



# Scouting Around the World

SEPTEMBER 2011

National Capital Area Council International Committee

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[http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/open\\_rosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=17085&orgkey=1988](http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/open_rosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=17085&orgkey=1988)

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

Upcoming meeting date: 15 September 2011

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## BP Bits:



B-P and Rudyard Kipling were long time friends and first met in Lahore, India, sometime between October 1882 and November 1884 based on BP's diary. They met at least twice in South Africa in 1901 & 1906. In 1908, B-P wrote, in *Scouting for Boys*, a summary of 'Kim' and a description of 'Kim's Game', which Kipling freely allowed. The central premise of the game is learning from observation and memorization. In 1916, Baden-Powell wrote to Kipling to ask his permission to use *The Jungle Book* in his own re-vamp of the Wolf Cub scheme. Wolf Cubs had been created in 1913 and B-P felt the scheme needed a central story suitable for youngsters, on which to hang specially adapted Scouting teachings. He wrote to Kipling at the point when *The Wolf Cub's Handbook*, which uses *The Jungle Book* as its main theme, was in its proof stage. Kipling sent B-P his proofs back without a single revision. This was true friendship linked by the certainty that, in B-P's hands, his characters would reach a wider audience, gain more popularity and do better for 'Empire' than they ever could if left within the covers of Kipling's own books.

## Collectors' Corner: Scout Art



Sea Scout by Pierre Joubert; from Gilwell; B-P by Jaeger; from Gilwell, Hungarian - by Louis Marton 1937; B-P 1903 Commanding Officer S. African Constabulary; by Carlos; Asian; Italian - by Ininon 1915

**Scouts in South Africa are teaching environmental education** to young people from poverty-stricken rural areas. The young people attend, free of charge, a two-day environmental camp and since 2002 over 9,000 young people have gone through the program. The goal of the program is to offer participants an exciting experience, while at the same time teaching them practical environmental skills which they can use in their daily life. Moreover, participants are encouraged to initiate a small project, such as food gardening or recycling.

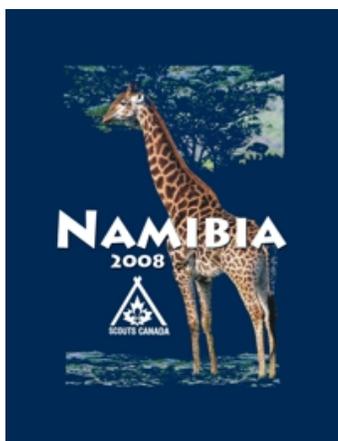
## Scouting in Ghana:



As a young man, Samuel Wood won a drawing competition, sponsored by the British newspaper, The Sheffield Weekly. The prize was a school scholarship, but Wood was unable to take it up as he could not afford the cost of travelling to the United Kingdom. Instead, he was sent books and a subscription to the newspaper. One of the books was Baden-Powell's Scouting for Boys. Wood wrote to Imperial Headquarters of the Scout Movement, in London, and asked them how he could start his own Scout group. A charter was given on 1912-01-04 for the first Gold Coast Scout group. Other groups soon started in other parts of the country. Samuel Wood continued to be active in Scouting, and due to his efforts the Gold Coast became the first Crown Colony to legislate for the protection of the Scout and Guide Movement. The association has 2,311 members as of 2010.

Scouts are involved in many community service projects. Most of these projects take place in rural areas where Scouts organize the people to assist in these projects. Some of these projects are the construction of health centers, schools and clean water. Scouts are also involved in farming, tree planting and helping to run plants that raise fish.

## Twinning Projects: Canada/Namibia



In 2008, a group of Venturers and Rovers from the Montreal area embarked on a Brotherhood Fund community development project in the Southern African country of Namibia. The goal was to improve facilities at several nursery schools in the area of Okahandja, about 70 kilometres north of the capital city of Windhoek. None of these schools receive government funding despite the huge influx of AIDS orphans swelling the numbers of children in the classroom. Many of these schools are in a state of serious disrepair and lack even the most basic sanitation facilities.

Fortunately, the materials for international development projects such as this one come from the Canadian Brotherhood Fund. However each participant on the project raised their own funds for travel, accommodation and food, in addition to those of the Namibian Scouts working with the group. In order to raise the approximately \$100,000 needed for the trip, the group sought private and corporate sponsorship and held several fundraising events.

## Three Scouts from Brazil drove a jeep from their home, to the 1955 World Jamboree, to Alaska, and home again



Rover Scouts Hugo Vidal, Charles Downey, and Jan Stekly from São Paulo, Brazil, probably saw a poster showing a Canadian Scout in front of Niagara Falls for the 8<sup>th</sup> World Jamboree, and they dreamed of a trip through 17 countries along what was then the new Pan-American Highway. The Pan-American Highway is a network of roads nearly 29,800 miles in total length. Their journey eventually took 12 months and covered 45,000 miles. The Jeep was prepared with a 60-liter water tank, two spare 30-liter gas tanks, two spare tires, and a roof rack on the steel hardtop. It got a beefed-up suspension to handle the increased weight. Because of its pineapple paint job it was given the name "Green and Yellow".

Driving schedule was two hours each, with no extensions. They left São Paulo on 2 April 1955, aiming to reach Niagara-on-the-Lake in August of that year. They actually headed south for Uruguay and then Buenos Aires, Argentina, to reach the official start of the Pan-American Highway. Rainfall meant fording water up to 27" deep on this initial segment.

Four and a half months after leaving São Paulo, they crossed the Niagara River into Canada about 20 km below the famous falls, and entered the site of the World Jamboree, goal of their automotive adventure. After the Jamboree, Charlie, Hugo, and Jan drove back across the border to Toledo, Ohio, where they visited the Willys Jeep factory. They were still planning continue to Alaska, and the engineers at Willys found the 3B to be in perfect mechanical condition. With proper antifreeze in the radiator, they headed west to Chicago and then up to Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Dawson Creek, mile zero of the famous Alaska Highway. On 11 November they reached Alaska, where they stayed at an Air Force base. They returned to São Paulo on 14 April 1956, 1 year and 12 days after their departure, and were welcomed by the governor and a huge parade.