Bare Facts

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Heartland Naturists Plan Weekend at Lake LEF Progress Report

Our sister Naturists in Kansas City, the Heartland Naturists have scheduled a weekend at the lake from June 12-14. We are pleased the HN group has chosen to visit the place we take for granted and look forward to finding new Naturist friends.

The HN group plans to take advantage of horse shoes, swimming, our traditional Saturday Evening program and, perhaps, some volley ball.

If you are waiting for a fun time to visit, the weekend of the 13th should be a winner. We hope all Eduners and friends will be able to join us.

Naked Plays Complete Successful Run

On May 9, the Lake Edun Foundation's second production of our Naked Plays closed to an appreciative audience. Evaluations audience members completed after the performances were nearly universally positive.

Included in the audience evaluations, was their vote for the winners of the competition that began about 4 years ago with a call for entries. LEF received submissions from about a dozen playwrights from across the country. These were judged by professionals in theater and the three semi-finalists were selected for production.

And the winner was ... All who saw the plays are anxious to learn the results. Each of the plays tackled the issue of body acceptance from a different angle. At the end of the evening, audience members saw Naturism in a different light. All of the plays contributed to that message.

After tabulating the results, audience members selected Under New Management by Terry Davis from Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the first place winner. Alarmed, by Andrew Moore from Los Angeles took second place and Naked Came A Sheep Dog came in third out of all the entries.

We appreciate the great effort put forth by the cast, the crew, the playwrights, and everyone involved in bringing this production successfully to Topeka a second time.

Memorial Day Weekend Popular

Weather was nearly perfect on Memorial Day Weekend for scores of Eduners and friends who gathered at our special place. As the traditional opening of most Summer time activities, visitors were in good spirits swimming, sharing and reconnecting with old friends.

In addition to the familiar faces, we were impressed at the number of new people who visited, some of whom have already joined our Foundation.

If you were unable to join us for memorial day, be sure to visit soon. While Summer looms long ahead of us, it always seems to come to an end too soon.

With a successful run of our Naked Plays, exceptional weather, and a facility that just keeps getting more beautiful

each year, 2009 is off to a wonderful start.

Although it would have been gratifying to see larger audiences, our production of the Naked Plays accomplished their objectives and seem to have an impact far beyond just those in the audience. We appreciate all the hard work put forth by the director, Dana McCoy, her cast and crew. Their effort and sacrifices are truly appreciated.

As a result of the exposure we received from the plays and wonderful weather, membership is up over 40% from a year earlier. We appreciate the vote of confidence from all our new members and will strive to meet your expectations. We welcome your suggestions to improve your experience.

Why Join A Naturist Group?

In deciding if they should join their local Naturist group, some people just crunch the numbers. If they only visit the facility, say, 5 times during the season, they might figure, it would be cheaper just to pay the day-use fee and save the cost of membership.

But this calculation fails to account for some important additional considerations. Often, your local Naturist group is taking a stand and they need to know others in the community are behind them. Those who only pay a day fee are not showing any support for the cause; they merely use a facility. Also, if you want your facility to be available when you choose to visit, you must show your continued support. In short, we must all support those organizations in which we believe to insure they will be able to support us in the future.

DON'T FORGET

Activities designated HN are sponsored by Heartland Naturists

June 6; Sat; Dusk; Evening program

June 12-14; HN weekend at the lake

June 13; Sat; 10-12; Board of Directors

June 13; Sat; 12-3; Open House

June 13; Sat; Dusk; Evening program

June 19; Fri; 8-10; HN Swim

June 20; Sat; Dusk; Evening program

July 2-5; Clothing Independence Weekend

July 3; Fri; Dusk; Evening program

July 4; Sat; 10-12; Board of Directors

July 4; Sat; Dusk; Evening program

July 5; Sun; Dusk; Commitment ceremony

July 5; Sun; 12-3; Open House

July 6-12; Nude Recreation Week

July 11; Sat; Dusk; Evening program

July 17; Fri; 8-10; HN Swim

July 18; Sat; Dusk; Evening program

July 25; Sat; Dusk; Evening program

From The Mail Bag

Dear Lake Edun,

I finally made it to your lake and I have to say it was an amazing experience. I absolutely loved everything about the lake. There were only a few people there but that did not matter. I can't wait till I get to come visit again. If you ever need any help maintaining the lake I would love an excuse to come work. I'm currently unemployed and thus have a lot of free time on my hands so if you could use some help I would be more than happy to come work. Also, I didn't see a place when I signed in to make donations or whatnot. Is there somewhere special I can drop money? Anyways, thank you for a truly great day and hope I can make it back again soon!

[Thank you for your kind words, Kellen. We can always use help with maintenance. Let's talk. Donations may be folded in with your sign-in sheet and slipped through the slot.]

Dear Lake Edun,

I was lucky enough to see the last performance [of the Naked Plays] and loved it.

I was wondering which one was the winner. The players were awesome. It was really hard to not give them all a 10! I would love to spend the weekend with you folks and was wondering if you had accommodations for overnight stays or if one would have to stay in town.

I have been working a lot or would have been there before and hope to have next weekend off so I am able to visit.

- Thank You, Richard B.

Dear Lake Edun,

What a fast reply. Although I'm not surprised. You've always been a generous host when it comes to Lake Edun. I don't get many chances to come out there, but when I have my window of opportunity I grab it! And yesterday was my day. No worries about the gate...I feel very comfortable there by now so I just parked to the side of the driveway out of the way and walked in, knowing exactly where to go.

I had a wonderful afternoon completely alone! Sure, I enjoy the Eduners, but this was a fun treat to just relax in this beautiful place in complete peaceful solitude. My spot was out on the extended dock on the far beach. I lay out my towel on the very end of the dock and read my book for hours, soaked in the beautiful sun, felt the cool breeze caress my body, and reveled in the feeling of water flowing all around.

Thank you for the peace-filled freedom found in this place.

– Jesse

ps: It occurred to me as I was alone there yesterday, that another reason for always signing in at the barn is my own safety. I was glad to know that IFFFF something unexpected happened to me alone there, that there was record of my being there at the barn.

Dear Lake Edun.

Myself and a friend would like to drive over from Kansas City to make a visit to your lake to consider membership.

Thanks for all you've done in keeping your lake open for folks in the area.

- Brad H.

Audit Committee Report

by Stephanie & Ernie

The board of directors appointed us to serve as an audit committee to review the books of the Lake Edun Foundation for the calendar year 2008. In doing so, we had access to all financial records, bank records, and records of all individual donations and memberships.

After an extensive review of all financial records for the year, we concluded that all income and expenses were handled in a manner consistent with the policies established by the Board of Directors and that they had been assigned to accounts that fairly reflect the purpose of the income or expense. In particular, the Audit Committee was pleased to note that there were no legal expenses for the year and recommends gifts designated for the Legal Defense Fund be carried over to 2009 to apply against current legal bills.

The audit committee recommends the board of directors review its policies concerning proper treatment of cash donations and payments to insure they are properly credited.

Members who wish to receive a complete copy of the financial statements for last year may contact the Foundation.

Florida Keys: Next Legal Nude Beach?

It has long been one of those questions asked by visitors here from around the world, and a question pondered by locals, many of whom live here because of the relaxed attitudes, brilliant sunshine and clear waters.

Why is there no clothing-optional public beach in Key West? The short answer is that we don't allow such a thing here. And again, the overriding question becomes – why?

In response County Commissioners aske for a study on how, and if, a nude beach can be established in Monroe County. After all, Key West and the keys don't lack for potential sites for such a facility on any one of dozens of remote locations.

We attract people from all over the world. And many of those people come here from lands where topless sunbathing, or clothing-optional sunbathing, is an accepted and routine practice. They come because we bill ourselves as a place where you can "Come as You Are." And then we tell them that we only mean that as a slogan, not as a practice.

Look out Haulover, competition is on the way – maybe. [Ed.]

Leave It To Nike

For the fitness conscious; aren't we all? Your attention is invited to a Nike running shoe web site:

http://www.youtube.com/insidenikerunning

Nike invites us to get inspired. Go behind-the-scenes. Learn from Nike elites. See and hear it all right here on the Inside Nike Running YouTube Channel.

You say you aren't into exercise if it involves sweating or any exertion greater than what it takes to get the next beer? Then, this video is really for you. It features the Nike nude training camp. That's right, NUDE! Hey, just because the "naughty parts" are fuzzed out, they are still nude. By the time you finish viewing, you will think running really looks like fun! [Ed.]

Congratulations LEF

In December of last year, we learned of the passing of Lee Baxendall, the founder and guiding light behind The Naturist Society for decades. We included a tribute to Lee in the December, 2008 issue of *Bare Facts* that recounted his life and many accomplishments.

We are pleased and honored that our tribute was selected by TNS to be reprinted in the most recent issue of "N" which came out recently.

The Naturist Society is a national organization that promotes body acceptance by promoting a clothing free lifestyle. It grew out of the free-beach movement of the 60's and 70's.

"N" is a quarterly color publication that carries stories about people and places across the country and around the world engaged in the Naturist movement. Membership in TNS includes a subscription to "N" and also insures admission to hundreds of Naturist-affiliated facilities (see article on Travel in this issue).

Eduners may use the form in this issue of *Bare Facts* to join The Naturist Society.

Nudism Under Attack

We sometimes think we have it rough in Topeka. Yet, in countries with a stronger naturist tradition than we have in America still have ongoing battles with a hostile populace and government. The same baseless assertions turn up over and over again, regardless of country.

The following piece comes from England and is protesting the shabby characterization of a clothing optional beach. Point by point, the writer refutes the critics. The writer correctly points out the obvious and flaw(s) in the rationale for wanting the beach returned to only textile use. Somehow, the anti-naturist crowd conveniently forgets the frequent misbehavior taking place in clothing required beaches and other venues. The opponents gratuitously assume that if wearing bathing suits were required, then no misdeeds they protest would ever occur. How childishly naive!

The writer makes a number of very good points naturists can use anywhere our rights are being threatened. [Ed.]

"A hangout for people having sex" What an interesting comment. Does it presuppose that other beaches, glades, moors, heaths, where clothed people go are not also "a hangout for people having sex?" Perhaps I can give you a lesson on how babies are produced, and which places are thought of as "romantic"?

FACT:

Having met nudists from around the world, I know of no nudist who would make an exhibition of making love, or of nudity. The whole ethos is of freedom and fresh air.

FACT:

Nudism has always been practiced by people who swim. It is only in recent years, with greater affluence, and the sad influence of fashion designers that people have worn clothing to swim and sunbathe. And look at the overpriced rubbish they wear!

FACT:

Nudists, merely follow the practice of centuries, (A bit like the churches really – and the State?)

FACT

Nudists are peaceful, pleasant people, who want to relax in the sun often with their whole family, a difficult enough proposition in a country with our weather – which does not need to be ruined by bigots.

The author makes note of his efforts years earlier to get beaches officially designated as clothing optional to protect naturists from harassment born out of prejudice against them. Local government did agree to this for areas that had always been used for naked swimming and sunbathing for centuries.

FACT:

Naturists paid for the signs.

FACT:

No one else was deliberately denied the use of that same area of public beach, but they were made aware that people might be taking all of their clothes off to swim and sunbathe. In general people found that a very acceptable solution. And it still is.

FACT:

In Scotland the Cunningham District Council designated three beaches. Later two of those beaches were un-designated for no better reason than that one political party replaced the other in the next election. A petition with a very large number of signatures, made no difference to the new government. Local people were over-whelmingly in favor of the nudist beaches continuing since they also used those beaches, some of them being nudists and the rest not minding naked bodies.

FACT:

There are very few nudist beaches in the UK, where people do not have to fear prosecution for sunbathing with their families.

FACT:

Those beaches – and those along the rest of our very long coastline – are also open to everyone.

So what is the problem?

Is a naked body really more sexually frightening than the peek-a-boo fashion of the overpriced bikini, which deliberately aims the onlookers' eyes to certain parts of the now-fashionable anatomy?

This year a buttock, next year a breast, the following year a navel? We really are a sad little country.

Can I suggest that nudists need now to insist on their rights as Local Council taxpayers – attend Council meetings where necessary – which they have every right to do – and protest long and loud, about being discriminated against by politically motivated ignoramuses, whose attitude is keeping our country in the Dark Ages?

Perhaps those who object to nudism might like to consider: that we are all naked under our clothes – and that closed-minded bigots, have remarkably unhealthy thoughts.

Promoting Naturism

by KenI found this interesting suggestion on a naturist web site, Skinny Trippers. Thought I'd pass it on as information and as a challenge. What would any of us say in a brief moment to explain why we are naturists if the opportunity arises? It's worth some thought. [Ed.]

To share naturism with others, including a reluctant spouse, it helps to have an "elevator speech," a positive statement about why you practice naturism, short enough that it could be shared while riding an elevator with someone.

Kevin, a member from another e-group, shared several of his "best lines"/"selling points" concerning why he became a naturist, and what is has done for him. Here are his thoughts:

"Within twenty to thirty minutes after stripping down, and settling in to conversation with other nudists, I find that I lose my self-consciousness completely, and I even forget that I am naked. And while I on occasion, find myself innocently peeking with curiosity at the others with me, I very quickly stop seeing parts, and start seeing people."

"Social nudity to me is a "visual hug." By that, I mean that social nudity and a hug both invite another into your personal space around you, creating a mutual vulnerability that promotes and shares a non-verbal message of acceptance, trust, and affection. What a hug does physically, social nudity does visually. Both are good for the soul."

Here's one from me:

To take a line from Popeye, "I am what I am," and as a naturist I'm true to myself. Clothes are a barrier; without clothes I'm real, inside and out, without pretext, without presenting a false front. My naturist friends possess this same honesty. It's totally refreshing to be open and honest with others, and still be accepted for who I am.

Now it's your turn. Anyone else willing to accept the challenge and share their "naturist elevator speech?" Would you chicken out? What would you say if you only had a minute to share your feelings with a person who asked why you became a naturist?

Sexting

Ever heard of this? It's the latest teen craze some think. It's about adolescents sending pictures by phone of themselves or of others either nude or partially undressed. In some instances it's being done maliciously, without permission, and at other times done deliberately with the intention of being a private message. Unfortunately, some kids discover that their "private" pictures have been forwarded all over the place. In one or more instances ending with tragic results – suicide.

Due both to the potential for humiliation and harassment, some prosecutors have attempted to label the pictures as child porn and prosecute the sender, even if the picture is of their self.

Given the potential for over broad lawmaking and prosecutorial abuse, naturists have debated the potential negative fallout that may spill over on any depiction of nudity in

general and for naturists in particular. The following is an analysis of why naturists need to be concerned for negative blowback on naturism as posted on Rixplace. [Ed.]

My interest has stayed alive because I'm not fully satisfied with any of the answers to date, I think the naturist concerns have been anything but refuted, and the discussion raises fundamental questions about the nature of naturism, (e.g., its meaning and limits as a movement).

I've really struggled to see John P's point of view. I understand it as sort of a legalistic position whereby he appears to be largely satisfied with decisions and guidelines as used by the courts to date. I'm not satisfied with the risk, (personal or to the movement) that this represents however, and see the controversy over "sexting" as an instance of two trends: further social discomfort and restrictions on nudity generally, (the naturist connection, in my view) and a hugely disproportionate enforcement response, whatever your view on the naturist connection. I suspect the latter is as much a reason for the thread's continuance as the first.

There is also the movement's traditional interest in bringing up children with a natural body acceptance attitude. From that standpoint, sexting can be seen as a distorted interest that a normal naturist approach would rectify, e.g., there's a lesson in contrasts here. Alternatively, others are simply not bothered by what they see as normal teen behavior. I see a distinction on this last with photos myself, however, but that may be a byproduct of generational attitudes. Certainly my children's attitudes toward photos, (as well as other social networking artifacts) differ markedly from my own.

There's a naturist connection even with the issue of disproportionate response, as there seems to be more and more pressure to position simple public nudity situations as sex offender violations. In this regard, treating cell phone pictures in this way isn't much different than someone being prosecuted for being nude in their back yard.

Even if one accepts John's position that hyped charges can be reduced, the fact is that lesser charges are still almost always brought, i.e., the human body is still the fundamental problem and the attitude is systematized. In the end, I disagree with John – we are NOT protected. The fact that there are some extant principles in case law and elsewhere that helps with typical social nudism situations, (John is correct in this) doesn't change the fact that anyone going to court in any particular case and arguing on this basis is in a position of very high risk. That's unlike, say, an exposure charges due to breastfeeding in public, which is relatively easily defended, (or dismissed) because of bright-line legislation.

I'm happy of course, that some progress over the last decades has been made in the courts. I'm just as concerned that it's eroded over the last few years though, and I see evidence of it everywhere.

Hope that helps with question as to why the topic lives on.

- Bill

Walk Nude, and people won't need to undress you with their eyes.

Travel Report

Vacations are great! A week in Orlando Florida is just what the doctor ordered. We enjoyed beautiful, warm sunny days, moderate humidity, and comfortable nights. Combine that with a beautiful condo set on spacious grounds, with multiple swimming pools to enjoy, great dining, and a golf course – if you enjoy those sorts of things, and you have the formula for a terrific time. Oh yeah, almost forgot, all this is 2 miles from the major theme parks.

Obviously there are a host of things people can do in the Orlando area. If you want to run yourself ragged, you can do something different every day of the week. We didn't do that. Instead, we did our best to relax.

That meant a lot of pool time and one side trip to the St. Johns River for a boat trip into the wilds of swampy Florida. More accurately, we spent the morning touring backwater inlets and islands of the river.

We quickly learned why Floridians don't swim in the local rivers and lakes – gators and snakes. We observed a lot of the former and none of the latter, but we were assured snake critters are well represented out of sight – just not out of mind. Fortunately, the bird life was everywhere. Herons of several varieties, egrets, hawks, and turkeys were everywhere. It was a lot of fun.

Of course no Florida vacation would be complete without a trip to the beach. Following our St. Johns River excursion, we headed to New Smyrna beach. Besides not being clothing optional, the wind was up, the tide was out, and the water was cold. After getting some sun we headed south to Coco Beach.

We had wanted to visit Plyalinda Beach, but two concerns prevented this. First, what the local law enforcement is doing about nude beach use this year couldn't be determined online. Second, getting there early in the day was recommended due to the small number of parking places closest to the nude use area. We were going to arrive mid afternoon, so we opted to go to Coco Beach.

Despite having to wear swim suits, conditions were perfect at Coco Beach. That is, no wind, the tide was in, and good wave conditions. Lots of fun and lots of sun – more sun than we realized. Hey? What's a nice red glow when on vacation?

The second highlight of the trip was our three visits to Cypress Cove. We were there before in 2002 and have good memories. This visit was just as enjoyable.

Imagine if you will, being able to turn off a busy four lane highway into the grounds of Cypress Cove. On the highway side is an impressive 8 foot, red brick wall, shielding the property from passersby. At the gate we presented our TNS membership card and paid the eighteen dollar per person day use fee. The gate lifted and we drove in. Immediately we passed through the RV area and then past the office and multi building hotel, to the parking area by the two pools.

Undressing at our car, we then entered the pool area. Wow! Here at last! After laying our towels on the lounge chairs, we headed to the showers, and then plunged into the pool for an introductory swim. What a total delight!

Of the two pools, we selected the original rectangular one. It seems that there's something of a self selection process. The newer free form pool is surrounded by shops, an exercise gym, a massage studio, and Cheeks bar and grill. This area seems to attract a younger crowd for the most part, while the original pool is the choice of older members and visitors.

There we were, obviously visitors made very apparent by the relative paleness of our tans. Full time residents of the Cove and members from the area are readily apparent by the deep, rich tans they possess. For the most part we were surrounded by retirees, catching the rays, chatting in the pool, or doing the daily water aerobics program and living the lifestyle they dreamed of having. Come to think of it, that's the lifestyle I dream of. Hmmm? Gotta get this figured out.

One couple we talked with were retired teachers from Maryland. After five years of living on their sailboat in the Florida Keys, they now live a few miles from Cypress Cove. We had limited conversations with a few others. I can't say the regulars made any effort to include or even speak to us – not exactly living up to the nudist reputation of being "the friendliest bunch of people in the world."

Thursday the Nudist Research Library was open. I spent an afternoon looking at their collection of books and nudist magazines. I found that they also have a folder with a few older issues of Bare Facts. The librarian warmly greeted us and encouraged Lake Edun to send them all back issues of Bare Facts to add to their collection.

Finally, we dined each evening we were there in the well run restaurant at the Cove. The food was well prepared and served. Best of all, the prices were moderate. The highlight was the live music entertainment and dance on Monday evening. It was a kick watching and participating with dancing couples both dressed and nude for the two hour program.

The atmosphere is very relaxed, the grounds are beautiful. We walked through the residential area of the Cove. The homes are all permanently placed house trailers, but all are personalized with landscaping, garages and screened in sun decks. Several properties are for sale if anyone is interested. However, don't think house trailer means inexpensive.

Given the chance, we would return to Cypress Cove any time. I think a three month RV winter stay would be just about right. Probably would get to know all the regulars. [Ed.]

"To be offended by the visual appearance of another person is prejudice, akin to racism. The right to exist, uncovered, should hold precedence over the right not to view this, for the objection is irrational." — Terri Webb

In the News

Here's an interesting story. The story's author seems to actually be able to communicate what naturists are all about, yet professes not to understand being naked. I don't have much to say about today's story. Maybe it's because I don't know what to say.

Nudists fascinate me. They are totally comfortable naked. They are naked at the pool; naked at the bar; naked on a bike ride. And, in this case, naked running a 5K race.

Nudists aren't what many non-nudists pretend they are. It's not about sexuality. It is actually the very opposite. It's about NOT exploiting the human body. At least that's how it works for this group, "Butts A'runnin."

Think about it, businesses use sex to sell everything from deodorant to cars to beer to razors to shampoo. I don't know what the percentage is but sexuality is prominent in what Americans consume in advertising. So maybe it's weird the nudists are one of the few groups NOT using it. They seem hell-bent on getting you past seeing the body as just something sexual. Who knew that standing around naked would make their point? Or in this case, running around naked.

Lake Edun Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 1982

As a naturist, I'm pleased at the tone of this piece. But, I can just imagine that some readers are thinking they aren't going to be so easily taken in like this rube reporter was. Their thoughts might go something like this: Yeah, right! Naturists are weird alright. Imagine all that nakedness, and not a product to sell in sight. A bunch of freaks for sure! Ok, I get it. There's an undercurrent of simmering, oozing, sexual tension and naturists are just fooling themselves and everyone that it's all non sexual nudity. What a sneaky bunch! I knew it all along, it's just about SEX! And so it goes. [Ed.]

Items We Need

See our website at lakeedun.com for more details.

- Non-motorized boats
- Metal Barrels
- Lawn or Lounge Chairs
- Wooden Cable Spools
- Aluminum cans, etc.
- Wheel Barrows

Why would anyone want to teach their children their bodies are disgusting, unacceptable and offensive to even look at? Why would anyone want to teach their children self shame, self disgust and to despise their body or any one else's body? Why would anyone set a bad example to their children by having prejudicial bigotry against another group of people?

Membership Application

Support Naturism. Join The Naturist Society

Topeka, KS 66601-1982 **Change of Address Form** (785) 478-BARN Please Print Name: First ______ MI ___ Last ____ Address: _State _____Zip _____ Phone: DOB E-mail Address per year may deduct \$50. One subscription to our newsletter Bare 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 fei

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.

female.) Those willing to assist with upkeep a minimum of 10 hours	Visitatio	n restrictions apply t	o 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)	<u></u>
Working Membership (Discount)	(50.00)	(50.00)	<u></u>
Separate Mailing Address for members		12.00	
No Sex, No Violence Only Nudity Naked Plays - DVI)	25.00	<u></u>
Lake Edun Exposed – Video		35.00	
Lake Edun Exposed – DVD		50.00	<u></u>
Naturist Society Membership		55.00	
Subscription to Bare Facts only		20.00	
Tax Deductible Donation - Improve our Educational Pro	ogram		
Tax Deductible Donation - Legal Defense Fund			
Total Enclosed - Check, Money Order, or Credit C	ard		
Charge my ☐ Visa; ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover #			Exp/\$
Note: There is a \$30 charge for any checks returned unpaid fo	r any reaso	n.	