



# Nordic Baltic Sub-region News Letter

April 2010

## News from Denmark :

### Peace Light 2009

As usual in November we have held the Peace Light ceremony in Roskilde, where we picked up the Flame of Peace to send around Denmark, to Greenland and further on to Sweden. A torchlight procession took place from the Catholic Church (where an eternal flame is kept) to the Cathedral of Roskilde and some short ceremonies were held at both churches. About 200 persons participated.



The Peace Light reached Helsingborg, Sweden

### Café George and the Dragon - COP 15

In connection with the COP 15 held in Copenhagen in December, 2009 it was

decided to mark the event with a café (Tent) placed in one of the squares of Copenhagen.



The café was placed in the middle of a scouts camp and a great number of visitors passed through during the days and got an impression of such a camp. Many of the scouts got a good deal of information about climate and hopefully got a comprehension of the subject. More than 50 guild members from Copenhagen and towns in the vicinity hereof did a marvellous job of helping out in the café.

On the 13 of December a reception was held, in which participated Her Royal Highness, Princess Benedikte, together with scout leaders from more than 50 different countries.

### Bridge over the missing generation.

Like many other places worldwide we (the guild members) work on recruiting new, younger members and we are working on strengthening our co-operation with the five scout

associations - so our NP Lone and our NS Niels have participated in the joint chairmen's meeting in March with the aim of further developing this relationship.

The theme of the meeting was to discuss possibilities for strengthening adult scouting in Denmark through cooperation between the scout associations and the guilds of Denmark. At the meeting the participants agreed that it was a mutual task and not a competition.

One way might be to work in projects of varied lengths, rather than having regular meetings. As mentioned before, the coming national jamboree for the members of all scout associations in 2012 could be an opportunity to strengthen the contact between generations.

It was also agreed to meet again on the national jamboree SEE 20:10 in the summer of 2010.



**SEE 20:10 The biggest International event on Danish ground in this century.**

SEE - is short for "Scout Explorer Event"

SEE - 20:10 is the national jamboree of the KFUM-Spejderne i Danmark, which is the largest scout association in Denmark.

The National Jamboree is taking place

every 5th year, - and every time in a new location.

SEE is an international event with an expected number of participants of around 16.000. It is hoped for and worked for that every 5th participant will be from foreign countries. Scouts from all over the world are invited and encouraged to come to Denmark and experience Scouting in the Danish manner, but at the same time - to have the opportunity to see and meet cultures from all over the world. All participants will sleep in tents. All meals will be cooked over open fire with wood, and each scout unit will construct its own camp site using spars, rope and cord.

It is hoped for that kids and youth from all over the world will meet and make friendships across borders. In that way the world gets smaller, - and we are a bit closer to fulfill one of the aims of Scouting: to create responsible citizens in our world community.

Anne Hastrup-Nielsen,  
International Secretary

**News from Finland:**



No news this time

## News from Island :

**SHEP** the bear from South Africa is still here in Iceland and has survived all kind of things - has been to all sorts of gatherings with the Guilds in Iceland and in May he will start his journey again and now the tour goes to Greenland as we are having a visit from a Danish/Greenland's guild.



The top of SHEP'S adventures in Iceland was on 1st of April when he joined a group from the Kópavogur's guild with the Rescuescouts team on a journey up on the glacier Mýrdalsjökull to take a look at the new volcano eruption on Fimmvörduháls. SHEP had a wonderful time on this hard and long journey and really enjoyed the view. SHEP is sending some pictures so you can join his memories from this trip which are his highlights from his stay in Iceland.



Our guilds are decreasing as last spring one was taken out of the National guild's papers as it had not been working for several years - and now we are getting the news that the oldest guild in Iceland Reykjavik where Einar Tjörvi has served as a guildmaster for several years is closing up as the members are getting very old and many of them have gone to their last journey the last year or so.

This is it for now.

Best wishes to all of you.

Elín Richards - NP Iceland  
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## News from Norway :

The St George guilds in Norway are still concerned about expansion. It's now two years since we began our "kindle a spark" meetings for guild masters in the districts. Since then we have been working with networks, both at district and local level. We mention this at all our central gatherings, and some people may think we keep repeating ourselves. We haven't reached the ambitious goal we set ourselves yet, but we are pleased that membership has risen in 2009. This is because we have established new guilds and because those that already exist have enrolled new members. We have even got a "youth guild" with an average age of 34,5.

We are now working on a new profile for the guilds, and are using the new social media. We have called in professional help to conduct a survey among scouts, create an active group on Facebook and learn to take better photos. The two persons who are helping us with this have done a similar job for one of our scouting associations.

Scouting values are the same as ever, but programmes and activities change. If present day scouts and leaders are to become interested in the St George guilds, we must build on the programmes and activities that they are familiar with, so that they feel at home and get involved. We have begun to consider whether we should work on our programmes. The information committee has collected suggestions for activities from the guilds, but perhaps we need to think anew about this. From the beginning, the Scout Movement was before its time. Just think how modern team-building resembles scout patrols with their games and open air activities. If we still want to be pioneers, we must work out where scouting values are leading us today.

Karin Randsborg Thompson, IS  
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### News from Sweden :

No news from Sweden this time

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Try:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scouting\\_museums](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scouting_museums)

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Today we celebrate St George, the scout movement's hero, who killed the dragon and saved the village children from being roasted and eaten.

But what is a dragon?

- A dragon is a war machine that chops arms and legs off children who tread on land mines or get caught in crossfire between grownups who are fighting one another.
- A dragon is an industry that promises poor parents that their children will be able to play with gold and jewels that it has hidden in a cave in a far-away country – but instead invades the children's bodies and souls through prostitution and pornography.
- A dragon is a howling storm or burning drought that destroys crops and homes and leaves children and adults sick and starving – all because other people consume too much of the resources that nature provides.

George rode out on an impossible mission when he went to fight the dragon. But the story gives us hope that the impossible can happen.

And even if we fail to wipe out the dragons, we can all contribute to making the world a safer place for children to grow up in. Happy battleday!

Ivan Chetwynd  
International Committee Norway

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