

Bare Facts

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38° 58' 7" North; 95° 47' 56" West

Presidents Corner

Ernie Cooper

At the first meeting of the new board of directors at Lake Edun I became the president for the 2005 season. Since then the board has met only once but has made several changes for the upcoming year.

First I would like to thank all the members of board for volunteering to serve. Elsewhere in this issue you will find listed the current board members and their assigned areas of responsibility.

I would like to thank all of you who returned surveys on Lake Edun. From those we have gotten back we have learned that most of the visitors at the Lake would like to come for quiet time. Most of you just want to lay back and chill out! With that request in mind we have decided that the south beach will be the designed beach for those who wish to listen to music, ball games, etc. The main beach, just down from the barn, will be kept free from boom boxes and such so that it can be a quiet zone for those who want to snooze in the sun and visit quietly.

You will notice this coming year that members of the board will from time to time be wearing caps with the words "Ask Me" on them (either written on the cap or a button on the cap). If you are having a difficulty, want to express a wish, or just say "hi", we welcome you to visit with these volunteers.

One of the things we have on the plan for the next several board meetings is to discuss ideas for the future development of Lake Edun. Some of the ideas that have been suggested so far:

- A road to the west side of the lake
- showers and restrooms
- A club house facility
- A large hot tub or swimming pool

If you have suggestions for the future development of not only our special place, but of our education outreach please contact me with those ideas. You can e-mail me at either:

BORNNUDE@aol.com

or

lefmember@yahoo.com

I am looking forward to hearing from you either in person or on the net.

Our current membership stands at 78. We think that a goal of adding 20 to 25 new members would be good for our foundation. If you have friends, relatives, or acquaintances who might be interested in coming to or joining Lake Edun we do have material we can send to them or you can give to them to help explain just who we are and what we are about.

Return to Edun is currently scheduled for June 17-19, 2005. We will also this year return to the traditional Return to Edun format. If you have ideas, band suggestions, activities or games you would like to see or help with at this year's return to Edun please contact me or any board members so we can put together a great weekend!

My hope is to have a corner in each of the 2005 issues of "Bare Facts" to let each of you know what we are considering and what changes we hope to make. It is my hope that you will take the time to respond not only to me, but to the other board members as the year goes on with your concerns, wishes and desires.

Ernie

**We need Coozies
for the Sauna**

See More of Your Friends

At Lake Edun

Don't Forget

Activities designated HN are sponsored by Heartland Naturists

Jan 8; Sat 8-10 Sauna
Jan 15; Sat 8-10 Sauna
Jan 21; Fri 7-9 HN Swim
Jan 22; Sat 8-10 Sauna
Jan 29; Sat 8-10 Sauna
Feb. 5, Sat 8-10 Sauna
Feb 12; Sat 8-10 Sauna
Feb 18; Fri 7-9 HN Swim
Feb 19; Sat 8-10 Sauna
Feb 20; Sun 3:30 Board of Directors
Feb 26; Sat 8-10 Sauna

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH THE NUDE

The pages of N and other naturist publications chronicle the activities of naturists from around the world. Crucial to fully depicting the naturist lifestyle are the photographic images of naturists enjoying their life nude. The intention is always to show the normality of the nude body in everyday settings. No effort is made to glamorize or eroticize those whose images are captured on film.

The Autumn 2001 issue of N has an article by photographer Dennis Coyle illustrating both the style and beauty of naturist photography. Of naturist portraiture Coyle states it, "...is matter of fact, confident and unashamed; it is not sensationalized or exploitive. It conveys a respectful appreciation of the body as a fine creation of God or nature."

I am highly appreciative of the people that have allowed themselves to grace the pages of N. They have not used fear of being "unmasked" as a naturist to prevent their image from being published. As Coyle says, "...overcoming that fear is the first step to making naturism a more widely known and respected aspect of our culture."

In this spirit, here are some tips from a photographer whose subject is the nude.

How to direct the model

Nude modeling should be easy and fun in theory, however in practice it can be hard work but

worthwhile. With automatic cameras today the photographer's job is much easier to get satisfactory results.

The model's job is much harder in many ways. Try it yourself and you will see what I mean. Pose in front of a mirror and try to compose the shot by getting your body in the right position. Now try it without the mirror. Before it was much easier. You could see what the photographer would be seeing.

The best models know exactly what position every part of their body is in. The amateur has problems with things such as: Do I look at the camera? What should I do with my arms? I've done all the poses I can think of, what do I do now? Understand all this before a shoot and have a plan or as I call it a script, so that every shot is worked out by you first.

Candid shots in between poses often turn out great because they are not posed and catch the model when she is at her most natural. This is one of the secrets of the pros.

Discuss everything then with the model beforehand and keep it on a professional level even if she or he is you wife, girlfriend or whatever. Once everything starts off well, then you can have fun, so make sure there are not equipment problems beforehand. I always give encouragement to my models all the way through the shoot. They reward me with some extraordinary pictures.

Something to think of before the shoot is marks on the skin from tight clothing. These may take hours to disappear, so have the model wear something appropriate before the shoot.

The Background

Referred to as the backdrop sometimes, there is always something in the background. After you get the photos developed, only then might you notice that there was a tree sticking out of the persons head. This is a good reason to compose each shot.

Composing is like writing in some ways. You choose what is going to be in the picture before you take it. Most people have a tendency to just point and shoot and not give much thought to things you will notice when the film is developed.

Imagine you are looking at a picture through the viewfinder. You will see life as a window that you are looking through. The view changes constantly even though you are looking at one spot. A photograph is a small view of a moment in time that will never come again.

Art is subjective, but sticking your crotch into the lens of the camera is porno and a lot of people won't develop it. We want the model to be beautiful and not sleazy.

The Shoot

Look at the pictures again closely and you will see shadows. When you compose your shot, look for the shadows. If you have an assistant, have them hold a reflector to light the shadows. All you need is a white reflective surface to shine the light upwards to block out the shadows, white cardboard works ok.

If using a manual camera, focus is a tool to use to your advantage, especially if you are using a zoom lens. You can have the model in focus with the background out of focus. This draws attention to the model. You will get better results from composing each shot than from any piece of equipment.

What's in the picture is more important than great photography. Composing the shot is what gets results. Remember this and your skill will improve dramatically.



Mail Call

I am a 42 year old man. I have been a nudist all my life for as far back as I can remember. I was raised in an independent fundamentalist Christian background, where there was no nudity allowed. Modesty was total.

I remember going to Bible camps as a kid and shorts were not permitted. Forget about not having a shirt on. It wasn't going to happen.

Then came high school which was at an Independent Bible Baptist school. It was more of the same.

After school I got my own place and started to be nude as much as possible in the house till last winter. It was then that I found the web site, Cheef.com, and started chatting with lots of nudists from around the country.

I chatted with Michael and found out about Lake Edun. It sounded great. A guy named Dean from California talked me into taking that first step of going to Lake Edun. Well, this went on for sometime as I didn't want to make the trip by myself. That is, until one day in mid July, I made up my mind to go, and I did.

It is over two hour trip there and I was nervous as could be. I arrived at the parking lot and there was a guy named John. I told him that this was my first time there. He told me to follow him.

We found the caretaker, Nate. I registered and asked where the lockers were. He showed me, and there was John in the nude who offered to show me around. Well I figured as long as I'm there, I would get nude right away. After all, that is why I was there.

John showed me around the lake and helped me meet others. Soon I forgot I was nude and felt relaxed as could be. It was wonderful! I regret that I have only made it back once, but can't wait until I get a chance to go again.

Now it's December. I decided it's a good place and hope to camp next summer. Like a lot of nudists, it would have been better earlier in life, but better late than never.

In the nude,
Randy.

The Obscene Nipple (Blush)

Decrying what she sees as relentless, world wide body phobia aimed at women, internet “blogger” Kristen Culbertson chronicles the assault on the nipple.

Ms Culbertson rightly notes that we all have nipples. Yet, social acceptance of these small nubs of flesh wholly depends on our gender and the situation in which they appear. Female nipples in most settings have to remain under wraps. She then goes on to catalogue bans on the nipple around the world in 2003.

Her list includes the much discussed Janet Jackson nipple; St. John’s College at Oxford University ban on British tabloids that run a daily photo of a topless female in the interest of not demeaning women. China got into the act by banning public performances (i.e., sex shows) in which women’s nipples are displayed; even the international advertising community was ordered to stop TV ads in Moscow that briefly showed a nipple in a beer commercial; Brazil ordered a similar ban on bikini babes in beer ads as part of a ban on eroticism.

Culbertson asks the crucial question after noting that in the United States no court has ordered breast feeding mothers to cover in public. “At what point does the nipple become obscene?”

The nipple didn’t start off as a sexual object. In fact, dictionary definitions of the word “nipple” do not make reference to a sexual connotation and could in no way be considered “obscene.”

It is noted that in many parts of the world there is a long maintained level of comfort with the exposed nipple. European habits of topless beach going in a decent and non-sexual atmosphere is noted. Likewise, women in tribal areas of Africa go topless and do not view breasts as taboo.

One researcher while talking with a group of women in Mali told them of the fascination men in the West have with breasts. These women were shocked. They burst into laughter saying, “You mean, men act like babies?”

Another writer suggests that the entertainment, media and porn industries have played a large part in

eroticizing the breast. Certainly these are major influences, but another powerful influence has been centuries of prudishness borne of excessive emphasis on the evil of sexual sin in Christian teaching.

In the modern world, media sends relentless signals that breasts are sexual and only beautiful when big and protruding. This leads to an “obsession” of breasts.

While men obsess over breasts as sexual turn-ons, women obsess over breasts for reasons of appearance and self-worth. Of course, plastic surgeons are benefitted by this societal anguish.

No doubt about it, breasts are big business for plastic surgeons, the porn industry, and even the jewelry business. In truth, the banning of nipples has been a boon to the demand for nipple adornments for every occasion. Who could be without nipple rings, nipple studs, nipple huggers, etc.? There are even nipple chat rooms for people to discuss whatever nipple problems they might have.

Still, nipples are banned. They are obscene. They are taboo. Children definitely should not see them. But why? When does the nipple become obscene? Many reasons can be suggested, but it seems that the answer is: A nipple is obscene when it is viewed as a sexual object. And as Culbertson adds, “...for some, the obscene nipple is even better than the natural one.”

[See <http://www.cincinnatibabes.com> for Ms Culbertson’s web site and other articles. Ed.]

Useful Information

I bet very few of you know that members of Lake Edun can receive a special rate from the Ramada and Holiday Inn in Holyoke.

Besides the room, breakfast and a drink at the hotel bar is included for the nominal fee of \$64.00. Just ask for the Parrish Preferred Rate to take advantage of this outstanding offer. Be sure to tell them you are patronizing their hotel while visiting Lake Edun.

Did you know that newlyweds can receive a free 1 year membership at Lake Edun? Ask at the Barn for information about this benefit.

Responding to feedback from members, starting this year North Beach will be designated “Quiet.” Some people want serene tranquility while they work on an all over tan, with only the sounds of nature in the background.

South Beach on the other hand, will be open to radios, music, fun activities. Gregarious persons can relax and enjoy themselves.

Sample both beaches for a well rounded naturist experience.

This year there will be open weekends in which you will have the opportunity to suggest and sponsor an activity. You suggest it and be responsible for it. Just make sure to let us know your idea at least a month in advance. We will promote it in Bare Facts.

Finally, when a board member is at Lake Edun, they will be available to discuss any issues or concerns you may have. They will be identified by wearing an “Ask Me” hat or badge.

In the News

Bennington College in Bennington, Vermont has had a tradition of tolerance for going around campus naked. This tradition goes back to the 1960’s.

The campus tranquility was abruptly disrupted by the new dean of students, Robert Graves. He as embarked on a crusade against public nudity—one that has run afoul of the school’s free-spirited students.

The students had long enjoyed a long standing informal policy allowing them to go naked on campus. This included topless sunbathing on the lawn or running naked at an annual bonfire party. College officials turned a blind eye.

This unofficial policy was challenged when a student strolled around campus naked this summer during an orientation session when parents were visiting campus. The new dean reprimanded the student.

More than 200 students, a few of them naked, marched across campus in October to protest against what they saw as a crackdown by the administration on freedom of expression. The onset of winter has put a temporary pause to the dispute, but students are

preparing for a springtime assault.

Senior student Lindsey Gage is leading the fight to preserve the unwritten policy, saying that she has grown accustomed to public nudity since enrolling here. “It is never lewd, but a natural sight,” she said.

Dean Graves confirms that, “Bennington College is not a clothing-optional campus and we don’t live in a clothing-optional society.” “There is not a nudity policy and we don’t condone this behavior. We are a public campus. There has to be a level of respect here.”

Sophomore Allison Zoll countered that respect has nothing to do with it. She takes part in events with the college’s nude activities club which hosts clothing-optional picnics and outdoor games. She was adamant that there was nothing wrong with going bare.

Bennington isn’t alone in having a culture of undress. Goddard College, also in Vermont has historically had a relaxed policy toward lack of student dress on campus. Hamilton College in New York has formed a varsity streaking team that travels to rival schools to streak on their campuses. The Hamilton team streaked a dozen colleges in the Northeast earlier this fall.

Commenting on the controversy, Stuart Hurd, Bennington’s town manager opined, “Oh to be in college again. More power to them. We are too uptight about public nudity in this country.”

From South of the border comes the next story.

Alarmed by glimpses of sweaty citizens in the buff, the city council in the southeastern city of Villahermosa has adopted a law banning indoor nudity.

The regulation takes effect on Jan.1. It calls for as much as 36 hours in jail or a fine of \$121 for offenders in the Tabasco state capital, 410 miles east of Mexico City.

“We are talking about zero tolerance...for a lack of morality,” said city councilwoman Blanca Estela Pulido of the Revolutionary Institutional Party, which governs the state and city.

Opposition party councilman Rodrigo Sanchez said that the measure, "tramples on the rights of the citizens by taking laughable measures such as contemplating penalties for citizens who walk around nude inside their houses."

The region noted for is sweltering hot, humid climate has a style of architecture in which, "The majority of houses have a lot of ventilation and we give ourselves the luxury of going naked," Pulido said. "Because we walk past the windows, you see a lot of things."

[Both stores illustrate that a small number of "offended" people in powerful positions can take it upon themselves to impose their values on others.

Students at Bennington and citizens of Villahermosa have long standing traditions of comfort with the bare body in which no one had complained, no one had been harmed. Yet, powerful persons for their own reasons evaluate the naked body as unacceptable or lacking in morality.

I have the feeling that the powers that be haven't heard the last from the protesters. Ed.]

PORNOGRAPHY

·By: David L. Hatton

A poet and pornographer were arguing out loud
Upon a city street where their debate had
drawn a crowd.
But fed on mocking satire from the smut-
shop marketer,
The gathering was led to chide the poet's
"prudish" fear.

A screaming female cry rang out to cheer
the rights of porn:
"My naked beauty's mine to sell! Free
speech!" she yelled with scorn.
But then an aging prostitute brought silence
with her shout:
"My beauty's gone! Let's have free speech,
and hear the poet out!"

Conviction filled the poet's voice: "I stand
for womanhood!
Who markets nudity for lust, no beauty understood!
Who sold her flesh as slop to fill the feeding
troughs of swine,
Was swindled of her value, doesn't know her
worth, or mine!"

"Our dignity as humans teaches the secrecy
of love.
The privacy of mating is a treasure from above.
But make the sacred common, and you lace
the truth with lies:
Love's intimacy wasn't meant for wanton
public eyes!"

"I welcome mothers' lovely breasts exposed
to nurse their young!
Bring on bare photographs of birth! Its
beauties I have sung!
Display a sculpted portrait of your wife, a
gorgeous nude,
But strip her for a show of sex, and you're a
fool, and lewd!"

"No healthy woman really wants the hurt
that lust inspires,
Nor can a spouse compete against a fantasy's
desires.
Just analyze the rapist's diet: what's his daily
fare?
Enticing looks that porno-pimps pay unclad
girls to wear!"

"The question's not of freedom, nor is it of
rights denied.
We've sold our children's safety, while our
family honor died.
An endless carnal thirst is gushing from pornography
To drown the due respect that each man
owes womanity."

"Unclothe the youthful nude they pay to

twist the gawker's mind:
Below the skin of powdered breasts and
spreading legs you'll find
A misled sister, daughter, cousin, mother,
niece or wife
Who's auctioned by a trade that drains her
image of its life."

"Beneath the painted hide they hire to pose
for filthy fame,
A woman's raped of self-esteem and
wrapped in sinful shame.
But sons who buy their sister's theft have
been the most untrue:
They fail to guard the woman's worth that
manhood calls them to!"

The prostitute began to clap . . . a teacher
joined nearby,
Some older men took off their caps . . . two
girls began to cry.
One mother lifted up her blouse to sing
while baby nursed.
But most were very quiet as the gathering dispersed.

There's a New Year Coming

Can you believe it? 2005 is here. I still clearly remember the angst about Y2K. Long gone are those days when I eagerly looked forward to being older---say, 16 or 21. I've reached that time in life where I want the moment to last.

Of course, I have a lot of memories. Mostly good ones, mixed with some painful ones. Don't we all?

I clearly recall the exhilarating first moments when I became a naturist, although at the time I didn't know that term. I frequently pull up a picture of the Kalalau Beach on my computer, just to relive these times again. Later, receiving my membership in The Naturist Society was a highlight.

What's your favorite memory of this past year at Lake Edun or some other naturist venue? Some have shared accounts of visits to places they've visited, such as

Haulover Beach. Others have recounted visits to resorts. Just makes me want to go to these places myself. I think a nude cruise would be great, don't you?

The one constant is change. Lake Edun has had its share of struggles with a disapproving community. The good news is that the new year holds promise of reaching an out of court resolution with the county. This will mean great things for our future.

Some of you have returned the survey sent out in October. We appreciate your helping us get a better idea of your perceptions of Lake Edun and interests for future development. Continue giving feedback. We are in this together.

The new year brings us new opportunities to acquaint others with Lake Edun and the naturist lifestyle, such as: Invite people you know. Attend open houses and greet visitors. Attend the presentations at the Topeka Public Library of the video about Lake Edun. Attend sauna's and bring a friend. Come up with creative ideas to promote Lake Edun. Share your story in the pages of Bare Facts. Let's have fun this year with each other. This is the best advertisement that encourages people to become repeat visitors and members.

The reason this Newsletter is late is because you have a substitute publisher who is incompetent. He expects (hopes) to be fired.

Pledge to the Lake Edun Legal Defense Fund

We don't want to allow the county to hassle us out of existence! Our Goal is to raise money for the Legal Defense Fund to complete the counter suit and close the books! Help us reach 100% participation. We need your help:

- 1) Continue your membership.
- A. Contact others you know who may not have renewed.
- B. Introduce Lake Edun to new friends.
- 2) Become more involved directly with Lake Edun.
- A. Serve in direct ways (more opportunities coming!)
- B. Continue your relationships outside of our beautiful facility.
- C. Write for *Bare Facts*. Tell us what Lake Edun means.
- 3) Help complete the Legal Battle – *Pledge!*
- Consider this:
- We could easily cover costs of the Legal battle if:
- Eating out 1 meal 1/month for 10 months = \$100
 - 2 movies/month for 10 months = \$100

I/we are willing to make this commitment to protect what we have at Lake Edun. (Keep in mind our challenge grant that will match dollar-for-dollar the first \$100 of any pledge greater than \$100.) To that goal I/we pledge:

___ \$100 ___ \$200 ___ \$500 ___ Other to be paid:
 ___ \$10/mon ___ \$20/mon ___ \$50/mon ___ /mon
 ___ Other: [Tell us how much; tell us how often]

If you wish, we can automatically charge your credit card for monthly pledges.

Lake Edun Foundation, Inc.
 P.O. Box 1982
 Topeka, KS 66601-1982
 (785) 478-BARN

**Membership Application
 Change of Address Form**
Please Print

Name: First _____ MI _____ Last _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ DOB _____ E-mail Address _____

All information provided is strictly confidential. If you are joining as a couple, include names for both people. If, you are a couple not living together, make a copy of this form for the other individual. (NB: a couple is defined as one male and one female.) Those willing to assist with upkeep a minimum of 10 hours per year may deduct \$50. One

subscription to our newsletter *Bare Facts* is included with membership. A subscription only to *Bare Facts* is available for \$20.00. New members will receive a Waiver and Release which must be completed before membership is finalized. Visitation restrictions apply to Associate Membership.

Membership Fees:	Single	Couple	Amount
Lake Edun Foundation Membership	250.00	300.00	_____
Associate Member (Over 125 miles away) - deduct	(100.00)	(100.00)	_____
Working Membership (Discount)	(50.00)	(50.00)	_____
Student Membership (full-time student)	150.00	200.00	_____
Separate Mailing Address for members		12.00	_____
<i>Lake Edun Exposed</i> – Video		35.00	_____
<i>Lake Edun Exposed</i> – DVD		50.00	_____
Naturist Society Membership		50.00	_____
Subscription to <i>Bare Facts</i> only		20.00	_____
Tax Deductible Donation - Legal Defense Fund			_____
Total Enclosed - Check, Money Order, or Credit Card			_____

Please charge my Visa; MasterCard # _____ Exp. ____ / ____ \$ _____

Note: There is a \$30 charge for any checks returned unpaid for any reason.