



## NEWS from DENMARK

### National Board Meeting held in September, 2011

As our proposed changes to our constitution were discarded two years ago, we have used the meantime to prepare the changes once more. We have worked intensely with them – together with our District leaders and this year most of them were carried.

### Members of the National Board are:



National president:

Lone Erkmann

National secretary: Kjeld B. Krabsen

National cashier: Paula Mikkelsen

International secretary:  
Anne Haastrup-Nielsen

National training/development commissioner:  
Sten Frost

National PR commissioner:  
Gerda Abildgaard

## Action plan 2011-2013

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

- Participate in the Scout Jamboree 2012
- Participate in projects that will make us (the guilds) more visible
- Develop new ways and offers for personal development
- Collect information about guild activities before and during the Scout Jamboree 2012 so the work and values of the guilds become more visible
- Carry out a country-wide collection of funds for humanitarian goals



### Scout Jamboree 2012

The Scout Jamboree 2012 will be held in Holstebro, Denmark in week 30, 2012.

It is a joint camp between our 5 official scout associations and is even open to young people who are not (yet) members of an association, the idea being to attract more members.

In the camp we will be organized in townships referring to where we come from in our country, this should be a possibility to mingle between different scout associations, thereby having an option to get to know one another better. The guilds of the various towns should also mingle.

The jamboree is open to people outside Denmark and we heartily welcome you from the Nordic countries.

Læs mere på [www.2012.spejderne.dk](http://www.2012.spejderne.dk)

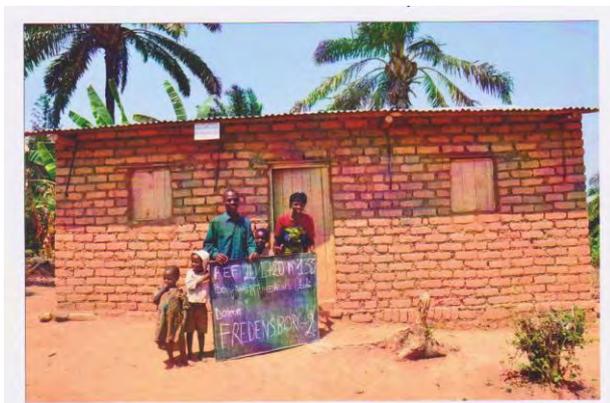
### **A good story from Burundi**

My local guild of Fredensborg, DK decided some years ago to donate money to refugees in Burundi. We learned about an organization, which had made it an object to help refugees in returning to their country. The aim is to involve the returning families in building their own, new home. The donation helps to make bricks, the family members help in the building process and in addition they get tools, so they can work with the seeds also provided on a small piece of land that goes with the house.

It was a great success and in this way many refugees have returned and are very happy for this new chance in life.

Therefore we decided to buy a house No. 2 and that resulted in the following letter from the family.

### **Thank you from Mr. Odéde Ntunzwanayo**



House No.: 133 – Name: Fredensborg. In this house live Mr. Odéde Ntunzwanayo with his wife and 4 children. In 1993 he fled his village together with his parents and sister and brother.

They were shot at and his father and brother lost their lives. For several years he lived in a camp for refugees and in 2002 met and married his present wife Faïness. In 2005 peace had reached Odéde's village and he and his wife returned with their children.

Upon their return they found the house of his parents burned down and on his small piece of land they built a small shelter and lived from roots from the wood and worked now and then for local farmers. So they could stay alive.

Because of the donation from my local guild, Fredensborg, they now have a new-built house and a small piece of land. They have survived and have a dream of growing so much crop that they can sell from it, thus being able to send their children to school.

### **Peace light from Bethlehem**

As usual, at the end of November, we will have the Peace Light ceremony in Roskilde, where we will get the Flame of Peace to send around Denmark, to Greenland and further on to Sweden. A torchlight procession will take place from the Catholic Church (where an eternal flame is kept) to the Cathedral of Roskilde and some short ceremonies will held at both places.

We are working on ways of getting the Flame from Denmark to Norway also, by boat. We have several connections between our two countries.

*Anne Haastrup-Nielsen*

*International Secretary*

haastrup79@gmail.com

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## NEWS from FINLAND

Several guild members from Finland visited the big Jamboree in Sweden this summer and others went to Grossarl for their traditional meeting there. And of course we had our delegation at the World Conference in Como, Italy.

But our main event was the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the National Scout and Guide Fellowship in Finland, Suomen Pyhä Yrjänän Partiokillat – S:t Görans Scoutgillen i Finland ry. The celebration took place in the town of Hämeenlinna in southern Finland on October 22nd-23rd. The festivities started with lunch, then followed a reception given by the town of Hämeenlinna in the old Town Hall. After the reception we moved to the old castle for a guided tour before the gala dinner. The eldest part of the castle was built as a fortress between 1200-1300 and gradually expanded during the following centuries. It has served mostly as a garrison, but during the 20th century it was used as a jail until it was transferred into a museum and a cultural center. So our celebration dinner took place in quite dignified surroundings with a traditional anniversary program: speeches, appointing honorary members, giving honorary badges and decoration.

On the following Sunday we had an extraordinary membership meeting, as we have been changing our constitution. In the future we will have a membership meeting annually, not only every second year and board members will be elected for a two year period, not four years as up to now.

The guilds in Finland have taken part in a charity project called "Reppuralli" (i.e. backpack-race). During the fall they have

been collecting backpacks suitable for schoolchildren to be given to children living in children homes and foster homes in a small town in Eastern Estonia. We collected more than 200 backpacks, new and used, with or without contents which will be delivered to the children before Christmas.

Liv Aure Olli

International Secretary

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## NEWS from NORWAY

Since the last newsletter the Norwegian St George's Guilds have held their General Assembly. Karin Thompson was elected as the new National President. In Norway she is best known as a former leader of the Methodist Scout and Guide Association. Her introduction to the guild movement was as a representative for the Norwegian Scout and Guide Association. (The guilds' national executive committee has two representatives for scouts and guides, one from the Norwegian Scout and Guide Association and one from the YMCA-YWCA Guides and Scouts of Norway.)



*Photo: Karin*

I, Trond Walstad, was elected to the executive committee as Deputy President and therefore also International Secretary. The new committee took over responsibility for continuing the work on our profile and on expansion. We were happy to note that our membership has increased in the past two years!

Our last executive committee meeting was held in the mountains 1000 meters above sea level. The photo is from a walk – the mountains were still clothed in autumn colours, and the snow had not yet come.



*Photo: most of the committee beside a cairn*

We had an effective meeting, where we among other things agreed to concentrate on our guild programmes. The quality of our guilds' meetings and outings provides a good basis for more expansion. We were pleased to note that the guild camp site Kvernmoen, north of Halden, yielded a profit, which will be used to develop more activities at the site. Kvernmoen can also be an excellent place for guilds in Scandinavia to visit. For more information, see our web site [www.sggn.no](http://www.sggn.no).

### **Home hospitality**

To open your home for scouting friends sounds so easy, yet so difficult. With hard work and economic help from the national

Guild body, the jigsaw puzzle was solved, and around 700 scouts and guides from Taiwan, Austria, the Czech Republic and Hong Kong were welcomed after the World Jamboree. In cooperation with local scout and guide groups, the guilds succeeded! New ties were made between the guilds and scouts, guides and leaders. This was a valuable spin-off effect of Home Hospitality in Norway. Members of the guilds were given a specific task. Many have said that this strengthened the local guild. In evaluations from the foreign visitors, we can read that visiting a Norwegian family that is active in the scouting or guild movement was one of the highlights of the jamboree.



*Photo: Hong Kong scouts in Oslo*

Trond Walstad

International Secretary

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## **NEWS from ICELAND**

In the year 2012, 100 years will have passed since the scout movement came to Iceland from Denmark. Over the course of one century thousands of children and young people have experienced all the good and interesting things that scouting can provide.

Currently, several projects are in the pipelines that will be interesting to see materialize,

including a big national Jamboree in July next summer. A new scout program is also being implemented, which is a cause for celebration. We, in the St. George Guilds', are watching from the sideline, but we will no doubt take part in some of those upcoming activities. We sense a great interest in involving mature, grown up scouts more in different kinds of scout activities. A group of experienced people has volunteered to recruit older scouts for some of the new activities. We are hoping that new guilds will soon be established. There is a lot of activity in most of the guilds, but some of them are in need of renewal.

Some information about the meeting in Litháen has been sent out and we hope that a group of Icelandic Guild scouts will be able to participate there.



Á næsta ári, 2012, verða liðin 100 ár frá því að skátahreyfingin barst til Íslands frá Danmörku. Í heila öld hafa fjöldi barna og unglinga hér á landi notið alls þess sem gott skátastarf hefur upp á að bjóða.

Í undirbúningi eru ýmis verkefni sem gaman verður að fylgjast með m.a. stórt skátamót í júlí næsta sumar. Einnig er verið að fara af

stað með nýja skátadagskrá sem ástæða er til að fagna. Við skátarnir í gildunum fylgjumst með þessu úr fjarlægð en munum án efa koma að ýmsum þessarra verkefna. Það er mikill áhugi á að fá reynda skáta, fullorðið fólk, til að koma meira að hinu eiginlega skátastarfi. Hópur fólks sem kann vel til verka hefur boðið fram krafta sína til að kalla inn gamla skáta í ný verkefni. Okkur dreymir um að stofnuð verði fleiri gildi, í flestum þeirra er unnið af kappi en önnur þurfa meiri endurnýjun.

Farið er að kynna mótið í Litháen lítillaga og vonandi getum við sent hóp íslenskra gildisfélaga þangað.

Hrefna Hjálmarsdóttir

NP – Elín Richards

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## NEWS from LITHUANIA

No news received, but have a look at latest news.

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## NEWS from SWEDEN

2011 – the year of Scouting in Sweden

Many of the guildscouts have been involved in WSJ 2011, the World Scout Jamboree, in Rinkaby in southern part of Sweden 27/7 – 6/8. More than 40 000 scouts and guides took part in the largest WOSM jamboree ever. ISGF had an information booth where we told more than 4 000 visitors about our worldwide

organization. We also had the stamp bank present and managed to sell cards and stamps for € 320. Our tent was right beside the swopping area and the visitors were quite many the three days it rained.



The other days we had nice weather. Many came to visit the jamboree, the participants went to Camp in Camp, to take part in smaller camps organized not too far from the jamboree site. Also Danish, Norwegian and Finnish scouts took in these and they were also involved in Home Hospitality. Sweden had the main responsibility but our Nordic friends took an active role too. The Jamboree was a great success and the last evening at the closing ceremony our Swedish King made us all take part in the “rocket”.



Of course the preparations and follow up on WSJ took quite some time, but we also had:

In May our biannual meeting took place in Falun in Dalecarlia. Good work, good spirit

and new energy for the future work are in short what happened.

In September and October some of the regions have had their annual gatherings filled with music and visits to interesting places.

Eight Swedes took part in the World Conference in Como. We were happy to meet many of our NBSR-friends there. Mida Rodrigues from Portugal is the new ISGF chair



*Photo: Participants from Scandinavia*

In October many guilds celebrated Fellowship Day just for themselves or together with other guilds.

Now we are starting the planning of the Europe Conference in 2013. Hopefully many will take an opportunity to visit us, both in Stockholm and Helsinki. We are working together within NBSR in this project.

We wish You all a Happy New Year! See you in Birstonas!

Gunilla Engvall

NP Sweden

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## The very latest news!

### Nordic Baltic Gathering Birstonas Lithuania 13/6-17/6 2012

From: Dalia Uržaitė  
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 7:48 AM  
To: Gunilla Engvall

Dear Gunilla,

These are some answers to your questions :)

More than one hotel? Can you choose? To what prices?

There is a hotel chosen: Royal Residence  
[http://www.karaliskojirezidencija.lt/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=34&Itemid=74](http://www.karaliskojirezidencija.lt/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=34&Itemid=74) There is an agreement made.

Can you come earlier and/or stay longer?  
Yes, you are welcome!

Is there a post conference tour?  
We haven't arranged a post conference tour yet. We do not know about the need of it.

Is there a shuttle bus from and to the airport?  
Is there more than one airport?  
There are three airports: Kaunas, Vilnius, Palanga. It would be great that everybody could plan the flight to Kaunas. You will be taken from the airport to Birstonas. If there are no flights to Kaunas the communication from Vilnius to Kaunas by train is good. It takes only 1h 15min. There also is a train from Vilnius Airport to Vilnius railway station, it takes 8min. These people will be taken from Kaunas Railway station to Birštonas.

Can you go by boat to Lithuania?

Yes, you can come from Karlshamn to Klaipėda, or from Stockholm to Riga- it's the same distance to Kaunas both from Riga and from Klaipėda.

When do we get more information?  
Before the Thinking day.

Last date to register?  
02 April 2012

Visum for whom?  
NO visa for Europe

Total price?  
200 Euro

Best wishes!  
Dalia

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News Letter

Editor and Layout: Trond Walstad

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Support your local Scout museum!

