



Global BSA

International newsletter

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30TH APR SCOUT JAMBOREE/16TH NIPPON JAMBOREE – YAMAGUCHI, JAPAN 2013

Venue

Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi, Japan.

The jamboree site at Kirara-hama is on reclaimed land, extending about one kilometer from north to south and three kilometers from east to west (286 ha), and is equipped with indoor facilities. Kirara-hama was the site for Yamaguchi Kirara Expo in 2001.

Theme

As 30APRSJ/16NJ is the pre-jamboree for the 23rd World Scout Jamboree, the two jamborees share the same theme—“Wa: a Spirit of Unity.” The kanji “和” (wa) is richly expressive, associated with unity, harmony, cooperation, friendship, and peace. Furthermore, Wa is a character that expresses the essence of Japan, a country where tradition and the latest technology coexist in harmony. Inspired by this theme, it is our earnest desire that 30APRSJ/16NJ will contribute to peace and harmony among people and create a better world.

Concepts

To achieve the theme “Wa: a Spirit of Unity,” we focus on four concepts, three of which are those of the 23rd World Scout Jamboree.

Energy: With the energy of young people, 30APRSJ/16NJ will be a venue where everyone can experience the energy and unity of Scouts!

Innovation: Scouts from all over the world will join the jamboree in Japan inspired by a spirit of unity to create a better world.

Harmony: From the diversity that participants bring to Kirara-hama, harmony among different cultures will blossom through encounters and shared experiences.

Communication (Concept only for 30APRSJ/16NJ): 30APRSJ/16NJ will emphasize communication with Scouts worldwide to foster mutual understanding and trust in the run-up to the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in 2015.

About the Logo

The 30APRSJ/16NJ logo is inspired by the 23rd World Scout Jamboree logo. The string, called “mizuhiki” in Japanese, represents the bonds between those taking part and the world. The three colors used in the logo—blue, green, and black—represent the concepts. In particular, green represents the natural splendor of Yamaguchi where the jamboree is being held, and blue symbolizes the Seto Inland Sea.

Expected Participants

15,500 in total (12,000 from Japan, 1,500 from APR and other regions, 2,000 ISTs and other volunteer teams)

SCOTT TEARE IS SELECTED AS THE NEW SECRETARY GENERAL OF WORLD SCOUTING

The World Scout Committee has announced the new Secretary General for the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Scott Teare from the United States of America is the new Secretary General of World Scouting. Scott is currently the Director of the International Department of the Boy Scouts of America. He is a tireless advocate for world Scouting and has successfully kept the torch of world Scouting lit within the Boy Scouts of America among its board members and officers for many years.



As one of the Boy Scouts of America's world Scouting ambassadors, Scott —also recently awarded the Bronze Wolf—has contributed significantly to establishing and applying the association's international policy. He has established the diplomatic contacts, maintained relations and represented Boy Scouts of America with American businesses operating abroad, foreign embassies, key government leaders, heads of states, and royal family members in an effort to provide sustained financial support and membership growth for world Scouting.

Scott has negotiated and established beneficial relationships with other national Scout organizations around the world and advised and supported Boy Scouts of America officers and leaders who are actively involved in international Scouting commitments, including Regional and World Scout Committees and subcommittees, and Regional and World Scout Foundations. His direct involvement in supporting the Interamerican Scout Region, especially in setting up the new Regional office in Panama, has been especially noteworthy.

The new Secretary General will take office on Jan. 1, 2013, at the World Scout Bureau Central Office.

BSA CONTINGENT PROGRAM

As a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, the Boy Scouts of America gets invited to many different international/national events in different countries every year. This is a great opportunity for the BSA to connect with the world through interaction with local Scouts and Scout leaders at those special events. Consequently, it provides us, our BSA Scouts and adults, an excellent opportunity to learn about other countries, people, and cultures through Scouting activities, plus learn Scouting skills and make new friendships as part of the adventure.



Depending on the locations, time, availability of Direct Service units, attendees, and budgets, a contingent may be formed for these international events. Once a contingent

formation is approved, BSA Scouts and Scout leaders will be selected to join this contingent (Boy Scout troop or Venturing crew).

The BSA would like to send contingents that represent geographical diversity. Contingents will be formed with Scouts and Scout leaders from all over the country, not just from one troop/crew in the same council.

In order to qualify for a BSA contingent, Scouts and Scout leaders must be nominated to the International Department by their council international representative and approved by their council Scout executive.

UPCOMING TRIPS:

30th Asia Pacific Regional Scout Jamboree/16th Nippon Jamboree

Date: Aug. 2-9, 2013
Location: Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi, Japan
Age: 15-18 (Boy Scouts, Venturers) and Adults
Contingent size: 10
Cost: \$2,400
Nomination deadline: March 31, 2013



14th World Scout Moot

Date: Aug. 8-18, 2013
Country: Canada
Location: Awacamanj Mino Base Camp, Quebec, Canada
Host: The Association des Scouts du Canada
Age: 18-20 (Venturers) and 21-25 (young adults), plus over 25 adult leaders
Cost: \$1,100
Nomination deadline: March 31, 2013

BSA contingent nomination forms:
www.scouting.org/international

WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND

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



**WORLD
FRIENDSHIP
FUND**



Well, let us tell you! Contact your local council and ask them to order the items from the National Distribution Center via BIN inventory. The item numbers are: brochure, No. 130159; label, No. 22620; poster, No. 22609. We also have limited supplies of World Friendship Fund DVDs, No. 22611, so be sure to order one today before they are gone!

We can accept World Friendship Fund donations online! To donate online or to download the brochure, please visit

www.scouting.org/international/worldsupport.

COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL EVENT GUIDELINE

If your council is planning to host international Scouts as participants at a local council event, the International Department will work with your event registrar to verify contingent leaders and International Service Team (IST/staff) are registered and approved by their own WOSM Scout association to attend your event.

This may seem like an unnecessary step in your event planning, but it can be crucial to your event's success. For a large event in 2012, 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.

JOTA/JOTI PATCHES

We hope you had fun during Jamboree-on-the-Air and Jamboree-on-the-Internet this year! Remember to submit your reports to share with the world how BSA participated in these awesome events!

Visit www.scouting.org/jota/event_report_form for the JOTA report and www.scouting.org/joti/EventReport for the JOTI report. Don't forget to get your JOTA and JOTI patches as well! The patches are temporary insignia to be worn on the right pocket of the Scout uniform or on jackets/vests, and they cost \$4 each. They are available in LIMITED SUPPLY so order soon!

In addition, we also have previous years of JOTA and JOTI patches still available for sale. Previous years of JOTA

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



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

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

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

DIRECT SERVICE LONE SCOUT RECEIVES LIFESAVING AWARD



The BSA's National Court of Honor has awarded Lone Scout Juvhon James of Quito, Ecuador, the Honor Medal for his actions in saving the life of a young Ecuadorian boy.

On Jan. 1, 2012, a group of U.S. expatriates and local families were attending the New Year celebration in Quito. It is an Ecuadorian tradition at New Year's to burn an effigy representing the old year. The effigies are dummies stuffed with sawdust. While the old year burns out, many locals, including children, will leap over the burning heap. As the fires burned down, children continued to leap over the pile. At one point two children, ages 7 and 14, jumped from opposite sides and collided. The younger child fell face down into the fire. Lone Scout Juvhon James saw the boy fall into the smoldering fire. Keeping a cool head, and with no thought for his own safety, Juvhon stepped into the fire and carried him a safe distance away.

Because of his actions, the young boy received only minor burns. Had Juvhon not acted quickly, the boy's injuries would have been much worse.



PROJECT HEART TO HEART

I can still remember the faces of the children and elderly that I met in Vietnam. Exhausted, ill-clothed, malnourished, and in a deprivation of well-being, these humans were suffering from the misfortune that almost half of the world today has to face: poverty.

Not only did I witness poverty in Vietnam, but also in makeshift shelters under freeways in South Sacramento. These people were just a few of many people facing some difficulty in life. I wondered what I could do to help them, and answered my question by creating a project. A project in hopes of providing food and clothing for these needy people, and uplifting their spirits in time of trouble: Project Heart to Heart, aiming to help people, from heart to heart. I started by organizing visits to the local nursing home to assist the elderly, and later contacted a local organization to serve food to the homeless. I realized that my project would not be successful with only a few people, and started recruiting volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 243, Girl Scout Troop 1743, Cub Scout Pack 243, Crew 243, and the public, to fundraise and collect socks for the upcoming winter. By October 2011, we fundraised and received almost 500 pairs of socks to deliver to the homeless people while serving them food! Greeting each person by looking them in the eyes, giving them a big warm smile, and seeing their frown slowly turn into a smile is probably one of the best feelings I have ever felt. They are people just like us, who have faced a few downfalls in life, and are just waiting to get back up. Giving them a helping hand in their times of need is the least we can do. Helping them face-to-face is so much more meaningful to volunteers when we can see how big of a difference we are making in people's lives. Not only were the less fortunate affected, but all the volunteers as well. Everyone was smiling and feeling great inside after helping at the event, showing that community service is not only good for the community, but good for the soul.

Moreover, as a Scout with a project aiming to make a difference, I am a Messenger of Peace. Alone, I can do little, but united with all the Scouts that are Messengers of Peace, we can help make a better world. The Boy Scouts of America launched the Messengers of Peace initiative to encourage more Scouts to join the powerful force for good. Like a pond's ripple effect, one person making a difference will lead to more. We are Messengers of Peace; how about you?

Today, Project Heart to Heart is still as strong as ever, and after seeing the great success, I decided to continue the project each month, and expand it to cover more people in aid: helping out at nursing homes, serving the homeless, and



donating to orphans and hospitals. I wish to continue to help the local community, but also to one day reach out to the impoverished and medically unstable children and people in Vietnam, who inspired me to start this project. By reaching out to others, I hope to make a difference, and be able to serve as an example for the young people. Even though we cannot save the world from all its problems, Project Heart to Heart is committed to leading the way in putting smiles, faith, and hope into the lives of others. As Messengers of Peace, our journey has just begun.

Angie Tran, Venturing Crew 243, Golden Empire Council

TUNISIAN SCOUTERS VISIT SALT LAKE CITY

With support from the Wyoming National Guard's State Partnership Program with Tunisia, the U.S. Embassy in Tunis, and the Boy Scouts of America, 22 senior Tunisian Scouters and Guides arrived in Salt Lake City on September 12, 2012. Led by Tunisian General Commissioner Ali Fathallah, the contingent included the association's top officials in their Scout and Guide programs.

Hosted by event chairman Charles Dahlquist, vice chairman Mark Francis, and the Great Salt Lake Council, the group arrived with the objective to learn how the BSA operates. The training was to focus on an exchange of ideas and best practices in the areas of organization, the merit badge system, and fundraising activities.

The Tunisians came with hopes of being able to adapt some of the BSA's methods as they rebuild their organization's Scout program. Some of the areas of interest included BSA national, regional, and council organization; the importance of Key 3 leadership and chartered organizations; the professional and volunteer relationship; training; and program development. Charles and a host of council professionals and volunteers did an outstanding job in preparing a program that allowed for presentations covering the information the group sought. They also added in many activities to give



them a sample of the BSA's program in action, including council camp visits and unit-level meetings.

Some of the week's highlights included a bus ride up winding mountain roads to Floyd Hatch's Lazy H Ranch for a BBQ dinner. Another evening, Mark Francis and his entire family were gracious hosts offering the group a chance to see an American family at home, play with the children, and enjoy a wonderful meal. The evening ended with the Francis family entertaining the group with song and music.

The final evening had the group again traveling the mountain roads, but this time to Charles and Zella Dahlquist's cabin, The Gathering Place, for a farewell dinner. It was a special night that allowed everyone to express their thanks and say their good-byes.

Charles summed up the week this way: "As with all service, I can assuredly say, on behalf of all those in the Great Salt Lake Council, that we gained more than we gave. We now have 22 new Scouting friends in Tunisia and look forward to future opportunities to serve together. Baden-Powell really had it right when he created Scouting, not only to strengthen the rising generation, but to bring the people of the world together in peaceful, building and serving activities—this was never more evident than this past week as we contrasted what occurred in Salt Lake with that which was happening in Tunis and especially at the embassy. Peace-making most certainly begins at a jamboree or around a campfire!"



EAST ASIA CAMPOREE - 2012 A WONDERFUL CHANG MAI ADVENTURE

Although we are quite literally half-way around the world, the Boy Scouts of America is doing great things in Southeast Asia, thank you very much!!!! A combination of BSA Far East Council and Direct Service's troops recently met in Chang

Mai, Thailand, during early August 2012 for a very unique East Asia Camporee 2012 experience.

The following Direct Service troops joined with other units from the Far East Council to take part in this great event:

- Troop 1, Hong Kong
- Troop 7, Singapore
- Troop 88, Shanghai
- Troop 969, Shanghai

More than 80 Scouts and 25 adult leaders visited the Track of the Tiger Environmental Camp, and the Maetaeng Elephant Rehabilitation and Training Center in Chang Mai, Thailand, for a truly memorable and unique camporee experience. Merit badge focus included Climbing, Scouting Heritage, Mammal Study (with the elephants), Insect Study, and much more. The difference was that this trip set a whole new standard for the term "rain forest." The bugs were the size of small household pets. And, it rained day and night for 96 hours.

A very special thank-you to Rick Hathaway and Troop 701 (Bangkok) for their courage and leadership in organizing this first of a kind Scouting event in Asia. It has changed how Boy Scouts troops operate the BSA program in South East Asia.

Next year we have tentative plans to go to Katmandu, Nepal, with a major service project event as the focus. Another HOME-RUN is being planned!!! Please join us for a "Good Turn and Mount Everest Adventure" in 2013.

By Dennis Bishop, Scoutmaster, Troop 1, Hong Kong

161 National Scout Organizations are members of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Only one national Scout organization can be recognized in a country. In some countries, the NSO is the federation composed of more than one Scout association.

KOREA NATIONAL JAMBOREE 2012

Earlier this year, late July and early August, I attended the 13th Korea National Jamboree (KNJ). Going into the jamboree I had no idea what to expect because I had never even been to a jamboree in the U.S., let alone one on the other side of the Pacific Ocean. At the jamboree, and even before it started, I got to meet a ton of great people and create many new lasting friendships.

The U.S. contingent went into this trip as strangers, but we quickly got to know each other, making it seem like we had been together since Cub Scouts. Our contingent was placed in international subcamp 7 or Troop 7. We were placed with the U.K. contingent (from Shropshire), the Philippines contingent,



and a Korean-American troop ironically named 77. The guys from 77 were all second-generation Korean-Americans, who have now gone to KNJ four consecutive times. As Troop 7 we participated in jamboree activities both on- and off-site, ate, and slept together; however, we did not do too much of the last one.

I expected some of the Korean cuisine to be trying to crawl off my plate as I was eating. But most of the food ended up being very delicious! The food I ate with both my host family and in camp was great from bibimbap, to very spicy ramen noodles, to red bean sherbet, and even kimchi. When we were in camp we had to make our own food, which was fun, even if it did take some creativity and guesswork.

One thing that caught me off guard—and I am sure most of the others—was the weather. The jamboree was during monsoon season, but thankfully that when the rain came it never stayed too long. The main problem was the heat and especially the humidity.

The programs at the jamboree were split up into four different sections or forests: Earth (Earth Forest), Heart (Heart Forest), Ocean (Ocean Forest), and Air (Sky Forest). Each one of the different forests had its own set of unique and exciting activities. We did not just stay at the jamboree the whole time, we participated in numerous off-site activities such as the Buddhist temple trek and climbing Ulson Rock with the last stretch being 800 rusty metal stairs that seemed to go on forever. One of the days we went to the nearby town of Sokcho where we walked around viewing different sites around the city. We also spent the day at the beach with various water activities from snorkeling to boating. Also, later that day we went to the Unification Observatory at the Demilitarized Zone or DMZ. At the DMZ we could see the southern part of North Korea, a North Korean guard post, and a road that connects North and South Korea so that when they obtain peace they will already have infrastructure in place connecting them.

During my free time at the jamboree I enjoyed trading with other Scouts. Trading was a great way to meet new people

and get some cool new stuff from other countries. With all my trading I got tons of new patches and several cool hats from Thailand and the Philippines, which got some envious looks from other Scouts of Troop 974.

During the middle of the jamboree, Sunday, there were no activities—instead there was an international night. In the morning all the different countries in the international subcamp made a dish from their country. We made popcorn and beef stew, then we and the Koreans would go from campsite to campsite sampling the different food. I got to sample food from Indonesia to Africa and everywhere in between. We ate fried eel, various soups, and many other tasty cuisines.

While at the airport waiting for our flight to Korea, we learned about the Messengers of Peace (MoP) program and learned about the patch. It is a pretty cool looking patch, which is one of only two patches allowed to be worn around the World Scout Crest. I am sure that both the Scouts and adults will take what they learned about MoP to spread the message of international peace with the Scouts and Scouters of their home troops and crews.

I am sure the memories of this event will be cherished, by those who participated, for a lifetime. During my time in Korea I got to try a lot of new food and learn a lot about Korean culture, and at the jamboree I got to participate in lots of fun activities, but my favorite part by far was crafting many new friendships with people from the U.K., Philippines, U.S., and of course Korea. Even though this was both my first jamboree and international trip I know it will be a hard one to top. But I look forward to trying to do just that at the 2013 National Scout Jamboree at the Summit.

Joshua Kim, Dan Beard Council

BADEN-POWELL COUNCIL SCOUTS AT BLAIR ATHOLL INTERNATIONAL PATROL JAMBORETTE

The 33rd Scottish International Patrol Jamborette was held July 17 through 27, 2012, at Blair Castle, Blair Atholl, Perthshire, Scotland. Our contingent included two patrols (12 Scouts) from different troops around Baden-Powell Council, BSA, in central New York state, with four leaders. This was my ninth trip to the jamborette, so I guess you can say I'm hooked.

Each patrol at the jamborette is merged from a patrol of Scottish Scouts and an equal-sized patrol of Scouts from another country, and they camp as one patrol for the 10 days of the jamborette. The camp is arranged in six circular subcamps, with the mixed patrols forming a donut ring around a central assembly area. So, a Scottish/American patrol might have been camped between a Scottish/Japanese patrol and a Scottish/South African patrol. This gives our Scouts a unique opportunity to mix with Scouts from other countries.



To make the experience more international, the adult leadership in each subcamp is primarily Scottish. Each of the international leaders is assigned to a job at the jamboree—I led tours of Blair Castle, for example—but if an international leader is assigned to a subcamp, it will not be one with his or her own Scouts in it.

There were about 850 Scouts and 400 leaders attending the event, including equal numbers of Scottish Scouts and Scouts from 19 other countries. The Scouts must be between 13 and 17 years old during the jamboree, and can be boys or girls, so BSA Venturers of either gender are eligible.

Most contingents spend some time touring around the U.K. before or after the jamboree. We toured for a week before the jamboree—a day around Dublin, Ireland, on the way from New York to Glasgow, then six days driving around Scotland. Among many other things, our Scouts visited the new Riverside Transport museum and the tall ship Glenlee in Glasgow, toured Stirling Castle, took a mystery walk around Stirling Old Town, rode the Jacobite steam train (a/k/a the Hogwarts Express), went up Loch Ness and stopped at the ruins of Urquhart Castle, the Monster Centre and Culloden Battlefield, hiked around Saint Andrews, and went underground into Scotland's (no so) Secret Bunker. We ended our tour on Edinburgh's Royal Mile, from Edinburgh Castle to Holyrood Palace, with side trips to the newly renovated Royal Museum and Greyfriar's Bobby's grave. A ghost-walk through the much-haunted South Bridge Vaults was the finale to the touring week.

The jamboree has six days devoted to activities, with everything from traditional Scouting skills like pioneering, hiking, and cooking through archery, crafts, sailing and paddling on Loch Tay, mountain biking into the Highlands around the castle, or climbing and rappelling ("abseiling"). Less traditional activities included putting out the *Kastle Kurrents* daily newspaper or making up a daily broadcast on Radio Blair, the Atholl Experience (a very muddy challenge course), Blair Aktor theater and circus techniques, fencing, and mountain boarding (snowboarding on wheels). Older Scouts (16-17) can do an overnight Explorer Trek into the Highlands.

On Saturday the camp is opened up to visitors and younger Scouts from a satellite camp, and the contingents operate booths at a country fair demonstrating something from their country or region. Our contingent did spiedies, a central New York version of shishkabob, while the Texas BSA group did branding and roping, the Japanese had teriyaki, and so on. Saturday evening there was a large campfire, and on Sunday a

Scouts' Own service was followed by games in the subcamps and a barbecue.

The last afternoon of the jamboree is a huge inter-subcamp competition called the "Atholantics." Patrols from the subcamps compete head-to-head in pairs at 35 different stations on a five-minute rotation. The Scots are experts at setting up fun competitions using minimal (or no) materials—I picked up a lot of good games to use at camporees back home. The winners at each station earn points for their subcamps, and points are accumulated until one clan is victorious.

After a very moving closing campfire and candlelight ceremony, the jamboree was over, and each Scout headed off for four days of home hospitality with a Scottish friend he'd met.

You can read all about our trip, and see lots of photographs, at www.bpmllegal.com/scotland/2012/.

The jamborettes are held every two years: what are you doing in 2014? Start planning now for jamboree!

INTERNATIONAL CAMP STAFF PROGRAM

The 2012 season of the International Camp Staff Program was a huge success! Thank you to all the council staff and volunteers who hosted an international camp staff counselor and helped them have the time of their lives. Below are a collection of various stories from international camp staff counselors and council staff and volunteers. Also, be sure your council participates in the 2013 season by filling out an application found at www.scouting.org/international/applications

"It is truly a pleasure to have met Malinda, and I know he made a positive impression on every Scout and parent that he met during his time at our summer camp (Camp Emerson is the oldest Boy Scout Camp west of the Mississippi). My family is now talking about a visit to Sri Lanka... thanks so much for all you do to make the International Camp Staff program possible. It is a fantastic way to introduce a large number of Scouts to International Scouting."---Bill Dull, volunteer, California Inland Empire Council



A SUMMER TO REMEMBER

When Jakub Weber, Camp Berry's international staff member from the Czech Republic, arrived in camp six short weeks ago, he was surprised at how different it was from his home camp. Back there, a single troop camping for three straight weeks constituted the entire camping season. In addition, he was impressed by how nice the facilities were—at his home camp, they were much more rustic. However, his surprise did not prevent him from quickly becoming an integral part of the Camp Berry family. When he first met the staff, he perceived that they were a diverse crowd of Scouts and Scouters, and he came to admire them for their hard work and for how they united to provide the best program possible for the campers.



Jakub was impressed by the power of the Order of the Arrow callout ceremony; he had seen nothing like it in the Czech Republic. He had also never seen a storm of the magnitude of the one that hit Camp Berry at the end of week two, and he was amazed by how many volunteers came out to camp to help with cleanup. During his downtime in the U.S., he enjoyed eating a

steak at the Texas Roadhouse and riding roller coasters at Cedar Point. Jakub said that he will miss the people that he met at Camp Berry and all the enthusiasm they brought to the program. He also said that he will miss seeing the Czech flag flying next to the U.S. flag in camp. As we say goodbye to a member of the Camp Berry family, we will also miss seeing him and his flag around the camp.

This year we are pleased to have an international Scout from El Salvador as a camp staff member. Carlos Alas is a 20-year-old Nicoteh staff member. In El Salvador, Carlos lives in the capital city of San Salvador. More than just a respectable Scout, Carlos holds the position of the president of the Young Network of Scouting of El Salvador. In the U.S. we do not have this position, but it would be like the national Order of the Arrow chief for all of Scouting. Carlos controls and oversees all youth activities and uniforming. Outside of Scouting, Carlos studies communications and publications, and he teaches English as a secondary language. Tennis and beach volleyball bring him pleasure as some of his hobbies.

Carlos comes to camp staff in the U.S. for a very honorable project. To earn his Royal B.P., which is somewhat like a tougher Eagle Scout project, Carlos plans to enhance his country's camping opportunities and experience. In El Salvador, there is only one Boy Scout camp, and it runs only once a year. He has a vision of changing the way camping is done in El Salvador based on what he learns here.

While at Camp Lakota, a few of the things that Carlos finds interesting include the teepees, wall tents, the large number of sandwich meals, and



the song-singing. He thanks Camp Lakota for the entire experience to help him in his vision.

Black Swamp Area Council

LETTER FROM AN INTERNATIONAL CAMP STAFF

This past winter I decided to apply via my national Scout organization Junák to take part in the International Camp Staff Program. I must say that I have not regretted this decision at all. On the contrary! I had a wonderful summer experience. From the very beginning I was very well taken care of. At this point I would like to thank especially to my host Keith Wood and his wife Barbara. Keith was extraordinarily helpful. He tried and was successful in figuring out answers to any of my questions concerning the camp life and helped me pass all the bureaucratic requirements of the government I had to go through. Both of them made me feel very welcome at their home.

When I came to the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation I was well informed and aware of most of the things I could expect there. I was accepted very well at the camp also. As a medical student I was happy to teach Scouts about first aid at the Scoutcraft Lodge of the Piercing Arrow Camp. I met a lot of great people at the camp who later became my friends and I had a lot of fun with them. I found it very interesting to learn about American culture and American Scouting and I think many young Scouts were also glad that they could meet and talk to a Scout from abroad during their session and especially during our "Chat with a Czech" program. They liked to find out about the similarities and to compare the differences between American and European (Czech) Scouting. Some of them wanted also to find out more about my country (not only Scouting) because their ancestors came to U.S. from my country, which was a very nice way of connecting even more!

I also must not forget to mention that I have enjoyed very much becoming an honorary warrior in the Tribe of Mic-ohsay. I liked that a lot.

I must thank the Heart of America Council for making this great opportunity happen for both me and two other International Staff members. I hope there will be positive reports from the camp directors as well. If this will be ever considered again, I would like to encourage Heart of America Council to continue in participating in this program, which is according to me a great enrichment for both sides.

Once again thank you for everything!

Sincerely yours,

Tomáš Sláma

SAM HOUSTON AREA COUNCIL WELCOMES TWO SUMMER CAMP STAFFS FROM REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

The Sam Houston Area Council invited two Scouts from the Republic of Georgia as summer camp staffers. Tevdore Makashvili and George Khatiashvili arrived on May 29, 2012, in Houston and were greeted by their hosts, Roberta and Craig McPhie.



During their first acclimatizing week here, the McPhies, Bari Saunders, and the Ballous showed them the sites of our city. Then they were off to El Rancho Cima for staff week and their summer job. Tedo staffed in the Rough Rider program and George worked in several areas of the camp. "I want to see as much as possible to take back ideas to Georgia," George said.

They spent most Saturdays with their new friends from camp staff, enjoyed a visit to the Blue Bell ice cream factory with Dave Shelburne, floated on the River in San Marcos, came to Houston to be introduced at a board meeting, attended a council coordinated meeting, and were guests at a typical Mexican dinner hosted by SHAC's International Committee. Tedo and George were also treated to a rare opportunity: they traveled with the SHAC contingent to the Summit Shakedown in West Virginia! The McPhies hosted an open house on August 4 and many Houston Scouters and Scouts showed up to wish Tedo and George "Godspeed" on their trip home on August 5.

This is the sixth year that SHAC had Georgian Scouts serve on summer camp staff. This initiative brings a taste of international Scouting to our Houston Scouts and Scouters—and this was the initial intent—it helps build the Scouting movement in a country that for many years has been under communist rule. Both Scouts spoke good English and were wonderful ambassadors for their country. They were chosen by their Scout association and are expected to take leadership and training roles after they return home. In fact, several of the previous Georgian camp staffers are national Georgian Scout leaders, for instance, Tiko Koiava is the international commissioner for Scouts of Georgia.

Tevdore Makashvili (he goes by Tedo) is 20 years old. At home he is currently a Rover Scout and is the organizer and leader of the Tbilisi State University Scout Group.

Tedo comes from Gori, the town where Stalin was born, and studies in Georgia's capital, Tbilisi. His professor calls him a "strongly motivated, purposeful, and active young man." For a while he was a professional soccer player until a leg



injury sidelined him. He worked in the Rough Rider program, in COPE, and as a merit badge counselor

Here is what Derek Spier, El Rancho Cima camp director, said about Tedo: "Great skills, amazing attitude, was a great ambassador for international Scouting. His English was very good, he was well liked by campers, and his outstanding qualities were his adaptability and his caring. This is a great program."

George Khatiashvili lives in Batumi, Georgia's port city on the Black Sea. He is 19 years old and attends Batumi State Maritime Academy to become a ship's engineer. George is a Scout leader at home. He has participated and staffed several summer camps (the Batumi Scouts hold joint camps with Scouts from neighboring Turkey); he has attended an international youth seminar, "One promise for the tolerant world," and a Batumi "eco camp."



He is hard working and confident. He loves children and is a patient and gentle teacher for them. He speaks easily and his English is excellent (and so is his Russian). At Cima he helped teach the Citizenship in the World merit badge. He told our Scouts about Scouts in his country, about Georgian history, their traditions and their food, and he had them pronounce his name—not an easy feat!

Derek Spier (Cima River camp director) said "George has good skills. Campers like him very much and he was very helpful as a Citizenship in the World merit badge counselor. His attitude was great and he was very versatile. I believe the foreign camp staff program is very worthwhile—the camp benefits."

SHERIF FROM EGYPT

"Wandering in life you often get to witness through media all the differences our small planet has been growing throughout the years which is affecting our daily life one way or another, but I was fortunate to be a part of a program that not only strengthen world Scouting brotherhood but also break up all unnecessary shallow differences and stereotypes that we as national citizens might have and it also strengthen the morals of living as human beings side by side in the outdoors which Scouting is all about and it also shows that it's important and critical to try to break the gap that media thrive to stress on and this all has been done with this program that I cherish a lot which is the International Camp Staff Program (ICSP) hosted by the BSA."

"Hi my name is Sherif and I came all the way from Cairo, Egypt, 10,000 miles away!! And you know what? It wasn't an

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easy trip. First, I had to ride a crocodile, all across the Nile, then I swam the Mediterranean Sea then I flew over the ocean. And you know what? Hitchhiking is not easy anymore, so I had to run all the way from New York to be here with you guys !!”

That's the introduction I gave to almost 14,000 Scouts, leaders, parents, and staff that I met throughout my five summer camp experiences being an international camp staffer in Connecticut, Iowa, Arizona, Michigan, and California. I had the utmost fun and culture exchange opportunity and I myself learned a lot from the Scouts. Being an international Scout helps you research and understand more of the customs and traditions of your home country while seeking to interact with Scouts and parents, to answer questions and eagerness to know more about your culture.

It also builds up a lifetime experience of how to be flexible and up to the challenge of living within others' traditions and customs as well as learning how to present your country in the most exciting and thrilling way you can. Tell you the truth, I couldn't understand at first how someone can live away from home seven or nine weeks without being homesick, but after my first camp I knew that there are so many places in this world that we can call home and so many good and kind people in life that can be called family. The outcome of this experience didn't only affect myself but also most of these new friends I have made. This was shown with the hundreds of messages, emails, and text that I had during the Egyptian revolution, praying for us and trying to make sure that my family and I are safe and sound. Not only then but during camp, being there to answer Cubs' and Scouts' interesting inquiries—like if we still ride camels or live in tents back home. This just the most direct way I can think of to change the stereotype thinking that media injects in our brains. Even in Egypt when I go back, my troop asks me if Americans are like what we see in the movies. I tell them “Not at all, they're the most friendly and kind people I've ever seen. THANK YOU! The SHERIFF ;)”

—Sherif Saad, International Camp Staff Counselor, Egypt



As we stated in our July 2012 newsletter, all the presentations from our 2012 Philmont International Representative Conference have been posted on our website. The purpose of publishing this information was primarily for all the International Representatives who were unable to attend the conference. This information is for all IRs as well as any of our volunteers interested in international Scouting. There are three ways to get to the landing page with the documents:

1. www.scouting.org/scoutsource/International/PhilmontConfDocuments.aspx
2. www.scouting.org/international. Click on “NEW! 2012 Philmont Conference Documents” on the right-hand side of the page.
3. www.scouting.org/scoutsource/International/InternationalRepresentative.aspx. Click on “2012 Philmont Conference Documents” at the bottom of the page.

These documents have been included as a one-time post from the conference with the following statement on the Council Representative webpage: NOTE: Documents valid as of June 2012. Contact International Department if need to publish or use documents and need to verify if there is a more current version.

INTRODUCING THE INTERNATIONAL SPIRIT AWARD!

The International Spirit Award is a temporary emblem that is awarded to registered Scouts and Scouters who have completed the necessary requirements, have gained a greater knowledge of international Scouting, and have a greater appreciation and awareness of different cultures and countries. This award serves as a replacement for, and therefore eliminates, the International Activity emblem and the Youth Exchange emblem. The International Spirit Award emblem is \$4 each and is purchased from the International Department. Please visit www.scouting.org/international/applications to see the requirements and apply for this new award.



INTERNATIONAL SCOUTING ITEMS FOR SALE THROUGH INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

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

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