

**REPORT ON 2ND GATHERING OF
THE TRINBAGO SCOUT & GUIDE FELLOWSHIP
HELD AT LA VEGA ESTATE
SUNDAY 16TH JULY 2023
9:30 AM – 5:00PM**

The weather was initially forecasted to be a rainy / gloomy day but the members of the Trinbago Scout and Guide Fellowship, manifested a beautiful sunny day to be able to bask in the glory of camaraderie, food and fun.

Forty five (45) adults and six (6) children gathered at the La Vega Estate from as early as 9:30 am to celebrate a fun filled day. Those numbers comprised of

- Five (5) members from The National Committee (TNC)
- Eight (8) members of the Evergreen Leatherbacks Scout and Guide Fellowship (ELSGF)
- Eight (8) members of the Oasis Circle of Support Scout and Guide Fellowship (OCSSGF)
- Nine (9) members of the Patriots of Penal Scout and Guide Fellowship (POPSGF)
- Three (3) members of the South West Oilers Scout and Guide Fellowship (SWOSGF)
- Seven(7) members of the Trinbago Scout and Guide Fellowship (TSGF)
- Five (5) guests and six (6) children)

An invitation flyer was posted to the TSGF's WhatsApp group chat inviting all members to attend the 2nd Gathering which was scheduled to be held at the La Vega Estate in Gran Couva. Nestled in the Central plains of Trinidad, La Vega boasts of acres of green, scenic spaces for picnicking, playing, fishing, hiking, relaxing and enjoying the refreshing outdoors, making it the perfect setting for cooking, mixing and mingling with each other.



On arrival at La Vega, members entered through the main garden centre to receive their wristbands for entry and quickly made their way to the Bamboo Nursery, which is almost completely surrounded by water with a ceiling of graceful bamboo arching overhead. Vehicles were offloaded with tents, chairs, coolers, stoves and other paraphernalia, while a small kitchen was set up in one of the two (2) open thatched huts.

The members of the ELSGF opted to cook on site and produced a menu of Vegetable Rice, Chicken Pepper Pot, Paneer and Coleslaw. Members of the OCSSGF prepared their meals beforehand which comprised of Curried Duck with Dhalpuri and Macaroni Pie with Stewed Chicken. The POPSGF not to be outdone, also prepared beforehand, Pelau with Curry – Stewed Chicken and Fresh Salad. Members of the SWOSGF opted to indulge in the culinary delights of the other groups.



Members and their guest trickled in during the course of the morning in their respective uniforms making it a colourful sight. They then made themselves comfortable in the lush settings of nature, spreading blankets on the ground for the kids to sit and play and even for the adults to rest and relax before a hearty lunch.



Lunch was served at 11:30 am and everyone made their way to the various food huts to indulge in mouthwatering meals that followed with jovial laughter, as everyone mixed and mingled indulging in conversation and introductions.

After Lunch, a meeting that was carded to start at 1:00 pm was opened with a warm welcome by the President of the TSGF, Mr. Anand Rameshwar Singh. Ms.Cynthia Mowlah-Baksh, member of the OCSSGF then called upon the Lord to bless and guide our gathering and safe journey to our respective homes. The National Anthem of Trinidad and Tobago led by the members of SWOSGF was then sung loudly with pride as all members and guests joined in heartily.

Mr. Anand Rameshwar Singh -President of the TSGF, introduced the recently elected members of the Trinbago National Committee:

- Ms. Sally Maharaj – Vice President
- Ms. Shrimatee P. Maharaj – Assistant Secretary
- Mr. Harrinarine Sookram – Treasurer
- Mr. Tassin Boxer – Public Relations Officer (PRO)
- Ms. Patrice Kallicharan - Secretary - in absentia due to ill health

The President asked everyone present to pray for her speedy recovery.



Mr. Rameshwar Singh then gave a brief explanation of the TSGF and the vision of the ISGF. He explained that the TSGF belongs to the Western Hemisphere Region of the ISGF which comprises of the North, Central & South American regions and the Caribbean. He also expressed his excitement to share the news of our growing numbers of the TSGF and local groups (LSGF) at the Western Hemisphere Conference scheduled in Argentina in October 2023. Even the peacock was enthused!!

Each LSGF was asked to prepare a report with pictures of all activities undertaken during their calendar year which will then be compiled into a five minute video to be showcased at the Conference later this year in Argentina.

Mr. Sookram then presented the Treasurer's report and gave a brief explanation about the registration fees to be collected from each LSGF to be paid up to the ISGF.

A representative of each LSGF was called upon to give a brief history of the formation of their respective group.

- Ms. Arleen Jerome-Brown represented the SWOSGF
- Mrs. Indira Rameshwar Singh represented the POPSGF
- Mr. Tassin Boxer represented the OCSSGF
- Ms. Sally Maharaj represented the ELSGF

Mr. Rameshwar Singh offered an open invitation to all members to attend the World Conference carded for September 2024 in Granada, Spain, encouraging each LSGF to start putting some ideas on the drawing board for fund raisers to assist with the cost of the trip. He then expressed his gratitude to National Committee and each LSGF for their resolute commitment to scouting and service and for making the gathering the success that it was.



Prospective 5th LSGF



South West Oilers SGF

Patriots of Penal SGF





Oasis Circle of Support SGF

Evergreen Leatherbacks SGF



TSGF Members



The agenda for the gathering was completed and the meeting ended at or around 2:10 pm. Group photos were taken against the beautiful bamboo backdrop indelibly printed in the memories of the attendees.

Members continued to fraternize and clean up began shortly after. Some members even indulged in a bit of All Fours for some excitement.

All in all the day was a fabulous one enjoyed by everyone!

Prepared by
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