



Scouting Around the World

MARCH 2012

National Capital Area Council International Committee

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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 March 2012

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BP Bits:



Lt Gen B-P

Scouting and peace appear today to belong indissolubly together. A Scout, in our mind, is a peace-loving person, and Scouting a way to peace. The original philosophy of the movement, however, was somewhat different. B-P's initial inspiration was resolutely imperial. B-P was particularly troubled by a perceived decline in the vitality of Empire – its growing physical vulnerability, internal social contradictions and especially the threat posed by Germany. He thought the poor showing in the Boer War was due to a lack of individual training. Reflecting and aiming at addressing these fears, the initial Scout program openly purported to be an instrument of national and imperial regeneration. B-P said “We have had this enormous empire handed down to us by our forefathers, and we are responsible that it develops and goes ahead, and above all, that we make ourselves fit and proper men to help it to go ahead. It won't do so of itself, any more than it would have become ours of itself. If we don't do this some other nation will take it from us.”

Collectors Corner: Scout Pennants – jamborees, national emblems, other events



4th WJ S. Africa. Contingent



1959 W Jambo



Korea



Japan



Luxembourg



Germany



Argentina



Israel



Oman



Paraguay



Mongolia



Spain



Iceland



We are pleased to inform you that the World Organization of the Scout Movement has been awarded the Calouste Gulbenkian International Prize by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Portugal. The Calouste Gulbenkian International Prize distinguishes an individual or institution whose thoughts or actions make a decisive contribution to and have significant impact on understanding, defending or fostering the universal values of the human condition, with particular reference to the following: respect for difference and inter-cultural, inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue; respect for biodiversity and defense of the environment in man's relationship with nature. The Prize this year was specifically in relation to respect for difference and inter-cultural, inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue. Secretary General Luc Panissod liaised with World Scout Committee member João Armando Gonçalves, who is from Portugal, on this matter and both of them attended the public ceremony that took place on 20 July 2011 in Lisbon where the prize was presented to WOSM.



Junák - Association of Scouts and Guides of the Czech Republic.

The symbol of Junak is the Scout lily with the head of a Chodovian dog, which is a symbol of faithfulness and freedom, and placed on the Trefoil.

The old Czechoslovakia, precursor to today's Czech Republic, has a relatively short history as an independent country. Scouting for much of Czechoslovakia's history has been banned as a subversive organization. Scouters who tried to organize were arrested and sent to concentration or labor camps by both the NAZIs and Communists. Today Scouts are the most popular youth organization in the Czech Republic.

The first founder of Scouting in Czechoslovakia was a professor of physical training at the secondary school - A.B. Svojsfk / 1876 - 1938. In 1910 he heard about Lord Baden-Powell's education of young boys. He was interested in that system of education and so in 1911, he left for England. He was enthusiastic about Scouting and he began to translate Baden-Powell's book "Scouting for Boys". In 1912 he founded his first troop and in 1913 there were 19 troops in Czechoslovakia. In 1914 he founded an independent organization, the name of which was "Junak - Czech Scout". In 1915 the Girl Guides began in Czechoslovakia. In 1912 A.B. Svojsik wrote the basic book of Czech Scouting "The Foundations of Scouting". In that book he combined Baden-Powell's system of education, ideas of the American writer, traveler and painter E.T. Seton (founder of woodcraft) and the traditions of his nation.

In the revolution days Czech Scouts helped the established government with many things. They patrolled over important buildings and sites, but they are best known for their delivery service. They delivered official mail in Praga. They had their own stamps, the first Scout stamps in the world, which are very rare and valuable today among stamp collectors. On 21 December 1918 "Czech Scout mail" was restored, because of the arrival of their first President T. Garrigue Masaryk from exile.



Fr. Jacques Sevin – a new step towards beatification

WOSM welcomes the recent vote of the Congregation of the Causes of Saints on the heroic virtues of Father Jacques Sevin (1882 - 1951), pioneer of extending Scouting to members of the Catholic faith, and the co-founder of Scouts de France. The Congregation for the Causes of Saints oversees the process that leads to the canonization of saints passing through the steps of a declaration of "heroic virtues" and beatification. The status of "venerable" is likely be given in late June, when the Pope will authorize the issuance of the decree recognizing the 'heroic virtues' of Jacques Sevin.

Jacques Sevin made a landmark contribution to the Scout Movement through the founding of Scouts de France in 1920 (which has evolved to become the current Scouts et Guides de France – SGDF) and worked within the Movement throughout his life. The legacy he has left, deeply rooted in faith, is still widely taught and used in Scouting.