

# = PEOPLE TO PEOPLE EUROPE =

June, 2000

## Message from the president

*The annual conference of PTP-Europe in Lucerne, Switzerland on 12 - 14 May 2000 was superbly organized and executed by our Luzern-chapter. Our heartfelt thanks, gratitude and complements to this vibrant and dedicated team!!*

*Throughout the entire Weekend in Lucerne I experienced the unique, very special and positive Spirit and atmosphere of friendship amongst people from all over the globe, a true People To People event. A very special thank you to our American friends, supporters and leaders who are always igniting this spirit wherever they go.*

*Right at the very first contact with PTPI in 1997, we as a multinational family instantly appreciated the idea and purpose that we got involved shortly thereafter. This means that we are still very much in the learning phase of PTPI in general but the practical applications in particular.*

*As your newly elected President I am facing the new challenges with an open mind and much positive thinking. I am doing the utmost within the available resources besides a more than full time international job.*

*However, with the assurances of full support received by so many friends right after my election, I am confident that our team Europe will be able to make a difference.*

*Our foundation as well as key and most valuable resource are the local chapters with their good people who are doing all the work on the ground and at the front line. Therefore, I welcome and appreciate their ideas and initiatives very much and shall support them as much as possible. I even intend to call on chapters to lead and grow specific projects throughout Europe.*

*The key and instrumental person on the ground in Europe is Lars Poignant. He is doing most of the invaluable daily detail work on a professional level to support us wherever possible in our entire territory. After a constructive weekend session right after the Lucerne conference the close cooperation between Lars and myself as well as the board is well under way. We do appreciate his dedication and the full support by PTPI-HQ in Kansas City very much.*

*Our cooperation within the board shall be increased with ongoing consultations making use of all means of communication and 2-3 meetings per year. We shall strive to achieve reasonable value to the chapters for their valued contributions.*

*To entire team Europe my best wishes and that we may have an interesting and successful year in true People to People fashion. Let's go!!*

Your President PTPE-Europe  
Ernst Honegger



## Annual Conference - Lucerne, Switzerland

The European Annual meeting was simply a success. From 16 countries some 130 attendees came. Beautiful Lucerne offered very good places for accommodation and is a very inspiring town to visit.

The Friday evening reception at the Wilden Mann hotel was an excellent start and icebreaker. The conference meetings were held at the City Hall in the middle of the town. In parallel to the meetings, there were artistic exhibitions from PTP chapters, which was new for a PTP Europe Conference. In addition Ekatarina Gaidanskaia from PTP Troitsk, currently studying music in Milan, sang for all participants on Saturday afternoon.

The Lucerne chapter had organised excursions prior, during and after the conference. The Saturday boatride offered very good opportunities to discuss meeting issues, meet new chapters and to just enjoy scenic Switzerland. On Sunday the meetings continued. For those that wanted to, there was optional programs offered by not only PTP Lucerne, but also PTP in Zurich, Interlaken and Bern. The last dinner - Swiss Night - on Sunday evening gave the participants a chance to enjoy more Swiss culture and certainly make the promise to meet again next year.

### From the meeting

The European Council has a newly elected president - Ernst Honegger. Ernst comes from PTP Bern and will co-ordinate and lead the Board the next two years. Peter Whitby was re-elected as Secretary.

There were discussions on amendment of the PTP Europe Bylaws. No decisions were made. Instead a committee was formed to revise the bylaws.

### The Lucerne Committee that did it

The local Lucerne chapter did a great job. Everything went very smoothly. Many thanks to the local committee - we hope to see you next year.

### Conference Committee Members

Miriam Casas-Troxler	Lucie Hofer
Reto Limacher	Ersin Konuk
Gustavo Casas	Miguel Oetterli
Eliane Bossart	Simon Troxler

### PTP Europe Office in June and July

From mid June until July 17 the PTP office in Berlin will not be staffed. For most of the time though, fax and e-mail will be answered. For urgent matters, please contact PTP International in Kansas City.

## Berlin Youth Meeting

In mid June PTP Berlin Youth Committee organised a three day long meeting. Invited were members and non-members from all over Europe. The aim was to present Berlin as the new German capital and introduce German and European history. In addition the meeting would offer good chances for people from different countries to meet and offer opportunities for participants to discuss and develop future programs.

The program was sponsored by PTP Berlin and PTP Europe and a natural first follow up on the PTP Youth meeting in Budapest in December. In spite of initial registrations from five different countries the attendance was very low. The visiting group from Switzerland along with a participant from Nuremberg was though well accommodated in homestay during the event and had very good chance to learn about and see Berlin.

### Coming events

Brussels; Belgium - June 24	PTP Brussels invites to its anniversary dinner celebrating 30 years of PTP in Belgium.
Narva, Estonia - July 15-20	Annual Youth Summer Summit in Narva Joesuu (see below)
Zaporozhie, Ukraine - June-August	PTP Zaporozhie invites individuals and groups for 12 days in Eastern Ukraine including among other places Crimea, Yalta and Hortiza Island. There will be several groups going between June 2 and August 18.
PTP Student Ambassador Program - June/July	See below
PTP Soccer Festival in England - August 2-7	See below
Hungary August 2-8	See below
PTP International November 8-11 - Promise of Asia	PTP World Wide Conference, Hong Kong. For more information, please contact PTP
PTP World Wide Conference Optional tours - November	See below

#### Annual Youth Summer Summit in Narva Joesuu

Annual Youth Summer Summit in Narva Joesuu will be from 15 till 20 of July in the "Kajakas" sanatorium. There will be many different sessions in Global Citizenship with state and local authorities and teachers in civic. Fees is 850.- EEK (about \$55) and there will be children from Estonian chapters, several from Riga and St.-Petersburg. We invite all PTP members and non-members (13-17 years old) from all countries to participate in the summit and for homestays in Narva, Sillamae, Kohtla-Jarve and Tallinn before and after the summit.

#### Student Ambassador Program - European Discovery and Cultures of Europe

Chapters and members in Europe are offered two high quality programs through Student Ambassador Program. **European Discovery:** Rome – Florence – Venice – Carinthia – Vienna - Youth Camp – Tyrol – Salzburg – Zürich – Paris. 13 Departures between: June 27 and July 7. **Cultures of Europe:** Madrid – Toledo – Sevilla – Barcelona – Sete – Annecy – Chamonix – Geneva – Homestay – Freiburg – Paris – Paris – Paris. 26 Departures between June 7 and July 18.

#### Ambassador Programs International – Soccer Festival (August 2-7)

PTP Soccer Festival is a five-day event in early August for youth in the ages 12-19. It takes place in Sittingbourne between London and Dover in England. The festival is not only a soccer competition with teams from the US and Europe, but also a great opportunity to meet other young people.

#### Budapest meeting

The preliminary program includes one day in Budapest, one day in Pécs and one day in Győr. For the rest of the days, participants will be provided with plenty of alternative programs, from which they will be free to choose. Guides to any chosen programs will be provided. The program fee is 90 USD. This covers accommodation, 3 meal a day, local transport for six days and transportation to and from Pécs, Budapest and Győr. Accommodation is in Vac, 30 minutes north of Budapest. Application form is not yet ready, but will be sent out.

#### World Wide Conference in Hong Kong

PTP International will hold its World Wide Conference in Hong Kong November 8-11. Before and after there are different optional programs to choose from. Please contact the organiser for detailed programs.

Organiser	Tour
PTP Bern	Guangzhou/Foshan/Zhaoqing (Nov 4-6)
PTPI/Ambassador Programs International	1. Bali/Singapore (Nov 12-17) 2. Guilin Guangzhou Shenzhen (Nov 12-17) 3. Yangtze River Cruise (Nov 12-16)
PTP Berlin	New Zealand/Australia (Nov 12-Dec 3)

## Bande Dessinée and PTP Artistic Program

(by Annick Debien)

Dear friends,

I was very pleased to meet you all at the conference in Luzern. It will be an honour to organise the next conference in Angoulême next May. Before that PTP will organise an artistic program. I introduced the idea and program in Luzern and would like to explain more here.

### Comics - Bande Dessinée

I understand that comics may not be familiar to some because often we know little about this as an art. People may think it is only very poor strips with violence or a very basic language - or it is only for children. Comics are more! The city of Angoulême has had a long tradition with comics. It is the venue for the International Festival of Cartoonists, which is held every year in January and is known all over the world. The PTP Chapter in Angoulême has also had good experience and close contact to comics. We would like to show you what comics are and introduce therefore a new program for January next year.

### People to People and Cartoons

PTP has for a long time had an artistic committee and artistic programs. Art is an excellent means to communicate between cultures and people. In addition PTP at one point had a *Cartoonists Committee*. Among other things it conducted an international cartoon contest on the theme "Cartoons for Peace." People from 52 different nations submitted entries and 14 winners were announced, each of whom was awarded a medallion and a prize of \$100...

Also, in early years Charles M Schulz, the father of Peanuts (Snoopy), promoted PTP. He also made the posters for the PTP 30<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> anniversaries.

### The Picture as a Universal Language

For January 2001 the PTP Angoulême chapter plans an artistic event. Along with PTP Europe and PTPI Artistic Committee we have approached the European Council for support. The project is called "*The Picture as a Universal Language*".

The meeting will be held in parallel to the International Festival of Cartoonists in Angoulême, France, offering a unique chance for young cartoonists from different

countries to meet, share experiences and to create an international forum to discuss communication with the picture as language. The participants will come from PTP chapters or from organisations with ties to PTP ensuring that the contacts created and result displayed will be an integrated part of PTP in Europe and its associated organisations.

The event will offer an excellent opportunity to visualise intercultural issues. The result of the event will be possible to include in future PTP programs and use as source for discussions on topics such as European identity, integration and languages.

### Main programme elements

The meeting will be divided into five different parts. The general approach is to create an atmosphere where the experience of the participants can be exchanged and offer inspiration.

<b>Exchange of Experience</b>	
<b>The Picture in our Society (main theme)</b>	
<b>Professional Development</b>	<b>Practical Work</b>
<b>Exchange of Ideas after the Sessions</b>	

#### 1. Exchange of Experience

The first part will be an exhibition focusing on different young cartoonist works. Participants will have their own material for home for display. It will offer a chance to communicate ideas on different works and approaches to exchange on the importance of comics in each country.

#### 2. The Picture in our Society (main theme)

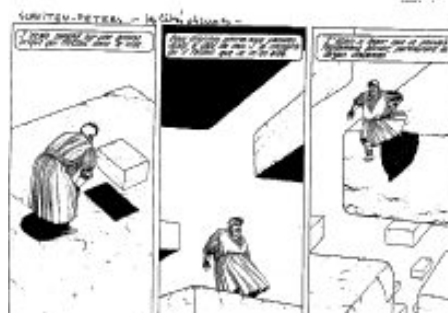
The second will focus on the place of the picture in our societies. Main topic: The construction of a universal language. If there is a universal language, what is then the place for the current/traditional languages?

#### 3. Professional Development

In order to offer career contacts and/or professional development, the third part will focus on different courses to prepare students for careers related to the pictures. There will be visits to studios and practical introductions to the use of new technologies. Visits to artistic schools and museums will also be included.

#### 4. Practical Work

The fourth part will be a practical session, where the participants will create a two or three-poster contribution of "A Story Built on a Hero and Symbols of the Human Values in the Beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium".



5. Exchange of Ideas after the Sessions  
The last part will round up the practical and theoretical experiences of the meeting. It will be a discussion on different visions of artistic work and cultural integration. It will offer a link to continued work in each organisation and society.

### **PTP Chapter Participation**

For the success of the program we depend on the European chapters. We hope to establish contact with people interested in the program as participants. It may be both chapter members and non-members.

The participants will be asked to submit samples (not more than three pages of 50\*70 cm) and during the festival they will create and realise a strip with a hero representing the positive ideas of the beginning of this third millennium.

For the sake of the programme it is important that specialised comic magazines are contacted. They can contact young artists and they surely know about the Angoulême Comics Festival. They can also be a source for sponsorship for the artists.

For the artists participating in the program, they may also participate in the Angoulême Comics Festival. The rules are usually published in September and I will send a copy to all chapters.

For the continuation of the program we would need to know by September how many would like to participate.

Please contact artists (18-25 years old) in your chapter, city or region.

Please send your contact information to me and include chapter name, contact person with address. Please indicate if you will contact;

- other people,       specialised magazines,
- journalists       young artists

The collected contributions will constitute an exhibition PTP will be able to circulate through the chapters.

I thank you in advance for your kind support and please don't hesitate to contact Lars or myself. I am sure that, if you come to Angoulême for the conference in May 2001, you will have the opportunity to visit exhibitions in the museum in order to discover it is a real complete art.

*Annick Debien, PTP Angoulême*

### **The Picture as a Universal Language**

PTP Angoulême, France

January 25-28, 2001 (during the International Festival of Cartoonists)

Language: English

Participants: 18-25 years old

Contact: PTP Angoulême no later than September 2000

## **Chapter reports**

### **Tallinn, Estonia**

#### Global Citizenship Program

PTP Estonia finished the 11-month project with Phare in Global Citizenship and continues the same program with Latvian Multicultural Centre. On February 5-6 a group of 46 pupils from the several Tallinn High schools was in Riga and led two seminars in Global Citizenship in the Classical Gymnasium, where Latvian and non-Latvian children study. PTP Estonia members told about the PTPI history and traditions and commented the 16-minute PTPI video.

The second PTP Estonia group of another 46 pupils from two Narva High schools was in Riga on March 4-5 with the same program.

The two last trips took place on April 22-33 and May 27-28. There were 50 pupils in every group. During the seminars students discuss the results of the Global Citizenship project and plans for traditional Summer Summit.

#### Other Programs

Estonian and Latvian students decided to invite the high school students from Sankt-Peterburg PTP chapter too and then involve them to the Global Citizenship project for students and teachers in civic to discuss the questions of citizenship, democracy and multiculturalism in the Baltic countries and in the world, the way to the European Union for the Baltic states.

The PTP Tallinn members from the Family club on May 26 listened to Aza Aleksandrova, Ruta Pels and Pavel Smulski about the PTP European Conference in Lucerne

and about their home-stay in the Switzerland. The stories and photos have others to be envious about this great event they unfortunately missed.

The members of Family club discussed also for PTP Arizona chapter home-stay program in Tallinn for June, 20-24. Most of young Americans in age 13-16 the first time will visit Europe and the first place for them will be old medieval capital of Estonia - Tallinn. Seven pupils and two mothers will visit Old Town, Historical and Sea museums, national park Rocca-al-Mare with old wooden farmers and seamen houses, beach in Pirita and spend the night near the fireplace on June, 23 in national Estonian holiday Jaani-paev.

In the operative plan for spring and summer 2000 PTP Estonia has:

- Tallinn PTP chapter will host the group (15-17 members) from PTP Arizona, June 20-24.
- Traditional Summer Youth Summit, in Narva-Joesuu, July.
- Kohtla-Jarve chapter will host High School students from Helsinki, Finland, July.
- Several PTP Estonia chapters will host foreign students, who will work in EstYES NGO summer camps in Estonia, June-August.
- Youth center Sinton from Narva invite PTP Estonia members and trainers in Global Citizen participate in the Summer Summit in August with own one-day program.

Ruta Pels

### **Estonia, Tartu**

Youth conference Drug Problems in Estonian Society 2000 took place in Tartu on the May 6, 2000 in the facilities of Tartu Miina Härma Gymnasium. The participants were high school students. Lectures were interactive, containing facts, different information and also giving room for discussions and questions from the participants.

The conference begun with introduction of ideas of People to People, the work of Estonian chapters and the future projects of People to People in Estonia and Europe. The topics during the main part of the conference were outlined through lectures given by Professor Jaanus Harro (chief of Department of Psychology), Drug-police officer and by psychologist Andrei Matvienkov (PTP member from Narva). The conference proceeded with group work and presentations of conclusions.

Some comments of the participants: "Thank you, it was good, it made my day" "It was good, I hope that in the future I will be able to cooperate with the organizations that were here".

Marianna Drozdova

### **Interlaken**

In May, chapter president Regina Waelti and Treasurer Christof Hemmer attended the European Conference in Lucerne. Both enjoyed the outstanding program of this extremely well organised conference very much.

After the conference, we had the pleasure to receive a special homestay guest: Peter Whitby (Chairman Board of Trustees and Secretary of the European Board). Lars Poignant, European Coordinator, visited and joined us for a Lunch in the lovely Giessbach Hotel.

Besides the ten guests our chapter hosted before and after the European Conference, we are expecting a large group of Student Ambassadors in June. Our homestay coordinator Veronika Aebi in Spiez will be taking care of these guests. End of July we'll receive another Student Ambassador group in the Interlaken area and chapter vice president Verena Frutiger will be looking after them.

Over Whitsuntide, Christof Hemmer and Andy Schwaerzler will attend the Youth Conference in Berlin.

In July, a group of seven young people - under the leadership of Isabel Haenni and Andy Guler - will travel for three weeks through the USA. They'll start their trip in Florida and later they'll have homestays in Dallas, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. All of them are very much looking forward to meeting their hosts and learning all about the American family life.

Our chapter will have a very exciting and very busy summer!

Regina Wälti

### **PTP Chapter Bern-W. Switzerland**

In April, several PTP members, including veteran, indefatigable past Swiss PTP President Dr. Otto Zimmermann were introduced to the new American Ambassador to Switzerland at a luncheon of the Swiss-American Society in Bern. A personal friend of President Clinton, Ambassador Fredericks congratulated us on the PTP cultural exchange programs and subsequently sent an encouraging message to the participants of the PTP European Conference.

Our chapter, and especially our Secretary and PTPI Trustee Otto Burri, supported actively and financially the logistics of this most successful gathering in Lucerne. Many were the attendees from Bern who returned with fresh enthusiasm and inspiration from this wonderful meeting and the contacts made or reestablished with so many friends from all over the world! 18 homestays were subsequently arranged in the greater Bern region, with excursions, dinners, a tea party and an unforgettable musical evening spent at the Moosoper performance in Otto Burri's village of Muentschemier.

Six Student Ambassador groups will be hosted in Bern this summer, out of 18 visiting Switzerland. Several receptions, tours and briefings, in addition to some 120 homestays are being arranged for them.

On August 26 takes place our traditional PTP Summer Party in Muentschemier with a tour of a Seeland vegetable growers' and wholesaler's facility.

In September, PTP Bern organizes a USA West-Coast trip with homestays for young and people of all ages, besides hosting a group of 25 Danish seniors on their way to the Verona opera! And an unbeatable, attractive and moderately priced travel package, with an optional tour in China, has been organized for the PTP Worldwide Conference in Hong Kong in November.

Meanwhile, Prof. Evans Roth, Chairman of our partner organization, the Alliance of Universities for Democracy, will have visited Zurich and Bern to establish contact with Swiss academic circles and organize the AUDEM conference in 2002 in Switzerland.

Sadly, we learned of the passing on May 20 of Dr. Max Keller, an early PTP Swiss member who was our chapter's legal advisor and auditor for many years and a former high-ranking Swiss Army officer. As a great patriot and world citizen, Dr. Keller never failed to serve his country and the cause of international understanding and peace, which he always did likewise with great dedication through the worldwide PTP community.

Daniel Schaubacher

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#### Newsletter for PTP Europe

Any written contribution is highly appreciated. The Newsletter is distributed to each national chapter. It may be redistributed within the chapters to members and non-members.

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