



Nordic Baltic Sub-region

News Letter

December 2009

News from Denmark:

Blue Summer

The Danish Scout Association, called the blue scouts (because of the colour of their uniforms) held their National Jamboree in July, 2009.

It is called "Blue Summer" and is a quinquennial event taking part in the Southern Part of Jutland. This year 16,000 scouts together with 2,000 helpers participated in this jamboree, which had the headline of "Climate".

A championship was held in the discipline of Blue Energy and imagination was vividly displayed.

Many inventions were seen all over the camp in the effort of saving energy: For instance, it was possible to charge your mobile phone by means of pedalling on a bicycle; solar cells were used for heating up water, which was later used for washing up or even for taking a bath.

Many different ways of energy saving were displayed in a variety of stoves - The scouts had really grasped the idea of how to save fuel and at the same time to be good to the environment.



In the helpers' cafeteria old/used chinaware had been bought and a common dishwasher, daily washing or reuse of kitchen uniforms, rags, etc. instead of handing out new items every day (which is required by the food supply inspection authorities).

Many fellowship members were active with selling various items in the kiosks, helping out in the cafeterias or with the toilets, carrying out safety measures or were active as hosts for foreign Participants and many fellowship members very much enjoy being together with all the happy children and young people.

And of course we did succeed in having 1000 kites flying!



Action plan 2009-2011

During the National Assembly our action plan was voted for and for the coming two year our action plan comprises the below elements:

- A National reunion in June, 2010
- A National outdoor day on September, 5, 2010 - containing the four elements of Earth, Water, Air and Fire
- Nationwide schooling project within a special subject
- A bridge-building project aiming at ethnic minorities
- A common jamboree for the 5 Danish scout associations



National Assembly 2009

The national assembly was held in September in Aalborg.

Members of the board are as follows:

National president:

Lone Erkmann

National secretary:

Niels Rosenbom

National cashier:

Paula Mikkelsen

International secretary:

Anne Haastrup-Nielsen

National training/development commissioner:

Sten Frost

National PR commissioner:

Kjeld B. Krabsen

The national board had prepared more than 30 changes to our constitution, which aimed at a more open-minded attitude towards especially younger members of the adult scout movement.

In order to achieve this goal all these changes had been proposed, but unfortunately none of them were voted for, so the whole "package" was abandoned

Anne Hastrup-Nielsen,
International Secretary

News from Finland:



SUOMEN PYHÄN YRJÄNÄN
PARTIOKILLAT - S:t GÖRANS
SCOUTGILLEN I FINLAND r.y.

Most of our local guilds have had many activities on their home areas. Some of them cooperate with scouts and guides. Some guilds have met each other by trekking together in their homeland and even by travelling in foreign countries.

In the summer we were lucky to have the opportunity to organize the Nordic-Baltic Sub region Congress in Åland. We thank all the participants, many old friends met each other and it was a good place to develop our fellowship and friendship.

On November we will have a meeting for guild chairmen in Orimattila-village and we will celebrate Fellowship Day together with the local scouts. There we will make plans for the next year when we will have time to celebrate the 100 years old Finnish scout movement. In December this year we will travel together to Lohja making a trek to the Christmas-village. Next year we will collect scout and guild memories from our members and publish these. And in July 2010 we are planning to join to the camp Kilke, an international scout camp for 10000 Finnish and also foreign scouts and girl guides from all over the world. There we will have Fellowship Café made by "grandparents".

This year has been a year of changes in our guild. A new Guild Board has taken responsibility for new ideas to develop our guild. There is much to do to help the guild to grow and to get younger members to join us. At the same time it is our duty to take care of activities for the older members. At the moment we are happy to see the growing interest for guild work in many parts of our country and new members have joined us.

Pirjo Rintamäki



<http://www.lilja.partio.fi/museo/sivut/etusivu.html>

News from Island:

Dear friends.

Here is some news from Iceland.

Some 13 Guild scouts from Iceland attended NBSR meeting in Åland in June and came back home with some very good memories and brought with them our new friend SHEP, which is a bear born in South Africa in 2001. SHEP has since then travelled around the world to Australia, Canada and now to Europe where he will spend some time. His stay in Iceland has been very pleasant so far. He has attended some guild meetings already and on Sunday the 25th of October he was with all of us celebrating Friendship Day 2009. Our main concern for him is that he might catch a cold here in our cold climate, so there are plans for knitting him some woolly clothes.



This summer the Icelandic scout association had a great task running Rowerway, an exciting event for scouts 18 - 23 years old from all over the world. There was over 3000 participants, and as always with such a big task everybody - including many guild scouts - helped out.

We are not having any success in getting more members, although we try talking to people anywhere - we always seems to be attending more funerals than welcoming new members!

Anyway we are optimistic and look forward to hearing from all our friends in the NBSR.

Scout greetings

Elín Richards - NP Iceland

News from Norway:

It has been an active summer and autumn for the St George Guilds in Norway. In June the Landsgildeting (annual conference) was held between the sea and the mountains in the jazz city of Molde. A highlight was an evening service in the cathedral with music by young jazz musicians. We had the pleasure of welcoming two new guilds into our fellowship and electing two new members to the national guild leadership. One of them is a member of "Scoutriders" an mc club for scout leaders and guild members. It will be interesting to see whether more guild members turn up at our meetings on Harley Davidson's!

On the next weekend, a group from different parts of the country went to the Nordic-Baltic meeting on Åland, and the reports from there are good.

On 4th-11th July the Norwegian Scout Association held its national jamboree at Åndalsnes, also between the sea and the high mountains.



The guilds were there, highly visible in the centre of the camp, with St George's Hotel, with tents where guests were provided with a camp bed, washing facilities and a "lounge" under a tarpaulin. The "rooms" were named after the mountains surrounding the camp, and the hotel director and staffs was good-humoured members of St

George guilds. We were also responsible for an "inn" for scout leaders with plain food and the possibility of charging mobile phones. The hotel guests had all their meals served in the inn.

We continue to work on our strategy plan and aims for growth. In the districts, work continues on building networks, inspired by our programme Gnisten (the spark).

In November there was an inspiration and working weekend where the guild leadership invited all members of our committees. The purpose of the gathering was to increase awareness of the aims we are working for and the means we are using. We must work as a team. At the end of the gathering we made a list of suggestions for action. This has been sent to the leadership, who will decide priorities and time plans for the activities.

In September, guilds in Oslo helped to run an international event Overture. The Norwegian Scout Association was the arranger, and participants were scout leaders from the whole of Europe who are involved in including ethnic minorities and children with reduced functionality. There have been Overture gatherings several places in Europe, and now it was Oslo's turn. Crown princess Mette-Marit took part in the opening ceremony, and she praised the scout movement for encouraging curiosity and tolerance.



In Advent, the guilds help to spread the flame from the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem as a symbol of peace.

Karin Randsborg Thompson, IS

News from Sweden:

How we enjoyed meeting in Åland! It was a great opportunity to meet old friends and make new. Lovely nature and splendid hospitality have given us all a memory for life.

Guilders in yellow, that is how we are seen at camps.



In Kopparbo this summer about 20 guilders took part in the pirate camp in different capacities.

In yellow t-shirt guilders are taking part in camp activities

Just now we are preparing a new handbook to be used by the guilds.

Hopefully we are able to communicate organisation, statutes, programme ideas and means to recruit new members in a clear and understandable way.

As you well know, the 22nd World Scout Jamboree will take place in Sweden 27/7 - 7/8 2011. A letter has gone out from our World Bureau to all

member countries. Please, if you are interested in taking part, contact your



International Secretary! As an IST (International Service team) you are expected to come on 25th July and leave on 8th August. The fee is 4500 SEK not including travel costs. You will stay in a tent. We would like to see many guilders taking on an active role. Christmas is not far away. The Peace Light of Betlehem will soon be transported all the way from Helsingborg to far up north in Sweden. In many churches and scout and guide events the flame will spread the message of Peace. The King of Sweden will receive it on 16th December. On Christmas Eve at 2 pm we can all see the ceremony on television.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
See you in Cyprus at the Europe Conference!
Gunilla Engvall

Try:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scouting_museums

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