



# NEWS LETTER

January 2014



**Last year's main event: the 8<sup>th</sup> European Conference**

---

## NEWS from DENMARK

**On September 21 -22, 2013 our National Assembly was held outside Denmark with a spectacular opening.**



**The Danish flag, the Dannebrog, fell from the sky** (as did it in 1219 in Estonia according to myth)

For the first time ever the National Assembly took place in the Northern part of Germany, in Slesvig, in an area called Sydslesvig, which is the location of the Danish minority.

Our guild in Flensburg, which is the Southernmost Danish guild, were hosting the assembly and in a very special place.

The well-known Danish ship-owner, Mr. Maersk Mc Kinney Møller, had donated money to build a school (Primary school as well as "Gymnasium") for the Danish minority living there.

It is a very popular school, which attracts many pupils, even German ones, but the language of tuition is Danish.

The Agenda contained three Motions:

- Period of function (for board members).  
No members can continue uninterruptedly for

more than 6 years. Should be understood as “in the same position”, but if in another position, it might be possible.

- National Assembly to be held each year as a one-day session. This in order to keep costs down.
- Proposal for honorary members – within our organization.

Only the first Motion was carried.

### Election of New Board Members

4 members had to leave the Board and 2 members continued.

### Below the National Board 2013-2015:



Left to right:

Peter Skræ, National Training/Development Commissioner  
Anne Hastrup-Nielsen: International Secretary  
Johan Evensen: National Secretary  
Helmut Werth: National President  
Paula Mikkelsen: National Cashier  
Ole Rafn Petersen: National PR Commissioner

### SHEP joined the 8<sup>th</sup> European conference

Our ISGF Mascot, SHEP, very much enjoyed the trip from Stockholm to Helsinki when participating in the European Conference. His further travel will bring him back to South Africa, where he was “born” and he will be reunited with his “mother”, when attending the 4<sup>th</sup> African Gathering taking place 20-25 January, 2014.



### Peace Light from Bethlehem

At the end of November our usual Peace Light ceremony took place in Roskilde.

After the torchlight procession a short service was held at Roskilde Cathedral.



The following day the light was transported around the country by train to various places, and by car also to Helsingborg, Sweden from where it was taken by car way up North as far as Haparanda.

Again this year the Peace light reached both Sisimiut and Nuuk, Greenland in good time.

Some months ago I learned that **also Poland brings the Peace light to Denmark.**



Last year on December, 19, the World's largest Scout Sailing Vessel “Zawasza Czarna” arrived in Rønne, Bornholm. Onboard were 48 Polish scouts who brought the Peace light, lit with the holy flame from the Bethlehem Church in Jerusalem and carried by scouts from different nations through Europe before the Slovakian scouts handed in over to Polish scouts, who sailed to Bornholm.

A torchlight procession brought the Light to the Methodist church, for use on 1. Sunday of Advent, 2013.



Anne Haastrup-Nielsen, International Secretary  
[haastrup79@gmail.com](mailto:haastrup79@gmail.com)



## NEWS from FINLAND

### NEWS FROM FINLAND

For the first time Finland's National Scout and Guide Fellowship – SPYP – has participated in the Peace Light “rally”. The Peace Light has been coming to Finland for a few years from Sweden, but only the scouts on the coast has participated. The Guilds were enthusiastic when we told them about the Peace Light in spring, but eventually only 3-4 Guilds joined. But we got the Peace Light distributed to several arrangements and it was very well received wherever it came. And it is not over yet – the Peace Light will continue its journey until Christmas Day. We hope that next year we will have many more Guilds joining.



In the beginning of October one Guild could celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. On October 12<sup>th</sup> Turun Pyhä Yrjänän Kilta invited all the guild scouts to join them on their big day. This Guild was almost non-functioning a few years back, but they found their B-P spirit again and got several new members and is now active again. During their celebration they also got new members who gave their guild scout promise in moon light.



SPYP celebrated Fellowship Day and the ISGF's 60th anniversary with a dinner on October 26th in Jyväskylä in Central Finland. Dinner speaker was Erkki Fredrikson, Director of Central Finland's Museum. He told about the Scout Movement and Jyväskylä Lyceum (a high school where the scout movement was very active at an early stage in

Finland). Earlier in the day we had contact on skype with several fellowship members from many countries. This was a new and joyful experience which we surely will try again.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Liv Aure-Olli  
[liv.aure-olli@pp.inet.fi](mailto:liv.aure-olli@pp.inet.fi)



## NEWS from ICELAND

Seven guild scouts from Iceland did participate in the European conference in September 2013. We enjoyed meeting guild scouts from different countries.



In Oktober we celebrated the Fellowship day in the Settlement Centre in Borgarnes on a beautiful autumn day. We were around 60 guild scouts both from the north and the south. This year the national board had 50 years anniversary and it was the board that organized the day. The fellowship message was read and we had lot of old scout songs from different parts of the country.





Ingibjörg Hargrave from Borgarnes told us how a group of guides collected money to buy a little house that is used as a meeting place for the local scouts. Later everybody was invited to visit this nice scouthouse. We could also visit the exhibition from Egilssaga and the Icelandic settlement in the Settlement Center.



Gunnar Atlason is a member of a group called „Smiðjuhópurinn“. He told us about a brand new idea „ The scout cultural museum“ that will be located very near Úlfjótuvatn the camping place.

Hrefna Hjálmarasdóttir  
NP Iceland  
hhia@simnet.is



## NEWS from LITHUANIA

No news this time.



## NEWS from SWEDEN



The New Board



SGSS creates new website.

During the year, SGSS signed a cooperation agreement with the Guide and Scouts of Sweden. This has led to that we now have started the work to create a new website for SGSS, it will be situated at [www.scouterna.se](http://www.scouterna.se) and will be handled like one of the scout districts websites today. The page will look in a similar way as the other scout sites in Sweden.

It also means that each guild can have their own website now, and then they are sorted as a scout troop today.

A small working group has begun to work, and plans to have a first draft ready by February 2014. Of course, the working group also needs information from other Nordic / Baltic countries for publication.

We would like to come back with more info later.

IC for Sweden: Carl-Magnus Klärcke

[Carl-magnus.klarcke@comhem.se](mailto:Carl-magnus.klarcke@comhem.se)



## NEWS from NORWAY



The Norwegian Guide and Scout Association (NSF) held their national jamboree in Stavanger in the summer. A troop from the guilds was present, using the name “Blue in camp” from our characteristic blue shirts and jumpers. The troop ran “Hotelt”, a popular resource at camps, providing accommodation for visitors: a tent, a camp-bed, a washbasin and a bucket of water. What more does a visitor to a scout camp need?



There were between 24 and 56 guests each night. Coffee and waffles were served in a large tent which provided shelter from the wind – while shelter from rain was not necessary as the week was sunny and dry. The camp provided a good opportunity to spread information about guild activities.



During 2013, four new guilds were founded. It seems to be easier to start new guilds with members who already know one another, than to recruit new members to well-established guilds.



Norwegian delegates enjoyed the European conference in September, with the opportunity to sail through the Stockholm archipelago and visit

Helsinki. Afterwards we were pleased to be able to offer hospitality to ten delegates, mainly from the United Kingdom.

We were also represented in Geneva at the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of ISGF. Here we could present ISGF with a copy of the English edition of the booklet on Baden-Powell that we have produced, *Old thoughts – new visions*.



A French edition is under way, and we are investigating the possibility of making an Arabic edition. The booklet contains five suggestions for meetings based on various aspects of Baden-Powell’s message, with quotations, some of his speeches and a time-line. The working party that studied Baden-Powell and produced the booklet was surprised at how modern and relevant his “old thoughts” are.



A new committee is trying to create more interest for the Peace Light from Bethlehem. A web site, [www.fredsllyset.no](http://www.fredsllyset.no), and a **Facebook group**, Fredsllyset i Norge, has made it possible for scouts and guides and guild members to share photographs and experiences. (go and have a look)

