



FEDERATIONS FOCUS

June 2013



New Format for the INF's Federation Focus

With the April 2013 of the INF's Federation Focus, we introduced a new format. I now realize that I should have included an explanation since several people were confused.

So I will now announce that we have migrated to an electronic email format for Focus using a service called Mailchimp. Instead of being optimized for printing, the new format is designed to take full advantage of the interactivity and flexibility of the internet. There are several advantages:

- The email is faster to open and read than a PDF
- The design is maximized for reading on a computer
- Production is much faster
- Emails can potentially include customized information for each federation
- The customization means that Focus is much less likely to be blocked by spam filters
- Only the recipient's email is shown which protects privacy
- We have much better tracking and reporting
- The recipient can manage their subscriptions directly (update email address, unsubscribe, preferences, etc...)
- It is linked to our new Twitter account which improves our overall communications
- It can easily be redistributed via email, Facebook, LinkedIn, etc...

But if someone does not want to read Focus on email, they can:

Upcoming Events

60th Anniversary of the INF

Anniversary: Sept. 20-22
International Pétanque Competition:
Sept. 13-15
CHM Montalivet

[More info...](#)

2014 INF Congress

September 2014
Ireland

Reminders

Website Listing

Remember to tell your member clubs to keep their listing up to date. They can [login](#) and edit their own club listing. If they have forgotten their login or need to register, just tell them to [contact the INF](#).

About Focus

Focus is published by the INF for its member federations. You are welcome to redistribute it to your members or use any of the content in your local country's publications. If you need any of the texts or images in another format, please contact the INF General Secretariat at: naturism@inf-fni.org

We also welcome contributions from member federations. Please send us news about what is happening in

- you can print it to a PDF. On a Macintosh, this is a normal feature in the print dialogue. In Windows, there are many free PDF makers available.

If you want to make it available to your members through your website, that is now very simple. You simply provide the link to the newsletter. It can be found on the right hand side at the bottom of the yellow column. The one that says "view email in browser".

Yours naturally,
Stéphane Deschênes
Editor

your country and we will share it with the rest of the world.

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Legal Survey

At our last congress, the General Assembly indicated that they wanted the INF to track legal issues that affect naturism around the world. Obviously we need the assistance of the individual federations who are most aware of what is happening in their country. For this reason, we have created this survey. Please fill it in so that we may be informed about the situation in your country. We will then report the results to all federations.

As of the day before this newsletter was sent, the following countries had filled out the survey:

Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Luxemburg, New Zealand, and Portugal.

If you have not responded to the survey yet, please do it now.

[Click here to start the survey](#)

Family Meeting at Templo del Sol

Dear Friends,

First of all I would like to thank Ismael and the FEN office for having invited us, Marlène and myself, to the meeting at this fantastic site, which we were able to enjoy already 10 years ago, during the time of my mandate at the International Naturist Federation. I am sorry that because of family reasons we were unable to participate to all the activities, but you know yourself, one cannot be at two different places at the same time.

I also enjoyed meeting Sieglinde and the friends of the INF/FNI again, as well as the presidents and other actors of the various federations who, by their attendance, emphasize the universality of our movement. Whereas in many other areas globalization may provoke doubts or differences, in my mind it truly is in naturism where this idea appeared to be perfectly adapted.

And if there is one country where naturists always were open-minded all-out, then it surely is Spain. I have had the advantage of experiencing several great international events, organized each and every time by a lot of talent and a perfect concern for hospitality. The welcome by the Spanish Naturist Federation is mainly based on friendship and ideal, on the straight stream of minds of the founders of the International Naturist Federation, which soon will celebrate its 60th anniversary.

Each year the International Naturist Federation organizes certain events which foster contacts between naturists coming from all origins, yet it also encourages naturists from the most various countries to undertake initiatives to meet each other, be it by staying at our resorts during their holidays, visiting naturist beaches, through correspondence between members or the organization of events like this one. The Spanish have well understood, other federations did so, too, and the more this kind of events will happen, the better our movement will stand.

By the way, where does naturism stand today? Its age is close to a century and like anything being alive it has gone through phases of development, good health, euphoria, sometimes also stagnation, recession and also internal dissensions. We evaluate it in our organized movement, as we know it from inside. We identify it less at the non-affiliated but sympathizing naturists. And there lies the question: is the idea of naturism still up-to-date?

A wind of liberty has blown over the world at the end of the 60ties, continuing till the end of the 20th century. Remember Woodstock, the hippie trend, refusal of mass consumption, flower power, peace and love. Tolerance was obtruding and the whole world found the pleasure to enjoy the freedom of thought and speaking. Countries that were blocked for long time, although not necessarily adopting our ideas, at least opened their borders to accept visitors, till accepting a certain level of liberty. I recall the years where naturist travel agencies offered us holidays on the Maldives.... Today, such a proposal is sheer unthinkable. Not only some countries which were on the course to a more open attitude, now have made a 180 turn by establishing doctrinarian regimes, some have now become inaccessible. These crosscurrents turned back to us under more attenuated, yet perceivable forms. To all this Internet has appeared, which helps us a lot as a tool of communication, but often proves to be a counterfeiter of our philosophy. Think about the much confusion since this tool is spread into all layers of the population. You click on naturism and you surely will get to nudity, but not on that type of nudity for which we are fighting. That is the way in which the border between naturism and promiscuity disappears in the mind of many people.

So we undergo a step backwards on the one hand, and an obvious distortion of our lifestyle at the other hand.

All this is not at our advantage and a lot of sound and very clear communication is required. It is essential that the media understand us and report the truth of our values to the public. Does the general public know that we were the first to be concerned about the dangers that threaten the environment? Does it know that humanism and brotherhood have been the soil where naturism rooted? Does it know that the mutual respect, which our movement has declared to be one of our basic principles, has given us its family and

educational character? Does it know that the spontaneous friendship between its members has fostered numerous contacts throughout the world and that before the generalization of the English language, it had been among the naturists where the proportion of Esperantists was the highest?

For sure this list is not exhaustive, they are only a few examples which prove that we are far away from the inappropriate clichés used by press and television, who do not see why they should first inform themselves about naturism. The efforts undertaken by the federations to pre-empt these reporters, and which I have often witnessed myself, must be supported at the highest level; they must be strengthened because we shall not forget that what we consider as natural is far away of being so in the head of many other people.

During the meetings like this one we enjoy to be together and to exchange our friendly approaches, it is great but it is also necessary to tap new resources so to spread our joy of life around us and to convince other people to adopt our philosophy. All of us have managed to bring neighbours and friends towards naturism. The confidential method proved to be right, but perhaps we could act more intensively. We noticed that more than once public mass events have lead to the legitimation of movements, which for long time had stayed in near seclusion. Could a mass naturist meeting reach a similar result? Could we try a naturist Woodstock? You would tell me that there had been a lot of young people at Woodstock. But aren't exactly those young people our movement needs to get back to its dynamism?

After presenting these considerations, whereof some may be seen as illusions – in France we would say Castles in Spain – I will do my second landing of the day and finally spend with you the pleasant hours I was looking forward to for three months.

Thank you for your attention
Charles Oberfell

New Federation

The INF Central Council Central Committee has recognized a new federation to represent South Africa. It is the Western Cape Naturists Association of South Africa. (WCNA) Here is the introduction they provided:



The Western Cape Naturists Association of South Africa

We believe that:

Nude recreation embraces the joy of living and experiencing nature in the most natural way possible. To relax and to be nude is to let yourself be totally free.

Although we enjoy clothing-free activities in appropriate settings, we, of course, also choose to wear

clothes when practical. Nudists – Naturists respect each other's individuality. Our own self-esteem is enhanced by our ability to accept ourselves as we really are. We find it easy to accept others regardless of physical size, shape, or body condition.



Relaxation, stress relief, positive body image, and increasing self-esteem are just a few of the reasons people have chosen the naturist lifestyle here in South Africa, all of which YOU will certainly find in our organization, be it while relaxing along our beautiful beaches or in the seclusion and peace of our picturesque countryside.

South Africa and in particular the Western Cape's unmatched natural beauty, famous hospitality, cultural diversity, excellent wine and rich cuisine make it one of the world's greatest tourist attractions.

While public nudity in South Africa is not legal, it is allowed within certain parameters and things are most certainly changing in response to this lifestyle choice.

Naturist facilities in South Africa are very limited, but there are many secluded beaches around our beautiful and extensive coastline as well as many inland sites that are used by naturists on a regular basis.

Our aim is to liaise with naturist clubs and resorts in all of our 9 provinces in order to convene regularly and work together to provides a support network for all individual naturists in South Africa.

Part of our aim is to inform the wider community of South Africa of the health benefits which our naturist lifestyle offers and also at the same time informing them that we do not profess it to be the one and all lifestyle for everyone.



The friendly welcome you will find, when first introduced to our naturist organization will make you forget any apprehensions you may have had and afterwards you will wonder why you waited so long to join this healthy naturist lifestyle.

The Western Cape Naturist's Association is a fairly young, but growing non profit organization and is now proud to be affiliated with the International Naturist Federation, which gives our members access to all naturist facilities around the world.

"An attitude to life, which looks for its equals"

Sieglinde Ivo in regard to the INF anniversary.

The coffeehouse has a special meaning to all people living in Austria. To those not living in Vienna or Salzburg it is rather the farm, where fresh farmer's bread, home-smoked bacon and ham, home-distilled brandy and cider are offered. Sieglinde Ivo, too, is connected to the habits of her native country, to enjoy the daily cup of coffee or snack. This brings the occasion to join a tradition with a round of talks. To a snack with

Sieglinde Ivo, the President of the International Naturist Federation (INF/FNI)

Dear Sieglinde, the INF will celebrate a great anniversary in 2013 – in fact the 60th anniversary. By which pithy words would you like to describe the last 6 decades?

Pithy wordswell, that's a special matter, instead of "pithy words" one rather should say actions, but that is easier said than done. So let's dare to look back to the last 60 years. There I have to say with great appreciation, that the idea and the founding of the INF/FNI was a fantastic thing. When one considers under which adverse conditions an "International Meeting" had taken place at those times? The journey was more than difficult. People did not necessarily have the financial means. So my highest respect to these people who had taken charge of all this. Then followed 1020.... 30 years of organisation works, highly successful, as many associations were created during this period. All the members spent their time and everybody participated with enthusiasm to take a spade into his hand to do some physical work, for maybe a snack or a thank you from the other members, who contributed by another means. But there was a collaboration and by this feeling of unity it was possible to move mountains. This is slightly exaggerated, but a lot of things have happened during these times, without excavator or other aids, really only by the energy of each member. Well, then came the "time of prosperity of the naturism", the years 1970 till 1980 I would say. Naturism could be developed endlessly, but the capacities were insufficient. I do not want to know how many clubs had to stop acceptance of members (in Austria for example all clubs were lacking possibilities to admit new members) and this continued merrily during the next 10-15 years. Nobody was ever thinking about that one day this could catch us up and fall onto our heads. What had happened in the meantime? Quite simple: times had changed, going on holidays was not only possible to, let's say, the "upper 10.000", but also people from the middleclass were able to afford holiday travels. Nearly every household owned a car and so had the opportunity to travel with a tent or a caravan. In the southern regions offers and holiday destinations emerged just like that. And what did our presidents do? They enjoyed the holiday travels and completely forgot about to concentrate on creating possibilities to accept more members. Soon they started making selections, club members and nude holidaymakers.... club members were the "good naturists", nude holidaymakers were the "less good naturists".... At this point I would like to stop, because this was exactly the moment where our predecessors should have said "stop".

What are the next tasks for the coming time, to ensure the future of the INF?

Naturism exists for centuries, the organised and registered naturism for a shorter time only; therefore it is of prime importance to see about one thing, namely to gather the club member-naturists and holiday-naturists, the hiking-naturists, and, and, and. Together it should be easy to make our group being again what it had been before..... an attitude to life, which looks for its equals.

How will the INF actually celebrate its 60th anniversary?

We will let the Petanque tournament of this year take place at Montalivet (where the INF/FNI had been founded). During the following weekend there will be a small celebration and we would surely be pleased if many members could participate. I am sure that Montalivet will offer cheap prices for this period. The real purpose of the celebration is to thank our predecessors for their work done, and then right away make two steps forward into the future, contact the media, be present in internet, motivate the youth members and make plans for 2014, because what is good and enough today, will barely be enough tomorrow and next year.

In a recent interview you had said: "When taking off your cloths, you get closer to yourself!" What would you like to add today?

You will be "Human Being".

Interview with Sieglinde Ivo by Christoph Müller.

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International Naturist Federation INF-FNI Eduard Nittner Strasse 14/6 Hörsching A-4063 Ph:+43 7221 72 480
www.INF-FNI.org

MailChimp