



Areas of Work

Educational Methods



The 1st Scout Academy has ended!

The 1st Scout Academy, the new and innovative event organised by the Region at the *Centro Eurolatinoamericano de Juventud* in Molina (Spain), finished its week-long proceedings on 26 October 2008.

More than 160 Scout leaders, representing 22 European countries, took part throughout the week as facilitators or participants in sessions covering 13 areas of work, covering a broad spectrum of issues in modern Scouting, from e-learning to spiritual development and from fundraising to changing youth policies.

Being the first event of its kind, there are many lessons to be learned for the organizers but the initial evaluation has shown that the principle works very well and that the participants have taken the most out of all the opportunities offered to them through the Academy.

You can follow-up on the Academy at www.scoutacademy.blogspot.com.

ROVERWAY 2009 *in Iceland*



RoverWay 2009

20-28 July 2009 in Iceland

We are getting closer and closer to the 3rd RoverWay, hosted by The Icelandic Boy and Girl Scout Association 'Bandalag islenskra skata'.

The latest news from RoverWay is that Journeys and Registration are online now!

Rovers participating can choose the Journey for their team, for example:

- Journey to the Centre of the Earth
- To act or not to act
- Ice-climbing
- Lend a hand to a ghost
- Vigorous Vikings
- ... or many others

There are more than 50 journeys divided in to six different groups: Heart, Mind, Creativity, Environment, Challenge, and Culture. Check them out on the RoverWay web page.

Handled through the RoverWay website, registration is electronic and will be open until 1 February 2009. After this date it will still be possible to register by paying a higher fee. Participants will be able to enroll only if they are organised in teams composed of 5 to 15 people. Each team and IST registration will be valid after a confirmation is sent from The Icelandic Boy and Girl Scout Association 'Bandalag islenskra skata'.

More information about RoverWay 2009 can be found on its website: www.roverway.is

Facebook users can also check out Roverway group on Facebook as well as groups from different countries, associations and contingents.

Development and Support



Roundtable on Membership - recruitment and retention

7-9 November 2008 in Malmö, Sweden

Two roundtables on Membership and Diversity were organised jointly at the same venue by WAGGGS and WOSM. The main topics discussed at the Roundtable on Membership were large-scale events, what makes participation attractive and different ways of membership growth at national and local level. All themes were looked at from the point of view of recruitment and retention of members.

- Large-scale events can serve as an excellent opportunity to get good publicity for Scouting and Guiding and thus help in recruiting new members, both young people and adults. New programme can also be tested or rolled out during large-scale events. Even though large events can help in recruiting new members, attention must be paid to not overload volunteers preparing events as this might lead to loss of members.
- The attractive participation theme included attractive programme and new styles of delivery as well as adult focused discussions on attractive volunteering. Scouting and Guiding must face the fact that volunteering now is different from volunteering some decades ago. People might not want to commit to weekly tasks but might be willing to help out every now and then. We should be aware of the value of volunteering for adults in order to keep them involved.
- National, regional and local levels have different roles to play in membership growth. Ideally national level provides the tools for other levels who then conduct the actual recruitment of members. The tools should be of high quality and easy to use. Sweden presented their pack of recruitment tools which includes tools for recruiting diversity, marketing tools, introductory courses for new leaders and a recruitment DVD for the local groups.

In a joint session between the two roundtables (Membership and Diversity) the participants discussed how recognition of the existing diversity in our organisations can help us in retaining members. Guides and Scouts are far more diverse than we perhaps even notice. This might be one reason for saying "Scouting and

Guiding can offer possibilities to work with a more diverse group of people than do other interests, work or studies". Another aspect of the joint session was to think about how we could reach out and get new members from groups not already involved in Scouting and Guiding.

Besides these themes, we had a presentation from the Inspiration team work in Denmark. This team has material on a variety of themes from which the local groups can choose a topic most interesting to them. The local group then meets the volunteers of the Inspiration team. The team helps the group in their challenges. We also had a look at some studies on why young people leave Scouting. You can read more about this topic in the previous EuroScoutInfo issue.

Are you interested in growth issues? Join the Growth Network in its meeting in spring 2009.

To know more about the Growth Network contact Katrin Tauscher at ktauscher@scout.org.

Relationships and Funding



European Scouting mobilises for EU Year of Volunteers

The campaign to have 2011 designated as EU Year of volunteers continues

European Scouting is urging the EU Commission to move forward to make it happen. During spring and summer European Scouting and many National Scout Organisations campaigned actively towards Members of the European Parliament to have the Parliament call for 2011 to be designated as the European Year of Volunteering. The campaign was highly successful and a clear majority of the MEPs joined this demand thus making it the official position of the Parliament.

Now it is time to continue the mobilisation! The European Commission, the Executive of the European Union, has not yet moved to further this proposal. European Scouting, together with other civil society organisations, met on 11 November with the Commissioner Vladimir Spidla to discuss the issue and the importance of this year for millions of volunteers around Europe.

For more information about the campaign, do not hesitate to contact European Scout Office in Brussels jweuro@scout.org.

Background document in five languages explains the idea for having a European Year of Volunteering:

English

http://www.youthforum.org/Downloads/Courier/2008/november/European_Year_Background_Paper_EN.pdf

French

http://www.youthforum.org/Downloads/Courier/2008/november/European_Year_Background_Paper_FR.pdf

German

http://www.youthforum.org/Downloads/Courier/2008/november/European_Year_Background_Paper_DE.pdf

Polish

http://www.youthforum.org/Downloads/Courier/2008/november/European_Year_Background_Paper_PL.pdf

Portuguese

http://www.youthforum.org/Downloads/Courier/2008/november/European_Year-Background_Paper_PT.pdf

Italian

http://www.youthforum.org/Downloads/Courier/2008/november/European_Year-Background_Paper_IT.pdf



Left to right: Loreta, Jaakko, Paul, Marianna, Micha and Tine

Scouts elected to leadership in the European Youth Forum

Scouts took firm hold of the leadership of the European Youth Forum (YFJ), the representative platform of European youth organisations at European level – towards the EU, the Council of Europe and the United Nations System. Tine Radinja (28) from Slovenia, the nominated representative of the European Scout Region, was elected as the President of the YFJ in the YFJ General Assembly, held in Rotterdam, The Netherlands on 13-15 November.

"At the time of financial crisis, the youth sector cannot stay inactive, but we must advocate for stronger recognition and sustainability of youth organisations. Building the Europe of our dreams needs young people, strong youth organisations and a vision for the future." Tine Radinja stated in his closing speech at the General Assembly.

The Scouting's position was further strengthened through the election of Johan Ekman (25, Finnish Scouting) and Luca Scarpello (25, Italian Scouting) as members of the 11-member Bureau (Board) of the Forum. Both Johan and Luca have served in various roles in their NSOs as well as WOSM.

In addition, the membership of European Youth Forum renewed the mandate of WOSM members Loreta Senkute from Lithuania (representing WOSM) and Etienne Genet from France (representing the National Youth Council of France) in the Advisory Council for Youth Affairs of the Council of Europe. Advisory Council is a statutory body of the Council of Europe and it defines the priorities and policies of this intergovernmental institution in the youth field. The campaign was coordinated closely with Europe

Region WAGGGS. The two movements have now historically strong representation in the leadership of the cooperation of European youth organisations.

More information on the European Youth Forum and the involvement of Scouting in it:

European Youth Week: Have your say on EU youth policy

The European Youth week was organised on 3-5 November all around Europe. The main event took place in Brussels and it provided a possibility for young people across Europe to have their say on the future of EU youth policies. European Scouting was actively involved in the event with Micha Poscvek from European Policies Support Group serving as its General Rapporteur gathering the results of the debate of participants and presenting them to Jan Figel', European Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Youth and to the European Parliament Committee for Culture. Also trainers from European Scouting participated in the event as facilitators for young participants.

The contributions of the young people focused on five main issues: youth participation, volunteering programmes, employment, education and human rights.

The conclusions urge that:

- Every young person in Europe should have more opportunities to exchange with policy makers;
- There should be easier access to volunteering for everyone and a better recognition of skills and abilities acquired by the volunteers;
- International mobility amongst young people should be promoted by abolishing visa obstacles;
- The European Union should promote a similar education system in every European country, increase mobility and promote non-formal learning recognition;
- All citizens in the European Union should be considered equal, no matter what sex, skin colour, sexual orientation or social background they have.

The debate between young people and EU decision-makers was organised in the context of the revision of EU youth policies that will take place next year. The European Commission has invited young people and all involved in youth organisations to open online consultations on their proposal on future activities:

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth-policies/doc1220_en.htm

More information on the European Youth Week at www.youthweek.eu.

Life of the Movement

10th annual gathering of FOSE

During mid-October, the European Scout Foundation's *Friends of Scouting in Europe* annual gathering took place in Hungary. Some 35 Friends met and had a splendid, long-weekend planned and organised by Helene and Rene Karla in conjunction with the Hungarian Scout Association.

Please note for your 2009 calendar that the 11th FOSE Gathering will take place in Montenegro from 8-11 October 2009.

European Scout Foundation's financial results at year-end - 2007/2008

On 30 September 2008, the ESF closed its books for the financial year 2007/2008. The final figures are now in the

hands of our external auditors but we are pleased to report that the popular Friends of Scouting in Europe has enabled the Foundation to have an income of some CHF 100'000, which is in line with the previous two years. The ESF Small Projects have been provided some CHF 50.000. This is half of previous years result and we are in need of quality project requests from Central and Eastern Europe.

When available, as with the other accounts of the Region, the Foundation results, including the influence of the financial crisis, will be sent to NSOs



Scout Camp Blå Sommer 2009 in Denmark

At Blå Sommer 2009 you won't just meet Danish Guides and Scouts; you will also meet Guides and Scouts from the rest of the world. Out of the estimated 20,000 participants, it is hoped to see approximately 2000 foreign Guides and Scouts at the Jamboree who will have the opportunity for many international experiences.

Scouts and Guides from all over the world are invited to come to Denmark and experience Scouting the Danish way. More information can be found on the Blå Sommer website at <http://dds.dk/blaasommer/index.php?id=105>.

Reminders and Deadlines

Long Term Staff Positions at KISC

4 or 7-10 month positions at KISC, Switzerland

Deadline: 1 December 2008

Training Systems Renewal Workshop

6-8 February 2009 in Salzburg, Austria

Deadline: 8 January 2009

6th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources

18-22 March 2009 in Óbidos, Portugal

Deadline: 22 January 2009

North-South Network Meeting,

20 - 22 March 2009 in Athens, Greece

Deadline: 14 February 2009

Useful Information

Europak: www.europak-online.net

Stay in contact

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