

Bare Facts

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38° 58' 7" North; 95° 47' 56" West

Thank You For Your Support

Enclosed with this issue of Bare Facts is our acknowledgment of the annual support Eduners made in 2009. This is the annual notice we send out every year at this time.

We appreciate all of our contributors who dig deep in order that we can make our program available. As the year came to an end, Dave, Dick, David made generous contributions. To keep the weight of this letter within the limits imposed by the Post Office, this issue is only four pages.

If you made a contribution this past year, you should have an acknowledgment enclosed. Please check it closely. If you believe there is any error, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

From The Mailbag

Dear Lake Edun,

Hi, My name is Kevin. I'm a nudist and I live [west of Topeka]. I found Lake Edun on the Internet. I really like your website. I've been a nudist for a long time and a nude model for art classes for about ten years. I started back in 1999.

I'd really like to visit Lake Edun and maybe become a member. I know you are closed for Winter. I would like information of your rules and membership costs and directions to Lake Edun. Hope to hear from you soon.

– Kevin

Rejected Christmas Card

Bob Cringley has a technology oriented blog. Go to: <http://www.cringely.com/2009/12/fedex-kinkos-wont-print-our-christmas-card/> He also sends his friends an annual nude Christmas card. This year something went amiss. Kinko's wouldn't print his cards claiming they were obscene.

"The tradition began by accident," he explains, "and now our cards are so popular friends remind us to send them. Making naked Christmas cards that are tasteful isn't easy, either, but we do it. With three little boys you can only go so long until they begin to realize they are, well, naked. That leads in our family not so much to protestations of modesty as to demands for bribes. The price of this year's photo session was \$2 worth of sour gummy worms per kid. Yum."

Bob says that for four years his local Kinko's had printed the cards, but not last year or this year. He talked to the manager, but to no avail. He protested that nothing is shown that aren't shown in other people's photos.

Since Bob was doing some work in San Francisco, he took his card to the local Kinko's. There the pierced and tattooed counterman laughed and printed the cards, throwing in a few extra cards for free. Just goes to show you what "community standards" mean.

Go to the website to check out Bob's Christmas Card. See what you think. [Ed.]

Check Out Our Web Site

It is a vicious rumor that nothing happens in the Winter. Just visit our web site at LakeEdun.com to see for yourself.

We have added some products to the store and are looking for other ways to make it more appealing for our e-visitors.

Pictures are always of interest to those considering venturing into the clothing-free recreational arena. If you have some pictures you have taken at our special place you believe would be of interest to others, please share them with us. Also, if you have any pictures you have taken anywhere that you believe would help convey the benefits of a clothing-free lifestyle, please share them with us, as well.

In the meantime, please visit our web site and our store. If you like it, please tell a friend; if you find some way it can be improved, please share those insights with us.

Random Thoughts and Notices

Due to continued extremely cold weather and lots of snow at our special place now and into the foreseeable future, we believe we may be tempting the Fates with our sauna scheduled for January 9. We have moved it to Jan. 23. Hopefully, we will be able to access the parking lot at that date. If you are driving a great distance it would be prudent to check with benude@lakeedun.com to insure there have been no changes.

Don't forget to take advantage of our saunas. They are a wonderful way to relax during the cold winter.

If you want to schedule a sauna at a time convenient for you, contact us. We have reduced the number of scheduled saunas to only one per month. We will hold additional ones as we are requested. Notice of these special saunas will be sent by email and text message only to Eduners wishing to take advantage of our saunas.

We have it on good authority the weather will begin to warm . . . eventually. When it does, we will attempt to plan a couple of weekends before Spring growth begins to complete some of our "winter tasks", those things best done before the bugs and poison ivy make them more difficult. If you would like to help with these, let us know.

We hope all our friends and supporters had a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to a great New Year!

DON'T FORGET

Activities designated HN are sponsored by Heartland Naturists

Jan 9; Sat; 3-5; Board of Directors

Jan 9; Sat; 8-10; NO Sauna

Jan 15; Fri; 8-10; HN Swim

Jan 23; Sat; 8-10; Sauna

Feb 13; Sat; 4:00-6:00; Board of Directors

Feb 13; Sat; 8-10; Sauna

Feb 19; Fri; 8-10; HN Swim

For Your Next Vacation, Make It Nude

The press is always trying to be helpful. Ok, that's a bit of cynical humor. However, some in the press do better than others when writing about naturists. The following is a worthy example of a positive take on nude recreation aimed at non naturists.

Talking to the choir here, but perhaps some hesitant friends might find this useful. [Ed.]

It's Not What You Think. There are so many misconceptions about vacationing sans clothing, it would take an entire article to address them. But let me clear up just a few. Nudists are not perverts, and their resorts – at least the ones represented by national naturist organizations such as TNS and AANR – are not seedy. Nudists are not all retired, either, although many of them are. And they aren't exhibitionists looking for a date. In fact, you don't have to remove all of your clothes at a clothing-optional resort, (that's why they call it clothing optional.)

It'll Open Your Mind. Take it from someone whose neighbors were nudists: Going clothes-free can be an enlightening experience. I only mention this because many of us are looking for a different perspective when we're on vacation, and removing our clothes can certainly offer that.

It's a Good Time. Nude recreation is fun. Anyone who has ever gone skinny-dipping or as a kid romped through the backyard sprinkler in his or her birthday suit knows. Most of the mainstream media coverage of nude recreation skips over this important point. Truth is, a clothing-optional vacation can be wholesome fun, according to the nudists I've spoken with.

It's a Deal. The entire travel industry is on sale, and nude resorts are no exception. Clothing-optional clubs and resorts are under the same pressure as the rest of the hotel industry, and maybe even more, considering that interest in nude recreation appears to be on the wane. Put differently, you might pay less for your nakation than your vacation.

It's Easy to Pack. Packing for a clothing-optional vacation is so easy and you won't ever have to worry about additional luggage fees. That's a compelling argument when your carrier wants to charge \$15 per bag – and more on some flights.

Ready to strip down on your next vacation? Just one piece of advice: Try it before you book a whole week. Visit a local clothing-optional club – many offer affordable day passes – and see how it feels. If you like it, have a nakation.

Interested in more. Find the full article on the web at: <http://www.frommers.com/articles/6484.html>

It's Calendar Time

What's in a calendar? Besides the months and days of the year there is much, much more. By that I mean the pictures! Perhaps the most famous annual calendar is the Pirelli calendar featuring scantily clad or nude young women – all to sell tires. The other landmark nude calendar was created

by a number of older British women to raise funds for leukemia research and made famous in the movie, *Calendar Girls*.

Since then, everyone with a cause has latched on to the idea of a nude calendar sales for fund raising. One would think what was once innovative would now be staid and a cliché. Not so it seems.

A group of women in Key West have a fund raising calendar they call, *Women Sustaining the Earth*. Go to: <http://keywestcalendargirls.com/default.aspx>. What they are funding is explained as follows: The *Women Sustaining the Earth* calendar features fifteen ageless Keys women who are engaged in individual and collective activities to protect and nourish nature. Starring the places as well as the faces, the models were photographed on location at natural settings in the Keys.

The first printing was soon sold out and a second printing is available. This time the proceeds will go to the preservation of a private botanical garden in the heart of Key West – <http://www.manaproject.org/>.

The botanical garden is a one acre rain forest and parrot rescue center that was purchased by Nancy Forrester and her family in 1969. Unfortunately, there is danger of losing the property to developers. As we all know, there are never enough parking lots, motels, and strip malls.

On the Mana Project website there are three short videos that tell the story of this beautiful and unlikely place. They are well worth the watch.

You are also invited to go to another interesting website devoted to environmental projects in the Florida Keys: <http://www.keysglee.com/default/index.cfm>. It's the website of GLEE, aka Green Living and Energy Education. They promote earth friendly programs such as gardening, recycling, reducing waste, and composting of organic waste.

It struck me that what GLEE and the *Women Sustaining the Earth* calendar project, while not naturists are promoting a lifestyle in keeping with naturist values. They may not be consciously embracing the idea of body acceptance, but their calendar, and all the calendars of like nature are in fact planting seeds within our culture for normalizing the unclothed human body as good and beautiful.

Proof of this is found in responses to the newspaper article about the calendar. For example: "BRAVO! It is terrific to see real women so comfortable with their own bodies and supporting a great cause. The fact that it sold out so quickly shows it is well supported and hopefully there will be a second edition of the calendar." And another wrote: "Good for you! Being 50, I know that it takes balls to take off your clothes like you guys did. This is just a basic country that whatever is 'naked' is called 'bad'. Not even art is accepted in this City if it is naked. Get over it! Our bodies are beautiful and these ladies have a beautiful cause."

To see some of the calendar pictures go to: <http://www.miamiherald.com/505/story/1366715.html>.

The message is clear. The average American, along with many other nationalities, is quite willing to approve simple nudity, provided it is tied to a worthy cause. Of course, all these calendars find clever ways to block full nudity, a nod to our prudish heritage, but nonetheless, it is the implication of full nudity that is the main attraction.

People are fascinated by the nude body, but at the same time feel discomfort at viewing full nudity openly. The “Cause” provides a handy “fig leaf” that allows buyers to rationalize for themselves and others why they have “naughty” pictures openly hanging in their home. Oh well. It’s a conceit that serves as a bridge many are willing to cross. Besides, it raises a lot of money. I wonder if TNS has considered this? [Ed.]

The Academic Naturist

Here’s an introduction to a naturist blog I think many would enjoy reading. The author is of the younger generation – a twenty something – and usually makes a lot of sense. Go to: <http://academicnaturist.blogspot.com/2009/10/free-book-rejected.html>

This particular post, (October 10, 2009) about how to approach the non-naturist and gain a hearing caught my eye as such a no brainer that it tends to be one of those, slap your forehead and say, “Duh!” moments. Naturists are so convinced of the rightness of our belief in the goodness of the nude body we dismiss the equally strong conviction of the general public that this isn’t true. It’s as though we believe if we can just get the public to see a nude body they will, “get it.” Not going to happen!

The writer makes a lot of sense. TNS and other naturists would do well to produce promotional literature and films the public could see and read without stimulating a knee jerk reaction among them. These productions would mirror standard naturist promotional materials, but with only the suggestion of nudity in the pictures. We have to meet people where they are, not where we think they “ought” to be. Isn’t that where creativity makes innovation possible, creating the basis for social change?

While I’m at it, the post entitled, *Guerrilla Naturism* posted September 13, 2009 is equally intriguing in concept and a fair companion piece to this post. [Ed.]

While visiting TNS HQ earlier this year, I decided to buy 6 copies of their latest book: “The World’s Best Nude Beaches and Resorts” The plan was to keep a copy for myself, and give the rest away. Two were given away at the Nude Olympics. The rest are still in my apartment.

I liked TNS’s suggestion to donate them to libraries, so I did just that with our small local library. My girlfriend dropped it off a few months ago, and has checked back periodically. She was told that they would put it in the “adult section”.

They never had an “adult section”. Even if they did, this book belongs in the travel section since it talks about beaches all around the world. It’s clearly a travel book.

We got a call recently that they decided not to accept the book. As we picked it up, we were told that “it’s a really good informative book, but we don’t have a place for it.” In other words, they don’t want to put it in the travel section and don’t want to make an adult section.

Why was it rejected? Nudity! Lots and lots of nudity!

Follow along with my analogy... Alice is a firm believer in the National Rifle Association (NRA). She believes that she should be able to carry a gun with her anytime she wants, and does so as much as she can. She also wants to attend the annual NRA meeting that is many states away. By going, she can contribute a lot to advancing the rights of gun lovers everywhere. She doesn’t have the vacation time to drive, so therefore she must either not go at all or fly there. By not going, she can’t do anything to promote the right to carry guns. By going, she must leave her gun at home in order to be allowed on an airplane. What should she do? The obvious answer is to bite the bullet and leave the gun at home, despite her belief that she *should* be able to take the gun with. She’ll have a much bigger impact on the future rights to carry a gun if she goes without it.

Bob is a firm believer in naturism. He believes that he should be able to go naked anytime he wants, and does so as much as he can. He also wants to promote naturism. Can you see where I’m going with this?

Where the stories differ is that naturists put naked (and exposed) people on *EVERYTHING*. This is akin to Alice wearing her gun to the airport anyway and then promptly getting stopped (arrested?) by TSA. Naturist stuff gets promptly classified as “adult” by most of society and then ushered off to places where nobody will see it. Naturists will all agree that this *shouldn’t* be the case – but it is and we must deal with it anyway. Sorry, I don’t make the rules.

How can I promote naturism if no libraries will accept my books? I can’t just remove the nudity like Alice can remove her gun and leave it at home.

I have the same problem with TNS’s latest tri-fold information pamphlet. I’d love to slip these into tourist information centers guerrilla naturism style, but the cover shows a naked woman with a naked child. If certain things were covered, everything would be OK. Since they aren’t, it could lead to a police investigation and a sting operation to catch me for “distributing child pornography” or something stupid like that.

TNS’s DVD, *Chasing the Sun*, is absolutely great for introducing naturism to political leaders and anyone else. However it’s scene after scene of naked people with all bits exposed. Those who are seriously offended by nudity,

perhaps the very people that SHOULD watch the video, won't because of all the nudity. The nudity prevents it from being shown in a lot of places. I believe they should put a censored version on YouTube for everyone to see.

The answer is that we need to bite the bullet and censor ourselves to get past the firewall of society. It's fine to have uncensored books and DVD's for naturist consumers, but it's also a good idea to have censored versions as well just in case they are required by non-naturist consumers. When the choice is to have a censored video or no video at all, I believe the answer is clear. People can use their imagination to fill in the blank spots, like they do with expletives. We should be educating people before we offend them, because if they are educated they probably won't be offended by the nudity. (My hiking signs are a good example of this.) Currently, we offend them with nudity first and then expect them to hear what we have to say. It doesn't work.



I seem to be the only person advocating for naturists to cover up sometimes. I suggested that naturists should wear clothing to save money during the winter. I suggested putting clothes on and do road cleanups, as we have done several times. We put clothes on and covered nipples to protest. I suggested doing clothed fundraisers at places other than resorts. I suggested a lot of things that require clothes! I also don't post nude photos on this blog, which is why it doesn't have Blogger-induced warning messages. By self-censoring, my words can reach a bigger audience. By getting dressed on occasion, we can have a bigger positive impact on the future of naturism.

I intend to ask the local library if they will accept the book for the travel section if I go through and marker out all of the normally censored bits. I know this action might tick off a lot of naturist purists, but it's the ONLY way that the book will end up available for public browsing at that library.

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**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: To promote gender diversity, 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	275.00	350.00	_____
Associate Member (Over 125 miles away)	175.00	250.00	_____
Recession Discount – if you need help	(50.00)	(75.00)	_____
Working Membership (Discount)	(50.00)	(50.00)	_____
Separate Mailing Address for members		12.00	_____
<i>No Sex, No Violence ... Only Nudity</i> First Naked Plays – DVD		25.00	_____
<i>Lake Edun Exposed</i> – Video		25.00	_____
<i>Lake Edun Exposed</i> – DVD		50.00	_____
Naturist Society Membership		55.00	_____
Subscription to <i>Bare Facts</i> only		20.00	_____
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