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Cover: Fun at Sunny Chinooks in Alberta
• photo by Stéphane Deschênes



We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Magazine Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Canada

going NATURAL au NATUREL

Vol. 21 No. 4 • Winter/Hiver 2005-06

Publisher / Édition • Federation of Canadian Naturists, Fédération québécoise de naturisme
Editors / Rédacteurs en chef • Paul Rapoport, Michel Vais (responsable des pages françaises)

GOING NATURAL / AU NATUREL is a quarterly magazine. Its objectives are to provide Canada with information on naturism and to present news of naturist activities in Canada and throughout the world.

The Federation of Canadian Naturists (FCN) and the Fédération québécoise de naturisme (FQN) share the Canadian membership in the International Naturist Federation (INF), whose headquarters are in Antwerp, Belgium.

NATURISM is the practice of complete nudity in a communal setting. Although nudity is the most obvious aspect of naturism, it is part of a much wider context.

The purpose of naturism is to promote wholesomeness and stability of the human body, mind, and spirit. This comes most easily to those who shed the psychological and social encumbrance of clothing, to see and respect the human body as created.

Naturism also promotes optimal health through contact of the body with the natural elements. It is practised as much as possible in an environment free of the pollution and stress of modern society. It is therefore associated with an enlightened, holistic approach to nutrition, physical activity, mental health, and social interaction.

Naturism is founded on family participation. Children in naturist families learn to appreciate the body as part of their natural environment. They grow up with healthful attitudes and accept the physical nature of both sexes and all ages without fear or shame.

Nude living thus removes apprehensions and barriers to communication between people and fosters appreciation of the environment. It leads to healthier and more humane living: richer and simpler, enlightened by joy and freedom.

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A subscription to this magazine includes membership in the Federation of Canadian Naturists, with voting rights in the FCN for Canadian residents who belong to a recognized club or group. A one-year subscription costs CA\$42.40 in Canada, CA\$45 in the USA, and CA\$50 elsewhere. To subscribe, send a cheque or money order to:

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Website: <http://www.fcn.ca>

Membership and subscription inquiries. E-mail: <subscriptions@fcn.ca> or phone the number above.

Submissions for publication in this magazine. E-mail: <editor@fcn.ca>. Postal: Going Natural, PO Box 81128 FGPO, Ancaster ON L9G 4X1, Canada. Phone: 905-304-4836. Fax: 905-304-4837.

Advertising Manager. E-mail: <admanager@fcn.ca>. Postal and phone: as for the FCN, Etobicoke, above.

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GOING NATURAL / AU NATUREL est un trimestriel ayant pour objectif de diffuser au Canada de l'information sur le naturisme et de traiter des activités naturistes au pays et dans le monde.

La Federation of Canadian Naturists (FCN) et la Fédération québécoise de naturisme (FQN) adhèrent conjointement à la Fédération naturiste internationale (FNI), dont le siège social est à Anvers, Belgique.

Le **NATURISME** est une pratique de la nudité intégrale en commun. Cependant, la nudité, bien qu'elle en soit l'aspect le plus visible, ne constitue qu'une partie du naturisme.

Le but du naturisme est de promouvoir la plénitude et la stabilité sur les plans corporel, mental et spirituel. Cela arrive tout simplement lorsqu'on se débarrasse de vêtements psychologiquement et socialement encombrants, pour voir et respecter le corps humain tel qu'il fut créé.

Le naturisme accorde aussi une grande importance à la santé optimale par le contact du corps avec les agents naturels. Cet art de vivre se pratique autant que possible dans un environnement exempt de la pollution et du stress de la société moderne. Voilà pourquoi on associe l'expérience naturiste à l'éveil, aux approches holistiques en matière de nutrition, à l'activité physique, à l'équilibre psychique et aux relations interpersonnelles.

La naturisme est d'abord une activité familiale. Les enfants élevés en milieu naturiste apprennent à apprécier le corps comme faisant partie de leur environnement naturel. Ils conservent une attitude saine, acceptant sans crainte ni honte les particularités physiques propres aux deux sexes et à tout âge de la vie.

Ainsi, vivre nu élimine ou atténue bien des appréhensions et des obstacles à la communication entre les gens, et les incite à respecter l'environnement. Cette pratique conduit à une vie plus saine et plus humaine, à la fois riche et simple, empreinte de joie et de liberté.

ABONNEMENTS ET CHANGEMENT D'ADRESSE

L'abonnement au magazine inclut l'adhésion à la Federation of Canadian Naturists, avec droit de vote à la FCN pour les résidents canadiens appartenant à un club ou un centre reconnu. L'abonnement d'un an coûte 42,40 \$CA au Canada, 45 \$CA aux États-Unis et 50 \$CA partout ailleurs. Envoyer chèque ou mandat poste à :

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Envoi d'articles pour publication dans le magazine. Courriel : <editor@fcn.ca> ou <vais@ca.inter.net>. Adresse : Going Natural, PO Box 81128 FGPO, Ancaster ON L9G 4X1, Canada. Tél. : 905-304-4836. Téléc. : 905-304-4837.

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Naturism and sexuality

by Paul Rapoport (traduction française ci-dessous)

One of the thorniest problems naturism deals with is its connection to sexuality. Many understand that naturism would be shut down if others thought it was sexual. But just how non-sexual is naturism?

Our world is sexual in nearly everything. The first thing to know about a baby just born is not whether it's healthy—it's whether it's a boy or a girl. We segregate boys and girls in bathrooms as soon as they go to school, if not before. In nearly every human interaction, we know whether we are dealing with a male or a female. Assumptions about gendered difference are many and pervasive.

In one sense naturism is more sexual than usual, because sexual differences are plainly visible. In another sense it is less sexual, because the hide-and-tease clothing sometimes worn is gone. What naturism is not is *sexualized*. It does not have a *more sexual* behavioural component than that of most clothed activities.

But what do naturists really think? What if we enjoy looking at naked people? That disqualifies us from being a naturist, some may say. But what if those people are of both sexes and of all ages, sizes, shapes, and conditions? Oh, then it's okay. Is it not permissible, then, to enjoy looking at only a subset of naked people, or must naturist thoughts be purely egalitarian? And if our thoughts may be as varied as the above suggests, what may we discuss out loud or in print?

We have considerable—and correct—reluctance to associate naturism with sexual activity. Yet where may public gains be made these days in body acceptance? In queer studies (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered) and in the “adult” industries (including movies and games). Gains in these sexual areas, especially legally, may also make gains for naturism, partly because too many people think naturism is sexual in ways it is not, even *pornographic* (although naturism is the very antithesis of pornography).

Connections of nudity to sex, abhorred by naturists, are made plain, to naturism's advantage, in two recent books: John Ince's *The Politics of Lust* (2003) and Marty Klein's *America's War on Sex* (2006). If supporters of naturism and of sexual diversity or “publication” are not the same, their opponents are indeed often the same.

That does not mean that naturism must now ally itself with sexual activity. It does mean that we should know what is going on in some of that area in the public realm. A few lines connecting naturism and sexuality are significant, even as naturism is not inherently any more sexual in behaviour than anything else.

Politically, it seems it must be less sexual. Is that true? Or is naturism failing to recognize or take advantage of the second sexual revolution of the late 20th century? **gN**

Le naturisme et la sexualité

par Paul Rapoport (English is above)

Un des problèmes les plus épineux auxquels le naturisme fait face est son rapport avec la sexualité. Plusieurs estiment

que le naturisme fermerait boutique si les gens pensaient qu'il était sexuel. Mais à quel point est-il non sexuel ?

Notre monde est presque partout sexuel. La première chose qu'on veut savoir sur un bébé naissant n'est pas son état de santé, mais si c'est un garçon ou une fille. Nous séparons les garçons et les filles dans les toilettes dès qu'ils vont à l'école, et même avant. Dans presque chaque interaction humaine, nous savons quand nous nous adressons à un homme ou à une femme. Et nos préjugés sur les différences entre les genres sont aussi nombreux qu'omniprésents.

En un sens, le naturisme est plus sexuel, car les différences entre les sexes sont évidentes. Mais d'un autre côté, il est moins sexuel parce que le jeu de cache-cache avec les vêtements a disparu. En revanche, le naturisme n'est pas *sexualisé* : il n'a pas de composante *plus sexuelle* que la plupart des activités où l'on est vêtu.

Mais que pensent vraiment les naturistes ? Est-ce que par hasard nous aimons regarder des gens nus ? Selon certains, cela nous disqualifierait comme naturistes. Mais si ces gens étaient à la fois des deux sexes, de tous âges, de toutes tailles et conditions physiques ? Alors ça, ça va. N'est-il pas permis, en ce cas, d'aimer regarder seulement une catégorie de gens nus, ou est-ce que les naturistes sont tenus d'avoir des pensées purement égalitaires ? Et si nos pensées peuvent être aussi variées que ce qui précède, quelle part peut en être discutée ou publiée ?

Nous répugnons — à juste titre — à associer le naturisme à une activité sexuelle. Pourtant, dans quels domaines l'acceptation du corps remporte-t-elle des gains ces temps-ci ? Dans les études *queer* (gaies, lesbiennes, bisexuelles, transgenres) et dans les industries « adultes » (notamment les films et les jeux). Les victoires dans ces domaines du sexe, surtout sur le plan légal, peuvent aussi profiter au naturisme, en partie parce que trop de gens pensent que le naturisme est sexuel d'une manière qu'il ne l'est pas, voire *pornographique*, alors qu'il est l'antithèse de la pornographie.

Deux ouvrages récents clarifient le rapport tant détesté par les naturistes entre nudité et sexe, et ce, à l'avantage du naturisme : *The Politics of Lust* (2003) de John Ince et *America's War on Sex* (2006) de Marty Klein. Si les partisans du naturisme d'un côté, ceux de la diversité sexuelle ou de la « publication » de l'autre, ne coïncident pas, leurs adversaires sont souvent les mêmes.

Cela ne veut pas dire que le naturisme doit maintenant s'allier aux activités sexuelles. Cela signifie que nous devons prendre conscience de ce qui se passe dans ce secteur de la société. Il est important de consacrer quelques lignes au rapport entre naturisme et sexualité, quand bien même le naturisme n'est pas en soi un comportement plus sexuel qu'autre chose.

Politiquement, il semble en fait devoir être moins sexuel. Est-ce vrai ? Ou est-ce que le naturisme échoue à reconnaître ou à profiter de la deuxième révolution sexuelle de la fin du 20e siècle ? **aN**

Nudes flashes / En bref

WILD AND WONDERFUL NEWS & VIEWS / GRANDES NOUVELLES & PETITES RUMEURS by Marlene Elliott & GN/AN staff

A TV no-no

In August, the BBC publication *Radio Times* published a list of what some determined to be the “most cringeworthy programs” on television. The winner (or loser?): the game show *Naked Jungle*, a broadcast in 2000 with British TV personality Keith Chegwin, who was naked along with the contestants.

But guess which broadcast that year was Channel 5’s most watched! Yup. *GN/AN’s* Editor saw it too. It was neither engrossing nor gross.

A real-life no-no

A county prosecutor in Hamilton was caught on a security camera in October walking nude around his office building after hours.

In Hamilton, Ohio, that is. He was fired before any charges were brought to court. Reasons his lawyer offered for the naked nocturnal navigating included a mental illness and a brain injury from a car crash.

The person firing him wrote, “The behavior and acts committed by you have affected the credibility of this office and all of its employees. The damage done is irreparable, so too perhaps is the damage to you personally.”

The first part of that is the usual bureaucratic posturing. Isn’t the last part true only because he was fired?

A theoretical no-no

Nudity in public is the greatest modern taboo, according to a survey published in October in England. Wearing a hoodie is second. Makes you wonder what and whom they asked!

One article pointed out that “violence, shouting abuse, masturbation, singing ‘I Wanna Sex You Up’ by Color Me Badd, and attempting to sell your children into slavery” didn’t make the list.

Public nudity was the top taboo for 37% of respondents. A member from the Central Council for British Naturism expressed shock that nudity placed well



Scary stuff, but no hoodies were used in the taking of this photo in Eugene, Oregon

ahead of drinking alcohol (6%) and flatulence (2%).

A theoretical yes-yes

As evidence that surveys may “prove” just about anything, another from Britain in August stated that 84% of respondents would buy a house next door to naturists. A considerable 20% had gotten naked at home outside, and 21% had seen their neighbours naked.

By contrast, 46% would not buy a house



Would you buy a house next to this person? She doesn't play music outside! (It's Karen Grant of Edmonton, and yes, those are FCN mugs)

next to nighttime party noise, and 37% ditto for one with music played outside.

Undressed at any speed

Also in Britain, TV star Noel Edmonds admitted in September that he had once driven a sports car nude at 04:30 at a speed of 300 km/h.

It’s good if nudity is going somewhere fast...but not that way...nor that fast!

He gave his awl

You know how everybody laughs at the potential requirement of flying naked to avoid letting a concealed weapon on an airplane? To that, some naturists say, “No, really—it’s a *good* idea.”

In November in El Cerrito, California, a naked man was arrested. Police asked him if he had anything on him (*on him!?*) that they should know about. He replied (according to a police officer) that he had a screwdriver in his “anal cavity.”

Wait, it gets better. The police then called for a fire truck.

When the firefighters suggested an ambulance, the detainee removed the object, which was described as a “6-inch metal awl wrapped in black electrical tape.” (Feel better now?)

Among other things, he was charged with possessing a concealed weapon. Are they sure he wasn’t just practising a magic trick? (See **Magie nue**, page 9.)



photo by Neil Hicks

Bluenose Naturists

Louise Langille, a longtime member of the Bluenose Naturist Club in Nova Scotia, will travel to Phoenix, Arizona to take part on January 12 in a 42 km marathon. It’s organized by

Joints in Motion, for the Arthritis Society, in aid of finding prevention and cure. Louise, a 60-year-old grandmother, knows many people suffering from arthritis. She’s been training for the marathon since June!

Unfortunately the run won't be nude. It will, however, have about 100 Canadians amongst 35,000 participants. Louise readily connects this worthwhile cause to the naturist principles of freedom and self-acceptance.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Arthritis Society may e-mail Louise at <dllangille@eastlink.ca>. Donation deadline is January 12.

Club O

Club Orient has announced that its resort will close for remodelling September 1 to October 14, 2007. The remodeling will include the Papagayo restaurant, la Boutique, and many of the rental units.

The journalism prize



photo by Jean Lejeune

The English-language winner of the first journalism prize, Mike Haymes, received his certificate along with a cheque for \$150 from Diane Archambault, President of the Québec Naturist Federation. The prize, awarded in conjunction with the FQN and FCN, was for Mike Haymes' article "Hanging out with Ottawa's Nudists," appearing in *Glue* in Spring 2005.

Activités de la FQN

La saison automne-hiver de la FQN est la plus variée depuis longtemps à Montréal. Outre la piscine du Centre sportif du 1212, rue Sanguinet (métro Berri-UQÀM), où il y a aussi du volley-ball et du badminton, celle du Centre aquatique Le Gardeur ouvre à nouveau ses portes aux baigneurs naturistes.

Des soirées de quilles sont également

photo par Mario Landerman

Le prix du journalisme

Le lauréat francophone du premier prix du journalisme naturiste, Jean-Yves Girard (au centre), a reçu son certificat des mains de Michel Vaïs (à droite), président de la Fondation naturiste du Québec, et un chèque de 150 \$ de Royal du Perron (à gauche), président du jury. Ce prix, remis en partenariat par la Fondation, la FQN et la FCN, est allé à Jean-Yves Girard pour son article « Partir pour Okapulco », paru dans *Le Devoir* du 19 août 2005.

prévues au cœur de Montréal, à la salle de quilles du Centre NDR (métro Jean-Talon) et des soirées de badminton, toujours au Centre NDR mais à l'étage au-dessus. Partout, les activités ont lieu en soirée.

On peut s'informer au bureau de la FQN : 514-252-3014 ou consulter le site <vivrenu.ca>. Attention : certaines activités peuvent être annulées en cas de faible participation ou de mauvais temps.

Piscine, volley-ball, badminton, rue Sanguinet : 13 jan. ; 17 fév. ; 10, 24, 31 mars ; 14, 21 avr.

Piscine Le Gardeur : 20 jan. ; 4 fév. ; 3 mars.

Salle de quilles NDR : 30 jan. ; 27 fév. ; 27 mars ; 24 avr.

Badminton NDR : 28 jan. ; 11, 25 fév. ; 29 avr.

Bureau de la FQN

Contrairement à ce qui avait été annoncé dans le dernier numéro, le Regroupement Loisir Québec va continuer à héberger la FQN au Stade olympique de Montréal pendant encore au moins un an. Le déménagement du RLQ est en effet reporté de plusieurs mois, faute d'entente sur le meilleur immeuble qui sera destiné à accueillir un nombre plus restreint de fédérations.

À suivre.

Magie nue

Une vidéo qui dure 4:45 circule sur Internet depuis le 29 août 2006, date à laquelle le Festival Juste pour rire de Montréal l'y a apparemment placée. Sur le site <video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-7614204979212723144>, ce petit film, intitulé « Hanky Panky », a pour vedette

le numéro de la prestidigitatrice Ursula Martínez (une Britannique, de son vrai nom Ursula Lea).

Ce qu'on y voit de spécial ? Une prestation assez habile de strip-tease associée à un tour de magie confondant. Une femme bien habillée, en tailleur gris, fait disparaître dans ses mains nues un petit mouchoir rouge, qu'elle retrouve dans sa veste, puis, dans sa jupe, dans son soutien gorge, dans son slip ... Chaque fois, évidemment, elle enlève le vêtement en question. À la fin, ayant aussi abandonné son slip et se retrouvant nue en chaussures à talon, elle retrouve son mouchoir rouge dans ... son vagin.

Le numéro a déjà été présenté un peu partout dans le monde, notamment à Sydney, Hong Kong, Lisbonne, Madrid, Vienne et Budapest.

Site nu

On sait que le directeur de *Naturisme Québec*, après avoir publié six numéros, avait annoncé dans son éditorial du numéro 6 (décembre 2004) que, faute de support et à cause de difficultés de distribution, il mettait fin aux activités du seul magazine naturiste québécois. Il va de soi que, par le fait même, disparaîtrait aussi la raison sociale « Naturisme Québec », ainsi que le site Web du même nom.

Or, il n'a pas fallu longtemps pour que le site <naturismequebec.com> soit récupéré par l'industrie de la pornographie. Hélas! Il est difficile de « protéger » les termes associés au naturisme contre le déferlement de la porno sur Internet. Ce n'est pas nouveau, mais toujours regrettable.

Politique nue

La SRC, la RDI et la CBC ont présenté au début d'octobre un extrait d'une entrevue de Rick Mercer avec Bob Rae. Ce dernier était le seul, parmi les candidats à la chefferie du Parti libéral, à avoir accepté une excursion de pêche avec l'animateur bien connu de la télévision anglaise de Radio-Canada.

Le tout a commencé par une promenade en hydravion, puis, une ballade en bateau et une partie de pêche classique, au cours de laquelle les deux compères ont discuté un peu de politique sur un ton léger, sans toutefois réussir à attraper le moindre poisson. Lorsqu'ils sont revenus à leur point de départ, l'animateur a dit qu'il manquait à son reportage un événement qui le rendrait mémorable.

C'est alors que Bob Rae a lancé : « J'ai une idée ! » Et l'image suivante a montré l'homme politique et son nouvel ami de dos, nus, plongeant dans le lac !

On peut voir la vidéo en question, "Skinny Dipping with Bob Rae," sur le site <www.cbc.ca/mercerreport>.

Soutenir la Fondation

Vous savez que vous pouvez soutenir le mouvement naturiste en devenant membre à vie de la Fondation naturiste du Québec ? Il n'en coûte que 100 \$ et vous recevez un certificat en bonne et due forme. Vous contribuez ainsi à la remise des prix de journalisme, institué l'an dernier, ainsi qu'à la mise sur pied du centre d'archives et de documentation.

Il suffit de communiquer avec Vincent Pigeon, trésorier de la Fondation, à

l'adresse <vincent_pigeon@hotmail.com> ou au numéro 819-568-2126. N'hésitez plus, laissez à jamais votre marque au sein du mouvement !

Support the Foundation

Do you know that you can support the naturist movement by becoming a life member of the Naturist Foundation of Québec? It supports naturist ventures both inside and outside Québec. It costs only \$100, and you get a duly authorized certificate. You will be contributing to the awarding of the journalism prizes, begun this year, as well as to the setting up of the centre of naturist archives and documentation.

You need only contact Vincent Pigeon, Treasurer of the Foundation, <vincent_pigeon@hotmail.com> or 819-568-2126. Don't delay—have some permanent influence on the naturist movement!

Blended circles

A couple in England decided to have two receptions on their wedding day last summer. Kathy Lynch and Martin Payton have both textile and naturist friends but never mix the two circles. Hence, two celebrations: one naturist and the other textile. The guests at one of the receptions had buff-et!

They plan to have two celebrations each year in the future to celebrate their anniversary. We can only hope that the textile circle begins to mix and blend with that naturist circle. After all, aren't weddings about two rings coming together?

Clothing as hindrance

Telecommuters in Japan are discovering (or



René Beauchamp à Cayo Largo

photo par Laurette Francoeur

Séjour nu

Suite au succès du groupe de février 2006, un autre départ est organisé le 2 mars 2007 pour Cayo Largo, Cuba. Le groupe sera logé à Hôtel Sol Cayo Largo, 4 étoiles +. Plage naturiste pour les résidents de l'hôtel et d'autres plages naturistes sur l'île sont disponibles dont Playa sirena et Playa paraiso. Prévu au programme : mini-croisière naturiste dans la mer des Caraïbes.

Tout inclus, occupation double, chambre standard : 1 sem. 1798 \$, 2 sem. 2438 \$ (incl. taxes sauf celle d'aéroport, env. 30 \$). Possibilité de jumelage pour gens seuls. D'autres hôtels (et d'autres dates) sont disponibles à moindre coût.

Pour davantage d'info : Royal du Perron, 514-858-7215, <perron22@hotmail.com>.

admitting to) the joys of working from home naked. About 10% of those who work from home in Japan do so nude, some finding that it helps them be more creative.

They have apparently been encouraged by the popularity of a manga character whose family strips off to save on energy costs. Satoshi, owner of an IT company, says “nakedness gives you a liberating feeling you couldn’t possibly expect to find in a corporate atmosphere.” Yu Natsumi, author of *Invitation to a Nude Life*, says that working nude encourages positive thinking. She suggests that potential “newdists” try out nudity as a “way to buff up character.” “If you go nude every day, you’re being yourself in the rawest possible form, and that seems to make communication smoother.”

A nice turn for a country where movies are still not allowed to show genital hair or organs.

Clothing as “metafur”

Nicole Kidman plays a legendary photographer/photojournalist in the recently released movie *Fur: An Imaginary Portrait of Diane Arbus*. The photographer rejected the established lifestyle of her parents, who were wealthy New York furriers.

She became famous for her portraits of strange, disturbing images challenging accepted notions of beauty and ugliness. Those included people deemed on the fringes of society. The movie is a fictional account of what might have aroused her interests in photography in general, and particularly in things that are different.

“My favourite thing is to go where I have never gone,” she once said. In one scene she goes to photograph people at a naturist resort. That, of course, makes naturists part of the “fringes” in the 1960s. But we are in a mainstream movie in 2006, so times are changing for the better!

Creative nudity

In Toronto in October were performances of the dance work *Heaven* by Sasha Ivanochka. The shock wasn’t that all three dancers were nude throughout (which they were) but that there was *no music*. FCN Vice-President Jim Hodder reports:

“Except for brief periods offstage, they danced vigorously non-stop, with much jumping, stamping, and running. Occasionally gasping from their exertions, they sweated so profusely that they left wet imprints of their bodies on the floor.

“I observed themes of separation, exclusion, isolation, playfulness, sensuality, eroticism, combativeness, jealousy, nurturing, love, friendship, support, togetherness, athleticism, beauty, courage, and touch. The nudity made these all the more poignant and revealed fully the grace, beauty, and strength of the human body.”

Simple nudity

Continuing our remarkable Dutch series: in *Volkskrant* magazine in September, seven pages of advertisement presented



women’s fashions in the manner you see above. Here’s a translation of the article’s intro:

“We don’t do *thinly veiled*. Whether it’s the ‘Muslimization’ of *haute couture* or generally a reaction to all the naked

people of these decadent times: winter fashion is turning dark and long, and covering everything. Nearly everything.”

A tip of the hat we’re not wearing to Thomas Lundy and Bart Wijnberg for providing the relevant pages.

A revealing campaign

We are familiar with politicians who use innovative campaign tactics. One eager Catalan election candidate used his nude body to help his Citizens of Catalonia Party. (Catalonia is in Spain along



the Mediterranean coast near France.)

The 26-year-old lawyer Albert Rivera posed nude to draw attention to other issues such as social equality. Thousands of his posters were spread all over Barcelona. His slogan includes the line, “We don’t care what clothes you wear.” Or don’t wear, it seems. Rivera admits that the nudity was a marketing strategy to grab headlines.

He was elected because his party won three seats.

A revealing protest

This fall, the Devon County Council in England was considering closing many

smaller library branches. But some who objected noted a library is also a computer and information centre, even the hub of the village. In Kingsteignton, they showed a willingness to do the unusual to save their library.

In the summer, campaigners staged a nude protest in the library behind a shelf of large-print books. Then, inspired by the many precedents of calendars with nudity, they turned their protest into a poster. It says: "Don't strip us of our library."

Why just a poster? "A calendar would have taken too long."

A revealing job

Art schools in Ireland are facing a serious problem with which *GN/AN* readers may be able to help: lack of nude models. Textiles there might say that Irish folk are reluctant to "get their kit off." But the truth is that the models feel they deserve a decent wage.

They may be paid as little as €12 an hour for a physically demanding job that may require posing for up to six hours and



Bernie Sudol at work in Spring 2005

include continuous movement. Most jobs are part-time and offer few benefits.

Colleges are discussing holiday pay and guaranteed numbers of hours. Models say there are incentives, one being that the work being created with them might someday become famous!

GN/AN readers looking for a career change and willing to relocate to a beautiful country should apply!

A revealing rooftop?

Many people use Google Earth, the virtual globe program that combines satellite imagery and aerial photography, to view

their own neighbourhoods. But who knew there are people who spend hours searching for oddities on the Google Earth maps!

In September, one user claimed to have accidentally found naked sun bathers on a rooftop in The Hague in the Netherlands. Imagine that! Two questions: why haven't they found more of us, and why are we considered odd?

The plot thickens. Apparently there may not have been a man and a woman sunning themselves. Viewers studied clues from the surrounding area to gain information and decided that the picture was taken in the spring, although they could not say which spring. Skeptics noted that the proportions were wrong: the pair would have had to be at about 3 metres tall. So possibly the whole thing was a hoax: a picture was altered to show naked people.

We challenge naturists to get out there and give the Google Earth voyeurs something to talk about. But remember: the aerial views are not updated often, so it may take a good while to get noticed! *gn*



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Nature's Paradise (1957) England's Spielplatz nudist camp is the setting for this tale. Includes a visit to the 6th World Nudist Congress. Color. Video: WV05 \$20.00

Nature's Playmates

(1962) Pi and his assistant search for a missing husband in a nudist camp.

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My life as a nudist (part 2)

A distinguished Black American has been one for nearly 70 years

by *Matt Bullock, Jr.*

Part 1 of this article appeared in the Fall 2006 issue of GN/AN.

In 1971 the friend with whom I had gone to Circle H Ranch was invited to go to Beechwood Lodge in Ashfield, Pennsylvania. She was very enthusiastic and told me there was a mobile home for sale there. She suggested that we find a couple of other people and buy it together. I was interested, but at the time I happened to be running for judge of the Common Pleas Court in Philadelphia and thought it would be prudent for me to avoid nudist resorts during the election campaign.

My friend found a mutual friend and her mother who were interested, so we bought the mobile home without my ever having seen it. I was elected judge in November 1971 and a few days later visited the mobile home for the first time. For the next ten years I spent most of my weekends at Beechwood, where many of my friends visited. I never had a moment's trouble because of my being Black. Moreover, it was there that I met Bert (Bertha), the woman who subsequently became my second wife.



Encounter groups and Elysium

During the 60s and 70s, there was another venue that offered me nudist experience, the Human Potential Movement. I attended many encounter groups, sensitivity training groups, and massage workshops on both coasts. Many of them were sponsored by an organization in Philadelphia called the Center for the Whole Person, which acquired a body-temperature pool in New Jersey. I attended several encounter groups led by Dr. Paul Bindrim, the father of nude encounter groups.

In 1969 I made my first trip to Los Angeles to a legal conference and was taken to Elysium Fields, a nudist-oriented “growth centre.” For the next twelve years, before I retired and moved to California, I visited California twice a year and experienced a variety of workshops, most of them nude. I also joined an “alternative lifestyle” organization called Family Synergy in Los Angeles. Many of their events were nude.

During the 70s I visited a number of places in the Caribbean which had nude beaches or nude sunbathing areas. These included Club Meds in Martinique and Guadeloupe, St Martin, and Jamaica. My favourite place was Negril Beach Village in Jamaica [now *Hedonism II* — Ed.], which I visited five times.

Back in California

In January 1981, shortly after my second wife and I had married, we drove across country and settled in a multi-unit property in Long Beach, California. We had a hot tub which we all used nude. Soon after our move, my wife and I started a massage group which we called The Loving Hands. It met once a month for about five years in the Philadelphia area and was attended by a dozen or more people.

In 1985 we visited friends in Florida who took us to Paradise Lakes Resort. The following year we bought a condo there. Thereafter, until my wife's death in 1992, we spent about twelve weeks a year there in four-week stints.

In 1994 I married again and moved into my wife Aida's home in Santa Barbara, California. In 1998 we were part of the first group to take a trip sponsored by the American Association For Nude Recreation to Paris and Provence. Ultimately, my wife lost interest in Paradise Lakes and, after 18 years of ownership, I sold the condo.

In 2001, we decided to have separate residences. I moved into a senior apartment less than a mile from my wife's home. We still talk on the phone daily, see each other several times a week, and go on trips together.

I am now free to attend nudist events on my own, although I do not exercise that option very often. One such occasion was a 10-day Mexican nude cruise in 2002. My most recent event was the gathering of The Naturist Society in Lenox, Massachusetts, in 2006. I am a member of two nudist travel clubs, the Olympian Club and the Southern California Naturist Association.

To me social nakedness is physically very pleasurable, emotionally very warm, socially very bonding, esthetically very appealing, and spiritually very inspirational. What more can I say?

Postscript

Why is there only a handful of Black people in nudism? I'm really not the one to ask, since I am an ardent Black nudist. However, I can venture some thoughts on the subject.

The United States, with its history of over two centuries of Black slavery, followed by many decades of legalized racial oppression, discrimination, segregation, and injustice, is still a racially divided country. White prejudice, condescension, and hostility and the Black sense of victimization do not die easily.

Socially, the vast majority of both races confines their socializing to their own race. Experience in the workplace, school, sports, and cultural events may result in some interracial socializing, but this is the exception.

The average Black person has no exposure whatsoever to nudism. The relative few who do are likely to feel that it is difficult

enough being seen as “different” as a Black person without also being seen as different as a nudist, in a culture in which most people regard nudism as a strange cult, if not a depraved form of activity.

I suspect that various traditional subterranean attitudes also discourage interracial nudism, including Black women's traditional vulnerability at the hands of White men, White men's traditional envy of the supposed virility of Black men, and Black men's and White women's shared sense of oppression by White men. Moreover, not only has nudism not reached out to encourage participation by Black people, but it was not that long ago that Blacks were actually excluded, as my own experience indicates. gN

Sommaire français. Au cours des 35 dernières années, j'ai eu beaucoup d'occasions de faire du nudisme. En 1971, j'ai commencé à éviter à me montrer nu en public parce que je briguais un poste de juge. Dans les années 1960 et 1970, j'ai fait partie de « groupes de rencontre » nus, je me suis joint à un organisme faisant la promotion d'un « style de vie différent » et je me suis rendu dans des endroits où on pratiquait le nudisme en Californie et dans les Antilles.

En 1981, ma femme et moi avons mis sur pied un groupe de massage et nous avons par la suite passé beaucoup de temps à Paradise Lake, en Floride. J'ai fait une croisière nudiste et je suis allé à l'Eastern Gathering organisé par The Naturist Society.

Les Noirs sont rares dans le mouvement naturiste américain à cause de la division raciale qui existe depuis longtemps au pays. Comme les Noirs sont déjà perçus comme secondaires en tant que groupe, ils peuvent croire qu'ils n'ont pas besoin de la stigmatisation additionnelle associée au fait d'être nudistes et considérés comme des dépravés. La situation sur le plan sexuel et interracial peut aussi limiter le nudisme interracial. Les nudistes devraient néanmoins essayer d'attirer des Noirs dans leurs rangs.

Histoire de la « chose » qui me gênait

par Marthe N.



Les plus jeunes sont les plus naturels. Pourquoi est-ce que les centres naturistes ne leur profiteraient pas ?

Ce témoignage a été écrit par une psychologue de grande expérience, d'origine française et naturiste de longue date, qui craint de se retrouver un jour nue. Pour des questions évidentes, nous respectons son anonymat.

La première fois que la chose est arrivée remonte à plus de trente ans, dès les premiers instants de naturisme à Montalivet, dans les Landes, en France. J'avais 25 ans. De toute évidence, j'étais gênée d'être nue.

Cette évidence s'est compliquée lorsque j'ai voulu comprendre sa raison d'être. Comment expliquer cette chose qui provoquait ma gêne d'être nue ? Gênée à cause de l'éducation reçue ? Rigidité parentale, sermon du curé et fermeture des nonnes auraient pu avoir le dessus, mais, à 16 ans, j'avais tout balancé par-dessus bord.

Gênée par la présence de mon compagnon de l'époque et de ma fille ? Avec sa grosse barbe, lui a su être un initiateur rassurant et, du haut de ses 4 ans, elle préférerait défier la force des vagues. Gênée par le manque d'intimité devant l'immensité de l'océan et sa plage sans fin ? Adolescente, la mer avait bien failli m'emporter dans sa noire et glaciale profondeur, mais la plage avait été ma planche de salut avec son sable lumineux.

Gênée par les similitudes et les différences de ces enfants, femmes et hommes qui occupaient le vaste camp ? Ces nuances me laissaient indifférente car elles faisaient partie de mon quotidien au centre hospitalier. Gênée par mes propres formes et couleurs ? C'est vrai que j'aurais aimé 10 centimètres de plus sur la ligne verticale et aussi que le blanc de mon épiderme passe au brun plutôt qu'au rouge écrevisse, même avec la meilleure crème protectrice, mais j'étais comblée car ma fille et mon fils sont deux grands à la peau dorée.

Comment donc définir cette chose qui me gênait ? Et je n'ai pas eu de réponse. Et j'ai mis de côté la chose. Et le temps a passé.

Arrivée au Québec

Dix ans plus tard, je passais au-dessus de

l'Atlantique et je découvrais le Québec et ses régions, ainsi que Montréal et sa banlieue. J'ai eu le coup de foudre. J'ai des coups de foudre qui durent. Je savais que je ne quitterais jamais plus le Québec. J'y vis depuis 25 ans. J'y travaille. Dans l'exercice de mes fonctions, je rencontre une multitude d'enfants et d'adultes. Ma tâche est d'aider autrui après que l'abus psychologique, physique, sexuel, ait fait ses ravages. Je fais face aux tribunaux et à leurs questions, et mes réponses oscillent entre la clarté et la pénombre. Il faut souligner les nuances. Il faut oser dire les choses. Il ne faut point craindre.

Puis, un jour de grand soleil, histoire de changer d'air, ma grande copine m'invite à faire du naturisme en Montérégie et elle me présente la belle et unique Pommerie. Un autre coup de foudre. J'étais bien avec son monde, son espace, sa nature, sa forme et ses couleurs. Je me promenais partout, entre le dépanneur, les terrains des campeurs et les sous-bois. Sous les pins et les pruches, une perdrix m'a même poursuivie. Je campais dans le verger et l'élu de mon cœur était un pommier. À chaque visite, j'allais lire sous son parasol.

Réveuse à mes heures, je ne comptais pas les nuages et les moutons. Je recensais ses branches et j'étudiais leur condition de près. Il protégeait ma peau blanche des rayons du soleil et j'étais les fournis de ses nervures. J'arrivais le vendredi en début d'après-midi pour réserver ma place. Près de lui, j'installais ma couverture et gare à la personne qui aurait dérangé notre complicité ! C'était notre place.

Ma grande copine, qui a la peau dorée, préférerait les abords de la piscine. Jamais je ne m'approchais de l'enceinte. Cependant, une fois, j'ai fait un extra : j'ai gravi les quelques marches, poussé la grille et avancé vers le bassin pour aller échanger quelques mots avec les uns et les autres. La canicule avait réuni bien du

monde dans la masse bleutée.

Tout à coup, la chose qui gênait est revenue. La chose m'a même pétrifiée. Je n'ai rien dit à ma grande copine et je suis retournée sous mon pommier préféré. Comment donc définir cette chose qui me gênait encore ? Et je n'ai pas encore eu de réponse. Et j'ai encore mis de côté la chose. Et le temps a encore passé.

Des craintes qui durent

Une dizaine d'années de plus, et mon compagnon de vie et moi avons fini par nous installer dans la belle et unique Pommerie. Une passion partagée. J'ai changé d'arbres. Je vis maintenant sous la ramille des érables. Ils sont les témoins discrets des discussions amicales. Ils offrent la fraîcheur en période de canicule. Ils sentent le caramel quand il pleut. Et, à leur tour, ils rougissent. On se comprend.

Mon compagnon a la peau dorée et il aime les expositions au soleil. Il a sa petite routine : lecture sur notre terrain en plein soleil et jasette avec le monde à la piscine, toujours en plein soleil. Je refusais presque toutes ses invitations à la piscine. Et celles des autres. Parce que la chose est revenue et, avant qu'elle ne devienne une habitude, je l'ai écoutée. J'ai entendu ses nuances.

Finalement, en France, il y a 30 ans, je craignais de rencontrer la clientèle : *ma* clientèle. À cette époque, tous ceux qui voulaient faire du naturisme prenaient la destination de Montalivet. Les rencontres entre les professionnels et la clientèle y étaient faciles. Au Québec, depuis 25 ans, je crains toujours de rencontrer ma clientèle : de me montrer nue devant ces adultes et ces enfants que je rencontre dans ma vie professionnelle. Cette idée m'est même insupportable.

La question du naturisme a déjà été évoquée dans des dossiers sur lesquels j'ai travaillé : source de conflit entre les parents, chantage et



Des amis de la Pommerie : Denis Lalonde, sa femme Danielle et les deux enfants, Vincent et Sophie. Vincent est celui qui était en page couverture de *Naturisme Québec* 5

pression pour obtenir la garde d'un enfant ou limiter les droits d'accès ... Aucun tribunal ne m'a questionnée personnellement à ce sujet. Qu'aurais-je répondu ?

Le questionnement a cependant eu lieu professionnellement. Fort heureusement, il n'existe aucune recherche psychologique ou psychosociale qui démontre que le parent qui fait du naturisme est plus apte ou moins apte que l'autre à assumer la vie quotidienne de ses enfants. Le débat est clos. Est-ce que cela devrait me rassurer ? Non. L'histoire continue.

J'ai l'âge que j'ai et, dans ma vie de grand-mère à la belle et unique Pommerie, il y aurait de la place pour un/e jeune enfant ou un/e adolescent/e qui a connu la misère et qui pourrait profiter, sous mon œil attendri et attentif, des joies que nous offre ce site. Je trouve la paix dans le naturisme. Pourquoi l'enfant blessé n'y trouverait-il pas aussi la plénitude ?

Amener un enfant à la Pommerie ?

Alors, je suis allée voir une grande amie qui s'occupe des placements d'enfants dans les familles d'accueil et je lui ai fait part de mon projet : recevoir un enfant, une fin de semaine sur deux, pour l'aider à ... Mon amie s'est exclamée en renversant sa tasse de café : « Faire du naturisme avec un enfant placé dans une famille d'accueil ? Et l'abus sexuel passé, qu'en fais-tu ? Comment

t'expliqueras-tu devant les professionnels, les parents, le juge, nos responsables de service et ... ? » J'ai bien essayé de parler de « reconstruction sexuelle, justement, parce que dans le naturisme ... ». Elle m'a laissée parler et elle a conclu : « Oublie ça. »

J'ai beaucoup de considération pour ma grande amie et elle a beaucoup confiance en moi. Or, si mon amie a si peu d'ouverture, comment d'autres collègues réagiront-ils devant la professionnelle inconnue qui fait du naturisme la fin de semaine ? Et les clients, comment réagiront-ils à la nudité de la professionnelle ? Avec du comérage ? Une vengeance ? Une plainte ? Quelles seront les conséquences ? Un déséquilibre professionnel ? Une perte d'emploi ? Une pénalité financière ? Ne sommes-nous pas plus proches de l'affrontement du jugement gratuit d'autrui plutôt que du jugement nuancé d'une relation professionnelle ?

Depuis que j'ai découvert la chose qui me gênait, j'ai fait un choix. Je perdrai mon travail, mais je resterai à la belle et unique Pommerie. Alors, je m'investis dans diverses et fascinantes activités. Je limite malgré tout ma présence à la piscine et au lac, lieux bénis des visiteurs. Ah ! J'ai quand même fait une ou deux trempettes cette année. Suis-je pour autant rassurée ? Non. L'histoire continue.

Il y a quelques jours, c'était le souper de fermeture de la belle et unique Pommerie. Parle à

droite. Parle à gauche. Puis, je prends place auprès d'une belle dame qui pense devenir membre. On babille. Dans le feu des échanges, elle s'échappe : « Je ne suis pas à l'aise de me montrer nue devant mes étudiants. »

Et l'histoire continue. **an**

English summary. When I first tried naturism at Montalivet more than 30 years ago, I was embarrassed to be naked. I thought much about why, with no answer.

I moved to Québec (province). In my work as a psychologist I see many adults and children who are victims of psychological, physical, and sexual abuse.

One sunny day I found myself at la Pommerie, which I fell in love with. I visited there often. I walked about everywhere and always read under my favourite trees. Still, I would not go into the pool enclosure...and whatever bothered me before returned.

Again I wondered why, and had no answer. Ten years later, I knew what was bothering me: I was afraid of encountering my clients at la Pommerie.

As a grandmother, I knew that an abused child would benefit from my beloved Pommerie, so I went to suggest that to a good friend and colleague. She exclaimed that such an idea would never work, would be harshly criticized, could not be fulfilled: "Forget it!"

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Chez Vittorio, 1994

VITTORIO BUONO

globe-trotter naturiste

par Royal du Perron

La plupart des lecteurs de GN/AN le connaissent. Vittorio Buono est un peu le Morley Schloss canadien : il est de tous les rassemblements et festivals naturistes.

Dédié à la cause naturiste depuis des décennies, Vittorio est un collègue de longue date. Il a été président de la FQN dans les années '90, au moment où je dirigeais la Fédération. Avec lui, nous faisons une équipe formidable. Pendant toutes ces années, Vittorio a mis son expertise, son temps et sa fourgonnette au service du mouvement naturiste.

Avec plusieurs employés et des bénévoles, certains jours, les bureaux de la Fédération étaient ouverts de 08:00 à minuit. C'est l'époque où l'organisme a connu sa plus grande expansion, allant jusqu'à quintupler son chiffre d'affaires.

Polyglotte, Vittorio ne compte plus les voyages consacrés à la pratique du naturisme. Que ce soit à Saint-Martin, en Guadeloupe, au Panama, en Jamaïque, au Mexique ou à Cuba, il pourrait vous entretenir pendant des heures sur ces pays tant sa mémoire est phénoménale. Il a aussi visité la plupart des centres naturistes québécois, canadiens-anglais et états-uniens, sans oublier leurs plus belles plages libres, notamment dans les états de New York, du New Jersey et de la Floride.

Italien d'origine, Vittorio est né sur l'île d'Ischia en bordure de Naples, au sud du pays. Il est arrivé au Canada jeune adulte, sur le

*Ci-dessous : Dans une source chaude, Colorado, 1998.
Ci-contre : Au congrès de la FNI, Floride, 1992, avec Bart Wijnberg et Petra Scheller*



conseil et avec le soutien de son frère Giovanni, également naturiste. Il a bien sûr visité les plages libres et centres naturistes italiens ainsi que ceux de la Sardaigne et de la Corse, qu'il affectionne particulièrement.

De l'Italie à la nature québécoise

Si vous campez avec lui, il trouvera le moyen de vous servir au fond des bois, à des kilomètres de toute civilisation, le meilleur expresso au monde. Désormais retraité, son métier d'électricien l'a amené à travailler dans diverses provinces canadiennes ainsi que dans plusieurs états chez nos voisins du Sud, mais son port d'attache demeure québécois.

LA MAISON DE VIMONT EST VRAIMENT UN HAVRE DE PAIX OÙ VITTORIO TROUVE AISÉMENT LE PRÉCIEUX ÉQUILIBRE RECHERCHÉ PAR TANT DE NATURISTES. NATURELLEMENT, LE JARDIN EST AMÉNAGÉ POUR POUVOIR Y PRATIQUER LE NATURISME DÈS QUE LA TEMPÉRATURE LE PERMET.

Il s'est en effet installé à Laval, une proche banlieue au nord de Montréal, dans le quartier de Vimont. Le grand jardin qui entoure la maison unifamiliale a été transformé en potager où il cultive fines herbes, légumes, fruits et fleurs. Dans la belle saison, cet endroit magnifique, aménagé avec des îlots d'arbustes, est devenu un sanctuaire pour certaines catégories d'oiseaux qui viennent s'y baigner quotidiennement et un couple de merles a même niché directement sur la bordure de sa maison, à proximité de la porte patio.

Après ses nombreux périples, la maison de Vimont est vraiment un havre de paix où Vittorio trouve aisément le précieux équi-



Ci-contre : Vittorio à la Pommerie, 2005. Ses correspondants radio amateur viennent de partout. Ci-dessous : Chez Vittorio, avant la mise en conserve de tomates, 1994.



bre recherché par tant de naturistes. Naturellement, le jardin est aménagé pour pouvoir y pratiquer le naturisme dès que la température le permet.

Une des grandes passions de Vittorio demeure la radio amateur. Il a d'ailleurs amené son équipement au 2e festival naturiste canadien, à La Pommerie, en 2005 (voir *GN/AN*, automne 2005). Il possède de l'équipement spécialisé pour la pratique de son passe-temps favori et ses correspondants radio viennent de partout à travers le monde. Cela lui permet de collectionner leurs cartes postales venues de tous les continents.

Durant ses mandats à la présidence de la FQN, Vittorio a été totalement dévoué

au mouvement naturiste. Il a été le délégué officiel du Canada au Congrès de la Fédération naturiste internationale, qui a eu lieu à Paradise Lakes, en Floride, en 1992. C'est un grand défenseur des plages libres et du mouvement naturiste en général, qui ne cesse de signer des pétitions et d'intervenir publiquement pour faire progresser le naturisme ici et dans le monde entier. La FCN a d'ailleurs reconnu son apport bénévole sur les plans national et international, en lui remettant un certificat, le 14 novembre 1993, sous la signature de son président d'alors, Robert Radford.

Vittorio Buono : un vrai naturiste pour qui les valeurs familiales sont importantes. **an**

*Passionné de photographie, notre ami a publié bon nombre de reportages sur des lieux naturistes. Ses photos ont paru plus de 25 fois entre 1993 et 2003 dans *Nude and Natural*, *Naturally*, *Naturist Life International*, *Lee Baxandall's World Guide*, *Info naturista*, *Going Natural*, *Au naturel*, *Naturisme Québec* et *Infonat*.*

English summary. *Vittorio Buono has devoted much of his life to the naturist cause, including as President of the FQN, in whose heyday we were a splendid team. He was the official Canadian dele-*

gate to the INF congress in Florida in 1992. He has been a passionate defender of naturist values here and throughout the world. Although he no longer keeps count of the naturist locations he visits, he has a prodigious memory of their details and his encounters at them.

Vittorio was born in Italy and came to Canada as a young adult. He became an electrician. Living now in retirement in Vimont, Laval, he has created a residence of peace and calm. His house is surrounded by a sumptuous garden, is a haven for many birds, and is of course suitable for naturism. A devoted amateur radio enthusiast, he has correspondents from all over the world. He has also published many articles and photographs in the leading naturist magazines in French, English, and Italian.

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Le congrès naturiste de 2006

L'auteur était délégué officiel de l'Union FQN-FCN au congrès de la FNI.

par René Beauchamp • photos par Stéphane Deschênes et par l'auteur



En août, soit exactement une semaine avant le festival à La Pommerie, j'étais en croisière à Chicoutimi, sur la rivière Saguenay, avec des amis. Le soir du 12 août, j'ai téléphoné chez moi et ma conjointe m'a dit que j'avais reçu un appel urgent de la présidente de la FQN, Diane Archambault, qui avait été mandatée par la Fédération pour aller au congrès naturiste de la Fédération naturiste internationale (FNI) le 4 septembre, au centre naturiste El Portús, près de Cartagena, en Espagne.

Je me demandais vraiment la raison de cet appel. À ma très grande surprise, cela concernait justement le congrès. Elle avait un empêchement de dernière minute et me demandait de le remplacer. J'avais jusqu'au lundi matin 14 août pour donner ma réponse. Comme c'était un de mes rêves d'aller à un congrès naturiste, j'ai accepté d'emblée. D'autant plus que c'était ma première occasion d'aller en Europe.

La réservation pour les vols avait été réglée depuis belle lurette et, grâce à une agence de voyage très professionnelle, les documents de voyage ont pu être changés sans trop de frais supplémentaires pour la FNI. Je suis donc parti le soir du 4 septembre d'Ottawa pour me rendre à Cartagena. À cause des longues



Ci-dessus : À la plage

Ci-contre : Le panorama du balcon

EN ESPAGNE, LES NATURISTES SONT LES BIENVENUS. D'APRÈS LE REPRÉSENTANT ESPAGNOL DE LA FNI, IL N'EST PAS ILLÉGAL D'ÊTRE NU SUR TOUTES LES PLAGES DE CE PAYS.

escales entre les vols et du décalage horaire de six heures, je suis arrivé à El Portús pendant la nuit du 5 au 6, fourbu mais content. Stéphane Deschênes, mon compagnon de chambre et président de la Federation of Canadian Naturists, était déjà là.

Un site superbe

À mon réveil, la première chose que j'ai faite fut de regarder le panorama. Et quel panorama ! Du balcon du troisième étage de la Hacienda Montalvo où nous logions, nous avons une vue magnifique sur la mer Méditerranée, le camping et les montagnes environnantes. Le congrès comme tel débuta le lendemain à 16h. Le thème du congrès était : « Une chaîne d'amitié mondiale ? Points communs dans le naturisme. » Et comme co-thème : « La révolution naturiste — le droit d'être nu. » Les autres sujets discutés au cours du congrès qui se termina le dimanche après-midi furent, entre autres : nouvelle politique de la FNI, possible amélioration du site Web de la FNI, discussions sur le prochain guide naturiste mondial et vote sur le prochain endroit où aurait lieu le congrès en 2008.

Ce sera au Brésil. Par exception, il y a eu aussi un vote pour celui qui aura lieu dans quatre ans : ce sera en Italie. Pour 2012, le Canada va poser sa candidature. Concernant le guide, il y a eu des échanges verbaux assez musclés et, malgré un vote positif qui est passé de justesse, il semble qu'un autre guide mondial sera publié au Canada par un membre de la FCN. Un guide moins volumineux et plus facile à consulter.

En Espagne, les naturistes sont les bienvenus. D'après le représentant espagnol de la FNI, il n'est pas illégal d'être nu sur toutes les plages de ce pays. Grâce à lui, les congressistes ont été invités par le ministère du Tourisme d'Espagne à un somptueux restaurant non fumeur de l'hôtel Best Western à Cartagena. De plus, nous avons eu droit à une croisière dans le port de Cartagena. Durant cette croisière, deux espagnoles naturistes se sont dévêtues pour une séance de photos à la timonerie. Pendant ce temps, Stéphane et moi étions sur le pont et n'étions pas au courant de cet événement rare.

Le centre

En ce qui concerne le centre naturiste, voici mes impressions. Je donne à El Portús un score de 70% pour ainsi dire. La propreté est de mise. Les



Voilà comment il faut faire des emplettes!

blocs sanitaires sont impeccables. La nourriture bonne, sans plus. Malheureusement, il n'existe aucune place non fumeur dans les restaurants contrairement au restaurant textile cité plus haut. Les chiens sont admis, mais je n'ai vu aucun tas de vous-savez-quoi. Sur cet aspect, les règlements sont respectés à la lettre, mais ce n'est étrangement pas le cas du règlement disant que la nudité est obligatoire. J'ai vu plusieurs personnes habillées malgré une chaleur de 27° et plus et malgré un gardien qui patrouille le centre mais qui s'en fiche sans doute. Stéphane et moi avons même vu un homme en costume de bain à la piscine. Quelle horreur ! Les deux piscines sont sans contredit un plus. Il est vraiment très agréable de s'y baigner. À la plage, l'eau est limpide et fort invitante. Plusieurs en profitent pour pratiquer la plongée en apnée, histoire de contempler la vie marine.

Malheureusement, la plage n'est pas large et est formée de galets. Au dépanneur (supermercado), ce que nous avons apprécié Stéphane et moi fut le droit de faire nos emplettes dans le plus simple appareil. Et nous avons pris des photos pour le prouver. À la porte, il y a un écriteau qui dit nudité interdite ... pour les pieds. Oui, seulement pour les pieds ! **an**

El Portús est situé environ à mi-chemin entre le roc de Gibraltar et Valence, sur la mer Méditerranée. Site Web : www.elportus.com

English summary. Although surprised in August by a call from the FQN

President to be an official delegate at the INF Congress this year, I jumped at the chance, having never been to Europe. In Cartagena, Spain, I joined Stéphane Deschênes for the meetings.

The themes were world friendship through naturism and naturist rights. Topics discussed included new policies, the INF website, the world guide to naturism, and locations of future meetings. In 2008, the INF Congress will be in Brazil, in 2010 in Italy. After heated discussion about the INF guide, it was revealed that a different sort of guide, smaller and easier to use, is being contemplated by a member of the FCN.

We had a magnificent view from our balcony in Hacienda Montalvo. In Spain, it seems you may be nude on any of its beaches. El Portús itself I would rate about 70%. It's clean and the food is good, but there are no non-smoking areas in the restaurants, and the rule of obligatory nudity is not followed, sometimes even in the swimming pool.

The beach is pleasant, if narrow and pebbly. But it's possible to shop naked!

Ci-dessous : Au premier plan, Stéphane Deschênes (d.) et Gianfranco Ribolzi, directeur responsable de la Fédération italienne



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Adaptation française de l'hymne naturiste !

L'hymne naturiste bien connu, rédigé avec des paroles anglaises par le compositeur américain Leonard Lehrman en 1993, a été publié pour la première fois dans *Going Natural* (Vol. 9 No 4, hiver 1994). Nous avons maintenant le plaisir de rendre publique une version française de cet hymne, avec l'original.

La musique, cependant, n'est pas originale ; mais l'adaptation des paroles est vraiment bonne.

Voilà qui devrait susciter un grand intérêt au prochain festival FQN/FCN !

Hymne naturiste

Musique: Simple Gifts (Shaker Hymn)

Paroles français: Michel Vaïs, 2006
à partir de la version originale de Leonard Lehrman

Strophe



1. O vi- ve le na- tu- rel et la li- ber- té! Qu'on est
2. Quand on veut se dou- cher ou bien pour se bai- gner, Si on
3. Le droit d'ét- r' au na- tu- rel, le droit d'ét- re li- bre, C'est le



bien dans sa peau et en sé- cu- ri- té! Viens,
est ha- bil- lé, c'est juste pour ri- go- ler. Re- je-
droit d'ét- re nu, et en é- qui- li- bre, D'ac- cep-



vis dans ton corps! Chante et li- bè- re ta voix! Le
tons les ten- sions en je- tant nos vête- ments. Jou-
ter que le corps et l'es- prit en har- mo- nie Soient u-



li- bre es- prit na- tu- riste fait no- tre joie.
ons donc au sol- eil comme un en- fant.
nis par le na- tu- ris- me pour la vie.



Li- bre veut dire fier et de- bout De met- tre ce qu'on veut ou



bien rien du tout Pour une vie tout en har- mo- nie, sur



terre ou sous l'eau, Dans l'air pur, ah oui, quel plai- sir, quel ca- deau!

A French adaptation of the Naturist Anthem!

The well-known Naturist Anthem was created with English words by the American composer Leonard Lehrman in 1993. *Going Natural* was the first to print that (in 9:4, Winter 1994). Now we are happy to announce a French version, whose first printing we also present, along with the original.

The music is not original, of course; but the adaptation of the words is really good.

A key item for the next FCN/FQN festival!

International Naturist Anthem

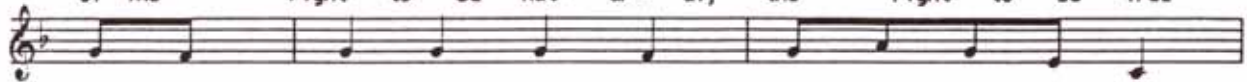
Inspired by Tom Davis' "We Nudists"
but revised so as not to intrude on
his intellectual property

Words by Leonard Lehrman Copyright 1993
Music: "Simple Gifts" (Shaker Hymn)(P.D.)

Verse



1. It's fun to be nat-ur-al, it's fun to be free,
2. When ta-king a show-er or when ta-king a bath,
3. The right to be nat-ur-al, the right to be free



And it's fun to live out ev'-ry fan-ta-sy.
If you're wear-ing clothes it's on-ly for a laugh!
Is the right to clo-thing op-tion-al-ity

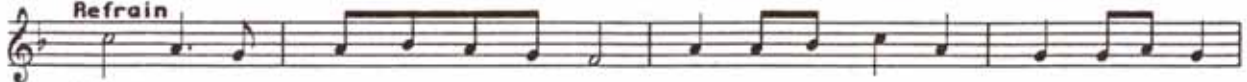


Come, live! Free your bod-y! And come, sing! Free your voice!
So throw off your ten-sion when you throw off your clothes
And if bod-y ac-cept-ance is a goal for to-day



The free-dom of na-tur-is-a is our choice.
And swim, play, or sit in the sun and doze.
Then nude rec-re-a-tion is the nat-ur-al way.

Refrain



Free-dom means stand-ing proud and tall: Hear what you like - or noth-ing at all;



For a life lived in har-mo-ny with earth, sky, and air



Is a life with plea-sures for all to share.

Let's hear it for the *third!*

The third Canadian naturist festival was a (mostly sunny) success

by Karen Grant

Michel Goulet and some eager learners



The festival gang at La Pommerie



The third annual Canadian naturist festival was another fine success! It was held August 17 through 20, 2006 at Centre naturiste la Pommerie, near St-Antoine-Abbé, Québec.

The first day was the informal beginning to the festival, the gathering spot being the beach at Oka Park. This beautiful stretch of beach is on Lake of the Two Mountains. Also known to locals as OKApulco, the beach is clothing-optional but primarily naturist. Michel Goulet, the acrobat/clown/professional juggler who graced the festival last year, joined the group again. Impromptu juggling lessons began very soon after his arrival!

The new youth/child part of the festival encouraged more young people between 12 and 18 to attend. We had a small but enthusiastic group of teenagers. Their activities included a volleyball coaching and tournament session, T-shirt tie dyeing (taking a souvenir of clothing home from a naturist fest!), a pudding toss, swimming pool games, body painting, juggling lessons, and banana split creations. The pudding toss was well attended by both children and adults!

Most of those activities were for all children of all ages, including our adults, but there was some special time for the smaller ones (younger than 12). Friday morning was devoted to the building of sand castles by the lake. Water guns and a colourful silk parachute were put to good use by the younger children.

Children and parents alike reported that the sessions geared to the various children's groups went very well. The teenagers were able to meet each other comfortably and had social time on their own terms, outside of sessions. That is important to them.

We want to see more youths at our festival. Here's hoping the message of fun and camaraderie, just for them, is communicated to all potential attendees of our next festival!

photos by Richard West

Adult sessions

The adult sessions again featured simultaneous translation (by the excellent Jimmy Siles), given that French and English were used in abundance. We had two very informative beach updates, from Wreck Beach on Canada's west coast and Lac Simon in Québec. A new project was unveiled: the creation of a centre for naturist archives and documentation. There was a panel discussion on the difficulties of finding suitable facilities for naturists to enjoy recreational sports, and a serious talk on how naturists need to carefully consider how the image of naturism is presented at large.

The festival is a place where the Canadian naturist community may connect and to share ideas—an essential part of our gathering. However, it is not only for deep considerations and meetings! We were privileged to have a video on Cayo Largo and a naturist travel session, and there was discourse on telling family and friends that you are a naturist. There was a digital camera session for taking naturist photography, both helpful and interesting. We were treated to two lovely sessions on two different types of massage, Thai and oil. We rounded out our playtime with a volleyball tournament for the adults. There was activity for stargazers: two evening sessions of astronomy, well done and very enjoyable!

Friday evening was our concert night, featuring the directors of The Opera-Musical Theatre Special Interest Group of The Naturist Society, musician/composer/conductor Leonard Lehrman and his lyrical wife, Helene Williams. They treated us to a concert in both French and English of song and humour that packed the house.

Amidst the juggling and body painting and ice cream, a number of folk chose to partake of the wine-tasting session that La Pommerie hosted late Saturday afternoon. Although la Pommerie boasts its own



The famous banana split event

vineyard and wine, this session was about other wines, and very educational. Participants learned more about wine in two hours than they might have thought possible. I came away a certified amateur wine connoisseur!—with a genuine appreciation for good wine.

Laughter and applause

During dinner Saturday evening, we were further treated to Michel Goulet's clown. He walked among us, losing wedding rings and miraculously finding them again, and producing a one million dollar bill and asking for change. His magic tricks and his clown's personality were rewarded with a large roomful of laughter and applause.

Michel was not done with us at dinner. He helped close our festival with flames: his incredible fire-spitting performance—in light rain, amidst cheers and whistles and much applause. One brave soul, Vincent Pigeon, accepted Michel's challenge to join in, taking a mouthful of the special flammable oil and shooting a jet of fire from his lips. Vincent was rewarded with hearty shouts of "Bravo!"

There is always business amidst the fun; the Federation of Canadian Naturists held its annual general meeting on Sunday morning. Despite being a contrast to three days of fun and socializing, the meeting was an excellent opportunity for a review of the festival, with input from many more FCN and FQN members than would otherwise be available.



Another favoured activity at the festival

The third annual Canadian naturist festival will now be known as the one that came before the *fourth!* Please mark your calendars now for next year: August 16 to 19 at la Pommerie, in conjunction with the 30th anniversary of the FQN.

We look forward to having you join us next year! **gN**

Sommaire français. *La troisième édition du festival naturiste canadien a été, elle aussi, couronnée de succès. Tenue encore une fois à la Pommerie, l'édition de 2006 comportait des activités pour les enfants de tout âge. Les enfants, comme les adultes qui les accompagnaient, se sont beaucoup plu. Nous espérons qu'encore plus d'enfants seront présents l'an prochain !*

Les adultes ont eu droit à mises à jour sur la situation des plages libres et à des discussions en groupe, à des présentations sur les voyages et à deux séances de massage. Le vendredi soir 18 août, Leonard Lehrman et Helene Williams ont donné un magnifique concert-tour de chant et le samedi, les gens étaient conviés à une dégustation de vin. Un des faits saillants du festival a été le retour de Michel Goulet, clown, acrobate, jongleur et cracheur de feu !

La FCN a tenu son assemblée générale annuelle le dimanche. L'an prochain, rendez-vous encore une fois au même endroit pour la quatrième édition, du 16 au 19 août.

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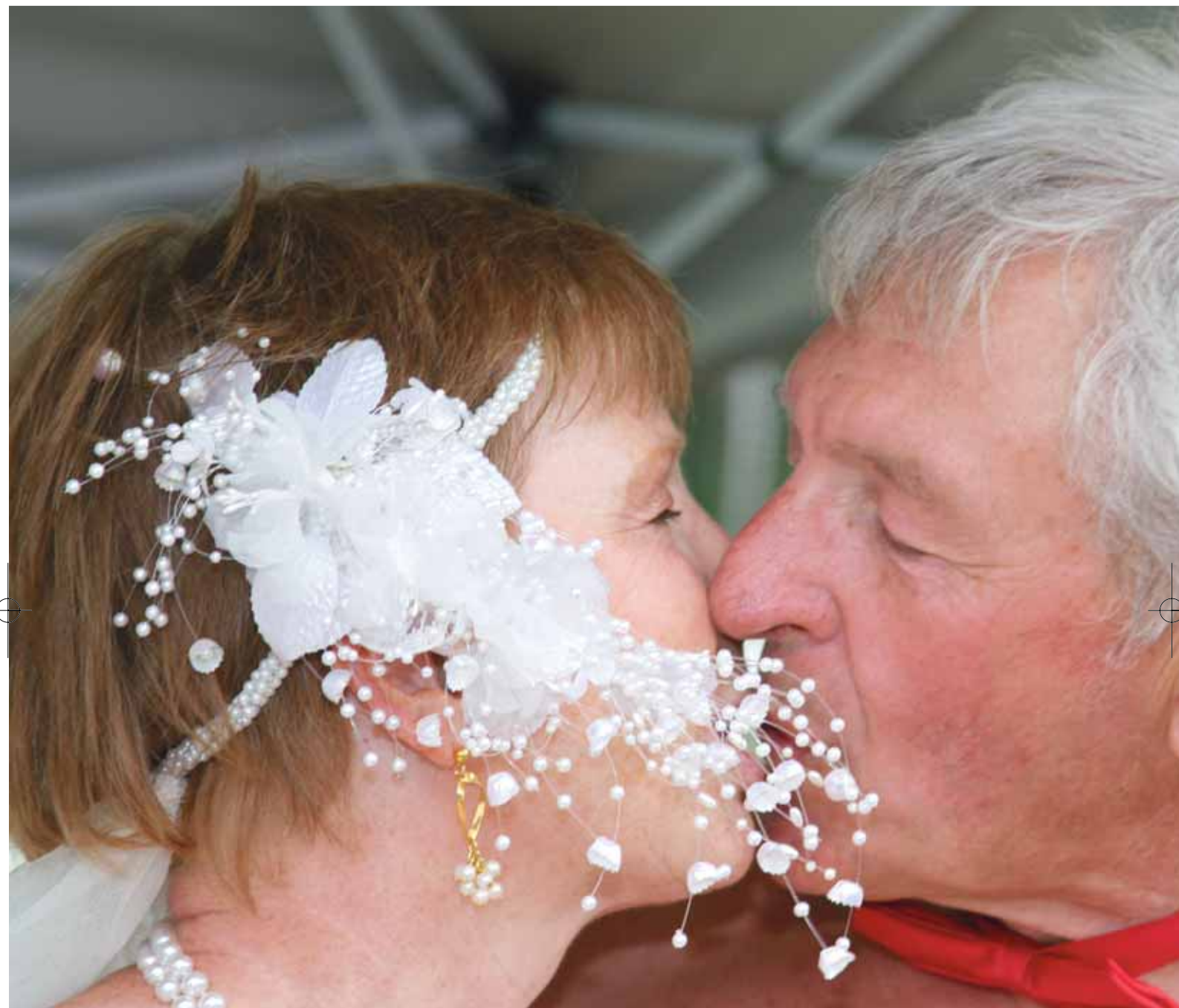
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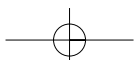
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The first nude wedding at The New Forest

May your days be good, and long upon the earth...

by Sandy Hessel • photos by the author





The New Forest Family Naturist Resort in Ontario hosted its first nude wedding, on July 2, 2006 in front of more than a hundred people, on the shores of lake OMG. If you're wondering what that stands for: since it took three years to dig this lake, the members nicknamed it Lake Oh My God—as in, “Oh my God, there's a lake!”



The bride, Lynn Thompson, arrived via “chariot,” previously known as her large gardening tricycle. She wore pearls, which were also accented in her veil. The two bridesmaids and flower girl preceded her. The groom, Keith Bromley, wore white cuffs and a red bowtie. (These things are important, you know.) He arrived with his best man in one of the rescue motorboats.

They were met by the minister, Cindy Swanson from Kentucky. Then they boarded the raft and were taken out to the center of the lake by the two rescue boats, where they dropped anchor. Kevin, our resident DJ, had hooked up speakers to the cordless microphone so that the attendees on land could hear every word of the service. Keith and Lynn had added a bit of comedy involving Cialis, while Cindy added an “Apache Wedding Chant” to the vows.

*Now you will feel no rain, for each of you will be shelter for the other.
Now you will feel no cold, for each of you will be warmth for the other.
Now you are two persons, but there is only one life inside you.
Go now to your dwelling to enter the days of your life together.
And may your days be good, and long upon the earth.*

Toe rings were exchanged, and the couple kissed.



They had been married in front of family on June 24. This July ceremony was for their nudist friends. Some family members ventured into our world and joined in the fun. Keith's daughter Shannon, her husband Rob Wheeler, and I were appointed official photographers. I was asked to educate them on the rules of nude photography, which I did!

We dined on salads, veggies, turkey, and hip of beef. After we danced on the new deck of the renovated Outback Clubhouse, the wedding (carrot) cake was cut.

The groom took the bride out for a cruise on the lake. As she tried to fill her wine glass, they ventured a bit too near the fountain. They returned soaked.

Everyone had a wonderful time. The New Forest is certainly open to hosting more nude weddings in the future. **gN**

Sommaire français. Le centre The New Forest a été le théâtre d'un premier mariage naturiste en juillet. Lynn Thompson et Keith Bromley ont été unis par un ministre de Kentucky.

Il s'agissait de leur deuxième cérémonie, la première, textile, ayant eu lieu en juin, en présence de leurs familles. Certains membres de leurs familles ont toutefois participé à l'événement naturiste, empreint de bonne volonté et d'un humour léger. Le nouveau lac de l'endroit a aussi fait la joie de tous.



Christ, Christian Naturists, and the “Nude Testament”

According to the Scriptures, there is nothing wrong with simple human nudity

by Tom Pine



photo by Fred Harding

A re-enactment of Mary encountering the resurrected Jesus

Many naturist Bible scholars have demonstrated that,

according to the Scriptures (I use the terms *Bible* and *Scriptures* interchangeably), there is nothing intrinsically wrong with simple human nudity. In most of the instances where nudity is mentioned, the Bible is neutral on the subject. In those where God deliberately promotes nudity (e.g. Isaiah walking naked for three years), it is never viewed as a bad thing. When it is cast in a negative light at all, the *behaviour* of the person involved (e.g. David's, after seeing Bathsheba bathing) is the deciding factor. Even then, the nudity is not the issue.

For the sake of this article, let me cite those instances in the New Testament where nudity figures, directly or intimated. You may not agree with all of my choices; I make no claim to be an infallible Bible authority. I merely raise these verses as a platform to make my case for your consideration. (All quotations are from the New American Standard translation.)

John 13: 4–5, 12 — [Jesus] rose from supper and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, girded Himself about. Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them clean with the towel with which He was girded. . . . And so when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments, and reclined at table again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"

Playing “Spot the Difference” isn’t hard in this pair. This is a detail from the painting *Holy Family*, ca. 1540–42, by Agnolo Bronzino, before and after its restoration in 1980



John 20: 14–15 — When she (Mary) had said this, she turned around and beheld Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, “Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).

John 21: 7 — That disciple therefore whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord.” And so when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put his outer garment on (for he was stripped for work), and threw himself into the sea.

Hebrews 4: 13 — And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

1 Peter 3: 3–4 — And let not your adornment be external only — braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, and putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.

Some of the above verses are used by Christian naturists to bolster their argument that the Bible is not antithetical to nudity—that there are no proscriptions against it per se.

The theory

I’d like to posit another theory. I make no claim to its veracity but raise it for your consideration. Here it is: *After his resurrection, Christ never again wore earthly clothes.* After his resurrection, and his ascension to his Father, Jesus was pure and glorified. For him to wear clothes made by the sinful hand of man would be like the symbol of leaven in bread at Passover, a symbol of sin in his life, of which there is none. Therefore, he would be “clothed” in glory, as befitting his station as the sinless sacrifice for sin and the Son of God—very God himself.

“Wow! Is he out of his mind? That’s outrageous! Christ certainly wore clothes after His resurrection!” are some of the things I can hear you say. Before you write me off as a heretic, let me make my case. I will attempt to use Scripture and logic to bolster my thesis.

Let’s look at what facts we have at hand in the New Testament. In **John 20: 14–15** — the possibility of Christ’s being nude after he left the tomb rests on the fact that Mary mistook him to be the gardener. Some historians (with naturist leanings, anyway) posit the theory that workmen of ancient times, as part of the custom of the day, would divest themselves of their clothing to do their work in the nude. Then, at day’s end, they would wash off the day’s accumulated dirt and put their clothes back on.

Clothing was a precious commodity, being made completely by hand (twining the thread, hand-weaving the cloth, etc.). For this reason, it was not casually soiled or subjected to undue wear and tear. Even the washing of clothes was a real chore, being done at a stream or river—

again by hand—usually without soap. A second reference in **John 21:7** seems to confirm the above supposition. I have no idea why Peter dressed and *then* jumped into the sea when he realized Jesus was on the shore! (We’ll examine that incident further on.)

In **1 Peter 3: 3–4**, the Apostle is clear that God is more interested in the internal person than that person’s outward appearance. That’s not to say that Peter is advocating naturism, but it does indicate a distinct emphasis away from mere clothing. Judging from the verse in **Hebrews 4:13**, clothes offer no covering at all under God’s discerning eye.

The crucifixion

It may surprise some Christians that Christ was crucified nude. The artists’ depictions we see seek to preserve the modesty of the Saviour in their art, but the Romans made no such distinctions—it was a means of *execution*, after all. We read in:

Matthew 27: 27–31, 35 — Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole Roman cohort around Him. And they stripped Him, and put a scarlet robe on Him. And after weaving a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they spat on Him, and took the reed and began to beat Him on the head. And after they had mocked Him, they took His robe off and put His garments on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him. . . . And when they had crucified Him, they divided up his garments

among themselves, casting lots.

I think the above shows that the Scriptures are sufficiently clear on what the Romans thought about stripping a prisoner for crucifixion. Putting Christ's garments back on him seems to be merely a method to get them to the execution site prior to divvying them up.

Some artists, like Michelangelo, have depicted Christ nude on the cross. Christ hung there, naked to the eyes of man, his genitals clearly visible, stripped of any last vestige of dignity, to suffer the agonies of a slow death. It was only after he was removed from the cross that he was wrapped in linen wrappings to prepare him for burial. We read in:

John 19: 40 — And so they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen wrappings with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews.

Indeed, the Jews most likely got the custom from their long time spent in Egypt, since the ancient Egyptians had employed this method of interment for centuries.

The resurrection

After the resurrection, when Jesus appeared to Mary, she confused him with the gardener, since Jesus had left the burial wrappings back in the tomb. We read in:

John 20: 6-7 — Simon Peter therefore also came, following [John], and entered the tomb; and he beheld the linen wrappings lying there, and the face-cloth, which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself. Jesus makes a curious statement to Mary after he reveals himself to her (**John 20: 17**): "Stop clinging to Me; for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren, and say to them, 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'"

After this, we read of a number of times when Christ appears to various people.

But his statement to Mary reminds me of an earlier incident cited in:

Matthew 17: 1-2, 5 — And six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and

John his brother, and brought them up to a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light. . . While [Peter] was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; hear Him!"

I believe this is the way the Scriptures indicate that Jesus' garments were light—the normal, radiant covering of God. This is what leads me to suppose that Jesus, having ascended to his Father (God), never again appeared in clothing made by man.

One of the things we have a problem wrapping our minds around is the concept that God has a physical appearance. Jesus, as God, took upon himself the form of man so he could become our sin-substitute—to redeem the bodies we had no hope of redeeming on our own. Isn't it thus reasonable to assume he would appear to us in that body? The Scriptures say we were created in God's image (**Genesis 1: 26**). That image wasn't originally covered with clothing. Adam and Eve were naked in the Garden—and that nakedness was the essence of their image. Let's keep that in mind when we consider Jesus'

appearances after his resurrection. gN

This article will be concluded in the next issue of this magazine.

Sommaire français. Aux yeux de la plupart des naturistes, la Bible ne condamne pas la simple nudité. J'irais même plus loin : après sa résurrection, le Christ n'a jamais plus revêtu de vêtements terrestres. Il était « enveloppé » de sa gloire divine.

Je donne des preuves tirées de la Bible qu'il en est ainsi, y compris l'erreur de Marie prenant le Christ ressuscité pour un jardinier. On a en effet laissé entendre qu'à cette époque, les jardiniers travaillaient nus ; les vêtements étaient précieux et la saleté incrustée à cause du jardinage était difficile à nettoyer.

Le Christ était certainement nu au moment de la crucifixion et rien n'indique qu'il aurait été vu habillé par la suite ou même qu'il aurait eu une raison de le faire.

Le Nouveau Testament met aussi l'accent sur les qualités intérieures plutôt qu'extérieures, accordant peu de place aux apparences terrestres, surtout lorsqu'il est question du sauveur.

(La conclusion de cet article paraîtra dans le prochain numéro.)

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A kaleidoscope of DREAMS

THE JEWELLED NUDE BEACHES OF NORTHERN COASTAL SPAIN AND SOUTHERN FRANCE

by Judy Williams • photos by the author

The spectacular landscape at L'Illa Roja

I had almost resigned myself to never seeing Europe. But, as in any long-anticipated journey, half the fun is in the getting there, and in finally seeing all the wonders I had always dreamed of experiencing.

In the summer of 2005, a friend and I started off with a pre-mapped list of Spain's nude beaches we wanted to visit first, out of the country's 242. We found the best source of information to be the Spanish government. Its Ministry of the Environment has on its website (<www.mma.es>) the most complete guide to the thousands of beaches along the Spanish coast, including the Canary and Balearic Islands. Among the many details for each beach are whether it is *nudista*. All in Spanish, of course. (It's also possible to find all the beaches by searching on the word *nudista*.)

Spain

First goal: beaches along Spain's Costa Daurada in Catalonia (the English name; Catalunya in Catalan, Cataluña in Spanish). By staying at the Ibis Hotel in Granollers (25 km north of Barcelona), we were within driving distance of Platja (Playa) del Torn, the most southerly nude beach we visited. With a twist of the kaleidoscope, we were on this 1400 m-long beach, one of Spain's best nudist family beaches. Reminding us somewhat of Wreck Beach or of Black's Beach, El Torn is overlooked by the camping resort El Templo del Sol, whose motto is "Naturissimo"—"Naturism to the max."

This cliff-top resort not only features a fabulous tenting area, it has also created a breathtaking 1300 m² swimming pool divided into three cascading pools blending into the Mediterranean's

azure beauty with kilometres of nude beach stretching beyond the horizon. One needs to watch for weather, wave warnings, and sometimes water pollution levels. Wave conditions for the most part at El Torn are tranquil.

Around the cliff promontory to the north lies the B&B Cala d'Oques, with its resident geese. While this tiny B&B is textile, you are but moments from a nude beach 100 m long—from which is visible the larger Platja del Torn.

After leaving this area, we located the beach La Savinosa, with its golden sands, just near Tarragona, 100 km south of Barcelona. La Savinosa lies sandwiched between two outcroppings of rugged limestone rock. Government listings for this beach indicate quiet waves, calm winds and easy access.

Beyond its northernmost outcropping is a postage-stamp-sized gay beach. Many men were conversing and sunning on rocky ledges cantilevered out over the tiny sandy enclave. At the far southern end are the remnants of Roman ruins that we didn't have time to check out. At both ends of the beach are concession stands with umbrellas, drinks, and light snacks.

Another flick of the kaleidoscope, and we made it in one day to both Els Bamins at Sitges and Platja de la Musclera. The entrance to 230 m-long Els Bamins is dramatically punctuated by agave stalk "trees," 10 m high. Parking is a problem at this popular beach, but is well worth any angst incurred. (Get there early.) Surrounded by yellowish limestone cliffs, the clear malachite-green waters shelter wildlife, from black skates to clouds of blue jellyfish. Golden talc-powder-soft sands are an invitation to paradise!

The southern side of the outcropping seemed to be the gay section, although the beach was actually quite mixed. In one stroll from end to end, I counted almost 500 persons enjoying the quiet beauty, even early in the day.

There are many amenities, from hot dogs to the clothed restaurant above with fancier fare, outdoor showers, parasols and chaise lounges, hammocks, and boat rentals. Els Bamins is an oasis of absolute delight in a historical and densely populated seaside city.

Back north

Heading back north, toward France, we headed for La Musclera, where there's parking for 100+ cars beside the beach. Agave-covered high cliffs spiralling upwards beside a coastal highway create a dramatic backdrop for the beach,

Towards the north end of the beach near the textile boundary lie abandoned and dusty fortifications from WWII once protecting Costa Daurada from sea invasion. Both ends of the beach sport beach cabanas. On a hot day, steaming fish and chips and an ice-cold beer are welcome.

An interesting side note about this and all the other nude beaches we visited: the singular lack of public drinking. The other "page" from the European "book" that North Americans would do well to borrow was the lack of gawkers, due to general acceptance of the naked human body.

We budgeted Day 11 for Barcelona, with its marvellous Gaudi wonders and the popular walkway Las Ramblas. The place to see and be seen,

this broad boulevard slopes toward the sea...a cacophony of human statues, erotica museum, flower stalls, and pickpockets in a constant flow of humanity. Barcelona with its narrow medieval streets is indeed a beguiling seductress, with its mix of the very rich and the very poor.

La Mar Bella's nude beach has a scarcity of free street parking. Our day there was exceedingly hot. The beach was packed with two thousand people, making it impossible to open a beach umbrella without shading someone else. The cooling waters offered relief from the sweltering heat, but Barcelona's antiquated storm drains funnel their waters into the ocean. There, the Mediterranean Sea is so salty it turned my eyeballs red.

This mixed nudist/textile beach is also a recog-

nized gay beach with ads for a large gay bar. The police have an office there. Their squad cars are often parked on an overpass.

France

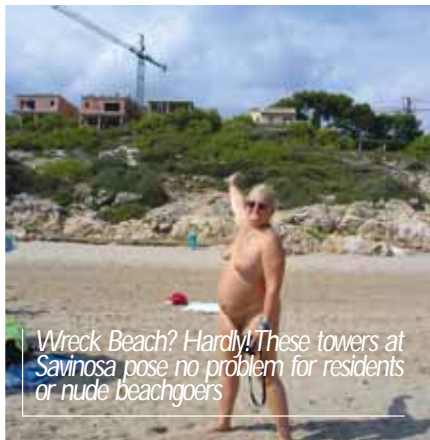
Day 12 was our travelling day back into southern France, to Cap d'Agde. First we stopped by the famed red cliffs of Lilla Roja, lying along Spain's Costa Brava. We followed the signs to Sa Riera Beach. The paved hill you must park along is not for the faint-hearted, nor for anyone with bad brakes!

Later that day we reached the famous Cap d'Agde. Stopping first at the rental agency Geneviève Naturisme, we picked up our condo keys and gate clicker, and proceeded through the gates guarded 24-hours a day. (One may rent a





The beach at Cap d'Agde



Wreck Beach? Hardly! These towers at Savinosa pose no problem for residents or nude beachgoers



At Els Basmins

condo with a double bed plus two bunk beds for €370 a week.

I was grateful to have brought my own toilet paper, because there was nothing, not even dish soap. Customers must bring everything except bedding and utensils, which were provided.

We strolled around the complex and couldn't believe the kaleidoscope of night action lived up considerably by several thousand bikers visiting that weekend, a drag party weaving throughout the complex, and many aging boomers attempting to recapture youth in provocative lingerie, leathers, and piercings. The human parade of seeing and being seen continued long after we finished an exquisite dinner and turned in after a tiring day of travel. Apparently, when the daytime

shops close at 20:00, the "naughty" shops open.

When we later visited the Club naturiste du Cap d'Agde, I discussed the club's attempts to remind visitors of the code of conduct, which excludes voyeurism and exhibitionism and requires nudity on the beach. The handouts remind people of what naturism is according to the International Naturist Federation: "a way of life in harmony with nature characterized by the practice of communal nudity, with the intention of encouraging self-respect, respect for others, and for the environment."

The problem at Agde

The problem that Club naturiste du Cap d'Agde has faced is that nudity is not, as it is in much of

North America, a closed practice confined to clubs, where a code of etiquette may more easily be imposed. At Agde there are also the naturist owners' union and the merchants' union to contend with.

When you enlarge an all-naturist resort to cater to larger populations, textile values tend to invade. In the larger textile world, nudity is more equated with sex. So because public nudity is more accepted in Europe than in North America, in order to lure the textile population to nude cities such as Cap d'Agde, the tone of the nudity tends to be promoted and realized as naughtier.

That Sunday, Day 13, was our first full day of sunshine at Cap d'Agde. All the markets off-resort close on Sundays at noon. And ladies, be sure

your urinary tract muscles are in good form, because the toilets near the beaches offer only holes in the floor, and you must pay for toilet paper!

The beach itself was wonderful. I walked on the hard-backed sand for over 2 km. As far as the eye could see, naked bodies stretched across the width of the fine white sands. Vendors sold coffee and ice cream from small, big-wheeled carts while others carried large flats of wrapped sandwiches strapped to their chests much like baseball game popcorn vendors wear them.

It was a totally amazing delight to be a part of 30,000 to 50,000 people all enjoying their nakedness in the sunshine from all over the world, hiking along the beach, building sandcastles, even playing in the surf like children *with* their children. The accommodations may house 35,000 folks, but with daily visitors, that number easily rises to 50,000 plus.

We shopped in the Village, visited an international photojournalist exhibit in Perpignan, a delightful walled medieval city, prepared our own gourmet meals, and lolled luxuriously on the marvellous Cap d'Agde beach. In spite of some very bad weather, we also managed to check out other naturist resorts and beaches south of Cap d'Agde.

With one more turn of the kaleidoscope, we visited these other beaches, which included the Torreilles-Bourdigou nude beach. The wind was fierce, and thunderclouds threatened, but we managed to find a patch of blue and get in some sunning. From there, we drove north to the charming Oasis, Aphrodite, and Ulysses nude resorts about 100 km south of Cap d'Agde. I particularly loved the Oasis condos with their wonderful colour schemes, delightful architecture, and quieter, less party-filled, more familial atmosphere.

In all, we toured twelve nude beaches on this, my first trip to Europe. With a few hundred more nude beaches in coastal Spain waiting to be explored, and El Torn to camp by, the Mediterranean has captured my heart. If this trip was a kaleidoscopic glimpse of Europe, it has only whetted my appetite to follow more dreams. gN

www.mma.es/en/costas/guia_playas/index.htm
www.eltemplodelsol.com
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Sommaire français. En 2005, je suis partie avec un ami visiter de nombreux et merveilleux sites naturistes en France et en Espagne. Un centre espagnol, El Torn, est un endroit familial où il y a trois piscines en cascade à côté d'une longue plage

nudiste. La plage à Els Bamins dispose de nombreuses commodités, allant des hot-dogs à des mets plus gourmets, et offrant des douches extérieures, des parasols et des chaises longues, des hamacs et des bateaux de location.

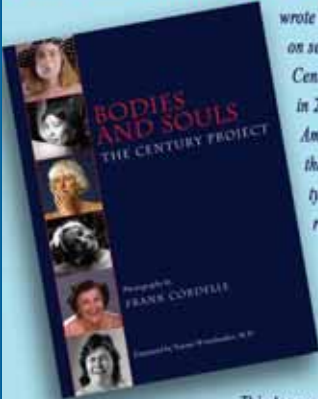
Barcelone est un endroit fabuleux aussi. La plage nudiste Mar Bella était bondée ; il devait y avoir environ 2000 personnes cette journée de grande chaleur.

Nous avons passé presque tout notre temps

en France à Cap d'Agde, où plusieurs milliers de motards étaient réunis cette fin de semaine-là. L'atmosphère est teintée de sexualité par moments, en partie dans le but d'attirer les textiles vers l'endroit, dans un pays où la simple nudité est largement acceptée. Malgré tout, la plage était merveilleuse. À Cap d'Agde comme tel, il devait y avoir plus de 30 000 personnes nues.

En tout, je suis allée à 12 plages nudistes et je veux y retourner.

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Clothesless in by Tim Lamb CANADA

THEY TOLD ME, "YOU HAVE TO GO TO WRECK BEACH"



Tim Lamb is a New Zealand-born journalist who has written for newspapers and magazines in New Zealand and Canada. He spent 2005 travelling in North and South America.

This article is reprinted by kind permission of Boots 'n' All, <www.bootsnall.com>, where it appeared in September 2005.

The author in one of his clothed modes

As soon as I sat down on the bus, I felt the sweat starting to form on the hair-ridden sections of my body.

I was riding from downtown Vancouver to the University of British Columbia. But there was something taboo beyond the university. The ethnic woman with the young child, the two giggly teenage girls, and the man with the oversized headphones: they all knew where I was heading. I could feel their stares from across the bus! Or so I thought.

I was told that in Vancouver I had to visit Wreck Beach. It's said to be one of the best nudie beaches (or if you prefer the PC term, *naturist locations*) in North America. So I was taking up this suggestion.

But leaving a comfort zone may accelerate a number of emotions. For example, paranoia. Is it wrong to go to a place where everyone is naked? What is the etiquette? Are there any limits on behaviour, or is it just one big x-rated movie?

However, there is always the fantasy that goes with travelling to an unknown realm: you will thoroughly enjoy leaving "normal life" and fitting in somewhere unexpected. On my way, I even had a premonition that after pitching a few witty comments to the locals, I would become one with them. By the end of the night we would be sitting naked around the beach fire, singing *Kumbaya*, watching the sun set. The next time I would visit, they would assign me an Inuit nickname which translated as Naked Kiwi.

Fear

But that would involve me conquering my fear by baring both sets of

cheeks (upper and lower) at the same time—something I am only 50% comfortable with (and you can guess which half).

In an Internet search, I found a Wreck Beach website. It seemed I wasn't the only one who didn't know the etiquette at a nudie beach, because there was an entire section devoted to protocol. Rule no. 6... *Gawking, staring, or making rude comments is not appreciated!*

They knew I was coming.

My sole reason was to see how the other side lives. Is that gawking? I didn't know whether to feel like a rebel or a shady character likely to appear in court later on charges of "gawkery."

I arrived at the university campus leaving my paranoia on the bus and preparing to make the most of the sun-drenched day. There were tens of others also making this quasi-religious pilgrimage, negotiating down the hundreds of steps towards the sand and waves.

Once on the beach, I peeled my shoes from my feet and set off strolling in the direction of the masses, immediately feeling the stares like darts to a dartboard. Paranoia had found me again. Me and my pasty effort at a tan (and what's worse, fully clothed—an amateurish mistake), we didn't belong. Those people out there had the fear sense of a pack of dogs, the *nous* to know there was fresh meat on the beach.

Confidence

When I had built up enough confidence to graze the people on the beach, I was surprised at the range of ages and bodies. There were the natural bodies and the not so natural, well crafted under the watchful eye of a



The key person (in more than one sense): Judy Williams in Massachusetts last year

a gym trainer; b) a plastic surgeon; or c) both. There were the well-tanned and the wannabe tanned. College girls and guys in groups of three lowered the mean age of the population, which I had expected to be much older. A number of young families made castles in the wet sand, while a dozen teenage skim-boarders occupied a good 50 metres of the beach in the shallow waters.

Acoustic guitars appeared common for groups of more than four people. About five hammocks seemed occupied by middle-aged people whose dark, raisin-like skin indicated they might not have left the beach since the 1980s.

I made my way to the water's edge, where two fully disrobed older men with well-catered midriffs were preparing to hit the cloudy brown water. My confidence was growing. I was ready—sort of—to chat. How do you strike up a conversation with two men when they're starkers? I went with the obvious: "It's quite big, isn't it?"

One of my worst problems as a teenager was not thinking things through before I said them aloud. I thought I would grow out of that. Nope. This Lamb is still plagued by foot-in-mouth disease. So I scrambled. "The beach, I mean," I added with nervous haste. I felt flush—which had nothing to do with the warm sun.

The men looked at me momentarily, then carried on their voyage into the roughly breaking waves. I kept walking along the beach to where I found a woman standing behind a table at one of the entry points to the beach. The only fashion offsetting her *au naturel* look was a pair of earrings made out of keys. On the table were plans outlining proposed building developments on university land at the top of the cliff overlooking the beach. The woman was using her hefty set of lungs to make sure that everyone at the beach that day would know the locals opposed the developments.

This is bound to be my ticket into the local circle, I thought. So I aimed to grab her attention. "It'd be a great view from the top floor of that building, eh?"

Keeping on

Uh-oh. She gave a look which I read as: "You better leave before I do something to you that's very unpleasant."

I took my cue and headed to Stormin' Norman's Spirit Grill, one of two eateries on the beach. They were offering a range of wild food items including buffalo, but bottled water seemed the safest option.

I offered an ice-breaker to my server: "Great job you've got," I said with a sarcastic chuckle, looking around.

No smile. Not even a nod of acknowledgement or a raised eyebrow. She handed me my water, looked past me, and shouted "Next!"

I had learned the hard way one of the unwritten rules of Wreck Beach. Rule no. 13...*Sarcasm must be kept on a leash at all times. Any comments bordering on same will be impounded.*

With my conversational skills yet to make an impression, I retreated to the solace of towel on sand. I discarded my shirt, lay on my back, and fixed my eyes firmly on the travel guide I had brought with me.

Finally

I had come to Wreck Beach hoping to meet some locals and find out more about these sometimes taboo recreational jaunts. I had spent half my time trying to fit in and make conversation. Then it hit me—two hours of sun later and a feeling of near dehydration. I needed to take the plunge. What did I have to lose except my nudist beach virginity? I had almost forgotten the real reason for coming to the beach: to defeat my own insecurities.

No one at the beach knew me. The chance of meeting any of these people again was minuscule. Off came the shorts.

I packed up my belongings, stood up, and harnessed my backpack on my shoulders. I walked down the beach towards the same steps that had brought me there in the morning. Except this time, I was naked.

Unlike earlier, there were no glares or stares. Possibly due to my lack of gym work, but more likely because I was doing what they were doing.

I had conquered my Everest. I had joined the ranks of the naturists. **gN**

Sommaire français. *Je viens de Nouvelle-Zélande. Au cours de mes voyages au Canada, j'ai abouti à Vancouver et je tenais à visiter Wreck Beach. Mais je suis devenu paranoïaque, à me demander ce que diable j'étais en train de faire. Je voulais par dessus tout éviter de tomber dans le voyeurisme, même si je tenais à observer comment les gens se comportaient sur cette plage.*

J'ai été surpris de voir des gens de tous âges et aux corps aussi variés, autant que par la gamme des activités sur la plage. J'ai essayé de faire comme si j'étais un habitué, en plaisantant, mais mes blagues tombaient à plat.

Après deux heures, j'ai dû faire face à mon sentiment d'insécurité et me déshabiller. Or, personne ne m'a regardé, simplement parce que j'étais devenu comme tout le monde. Voilà comment je suis devenu naturiste.

Lake
Ohakuri,
Rotorua Sun
Club

NEW ZEALAND: A naturist paradise

by Glenne Findon

New Zealand, tucked away in the South Pacific Ocean, is a land of beauty and contrasts. From the northern subtropical climate to the southern alpine region, its two main islands are totally different. With thermal areas, lakes, rivers, mountains, and beautiful beaches and fjords, it could be described as having the whole world in one country. And New Zealand's clean, green, natural beauty will make you want to visit it again and again.



Pineglades
Naturist
Club

That happened to two Canadian couples I know of! Once they discovered our country and its naturist clubs, they joined one, each bought a cabin, and every year they spend the Canadian winter down under.

In New Zealand there are 20 member-owned naturist clubs dotted around the country, as well as another 15 homestays/farmstays. By basing yourself at these clubs, you are well placed to visit local tourist attractions. Because of New Zealand's geographical shape, it is easy to tour the whole country by travelling from one club to another. The best way to see our beautiful country is to "self drive" in either a car or, better still, a motorhome, both of which may be rented from our international airports.

The North Island

We will start in Auckland, on the North Island. It's New Zealand's largest metropolis, actually five cities in one, where there are four clubs. The two largest are situated in the outer western suburbs. Auckland Outdoor Naturist Club (AONC) is the larger, nestled in a bush-clad valley in Ranui. Close to the Northwestern Highway, it allows easy access to Auckland City (or if you want to leave your vehicle at the club to avoid the traffic, the railway and bus are walking distance away).

Auckland Sun Club is located at Oratia, in the beautiful Waitakere Ranges, only 20 minutes' drive from AONC. The grounds are smaller but very private. Both clubs have a large clubhouse, spa/sauna complex, swimming pool, and camping areas with plenty of room to find a quiet place to relax. They also have cabins for rent and sports areas for the energetic.

Although there are no clubs further north of Auckland, the beautiful Bay of Islands is only a few hours' drive away. With New Zealand's liberal laws on nudity, there are plenty of beaches you may visit.

Moving south over the Bombay Hills, we come to Woodside Park, the home of the Waikato Outdoor Society. Then travel east to the Bay of Plenty Sun Club at Matata near Whakatane, a club with a tragic past. Last year during a storm, the club was almost washed away, but with the determination of their members, it is back up and running. Their well-appointed clubhouse overlooks the surrounding countryside; they also have a swimming pool and spa.

A walk up their creek shows how strong the forces of nature must have been during the flood. By staying here, you are well placed to visit the lovely east coast beaches and maybe take a trip out to White Island, an active volcano off the coast. Rotorua's lakes and thermal areas are also only an hour's drive away.

Travel southwest from the Bay of Plenty takes you to Rotota Sun Club, hidden in the thermal area between Rotorua and Taupo near Orakei Korako. This club has the luxury of having natural thermal pools amongst the native bush on its property, and access to Lake Ohakuri, with boating and swimming opportunities. A thermal pool, filled from a nearby spring, has been established on the lake's edge. What a way to end the day: soaking in a hot pool, wine in hand, watching the sun go down over the lake—magic!

One of the attractions of this club is that they have no electricity. They use solar power, or gas or wood fires for heating water and composting toilets, thus complementing their eco-friendly natural environment. This club should not be missed for its natural scenic beauty.

From here you may proceed either east or west. On the east coast, the Hawkes Bay Outdoor Leisure Club has a large clubhouse, spa, swimming pool, and plenty of room for camping. The grounds are only 20 minutes from Napier, New Zealand's art deco city. West from Rotota is the Taranaki Naturist Club, in the shadow of Mount Taranaki. If mountain climbing is your thing, there are

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Whether you chose to go east or west from Rototo, you will meet up close to the Manawatu Outdoor Leisure Club, not far from Palmerston North. Then we head down to New Zealand's capital city, Wellington. Nestled in the foothills of the Rimutaka Range, the Wellington Naturist Club will welcome you. Their facilities, like the larger clubs, include good accommodation, a spa and sauna, swimming pool, sports courts, and plenty of camping space.

From there it is only a short drive along the highway to Wellington and the Cook Strait ferries, which will take you and your motorhome across to Picton, at the tip of the South Island. This is New Zealand's scenic wonderland, with the rugged Southern Alps dissecting the length of the island.

The South Island

Once on dry land, the closest naturist club to Picton is the Nelson Sun Club at Upper Moutere. But on the way, you could call in at two other naturist attractions. Wai-natur, in the beautiful Wairau Valley near Blenheim, is a privately owned naturist resort, catering not only to camping but also to bed and breakfast. Then, at Havelock, you may have a rest from driving and take a trip with Sounds Natural, a houseboat based in the Marlborough Sounds, making tours around some of The Sounds' best-kept secrets. They will plan an itinerary to suit you, including accommodation on the houseboat.

Now on to the Nelson Sun Club. At the end of Sunrise Valley at Upper Moutere, only 50 kilometres from Nelson, you are in for a special treat, especially the golfers and bowlers amongst you. This club has a 9-hole, carefully manicured golf course and a full length outdoor bowling green. Add to this a swimming pool, spa, and good accommodation in the house and you have a great holiday spot in Nelson's temperate climate.

Further south near Christchurch, the Garden City and Britain of the South, you will find Pineglades Naturist Club at Rolleston. This is the largest club in the South Island. They have three well-appointed cabins for rent, two camp kitchens and ablution blocks, a large clubhouse with a lounge, a spa/sauna complex, and a swimming pool.

From Rolleston, you may catch the "TranzAlpine" train to the rugged West Coast for a return day trip through the Southern Alps, or drive further south to Geraldine, the home of the South Canterbury Sun Club. This club is situated at an old school. Although the grounds are small, they have accommodation and plenty of room for relaxing and camping. The old school house and adjoining toilets will bring back memories of younger days.

Mackenzie Bares is a non-landed club in the Mackenzie basin, near Lake Tekapo. They organize events at other clubs or locations, mainly campouts. Nearby is New Zealand's highest mountain, Mount Aoraki (Cook). Alpine Lakes Naturist Club, based in Cromwell, is also a non-landed group. The members meet at various locations throughout the area, with their "Camping by the Clutha" in the summer being a very popular event. They are in the heart of Central Otago, with mountains all around them.

This group is closest to Queenstown, New Zealand's Adventure Capital, where you may experience jet boating or, for the brave, bungee jumping. Members of these clubs can often point you to scenic locations in their mountainous areas.

At Middlemarch, near Dunedin (sometimes called Scotland of the



*Tramping
on Mount
Taranaki*

South), you will find the Orchard Sun Club; and further South is the aptly named Southern Sun Club, the southernmost club in New Zealand. Nearby is Bluff, the home of the best oysters in the world. From there you may travel by ferry even further south to Stewart Island, our third largest island and a place of untouched beauty.

Homestays

As well as all these naturist clubs, there is a homestay network. These private homes owned by naturists are a good starting point for anyone wanting to experience the naturist lifestyle in a more private setting. Most have areas for camping and also cater for bed and breakfast. In the Bay of Plenty, you will find Katikati Naturist Park, a privately owned naturist resort, with excellent facilities. Another option is to get a group together and tour the South Island with the Touring Bed and Breakfast Company (<www.touringbandb.co.nz>) in their air-conditioned coach, with seating and beds for eight people. The company's naturist owners will design an itinerary to suit you and your friends' requirements.

If you are interested in visiting New Zealand, Abalina Travel (902-894-8111) will organize naturist itineraries and arrange travel to New Zealand for you. If you prefer to make your own bookings, you should contact the clubs that you wish to visit to ensure accommodation and to gain access. This applies especially during the summer season from October to April.

Take a look at the New Zealand Naturist Federation's website (<www.gonatural.co.nz>) for more information on clubs, homestays, events, and much, much more. We look forward to seeing you in our beautiful country, where you may experience New Zealand naturally. **gN**

Sommaire français. La Nouvelle-Zélande est dotée d'une géographie et d'un climat variés ; on y trouve des sources d'eaux thermales, des lacs, des rivières, des montagnes et de magnifiques plages et fjords. Il y a 20 clubs naturistes et 15 chambres d'hôtes, essentiellement des café-couettes, certains munis d'installations de camping.

Le North Island compte quatre centres naturistes très près d'Auckland. Un peu plus loin, un centre a presque été balayé par les flots l'an dernier. Un autre est muni d'une piscine chauffée et n'utilise pas l'électricité, seulement l'énergie solaire, le gaz ou les feux de bois. Il y a aussi les plages de Bay of Islands où la nudité est fréquente.

Le South Island abrite presque autant de centres. Puis il y a Sounds Natural, une caravane flottante qui offre des circuits naturistes, le TranzAlpine, un train qui traverse la zone alpine montagneuse de l'île ainsi qu'une association de tourisme dont les propriétaires sont naturistes. Au large de South Island se trouve Stewart Island, un endroit d'une beauté sauvage.

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Les Textiles

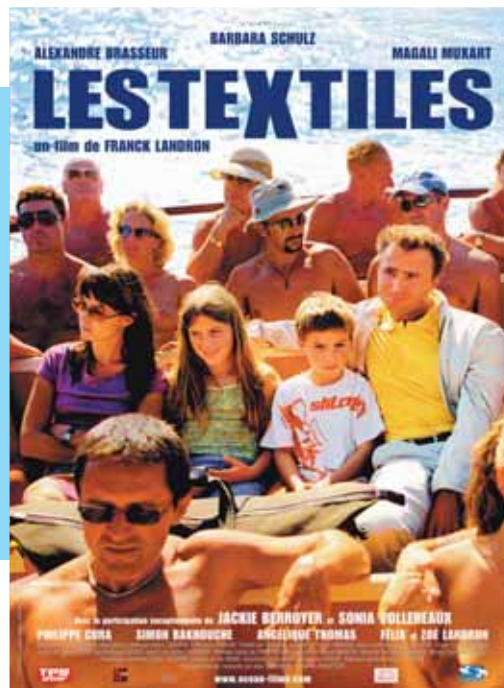
Réalisateur : Franck Landron

Producteurs : Sébastien Labadie, Frank Landron

Production : Les Films en hiver (France, 2004)

Durée : 1h 32

Compte rendu par : Royal du Perron



Olivier (Alexandre Brasseur) et Sophie (Barbara Schulz), jeune couple de boulangers parisiens, achètent pour leur petite famille — mais sans l'avoir vu — un chalet en bord de mer. Sophie s'y rend d'abord seule avec les enfants, pour apprendre plus tard que l'île où est située la nouvelle acquisition est habitée exclusivement de couples échangistes ...

Bon ! Les gens font ce qu'ils veulent et, à mon sens, les naturistes n'ont pas à décrier les diverses composantes d'une société pluraliste. Là où le bât blesse, cependant, c'est qu'on déclare péremptoirement et l'on répète qu'« on se trouve ici dans un centre naturiste ».

Déception et rage donc, chez Sophie, qui constate très vite que ces gens nus n'ont pour tout loisir que la recherche d'une nouvelle « chair fraîche » à consommer. Nous sommes ici au pays de la bagatelle, voyeurs et exhibitionnistes s'en donnent d'ailleurs à cœur joie et les bosquets sont abondamment fréquentés les soirs de pleine lune. Mais quand on avance publiquement que cette bande de vacanciers en rut compose la population d'un centre naturiste, la désinformation est complète.

Le film exploite pourtant un filon intéressant, celui de l'intolérance et du non-respect des différences. Sophie est cavalièrement rejetée devant son refus de laisser son corps nu en pâture aux regards impudiques de ses voisins. Une mince intrigue surgira : querelle de couple, rapprochement tardif et happy ending. Comme dans les films américains.

Du mal à comprendre

Le scénariste Gilles Cahoreau n'a manifestement pas vu le très beau film *Vivre nu* : À la recherche du paradis perdu de Robert Salis, qui projette sur grand écran une juste perspective du naturisme. Une brève recherche, voire un seul contact à la Fédération française de naturisme aurait permis à ce monsieur d'éviter la bévue. Insouciance ? Manque de rigueur ? Aveuglement volontaire ? On ne sait trop, mais on a du mal à comprendre que ce biographe de

François Truffaut ait pu louvoyer à ce point. Dans les circonstances, on s'interroge aussi sur la participation de Barbara Schulz, récipiendaire d'un trophée Molière, à ce sous-produit. Surprenant aussi que le comédien Alexandre Brasseur, acteur de théâtre abondamment sollicité, choisi par Jean-Claude Brialy pour jouer du Goldoni (*La Locandiera*) et ayant notamment interprété Dostoïevski et Tchekhov, ait accepté de mettre son talent au profit de pareille production.

Bref, en France où il fut lancé avec tapage médiatique (Schulz se baladant sur les plateaux de télévision), le film a déçu : « Je ne sais pas comment ont été recrutés les figurants, mais j'ai du mal à imaginer que des naturistes aient pu accepter de participer à des scènes qui sont à l'évidence à l'opposé de notre mode de vie », a précisé Jean-Michel Grange, chargé des communications externes à la FFN.

Au Québec et au Canada anglais, aucun distributeur n'a choisi de présenter en salle cette comédie (à la cuisse) légère : nos compatriotes cinéphiles ne s'en plaindront pas. **aN**

English summary. A young family renting a chalet finds it's on an island inhabited by swingers. That's not the problem. It's that the movie continually says this is a naturist centre. That's serious misinformation.

The movie exploits an interesting theme: intolerance of differences. Still, some of it seems just too American.

There are movies and information readily available that would have allowed the script writer to avoid his blunder. It's hard to understand how some famous people became involved in such a production.

A spokesperson for the FFN found it hard to believe that naturists could participate in the movie. Over here, it hasn't been released in theatres. That's no loss.

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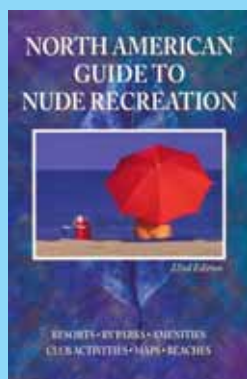
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BOOK

North American Guide to Nude Recreation, 22nd edition



Publisher: American Association for Nude Recreation (USA, 2005)

Editor: Linda Berry

Details: 320 pp., soft cover, ISBN 978-1-88203331-0-2

Reviewed by: Bjørn Grønskov

There aren't many books that get to go through 22 editions. The venerable AANR guide has always been useful and beautifully printed. No exception this time: this is an attractive piece of work on every page. In particular, the matte rather than gloss pages still hold some attractive colour photos. Most of the book, however, is in black and white.

Colour introductory pages are devoted to naturism in general and around America from AANR's point of view. These give way to the bulk of the book, over 250 black and white pages about AANR clubs. In single or double page presentations, the format is splendidly compact yet easily readable. Typically we get contact information, "club personality," grounds description, neighbouring attractions, admission policies, amenities (facilities), accommodations, camping, and recreation. Sometimes listed are activities and special events. The book concludes with coloured pages on eleven beaches (representative only) and a treatment of nudist beach etiquette and nudist adventures (ranging over sports, cruises, and flights—all nude, of course), and a black and white chart, listing, map, and index.

Despite a first impression, this is not a full North American guide, just an AANR guide to its clubs with a little additional, often valuable information. My usual complaint remains: most Americans reading this book will think that Canada has twelve clubs and one beach.

The photos show few female breasts, very few minors, and no genital areas except at a great distance. While obviously designed to appeal to body-hesitant, mostly white, young, middle America, and to keep the guide on bookstore shelves, the photos also imply that nude recreation is mostly an adult activity for people afraid to be photographed full-frontal.

Despite its restricted nature, this book is a potent promotional tool for nude recreation. That itself is no small success. gN

Sommaire français. Le guide des centres naturistes de l'AANR est une belle publication produite en couleur et en noir et blanc. L'information générale sur le naturisme qui s'y trouve est un heureux supplément à l'imposant ouvrage qui comporte plus de 250 pages de renseignements détaillés sur les centres. C'est un guide très utile et très bien présenté.

Cependant, il ne dit pas tout sur le nombre de centres et de plages qui existent au Canada, et bizarrement, il n'y a presque pas de nudité frontale complète dans ses pages.

56 gN/aN WINTER/HIVER 2005-06

BOOK

Bare Britain



Authors: Nick Mayhew-Smith and Mike Charles

Publisher: Lifestyle Press (Great Britain, 2005)

Details: 200 pp., soft cover, ISBN 978-0-9544767-2-4

Reviewed by: Bjørn Grønskov

Pictures? Preponderance of women and of rear ends. Reason for the latter: to ensure anonymity of beachgoers (except where they don't care). Again a distinct lack of children, giving a problematic impression pictorially. No studied avoidance, however, of naked bodies' fronts and centres.

All that aside, this is a superb guide, all in colour, every page packed with not only information but good will. How could you not warm to a book subtitled "What to do when you've nothing on"? Or that starts off with "There's nothing quite like running naked into the sea for making you feel good about life."

A plus: almost equal weight to beaches and clubs. Another plus: the pithy, helpful introduction. Take this as an answer to what is acceptable behaviour on a nude beach: "Exactly the same as [on] an ordinary beach." Why didn't I think of that?

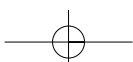
Organized by region (e.g. southwest England, Scotland), the guide is easy to use and a pleasure to read. The pages devoted to clubs are in prose eloquently describing the beach or club, sometimes offering commentary on, among other possibilities, tides or nude use (for beaches) and facilities or events (for clubs). The drawback is that you don't get the same kind of information for each listing. Almost making up for that are the sidebars on nearly every page giving contact information and detailed captions/explanations for photos.

The book also offers a smattering of information on holidays outside Britain (not really enough) and contact information for naturist-friendly British travel agents, tourist attractions, and some naturist organizations.

This is a must-have for anyone touring parts of the British Isles in a clothes-free state of mind. It bodes well for the world guide now in preparation by the same publisher. gN

Sommaire français. Ce guide informatif, intelligent et coloré, est facile à utiliser et un plaisir à lire. Il présente tout autant les plages que les centres naturistes des îles Britanniques, par région géographique. Même si l'information fournie n'est pas uniforme d'un article à l'autre, il y en a beaucoup, et on y fournit des coordonnées dans des encadrés sur presque toutes les pages.

Les photos sont principalement celles de femmes et il y a moins de réticence dans ce guide à montrer les personnes de face, de pied en cap.



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Naturist crossword

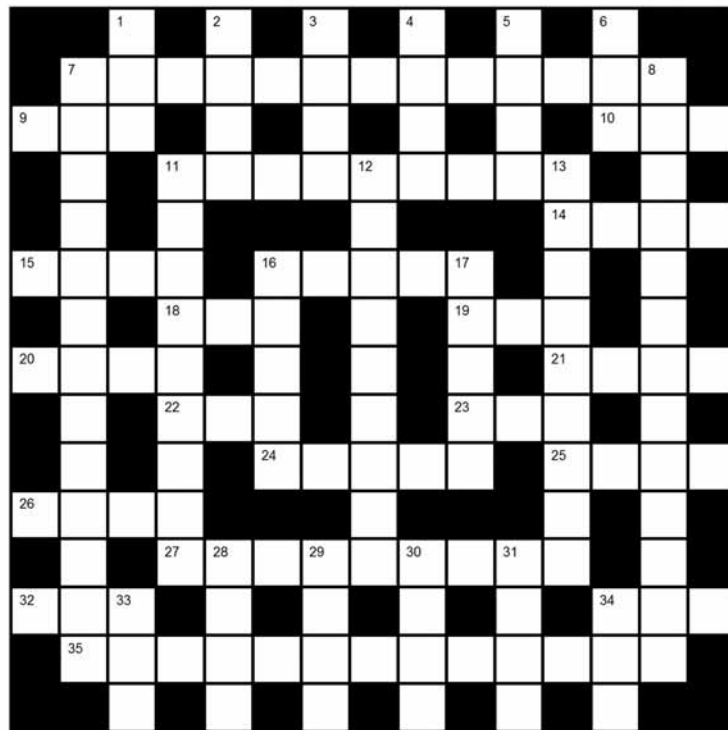
NATURISM UP, DOWN & SIDEWAYS by Don Lort

Across

7. Swim suits in the club pool, for example.
9. ___ Men; Toronto naturist group.
10. Rear ___; buttocks.
11. This was difficult for most early clubs.
14. Greek god of sexual love, often portrayed as a naked boy.
15. Do without, swimsuits perhaps.
16. Long-term member of a club.
18. This genetic code predisposes some people to skin cancer.
19. Getting bugged? This product might help!
20. Good time for many naturist activities.
21. Cry of delight shouted by kids at a club when the ice cream shows up.
22. Demeaned piece of clothing.
23. Substance some clubs put on gravel roads.
24. A successful club won't likely let these folks take over.
25. ___ Bay Resort, in the Dominican Republic.
26. Member of the family at La Vieille Ferme.
27. Feeling of wonder that new naturists feel.
32. Home of Caliente Resort. (abbr.)
34. Diatribes against naturism are a waste of this.
35. Emotion many first-timers fear but rarely experience.

Down

1. Might be found at a naturist picnic.
2. Mast you might find on a naturist's yacht.
3. If your club has a hedge, you may need to do this.
4. Beware: skin cancer may begin as a small, dark one.
5. Puerto ___; US territory with few naturist locations.
6. Dined, *au naturel*.
7. Never-ending, like a naturist kid's energy.
8. What friends might need on their first visit.
11. Ontario club.
12. Staring and other personal intrusions, for example.
13. Another Ontario club.
16. Size of the crowd at Wreck Beach on a sunny Sunday afternoon.
17. The way to reach your favourite club.
28. What your teens might do before their first trip to a naturist club.
29. The tolerance level for child abuse among naturists.
30. Clothing may act as one.
31. At many early clubs, only the first was used.
33. Friend of 26 across.
34. Desert Shadows, for example.



ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD FROM 21:3

B	A	S	E	B	A	L	L	P	L	A	Y	E	R						
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Nudist Retreat

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Over this winter and into next summer, Sunny Trails Club will not be operating as a resort. During this time, we will be doing a major cleanup, renovations to our heritage buildings and removing the buildings we don't want or cannot use. How long this takes is anyone's guess, as most of the work is being done by volunteers.

Members of the FCN, FQN, and other clubs are welcome to use our lawn area and sauna, and they can camp at the textile campground adjacent to Sunny Trails Club and walk around the

building to the naturist area. If you are willing to ignore the work going on around you, it is still a nice place to relax and enjoy the sun.

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Bringing up the rear / Révélations textuelles

QUOTES & JOKES / ON L'A DIT ET RI

Quote of the Quarter / Tel quel

There may have been a time when discretion was essential. Discretion, however, turned into furtiveness and, implying guilt, damaged the image. Naked recreation is a valid leisure form, and any feelings of shame about it are out of date. Practise it whenever and wherever you can. Defend it and others who feel as you do. You will be involved in what may some day be seen as one of the greatest expressions of individual freedom of this century. You will have helped to win, and preserve, freedom of choice.

— *Phil Vallack (1921–2006), naturist author*



What's it all coming to? Will we have to fly naked some day soon, sitting on towels on the airline seats? And what happens if they discover a plot to conceal bombs up a bunch of terrorists' backsides? Will it become routine to have to "bend over for TSA inspections"? What a world we live in now.

— *Melissa Rhiannon, Associated Content, August 14, 2006*

When you try to figure this out, you basically say, screw it — if people want to run around naked in the streets, it's cool.
— *Ron Kuby, lawyer for Hala Faisal, who was acquitted in September 2005 of violating New York's indecent exposure law*

If someone is naked in public and is not drunk, not making a radical political or social protest, or not a paid professional like a stripper,



Plus de la moitié des joueurs de poker ont déjà joué une partie nus ou en sous-vêtements.
— *tiré d'un sondage d'origine inconnue par les preneurs de paris du nom de Paddy Power, selon le Poker News*

Le nu est comme le pain. Personne n'en a eu assez encore.
— *Jolanta Zuchniewicz, artiste polonaise, à Bucarest, Roumanie, mars 2006*

N'hésitez pas à nous envoyer vos citations pour Tel quel, et vos photos insolites (avec explications) provenant de situations naturistes mémorables.

Please submit quotations for Quote of the Quarter, and unusual photos (with explanation) from memorable naturist moments.

Your letters / Courier

PERTINENTES POINTS & PRODS / PENSÉES PROFONDES ET PERTINENTES

The definition of naturism

Regarding the definition of naturism (from GN/AN 21:3): I have my own, which I will gladly share with you. "Naturism means being unabashed, unadorned, living in harmony with the environment, and honouring all species with whom we share this planet."

My husband John and I are longtime nudists, have travelled extensively through the USA and visited many naturist resorts over the last eleven years. We stopped the roaming and will spend this winter in Cypress Cove, Florida.

*J. W. Kapteyn-Hall
Port Elgin ON*

La définition du naturisme

J'aimerais donner suite à la demande que faisait Michel Va s, dans son « Ouverture éclair » (GN/AN 21 :3), de proposer une autre définition du naturisme que celle qui est véhiculée depuis 30 ans. En fait, l'ancienne est plutôt bonne, hormis le mot « but » qui pourrait être changé pour « conséquence ».

Mais tant qu'à changer, pourquoi ne pas risquer une nouvelle définition ?

Voici ce que je propose pour ma part, qui me semble ajouter une nouvelle dimension à la précédente et en élargir la portée : « Le naturisme est un mouvement humaniste et pacifiste qui prône la pratique de la nudité en commun au grand air dans le respect de soi, des autres et de l'environnement. »

J'aimerais aussi réagir au très beau texte de Vincent Pigeon sur la symbolique naturiste (dans le dernier numéro). Vincent demande quel est notre symbole personnel face au naturisme. Le mot qui me vient à l'esprit est la liberté, mais je ne sais pas par quel symbole la représenter. La liberté, c'est celle d'être soi-même ; et la joie du naturisme, c'est de partager cette liberté avec les autres. Une sorte de célébration commune de notre différence individuelle.

C'est ce que j'aimerais voir représenter dans un logo où on verrait des gens différents, un Noir comme un Blanc, un enfant et un vieillard, et pourquoi pas un ou une

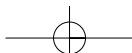
paraplégique ? Il me semble que la diversité devrait être à l'honneur et qu'elle s'inscrit bien dans le contexte de la société actuelle. Peut-être aussi qu'en représentant une telle diversité, on attirerait dans notre mouvement des personnes qui se sentent exclues, ou non concernées, à l'heure actuelle ?

*Diane Archambault
Gatineau QC*

Women clothed at naturist centres

Regarding women often wearing things like sarongs (GN/AN 21:3): I find the philosophy of naturism to be freeing in that it enables one to have not only body acceptance, but just as importantly, choice. That means being able to choose what does or doesn't decorate your body. Naturism is a state of mind too, not just a state of (un)dress.

*Sarah Gentry
Springfield MO*



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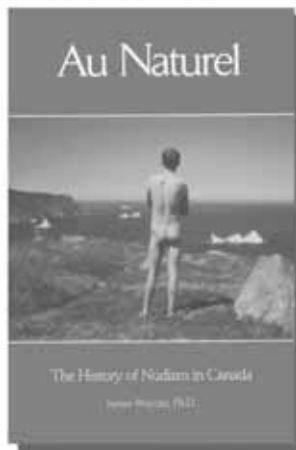
After the purchase of land, roads were built, power brought in, a well and pool were hand dug, a volleyball court was constructed, and a nice club house was built. Star Ranch officially opened in January, 1958 and has grown with many of the original members still recounting the "good ol' days."

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Clubs & businesses / Centres & compagnies

For information on how a club may join the FCN, visit <www.fcncanada.com/clubmember.html>. By listing the clubs on these pages, the FCN intends to provide a service to the naturist world. Listings should not be considered a guarantee that the club you visit will be ideal for your preferences. We encourage you to contact the clubs directly.

* indicates a non-landed club. E-mail and website addresses for member clubs and businesses are available via the FCN's website at <www.fcncanada.com>.

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(Numbers 1 – 8 also have about 40 mins of bonus footage.)

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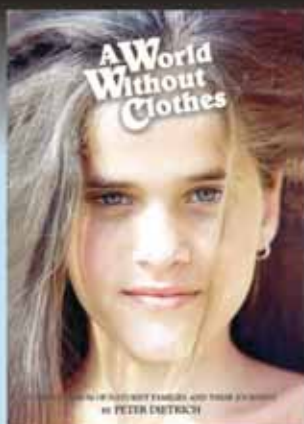
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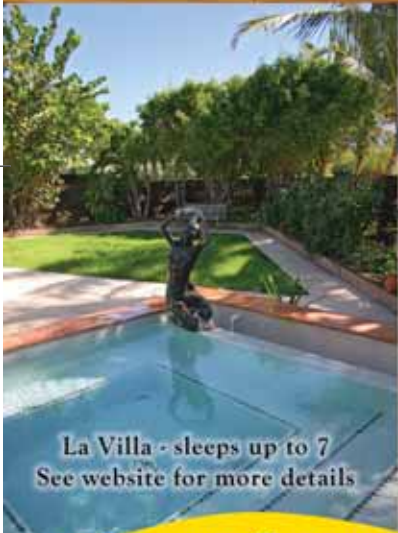
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