



# What's on in Europe

issue 2/June 2015

## Together in Pannonhalma



### Our Workshop in Pannonhalma by Hans Slanec, Chair Europe Committee

In our first meeting of the European Committee in Stockholm, we had decided to continue in organizing workshops for our European member countries. As I had some experiences in that matter, not only because of the workshop in Berlin/Wandlitz, I agreed to manage such an event together with all the committee members. The first thing to do was to find a venue for the workshop. During my visits in Budapest to give support to the Hungarian Guild and information about a scout life after the years in the youth organisation, I heard about the Monastery of Pannonhalma and St. Jacob's House. A meeting there with representatives of Hungarian Guild, Hungarian Scouting, Werner Weilguny and me on one side and representatives of the monastery on the other side, made us sure, that this venue would be suitable for a workshop with a maximum of 50 participants. As we had to take care on the World Conference 2014 in Sydney and the high costs, we decided to run the workshop in March 2015.

In three meetings with our Hungarian friends we fixed the frame of program, costs and visits to learn a bit about the host country. We found speakers for the lectures and a practical work right in time and then we could start to invite our European member countries, to give travel information, to name an account for payment and some more.

We offered grants to make sure, that people interested to join the workshop, could come without financial problems, although we had tried to hold the costs as low as possible.

Till the end of January 40 registration forms had been sent to the committee. The participation fees arrived on our account and we started to finalize the organisation of our workshop.

Monday, the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, we opened the 6<sup>th</sup> European Workshop

together with Arch Abbot Asztrik, the Hungarian Chief Scout, Barnabas Budai, and Kati Schumicky, International Secretary of the Hungarian Guild. We were 36 Participants, because 3 friends fell ill.

We all had fine days with lectures, discussions and practical work, with visits of the monastery, it's gardens and winery and the beautiful nearby town of Győr.

Many thanks to the speakers Nana Gentimi, Doris Stockmann, Sara Milreu, Michael Gruber and Leny Doelman, she had been responsible for the practical work and a report about ISGF Web. They all did a good job.

Many thanks to all committee members and helpers for their work in the background, not seen, but necessary to make such an event successfully.

I hope that the next workshop will be crowned by success as it had been with all the workshops in the past.



Pictures : Hans Slanec

After the workshop, a kind letter was received from the Arch Abbot reading:

"Dear Mr. President,  
I thank you for your friendly letter, where you informed me about your experiences with your workshop at Szent Jakab Haz.

I am pleased, that you had enjoyed the atmosphere and the beautiful and historic surrounding and that you are willing to recommend this possibility to other guilds and to the scouts and guides too.

Yours in Christ with kindest regards,  
Asztrik Varszegi OSB  
(Arch Abbot )"



A few days after the workshop we got the sad news that our friend **Andras "Dezső" Somogy** had passed away. The Europe Committee sends its deepest condolences to the Hungarian Fellowship and his family. All of us who had the pleasure of meeting him are sure he is resting in peace in the "Eternal Camp"



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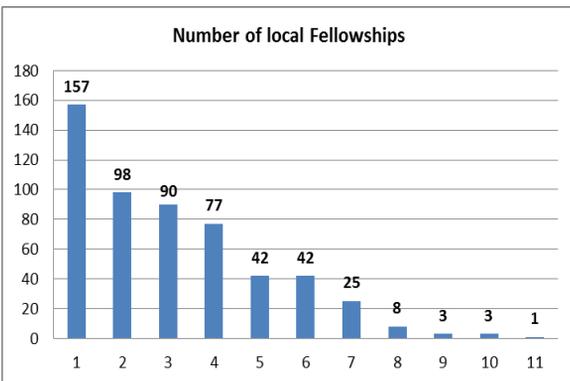
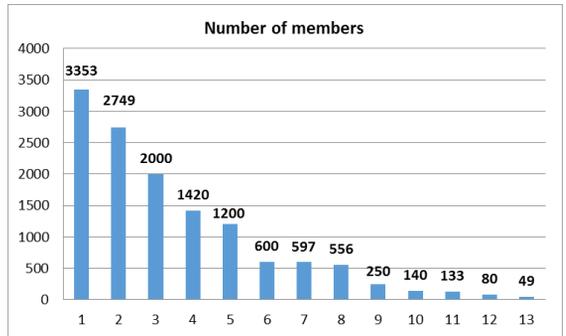
## Together in Panhonalma (contd.)

### Visibility and good relations with the Guide and Scout organizations by Doris Stockmann, Vice-chair and Treasurer Europe Committee

At the Europe Region Workshop in Hungary I had the possibility to talk about how we in the Fellowship could get new members and grow. In many countries we are not that well known, but we should become better known. We should talk about what we do and also show. We have several matters that we can make use of like the Bethlehem Peace Light, collecting stamps for the Stamp bank and other campaigns like the Fellowship Toy. What is also important is to become more known among the Guide and Scout organizations. Locally we can help the Guide and Scout troops at camps and offer to help them with programs, or be mentors for young leaders. It is also important to take part in happenings and camps at the national level, where we may support the leaders and maybe have a stall selling our products informing people especially during the visitor's day.

A questionnaire was handed out and I found it quite interesting to make a summary of the answers. I had not realized that we were so different, just look at the number of members that the different countries have. Some are big with thousands of members and some are small with only hundreds of members.

The same situation is when we look at the number of local Fellowships. There are some member countries who have about 100 local Guilds and some that have less than a handful.



It was interesting to find out that only Finland is a B member (means no voting right) of the Guides and Scouts, which nowadays is one organisation. However, many of the countries have contact with the Guide and Scout movement.

A bit more than half of the present countries have just one Fellowship organisation and less than half have two to three organisations. If we look at the Guide and Scout organisations it is the opposite, less than half of the countries have just one Guide and Scout organisation and more than half have two to five Guide and/or Scout organisations.

The most important, however, is that we can learn from each other how to become more known among the Guides and Scouts and their families, because when they get older they are our potential members.

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Price	Registration
26-30 Jun	Nordic Baltic Sub-Region Event	Horsens, Denmark	740,00€	19th Mar
7-13 Sept	26th Western Europe Sub-Regional Gathering	Oostduinkerke, Belgium	480/525,00€	28th Feb
23-27 Sept	8th Central Europe Sub-Region Conference	Zeillern, Austria	250/290,00€	31st Mar
22-27 Oct	Mediterranean Gathering	Marrakesh, Morocco	550/665,00€	15th May



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## Workshop evaluation

by Sara Milreu

Using the five fingers of the hand, the participants were asked to evaluate the workshop, mentioning:

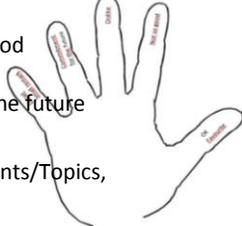
Thumb – their favourite thing

Forefinger – something not so good

Middle finger – a dislike

Ring finger – a commitment for the future

Pinkie – a detail or small remark



And on a scale from 1 to 5: Contents/Topics, Accommodation, and Food.

Participants were also asked if they would participate in a new workshop, and to provide suggestions and topics they would like to see covered in further workshops.

In terms of dislikes people complained about the long presentations and excursions, sitting for too long, changes in schedule, language difficulties, delays and little time between activities.

Meeting new people, friendship, scout/guide spirit and cooperation, and the possibility of learning from other participant's experiences and ideas were appointed as the best.

In a growing scale least points were given to food, followed by accommodation, while the presentations were marked between 4 and 5.

The majority of the participants said they would participate in more workshops, and provided very good suggestions that will be taken good note by the European Committee when organising the 2016 workshop.

Looking forward to meeting you there!

## 9<sup>th</sup> European Conference of ISGF

Tours - Val de Loire - France

11-15 September 2016

**Live together Scouting and Guiding, a school for Peace and Citizenship**

Within Val de Loire, historical centre of France, designated by UNESCO as part of the World Heritage.

The conference will take place in Tours in the "conference centre Vinci". The draft programme is as follows:



Delegates will be welcome at the railway station of Tours (in front of the Vinci) in the afternoon of Sunday 11. Different hotels will be available to suit everyone's preferences and budgets.

In the late afternoon first opportunity of getting acquainted thanks to a friendly welcome in the "parc de la Préfecture" close to the Vinci with young guides and scouts.

Conference per se from Monday 12 to Wednesday 14. In addition to the traditional elements of a European Conference, which will be discussed with the Europe Committee, there will be:

- conference on Tours and Chateaux de la Loire followed by a visit of the town;
- a round table linked with the name of the Conference
- a gala evening in Grange de Meslay (a barn) aged 8 centuries

Thursday 15, day of visits: two chateaux and one wine cave ... wines from Touraine are highly famous and various

Additional tours from Friday 16 will be organised for those who want to visit more of the Val de Loire but the programme is presently being established.

E-mail address Organising Committee: [europe2016@orange.fr](mailto:europe2016@orange.fr)

The European Committee is glad to send you the second issue of the Newsletter "What's on in Europe", a joint effort of its members:

**Hans Slanec**  
**Doris Stockmann**  
**Katharine Diver**  
**Sara Milreu**

Please do not hesitate in forwarding your remarks and questions to [saramilreu@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:saramilreu@yahoo.co.uk)

## Reminder Annual fee

The annual fee is €40 for the year 2015 and is due to be paid. Those who have not paid the fee are reminded to pay it as soon as possible to the Europe account:

**ISGF – Region Europe**  
**IBAN: BE42 3631 3366 7454**  
**BIC: BBRUBEBB**

Doris Stockmann - treasurer



Pictures and information: Jean-François Levy/Organising Committee