



Federation Focus

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Published and compiled by George Volak

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President's Message

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2010 INF-FNI Congress

info@pizzogreco.com

A message from the President

By: Sieglinde Ivo

With regret, I realize that this year there will be no INF-FNI youth summer meeting.

János Sándor, president of the Hungarian Federation, has not only found an attractive venue, but has also painstakingly created a great program for young people. Train and bus services were offered and a quotation was made that we really have never had so far.

Why this INF-FNI youth summer meeting in Hungary has not taken place, I cannot say, unfortunately.

In charge would have been Sebastian Heuft, who was newly elected at the Interfederal meeting. My e-mail questions to him asking why we were not hearing about the youth summer meeting were sent but have remained unanswered for weeks.

It is very sad, because the INF-FNI spring meeting in Le Betulle was a great success, and I am sure that many of the youth would like to have visited Hungary. It would have been a great chance for the youth of Hungary to meet like minded people from all different countries, to exchange information about various subjects and maybe there could have been a youth formation in Hungary, which would have taken part in future INF-FNI events.

What's next for the INF-FNI youth events?

2010 INF-FNI Congress dates are set!

The staff of Pizzo Greco resort, the location of the 2010 Congress, are happy to announce the official dates of this important event. Delegates will arrive on Wednesday, September 8, the meetings will start Thursday, September 9 until Saturday, September 11, with the gala dinner Saturday evening. Breakfast and goodbyes will be Sunday, September 12. Of course, the entire Pizzo Greco staff hopes you will be having so much fun that you will not want to leave and will extend your stay!

Shift in naturism?

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Send us your comments

Is there a shift in the European view of naturism?

By: George Volak

Recent events should be of interest to all naturists worldwide and a loud warning to all INF-FNI Federations.

North America has been dealing with negative views of naturism/nudism for years. However, this negative view was not shared by most European countries until recently.

Unfortunately, we may be seeing a change in the European's view of naturism.

We recently saw the de-designation of the naturist beach at Corton, Lowestoft, UK.

Corton naturist beach, used by naturists for over 30 years, was one of the first official naturist beaches in the UK. British Naturism expressed strong arguments for the naturist designation to continue and they are pleased that their efforts culminated with the Waverney District council to try to find an alternative. Until such alternative can be found, this is indeed a major loss to naturism.

We have now received word that the beach in **Sérignan, France** is in jeopardy. The campsite of Sérignan Plage has sold a part of the area to a new owner. The new owner has decided that the section of the beach that is part of her area is no longer welcome to naturists. She has enlisted the local police to help her chase away any naturists who show up to use the historically clothes free beach.

This particular beach is visited every summer by people from the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, the UK and France and would be a great loss to many for their naturist holiday plans.

And, all of us are familiar with the recent events in Appenzell, Switzerland, where the residents voted overwhelmingly to ban nude hiking in the area.

So, are these merely isolated incidents or are we seeing a shift in the attitudes of Europeans, an attitude that was once accepting and tolerant of naturism.

As always, your comments are welcome.

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The Office is Open!

By: George Volak

I hope you will join me in welcoming our new staff members who were on hand for the opening of the INF-FNI office in Linz, Austria.

As you know from the letter sent out in September, they will manage the office from 9 until 12:30, Monday to Thursday. They are looking forward to getting to know many of you and hope you will use the services of the office and consider them a part of your team.

The new telephone numbers for the Linz location are:

+43 (0) 7221 72480 to talk to someone and +43 (0) 7221 72358 for the fax line.

The mailing address is: Eduard-Nittnerstrasse 14/6, A-4063 Hörsching. Please change your records where needed. The email addresses remain the same.

Please make sure all your federation magazines are now sent to the new address and don't forget the naturist libraries....they keep your magazines on file.

A Friendly Reminder

By: Cor van Herp

You recently received a letter reminding you of the steps necessary to return unused INF-FNI stamps and for purchasing the new stamps for your federations. Please remember there are dates that these steps must be done by. If you have any problems or questions regarding this, you can contact the INF-FNI office at info@inf-fni.org or contact me directly at treasurer@inf-fni.org.

More on Memberships

In the last issue of the Focus, we dealt with what membership numbers should mean to you. Now, what about dealing with getting those new members that keep you in a healthy state? For the purpose of this article, we will deal with two types of members. The 'business' affiliates and the 'individual members'.

First, the business affiliates. If you want to attract naturist businesses to join your federation, you have to appeal to their business sense. Are you offering

EUNatCom:
(European Naturist
Commission)

Ismael Rodrigo,
coordinator

Roger Viola, sports

Sebastian Heuft,
youth

them the opportunity to increase their business because they are connected with you? Can you raise the awareness of the traveling naturist to their location? Are you providing other ways they can make their business more successful because they are part of your 'team'? Are there ways you can reduce their expenses for advertising if they advertise with you?

Now, the individual members. This member, if you want them to join or renew, will expect a return for his money. Will he receive a discount at places to visit because of membership in your federation? Will he become more aware of events and happenings in the naturist movement because of this connection? What added benefits are you offering him in exchange for his money?

Telling both types of members that "we have a website, a travel magazine, annual meetings, etc. no longer is enough. You must offer more.

When someone joins your federation, it is an occasion to integrate them into the entire family of naturist opportunities. Of course, it is up to the individual member to take advantage of these opportunities. If he or she does not, chances are you will lose them at renewal time.

Studies show that an individual member, if involved in activities at a resort or home club, is more likely to renew than someone who does not become involved.

And these same studies show that a business, if they see an increase in the bottom line since joining your federation, will see a benefit and will want to stay on board.

INF-FNI is going to the Faire!

By: Sieglinde Ivo

I am happy to announce that the INF-FNI will be represented at the Naturist Trade Show that will be held in Utrecht, the Netherlands, from December 11 to 13, 2009. INF-FNI will have a booth with brochures and other naturist information and we hope that many of you will stop by. If there is anything in particular that you believe we should have available, please let us know.

The event is being called Naturisme Totaal, a way of life for the naturist and the nude recreationist.

There will be something there for everyone, with emphasis on relaxation, wellness, health, sport, home and garden products. There will also be a wide variety of lectures, demonstrations and workshops.

Naturisten Federatie Nederland (NFN) is one of the media partners in this groundbreaking event.

We hope to see you there.

www.naturismetotaal.nl

info@nfn.nl

Please send us your articles for the upcoming issues of the Federation Focus. We will always have space for you!