



INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADORS GUILD

NEWSLETTER Volume3 Number 1

SUMMER 2018- 19

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the Guild's 20th Anniversary Year and it is hoped that you will enjoy it. Please send your contributions, including dates of events to the editor care of ambassadorsguild@gmail.com

To celebrate the 20th Anniversary year extra money will be allocated for grants supporting Scouting and Guiding projects. In this edition you will be able to read how members of ISGF can apply for these grants. Also highlights from the celebrations in Belgium.

Message from the Ambassadors Guild Chairman, Bjorg Walstad

More than 30 members from the IAG and members of the local Fellowships took part in the celebration of IAG twenty years of activity in Brussels in April. Fellowship-members from local guild had planned an interesting weekend program for us. On behalf of the ambassadors who took part in the celebration I want to thank them all for their hospitality and hard work. Coming together and feeling the friendship in guiding, scouting and the fellowship makes us focus even more on the basic idea of IAG: Keep the spirit of BP alive and raise money for support to scout and guide projects planned by the scouts and guides themselves.

At the beginning of the General Assembly we were able to welcome one new member from Spain: the international secretary Juan F Davila y Verdin. He got his diploma and gave us a short update on the coming world Conference in Spain in 2020.

21 ambassadors were present in the meeting, many of them observers.

After 20 years of activity our financial means has improved due to more members joining us. This year, 2018-2019, the GA decided to increase the amount of support. 20.000 Euro from the fund will be used for grants.

However, we hope our members and members of ISGF can identify good local projects and encourage the scout and guide unit to apply for grants.

Faouzia Kchouck, our secretary for many years, will leave the board and the position as secretary, she has done a great job and we will miss her. She will still be a member of the general assembly.

From 2018 members of the board are; Anthony Florizone, treasurer, Nana Gentimi, Mida Rodrigues, Jane Wardropper and Bjørg Walstad, chairman. All members will receive the annual report and minutes from the general assembly in due course.

May be some of you will participate in sub-regional gatherings. It will be a perfect place to pass on information about IAG-activities and the extended grant we will give this year. It is also a good opportunity to invite fellowship members to join the Ambassadors Guild.

Bjørg Walstad

Chairman

20th Anniversary Celebrations

Summer came early during the weekend of 19-23 April as the sun shone every day and record temperatures were achieved, what better time to celebrate. On the Friday evening there was a dinner which was enjoyed in the open air with good food and excellent company.

This was followed on the Saturday by a visit to Ghent which was a most enjoyable day as we were met at the Station by Belgian guild members and discovered that Nicole Volckaert had arranged a day for us to remember. A tram ride from the station took us into the historic part of the city and after a short walk under blue skies we arrived at the Old Meat Market where we were able to admire the wooden roof and enjoy a cup of coffee.

Next was a visit to the City Hall where we had a traditional welcome and learned a little of the city's history. A short walk brought us to lunch where as well as eating a delicious meal we were able to remember the late Anne Dupont who was an extremely active member of the Belgium NSGF and of the Ambassadors Guild. Following lunch there was time to visit the Cathedral and have a riverboat trip before returning to Brussels.

Sunday

In the morning we travelled to the Forêt de Soignes and were introduced to the history of the area by Claire Parisel, a historian and Fellowship member returning to Brussels in time for the General Assembly when we were joined by Mathius Lukwago, World Committee Chairman.

During the meeting we learnt of the retirement of Faouzia Kchouk from the post of Secretary to the Ambassadors Guild. Faouzia was thanked by Bjorg for her work and commitment to the Guild. After the Treasurer's report was received it was decided, in celebration of the 20th Anniversary, to offer more grants for Guiding /Scouting projects with 20000 Euro being allocated for grants to a maximum size of 2000 Euro. The emphasis of these projects will be the environment.

Mathius spoke to the meeting about the appeal for the project in Uganda to help in conjunction with UNHCR, to provide housing for some of the Refugees arriving in Uganda. He explained how the project had developed from providing tents for emergency accommodation to providing traditional homes built from local materials each with a small garden area for growing some food.

It was identified that the form for applying for grants needed to be up dated and it will be circulated to members. Please encourage members of ISGF to apply for grants supporting environmental projects to be undertaken by Scouting or guiding Members. All applications to be sent in writing to: ambassadorsguild@gmail.com following the "SMART" Guidelines.

SMART Guide Lines

S = Specific The project has one main target linked with the development of Scouting/ Guiding values and the environment .

M = Measurable The outcome can be measured and reported to the Ambassadors Guild at the end of the **project**

A = Achievable The planned project must be achievable giving value for money

R = Resources How the project will be funded and what part of the total budget will the grant be?

T = Time The length of time the project is expected to last.

At the end of the project a report is to be sent to the Ambassadors Guild plus Photographs.



GHENT 2018



Forêt de Soignes and General Assembly

