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SCOUTS
Creating a Better World





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It was in 2011 that we began to hear with greater regularity the phrase “Messengers of Peace”. From around the world came stories of what scouts were doing in their communities to Build a Better World. Soon the number of projects grew. Hours of service provided by them were increasing and the term began to assume greater meaning.

Today there is not a single scout who has not heard the name nor is participating in a service project of Messengers of Peace.

Service has always been present in Scouting. Our Founder invited us to “leave the world in a better condition than we found it” and “Finding happiness by making others happy.” Service has been and will remain the most important educational tool in Scouting. How many of us learned the true meaning of service through the daily good turn and those tasks undertaken with our fellow scouts?

Messengers of Peace became an important reminder of all that we do, if every day we have to serve those around us. It is through service to others that we give a message of peace to the world.

In our Interamerican Region are many projects that have been carried out under the name of Messengers of Peace. In this issue of our regional newsletter we will show some of them, very diverse in their subject but always with an important spirit of service. They show us how much our young people can accomplish when they join forces and contribute to a common effort. The benefit is not only for the community that caters to a specific project, but for scouts who put them to work, discovering in their actions a great force that strengthens their character.

There is much that can still be done to keep carrying messages of peace to the world. There are endless ideas that can be turned into projects that transform the communities in which they are applied. This important tool is now in our hands to sound our voice of peace to the whole world, not desisting in our efforts to serve others without thought of reward, other than the satisfaction of having done something for the common good.

CHRISTMAS EVE FOR ALL, 2014

SCOUTS OF ARGENTINA



On Sunday December 14 at the Municipal Sports Center Number 1 "Tres de Febrero" collection of boxes, the ninth edition of the "Christmas Eve with all", was organized by Caritas of the Diocese of San Martin with the participation of numerous parishes and schools in San Martin and February 3rd.

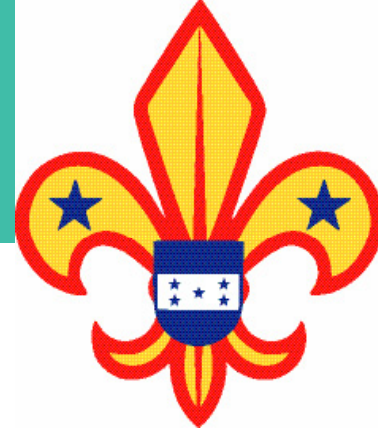
In this campaign almost 1200 families in San Martin and February 3 "sponsored" a family in need and provided them with everything needed for a Christmas dinner and gifts for everyone to celebrate this Holiday Season.

Throughout the day young Scout Groups "Mahatma Gandhi" (Parish Sacred Heart of Jesus), "San José Obrero", "Our Lady of Mercy", "Our Lady of Lebanon" and "Our Lady of the Rosary" (of homonymous parishes), Battle of Maipú, and the Missionary Childhood and Adolescence (IAM) approached sponsors, worked receiving and discharging the 1200 boxes and distributing them to volunteers of CARITAS. Each parish received them to re-distribute to each family in need.

During the day volunteers received the blessing of the Bishop of San Martin, Guillermo Rodriguez Melgarejo and Auxiliary Bishop Lim Han Moon. All godparents came for the boxes of merchandise for Christmas dinner but mostly full of LOVE for the family that will receive them.

Also scouts from Sacred Heart parish during the night carried the Light of Peace from Bethlehem to all CARITAS volunteers, to continue spreading this symbol of peace and love to share this holiday season with all who need someone to consider them, so that no one should be alone on Christmas Eve.





To complete 20 years service to children and youth may sounds difficult but it's not imposible. In 2014, Scout Group # 31 "Alliance Ladies And Gentlemen " of Scouts of Honduras achieved this feat.

It was a few years ago that a group of adult entrepreneurs who worked for Casa Alianza Honduras, decided to start this scout group with Street children, recognizing in the educational proposal of scouting an alternative that can help in the formation of citizenship in these young people.

One of the adults who decided to take this big step, Juan Carlos Avila, told us the beginning was a bit difficult because both boys and girls failed to perform tasks and activities outside the Casa Alianza program provided them.

The most important point explained María Antonia, a teacher at Casa Alianza, who is also a founding member of the Scout group, was the support they received from the authorities of the Scout Association of Honduras and Casa Alianza. This allowed them to work with greater determination and support, in a more complementary manner with these young people who required this a lot.

That was how, on December 15, 1994, the Scout group began. Now after 20 years it has developed in these children, adolescents and youth an opportunity to become good citizens.

That is why we organised a camp to share these success stories, where many who already graduated from Casa Alianza met enthusiastically with new members to participate from 13 to 14 December 2014. They saw Casa Alianza as the best ally to develop skills and training through the Scout program to form values and principles that strengthen the development of good citizenship.

During this very special occasion for the family of Scouts of Honduras, we were visited by Cinthya Marquez, Dr. Hamad Al Yahya, Yoshi Simizu and Elena Sartorius, who accompanied us throughout the week prior to the camp to collect suc-

cess stories of both current participants that make up the Scout group and also former members, all in the framework of a project financed by the Messengers of Peace Fund.

We greatly appreciate the support of the World Scout Bureau Interamerican Region through Messengers of Peace, the World Scout Foundation and the Association of Scouts of Saudi Arabia for their support in identifying these stories of success, and recognition of Juan Carlos Avila and Maria Antonia, founders of the Scout Group # 31 as Messengers of Peace Heroes.

To be a Messenger of Peace is to support actions where the most vulnerable people in our country are identified as an important part of this society and that they can achieve all their dreams and desires. They can count on Scouting as a good ally to support them in the journey along the path to better citizenship.



IMPACT STUDY OF YOUTH PROGRAMME IN ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTHS

SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF NICARAGUA



Nicaragua Scouts who have chosen to live the adventure of Scouting will learn in the coming weeks how the Movement has impacted the lives of girls and boys. Throughout the life of the Scout Association of Nicaragua information about its performance, mainly in the area of the exercise of the values that characterize the movement had not been studied. That is why this year, in the context of the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the scout movement in Nicaragua, the ASN has set out to do an exploratory exercise, to determine whether the values promoted in the movement are practiced in the everyday lives for its members.

The Scout Association of Nicaragua began the year with the implementation of a survey that started the impact study of the Youth Programme called "Operation Scout Impact 360" in order to assess the relevance and effectiveness of the scout educational programme, in the overall development of adolescents and young people participating in the scout movement in Nicaragua.

This study is particularly important because the most innovative research internationally talks about the ethical advantages of nations, in partnership capacity of its members to create trusted networks that drive growth and economic development. This sense of community lets people share norms and values that generate the confidence to create prosperity.

The field work is being carried out by a group of volunteer rovers who, on two consecutive weekends, have moved to places where groups meet, at the homes and schools of scouts, venturers and rovers, to survey boys, their families and social contacts.

To determine whether the values promoted by the Scout Law are present in decision-making in everyday life is the main purpose of this research. We hope soon to share more details of this study.





Since October 1, 2014, the "Community of Venturers Tupac Amaru Scout Group San Fernando No. 530" (Ciudad de La Calera - Province of Cordoba - Argentina) is the promotor in the city of La Calera of Pro-orchard Program, belonging to the National Agricultural Technology Institute (INTA). This "Pro-orchard La Calera" Project is part of the "WE ARE ENVIRONMENT" Project. As promoters of the "Pro-orchard" Program we are responsible for delivering "FREE" seed kits for all those families who are interested in joining this program. Theoretical training was organized by "Family Huerta" (Conducted by Technical INTA) on October 21, 2014, at the premises of the "Colegio Jesus Maria" of this city. Such training is TOTALLY FREE and lasted about 1:30 hours.

We were also in the COINARCU Fair (Commercial, Industrial, Artisanal and Cultural Fair) promoting this project and enrolling for the training of 21 October. In conjunction with the Missionary Group of College Jesus Maria, we split the Seed Kits.

The project has no deadline because after this training and seed delivery, we track these Family orchards, supporting and collaborating with the progress of the same, in addition to continuing the training for these families. The next planting season is self-sustaining, meaning that these families must generate their own seeds for the next planting.

The Pro-orchard program is having great nutritional, social and environmental impact, which itself is also the subject of study and program improvement.

Both in home gardens as well as the community, what is sought is a model of self-sufficiency. Meanwhile, school gardens play mainly a motivational and educational role. From a nutritional point it has been observed that the production of typical home gardens, cover more than 70% of the overall recommended consumption with 75% of vitamin A and 37% of vitamin C. The Pro-orchard program is based on the large number of its protagonists and benefits from a horizontal coor-

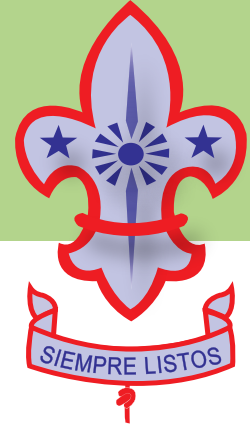
dination and development of a participative strategy. To do this it trains volunteer promoters, and generates, adapts and implements appropriate technologies.

Finally, as for the environment, it has been assessed that improvements in health conditions, strengthening of biodiversity and old agronomic techniques have occurred. The program is considered sustainable and efficient at the social, economic and environmental level.



TREES FOR THE WORLD, PÓMAC FOREST

SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF PERU



Trees for the World is a project that began during the First Interamerican Leadership Training, with delegates from Argentina, Canada, Curacao, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the US during an exchange of ideas on common problems afflicting our nations. They identified that the most common problem is related to the environment, so what was the best way to help solve this problem? Trees!



Why April 26? Because Earth Day is April 22, but this year it's on a Tuesday. So on April 26, the Saturday after Earth Day, Scouts can give more time to plant their trees.

Here in Lambayeque, Peru, with the support of ECO Center and SERNANP, carob trees were planted in a deforested area of Pómac Forest Historical Sanctuary, as part of a Sowing Life Programme this organization has to reforest degraded areas of the Sanctuary.



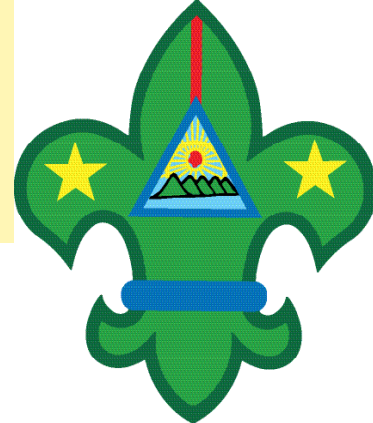
Fourteen persons, consisting of 7 scouts, 3 representatives from the ECO Center (including the Director), a father with his two sons and a Forest Ranger, planted a number of carob seeds in a span of two hours. After that, we had the opportunity to visit Huaca Las Ventanas, one of the largest pyramidal mud archaeological complex structures located in the Forest of Pómac. There in 1936 the famous "Golden Tumi" or "Knife Illimo" was found.

The day ended with the presentation of badges and with an unforgettable Booga, a war cry, with hands placed in the trunk of a carob tree, which would absorb all our tiredness to recharge us energies.

Undoubtedly, it was a pleasant and rewarding experience.

STRENGTHENING THE ASN TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF PEACE

SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF NICARAGUA



Since August last year, Nicaragua has been living the new MOP experience (Messengers of Peace), with the second phase of its project "Strengthening the ASN to promote a Culture of Peace".

After 6 months of implementation there were finally some results of the promise an impact of strengthening the organization looming, as well as future projects in our scouts groups, aimed at promoting a culture of peace in Nicaraguan society.

Among the results referred to above is a strategic plan that has been presented to the scout groups and whose implementation and development has begun.

Leaders (125) from various departments have been trained on issues like the adult volunteers we need, Messengers of Peace, group planning, personal progression, growth areas and terminal objectives. Each subject was aimed at the implementation of the Youth Programme Policy recently adopted by the National Scout Council in 2014 and the educational material proposed by the World Scout Bureau - Interamerican Region.

Strengthening of the Strategic National Team, has allowed the Association to initiate the process of the formation of dis-

tricts across the country, which have started operating successfully but still requiring much support.

We continue working to promote a culture of planning at all scouts groups in the context of a greater participation by our youth, framed in the 6 strategic priorities proposed in the recent World Scout Conference. A risk management policy is being created which will ensure institutional positioning to offer our children safe Scouting.



ANTI-BULLYING

ASSOCIATION OF GUIDES AND SCOUTS OF COSTA RICA



On October 4 of 2014 the Project Anti-Bullying was held through the Messengers of Peace initiative (which currently Edgardo Fuentes is promoting through social networks and several countries through Scout and Girl Scout Movement).

This project was done by the member and coordinator of the Wak tsuri Kachawuke Group # 190 of Greece: Adam Sanchez Valenciano.

Silvia Pérez (Troop Leader), Dilbar Usmanov Usmanova (Akela), Maria Marta Martinez (Sawukir) as Scout Leaders were present and we had the participation of 15 Scouts and Guides, 10 Wolf Cubs and 5 Wak tsuri (Venturers) and the support of the BA in Psychology Gabriela Valencia and the company of Carlos Hernandez Soto -. Paramedic, giving a total of 35 recipients.

For a very longtime many children and adolescents have suffered for several years mistreatment in the general population for their actions or things as simple as a word or how it is said. Regularly the child or adolescent fell into depression, got sick or did not want to attend schools, among others, given the abuse received.

On October 4th, at the School Alfredo Gómez Zamora (Latin Neighborhood) the Scout and Guide Group 190 Greece, Alajuela, Costa Rica, with the help of a slide show and videos, conducted

a session facilitating the learning of what is bullying among young people. The project required 80 hours of preparation, obtaining permits, getting materials, coordinating and getting help from Edgardo Fuentes via Skype.

LEADERSHIP COURSE

SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF GUATEMALA



In 2013 a pilot course for Leadership in Houston Texas was conducted, where two young Guatemalans embarked on this adventure, returning to Guatemala with enthusiasm to transmit all this new knowledge and experiences with their scouts brothers.

With this came the concern and commitment to replicate this course for young Guatemalans and give them the opportunity to have a similar experience that Pablo Guzman from Siquinalá and Gabriela Martinez from Chiquimula had experienced.

The course for Guatemala was planned and approved. From 28 to June 30 the first leadership course for young people between 14 and 21 years was held, an activity at national level in order to empower our scouts for positive leadership, to be able to accept challenges and create young people eager to do better every day.

In these three days the participants were trained by four young people like themselves, Pablo Guzman Director, Gabriela Martinez as Assistant Director with Leslie Hernandez and Pablo Rodrigo Aguilar completing the Staff. Unquestionably it was an experience like no other, because the method of transmitting knowledge was not only brilliant, but active, dynamic, all staff members sharing their experiences and also practiced their English skills by receiving a presentation in that language, developing a project and subsequently presenting it in English.

In addition to theoretical knowledge of leadership, teamwork, communications, team development, troubleshooting and listening to learn, scouts enjoyed new games, dynamics, dancing, made new friends, had new life experiences, equipment and community spirit, which will be taken to different scout groups to implement them for their own growth and that of their peers.

The comments below summarizes the experiences of some participants:

Karin: "It will not serve for only activities within the scouts, but also for training us as persons. The facilitators expressed themselves well. They have the advantage that they are young and speak the same language.

José: "I found the course excellent. Exhibitors knew the subject very well. New games I did not know. With the games we have learned a lot".

Jaime Escobar: "The course is a unique opportunity in which the ASG invites people to become leaders. There were activities that have not been done in other camps. Exhibitors have been the best I have been able to bring to the course."



DONATE YOUR HAIR, DONATE HOPE

SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF MEXICO



Second hair donation campaign "Donate your hair, donate hope" by scouts of the Sinaloa Province, continuing the campaign of Mariana Monroy Morgan, cub from scout group 10 of Culiacan, Sinaloa. After completing the first donation campaign we continued to send donations of hair to different parts of Mexico. People from Sinaloa were still communicating with us to ask for information, so we decided to do a second campaign and collection of hair for donation to make happy, more girls with cancer at Children's Hospital of Sinaloa. They will be receiving donations of hair mainly from Culiacán, Mazatlán and Los Mochis, with support of a rover and two scouts. Today we already have over 30 donations and hope until the day October 25 to have many more.

At the end of the day October 25 we had 100 do noof braids from around Sinaloa and in the course of the week more donations kept coming from Los Mochis, Culiacan and Mazatlan achieving a total of 132 braids. On November 19, 2014 four scouts, two from Culiacan and 2 from Mazatlan, visited the Pediatric Hospital of Sinaloa. We delivered 132 braids lovingly donated by women and men from around Sinaloa.

Thanks to everyone who supported us in obtaining this number, who donated their hair to bring happiness to these children who struggle daily for their health. Thanks donors of hope!

Total of service hours was calculated by adding the total donations for the 13 months it takes to grow 25-30 cm needed for the donation and the total hours of the persons who were relying on the dissemination, collection and delivery of braids.



MOOT - CULLA HUENTRU 2015 CHILE

GUIDES AND SCOUTS ASSOCIATION OF CHILE



The Association of Guides and Scouts of Chile developed its national youth camp for Pioneers and Branches (15-17 years) and Venturers (17-20 years), called Moot - Culla Huentru 2015 Adventure • Magic • Service, on the Island Grande de Chiloé, 1,280 kilometers south of the capital Santiago, between 18 and 25 January 2015.

Youth participants numbered 4,400 in approximately equal numbers of women and men. There were 3,054 Pioneers and 1,346 Venturers, accompanied by 550 leaders and unit guiders, 250 adults in service functions and 130 adults from outside organizations, totaling 5,330 persons .

The main camp was mounted in the Municipal Park City Castro and part of the support services were located in the Monteverde College, a short distance from the park. Activities included service routes, in which young people interacted with the surrounding communities undertaking activities for recovery, reconstruction and maintenance of public spaces of local interest. Workshops were offered on social issues for children and youth in the community. Participants also toured heritage routes. They interacted with local communities spreading a message of peace and learned different aspects of the culture of the island of Chiloé. The adventure trails explored by the youth exposed them to the exclusive nature of the island. Every morning in the central camp workshops on skills and competencies took place. These included gastronomy and highlighted local techniques of the área. In the evenings and night, a culture of peace was promoted through participation in island-inspired celebration of the Nazarene Caguach and other cultural activities.

Virtually all of the meetings focused on the concept of "Messengers of Peace", the initiative promoted by the World Organization of the Scout Movement, to which was presented a project that received approval and funding for all activities that are detailed below.

Workshops for no-scouts and youth parti-

cipants in the community on social issues. The workshops covered topics of interest to participants such as • healthy living without violence, • healthy living • sport • paper recycling techniques • musical expression • dance • painting • drawing • conjuring • balloon twisting, and others. Several workshops were held in the coastal area of the city of Chonchi, which allowed many people from the local community to participate and enjoy the service performed by Guides and Scouts.

Workshops on skills and Competencies for Pioneers and Venturers The workshops were aimed at developing life skills of young participants with a focus on promoting peace through the link with the local culture of Chiloé. They were divided into four areas: • technology and preparation for occupations and trades • music, dance and performing arts • cooking traditional foods of Chiloé and • making traditional crafts of Chiloé.

Service routes for recovery, reconstruction and maintenance of public spaces of local community interest.

Each group of young Guides and Scouts carried out this service for two consecutive days and a total of almost 3,700 youth and adult leaders linked to these routes. They interacted with about 4,000 members of the boards of neighbors with whom they cooperated in action, benefiting around 59,000 people in the communities mentioned. Work was done on 5 schools, 4 community centers, one senior center, one green school, several coastal areas, various plazas, squares and places like playgrounds and sport areas, etc.

Recovery and reconstruction of old railway station as a Community Centre and local Museum. Direct participation in community activities took place in the morning and afternoon, for 6 days between 19 and 24 January, with the human and material support of the Municipality of Dalcahue, the local board of neighbors and other community organizations. This was in the town of Butalcura and nearby rural sector. Every day about 200 venturers

and 25 Scout leaders and their assistants were employed in this service with support from municipal staff and community members. Young people flocked to this service for two consecutive days with which there was a total participation of about 600 Venturers and 75 Guiders and Leaders.

During the event, the task consisted of: • installation of infrastructure for construction • building wall-panels • preparation of additional facilities • preventive conservation of metals and salvaged wood • cleaning and improvement of the environment.

Culture of peace in the community through knowledge of local heritage

Every day, from 19 to 24, January there were four heritage routes to explore, the cultural legacy of peace in promoting peace. Each route involved about 185 young people, with a total of 740 Pioneers and Ventures, and 85 adults leaders per day so that all participants of Moot-Culla Huentru were part of this activity. The routes included interaction with the local community of sites visited so that around 20,000 people of Chiloe, including members of Aboriginal peoples and ethnic groups Huilliche Chono, made contact with young Guides and Scouts along these routes..

Messages of peace with the local community inspired the island's celebration of "Nazarene Caguach"

Messages of peace were broadcast among the participants, adult leaders, service team and the local community through information and cultural activities in the central camp, Moot-Culla Huentru, for six days between 19 and 24 January. Every evening 825 Venturers, Pioneers and their Guiders and unit leaders, after participating in workshops on skills and competencies, were added to a variety of experiences. After a week, all event participants participated in the activities of "Caguach".

Building a culture of peace through cultural activi-

ties at night in the central camp, Moot-Culla Huentru

Every night after the "Caguach" all were brought together - the returning service route teams, adventure and heritage, all the young participants, their managers and unit assistants, so that all those present at the event had the opportunity to join a variety of cultural activities.

In summary, the Moot-Culla Huentru 2015 was a rewarding experience and tremendous learning for both participants and teams of organization, whether by difficulties that had to be overcome or as educational outcomes achieved.

Santiago, February 13, 2015
Javier Salas A.
Responsable de Campo
Moot-Culla Huentru Chiloe 2015
Aventura • Magia • Servicio



NADIA, A HISTORY OF RESILIENCE

SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF MEXICO



Nadia Rojas, Cub Scout of group 101 from Mariano Matamoros, on Friday October 11th, received her desired group scarf and badge. These recognitions were given by her group leaders who have observed during recent weeks a significant improvement in Nadia's learning, in her attitude and her way of living the Scout values participating with joy and enthusiasm with her teammates, for her Scouting has been an unique opportunity that has allowed her to strengthen his character, education and leadership considering her condition.

For Nadia was not easy to be integrated into the activities. From the first moments, in which Camila and Julio Tenorio, friends and pack mates invited her to join the group 101, Nadia showed doubtful about deciding to take the plunge and experience the adventures, friendships and learning that the project offers. Both the Chief Scout and the mother of the Tenorio brothers were the ones who drove Nadia to stop being a spectator and start living the Scout experience.

Once integrated into the group, Nadia showed hesitant to get fully involved. During her first weeks, she preferred to watch what others were doing, but did not want to partake. Despite Nadia's

face was showing interest in being part of the activities, she hesitated to overcome her fears.

Her expression when observing the activities of her friends suggested that it was a matter of time before a fully integration, and it did. Gradually she began to participate in different games and challenges, where she got incorporated naturally. A few weeks later she was part of the Gray sixers of group 101, and as expected, the concerns about getting her badge and scarf group emerged. Nadia is now preparing to deliver the Promise learning the Law of the Pack and participating in all the activities.

Nadia could be considered different, but for her brothers and sisters in Scouting, she is a member of the Pack. At her pace she has been showing progress in multiple activities. She has overcome her fears and now enjoy games and activities with her friends from the pack, continues to strengthen her character, education and leadership. Today she is heard shouting with her teammates in Mariano Matamoros, Cub Scouts always the best!

You can help Nadia and the rest of her fellow within the Scout Experience, Ready for Life, to play an active role in their community. Donate now in www.scoutsmx.fundwise.com





You can be part of the Official Newsletter of Interamerican Region. Send us your stories about any activity that has taken place in your National Scout Organization so the world will know it.

Tell us at:
interamerica@scout.org



This newsletter was made by the contribution and the effort of:

- Ramón Guerra
- Javier Salas A.

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