



## February 2022 Federations Focus

International Naturist Federation Newsletter

# A second naturist pool in Paris

Since our creation in 1953, the **Paris Naturist Association (ANP)** has offered naturist swimming sessions without interruption. Since 1993 our headquarters have been located at Roger Le Gall swimming pool in the 12<sup>th</sup> arrondissement, where we organise swimming sessions in a 50m Olympic pool every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, as well as water aerobics classes, swimming lessons for all levels and, in our gym, yoga and gym classes plus access to our steam room. Our gym is also open on Tuesdays and Thursdays but these two sessions are reserved for our club members.

Since September 2021, we occupy a second pool in the French capital, Georges Rigal in the 11<sup>th</sup> arrondissement, on Saturday evenings from 8 till 10pm.

At this new session, we offer you the opportunity to swim in a 25m pool and to join our water aerobics class in the small pool (12.5m), heated to 33°C. These sessions are fun and sociable; the small pool has become the ANP's salon, where friends meet up on Saturday evenings for a catch up. And it's perfect for naturists visiting Paris for the weekend.

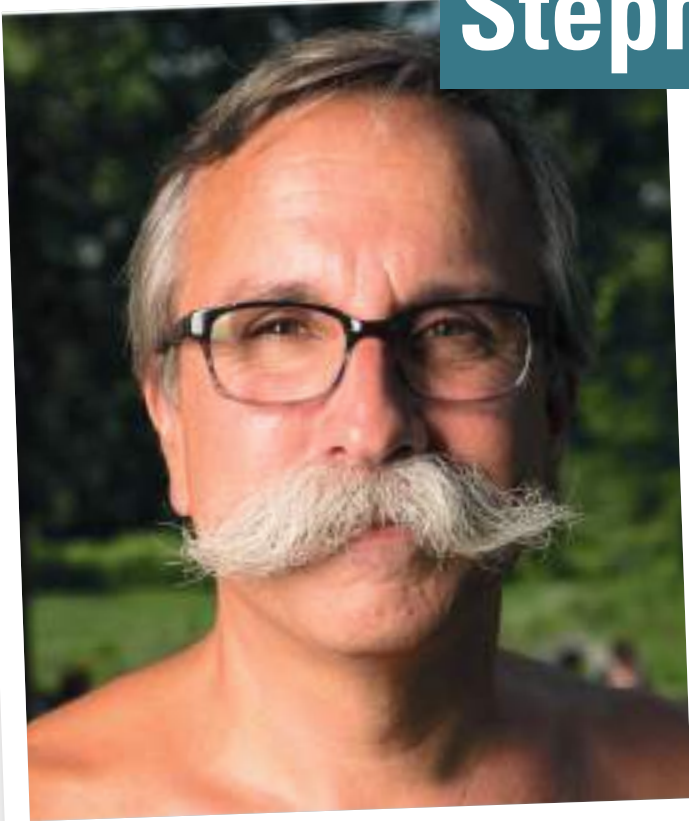
We're very much aware of the difficulties that many naturist clubs have in the search for sessions in their cities. We're lucky to have a great relationship with Paris Town Hall, thanks to whom we have 6 sessions each week. We hope that the success of our activities will encourage the councillors of other towns to offer sessions to naturists.



# Der new INF/FNI Co-President



## Stéphane Deschênes



As a result, I began to consider starting or purchasing my own club. It was obvious that I could not manage a club while employed. But I did not want to run a naturist club where decisions had to be made because of financial pressures. I wanted naturism to be the primary focus. So I decided that I needed to start another business which would support my family and me while providing the flexibility to also run a naturist club. With a friend I founded AEC Daily in 2000. It is a business which provides continuing education for architects, engineers, and other design professionals in the construction industry.

That first business gave the freedom in 2006 to purchase what is now known at Bare Oaks Family Naturist Park. At the time, the infrastructure was in dire need of improvements. Most of the 100 or so campsites were empty and membership was just over 100 people. Today we have more than 830 members and we get over 4,000 non-member visits per year. All of our campsites are full and there is a long waiting list to get one. In the fifteen years we have owned the park, it has never served as a source of income. Instead all of the revenue has been re-invested into growth and development.

In 2008 I started the Naturist Living Show podcast. At the time it was just an attempt to play with a fun new technology. But its listenership has now grown to the point where it is in the top ten percent of all podcasts.

From 2014 to 2017 I taught a course at the University of Toronto called Public Nudity - History, Law and Science. The course was quite popular and had to be limited to 140 students so there was usually a waiting list. I really enjoyed teaching the students and several of them ended up as summer staff at Bare Oaks.

I have also volunteered for a number of other community organizations such as Camping in Ontario, the association of private campgrounds for Ontario, and as president of the East Gwillimbury Chamber of Commerce. But I have resigned from these other responsibilities as I recognize the being president of the International Naturist Federation is an enormous challenge which will require my complete focus.

I was born near Montréal to a Canadian father and a Belgian mother. My family moved to Boston in the USA when I was 12 which is where I learned English. We moved back to Canada when I was 16 and settled in Toronto where I have lived ever since. I am a husband and the father of two young men that were raised as naturists.

I graduated from Wilfrid Laurier University with Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and psychology. It was around that time that I discovered naturism and visited by first naturist club. My early career was in the advertising industry and I used my marketing communication skills to help the Federation of Canadian Naturists (FCN) as a volunteer. I eventually become a board member and after several years as a director I became president.

During my involvement with the FCN it became clear to me that many naturist clubs were struggling to grow not because of a lack of opportunity but because they had failed to keep up with the times and to market themselves effectively.





When you live in Ireland, pondering a sun getaway in December with the main purpose of recharging vitamin D levels is not an original thought.

And when I chose Malta as my travelling destination, I was definitely not expecting naturism to be on the agenda. I would be more than happy to see a blue sky and some persevering sunshine.

With the islands having the reputation of being the least nudist-friendly country in Europe, where social nudity still seemed to be frowned upon, little did I know this was going to turn out a naturism-centred weekend!

Certainly, I did remember how I had had virtual contact in the past with some naturists from this part of the world. Once in my Maltese hotel in Sliema, I suddenly felt it did make sense to try to send a courtesy message to that Maltese naturist page.

Big surprise for me when Adam, the official correspondent of the International Naturist Federation in Malta, quickly reacted to my greeting. He seemed interested in meeting up, even in showing me around, and I gladly accepted.

The next hours passed in a frenzied pace. I explored Valetta on my own and met Adam towards sunset. He then explained to me that even topless bathing was prohibited in Malta, as some signs could be seen near my hotel, and nudists can get fined for it.

Nonetheless, the Maltese Naturist site displays a list of beaches where local naturists and tourists strip off in the seclusion of the surroundings:

Ġnejna Bay area with and Qarraba Bay and Ta' Ċensna, Munxar White Cliffs in Marsaskala, Slugs Bay in Mel-lieħa, Imgiebaħ Bay in Selmun, Fomm ir-Riħ Bay in Baħrija, and some remote places in the Maltese islands of Gozo and Comino.

## Focus April

**Deadline to remit articles:**  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Release of Focus latest:**  
05<sup>th</sup> April 2022

## Events

**25.02. - 27.02.2022**  
**EuNat Meeting**

**Belgrad, Serbia**

Registration form will soon be available in our open EuNat Download.

Information from NOS Serbia: <https://www.eunat.org/>



After a pleasant conversation about all things naturist, Adam offered to bring me the next day to see a couple of the spots listed on the unofficial list of nudist beaches on the Maltese Naturist website.

Only half an hour away from the capital on the northwest coast, we arrived at the popular bathing area of Ġnejna Bay Beach after leaving behind a valley of a typical Maltese landscape adorned with a traditional agricultural terraced panorama.

From there, we proceeded first to cautiously hike southwards through the concrete platforms of the dilapidated boathouses, before reaching the vegetated sea cliffs which were habitats for the endemic *Limonium* spp., Thermo-Mediterranean and pre-desert scrub and salt steppes. This landscape was also coloured also by varying hues of blue clay and limestone.



Shortly after we finally arrived at Ta' Ġensna. Looking out from the cove we were met with a stunning sight of two shades of blue coming together on the horizon. I understood then how such an off-the-beaten-track location was a favourite with naturists. We made the most of the sunny morning by sunbathing in a mild 17C heat. Later on, we changed sides of the rocky inlet and went on swimming on impressively clear waters that boasted a temperature of 19C, which felt warmer than the Irish Sea in summer. Unwilling to get dressed, we hiked back in our birthday suits until we approached the boathouses again.

In my mind I was comparing this enjoyable nude walk under the friendly Maltese sun with our harsh Irish hiking conditions from only the previous week. The force of the Irish gale had been enough to support my towel around my waist.

I paused to reflect, I couldn't believe my luck: I was getting not only the much-desired sunshine and the superb blue sky, but also experiencing naturist opportunities in breath-taking scenery in the company of the perfect naturist host, who introduced me into all aspects of the state of naturism in Malta!

Later that day we also managed to meet further members of the local naturist community. They turned out to be very knowledgeable about naturism in other countries; they could describe and compare nude resorts in France, Greece, Spain or even the Caribbean. They would also go to central European spas to properly enjoy the naked sauna culture.





Naturism in their own country appeared to be a different situation altogether. They complained about the conservative mindset of Maltese society, about the small size of the country and the high degree of connection and familiarity amongst the locals, which would not facilitate a secure feeling of anonymity when practising naturism.

It all sounded rather familiar to me... however, they fared worse than Ireland with their high population density, a factor that does not easily leave isolated areas on the Maltese coastline.

I left the island with the satisfaction of being able to forge deep friendships thanks to our common belief in

naturism, the contentment of belonging to a healthy international naturist community, and the commitment to work for the further enhancement of the naturist philosophy.

**Grazzi ħafna, hbieb tiegħi!**

(Thank you, my friends!)

**SOURCE:** <https://irishnaturism.org/maltese-naturism/>



## LE BETULLE Villaggio Naturista

Near the Alps, at 25 km from the center of Turin, 20 minutes from the airport Caselle. Caravans, plots for Recreation Vehicles and tents, completely equipped bungalows, caravans with chalet. Pool, solarium, jacuzzi and sauna. Clubhouse restaurant, petanque, mini-tennis, table tennis, Volleyball. Mountain bike circuits and trails in Park Mandria

**Sights:** Venaria Royal Palace and Park, St. Michele Abbey, Rivoli Castle, Mole Antonelliana, Egyptian Museum, Piazza S. Carlo, Basilica of Superga.

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Liechtensteiner  
Naturisten Verein





# 50<sup>th</sup> ALPE ADRIA

SOLARIS  
CAMPING RESORT

## NATURIST MEETING

CAMPING  
ADRIATIC  
by Valamar

### 05.-12.06.2022

For the 50<sup>th</sup> time, naturists from all over the world gather to participate in sports competitions. Table-Tennis, Pétanque, Chess, Pedal boat, Beach Volleyball, Cross....



Yoga, Sound meditation, Qui Gong and Creative Dance are again offered as exciting workshops this time.

We are expecting numerous registrations, exciting games and live common days under the sun of Croatia.

**INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT:**  
Jean Peters: [vicepresident@inf-fni.org](mailto:vicepresident@inf-fni.org)

Join us

