

# Bare Facts

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38° 58' 7" North; 95° 47' 56" West

## Upcoming Activities

With weather improving, we have some wonderful activities planned. First is our annual Easter Egg hunt. A big hit with children of all ages, it is an opportunity to get out in some fresh air and enjoy our special place. Bring your decorated eggs. Some will hide them and most will hunt. Hopefully we will find most of them before we leave for the day – the rest we will find throughout the summer. Bring your children/grand-children/spouse-child on Easter Sunday, April 11.

The next weekend, April 16-17 is our annual celebration commemorating the weekend following the first tax filling deadline. For most, it represents a weekend to relax and enjoy. We hope you join us.

And, don't forget May Day on May 1. We can expect Cindi to have something wonderful planned. In any event, our traditional pot-luck is a good bet.

Many will notice that our first open house is the next day, on May 2. Be sure to tell your friends and acquaintances about our open houses this year. It is a great opportunity for those unsure about the Naturist lifestyle to see for themselves what is in store. Spread the word on these – you will be doing your friends a great favor!

## Gardens For All

Garden plots are now laid out. Members are invited to select their plot for whatever planting you want to make. The Garden Man has provided us with a lot of useful gardening tips for getting ready to plant. The rest is up to you. Let's Garden!

## Caretaker Needed

The Lake Edun property is a wonderful diverse ecosystem. Everyone thinks of the lake, around which so many of our activities take place. In past issues of Bare Facts, Biology Bill gave us truly awesome descriptions of the natural science of the lake, plant and wild life that make up Lake Edun. Despite it's wildness, Lake Edun hosts numerous people who use it's water and woods for soul reviving recreation. Lake Edun isn't so inviting by accident. A caretaker, plus many volunteer hours are needed to make repairs, mow the grass and trails, and take out the trash, not to mention, make needed improvements. It's a big job for the right person. This position is now open and anyone who is interested in filling it is invited to contact Lake Edun to let your interest be known.

## Garage Sale

At the March Board meeting it was decided to have a garage sale toward the end of the summer. This is a Lake Edun fund raising event. To make this a success we need a lot of treasured possessions that you, with broken heart, are willing to part with for a great cause. Please start saving items of interest to bring to the sale.

## Update From Jon

By Jon Love

Well, Here's the scoop!

We have many things planned for this summer and every-one is very excited about the upcoming season! Now, as everyone was informed in the last newsletter about the garden plots, we hope all LEF members, as well as any other persons who want to participate will do so. As you also should know, we do have a specific date planned to pick everyone's garden plot out.

Something else that I am personally very excited about. ... is that Lake Edun is possibly going to let me put in a swing set and sand box. You know – a kids play heaven! I am open to ideas still, also I will be looking for volunteers and materials. Now, we have most of the materials, but it might just be specific things. Anyone willing or who can help in any way, we will greatly appreciate it. You know how to contact us.

If you are not yet a member of the Lake Edun Foundation, we hope you will consider visiting us and eventually becoming a member. At the very least, you should check us out. Until you do, you can't know what you are missing.

## Random Thoughts And Reflections

Finally, after what seemed like an endless, cold winter, the lake is full and the weather is improving!!! It's wonderful to walk around our special place and see all the trees budding once again this season. We look forward to seeing all Eduners once again, soon.

Thanks, Elmer, for the barrels.

## DON'T FORGET

*Activities designated HN are sponsored by Heartland Naturists*

Apr 3; Sat; 8-10; Sauna

Apr 8; Thurs; 7-9; Educational presentation @ lake

Apr 10; Sat; 10-12; Board of Directors Meeting

Apr 10; Sat; 12-5; Work Day; Plant Trees

Apr 10; Sat; 8-10; Sauna

Apr 11; Sun; 12-3; Family Easter Egg Hunt

Apr 16; Fri; 8-10; HN Swim

Apr 17; Sat; 11-5; Work Day; Plant Trees

Apr 17-18; Sat/Sun; Tax Freedom Campout

Apr 17-18; Sat/Sun; Choose garden plots

Apr 24; Sat; 10-4; Work Day

Apr 24-25; Main Meadow; Private event

May 1; Sat; May Day Party

May 2; Sun; 12-3; Open House

May 8; Sat; 10-12; Board of Directors Meeting

May 15; Sat; Armed Forces Day @ Lake Edun

May 21; Fri; 8-10; HN Swim

May 22; Sat; Mulberry Season Begins

May 29; Sat; Family Weekend @ Lake Edun

May 30; Sun; Survivor Weekend

May 30; Sun; Dusk; Renew Wedding Vows

## Tree Planting Season

Once again, we undertake our annual effort to plant trees at our special place. We have two Saturdays scheduled for this effort. Hopefully, we can complete the task so it does not need to carry over to a third weekend.

Each year we plant bare root seedlings. It goes quickly and we all enjoy the benefits from past years as we lounge under the maturing trees in all areas.

Plan to join us on April 10 and again on the 17<sup>th</sup> for this worthwhile effort. Hopefully, and if enough people assist, we will have it completed in just these two days.

## Items We Need

- Digital camera
- Wheel Barrow
- Plastic Buckets
- Pitch Forks
- Variable speed, reversible drill
- Chipper/shredder we can use about once a month

## From The Mail Bag

We received a note from our good friend “Carver” Dave giving an up-date on his medical condition. Last October he had surgery to replace the batteries in his pacemakers. Unfortunately, this wasn’t the end of surgery as one of the pace maker leads that goes into his brain somehow broke. This led to more surgery to make a repair for this problem on February 11, 04. As of March 20, “Carver” reports, “I feel great, and I can talk now, or at least for now. I will talk as long as I can, so far as I can.” Hooray for you “Carver!” All of us look forward to seeing you this summer!

Dave says if you are interested, you can look up what’s involved in his surgery on the internet. Do a search for [deep brain stimulation](#). (I bet you can’t find another naturist publication that delves into brain surgery).

## The Shower Room

*Ernie C.*

Many have probably read in recent naturist publications articles referring to the “graying of naturism”. The articles center on the increasing age of naturists. Many ideas are presented as to why this is occurring. I would like to add to the ideas with a personal observation.

After several weeks of prodding Dad, my children were surprised when I told them that we would join the new workout facility that just opened near our home. It is a nice gym with all new equipment and of course professional trainers. During my initial visit to the men’s locker room I noted with satisfaction a sauna along with the showers.

It has been many years since I have been in a locker room. The first day after joining, my wife and I both went for our first workout. Several other guys were in the locker room in various states of changing and showering. What was interesting to me was that most of them wore towels where ever they were in the locker room. Some even wore them into the shower stall and then tossed the towel on top of the curtain before turning the water on! And we had individual stalls!

After several weeks at the gym I noticed that an age gap was evident. The men 45+ were quite willing to undress by their locker and walk nude to the shower. They were also the ones who would emerge from the sauna nude. Some even have the nerve to sit by their locker nude for several minutes before they dress! The younger guys were very hesitant to be nude in front of anyone. I have noted that several of them actually go into the sauna wearing full sweats! Many will actually wait until the coast is clear before changing. Many avoid the whole thing and just change from street shoes to gym shoes and back again, preferring to go home and change and shower.

During my personal trainer time I noted this to the trainer. He looked sheepish and said he was not willing to show his “stuff” in a locker room either. I asked him if he had noticed that we were pretty much all the same. He said that he guessed so but sure was not going to look! I told him he should get over it! “After all you can’t change what you

got anyway!” He laughed nervously and noted that the guys in the gym who were older seemed more comfortable with being naked, “Perhaps when you get older it’s less of a deal for you.” He quipped.

One of the main points of naturism is be accepting of your body and the person you are, and accepting others for who they are. With the current comments in the press of being accepting of diversity it seems that we are after all walking backward in what we have taught the younger generations.

I have mentioned this gym observation to several lately. Many smile and say that it is about time we became a little more modest in our practices. Most however chuckle and give an antidote from their past and then add that most of us just have grown fearful of others we associate with.

One of those I spoke with was a retired airline captain, now seventy plus years young. He added that for many years he had played racquet ball three to five times a week. “We had a nice locker facility at the club. No shower stalls, just an open shower area, our toweling off area was also open and had several nice sofas we could sit on. That’s what the second towel is for you know! To sit on! Many of us would shower, dry and sit on the sofa and discuss the current affairs of the world. I noted several years ago that the younger guys would hurry to the shower, dry quick and change and never join us in the discussions! I questioned several of them about this and was told that they were not about to sit on the sofa with “you older pervert’s.” Pervert? The young man then went on to say that he thought the older guys were a little perverted. “Yeah you sit around and expose yourselves to all to see. That’s perverted!”

Surely we are distorted in our views when we find so many unwilling to even shower in the open with those of the same gender.

If you have stories or comments about this, please contact us at [LEFmember@yahoo.com](mailto:LEFmember@yahoo.com) and we will consider them for the next “Bare Facts”

## Embarrassing Moment

A friend shared this story with me to pass on to everyone.

My most embarrassing moment in the nude came when I signed up for a religious retreat program built around St. Francis of Assisi. I arrived later at the family place the retreat was to be held, just in time for dinner with the family. I was warmly welcomed by the whole family and shown to my quarters just to the left of the kitchen area.

I was informed that dinner would be served in about a half hour, so I had time to freshen up and maybe lay down for a little while before dinner. As the time for dinner was nearing I was not exactly too sure what the dress of the evening was to be since when I arrived everyone in the family was completely clothed, which took me by surprise since it was advertised as a “nude Franciscan retreat weekend.”

I finally decided that I was on a nude weekend, so I figured I would go ahead and go out nude into the dinner area. This was actually my very first time to be nude in a family setting. I had some previous experience – about two or three times going to a nude beach. I took a deep breath and rounded up some courage to go on out nude into the dining area.

As I walked out into the kitchen and into the dinner area the whole family was gathered at the dining room table all smiling and greeting me. To my amazement and embarrassment they were all clothed and I was completely naked! I felt like crawling underneath the table...I froze! A member of the family sensing my predicament, escorted me to the head of the table at which point I placed my towel on my seat and sat down.

I felt like I was getting a complete physical with five human beings looking me over. One of the members of the family realizing my embarrassment, began to remove his clothing with a compassionate smile, then the other members did likewise all have a good natured laugh. The remainder of the meal and the experience was very enjoyable and I felt completely accepted by all. 😊

Please share with us the most embarrassing or funny moment you have ever experienced as Nude. We are looking forward to hearing about it. Send your stories to [benude@lakeedun.com](mailto:benude@lakeedun.com)

## Naked Birthday Bicycle Ride

Defying the cold, 15 mostly naked bike riders marked the 26th birthday of a friend with a streak through downtown Durango. “It was awesome, one of the funnest days I’ve had on Main street,” said birthday boy Steve. “It was my best birthday by far.”

Steve said the escapade was his idea. Cryptically worded fliers distributed at Fort Lewis College and Durango coffee shops in recent days hinted at something unusual. The message, according to a 21-year-old woman who rode in the buff, said in part: “Critical Streak. Bring your bike and bring your birthday suit.”

On Ninth Street they passed a group of schoolchildren and their chagrined chaperones. “It wasn’t our intention to offend children,” Steve said. “The kids loved us, although the adults were angry.”

“We weren’t doing anything indecent,” the 21-year-old woman said. “We just went for a naked bike ride. They do it in Telluride and in Boulder.”

Steve was stoked by it all. “I’d say that definitely, it’s going to happen again,” he said.

## Web Links

Many Bare Facts readers are also internet users. With the billion-gazillions of websites out there, some pretty good ones are of particular interest to naturists. From time to time passing on the address of a good site with a brief review will help all of us expand our online favorite places to visit. Any one of you could contribute to increased enjoyment of the resources of the internet by sharing your favorites with us.

The first site is <http://www.geocities.com/sunnydaynew/>, homepage of SunnyDay. I’ve been following this young college woman’s adventures in naturism for about three years. The unique thing about her website is the stories she tells of her nude adventures. She is truly a gifted writer, vividly describing how she became a naturist, and how that experience became a growing part of her life.

SunnyDay is an athletic woman, and many of her stories of predawn nude runs down country roads or through uncompleted housing developments. One such run led to exploring a remote, tree secluded farm pasture where she could experience the freedom of nudity at leisure during the day. It is at this pasture that the stories of introducing some of her friends to naturism take place.

Along the way, SunnyDay becomes friends with a naturist family that invite her to spend the weekend at their naturist club. These friends and the time at the club are the basis for another series of stories.

Like a lot of websites, there is a FAQ section that is worth a read in itself. Even her guestbook page is fun to browse. Finally, there is an ongoing forum that has attracted a dedicated SunnyDay following, with whom she interacts.

Anyone wanting to introduce a friend or family member to what naturism is all about, with writing at its best; this is the website to turn to.

The second site is Fred Harding’s, The Natural Way, <http://www.tekline.co.uk/natidx.htm>. Fred has assembled an extensive list of nudist/naturist websites with a brief review of the content on a wide variety of subjects. Note that all the sites are not overtly naturist in nature. Fred explores sites having anything to do with nudity that is not explicit pornography. Whatever your interest, its likely Fred has found some website that pertains to it.

Fred has a number of other websites that can be linked to that are of particular interests that he has. With all these websites, one wonders how Fred has any time for work. By the way, Fred is not bashful about presenting himself. He illustrates many of his arguments in favor of naturism with nude photos of himself. One memorable example is of Fred nude, superimposed beside Michelangelo’s David, while posing like the David.

A bit of good natured humor is needed to take Fred in stride. Good web surfing to all!

# Sexuality And Naturism

By Michael

From the rise of the modern naturist movement in Germany over a hundred years ago to the present day, opponents of social nudity have consistently advanced the notion mixed gender nudity will unleash rampant lust and unrestrained sexuality activity. This objection comes as no surprise, given our heritage of body and sex inhibited Victorian mores. Regardless of the consistent testimony of naturists for over one hundred years, the persistence of these unsubstantiated beliefs remain a source of consternation to naturists.

Over the course of the past century, naturists have advocated and practiced a high degree of moral rectitude, so much so that some have accused them of denying sexuality. Despite the consistent practice of non-sexual, family oriented social nudity, a dismissive, "I don't believe it," is all opponents feel is necessary for continuing their attacks. Patiently, those that have discovered that sexual behavior and nudity are not intrinsically connected, continue to rebut critics both by practice and argument.

American is both inconsistent and ambivalent toward the body and our sexual nature. Shifting back and forth between periods of inhibition and license, society tries to come to terms with these aspects of the self, often stressing one extreme or the other. The question arises is there a way to end this continual tug-of-war of either-or thinking offered by partisans of these two choices?

It would seem that what is needed is a broader context in which our bodies and sexuality are valued and integrated within a whole person. Exemplifying this broader context for understanding our human nature, of which sexual behavior is but a part, is the following quotation from Relationships in Marriage and Family, (Stinnett and Walters, 1977, p. 222):

...sexuality, in contrast with sex, is much more than physical attraction and contact. Sexuality begins at conception when maleness or femaleness of the fertilized ovum is determined by the chromosome content of the fertilizing sperm cell. Sexuality even involves such factors as traditional cultural expectations that baby girls are dressed in pink and boys in blue as well as the sex-appropriate toys and education each receives. Sexuality involves all that it means to be a man or a woman; it is a part of a person's total being. *Our sexuality includes emotions, values, moral and ethical makeup, social relations, ability to use good judgment and make decisions, physical desires and fulfillment* (emphasis added). Sexuality cannot be separated from a person's total life. It is not a separate, exclusive component of an individual. It interrelates with every other part of life.

Sexuality is here integrated within the whole of who we are as persons. Notice the italicized sentence above. Intelligence, will, and moral character operationalize in society how our sexuality will be used. Importantly, sex as a behavior is to be distinguished from sexuality in general. These aspects of the self co-exist within the same person at all times, but sex is not activated or acted on at all times. As far as can be determined, this is a universal human experience. This is why naturists can with all sincerity maintain that nude is not lewd and does not equate with sex, nor necessarily be an invitation to sex.

In *Nude and Natural* issue 17.1, French naturist Marc-Alain Descamps addresses the issue of naturism and sexuality in terms of the polarities of pure lust vs. Puritanism. He proposed that the tension between these extremes is resolved with the synthesis advocated by naturists of full body acceptance. According to Descamps, the main difference naturists have from others seeking to live in harmony with nature is that naturists frankly admit their sexuality through reciprocal sharing the view of their genitals. This is in keeping with the fundamental principal that the body in all its parts and functions are valued, normal, and natural.

Descamps distinguishes naturism from pornography. He notes that naturism involves the practice of nudity for the habitual activities of everyday life. It is the acknowledgment of sexuality as defined above, in all life's activities that produces a reunification of the person, and the reintegrated relationship between the person and society. Pornography on the other hand, is centered totally on the sexual organs, and reflects on them only for the purpose of genital activities. Naturism fosters the unity of the body, where sex is put into its proper place within the body and social relationships as a whole. Pornography dismembers the body showing only pieces of it, while making sex a public consumer commodity. Naturist's sexual practices are neither public nor collective and are done in respect of oneself, and others.

Having said all the above, there are those who still object, "But, there HAVE to be sexual undertones." This is an old canard involving the discomfort felt about the sexual aspects of certain body parts which by custom must be concealed. The author of the website "Naked Spirit," speculates that for many there is a fear public nudity is a precursor to public debauchery. This fear consists of a deep anxiety the constant interaction of nude people of opposite gender will cause a certain level of tension or excitement to build which will result in an increase of promiscuity and the ultimate collapse of morality throughout our culture. The author concludes by saying that while such fears are arguable, "...they seem to be well out of proportion to the actual conditions which prevail in societies that are more tolerant of nudity."

In addition, there are numerous anthropological studies of peoples that traditionally wore little or no clothing prior to Western contact. Quite a few retain their clothes freedom as chronicled in *National Geographic*. Several Amazon basin Indian tribes, both male and female, still roam the jungle entirely nude, or perhaps with a small string around women's waists. Many remote Papua New Guinea tribespeople continue to dress in the traditional penis sheath for men, and leafy apron for women. The women of Yap Island continue to proudly maintain their top freedom. Historically, nudity or minimal clothing was common for both sexes in a number of tribes in Africa, not to mention top freedom for women in much of Sub Saharan Africa. These and other examples not referenced, provide ample objective evidence the mere presence of bare skin causes neither society's disintegration, nor acting out the potential sexual behavior for which too many people assume nudity is an inevitable prelude.

It is again worth considering the definition of human sexuality previously given. Even if there is some undefined “sexual undercurrent” when people are together nude, it is part of the human condition. This presumed “sexual undercurrent” is unavoidably present in all people in all settings, including clothed ones, whether at work, the mall, or church. It seems that those insisting on clothing make the assumption that their clothing eliminates the presence of a “sexual undercurrent,” and prevents or at least minimizes the possibility of sexual misbehavior. However, given the near universal presence of clothed people in daily life, one must wonder what then accounts for all the pre marital and extra marital sex going on in this country, plus astonishingly high rates of STD’s, and unwed births. In fact, if association or correlation is looked at, then it is reasonable to consider that the presence of clothing of various types has a more powerful relationship with lust and inappropriate sexual behavior than has simple nudity. However, correlation does not prove causation. Human behavior is never so easily determined. Additional variables have to be considered. Whatever the reasons, one thing is certain, naturists are not the cause.

All human societies recognize that sexual urges have the potential to be very destructive and they devise ways to channel them through customs and taboos. Social norms that attempt to curb jealousy and lust which if unchecked, have the potential to lead to discord, violence, and even murder. In much of the world the dominant culture has responded to our sexual nature with the demand that our sexual anatomy always be covered in order to avoid unseemly behavior. This demand for covering has included the female breast, a secondary sexual characteristic. The unfortunate unintended consequence of defining the sight of the body as shameful is to foster a dehumanizing obsession with just those parts of the body deemed the most in need of covering.

Lust is a concern that we have to be clear in what we are talking about so as not to lead to confusion. Lust is not natural interest in another person, nor simple appreciation for beauty, nor the body’s feelings of arousal related to sexuality, and not even the sexual passion we feel with the person we love. These reactions are all a combination of how we are created, plus social conditioning. Lust is a self centered objectifying of a person strictly on a sexual basis for self gratification. In Love and Responsibility, Pope John Paul II clearly articulates this same understanding:

...there is a difference between immodesty in feelings on the one hand and reflex sensual reaction to the body and sex as a ‘possible object of enjoyment’ on the other. The human body is not in itself shameful, nor for the same reasons are sensual reactions, and human sensuality in general. Shamelessness... is a function of the interior of a person, and specifically of the will, which too easily accepts the sensual reaction and reduces another person, because of the person’s ‘body and sex,’ to the role of an object for enjoyment.

The author of “Naked Spirit” argues that naturists recognize the importance of an orderly and safe society. However, naturism provides a different way to deal with our sexuality. Instead of relying on clothing to enable a polite denial of what we all know is really there, there is an open acknowledgment of our sexuality without obsession over it. This is done in the belief that as humans, we have the capacity to act

in a civilized manner even when our sexual identity is plainly out in the open. The author adds, “We can be what we are without having to act on it in ways that dredge up the darker side of our animal passions.”

This “middle ground” approach is not to err on the side of recklessness. Naturism is a sub-culture whose norms allow people to interact with each other in normal everyday activities without the mere exposure of the genitals inciting a mass orgy. Mutual participation by both genders ends the voyeur factor, normalizing the experience, and creating a new equilibrium out of which body acceptance, that is, the belief in the essential goodness of the body in all it’s parts and functions.

Body acceptance is the rejection of the age old dualism of body and spirit, in which the body is viewed with disgust and abhorrence at worst, and suspicion at best. Naturism calls for the healing integration of self, both body and spirit. It calls for dealing with sexuality as a force that is respected and valued, revealing it to be something that should neither be completely repressed nor exploited. When sex is enjoyed privately between two people who love each other it is enriching, fulfilling its highest purpose both for procreation and bonding.

Developing proper respect for the body is a moral good in and of itself in that it properly orients us toward ourselves and to others. Naturist can whole heartedly endorse the moral position espoused by Pope John Paul II in chapter III of Love and Responsibility, where he writes the following:

Dress can, of course, help to accentuate the sexual values in different ways on different occasions, irrespective of the congenital or acquired dispositions of a particular individual. The accentuation of sexual values by dress is inevitable, and is not necessarily incompatible with sexual modesty. What is truly immodest in dress is that which frankly contributes to the deliberate displacement of the true value of the person by sexual values, that which is bound to elicit a reaction to the person as to a ‘possible means of obtaining sexual enjoyment’ and not ‘a possible object of love by reason of his or her personal value.’

This does not, however, mean that physical shamelessness is to be simply and exclusively identified with complete or partial nakedness. There are circumstances in which nakedness is not immodest. If someone takes advantage of such an occasion to treat the person as an object of enjoyment, (even if his action is purely internal) it is only he who is guilty of shamelessness (immodesty of feeling), not the other.... Immodesty is present only when nakedness plays a negative role with regard to the value of the person, when its aim is to arouse concupiscence, as a result of which the person is put in the position of an object for enjoyment. What happens then may be called depersonalization by sexualization. But this is not inevitable.

Naturism asserts that it is possible to enjoy a greater non-sexual intimacy with those around us without that relationship becoming erotic. This reality has been a part of our world for as long as humanity has walked the earth. As the writer of “Naked Spirit” contends, the recognition of this type of closeness is a very important part of our development and sustenance, deepening our experience of life, enhancing our appreciation of whom and what we are.

# Back To The Future

By: Webb Garlinghouse

Opponents to naturism seem to long for the good old days. They wish society could revert back to the way it once was in a simpler time. And, they are shocked when they find naturists enjoying the beauty that surrounds us all. However, it wasn't always the way these historical revisionists would like for us to believe.

In the past month, I came upon two examples that make the point. The library is a great place to find videos and DVD's of some great classic films. While browsing their collection recently, I discovered a copy of *Lost Horizon*, a wonderful film based on the beautiful best selling novel of the same name by James Hilton. Released in 1937, it was a lavishly produced, high budget film directed by Frank Capra about the enchanted paradise of Shangri-La.

I found two scenes of particular interest. In one, the leading lady, Jane Wyatt (who married another Hollywood actor, Ronald Reagan) is swimming. There are some shots taken fairly close and she appears to be naked. This is proven so when we watch from the other side of the pond as she emerges from the water, turn to face the camera, and sit down on a rock. In the other scene, a class of children is dismissed early. Excited about sudden free time, they race to the water, shed their robes and jump playfully into the water.

In both of these scenes, the nudity is incidental to the overall story, but does seem to be used to establish the

state of bliss that exists in Shangri-La. In the first, Hollywood, and presumably the nation as a whole, is clearly not upset at the thought of full frontal female nudity, although the camera was admittedly far enough off, that details were very lacking. In the other scene, although we only saw the children running away from the camera into the water, it clearly demonstrates to me that Hollywood and the nation at that time did not consider it improper for children to skinny-dip, even in a co-ed setting.

The other example of historical significance I chanced upon occurred during the Second World War. All branches of the service used artists to capture scenes and moments of significance. PBS ran a documentary of this little known effort. In their typical style, they showed some of the pictures and interviewed some of the artists, who are, obviously, much older now.

In one of the pictures, a young GI was doing some kind of dirty task on the beach in and near the water. He was naked. Evidently others were in the area and the young man had to be aware he was the subject of the artist's attention. During the interview for the PBS piece, the artist said his brass made him put a swim suit on the soldier. In this instance, 60 years ago, although the military engaged in "cover-up," it evidently had no particular problem with this soldier dressing appropriately for this task. I wonder if that would be as true today?

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