Scouting Around the World
May 2016
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: May 19, 2016

Here are some great B-P quotes: "Don't be disgraced like the young Romans who lost the Empire of their forefathers by being wishy-washy slackers without any go or patriotism in them." "Boys can see adventure in a dirty old duck- puddle, and if the Scoutmaster is a boy-man, he can see it too." "Knowledge without character is mere pie-crust." "A good dose of laughing is to me like a bath for the brain." 'There is no teaching to compare with example.' "Happiness does not come by sitting down and waiting for it." "Scouting aims to teach the boys how to live, not merely how to make a living." "Damn the Rules! Call it an experiment!"

Collectors' Corner: Boy Scout License Plates

Scouts in Afghanistan (PARSA) had a very unexpected but delightful visit from Steve McCurry, renowned photographer who took the now famous picture of the Afghan Girl. Steve has a very long history of working in Afghanistan and is respected by Afghans for capturing the feeling of Afghanistan in his photos. He visited a Scout community service tree planting event with us, to take pictures of Scouts for an upcoming National Geographic article on "Kabul Now". I was pleased both to have him take pictures of the Scouts as it is a good news story for Afghanistan. I was also touched by how honored the older Afghan dignitaries were to meet him. He sees Afghanistan the way Afghans want to be seen.
Scouting in Botswana:

Scouting was established in 1936 and has the following sections: Cub Scouts 6-11 years, Junior Scouts 12-15 years, Senior Scouts 16-18 years, and Rover Scouts 19-25 years.

Scouts in Botswana grow up learning the outdoor skills from their parents and family. They use skills such as fire building and cooking, finding the direction of travel by use of the sun and stars, knots, pioneering, first aid and more, in everyday life.

Scout groups meet in local schools or in the outdoors in villages. Scouts have been involved in the self-help projects and other rural activities. Some of these long-term projects are poultry faring, beekeeping, wood and metalworking, and fruit and vegetable production.

Scouts often take long, adventurous trips into the bush. Their trips require much care, as there are numerous dangerous animals such as elephants and lions.

Adult male leadership is difficult in Botswana, as adult males do not associate themselves with children until they reach the age of 14. As a result of this, most leaders are women, teachers and clergy.

Many Scout troops have their own vegetable gardens and are taught how to care for cattle, sheep and goats.

If you met a Martian asking you what is Scouting and the Scout Movement, what would you say?

Scouting is a voluntary, non-political, education movement for young people that uses a very specific active "learning by doing" method. Its purpose is to contribute to the development of girls and boys in achieving their full physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.