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Raúl Sánchez Vaca
Regional Director
World Scout Bureau
Interamerican Region



Some time ago I had written on this subject. Back then I did so for Scout Magazine "Youth Forum" of the Scout Association of Mexico, AC. Now I would like to share with you this reflection using new words, as I don't remember what I used on that occasion.

When studying for the MBA, one of the professors asked us in class what does "consistency" mean to you? Several were the responses of the students in that class: to act according to what is said ... to act according to what you think ...

Given these responses, that old professor said – none are accurate. Consistency means "To be oneself." Then he explained that nature is very wise on this issue because every being acts exactly according to what it is. The bird behaves as a bird and assumes qualities and acts as such. The same applies to the tree, the cloud, the rock. Each has a specific function in nature. They were created for a purpose and act on a daily basis in line with the "mission" that was assigned to them by the Creator. Of course, they do not possess a will to decide whether to do so, hence "consistency" is not optional for them.

But if man has the option of being consistent or not it is our free will that allows us to decide. This special quality which we have means we can choose to be consistent or not. We can BE parents and act as such, unconditionally loving our children, ensuring their welfare at all times, taking their education as the primary responsibility, but we can also be inconsistent and not act as parents. If this is so we can decide to transfer our responsibilities to others or not fulfill them. We can BE professionals and then decide to be so or not. Acting irresponsibly, we can get into power games to advance at the expense of others, searching constantly for the way to capitalize on our work and not be willing to give a little more, even if asked.

And so the list goes on. We must analyze each of the roles in which we function: sons, brothers, husbands, Scout Leaders, friends, colleagues citizens, etc.

In each of them we can choose consistency, acting in accordance with what we ARE, being fully involved in each of these roles. Making this decision will benefit all around us and mostly ourselves. Whoever is near us know whether as brothers we are acting as such at all times; that friend who IS your friend, at all times; that husband or wife who acts as such at all times. Whoever is a scout leader, it is at all times, in uniform or not. That citizen who acts as such at all times, looking for the common good.

Being consistent, we approach happiness knowing that this has been a personal choice and that is why we have decided to remove all masks and be who we are.

THE VALIDITY OF THE YOUTH PROGRAMME

How can one maintain the validity of the Youth Programme which is the means by Scouting actually achieves its mission?

With this question in mind, during the Regional Seminar on Educational Methods in Costa Rica in 2012, the proposals obtained in the subregional meetings that year, relative to the elements that should underpin the Youth Programme were analyzed. Thus, it was decided that the Youth Program of all Associations in the Region must be supported by three main, and same principles that are the foundation of the Interamerican Youth Policy Programme. These principles are:

An updated Youth Programme. A program that is the product of a constant reflection on educational practices in relation to Education Project of Scouting.

A relevant Youth Programme. Because it takes into account the cultural, social, political and economic demands of society.

A significant Youth Programme. Because it considers the interests and meets the needs of young people from the relevance of the Scout Method.

To maintain the validity of the Youth Programme, it is necessary that all Associations routinely consider and genuinely try to answer the following questions:

When was the last time a thorough review of the programme was made? Were current trends in education taken in consideration? Are the Global Policy of the Youth

Programme and Youth Participation, the guidelines for the Rover programme, spiritual development, gender, youth working in particularly difficult conditions among others known to be included cross these approaches?

Considering the regional and sociocultural variables are the the situations of children, adolescents and youth in the country known in detail? Are the main needs of the country's youth identified and dressed in the Youth Programme? Is the programme linked to the social, political and economic reality?

Is the Association in constant communication with government agencies and NGOs that deal with the issues of children, adolescents and youth to feed on their experiences and information on the interests and needs of young people? Has the Association established mechanisms for consultation and participation for young people to be active agents in the update of the programme? Does the Youth Programme implemented by the Association offer real opportunities for young people to meet those interests and needs that can be addressed by the Movement?

The answer to these and other questions related to the Association, will offer an idea about the validity of its Youth Programme and allow ASsociations to establish a plan for permanent updating.



THE SCENES PROCESS



As part of the World Scout Environment Programme, there is a renewed interest in the Scout Centres of Excellence for Nature and Environment Emphasis (SCENES) and the SCENES Network as valuable to involve scouts in a learning resource and to take care of our environment. It is expected that more National Scout Organizations will identify good examples at their own scout camping grounds and school camps that are natural environments, and offer environmental education programmes while demonstrating good environmental practices. SCENES Centres currently accredited are available to support the development of environmental education programmes and environmental best practices at Scout Centres, with the overall aim to establish new SCENES Centres.

SCENES Accreditation Process:

1. The National Association adopts SCENES Commitment and determines any additional requirements necessary for the SCENES Centre (ensuring that any additional requirements remain realistic and achievable within limits and according to the intention of SCENES)
2. The National Scout Association identifies facilities that meet or can meet the requirements for a SCENES Centre
3. The Scout SCENES Centre checks the requirements and complete a self-assessment to determine whether it meets the requirements
4. They review with other Scouts or SCENES Centres to confirm that the Scout Centre meets the requirement of being a natural area, provides opportunities for environmental education and environmental management operations according to the requirements of SCENES. The Scout Centre can enroll in the SCENES Network for support in the redesign or development of these areas in the future.
5. The National Association examines the requirements and commitment for a SCENES and Scout Information Centre. If accepted, the National Association notifies the WOSM (via the World Scout Bureau) of the recognition and involvement of the Scout Center as a SCENES Centre.
6. Promotion of the SCENES Center by the National Association and WOSM and involvement of the SCENES Center in SCENES Network
7. Ongoing review and development of the SCENES Center by supporting the SCENES Network and providing support to other Scout Centres
8. The National Association reports to the WOSM (World Scout Bureau path) on the SCENES Centre every 3 years to confirm the operation of the SCENES Centre within the National Association.
9. The National Association renews the SCENES commitment every 5 years.

According to the manual Scouting and the Environment (WOSM, 220), transforming a School Camp into a SCENES involves the following steps:

- Application for an environmental assessment.
- Establishment of sound environmental practices.
- Development activities with a strong environmental dimension.
- Getting involved in the SCENES Network.
- Training of permanent staff and volunteers.

Minor Serrano Mora
Iztarú National School Camp/ Costa Rica

THE “GOOD PRACTICES” IN THE CONTEXT OF THE INTERAMERICAN INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY



As the Regional Policy of Institutional Development expresses itself, Best Practices are the result of the impact of each of the four foundations (Democracy, Environment and Effectiveness, Service and Support, and Guidance for Outcomes and Impacts), in the eight areas of management (Governance, Management, Fundraising, Communications and Institutional Relations, International Relations, Operations, Risk Management, Ethics and Comptroller).

However, paradoxically, the Best Practices are not listed explicitly in the body of the policy. This raises the obvious question: Why Good Practice do not appear explicit in the body of the Regional Policy, if it's a core element of the job running the strategic area of Institutional Development?

The answer is simple and logical. The Regional Policy also said that Best Practices are characterized by dynamics. Are constantly under review, due to the continuous improvement process to which they are subjected.

At this time, the Good Practices are being made with the collaborative work of the Interamerican Network of the Institutional Development. Then they must be adopted in its early versions and modified by the Interamerican Scout Committee in subsequent updates, during its meetings of the 2013 to 2016 Triennium.

Good practices have also been excluded from the body of the Regional Policy, as this is a partially rigid instrument. Regional policies can only be changed by Regional Conferences every three years. To have integrated Best Practices in the policy, would have deprived it of its dynamic character.

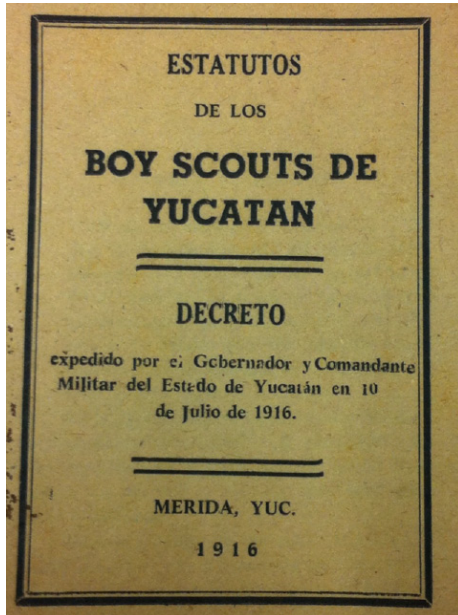
As we said, the Good Practice are being developed in its

original version right now. To do so we have delved into the study of its nature, its structure and in particular in their development processes. We have had to select what best fits our needs, adding elements and finally adapt this.

As part of this process, we identified that in addition to the formal elements that make up good practices, they must include in their core of two blocks, which we initially called “Dogmatic and Pragmatic.” The Dogmatic block expresses generally how the four foundations of regional policy should materialize in each of the tasks to be executed in the field of management. The eminently pragmatic Block provides operations, expressed with the resource that best suits the needs, such as: Checklist, Organization Charts, Flow Diagrams, and others. These two blocks are designed to illustrate fully the best way to execute the tasks in accordance with regional policy and thus become a true “good Practice”.

José Gabriel Criollo Q.
Dir. Institucional Development WOSM-IR

THE BEGINNING OF SCOUTING IN YUCATAN



The Yucatan Peninsula, known by many for the Great Pyramid of Chichen Itza, located in Southeast Mexico, bathed by the waters of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico, was where 100 years ago the Scout Movement was established in the year 1914. Let us think a bit of those times when the henequen boom was what provided the peninsula with a buoyant economy and made Merida, capital of Yucatan state, a modern city with cultural and technological advances that could be considered ahead of its time. The apparent remoteness of the capital made young students chose to travel abroad to continue their studies, as was the case of Professor of Physical Culture, Don Alejandro Aguilar Rosas. During his years of study in the United States, he had to either meet with the newly formed Patrols of Scouts, who aroused curiosity and interest. On his return to Yucatan, Prof. Alejandro Aguilar Rosas carried with him a Boy Scouts manual, perhaps one of the first to arrive in Mexico, or perhaps Latin America.

Here's how Scouting began in Yucatan in 1914 as is recorded in a series of articles under the title What are the Boy Scouts? They were published in a series booklets accompanying the official gazette of the body of the Agricultural Chamber of Yucatan and later reproduced by the Yucatán journal, predecessor of the present day Yucatan newspaper. In these publications Don Alejandro Aguilar Rosas, spoke about the value and benefits that this great institution could offer young people of the time.

Mr. Ignacio Moreno Encalada closest collaborator of Professor Aguilar, refers to the events of February 5, 1914, when the first Scout Campfire, which had as its main attraction the fire drill. For this a hut filled with sticks and guano palms was set afire and making a very coordinated human chain, buckets with water passed from hand to hand quenched the flames, thereupon earning a standing ovation from those present. Interestingly buckets for this event were sponsored by the Padlock hardware

Crasseman, neighboring gentry of German origin who sympathized with the Boy Scouts.

This was the first scout activity in Yucatan. In this same place on 22 February this year as part of celebrations of 100 years of Scouting a commemorative plaque was unveiled by the President of the Yucatan Province of Mexico Scouts, Mr. Ricardo Paz Echeverria. The meetings of Boy Scouts patrols were conducted in a home campaign permanently installed at the entrance of the Paseo de Montejo (main avenue of Merida), which was called the HEADQUARTERS. Activities and service work were constant and well received by different sectors of Merida society, which supported economically, in conjunction with the Chamber of Agriculture, to provide them with the tools necessary to develop their activities.

With the first activity and the "Barracks" already in use, it was Professor Aguilar who was credited with the formation of the First Scout Patrol in Yucatan comprised of students of the Normal School, who held the first Scout camp on the Peninsula in the Tanlum fields of the hacienda, as described by Professor Eduardo Urzaiz in his manners reconstruction work done in 1915.

In March 1915, following the events resulting from the Mexican Revolution, the Constitutionalist Army Commander General Salvador Alvarado, who was appointed Governor and Military Commander of the State, occupied the main square of Mérida, which ended abruptly the activities of the society and the Boy Scouts were no exception, but this was a short-lived interruption since Gen. Alvarado welcomed with interest the work of Professor Aguilar and issued a decree number 577 of July 10, 1916 which give rise to official BOY BODY SCOUTS OF YUCATAN, which became semi militarized, falling under the person of Prof. Ignacio Moreno Encalada office of COMISIARIO GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION. By then the HEADQUARTERS started LITERARY INSTITUTE low, currently the Autonomous University of Yucatán. And in what is known as the alley congressional maneuvers and activities were made, calling much attention from the public.

The body of Boy Scouts was spreading throughout the Yucatan territory, reaching populations in Valladolid, Izamal, Motul and Progress. Despite being a movement of the military they retained many of the activities and traditions of genuine Scouting from England, the study of nature, camping, good turns conducted rigorously daily and governed by a Code of Honor (Scout law), the diversity of activities in which the Boy Scouts showed their interest in culture.

In 1917 the government of Venustiano Carranza created the general direction of Militarization of Youth, which absorbed the body of Boy Scouts of Yucatan, making it the NINTH BATTALION OF MEXICAN YOUTH MILITARIZATION EXPLORERS which inevitably transformed Boy Scout into a Political-Military Institution. Many parents realizing that removed their boys, reducing the number of members to its total extinction, which is evidenced in official decree and ordered all members to return inputs and equipments assigned to operate.

THE BEGINNING OF SCOUTING IN YUCATAN

It took some years for the Scout Movement in Yucatán to be re-established again in the person of Professor Santiago Herrera Castillo, who was an old Yucatan Explorer. He, like many youth of the time, while in the United States, sought to organize Boy Scouts of America and on his return in 1926, created a body similar to the BSA Explorers.

In 1930 under the Education of the New School Ariel doctrine a new group was formed, Yucatecos Explorers. This is how in 1931, in a solemn ceremony held at Centennial Park, starting with the Explorer Anthem, the BODY OF YUCATAN EXPLORERS was formed giving their promise before special paying guests, which the Yucatán newspaper reviewed.

It was common to see the boys of New Ariel conduct their activities in major parks in the city. They were usually seen in public ceremonies, often on national holidays when they were seen parading the military way with their horns



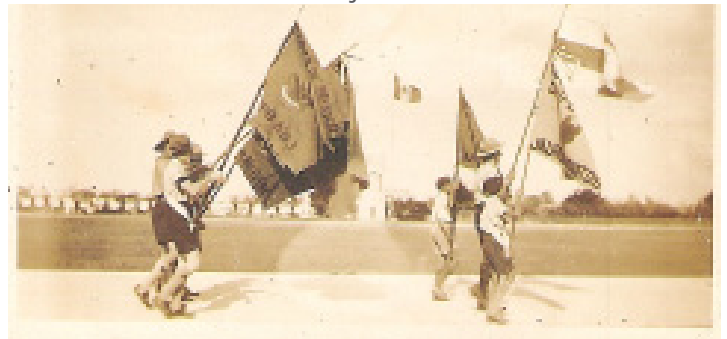
and drums, Loading his campaign team in tow. In 1932 the government gives legal status to the Explorers of Yucatán, according to the decree in accordance with Article 33 of the current code. On the basis of the New Ariel School, a group of scouts, who were eventually seen by the city for nearly 12 years emerged. The Ariel School Scouting spread to locations where previously there were Boy Scouts Corps in times of Salvador Alvarado, which marked the second wave of Scouting in Yucatan. Almost parallel to Explorers of Yucatan, Merida advanced in the Scout Association of Mexico, being officially recognized by the international organization based at that time in London.

By 1937 Professor Don José Santana (Marist Brother), who had arrived as director of Montejo Merida College, founded and participated in the group of scouts from French College of Mexico City, where he came from. His experience as a Scout Master was vital to the creation of the first 4 Scout Groups that formed what is now the Yucatan Province of the Scout Association of Mexico, AC. With the support of His Excellency Archbishop Don Martin Tritscher and Cordoba, who sees in Scouting comprehensive training for children and adolescents, seeking the support of the Knights of Columbus, in the person of Victor Suarez Molina, to bring the representation of the Association Scouts Mexico to Yucatan, and thus founding in 1937, with the collaboration of Victor and Miguel Silveira Laviada Taboada, the 1938 group 1, group 2 and 3, by the Lords Chamber and Victor Emilio Marín Durán. The latter being the only one that has continued uninterrupted activity to date.

Later in 1942 the Corps Yucatan Explorers of the New Ariel School joins the Scout Association of Mexico with the group number 4 and with this event the history of Scouting adventure Yucateco merges.

For us the Yucatecos a Scouting tradition dates back many years and in 2014 we will celebrate with various activities, as well as radio and television interviews, exhibitions of Scout Brotherhood in our White Zocalo Merida, a commemorative badge of the 100 years of the Scout Movement in Yucatan, our traditional Scout Week and each group with diverse activities in order to demonstrate proudly our first 100 years of BE PREPARED TO SERVE.

Maria De Lourdes Mendez Ojeda



GREEN PLANET

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF MOTHER EARTH



2010

Rodrigo Sepúlveda

Mother Earth (Terra, Latin name of Gaia, Greek deity of femininity and fertility) is a planet in the solar system that orbits its star in the third innermost orbit. It is the densest and fifth-largest of the eight planets in the Solar System. It is also the largest of the four land, but much more than this is Our Home, which is why we commemorate April 22 as the Day of Mother Earth. We know a little more about it.

Earth Day is a holiday celebrated in many countries on April 22. Its sponsor, U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, established this day to create awareness to the problems of pollution, conservation of biodiversity and other environmental concerns to protect the Earth.

Recognizing that the Earth and its ecosystems are our home and highlighting the need to promote harmony with nature and the planet, global organizations are convinced that achieving a balance between economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations, is necessary to promote harmony with nature and the Earth. In April 2009 the General Assembly of the United Nations

designated April 22 as International Mother Earth Day (resolution 63/278).

In proclaiming this date the Assembly recognized that "Mother Earth" is a common expression in several countries and regions, reflecting the interdependence between humans, other species and the planet we inhabit, requested that Member States, United Nations bodies, international, regional, sub-regional organizations, NGOs and civil society to observe and raise awareness for the Day.

The International Day of Mother Earth gives us the opportunity to reaffirm our collective responsibility to promote harmony with nature in a time when our planet is threatened by climate change, unsustainable use of natural resources and other problems created by man. When we create threats to our planet, we endanger not only the only home we have, but even our future survival. Celebrate the International Day by renewing our pledge to honor and respect Mother Earth, our home.



SCOUTS ALWAYS READY AND MOTIVATED

Who has never felt discouraged? Demotivation is very complex and can occur through many variables, resulting in the lack of energy to take risks and face challenges .

Dr. Martin Seligman, founder of the field of positive psychology, indicates that the level of motivation is directly related to the level of expectations that a person has. If expectations are high the motivation is high, and conversely low expectations generate low motivation.

And what has the above to do with Scouting? Much, as we are part of a global movement, and that word motivation comes from the Latin "motivus" (movement) and the suffix "tion" (action). The Scout Method is a system of non-formal self-education and is a key part of Scouting.

'Learning by doing' means developing as a result of experiencing first hand rather than theoretical instruction. It reflects the active way in which knowledge, skills and attitudes are acquired and illustrates the practical approach to education in Scouting . 'Learning by doing' also allows all members of the Scout squad (or team) to actively participate and take ownership of the process, with the support of peers and adult volunteers. (www.scout.org/es/node/143) .

The author of the best seller, Emotional Intelligence, Daniel Goleman, says that what motivates a person is to find an activity in which his talents and skills are fully involved, a task that allows the person to move beyond their comfort zone. Finding something that allows us to flow in or out of this state of passivity, has nothing to do with the task itself, but with the mental and emotional state that leads the task. A climber accepts the challenge of reaching the top and put all his climbing talents to achieve his goal.

The question is where can we find our source of motivation? - the Scout Promise and the Law. The Scout Law is a concrete and practical way to understand the values of Scouting. The Scout Promise is a personal commitment to give the best of oneself, to live according to those values, which is done in the presence of a peer group, when the decision to be part of the Movement is taken. The Promise and Law are considered a single integrated element that are closely linked .

Another highlight is personal progress, which aims to help each individual to consciously and actively be involved in their own development, allowing for progress in their own way and at their own pace, gaining confidence and recognition in the process.

Personal motivation operates from desire and when we begin to think of three essential verbs:

want "I want"
what "I can "
what " I like "

In conclusion we can say that "Be Prepared" can be translated as "always motivated" or prepared to do something for the good of others and as a result we will be "always in motion" .

Néstor Calderón Allendes
Group Leader - Gabriela Mistral
Machalí Chile





HEALTH

MYTHS AND BENEFITS OF AN ANSERTRAL DRINK

It is said that the coffee beverage is obtained from the roasted and ground seeds of the fruit of the coffee plant (*Coffea*). The drink is highly stimulating, because it contains caffeine. By extension, one can also designate by this name the place of consumption of this beverage and its many variations. There are many synonyms to that name: cafe or bistro, among others. This ancient beverage has been the subject of many myths throughout history.

If we talk about the amount of coffee that a person can drink without it affecting their health, there has been research indicating that three to five cups a day, for a person who is accustomed to drinking coffee, do not represent any inconvenience.

Sometimes it is mentioned that drinking coffee could be the cause of developing cancer however, studies have shown otherwise. Take about four cups of coffee per day and you can avoid suffering from rectal cancer and cirrhosis of the liver.

The myth also went on to say that coffee produced headaches and migraine, however, consumption has the opposite effect because it decreases or relieves pain due to its dilatory effect of the blood vessels of the brain.

It is believed that it is bad to give children coffee to drink; but there is no study that mentions this drink can affect your health, however, it could contribute to increased mental performance and improve the caloric and protein intake necessary for a healthy diet.

It is also mentioned that pregnant women should avoid drinking coffee, because it could produce abortion or malformations. There is no scientific evidence to indicate the relationship between coffee and these effects.

Now let's talk about the benefits of coffee. They are endless but here I share some of the best known:

Its greatest benefit is the antioxidants in grain substances called polyphenols, which among its many functions protects against cell mutations and retrace aging. Only blackberries, walnuts, strawberries, artichokes and blueberries contain more antioxidants than coffee.

It has been shown that drinking three to four cups of coffee a day helps reduce up to 25 percent the risk of type II diabetes. This is due to the large amount of natural antioxidants in coffee, which help prevent insulin resistance, a hormone is the main cause of this condition.

A 20-year study showed that consuming coffee steadily, is also associated with a decrease of up to 65 percent of dementia in old age or Alzheimer or Parkinson. This outcome is associated with the effects that this drink makes on the central nervous system.

Also, taking four to five cups of coffee a day helps activate and boost alertness plus it allows better concentration for longer periods than you have naturally.

We know now myths and legends of coffee are just that. If you're one of the billions of coffee lovers around the world, stop worrying about your daily intake, rather worry about the excessive use of sweeteners to use in it. If this would add to your health problems, just be careful with it, and after reading this article what's better than a good, fragrant cup?

TOWARDS THE SUCCESSFUL RETENTION OF ADULTS

Our Movement relies mostly on adult volunteers to develop our mission. For a long time we thought that our difficulty was to recruit adult volunteers. In fact it is one of the permanent findings at meetings of the leaders of National Scout Organizations (NSOs) : not enough adults in Scouting to generate the processes of expansion or growth of the Movement .

But looking a little more closely at the picture, the reality is that there are people willing to join the movement and also willing to take responsibility. And they do annually in relatively large numbers . Unfortunately I have no conclusive figures (our census system look at absolute numbers, but does not measures the rotation of the members) but approximations can be made from another field.

For example, when I see reports of NSOs on the number of adults who were involved in the process of basic training for leaders and evaluated for two or three consecutive years at the end of the period the total number of people " trained " derived from such reports is well above that of adults they actually have according to their membership records.

Will the same people constantly repeat their training? I think not. Is it a problem of underreporting, maybe, but this does not explain that in "peak" years (usually associated with the implementation of national events where enrollment trends increase) that the number is not the total number that should have been approached.

So the conclusion is simple: adults do not remain in the National Scout Organization. It has not been capable of "retain" them.

What influences retention? For an adult to stay within our organization, the World Policy of Adults in Scouting outlines the three main elements that influence this probability :

- Adults need to rely on the National Scout Organization and its representatives, and feel that they are trustworthy.
- Adults need to feel a sense of commitment to the partnership, and
- Adults need to have a sense of achievement for their role in Scouting.

Three key elements , without a doubt . Of course , retention starts from the moment of entry (eg, how the person is received, in the accurate explanations given of what is expected from him, time demands, effort, dedication and support that they will receive from the organization). Retention is also influenced by the processes of receiving training and advice tailored to their needs (meaningful learning and the recognition of knowledge that brings relevance of processes, among others). Finally , retention is also derived from the entire accompaniment (assessment, support , monitoring) received on the development of the task undertaken, with due recognition of the task, through opportunities for personal development and other stimuli within the organization.

Retention is not , then, a timely exercise of trying to "hold" when someone chooses to retir , much less an exercise in motivation through decorations or awards. Retention, as the Interamerican policy "The Adults we need " states, is an outcome of a management system with quality adults.

Therein lies the success of retention. And I will speak of that quality in my following articles in this newsletter.

Ralf Dillmann
Director Adults in Scouting WSB-IAR
@ dillralf



STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT IN BELIZE



The weekend of February 28 to March 2, the Scout Association of Belize held a retreat to advance work on its strategic plan. Leading the retreat was Ronald Richardson, Executive Operations for the Caribbean. The retreat was held at the Golf Oakley, the camping area of 100 acres owned by the association. Participants 20 leaders of all ranks and age groups in all of Belize. Mr. Leonides Cuellar, the Chairman Scout was present throughout the retreat, while Dr. Erasmus Franklin, former Chief Scout was present on Saturday and Sunday.

The group was very excited and positive in their approach to getting the work done. The documents developed three years before were reviewed and updated. Four new areas were added and developed completely so that the Strategic Areas of the plan are now Youth Programme, Adults in Scouting, Institutional Development, Finance, Growth, Values and finally Communications, Public Relations and Image. Objectives, implementation timelines, responsible parties and resources were identified for each objective of each strategic area.

The group set the end of October as the deadline for the completion of the plan. In April Steve Kent of Canada, who is a member of ISC, will visit Belize to complete the plan before it is typed up and adopted by the National Council. The majority of the leaders present gave their commitment to return as needed to complete the plan. In the interim they will begin spreading the word and explaining to others what was done and what is to come. When completed the plan will be the foundation for the growth and expansion of scouting in Belize. The scout Association of Belize is looking forward to 2015 with great anticipation as a year of great promise and development.



WORK MEETING OF MESSENGERS OF PEACE



The past 17, 18 and 19 March we had a visit from Cynthia Marquez, Global Project Manager - Messengers of Peace .

This meeting was the result of a profound conversation in January , when Cynthia was present at the meeting of the Interamerican Scout Committee to provide the members of this regional body information on the Messengers of Peace programme.

The meeting was held at the headquarters of the World Scout Bureau - Interamerican Region, the City of Knowledge, Panama . The following were present : Mauricio Veayra, Director of Youth Program; Ralf Dillmann, Director of Adults in Scouting, José Gabriel Creole, Director of Institutional Development and Raul Sanchez Vaca, Regional Director.

During the meeting the following items were reviewed :

- Educational framework for the work of the Messengers network in promoting youth participation, the impact on the community, developing skills to promote peace and community service within the regional agenda of the youth programme.
- An integrated vision of Youth Programme, Human Resources, Institutional Development Development, Peace and the Environment and Youth Network working with the messengers of peace.
- A work plan for three years, targets and indicators of success in the implementation of the network in the region.
- To set a vision for the integration of national MOP representatives in the work plan.

The team of the World Scout Bureau - Interamerican Region stressed the need for the Messengers of Peace Programme to be linked directly to the Youth Programme, so that the scouts participate in it by integrating their personal progress and not as isolated actions.



It was clearly defined that the Messengers of Peace programme is focused on service. It aims to promote good deeds and community service projects that scouts undertake around the world.

The team of the World Scout Bureau - Interamerican Region made a series of proposals to encourage the participation of scouts in the region in the program. We also proposed to publicize the programme through the Inter-American Network .

All in all we defined a plan to get more scouts in scout.org register and place on the world scout page good deeds and service projects.

The plan also provides for the development of educational material to help the scouts, mainly those in the older branch, to develop better service projects.

We thank Cynthia for visiting Panama and working together we could make.

HIGH SUMMITS OF AMERICA PROJECT

This time I want to tell you about a project begun in 2009 and completed in 2010, which tried to reach the blind as an improved translation of Scouting for Boys.

This time as we had developed the idea that had been brewing for a Mitre Member of the scout group to establish an internet library. We had begun to dream of making an audiobook with this important work, especially since it had never done despite being written 100 years ago.

For the year note who writes (Gustavo Giménez). I was developing my educational work on Favre Tanti group, and that's where the Project began, involving three members of the Rover Group mentioned (Damian Gauna, Emanuel Abrate Luciano and Riba), with the full support of the Area 22 and Scout of Argentina. For its development the project earned awards at various levels and has attracted legislative interest in the province of Córdoba.

Project Today:

The Audio Book is finished and another plan is to take it to the high peaks of the Americas. Damian Gauna, one of its producers will undertake the journey.

To date we have reached 6050 meters (Cordón del Plata), exceeding by 50 meters the vertical limit, where the climber begins to die and has very little time to achieve its mission.

Under these conditions most weight is discarded as a standard of basic survival, however this young man decides that the 200 grams are useful in achieving the goal putting this at the top of America (Aconcagua).

Maybe we can ask why take it to the high peaks? What's the point?

And for that we have no better answer than what Mallory (one of the greatest climbers ever) said happens.

Mallory found a general opinion that did not understand the purpose of an ascent of the highest mountain in the world. Legend says that to the question of why do you have to climb, he replied simply: "Because it is there".

And so ... It is a symbol.

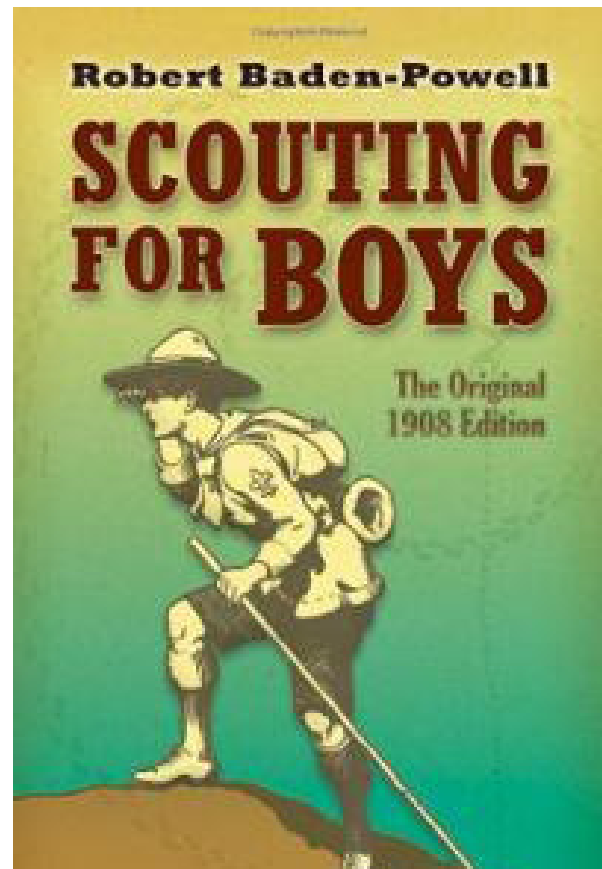
Perhaps the most misunderstood action is to talk about this book as necessary to form the basis of thousands of young people, in a society where values are not highly considered..

And then we understand that it is not so irrational.

To follow this adventure you can enter this link

<https://www.facebook.com/damigauna?fref=ts>

Gustavo Giménez
Scout leader
Bartolomé Mitre Group
Scouts de Argentina Asociación Civil



CALENDARIO REGIONAL REGIONAL CALENDARY

2014

ABRIL / APRIL

3 - 6	-Curso Nivel 1, Subregión Caribe -Level 1 course, Caribbean Sub Region	Dominica
11 -13	-Reunión de la Red de Comunicaciones, Subregión Centroamérica -Communications Network meeting, Central America Sub Region	Costa Rica
27 de abril al 2 de mayo 27 April to 2 May	-Curso para Directores Ejecutivos y Jefes Scouts Nacionales -Training for Executive Directors and Chief Commissioners	Panamá
29 de abril al 4 de mayo 29 April to 4 May	-Curso para formación de formadores para Surinam y Guyana -Train the Trainers Course for Suriname and Guyana	Surinam Suriname

MAYO / MAY

9 - 11	-Curso Avanzado Práctico para Dirigentes Scouts con 5 años o más en el Movimiento Scout -Advanced Practical Course for Leaders in the Movement 5 Years and over	San Vicente y las Granadinas St. Vincent and the Grenadines
9 - 11	-Reunión de las Redes de Jóvenes, Programa de Jóvenes y Adultos en el Movimiento Scout, Subregión Cono Sur -Youth, Youth Programme and Adults in Scouting Networks meeting, -South Cone Sub Region	Brasil Brazil
15	-Cierre de inscripciones a la 40ª Conferencia Scout Mundial y 12º Foro Scout Mundial de Jóvenes -Deadline for registrations to the 40th World Scout Conference and 12th World Scout Youth Forum	
16 - 18	-Seminario "Youth for Change" -Youth for Change Seminar	Panamá
23 - 25	-Reunión de la Red de Desarrollo Institucional, Subregión Andina -Institutional Development Network meeting, Andean Sub Region	Perú
30 de mayo al 1º junio 30 May to 1st June	-Reunión de las Redes de Jóvenes, Programa de Jóvenes, Adultos en el Movimiento Scout y Comunicaciones, Subregión Andina -Youth, Youth Programme, Adults in Scouting and Communications Networks meeting, Andean Sub Region	Ecuador



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**



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