



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
INTERNATIONAL

Program Ideas for Bringing World Scouting to Units

Boy Scouts of America
International Committee
February, 2021

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Tools for Councils
International Committee, Boy Scouts of America



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

INTERNATIONAL

Dear Unit Leaders:

The world came to the United States in 2019 for the 24th World Scout Jamboree. For ten amazing days, more than 45,000 Scouts and Scouters from 170+ countries camped together, forging friendships that will last a lifetime. Being part of a World Scout Jamboree is a life-changing event, and we hope that your Scouts will have an opportunity to participate in an international event as part of their Scout adventure.

Not everyone will have an opportunity to attend a World Scout Jamboree. Fortunately, there are many ways to participate in World Scouting, many with your own unit. We've put together this guide to help you integrate World Scouting themes, programs and activities into your Scouting program.

We would like to encourage every unit in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts to do three things related to international Scouting every year:

1. Hold a "World Scout Night" program
2. Conduct a "Messengers of Peace" service project, and
3. Promotes the World Scout Jamboree, World Scout Moot and JOTA-JOTI

Information about each of these program ideas are included in this guide.

Thank you for your service to Scouting, and for reminding our Scouts that they are an important part of the world's largest youth movement that has the capacity to change the world.

Yours in Scouting,

Kent Clayburn
International Commissioner
Boy Scouts of America

Scott Sorrells
National Commissioner
Boy Scouts of America

Introduction

Scouting is the largest youth movement in the world, with more than 55 million Scouts and adult volunteers serving in more than 170 National Scouting Organizations (NSOs). The Boy Scouts of America makes up about 2.2 million youth members and 800,000 adult volunteers.



Understanding that Scouting in the USA is part of a global movement of young people is an important part of the Scouting experience. Every Scout wears the World Crest emblem on their uniform as a reminder of our global brotherhood. The founder of Scouting, Lord Baden-Powell, witnessed the power of this bond since the first World Scout Jamboree was held in London in 1920. Since then, Scouts from around the world have gathered twenty-four times at World Jamborees held on nearly every continent.

Not every Scout can attend a World Jamboree, but every Scout can experience World Scouting in their home unit. This guide is intended to give unit leaders ideas on how to incorporate World Scouting experiences into their program, ranging from activities to do at a unit meeting, to international travel opportunities.

Share this guide with your youth leadership and adult volunteers. Pick one idea or develop your own. Your Scouts will learn more about Scouting's values, have a lot of fun, and feel more connected to the largest youth movement on the planet.

Planning a World Scout Night

Introduction

This is a great time for Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Sea Scouts to learn more about Scouting around the world. This section gives unit leaders ideas on how to explore International Scouting in a 60 to 90 minute meeting that can be done in an evening, or during a summer camp experience.

Learning Goals:

1. To gain appreciation that each member of the BSA is also a member of the World Scouting Family, which shares common values (Law, Oath, basic structure) while delivering programs with some variety (some have advancement, others not, etc.)
2. To learn about other cultures, languages, and Scouting traditions from other countries
3. To provide program ideas that align with WOSM's goals and programs, such as the Messenger of Peace program and the focus on the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Overview

Hosting a “World Scout Night” is a great way to add a new dimension to your program. The suggestions in this guide are intended to spark ideas for a fun, engaging and educational 60 to 90 minute meeting or summer camp activity. There are more ideas here than any unit could accomplish in 90 minutes, so choose what activities best fit your group. Most of these ideas will work with all age groups, from Cubs to Venturers. Consider how you might adapt these ideas to your unit meeting.

Preparation

Read through these program notes. For some activities, you or your Scouts may need to do some research and prep work prior to the meeting.

We also encourage your unit to take a collection for the World Friendship Fund (<https://www.scouting.org/international/information-sheets/22-329/>), which is a BSA program to fund international Scouting projects. Remember to notify Scouts and parents that a collection for WFF will be taking place, so that Scouts are prepared to contribute.

Opening

After the opening ceremony, have someone read the Scout Oath and Law from other National Scouting Organizations. You can research this ahead of time, and choose any NSO you like, but here are some examples:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Scout_Promises_by_country

Learn a Song

In 1920, for the first [World Scout Jamboree](#), [Robert Baden-Powell](#) (the founder of Scouting) decided that a nonsense song was needed, one that everyone would find equally difficult (or easy) to learn. He borrowed the tune from [Mozart's Symphony No.1 in Eb major](#) and penned the words to the song which became an instant hit among the Scouts and Scouters.

Here are the lyrics:

Ging gang goolie goolie goolie goolie watcha,
Ging gang goo, ging gang goo.
Ging gang goolie goolie goolie goolie watcha,
Ging gang goo, ging gang goo.
Hayla, oh hayla shayla, oh hayla shayla, shayla, oh-ho,
Hayla, oh hayla shayla, oh hayla shayla, shayla, oh.
Shally wally, shally wally, shally wally, shally wally,
Oompah, oompah, oompah, oompah.

And here are few links to videos so that you can learn the tune:

<https://youtu.be/Ssnzq6CgGZY>

or

<https://youtu.be/rA1Ynm4cqTg>

Here is a great story about the song, giving it some history and context, so that you can introduce it appropriately:

https://stmargarets.london/archives/2014/06/shally_wally_shally_wally_shally_wally_etc_etc.html

And, for those of you with a flair for drama, might like this narrative version:

http://www.scoutingresources.org.uk/stunts/stunts_008.html#The%20Great%20Grey%20Ghost%20Elephant

Scouts at the World Scout Jamboree sing this song and break up into two groups. One group would sing the Oompah Oompah as the “bass line” and the other side would sing the Hayla and Shally verses, then switch. Each side would try to sing louder than the other.

Games

Try playing a few games from other countries during your meeting. A good place to start is to google “Scout Games from around the world”. Here are some sites that you might find helpful in picking a game with international roots:

Around the world in eight awesome games (UK)

<http://scouts.org.uk/news/2018/02/around-the-world-in-8-awesome-games/>

Around the World - Games

http://www.boyscouttrail.com/webelos/w2/otherresources/world_games.htm

International Games by Stuart Leacy

<http://packresources.co.uk/international/INTGAM.PDF>

International Games

http://www.gameskidsplay.net/games/foreign_indexes/index.htm

Some favorite games with international roots are:

Kim's Game - A Scouting game based on Rudyard Kipling's 1901 novel, *Kim*. It is an observation game that dens or patrols can play as teams or one-on-one. Kipling was a friend of Baden-Powell.

http://www.boyscouttrail.com/content/game/kims_game-296.asp

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kim%27s_Game

Red Rover - A game played in the UK, Australia and Canada. Also called Bullrush in New Zealand and Ali Baba in Russia.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_Rover

Mancala - Easy to make with a wooden board or egg carton, this African game is an addicting way to pass time at camp.

<http://www.mancalarules.com>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mancala>

Steal the Bacon - A game indigenous to the USA, that you could teach other Scouts

http://www.gameskidsplay.net/games/chasing_games/bacon.htm

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steal_the_Bacon

Learn

Scouting was founded by Lord Baden-Powell in England in 1907. Baden-Powell had seen the horrors of war, as an officer in the Boer War in South Africa. He was saddened by the loss of millions of young people during World War I. He thought if he could convene a gathering of Scouts from around the world to build strong friendships, then future world wars could be avoided. He called this gathering a "Jamboree". The first Jamboree was held at Olympia in London, England in 1920. More than 8,000 Scouts from 34 countries attended. Jamborees have been held every four years since then, except for a time during World War II.

The most recent World Scout Jamboree was held at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in 2019. More than 45,000 Scouts from 170 countries attended the Jamboree. The next World Scout Jamboree will be in South Korea in 2023.

The World Scout Jamboree is the largest camping event on the planet. It is the largest event organized by the World Organization of the Scout Movements (WOSM), which is the global organization of Scouting organizations like the Boy Scouts of America.

The 2019 World Scout Jamboree gave participants a chance to experience the high adventure activities of the Summit Bechtel Reserve as well as many opportunities to learn about how to make the world a better place. The Global Development Village had hundreds of displays from various Scouting and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that taught Scouts about sustainable development, environmental protection and peace. The Centro Mondial featured exhibits and activities featuring the culture, faith and beliefs and technology from the hundreds of countries represented at the Jamboree.

Most Scouts who attend a World Scout Jamboree spend time making new friends from around the world. This is the highlight of the Jamboree. Where else can you meet people from all over the world in one place?

You can learn more about the Jamboree history here:

<http://www.karunaexpedition.com/world-scout-jamboree-history.html>

You can learn more about the 2019 World Scout Jamboree here:

<https://www.2019wsj.org>

You can learn more about the cultural experiences at the Jamboree here:

<https://wsj2019.us/2018/06/08/walking-around-the-jamboree/>

You can learn more about the next World Scout Jamboree here:

http://www.2023wsjkorea.org/_html/index.html

Discussion

Discuss why it is important to learn about people, cultures, religion and Scouting that is different from to that of your home country. What can you learn from others who are different from you? How might you be the same? What would you want to know if you met a Scout from another country?

Have you had a time when you have traveled to a different country or learned a different culture? What was that like? What did you learn?

Activities

All of these suggested activities can be done by all ages, but some may be more appropriate for younger Scouts. Here are some ideas for hands-on activities. Note, many of these activities are either required or optional requirements for the BSA International Spirit Award.

- Learn 10 words that are in a different language than your own. Practice them with each other.
- Play two games that originated in another country or culture.
- Research the process to get a USA passport and visa for another country. Discuss with your patrol or unit.
- Learn about another country and prepare a traditional dinner from that country to serve at a unit meeting or event. Discuss what you learned with others.
- Pick a country and research how Scouting in that country works. Talk, text or message with a Scout in that country via social media.
- Hold a combined meeting with a unit from a different country using Skype, Facebook Video or some other online video tool. Involve adults in this process. Teach the other unit a skill, skit or song. Have them teach you one too. Discuss with them what Scouting is like in their country.
- Research the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Pick one or two and discuss what your unit can do to further that goal in your community and on a global basis. Integrate these ideas into a future service project or unit activity.
 - <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>
 - <http://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org>
 - For example, a Scouting for Food activity aligns with SDG #2, finding ways to integrate girls into Scouting BSA would align with SDG #5, and using Solar Chargers on your next campout would align with SDG#7.

For more information and requirements to earn the International Spirit Award, go to:

<https://i9peu1ikn3a16vg4e45rqi17-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/International-Spirit-Award-app.130-044.pdf>

Safety Moment

Meeting other Scouts online can be a lot of fun, but we need to remember to be safe online. This is a good time to remind Scouts about online safety. Here are some resources:

Cyber Chip

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/boy-scouts/advancement-and-awards/merit-badges/cyber-chip/>

NetSmartz

<https://www.netsmartz.org/scouting>

NetSmartz Friend or Fake Video
<http://www.nsteens.org/Videos/FriendOrFake>

Protecting your Online Rep (Canada)
<https://youtu.be/jdZIaO1J0Bo>

World Friendship Fund

You may want to hold a collection for the BSA World Friendship Fund. The WFF is a BSA program that channels funds to international scouting projects, usually funding an initiative or project by a foreign National Scout Organization. For more information, go to:

<https://www.scouting.org/international/information-sheets/22-329/>

Another option is to directly fund a World Scouting project through WOSM. The “Scout Donation Platform” works like a “Go Fund Me” online platform, except that each project is screened by WOSM. Maybe your unit can fund an entire project! For more information, go to:

<https://www.scout.org/donate>

Service Projects: Messengers of Peace

Messengers of Peace (MOP) 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 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.

Practically any service project that benefits your community, or the global community, qualifies for the MOP Award (a circle patch that goes around the World Crest on your uniform). Once you complete the project, you can post pictures and a description on the WOSM MOP Page. Don’t forget to also report it on your unit’s Journey to Excellence online reports!

During or after the project, discuss the collective impact that 50 million Scouts could have on the world, if we all worked on service projects in our community. Discuss what could happen if we all worked on one or more SDG goals together.

Links:

BSA MOP Program
<https://www.scouting.org/international/messengers-of-peace/>

WOSM MOP Program
<https://www.scout.org/messengersofpeace>

Connect

One of the best aspects of a World Scout Jamboree is meeting Scouts from other countries. Social media gives us the opportunity to do this every day, without travelling to the Summit or another country! Here are some ideas on how to meet other Scouts:

First, review the guidelines for safe use of the internet and CyberChip. Always stay safe online.

There are a number of open Facebook groups for International Scouts and Scouters where you could meet someone from a different county and start a conversation:

24th World Scout Jamboree Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/24wsj>

1st Facebook Scout Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2450689742/>

WOSM - World Organization of the Scout Movement

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2348421171/>

Adult leaders can also use these online networks to find other adult unit leaders from other countries who might be interested in a “combined meeting” via Skype or other online video tool, so Scouts can meet each other and share Scouting experiences.

Share

Share pictures of your International Scout Meeting on social media with the hashtag #Scouts so others can see what you are learning.

Closing

A great way to end the meeting is to have a “Scoutmaster Minute” on the meaning of the World Crest. We all wear it on our uniform. Every Scout does. It is something we have in common with the 50 million Scouts around the world.

The World Crest is a Scout emblem that has been worn by an estimated 250 million Scouts since the Scouting movement was founded in 1907 by Lord Baden-Powell at the experimental camp on Brownsea Island in the UK. During this camp, he issued the first form of the World Crest, a copper fleur-de-lis badge, to all participants. It is today worn by 55 million Scouts and is one of the world’s best-known symbols.

Scouts and members of the public often ask how the emblem originated. Lord Baden-Powell himself gave the answer: “Our badge we took from the ‘North Point’ used on maps for orienteering.” Lady Baden-Powell said later, “It shows the true way to go.” The emblem’s symbolism helps remind Scouts to be as true and reliable as a compass in keeping to their Scouting ideals and showing others the way.

The crest is designed with a center motif encircled by a rope tied with a reef or square knot, which symbolizes the unity and brotherhood of the movement throughout the world. Even as one cannot undo a reef knot no matter how hard one pulls on it, so, as it expands, the movement remains united.

The three tips of the center fleur-de-lis represent the three points of the Scout Oath or Promise. In some countries, the two decorative five-pointed stars stand for truth and knowledge.

The crest is white on a royal purple background. These colors are symbolic as well. In heraldry, white represents purity and royal purple denotes leadership and help given to other people.

The World Crest is an emblem of the World Organization of the Scout Movement and is authorized for wear on the uniform of all member associations as a symbol of membership in a world brotherhood. It is authorized by the Boy Scouts of America to be worn by all adult and youth members as a permanent patch centered horizontally over the left pocket and vertically between the left shoulder seam and the top of the pocket.

The BSA donates a small portion of the proceeds from each patch sold to the World Scout Foundation to assist with the development of emerging Scouting organizations.

Last Word

Encourage qualified Scouts (age 14 to 17) to apply to attend the next World Scout Jamboree and young adults (age 18 to 25) to attend the next World Scout Moot.

Sing “Ging Gang Gooley” one more time because it is so fun.

Host an International Scout Meeting Virtually

What if you could attend a meeting or campout with a unit in a different country? You can! But use these tips to make it fun and safe.

Finding a unit to hold a joint meeting

Maybe you had an opportunity to meet an international Scout Leader at the last World Scout Jamboree, or another international Scouting event. Connecting with them might be a great way to find an introduction to a unit leader in a different country.

If not, use your BSA Scouting network to find a connection. Start with your Council's International Representative (go [here](#) to look up your IR's contact information) and ask for an introduction. You can also use some of the well-established international social media groups, such as the [1st Facebook Scout Group](#) or [International BSA](#), to ask for an introduction to an unit leader in your country of choice.

Plan an interactive meeting

Connect with the adult leader(s) of the other unit and agree on expectations and a basic agenda. Think about ways each unit can learn from each other. Consider having Scouts from each unit:

- Open with saying the Scout Oath and Law in their native language
- Teach or perform a song to each other - something fun and interactive
- Teach a game or skill to each other
- Share camp recipes. Make the dish beforehand and share what it looks like when cooked.
- Do a brief presentation or discussion about what Scouting is like in their unit/country. Each unit could respond to questions on community service, badges, advancement, religious affiliation (or not), where they meet and camp, and their favorite (and least favorite) parts of Scouts.
- Plan some time for unstructured dialogue, but not too much. Often Scouts will be shy about talking, or one person might dominate the conversation.

Each of these activities can be assigned to Scouts to lead, but it helps to have a framework for them to work within.

Things to consider

Language - Will the Scouts and leaders in the other unit speak and understand English? If not, find someone who is capable of translating.

Time Zone - Find a time that works well for both units. It may mean an early morning or late evening meeting for some people. Make sure that you are on the same page regarding meeting time - and watch out for daylight savings time differences!

Technology - Agree on a tech platform that both groups can use. Many people use Zoom, FaceTime or Microsoft Teams, but in some countries apps like WhatsApp are more common.

Stay Safe Online

All BSA rules regarding youth protection and digital safety apply for this type of event. Make sure that your plan adheres to the BSA Digital Safety and Online Scouting Activities Guidelines found here (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/digital-safety-and-online-scouting-activities/>). Remember:

- All youth protection policies still apply in an online environment.
- Two adults from each unit should be present at all times, monitoring the conversation and chat functions.
- Use business-oriented conference platforms that include safety and privacy features.
- Regularly review and implement the latest security features of your chosen platform.
- Do not record online activities that include youth participants.
- Safeguard personal information. When introducing Scouts, stick with first names and not full names.
- Collecting personal information from youth under 13 is not recommended.

Hosting an International Scout Meeting can be very fun and educational. Maybe this can become an annual tradition for your unit.

Questions?

Contact your Council International Representative for assistance.

Participation in JOTA-JOTI

<https://www.jotajoti.info>

JOTA-JOTI stands for “Jamboree on the Air – Jamboree on the Internet”. This annual, weekend-long event is the largest digital and radio Scout event promoting friendship and global citizenship. There is no cost to participate, and it is a fun and safe way for Scouts to connect around the world. Literally millions of Scouts have participated in JOTA-JOTI. It is traditionally held the third weekend of October every year. It is hosted by the World Organization of the Scout Movement, and is its largest program in terms of participation.

Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA)

JOTA connects Scouts via short-wave radio. Many Councils have short-wave radio enthusiasts who are willing to donate their time and share their equipment with Scout groups who talk to Scouts in other countries using short wave radio. This is a great way to learn about the medium and communication technology basics. Contact your Council International Representative or office to find out whom to contact for JOTA support. You can learn more about BSA’s JOTA efforts at <https://k2bsa.net/jota/>

Jamboree-on-the-Internet (JOTI)

JOTI connects Scouts via the internet. In recent years, WOSM has sponsored hundreds of online events for Scouts and Scouters to participate in during JOTI. All you need to have is a computer, tablet, or phone, and internet service to participate. The user interface is a “virtual campground” that Scouts can easily navigate, leading to games, workshops and opportunities to chat with other Scouts.

Many units will gather together for JOTA-JOTI, with Scouts bringing their own devices and leaders providing devices for those who don’t have access. Adult leaders can provide technical assistance and oversight while Scouts interact online. The BSA Scout Shop has JOTA-JOTI patches available to purchase for anyone who participates. JOTI participation fulfills requirements for Tiger and Arrow of Light adventures, the Citizenship in the World merit badge, and the International Spirit Award.

Scouts of any age can take part, from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA and Venturers. Scouts can participate at home with the help of an adult, or they can participate at a unit or council level.

Unit leaders are encouraged to read the BSA CyberChip Guidelines for Scouts using the internet as well as the JOTI FAQ and Rules on JotaJoti.info before the event. Scouts and leaders are encouraged to register on the website before the event: <https://www.jotajoti.info>

Participating in a World Scout Jamboree or World Scout Moot

World Scout Jamborees and Moots are the centerpiece of International Scouting. Scouts who participate in WSJs and WSMs often reflect that the event was the ultimate Scouting experience, and transformative in how they view other cultures.

I've met many Scouts and Scouters who have attended WSJs. Everyone has a story about how the Jamboree experience resulted in life-long memories, insights, and friendships that changed their life. Many of us who volunteer in international scouting do so because we want others to experience the magic that happens at World Scout Jamborees and Moots.

Adult unit leader play a critical role in these events by:

- Recruiting Scouts who would benefit from World Scout events and encouraging them to register for the events.
- Assisting Scouts with fundraising activities, including unit fundraising, grant and scholarship writing, and finding work opportunities that might help with their funding.
- Promoting these events 2+ years in advance so Scouts and their families can plan (and save) accordingly.
- Considering volunteering as a Jamboree unit leader.

World Scout Jamboree

The World Scout Jamboree is a 10 – 12 day camping experience that is held every four years. The 25th World Scout Jamboree will be held August 1-12, 2023 in SaeManGeum, South Korea. The 24th World Scout Jamboree was held in the summer of 2019 at the Summit Bechtel Scout Reserve in West Virginia, USA. The 25th World Scout Jamboree host, the Korea Scout Association, expects more than 50,000 Scouts and adult volunteers from more than 170 countries to attend the next Jamboree.

At the Jamboree, Scouts camp in contingent units of 36 Scouts and 4 adult leaders. The United States typically fields about 25 – 30 units, totaling about 900 -1,000 Scouts. Unit camps make up mini-cities that provide food, bathrooms, showers, health care, transportation, and entertainment services.

Jamborees offer a wide range of activities, including:

- Program activities unique to the site, such as swimming, hiking, boating and other high adventure activities
- Global Development Village – exhibits and activities from global NGOs that partner with WOSM, highlighting activities Scouts can do to promote sustainability.
- WOSM Tent – exhibits and programs promoting the various WOSM programs, including Scouts for SDGs, Messengers of Peace, Dialogue for Peace, and others.
- NSO Exhibits – countries have tents and program to educate about their country and culture, along with music and cultural performances
- Shows – Arena-style shows, often with top-name music acts, pageantry and ceremonies.

Usually the USA contingent will tour the host country for a few days prior to the Jamboree.

But the magic of World Scout Jamborees often happens on the personal level, when a unit shares a meal or campfire with Scouts from another country.

Jamborees can be expensive. The cost for a Scout to attend the 2015 WSJ in Japan was about \$5,500 USD. This included all travel costs and the Jamboree registration. Planning (and saving) a year or two in advance is critical for many Scouts.

World Scout Moot

The World Scout Moot is a “mini-Jamboree” for young adults age 18 – 25. It is held every four years, on the “odd, off-years” of the World Scout Jamboree. The next Moot will be held in the summer of 2022 in Ireland. It was planned for 2021, but the Covid-19 Pandemic forced a postponement to 2022. There will be another Moot in 2025. Between 5,000 and 6,000 young adults participate in the World Scout Moot.

Many NSOs have programs for young adults age 18 – 25. In the United Kingdom this program is called “Network”. In Australia and many other countries they go by a more traditional name, “Rovers”. The Boy Scouts of America has program options for older Scouts through age 21, such as Venturing, Sea Scouts and the Order of the Arrow. BSA has made a goal to develop a “Rover” type program for young adults age 18 – 25 in the future.

Moots are different to Jamborees in several ways. First, participants camp with patrols and units that are made up of participants from different countries, encouraging international relationship building from the start.

Second, the Moot has two phases:

- Field Camps – Ten to twenty “field camps” of 100 – 250 participants around the country. Each camp has a theme and specific activities. Participants choose an adventure that matches their interests at registration. These camps last about four days.
- Moot Camp – At the end of the trail camp phase, all participants travel to the main camp, where they participate in Jamboree type activities, as well as forums to discuss global issues. Participants remain with their international units.

Moots are designed for college-age+ participants, and the program options reflect a more mature audience. Many participants spend their evenings at some of the Moot cafes meeting new friends or playing games. Some choose to dance at the Moot Club past midnight.

Moots tend to be less expensive than Jamborees, but still require financial planning for most participants. The last Moot was held in Iceland in 2017. Participants (who were all over the age of 18) were responsible for their own transportation to and from the Moot site. The contingent gathered in Reykjavik the night before the opening ceremony. The cost was about \$2,000 USD, which included the Moot fee, Moot Swag Kit (patches, neckerchiefs, pins, shirts, daypack, etc.),

insurance, and some contingent expenses. Airfare for most USA participants cost around \$800 USD, round-trip.

USA Contingent Trips

The Boy Scouts of America organizes contingent trips for the World Scout Jamboree and World Scout Moot. These trips are organized by volunteers who have experience with World Scout events. Volunteers are part of the Contingent Management Team (CMT) and are led by the Head of Contingent (HOC). The CMT determines the trip plan, logistics, communications, schedule, budget and safety plan. Jamboree unit leaders coordinate with the CMT and receive logistical support from them.

The BSA also sends contingent trips to other international Scouting events. In the past, these have included:

- Inter-America JamCam, a jamboree for NSOs in North, Central and South America
- Inter-America Moot, a moot for NSOs in the Americas
- CariJam, a jamboree for Scouts in the Caribbean
- EuroJam, a jamboree for Scouts in Europe

Information about these contingent events can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/international/events/>

International Service Team (IST)

Another opportunity for adults, is to serve on the International Service Team (IST) for World Scout Jamborees and Moots. IST jobs range from staffing a program area to logistics to staffing the World Scout Shop. IST will have time off to enjoy the programs, as well as special programming just for IST members. Often, the cost to attend is discounted from the participant price. As an IST member, you will build friendships with other adult Scouters from around the world, help deliver the program and have a lot of fun.

For more information:

2022 World Scout Moot
<https://www.worldscoutmoot.ie/>

2023 World Scout Jamboree
http://www.2023wsjkorea.org/_html/index.html

Planning a Messengers of Peace Project

Planning and conducting a Messengers of Peace (MOP) Project can be a fun learning activity and an opportunity to serve your community. And, there's a patch! MOPs can be done by any age Scout group. Younger Scouts might need some guidance, but for Scouts BSA and older Scouts, it can be a great youth-led activity.

Launched in September 2011, **Messengers of Peace** is a global initiative designed to inspire millions of young people in more than 220 countries and territories to work towards peace through service to others. Using social media and other Scouting networks 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.

Scouts are already doing great things in their community. Through good turns and community service projects, scouts are making the world a better place and spreading a culture of peace. The Messengers of Peace program aims to highlight this work by supporting scouts' community service and encouraging Scouts to share their actions with others to help build a global network of service. **If a scout does a service action and shares it with other, they can earn a Messengers of Peace badge.** This is the "ring" patch that fits over the World Scout emblem on the uniform.

The main goal is to inspire Scouts to continue their community service or to join efforts with other scouts from around the globe. **You and your Scouts can earn the Messengers of Peace badge in 4 steps:**

1. **Inspire:** Explore and research about local problems, people in action and good practices.
2. **Learn and decide:** Identify your motivation and talents. Choose a field of action. Select useful knowledge, skills and ideas to apply.
3. **Do:** Plan your actions, execute, monitor, evaluate and report.
4. **Share:** Share what you did, your experiences, outcomes and lessons learnt in your community, and on social media (see links below).

After Scouts complete a qualifying service project, the unit leader reports service hours through their council online reporting mechanism. Leaders can purchase the award badge at your local scout shop or online. The MOP rings are available to all Scouts who complete a project.

Service projects, such as those led by Eagle Scout Candidates, qualify as MOP projects. MOP projects do not need to be complicated or extensive. Examples include:

- Picking up rubbish around your neighborhood
- A food drive for a local food bank
- Visiting a local nursing home and putting on a "campfire" program for residents
- Volunteering with a local, state or federal agency to improve a local park

You can read about MOP projects on the web sites below, but here is a concrete example that illustrates the four steps. One Scout troop's meeting site is near a local food bank. Some of the Scouts of that unit met with the food bank managers to see how Scouts could help. They were given a tour of the facility, and learned about the challenges facing the community in regards to hunger, lack of shelter, and homelessness. They met some of the bank's clients and learned about stereotypes vs. the reality of people experiencing economic challenges. Together with the bank's managers, they identified a project that had a concrete impact on the community – cutting and stacking firewood. Some of the bank's clients heated their home with wood stoves rather than gas or oil. The bank supplies firewood, but needed it to be cut and stacked in order to provide it to clients. The Scouts spent a Saturday cutting and stacking, and learning about a part of their community that had been unseen to them until the project. Pictures were posted on social media locally, and on MOP social media sites. And, all the Scouts earned their MOP award, which was presented at the next Court of Awards.

Links:

WOSM Messengers of Peace Background and Video

<https://www.scout.org/messengersofpeace>

BSA MOP Information

<https://www.scouting.org/international/messengers-of-peace/>

MOP BSA Blog

<https://www.scouting.org/international/messengers-of-peace/blog/>

MOP on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/BSAMessengersOfPeace/>

MOP on Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/messengersofpeace.bsa/>

World Friendship Fund

An appropriate element of any World Scouting activity is support of the World Friendship Fund (WFF). Consider taking a collection on an annual basis to support Scouting in other countries.

Background

Through the World Friendship Fund, voluntary contributions of Scouts and adult volunteers are transformed into cooperative projects that help Scouting associations in other countries to strengthen and extend their Scouting programs. The World Friendship Fund gives members of the Boy Scouts of America a good turn opportunity to help fellow Scouts who are in need of their support. It teaches that Scouting is global. Since the inception of the World Friendship Fund, American Scouts and Leaders have voluntarily donated more than \$11 million to the fund.

The World Friendship Fund was developed during the closing days of World War II. At that time, there was a great need to rebuild Scouting in those nations that had been wrecked by war and were just emerging from the shadows of totalitarianism.

Over the years, this fund has provided Scouts from around the world the opportunity to expand the Scouting Movement. Collected contributions are used to assist developing National Scout Organizations (NSO). Any NSO that is recognized by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WSOM) can submit a grant request for projects to enhance their growing organization. Every February, May, and October the USFIS committee reviews these grant requests.

Hosting a World Friendship Fund Collection can be organized during Courts of Awards, Camporees, roundtable meetings, den and pack meetings, summer camping programs, blue and gold banquets, or any other Scout activity.

For more information: <https://www.scouting.org/international/resources/22-329/>

To donate securely online: <https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/NCFD/appeal/1647>

Visiting an Embassy or Consulate

Did you know that there are more than 175 embassies, ambassador's residences and international cultural centers in Washington D.C.? In addition, most cities, from Denver to Des Moines and Phoenix to Pago Pago, have official foreign consulates. These embassies and consulates are often open to Scout group visits and events. The National Capital Area Council (NCAC) regularly coordinates events with embassies in Washington D.C. Every event is different, but in the past they have included:

- Welcome by a representative of the embassy or consulate, explaining what they do and the role they play in diplomacy and service to their citizens
- Musical performances
- Cultural demonstrations
- Food from that country
- Games
- Celebration of indigenous holidays
- Flag ceremonies, exchange of gifts
- Involvement of children of deployed diplomatic staff
- Video conference with scouts from their country

Tips for an embassy/consulate/cultural center visit:

- Contact your local Scout Council's International Representative, as they may have helpful contacts and ideas.
- Contact the embassy, consulate or cultural center and ask about possible opportunities to coordinate a visit or create an event.
- If you are planning a trip to Washington D.C., contact the NCAC International Representative Jay Eidson (ir.ncac.je@gmail.com), who could brief you on future events.
- Consider what your unit or group can do to contribute to the event, such as cooking/bringing food, preparing a presentation, or making a contribution to a charity that is connected to the cultural organization.

This can be a great event for a unit, but consider partnering with other units in your district or council to bring more energy and participation.

Working on Advancement Related to WOSM Goals and Programs

World Scouting is an integral part of BSA's advancement program. Consider amplifying your unit's advancement program with WOSM themed activities. Here are some ideas:

Cub Scouts

The Arrow of Light elective "Building a Better World Adventure", includes options to do at least one of these activities:

1. Learn about Scouting in another part of the world. With the help of your parent, guardian, or den leader, pick one country where Scouting exists, and research its Scouting program.
2. Set up an exhibit at a pack meeting to share information about the World Friendship Fund.
3. Under the supervision of your parent, guardian, or den leader, connect with a Scout in another country during an event such as Jamboree on the Air or Jamboree on the Internet or by other means.
4. Learn about energy use in your community and in other parts of the world.
5. Identify one energy problem in your community, and find out what has caused it.

Some activities to meet these requirements might include:

- Participating in JOTA-JOTI
- Participating in an "online campfire" on the International Scouting Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/International.BSA>) or watching a recent recording at <https://www.scouting.org/international/events/international-campfire-talks/>
- Learning about the WFF at <https://www.scouting.org/international/resources/22-329/>
- Working on the Cub Scout World Conservation Award

Scouts BSA

Advancement opportunities that align with World Scouting goals and programs include:

Sustainability Merit Badge

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/boyscouts/pdf/220-062_flier.pdf

Diversity Merit Badge (available January 1, 2021)

Citizenship in the World Merit Badge

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Citizenship_in_the_World.pdf

Energy Merit Badge

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Energy.pdf

Environmental Science Merit Badge

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Environmental_Science.pdf

Scouting Heritage

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Scouting_Heritage.pdf

International Spirit Award

The International Spirit Award (ISA) is a BSA recognition that is intended to encourage participation in international Scouting. The ISA is a temporary emblem that is awarded to registered Scouts and Scouters who have completed the necessary requirements, have gained greater knowledge of international Scouting, and have developed a greater appreciation and awareness of different cultures and countries. The ISA emblem is available through the Scout Shop.

Working on the ISA can be a fun and rewarding activity or series of activities for your unit. You may want to integrate some of the required activities into your program over the course of a year. Here are the requirements:

Cub Scout

1. Earn the Cub Scout World Conservation Award.
2. Learn 10 words that are in a different language than your own.
3. Play two games that originated in another country or culture.
4. Participate in Jamboree-on-the-Air or Jamboree-on-the-Internet.
5. Organize a World Friendship Fund collection at a unit meeting or district roundtable.
6. Complete two of the 10 Experience Requirements. (see below)

Scouts BSA/Sea Scout/Venturer

1. Earn the World Conservation Award.
2. Earn the Citizenship in the World Merit Badge. (Alternative for Venturers: Complete the “Understanding Other Cultures” requirement of the TRUST Award.)
3. Participate in Jamboree-on-the-Air or Jamboree-on-the-Internet.
4. Organize a World Friendship Fund collection at a unit meeting or district roundtable.
5. Complete three of the 10 Experience Requirements.

Scouter

1. Learn about the World Organization of the Scout Movement (www.scout.org). Explain to your unit or at a district roundtable what this organization is and at least three ways that the WOSM website can be used to promote participation in international Scouting.
2. Read the most current International Department newsletter (www.scouting.org/international/newsletter) and promote at least two items from the newsletter within your unit or at a district roundtable.
3. Help organize or participate in two Jamboree-on-the-Air or Jamboree-on-the-Internet events.
4. Organize a World Friendship Fund collection at a unit meeting or district roundtable.
5. Complete four of the 10 Experience Requirements.

Experience Requirements

1. Host an international Scout or unit at a local Council camp and plan activities to help you learn about Scouting in their country. *Please note that hosting in private homes is not considered an official Scouting activity.
2. Learn about another country and prepare a dinner traditionally served there. Explain what you learned to friends or family over the meal.
3. Participate in a World Scout Jamboree, international camporee, or another international Scouting event. Share the experience with your unit or at a district roundtable.
4. Take a trip to another country as an individual or with your family or Scouting unit. Make sure to visit a Scouting event or unit in that country. When you return home, share your experience with another unit.
5. Organize and participate in a Messengers of Peace project. Share the experience with your unit or at a district roundtable, making sure to explain which dimensions of the program your project promoted.
6. Earn the interpreter strip.
7. Research Scouting in another country. Make a presentation at a unit meeting or district roundtable.
8. Contact your local council's International Representative and assist them with at least two items they need help with promoting.
9. Research the process of obtaining a U.S. passport. Create a fact sheet for your unit or district to assist them with requirements for traveling internationally.
10. Research a region of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Make a presentation at a unit meeting or district roundtable.

Here is the link to the ISA Requirements and Form:

<https://www.scouting.org/international/recognitions/>

Planning an International Scout Trip

Planning an international Scout trip might not be feasible for all units, but for those who plan carefully and fund-raise effectively, it can be a memorable and impactful Scouting experience. Here are some ideas and tips.

Destinations

Kandersteg International Scout Centre – Located in the Alps of Switzerland, this camp founded by Lord Baden-Powell, is known as the “permanent mini-jamboree”. KISC offers programs year-round, and is a train-ride from sights in Europe.

<https://www.kisc.ch/>

Gilwell Scout Park – Close to London, but with the tranquility of a woodland location, Gilwell Park is famous throughout the world for its Scouting heritage and stunning range of activities. There are activities year-round (except for the December holidays), and it offers camping and hostel type lodging.

<https://www.scoutadventures.org.uk/centre/gilwell-park>

WOSM Scout Centre of Excellence for Nature and Environment Camps – WOSM has certified some international camps for their commitment to protect the environment and promote environmental understanding. A list of these camps can be found here:

<https://www.scout.org/scenes>

Blair Atholl Jamborette – This mini-Jamboree in Scotland, held on the property of ancient royalty, is a grand experience for Scouts looking for an easily accessible international experience.

<https://www.jamborette.org.uk/>

Non-Contingent Events – There are many international events that welcome units from the United States, but the BSA does not send an official contingent. These include national and regional jamborees in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas. Your unit (or group of units) might want to consider attending one of these events, and tag along some sightseeing or high adventure along the way. For more information about these events, go to:

<https://www.scouting.org/international/events/>

Scouting events in Canada and Mexico – Our neighbors to the north and south offer a range of Scout jamborees and camporees, some of which welcome international Scouts. Contact the regional Scouting office in the province closest to you for more information.

Logistics

To properly cover logistics would require a separate manual and training session, but here are some resources that are required if you are thinking about an international Scout trip:

1. Obtaining an International Letter of Introduction and Event Verification Request from the International Committee (see <https://www.scouting.org/international/international-adventure/ili-and-event-verification-101/>)
2. Download the “Guide to International Scout Trips” here from the Scouting.org/International site.
3. Contact your International Representative and involve them in your planning.

Resources:

International Adventure and Events – BSA
<https://www.scouting.org/international/events/>

Resources and Credits

Websites

Boy Scouts of America International Scouting Resources
(Travel, Events, Tools, JOTA-JOTI, International Representatives, Messengers of Peace,
Supporting World Scouting)
www.scouting.org/international/

Jamboree on the Air/Jamboree on the Internet
www.jotajoti.info

K2BSA – Radio Scouting
k2bsa.net/jota/

Kandersteg International Scout Center
www.kisc.ch

World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)
www.scout.org

World Friendship Fund
www.scouting.org/international/resources/22-329/

Messengers of Peace
www.scout.org/messengersofpeace

Philmont International Conference
www.philmontscout ranch.org/ptc/ptc-conferences/

World Scout Jamboree – 2023 Host Site (Korea)
www.2023wsjkorea.org

World Scout Jamboree – 2023 USA Contingent Site
www.wsj2023.us

World Scout Moot – 2021 Host Site (Ireland)
www.worldscoutmoot.ie

World Scout Shop
www.worldscoutshops.com

Scouts for SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals – UN)
sdgs.scout.org

Facebook Pages and Groups

BSA International Page

www.facebook.com/International.BSA

BSA International Group

www.facebook.com/groups/internationalbsa

1st Facebook Scout Group

www.facebook.com/groups/2450689742

2023 World Scout Jamboree – South Korea

<https://www.facebook.com/2023WSJKOREA/>

2023 World Scout Jamboree – USA Contingent Page

<https://www.facebook.com/WSJ2023USA/>

2023 World Scout Jamboree – USA Contingent Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/842624739917847>

2022 World Scout Moot – Ireland

<https://www.facebook.com/IrishMoot2022/>

2022 World Scout Moot – USA Contingent Page

<https://www.facebook.com/16thWorldMootBSA/>

Scouts for SDGs

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2748608288696593>

If you have an idea for an international adventure, contact your local Scout Council's International Representative. You can look up and contact your IR here:

<https://www.scouting.org/international/international-representative/>

Credits and Corrections

This first-edition guide was produced by the “Tools for Councils” sub-group of the International Committee of the Boy Scouts of America. The purpose of publishing the guide is to give leaders ideas and resources on how to promote international Scouting at the unit level. If you have corrections or suggestions for future editions, please contact us.

See you on your next international adventure!

Yours in Scouting,

Mark Beese

Editor

mark@wsj2019.us