



GIRL SCOUTS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
BOHOL COUNCIL  
CITY OF TAGBILARAN

**ESCODA MEMORIAL CEREMONY**

**FORMATION:** Horseshoe or Line, facing a table with the portrait of Josefa Llanes Escoda with 1 big candle

**OPENING SONG:**

(All together)

**ESCODA MEMORIAL HYMN**

O thou great founder champion of girlhood's cause  
Come we in homage share as now we pause  
Grateful are we to thee in all humility  
We'll pray for thy repose in God's own home.

Here are thy children blest by the love and care  
Girl Scouting marches on lured by thy hand  
Faithful and true we'll be in all activity  
Escoda mother dear honors to thee

List to our praising dear name we all revere  
Our gifts of love we bring, pure and sincere  
Thy life our torch and guide where'er Girl Scouting goes  
Escoda nation's pride love and adore.

**SPEAKER 1:**

"Few are the women of her time and age who can be listed along with her on the score of accomplishments, sacrifices and exemplariness".

On this special day, we come together to share our thoughts and give tribute to a great woman whose good example and wondrous works have set an inspiration to the Scouts of this land to live a life dedicated to service.

**SPEAKER 2:**

This candle represents the golden flame of high ideals upon which the Girl Scout Movement was built. On the \_\_\_\_\_ birthday of our founder, may this flame touch our lives and enkindle in us a strong desire to live up to these ideals.

**SPEAKER 3:**

Josefa Llanes Escoda was exposed to many challenges in her whole life but she met them with strong determination and sacrifice. Her efforts to render services, especially during the war, revealed her untiring leadership and courage.

**SONG:**

(All together)

**SERVICE**

We are made for service to care for all men  
We are made for love both time and again  
A love that will live through sorrow and pain  
A love that will never die with strain  
God sent His Son to show us the way  
One who shared His love every minute of the day  
One who gave His life that we might live  
And His Spirit to help us through the years

**PATROL 1:**

Josefa Llanes Escoda, a woman who should not only be remembered as the Founder of the Girl Scouting Movement in the Philippines but also as a woman of great courage, compassion and dedication to service, who even at the threshold of death, left this message which all of us should ponder upon:

“I have done my duty to God and my country. To my mind, the most I have done is having helped with the little I could do to save the lives of the surrendered soldiers of Bataan and Corregidor. I have offered myself as guarantor for men, later released by the enemy, that they commit no Anti-Japanese act – men who saw bitter fighting and who, if they have any guts left, would continue their resistance. I have acted as a guarantor not only for the sake of humanity but also to encourage them to fight again. If you happen to survive, and I fall, tell our people that the women of the Philippines did their part also in making the ember sparks of truth and liberty alive till the last the moment.”

**PATROL 2:**

With fondness, we remember the lady born on September 20, the beloved late founder of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines.

Josefa Llanes Escoda was first in a family of seven children born to Gabriel Llanes and Mercedes Madamba on September 20, 1898. She assumed a parental role when her father died in her early childhood; thus building the foundation of dynamic leadership.

A consistent scholar, she earned a teacher’s certificate, MA in Sociology and graduates credits in Social Work. She was a notable student, speaker and lecturer as well as leader of the Filipinos and Orientals abroad.

**PATROL 3:**

There is love that stirs the heart and love that gives the rest, but the love that leads life upwards is the noblest and the best.

Her last words to remember were “Take care of the girls”. Her legacy to love and serve others makes her live forever in the Movement she mothered.

She was mother to millions of Twinklers, Stars, Juniors, Seniors and Cadets; strong and healthy, caring and wise; dedicated to a mission of service and citizenship at its best.

**PATROL 4:**

The quality of a person’s life is in direct proportion to his/her commitment. Choice not chance, determines one’s destiny.

Josefa Llanes Escoda is our model for loving our fellowmen not with words or tongue but with truth and action; serving others with a cause, until life was lost to her in the historic recesses of Fort Santiago.

Her perilous but successful attempt to help concentration camp prisoners and some intelligence work earned her the AFP Legionnaire of Honor. For their war efforts, Mrs. Escoda and her husband Antonio Escoda were captured and incarcerated for espionage in 1945 and never were seen again. She was 46 years old.

President Carlos P. Garcia declared September 20, Josefa Llanes Escoda Day, in 1959.

**SPEAKER 4:**

Josefa Llanes Escoda was a model of loyalty in all her works. This she showed by doing her faithfully to God, to her country, to her people in spite of difficulty that come along her way.

Come and share your blessings in recognition of the great sacrifices of Josefa Llanes Escoda, the Lady with great vision and overflowing civic virtues. Give what you can as your gift especially on her \_\_\_\_ birthday today, September 20, 2015. Every centavo that you share helps support international opportunities to our Girl Scouts.

**FLORAL AND DONATION OFFERING:**

(All participants pass single file to place flowers on a small table in front of the portrait and drop donations in a basket.)

**SPEAKER 5:**

As we now offer flowers and drop into the basket our contribution to the Escoda Memento Fund, let us sing the song Girl Scout Hymn.

**CLOSING PRAYER (ALL)**

God, grant us the gift of enlightenment to understand fully our duties and responsibilities to the Scouting Movement to which we have committed ourselves by our Promise and Law.

May Almighty God, in His abounding mercy and goodness grant us the strength of mind and body to carry on these tasks joyfully in the finest Scouting traditions of service and dedication. Let your guiding light take us to the right