



Reach out to join the Caribbean

Evaluation *1st Caribbean sub-gathering* *Curacao, 8 - 12th September 2010*

Participants

Aruba (6), Australia (2), Belgium (1), Curacao (63), Netherlands (2), Suriname (25)

Arrivals

Australia – September 2nd

The Netherlands and Surinam – September 7th

Aruba and Belgium – September 8th

All delegations were welcomed at the airport by the PR Committee with a Curacao sweet and photo shoot.

Accommodation

Hotel Pelikaan, Langestraat 78

Other Hotels used

Kura Hulanda (Gathering) and Otrabanda (Cocktail party)

Restaurant Rancho El Sobrino

Lunch during Island Tour

Breakfast

Hotel Pelikaan

Lunch

Hotel Kura Hulanda

Wednesday 8th September - Registration – Hotel Pelikaan -

From 18.00 – 19.00 all participants registered and received their conference bags, followed by a meet and greet party with welcome drink and some snacks. The participants were addressed by Mrs Yvonne Kibbelaar – National President.

The Copernicia musical group delighted the participants with some nice songs.

Chairperson: Mrs Nydia Hato-Arvelo

Thursday 9th September – 1st day of Gathering – Hotel Kura Hulanda

After Breakfast and Hoisting of the Flags of all participating delegations, Miss Angele Corasol (Chairperson) welcomed all the participants at 09.00 hours sharp and introduced Mrs Nydia Hato who led the opening ceremony.

A very impressive “Promise and Candle” ceremony, written by our member Imelda Kroon (KAPI).

After the opening ceremony Pastor Simon Wilson gave us the blessings and wished us a fruitful 1st Caribbean sub-gathering.

Mrs Verna Lopez, President of Copernicia, held her opening speech and Mrs Merelyn Alcalá-Walle (Member of the Island Council) addressed all the participants and guests.



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Mrs Chuki (Marlene Scharbaai), her Daughter Eduarda and their dancing partner delighted us with some Folkloric dances and received a random applause for their performance.

After this presentation it was Coffee Break time.

Our Keynote speaker for this day was Mrs Grace Goede – Martina (Development Executive for the Western Hemisphere region of WAGGS since September 2003 till July 2010) with the theme “Reach out to join the Caribbean”. Mrs Goede gave a presentation & workshop and asked the participants to setup an “action plan” for the ISGF development in the Caribbean. Her main goal was to motivate the adult scouts’ delegations to become member of ISGF and then form a Caribbean Link to stay connected and support each other with experience and suggestions. During the workshop the delegations of adult scouts discussed and exchanged ideas. The delegations of adult scouts of Aruba and Surinam showed great interest to become member of ISGF.

After a Photo session and lunch it was time for our next lecturer Ing. Manuel Pereira, Project Manager of the local Power and Water Plant, Aqualectra and chairman of Caribbean Desalination Association CaribDA, with his lecture “A non-scout best practice to Reach out to join the Caribbean”.

Mr Pereira brought forward the essential of good communication (contact by e-mail, launch a website or even a personal visit to one of the Caribbean Islands.

He also presented some information about “Sea-Water Desalination” and “the importance of clean drinking water”.

The afternoon was closed by Mrs Janine de Windt, Coordinator of Curacao Tourist Board, with a lecture about “Tourism and Culture”.

Speaking about our culture, she surprised the participants with a folkloric dance group, who moved quite a few participants to the dance floor. Our Chairperson for the afternoon was Mrs Glenda Dania.

A “Curacao by Night” tour was the highlight of the day. The east part of the Island was explored with a stop on a hilltop for some refreshment, snacks and music.

Friday, September 10th, 2010

After Breakfast, Hoisting of Flags and opening Ceremony the morning hours were dedicated to ISGF.

Mrs Anne Dupont Vice President of ISGF elaborated on the importance of becoming a NSGF. She distributed the last updated ISGF leaflet and showed some pictures about her local guild.

Two members of the Wilhelmina Cancer Foundation paid us a visit to collect some contribution for this Foundation.

After lunch Mrs Anne Dupont talked on a personal basis with the delegations of Surinam and Aruba.



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A delegation of representatives of all participating countries visited an elderly home to bring them a Donation in name of the 1st Caribbean Sub-Gathering. This elderly home was chosen due to the fact that we have two members in this institute.

The evening started with a Cocktail party was at the Hotel Otrabanda with drum music brought by Mr Henny Cornelia. A heavy rain that lasted about two hours kept us more than expected on the patio of this Hotel. Some tiptoed to the Hotel and others were brought by a Taxi.

Saturday, September 11th, 2010

Breakfast and Hoisting of Flags were followed by an Island Tour at the West part of the Island. Some participants took a swim and some snorkeling was done. Lunch was at the beautiful and rustic Ranch "El Sobrino"

The farewell Ceremony in the evening was very impressive and touching. The opening was made by two adult scouts and an active scout by lighting a campfire. All delegations gave a presentation; there was folkloric music and dances. Most participants put on their folkloric dresses and hats and some gifts were exchanged. The management of the hotel presented us a salad in the shape of the ISGF logo.

Chairperson: Mrs Irene Rojer

The closure of this Gathering was with the song Kum-Ba-Yah, Taptoe and some fireworks.

Sunday, September 12th, 2010

Departure of all delegations

Additional note:

Organizing committee:

Yvonne Kibbelaar (National President), Lygia Da Costa Gomez (International Secretary), Nanda Chocolaad (Teamleader Organizing Committee) Melba Piter, Imelda Kroon, Ena Martinus, Poppy Wawoe, Ruth Zefrin and Verna Lopez (President Copernicia)

This committee obtained great experience by organizing this 1st Caribbean Sub-Gathering. Since February 2009 they worked towards their aim. The first information were send out on 8th August 2009 to quite some Islands in the Caribbean.

The final aim has not been reached yet but we have the satisfaction that thanks to this Gathering, Surinam registered 37 participants for the Central Branch and Aruba is preparing to make this step also. We received various congratulation mails of Brothers and Sisters abroad as well as from members of the World Committee.

The organizing committee is grateful and proud for the opportunity to put Copernicia and Curacao in the spotlight by this historical sub-gathering and making ISGF visible in the Caribbean.

Curacao, End December 2010