

## 2018 Peru Moot

The best things about any scout event are the scouters and scouts. And the Peru Moot was no exception. My friend John Davis also attended the Moot. John and I were at the Ecuador Jamboree last year and have attended several Gilwell Fellowships together.

The BSA adults were invited to a special evening event where those in the Interamerican Scout Region were recognized. A few of us that attended are in the picture below.



Jeff, Craig, Michelle, John & John Davis



My friend, John Davis

Dave and Ron were the BSA contingent leaders, but Ron had to leave early because of a family emergency, so John filled in for Ron.



John, Dave and Craig with staff camp behind us.

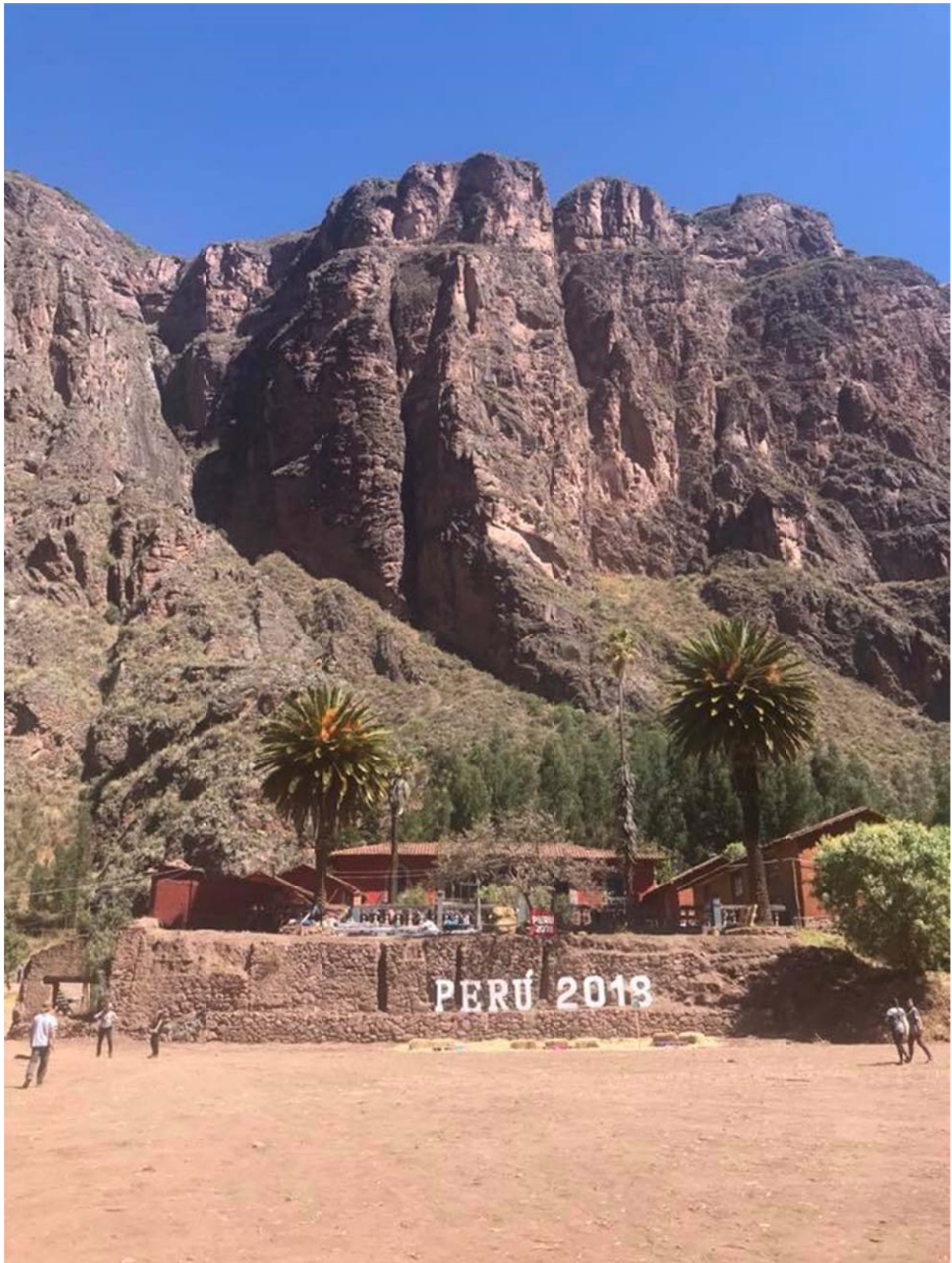


Milagros, Eduardo, Craig and Alex

All the International Service Team (IST) members were assigned to teams that supported the Moot in some way. I was fortunate to be assigned to a team called *Scouts of the World*. The team was led by Alex who had two great assistants; Eduardo who could speak English and Milagros who had this very helpful app on her phone that would translate between English and Spanish. Milagros and I spend a good deal of time communicating using that app.

*Scouts of the World* is very similar to *Messengers of Peace*. The focus of both programs is service.

The camp we used was part of a Hacienda and located in Sacred Valley. Not one of the better camps that I have stayed in, but the overall location was very impressive.



Hacienda in Sacred Valley





I had a nice day off. The group I was with, which included Paco, the President of the Mexican Scouts, visited a museum where I learned about the inhabitants of Peru since early times. The Incas were the last group before the Spanish ruined their civilization. The Incas brought together the people of western South America from Columbia to Chile.

After the museum, we had a nice lunch where some had roasted Guinea Pig. A little different, but they said it was good!



BSA Contingent

Many of the participants went on to Machu Picchu after the Moot, but the IST had to stay for an extra day so we had to visit Machu Picchu on our own. During the Moot, my wife was in the Galapagos and we met afterwards and visited ruins in Sacred Valley and then onto Machu Picchu. The first ruin we visited was Pisaq. It is amazing how much terracing the Incas did for agriculture.



Pisac



Ollantaytambo with my wife

The second ruin we visited was Ollantaytambo. I found their development of a water system very interesting. Water was very precious to the Incas and they found ways to pipe it underground to fountains and other places where they needed it.



Ollantaytambo fountain

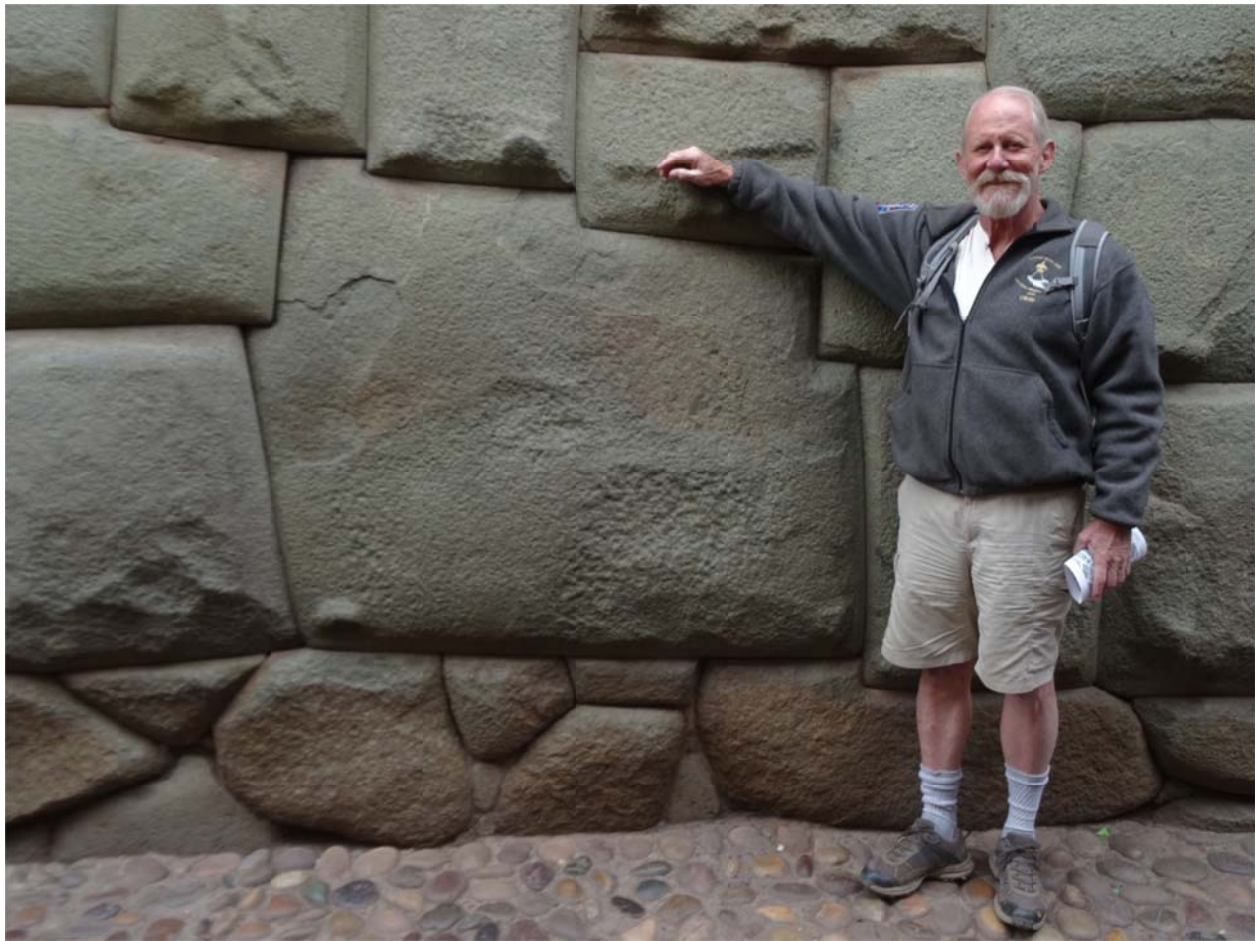
Next sight we visited was Machu Picchu!



Machu Picchu with the “lawn mower” llama

The last place we visited was Cusco, where we would catch our flight home. Cusco was interesting as it was the location the religious and administrative capital of the Inca Empire which flourished in ancient Peru between c. 1400 and 1534 CE. In Cusco, we saw the 12-sided stone which is emblematic of Cusco and the logo of the Peru Moot.





12-sided stone created by the Incas

The highlights of my stay in Peru were the *Scouts of the World* with Alex, Milagros and Eduardo. And my American friends John and Michelle made my meals enjoyable. Of course, the trips to the Inca ruins with my wife topped off a very nice stay in Peru.