

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

~ A 2019 WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE FOOD TEAM COMMUNIQUÉ ~
~ OCTOBER 2018 ~



Fall has arrived at the World Jamboree site but with a troika of host countries it is fun to experience the difference in perspective as we communicate regularly now. The contrast of the weather updates shared from Cancun, Mexico (as I seek to coordinate early arrival for key Food Team leadership) is markedly warmer than mine now up here in Michigan, USA. This reminds me of something I have learned in prior World Jamborees – the exchange of nuggets of information about our daily lives in different parts of the world is what fosters understanding and friendships among the staff. We have started doing that as part of the planning and undoubtedly will share more about ourselves with new Scouting friends when the Jamboree commences.

Now what will also make the World Jamboree special for all IST who are part of our Food Service Area is one small but special team we have – the ‘Welcome’ staff. That team of ours is the starting topic of this month’s *Food for Thought* newsletter and hopefully will ease the arrival concerns of any and all new staff we will have joining in the food operations for the 2019 World Jamboree.

Let me begin with a bit of a narrative concerning your arrival. As an IST staff member for the World Jamboree, when you come to the site you are likely to find the scope of the place daunting. That happens even to the most experienced of us for the Summit has a very grand in scale in many regards. We know that you will arrive by likely a combination of several modes of transportation (plane, car, bus, train, shuttle, taxi, and even a little walking) but know that once you arrive at the Jamboree Registration Building (here is the link with full details: <http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/overview/ruby-welcome-center-directions/>) you will quickly become part of the World Jamboree.

From registration you will be shuttled to the Summit where you can join with your Food colleagues. Most of you will find that Jamboree Registration sends you to Echo IST Staff Camp so I’ll describe that process now. We will gladly share further specifics about IST staff arrivals in other camps once those are finalized. Returning to the story, as you exit the bus that will bring you to Echo IST camp look for the largest tent. That is the IST Staff Dining tent. Walk toward the entrance where people would seem to go to get in line and near there you will find the Food Teams *Welcome* tables. There you will find several Scouters

who are experienced in helping to get you comfortable in your settings and joined as part of our volunteer operations.

Specifically the Food *Welcome* staff will help if you have any issues concerning your tent location and mates, they will answer your questions about anything related to the Food teams, confirm which Food team you will join as IST staff and then guide you to your first meeting with your specific team managers and team leads. Those staff meetings are held twice a day so normally you will have a little time to get settled at your tent and then come to join in the Jamboree setup work and begin to make new international friends.

This would be a very natural time for you to be asking who your manager and team leaders are. Since most of those are set in place for next year, we are pleased to share the list with you now so that you may see the depth of our organizational structure and begin to figure where you fit into that. On the following page I will attach our current chart. Several of the teams should be familiar since we have covered them in prior *Food for Thought* monthly newsletters. Other teams and functions on the chart will likely be written about in the months ahead.

You will note the diversity of our operation and that is well planned. Naturally we have tapped several of our experienced leaders from the United States to assure that such operations as grocery deliveries to the site happen but to the greatest extent possible we have invited experienced World Jamboree Scouters from around the world to join throughout our Jamboree Food Planning and Jamboree Food Delivery teams. A perusal of the names may give you a hint of country of origin but suffice it to say we have several represented. Other diversity such as age won't be apparent from the chart, but we have strived to appoint and elevate younger experienced Scouters so that they gain more planning and management skills that will lead our teams into future Jamborees. Further yet you will see that we have a good mix of men and women in our leadership roles. Scouting in most countries around the world invites boys and girls to join so our management reflects and embraces that.

To keep this to two short pages, I'll close with this observation. So far we have in our registration system for all Food Teams a total of 267 IST from over a dozen different countries. Find where you fit in but know please that we will welcome everyone to our teams as we try to make this an event that is as memorable for each of us who have served on many Jamboree staff as it was the first time we went to a Jamboree, but above all a truly pinnacle Jamboree Food experience.