

A REPORT ON THE FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION BY THE GHANA SCOUT ASSOCIATION

The 22ND February which for all Scouts worldwide is celebrated as B.P's Day or Founders day was given a new outlook in Ghana. The GSA had collaboration with the Horizon Kids Ghana (HKgh) and embarked on a weekend camp to Dawhenya a rural community in the Dangbe West District of the Greater Accra region, the capital of Ghana. This community though very close to the capital of Ghana had no Scout group and yet populated by a very large number of youth. Due to financial problems leading to inadequate funding to carry out the Founders day programme effectively, the GSA solicited support from HKgh. This is an NGO that is educative, entertaining, philanthropic and also supports children in difficult circumstances

OBJECTIVES OF THE FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION.

- Celebrate B.P's Day.
- Introduce Scouting to the Community.
- Embark on an Environmental awareness walk.
- Increase membership especially within a new community.

FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY, 2009.

About sixty to seventy Scouts from Accra and Tema on Friday went to Dawhenya to start a weekend camp towards the celebration of B.P's Day. Upon arrival the Scouts quickly set up the camp and embarked on an environmental awareness walk. This was to announce our presence and also assess the environmental conditions of the community. With our songs and yells, in no time we were joined by the children and adults waved at us.

In the evening we had an innovative educational session with the community. Video films of the great works of our founder Lord Baden Powel as well as documentaries on scouting in Asia, Europe, Africa especially Ghana were shown. Some members of the community asked questions and Scouts who could speak their local language explained and answered their questions.

SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY, 2009.

The morning was marked by a festival of Scouting, education, games, soccer and fun. The morning was characterized by the learning and practicing of scouting skills at various corners of the camp site. Scouts and youth in the community went through this exercise with much excitement.

In the afternoon there was a blend of quizzes, spelling Bee, physical games such as Spoon and Lime race, musical chairs, sack race, dancing competition, eating competition, tug of peace and soccer for both male and female. A bouncy castle and music was also provided to make the day extremely interesting and fun. At the end of the soccer, Scouts, both male and female unfortunately lost to the community.

The evening saw both Scouts and almost the entire members of the community coming together to tell stories, sing and dance. It was a beautiful night of friendship

SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY, 2009.

A Founders day parade and flag hoisting was observed in the morning with the singing of Scout songs and yells and a speech by the Chief Commissioner to remind us of the Great Baden Powel and what he expected of us all.

After that there was a Thanksgiving service at the community church which was followed by a march past around the major roads of the Dawhenya community.

Scouts then visited a degraded land site that was previously used as a stone quarry. This was to let scouts see in reality how land could be degraded and the role they had to play in achieving environmental sanity.

The next visit was to a marshy area not too far from the first site where rice is being cultivated .This gave the scouts an opportunity to compare the two sites: one that had been degraded for economic reasons and left in its poor state and the other that is used for a much desirable, economic and sustainable use. The day ended with breaking of camp and a party to signify the celebration and friendship made with the community. The weekend was further made memorable with the media capturing all the glorious moments of B.P's day. **The most significant hallmark for this camp is the fact that over fifty (50) youth and adults have shown interest to join our great and noble movement.**

APPRECIATION

Our appreciation goes to the Management and Staff of Horizon Kids Ghana (HKgh), Chiefs and people of Dawhenya Community, all Scouts present, the Media and Above all God Almighty

REPORTERS

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Please find attached some pictures of the Founders' Day Celebration.



Scouts busily set up Camp



Children in community watch on as camp is set



Quiz session in full flight



A girl from the community answers question during quiz time



A teacher from the community is quiz master



Scout Leaders interact with children from the community as they arrive at the camp site



The celebration was marked by various scouting activities



A young boy from the community tries climbing the tree the scouting way as his colleagues look on with excitement



Girls getting ready for spoon and lime race



Boys spoon and lime race



Sack Race



Girl Scouts were not left out as they competed with their colleague girls in the community



Girls pulling for peace



Scouts and community pull for peace



It was real fun for children in the community



Fun for the community. Potential Scouts.



Presentation of Prizes to winners of various games



A young girl from the community wins the dancing competition



**Presentation of cup to winners (Youth of the Community)
Founders' Day soccer match**



**Its time for the youth of the community to entertain at the camp
fire**



Founders' Day March



Session of Scouts at Founders' Day March



Scouts at degraded land site



Scouts at rice farm



Scouts leaders enjoy Founders' Day meal



A good refreshment ends it all