



# Boy Scouts of the Philippines

## National Office

181 Natividad Almeda-Lopez St., Ermita, 1000 Manila, Philippines

P.O. Box 1378, Manila CPO, Philippines

E-mail: bsp@scouts.org.ph

Website: www.scouts.org.ph

Tels. (632) 528-05-55 \* (632) 527-2318 to 19 \* Telefax (632) 528-05-77

16 February 2017

### NATIONAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM

No. 17

Series of 2017

**TO :** Regional Scout Directors, Council Scout Executives and Officers-In-Charge

**SUBJECT :** B.-P. DAY 2017: CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF THE FOUNDER

1. **Historical Background.** February 22, 1857 marked the birthday of the Chief Scout of the World, the Founder of the biggest educational youth movement in the world, the man behind the legacy of World Scouting, **Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden Powell**. Among Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, this special day is referred to as the **"World Thinking Day / Founder's Day"** celebration.
2. **Rationale.** To date, the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) issued a joint communication for all WOSM and WAGGGS member countries on the collaborative efforts of both organizations, particularly in the celebration of February 22 2017. They circulated the Founder's Day Statement with greater emphasis to B.-P.'s last message to Scouters and Guides released in 1941, in describing the purpose of Scouting and Guiding and he wrote:

*"Its aim is to produce healthy, happy, helpful citizens, of both sexes, to eradicate the prevailing narrow self-interest, personal, political. Sectarian and national and to substitute for it a broader spirit of self-sacrifice and service in the cause of humanity; and thus to develop mutual goodwill and cooperation not only within our own country but abroad, between all countries".*

As we reflect on the events which happened over the years, we can clearly conclude that the purpose mentioned by the Founder remains relevant today as it was in 1941.

3. **Aim and Objectives.** The Founder's Day is coming on **22 February 2017**. How will you celebrate BP Day 2017? Celebrating the Legacy of the Founder aims to create awareness and online crowdsourcing to and from Scouting communities in different parts of the country and encourages everyone to reflect on the vision of our Founder and reconfirm our commitment of bringing together more young people united in Peace and support each other, working in the spirit of collaboration and make positive change in the communities – as we help create a better world. Specifically, the celebration should be able to:
  - a. Collaborate the young people, both male and female, to think about a community service project that will benefit the community – particularly in line with Peace, Development and Environment;
  - b. Celebrate the birthday of the Founder by reaffirming and re-dedicating ourselves to the Ideals and the Fundamental Principles of Scouting and the Scout Oath and Law;
  - c. Engage and involve more children and the youth in the community and be able to create social impact that Scouting is an educational movement of young people.

4. **Call to Action.** Everyday Scouts from all over the world have made significant contributions in "Creating a Better World". Now, as we celebrate the **160<sup>TH</sup> Birthday** of our Founder, World Scouting calls for action to serve the community and do our good turn in the areas of Peace, Development and Environment Education to include but are not limited to:
- a. **Peace Education**
    - i. "Peace Starts with Me" Campaign
    - ii. Anti-Bullying Awareness Campaign
    - iii. Campaign Against Child Labor and Child Trafficking
    - iv. Scout Go for Traffic and Road Safety
  - b. **Development Education**
    - i. Library Clean-Up and Book Donation Drive
    - ii. Blood Donation Drive
    - iii. Handwashing and Feeding Program: Health and Nutrition Education
    - iv. Social Outreach: Gift Giving (Used Clothes and Toys for Children)
    - v. Numeracy and Literacy Skills Workshop for Out-of-School-Youth
    - vi. Fund Drive supporting Differently-abled Young People and the Elderly
    - vii. Scouting supports Indigenous People
    - viii. Scouting supports Ticket to Life Project (Street Children)
    - ix. Scout Build Project with Habitat for Humanity
  - c. **Environment Education**
    - i. Green is Go! Go for the Real Thing Project! Plant Propagation
    - ii. Coastal Clean-Up and Inland Bodies of Water
    - iii. Mangrove Reforestation and Massive Tree Planting
    - iv. Environment Protection and Conservation
    - v. Solid Waste Management: Segregate, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
    - vi. Renewable Sources of Clean Energy: Scouts Go Solar
    - vii. School-Inside-the-Garden Beautification Project
  - d. **Special BP Day Activities**
    - i. 2017 BP Quiz Bee
    - ii. BP Film Showing: Life and Works of the Founder
    - iii. 2017 BP Weekend Backyard Camp
    - iv. Scout and Proud: Wear Your Scout Scarf on BP Day
    - v. BP Poster and Slogan Making Contest: Theme "Do A Good Turn Daily"
5. **Period of Action.** As we join this world celebration, Scouts and Leaders in all Schools, Scouting Districts, Local Councils and Regional Offices are encouraged to hold service projects related to peace, development and environment initiatives from **20 – 24 February 2017** at their home, school, neighborhood and community as part of their regular Langkay, Kawan, Troop, Outfit and Circle Meetings and Activities.
6. All concerned are enjoined to **promote the Founder's Day Celebration** through Service Projects, Programs and Activities by engaging more young people in the Boy, Senior, Rover Scout Sections and the Neighborhood or Community-Based Scouting units by involving your respective Commissioners at all ranks and levels to help and assist in the planning of activities in the schools, communities, districts, councils and regions.



7. **Share Your Stories.** Inspire others and be a Scout Messenger of Peace by sharing your stories to other Scouts from different parts of the world thru the **www.scout.org** platform. If you have not signed up yet, please visit [www.scout.org/register](http://www.scout.org/register), create a profile and start sharing. Send us your action photos with caption and will include your activities and service projects in the "News and Events" section of the BSP Official Website at **www.scouts.org.ph**. You can also post on your social media platforms using the hashtag #2017HappyBirthdayBP.
8. Should you have further queries, you may refer them directly through the Field Operations Division, Program and Adult Resources Development at (02) 527-5112 loc. 524 and look for Mr. **Yasser F. Sarona**, Program and Adult Resources Development Executive, or you may send emails at [yaz.sarona@scouts.org.ph](mailto:yaz.sarona@scouts.org.ph)
9. For your information, guidance and wide dissemination.

  
**ROGELIO S. VILLA, JR.**  
Acting Secretary General

FOD.SDH.yfs