



# ***Jubiliary Jamboree UMPZ 2017***

***August 12.-19. 2017 at Jugendsiedlung Hochland***

In 1947, after having survived two world wars, members of the Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Plast, met in the Bavarian Alps to commemorate their 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They gathered in the town of Mittenwald, which means “in the middle of the forest”. Although Bavaria was foreign to Ukrainian scouts, the natural surroundings of the forest were very familiar. Despite the uncertainty of their post-war situation, Plast members living in the neighboring displaced persons camps were intent on carrying on their scouting traditions. The event has become known as the first of many future “Sviato Vesny” (spring festivals) in the diaspora.

As Plast members emigrated soon thereafter and settled in various countries on four different continents, they took with them the spirit of the Mittenwald “Sviato Vesny”. They created scout groups in their new communities and set up summer camps and leadership training programs to preserve their shared scouting principles and way of life.

Since 1947, Mittenwald has become a legend among Plast members. In keeping with the spirit of the original event, every five years Plast has held scouting reunions in various parts of the world. Five years ago, scouts commemorated Plast’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Ukraine. This year scouts will be returning to Mittenwald to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic “Sviato Vesny” gathering.

On August 12-19, Plast will hold its “UMPZ 2017” jamboree in Jugendsiedlung Hochland, Germany. This will encompass base camps for younger scouts, bicycle trips for older scouts, and a camp for seniors. Each group will be in proximity of the Bavarian Alps and will participate in excursions into the surrounding mountains. Participants will be able to explore the local countryside and places significant to Ukrainian emigrant and Plast history. There will be hikes, bonfires, skills competitions, as well as opportunities to socialize with Plast scouts from all over the world.

Plast members attending “UMPZ 2017” will also be able to visit the Mittenwald 1947 exhibit which will feature photos, artifacts, memorabilia and historical information about the first gathering of Ukrainian scouts in the diaspora. Highlights will include a side trip to Mittenwald, where the adolescent scouts will take part in a scavenger hunt through the town itself, the mountain Westliche Karwendelspitze and along the banks of the Isar River, which passes by the old military casern where displaced persons camps were once located.

In keeping with its “in the middle of the forest” theme, UMPZ 2017 will include an interactive ecological “Green Planet” exhibition in which young scouts from each country will present their ideas for environmental sustainability in the regions where they live.

All Plast members are invited to join in the celebration!

More information can be found at: [www.umpz2017.de](http://www.umpz2017.de) or on Facebook UMPZ2017.