Scouting Around the World

July 2017

National Capital Area Council International Committee

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

Upcoming meeting date Aug 3 2017 Dinner

Newsletter editor: John Scheirer, Scouter8@verizon.net

B-P Bits:

B-P’s Scouting movement is over 100 years old – how has his advice in his handbook for young people stood up over the years? Much of it is practical advice not just on the outdoor life but how to cope with urban emergencies and how to live a moral life in an increasingly immoral world. Over the years, his handbook has under-gone many revisions to make it more international, dropping references to Empire, including advice and activities for girls, and other changes in thinking. And while some of B-P’s advice seems out of place in today’s risk adverse society, much of it seems prescient. Today’s handbook includes concepts that are entirely new, such as how to create a webpage using HTML and surf the internet safely. But it retains the spirit of B-P’s original work.

Collectors’ Corner:  Boy Scout Firearms

Boy Scout Machine Gun

BSA 75th Anniversary

Eagle Scout Tribute

BSA 100th Anniversary

Eagle Trail

The Scout Association of Timor-Leste joins WOSM

After a three-year absence, Scouting was relaunched in the country after the Timor-Leste government signed a declaration on 20 April 2009, recognizing UNE-TL or the Scout Association of Timor Leste. In 2010, the APR office requested Scouts Australia to assist with the growth and development of Scouting in Timor-Leste, and to prepare the association for WOSM membership. Its application for membership on 22 March 2017 was endorsed by the World Scout Committee and approved on 22 June 2017.
Scouting in Portugal:

The Federação Escutista de Portugal (FEP, Scouting Federation of Portugal) is the national Scouting federation of Portugal. Scouting in Portugal started in 1911 and was among the founders of the World Organization of the Scout Movement in 1922. The present federation was founded in 1928. It serves 75,359 members of both sexes (as of 2011).

When Portuguese Scouting started in 1911, many associations appeared, however, only two of them survived: União dos Adueiros de Portugal (which became extinct in 1930) and the Associação dos Escoteiros de Portugal (AEP), still operational. The Corpo Nacional de Escutas - Escutismo Católico Português (CNE) is another Scouting organization that is active today. It was founded in 1923, and is sponsored by the Catholic Church. Today, there are also some organizations besides the CNE and the AEP, like the Associação Guias de Portugal (AGP), but they are not members of the federation.

The AEP is a youth organization concerned with education and the development of civil character. It was the first Scouting organization in Portugal, being established in 1913. Unlike most Scouting groups in Portugal, the AEP is not tied to any denomination or religion, and, since 1979, is open to youth of both genders, ages 6 to 21. The AEP promotes social values within a humanist and non-military perspective. It encourages participation in cultural activities and sports, as well as providing health education.

The CNE is a Catholic Scout organization and is the largest one for both genders in Portugal for both genders.

Scouts support Portugal forest fire relief efforts

On 17 June, a series of deadly wildfires erupted across central Portugal, killing or injuring over 100 people. More than 1,700 firefighters nationwide were dispatched to put out the blazes. Scouts, who are often among the very first to respond in emergency situations, were already present onsite at the theatre of operations. Ever since the outbreak of the devastating fire, Scouts from the Corpo Nacional de Escutas (CNE) and Associação dos Escoteiros de Portugal (AEP) have been providing backup support to firefighters – they prepared and distributed meals and water, helped in the operational maintenance of the fire brigade quarters, fed displaced or evacuated people, and supported the evacuation process.

The full network of Scouts worked diligently to gather needed goods, especially water and energy drinks, biscuits and energy bars, to be immediately transported from various parts of the country and delivered to local fire departments and civil authorities.