Egyptian Federation for Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, which is considered as one of the organizations of the Ministry of Youth (governmental organization). This is different from the Boy Scouts of America, which is regarded as an NGO (non-government organization).

The Egyptian federation has four associations: Boy Scouts, Sea Scouts, Air Scouts, and Girl Guides.

The U.S. is rich with the outdoor life with massive spaces of forests, waters, mountains, and deserts, etc. Egypt, though, doesn't have forests, and the beautiful desert isn't well used or prepared. We have some mountains but mostly without trails for hikers, so they could be dangerous to hike on.

### **What were the highlights of working in a U.S. camp?**

One of the great things about Scouting is that it helps to build unity. One big family; we play the same game and share the same values.

My experience with the BSA at Philmont Scout Ranch is unique. Philmont is the biggest youth camp in the world and one of the best examples to be followed.

I am learning a lot about myself as a person and as a Scout. It is helping me to better understand the world as a place for all. It is also shaping my image on how to improve the Scout system and practice in Egypt. Sharing experiences and successful practices is a great part in Scouting.

### **What surprised you about living in the U.S. for the summer?**

My summer in the U.S. started with the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. I used to fast for 30 days from sunrise to sunset, staying without food or water all day and eating only once a day.

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I was surprised about how my friends were trying to help me to make it less difficult. The dining hall staff prepared a special meal for me every day. They were doing their best to make it rich and healthy to keep me for the day. My co-workers as well were always checking on me to make sure that I don't feel tired while working, especially during our hikes to the backcountry. The camp chaplain also drove me to the mosque in Taos, which is about 90 minutes away, to observe Friday prayers during Ramadan. Thanks to Chaplain Todd who took the most part of it. All of this made it easy for me to be part of Philfamily, which I didn't expect to happen that fast.

## **What one thing do you want Scouts to know about your country or Scouting in your country?**

There are some frequently asked questions that I receive, and to answer these questions: Yes, we have water sinks, televisions, cars, ice cream, and computers in Egypt. Unfortunately, we don't ride camels for transportation and we don't live in tents.

Scouting in Egypt is pretty old and it is growing bigger every day. We share the same Scout Oath and Law and most of the badges and ranking systems, including the Eagle Scout rank.

I would also like to encourage my fellow Scouts in America to reach out to others. A Scout is an active member of his or her society. Our Scout society is not limited to the country we live in. Reach out to others, listen, ask questions, and discuss until you build a strong knowledge. JOTA/JOTI (Jamboree-on-the-Air/Jamboree-on-the-Internet) and other Scout events are important opportunities to know about other members of the family from different parts of the world.

## **What is your next Scouting adventure or project?**

I am not sure yet, but I will do my best to come back next year for the BSA national jamboree. It will be a great event and it comes right before the 24th World Scout Jamboree in 2019 that is hosted by the BSA, Canada, and Mexico.

# EUROPEAN SCOUT VOLUNTARY

Did you meet an international camp staffer this summer and wonder if there was a similar program for BSA Venturers or leaders to work at a camp overseas? Good news! Through our relationship with the European Scout Region, BSA Venturers or leaders ages 18–30 can participate in the European Scout Voluntary Program and volunteer at a European Scout center. For more information about the program and which European Scout centers are available, please visit <http://www.scouting.org/International/ecamp.aspx>. In the meantime, check out the following article from Heart of America Council's Kyle Seager, who participated at Vässarö Scout Centre in Sweden, which hosts a variety of camps each summer including Scout camp and confirmation camp.

**Hello! My name is Kyle Seager.** This summer, after graduating from Blue Valley West High School, I had the tremendous opportunity to work at a Scout camp in Europe. The camp, Vässarö, was located about three hours north of Stockholm on an island. Through the European Scout Voluntary Program, I was able to work for an extended period of time at this camp, make around a hundred new friends, learn a new language, and experience Scouting in another culture. I met Scouts from seven different countries, allowing me to see the vast differences between the BSA and the Scouting organizations in the rest of the world.

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While volunteering at Vässarö, I worked in several capacities; however, my main two jobs were Fladan and Programme. During the three weeks that I spent working in Fladan, a shallow bay from which the Scouts and confirmands can sail, canoe, and build rafts, I made many new friends and was able to use the leadership skills that I had developed in Scouting to teach others how to sail, as well as cooperate in a team of between eight and 13 dedicated individuals. I met many wonderful people and had an absolute blast. For my last two weeks, I worked in Programme as a guide and climbing instructor. One of my many jobs was to guide groups on the Trapper Trail, a re-creation of many obstacles and traps used by trappers in the 1700s in the United States and Europe. When we weren't working, my fellow staff members and I spent much of our time playing soccer or volleyball together, pranking (and being pranked by) the confirmands who were staying on the island with us, and spending time developing lasting relationships and friendships.



I cannot recommend the ESVP highly enough and, for anyone who enjoys travel and experiencing new things, I encourage you to apply.

## 2016 JOTA AND JOTI



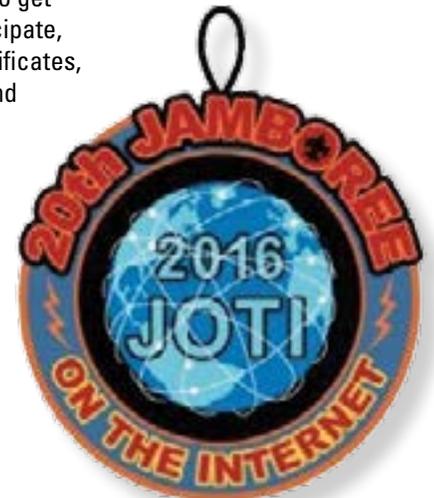
Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) and Jamboree-on-the-Internet (JOTI) is coming up soon! Did you already add JOTA and JOTI to your unit, district, and council calendars? If not, don't forget to mark Oct. 14–16 as JOTA and JOTI weekend!

Other than an opportunity to meet Scouts from around the world, complete requirements in Cub Scouting, and complete part of the requirements for the International Spirit Award, JOTA and JOTI is another great way to tie in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math)! JOTA introduces Scouts to the fun, technology, and "magic" of amateur radio, while you can prepare

your Scouts for safe Internet use by incorporating the BSA's [Cyber Chip](#) training tool, before they participate in JOTI.

Does your unit or council want to participate in JOTA, but is not in possession of an amateur radio station? Icom America and the Boy Scouts of America have a sponsorship agreement that began in 2012 and now extends through 2018. One aspect of that agreement is that Icom America will provide up to 10 complete amateur radio stations for use by local Scout councils. Stations can be requested for long-term development loan and for event loan. You can find the details, application, and loan agreement [here](#).

Be sure to visit [www.scouting.org/jota](http://www.scouting.org/jota) and [www.scouting.org/joti](http://www.scouting.org/joti) to get information on how to participate, download participation certificates, order this year's patches, and MUCH MORE. We hope you have lots of fun and success during these exciting events!



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## USA MUSLIM SCOUTS JAMBOREE

The first USA Muslim Scouts Jamboree was held from July 31 through August 6 at Camp Minsi in Pocono Summit, Pennsylvania. The desire of Syed Naqvi, a member of the Islamic Council on Scouting of North America, to design a jamboree with the theme “Building Global Peace Through Duty to God” became a reality after years of planning and promotion in the U.S. and around the world. The successful event included adventure opportunities, merit badges, and religious activities for more than 280 Scouts—both boys and girls—and their adult leaders from the BSA and 14 countries that are recognized national Scout organizations within the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

Three members of the BSA International Committee were in attendance during the event: Charles Dahlquist, the BSA’s national commissioner; Bray Barnes, International Catholic Committee on Scouting chair; and Rabbi Peter Hyman, BSA Messengers of Peace chair. Charles opened the jamboree as the Chief Guest, while Bray and Peter attended during the Intra-Interfaith and Environmental Day.

The event planners are considering holding this event every two years with the next one planned for 2018. Photos from the 2016 event are posted at <https://goo.gl/photos/2QRx6yybTTFdCapY6>.

The International Department was able to assist with this event by providing the necessary verifications for approvals from national Scout organizations. We are very supportive of BSA councils considering including Scouts and Scouters from around the world in their programs.



## MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL CAMPOREE

The sixth Michigan International Camporee (MIC) was held at the Northwoods Scout Reservation July 24–31. This outstanding event was chaired by our own International Representative, Bruce McCrea. The camporee has been an almost 20-year labor of love by Bruce to bring the world fellowship of Scouting to

Scouts in Michigan. The event includes an international festival, international night, patch trading, relationship building, and program areas such as fishing, global Scouting, handicrafts, initiative and team games, Native American lore, plastic barrel rafting, service to Northwoods, shooting sports, amateur radio, and waterfront. There is also a chaplaincy program with a daily devotional guide and the *Looney Times* daily newspaper.

You can read more about the event on the 2016 MIC home page at <http://www.micamporee.org/homepage/mic-2016>. There are two videos (a history of the camporee and highlights of the 2016 camporee), as well as a list of countries participating and all the issues of the *Looney Times* daily newspaper.

Issue 5 of the *Looney Times* provides the history of these international camporees: “The first of these ‘international camporees’ was held at Camp Sequassen in Connecticut in 1962. It was followed by international camporees there in 1976, 1982, 1986, and 1992. The first Michigan involvement in international camporees was when contingents traveled from Michigan to participate in the Connecticut camporees in 1982, 1986, and 1992. International camporees then moved from Sequassen to their second home, Northwoods Scout Reservation in Michigan. There were two significant changes. Michigan International Camporees welcomed contingents that contain both boys and girls, and MICs are run by an all-volunteer international staff. Michigan International Camporees were held at Northwoods in 1997 with 17 countries, 2000 with 22 countries, 2004 with 21 countries, 2008 with 26 countries, and 2012 with 21 countries. This year there are 24 countries at MIC 2016. Northwoods is closing. MIC 2016 is the last international camporee that will be held here. The future of international camporees like those at Sequassen and Northwoods is uncertain.”

International Director Janine Halverson and International Ambassador Brigitte Therivel were able to visit the event and meet many of the international Scouts and Scouters in attendance. In comments published in issue 7 of the *Looney Times*, Janine noted that Bruce’s documentation for councils interested in putting on this type of event is available for other Scouters to utilize (see “Holding a Council-Run International Camp” in the Philmont Conference documents at [www.scouting.org/international](http://www.scouting.org/international)). Bruce’s years of successful experience chairing this event provide a resource he is willing to share with other Scouters who are interested in the huge returns to their local Scouts and communities through these types of experiences.

With the closing of Northwoods, the Michigan Council is considering how this event could continue in the council. It is under review as the current Scout executive transitions to another role in the BSA and the new leadership comes into place. Other international representatives or councils interested in leading this or a similar event, should contact Bruce McCrea directly at [mccreab@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mccreab@sbcglobal.net).

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## 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 that contingent leaders and International Service Team (IST/staff) members 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. At a previous large-council event, 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.

## INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

The International Department manages the requirements for two awards, the International Spirit Award and the International Scouters' Award.

To introduce your Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturer, or Scouter to international Scouting, we recommend the International Spirit Award. Earning this award is a great way to gain knowledge about international Scouting while developing appreciation and awareness of different cultures and countries. For the list of requirements and the application, please visit <http://www.scouting.org/International/recognitions.aspx>.

The International Scouters' Award encourages Scouters to broaden their involvement through participation in world Scouting activities. It also recognizes Scouters for their contributions to world Scouting.

For more information and the application, please visit <http://www.scouting.org/International/InformationSheets/22-721.aspx>.



## 24th WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE GUIDELINES FOR BSA CONTINGENT REGISTRATION

Guidelines for a world Scout jamboree (WSJ) are that no contingent (youth, unit leaders, and IST—International Service Team, or what we in the BSA refer to as staff) is allotted more than 10 percent of the expected attendance. For example, for a WSJ expecting 50,000 people, no National Scout Organization (NSO) would be permitted to bring more than 5,000 people (youth, unit leaders, and IST). The host (typically only one) cannot represent more than 20 percent of the total attendance at the jamboree.

We are awaiting the allocation from the 2019 WSJ Host Team for the BSA contingent. Any youth who is 14 years old and not yet 18 years old will have only this opportunity to attend a WSJ as a participant. The allocations to these youth will be our highest priority.

At the National Service Center, the 2019 WSJ Host Team is a separate department from the International Department. The 2019 WSJ Host Team is led by Executive Director Marty Walsh.

It is up to this team to determine the structure of the event on the BSA property including the event price; allocations for

NSOs; and the footprint of WSJ-specific programs on the Summit property.

The price for the BSA contingent to the 2019 WSJ follows a system we are familiar with for our jamborees. For a BSA national Scout jamboree (NSJ), the Summit publishes a price and then each council produces a council-specific price to attend. For the 2019 WSJ, after the Host Team publishes a price to attend the jamboree, we will publish the BSA contingent price to attend.

Be sure to indicate your interest by signing up on the BSA contingent website at [www.scouting.org/worldjamboree](http://www.scouting.org/worldjamboree). We expect a soft launch at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree with the BSA contingent logo and contingent leader announced. We expect registration to launch in the fall of 2017 or early 2018.

The dates of the 24th World Scout Jamboree are July 22 through August 2, 2019. For more information about the 2019 WSJ Host Team, see [www.2019wsj.org](http://www.2019wsj.org).



## INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

## SCOUTING OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.



The following councils do not have an International Representative (IR) on file with our department. If your council is listed below, please nominate an IR to represent your council and help share all the wonderful international opportunities that are available! To find out who your IR is, visit <http://www.scouting.org/International/InternationalRepresentative.aspx>.

### CENTRAL REGION

Twin Valley Council, #283  
Gamehaven Council, #299  
W.D. Boyce Council, #138  
Greater Cleveland Council, #440  
Muskingum Valley Council, #467  
Mid-Iowa Council, #177  
Pony Express Council, #311  
Sagamore Council, #162  
Glacier's Edge Council, #620  
Blackhawk Area Council, #660  
Mountaineer Area Council, #615  
Northeast Iowa Council, #178

### SOUTHERN REGION

Calcasieu Area Council, #209  
Northwest Texas Council, #587  
Colonial Virginia Council, #595  
South Texas Council, #577  
Pee Dee Area Council, #552

### NORTHEAST REGION

Nashua Valley Council, #230  
Five Rivers Council, #375  
Bucktail Council, #509

### WESTERN REGION

Redwood Empire Council, #41  
Great Southwest Council, #412

### CHANGES IN SUPPORT SERVICE

If you are moving or live outside of the United States, you can continue to be a member of the Boy Scouts of America. The World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), of which the BSA is a member, is divided into six regions: Africa, Arab, Asia-Pacific, Eurasia, Europe, and Interamerican (North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean).

### CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SCOUTING OUTSIDE THE U.S.

#### Far East Council (Asia-Pacific Region)

**Phone**—within Japan: 098-970-2400;  
international: +81-98-970-2400

**Address**—Far East Council BSA,  
Unit 35049, FPO AP 96373-5049

**Web**—[www.fareastcouncil.org](http://www.fareastcouncil.org);  
[www.fareastcouncil.org/about/service-centers](http://www.fareastcouncil.org/about/service-centers)

#### Transatlantic Council

(Africa, Arab, Eurasia, and Europe Regions)

**Phone**—CIV: +39-050-54-7795; mobile: +39-346-319-5814

**Address**—Transatlantic Council BSA, Unit 31301, Box 25,  
APO AE 09613

**Web/email**—[www.tac-bsa.org](http://www.tac-bsa.org); [vince.cozzone@scouting.org](mailto:vince.cozzone@scouting.org)

#### Direct Service Scouting

(National Capital Area Council)

**Phone**—301-530-9360

**Address**—9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-3897

**Web**—<http://www.ncacbsa.org/directservice>

### WHAT IS WOSM?

“World Scouting,” or the Scout movement at the global level, is governed by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

WOSM is an independent, non-political, non-governmental organization that is made up of 161 National Scout Organizations (NSOs). These NSOs are located in 223 countries and territories around the world. With more than 40 million members in 1 million local community Scout groups, WOSM is one of the largest youth movements in the world.

The BSA became an approved and recognized NSO of WOSM in 1922.

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## 2017 29TH ICELANDIC INTERNATIONAL JAMBOREE

This summer a BSA contingent of about 30 Scouts and leaders participated in the 29th Icelandic InterNational Jamboree. The event was held July 17–24 at the Úlfjótstvatn Outdoor and Scout Center about 25 miles outside of Reykjavik. More than 1,000 participants and staff from Iceland and 13 other countries gathered to take part in the theme of “The Great Expedition.” There, Scouts had the chance to look into the past and discover their Viking roots with activities such as archery, swordsmanship, and wool and metal work, as well as hiking, sailing, and other outdoor adventures. The BSA contingent had a special opportunity to meet the U.S. ambassador to Iceland and the president of Iceland during the jamboree. The U.S. ambassador, Robert Cushing Barber, requested a project to plant trees with the Scouts. The U.S. embassy and Iceland Forestry Service coordinated the project with Barber and the BSA contingent. Each Scout received the Úlfjótstvatn Volunteer Service patch and Honorary Citizen of Iceland patch for their participation. The president of Iceland, Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, also made an appearance where he spoke with the contingent about his time in Scouting and toured the jamboree grounds.

The Icelandic Boy and Girl Scout Association actively encourages units to consider Úlfjótstvatn Outdoor and Scout Center for unit trips; more information can be obtained at <http://campiceland.com/>.

With more than 160 member organizations in the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), there are many international Scouting events each year. They provide a great opportunity for our BSA members to connect with the world; to learn about other countries, people, and cultures through Scouting activities; and make new friendships as part of their Scouting adventure.



## CHIEF SCOUT EXECUTIVE MEETS SCOUTS OF JAPAN



*Chief Scout Executive Michael Surbaugh shakes the hand of Yuma Mori of the Scout Association of Japan. Back row, from left, are Josh Robbins, Shu Kato of Japan, Issei Yoshida of Japan, John Ryan, Eduardo Rodriguez, Elizabeth Olivas, and Mark Wappel.*

On July 19 at the National Scouting Museum in Irving, Texas, Chief Scout Executive Michael Surbaugh met three Catholic Scouts from the Scout Association of Japan; two BSA Scout representatives who were selected to attend a 1,000-member Catholic jamboree in August 2016 at the foot of Mount Fuji in Japan; and John Ryan, director of the 2016 Footsteps of the Saints pilgrimage. Mark Wappel and Elizabeth Olivas also joined in this meet-and-greet event. They are members of the National Alliances team, which concentrates on increasing faith-based programs for all religious groups throughout the BSA. Each Scout received a “Friendship” neckerchief and a Chief Scout Executive patch that only Surbaugh can hand out to Scouts.



## 2016 FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAINTS PILGRIMAGE

The 2016 Footsteps of the Saints Pilgrimage, led by volunteer Scouter John Ryan, featured 27 Catholic Scouts from the BSA and three Catholic Scouts from the Scout Association of Japan. Scouts and Scouters from the Texas cities of Irving, Dallas, Arlington, Keller, Grapevine, Duncanville, and Mansfield joined together for this six-day faith journey to various sites in New Mexico.

In December 2015, Ryan was approved by Fort Worth Bishop Michael Olson as 2016 pilgrimage director. By taking advantage of a Service Day program through his employer, IHS/Markit of Dallas, that allows employees to work in the community for up to three days per year, Ryan was able to facilitate and lead the pilgrimage.

During the early stages of planning in 2015, Ryan contacted the Catholic Committee for the Scout Association of Japan, and Jimori Yasunubo, the association's international Catholic commissioner, arranged for the selection of three Catholic Scouts to join the 2016 trip. This is the third such trip that Catholic Japanese Scouts have been able to participate in. Because our Catholic Scouting bonds across the Pacific Ocean have grown so much, the Diocese of Fort Worth Catholic Committee created the St. Paul Miki International Activity for Scouts to learn about a Japanese martyr. Scouts in the Fort Worth area designed a patch that both American and Japanese Scouts may earn.

As their bus traveled from Amarillo, Texas, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, the Scouts watched the movie "The Staircase" and then hiked through downtown Santa Fe to visit the Loretto Chapel. The architectural wonder had an awe-inspiring effect on the Scouts as they joined pilgrims from France, Germany, and around the United States. Since 1879, the staircase has intrigued visitors regarding the mysterious builder who disappeared after its completion and used wood that was not native to the Santa Fe area and archaic tools that molded the wood into a marvel that has lasted more than 100 years. While hiking the streets of downtown Santa Fe, the Scouts conducted a trash pickup that qualified each participant for the Messengers of Peace patch.

During the visit to El Santuario de Chimayo in Chimayo, New Mexico, Scouts saw the crutches and the handwritten letters describing healings. They were told the story of a cross buried in the sand, the construction of the small church in 1816, and the miracle healings that occurred among pilgrims who began visiting. The church has been called the "Lourdes of America" and draws 300,000 visitors a year.

During the last 37 days before departure, 14 traveling Scouters and 24 adult volunteers assisted in three fundraisers that brought in a total of \$2,650. Our dedicated volunteers provide a pilgrimage that costs more than \$500 a person for a fee of \$225 because it is the philosophy of these volunteers that money should not prevent Scouts from making this journey. Additionally, approximately \$7,200 in in-kind donations were received as part of the \$18,000 budget.

On the final day, each Scout fills out a survey asking for their thoughts on the Footsteps Pilgrimage. These were among the responses from Scout participants in 2012:

- "It has made (me) want to go to church more often"
- "It changed my outlook on my religion"
- "This pilgrimage change my mind for Christianity" (answered by Japanese Scout)
- "It has helped me understand more about my faith"
- "I felt the Holy Spirit answer my request"
- "To believe in God"
- "To always trust in God"
- "It showed me miracles happen"
- "(The pilgrimage) confirmed my faith journey"

The inspiration of the saints' lives, the religious sites in New Mexico, the international sharing of a common faith, and the compelling proof that God is at work in our lives today combine for an experience that will live within our Scouts for many years.

# INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE

OCTOBER 2016



## BSA INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

In order to identify who you need to speak to regarding specific programs, see the overview of the department responsibilities below.



**Robynn Watson**  
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972-580-2403)

- Donations to international foundations, the World Scout Foundation/Baden-Powell Fellowship, the Interamerican Scout Foundation/Order of the Condor, other region foundations, the Gilwell Park Development Fund, and the Kandersteg International Scout Centre
- BSA donations, World Friendship Fund
- Philmont IR course support



**Lisa Cristiano**  
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972-580-2405)

- WSJ registrar
- Camp staff programs: International Camp Staff Program, European Scout Voluntary Program, Suncheon Asia-Pacific Scout Centre staff
- Staff advisor to NSJ teams: international exhibit, International Service Support Team
- International representatives
- Philmont IR course
- International recognition: International Scouter's Award, International Spirit Award
- World and region conferences



**Desiree LaPointe**  
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- WSJ registrar support and promotion
- International Camp Staff Program support
- International Department newsletter
- International Letter of Introduction
- International registration: BSA contingents, internationals to NSJ, Interamerican Scout Conference and Youth Forum



**Janine Halverson**  
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972-580-2401)

- Director of the International Department
- World Scout jamborees: 2019 WSJ-The Summit
- National Scout jamborees: 2017 NSJ hosting, contingents and staff
- Relationships with World Scout Bureau foundation and committee, WOSM regional directors, Interamerican Region Office foundation and committee
- Staff advisor: International Committee, United States Fund for International Scouting Committee, Messengers of Peace Committee



**Sara Dawson**  
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972-580-2406)

- National and world Scout jamborees: 2019 WSJ administration and logistics, 2017 NSJ MOP exhibit, 2017 NSJ International Contingent Support Team
- BSA contingents to world and region events
- JOTA/JOTI
- Messengers of Peace

### Contact Us!

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