

= PEOPLE TO PEOPLE EUROPE =

June, 2001

Message from the President

The focus of our activities during the first part of this year was very evidently *Angoulême in the beautiful Bordeaux-Cognac region of Southern France*. The local chapter with it's *President and leader, Annick Debien* did a tremendous job!

In January 2001 they organized a *Youth Cartoonist Event "The picture as a universal language"*. Up and coming artists from many European countries did give their best during the main Annual Festival of Cartoonists in the worlds capital of cartoons. The marvellous results are available in a very nice catalogue.



International

During the weekend 11-13 May 2001 the Angoulême chapter hosted the *European Conference*. Close to 100 members and guests from 16 different countries enjoyed a great venue, very pleasant evening programs and most interesting optional tours. The picture perfect weather and our special guests from the USA, Mary, Tim, La Vicie, Dean, Anita, Nicci, Barbara and Gene (89th birthday!), did contribute a lot to an extremely positive PTP atmosphere.

Two young and committed members, *Katerina Vernitskaja from Estonia and Reto Limacher from the Lucerne chapter in Switzerland* (see more details in this newsletter), were *elected to the executive committee*. They are assuring ample representation and valuable input of the new generation in the executive. Many more younger members in the 18 - 35 year age bracket are working on Youth Initiatives to keep our organization very much on the move into a bright and positive future.

Tim Barry, Vice President of Resources Development from PTPI Head Quarters held an enlightening presentation on how and where funds can be raised in European countries. Anybody interested in specifics and details may contact Lars or me.

Ralph Beard of API in Spokane-USA presented truly interesting information on some innovative new programs and their impressive growth. Robin Deisenhammer of PDM in Vienna-Austria, the European partner of API, gave us some insight on their activities and the respective opportunities for the European PTP chapters.

Congratulations to Annick Debien and the Angoulême chapter as well as our sincerest appreciation for the great efforts and all the hard work to get a job very well done !! At the same time I want to express our *very special thank you to Lars Poignant* who contributed a lot to the success of both events !!

A very active and lively group of young Swedes will host *the next European Conference 2002 in their capital Stockholm*. Thank you very much for your initiative and we are looking forward to a special experience with the Vikings.

750 Years Gliwice in South-western Poland was celebrated on and around the weekend of May 5-6, 2001. The 5 international PTP visitors did enjoy the tremendous hospitality of the Gliwice chapter members as well as the most impressive sight seeing tours. Our sincerest thank you to Tadeusz Grabowiecki and all the members involved for a very professional job well done !!

Finally, I have a special request to all chapter Presidents. We do need the truthfully **completed Chapter Questionnaire back quite urgently, please**. This information is the basis for incentives, new programs, bursaries, fund allocations, homestays, and so on. As long as we do not have your up-dated information you are putting your chapter at a significant disadvantage, especially concerning positive development programs and Youth activities !?!?

I wish you a very nice summer with well deserved vacation and lots of new international People To People contacts. Let us spread the message and the PTP spirit to brighten the days of as many persons as possible. Think positive and keep smiling ! All the best.

Ernst Honegger

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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Annual Conference in Angoulême, France

The Annual Conference in Angoulême was a true joy. The 100 and some people that came could take part in the three day program in and around Angoulême.

Of the highlights was the Friday evening when participants met with representatives from the European Week, who also met during the week and weekend in Angoulême - and all of France. During the evening the Artistic Exhibition was inaugurated. It contained pieces from the January program and from individual members.

During the Saturday, when the weather was at its best (excellent) everybody could enjoy a trip on the River Charente to a local Cognac distillery. Also on Saturday, along with the dinner, artists offered French chansons.

Both before and after the official program PTP Angoulême offered homestay and excursions. It was very nice to notice the participation from the neighbouring cities of Poitiers, La Rochelle and Bordeaux, at which friends of PTP already know about our programs. Hopefully we will see additional chapters in the area.

All participants were happy for the event and showed their appreciation to the local organising committee chaired by Annick Debien. The enthusiastic team from Stockholm has already started to plan for next years conference. - See you there!

Angoulême Conference Participants - We could have been more

The process to prepare a conference starts a long time before the event itself. It is many days and weeks needed to get it all to work. The organising committee spent a lot of time to assist registered participants with necessary information and invitations to come to Angoulême and to enjoy the meeting as much as possible. It was very sad for all of us to notice that at the end no less than 27 people could not come due to visas not being issued. We hope that we will have better success next year and that not as many countries will need visas at that time.

People to People Tblisi, Georgia - new chapter

During the meeting a new PTP chapter was chartered. Ucha Nanuashvili from Tblisi, Georgia, received the charter from Peter Whitby, Chairman of the PTP Board of Trustees. We are very happy to have this new chapter among us. (Short presentation of Georgia below).

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the European Council was held on both Saturday and Sunday. Minutes have

been supplied to all chapter presidents. The Executive committee presented the Annual Report, which was approved. The auditor, Rolf Dahlberg, Stockholm came with productive suggestions for the continued work within the Council Board.

- the need for a loss and gain report and a balance sheet,
- the need for an inventory of sales of CD's,
- the need for minutes of Executive Committee decisions to be supplied to the Auditor to enable legitimacy of expenditure to be checked,
- the failure of 50% of European Chapters to pay their European and International dues and
- the need for the Executive Committee to define a broad policy and objectives governing expenditure and the use of European funds.

France revisited

1987 one of the first European meetings was held in France - in Poitiers one hour north of Angoulême. Hosting the event was among others Paul Militon, who was present at the Angoulême meeting and could share his memories from 30 years with PTP programs in Europe and the US with the participants.

Decisions made

During the meeting the delegates voted in favour for the following propositions:

- a) By Roman: To request financial and any other assistance from all chapters through the European Newsletter with a summer camp for girls.
- b) By Angoulême: To circulate the souvenir catalogue and report of the event for young graphic artists held January 2001, and to arrange a similar project for 2002.
- c) By Stockholm: To take urgent action to achieve payment of dues by all chapters.

Homepage gallery

Online pictures are available from the conference under: www.algonet.se/~ptp/ptpe/angouleme-photo.htm

New Board members elected

To the Executive committee of the European Board two new members were elected. Reto Limacher, Switzerland and Katerina Vernitskaja, Estonia as Treasurer and PR Officer respectively (see below).

PTP Europe Executive Committee

President	Ernst Honegger, Switzerland	emac.honegger@freesurf.ch
Secretary	Peter Whitby, England	peter_whitby@amserve.net
Treasurer	Reto Limacher, Switzerland	reto.limacher@bluewin.ch
Youth Coordinator	Annick Debien, France	annickdebien@hotmail.com
PR Officer	Katerina Vernitskaja, Estonia	k_vernitskaja@yahoo.com

Katerina Vernitskaja, PR Officer

Katarina is from Tallinn and in spite of her age is a long time member and has attended many PTP events. She currently works in Germany.

I come from the beautiful country Estonia. I am 24 years old. Two years ago I graduated Tallinn Technical University in a field of Social Sciences, in specially of Business Management. Since I was 5 years old I had a dream - to have an opportunity to travel, make new friends and meet interesting people from America, France, Germany, Russia, etc. etc. etc.! All those countries always seemed unreal to me – another world with other people, other traditions, culture, history – everything! One happy day when I met the People to People members, my dreams came true. It was very interesting to open a new World for myself. I asked questions and I got answers. The whole experience was as another chance given to me to improve myself. I got people to look up to and a new life to live.

Now PTP is my family and I have 4 years experience of working in a field of international corporate and NGO sectors, NGO management, youth and cultural exchanges, cooperation in a multicultural society. I have a million and one stories to tell. People to People opened my eyes to the world around me, and changed my life forever. Through all my trips I discovered many things that I never knew exist, and I created lifetime friendships and memories that would be in my heart forever.

I still do love sports, nature, architecture, music, art, literature, etc.; but nevertheless what I do love more is people, communication, relationships and friendships and all the aspects concerned to it.

The wide experience from PTP projects that I participated in over the Europe were able to take a global view in seeking to influence international decisions. I had a chance to communicate with all sorts of people from the age of 12 to 90 years.

Reto Limacher, Treasurer

Reto comes lives in Lucerne, Switzerland, where he works as financial officer for United Investment Corporation. He became member of PTP in 1998 and was part of the Organising committee for the European Conference 2000.

About 10 years ago I had the chance to join the AFS exchange program. I stayed with a host family and joined the high school for one year. During that time I became friends with people all over the world. After this year almost everything disappeared especially the spirit of sharing different cultures and mentalities with each other. In 1998 I came in contact with People to People. I realised that the spirit of People to People is just the same I have talked about before. Except one important difference to me: People who join People to People carry constantly the idea and the spirit: It is not over after one year. With this conclusion I had the wish to become a part of carrying this idea all over the globe and “make it happen”.

We live in a world of violence, poverty, disrespect and resentment against other people which I believe is mostly based on prejudice, unhappiness and on insufficient communication. In my opinion the activity of People to People is one of the best ways to change this situation which brings me again to the conclusion being a part of this organisation.

I am a person who likes to work out a plan, organise things and make them happen. Being a part of the organising committee of the People to People European Conference Lucerne 2000 was a lot of fun and a great experience to me. I just remember the people's happy smiles. I think it is one of the most valuable things in this world.

My opinion is that being a part of an organisation every person should do what she can do the best. From my point of view I think I could do the best for People to People by organising and administrate things. That is why I am at People to People's disposal for the position of the treasurer.

PTP Updates

World Wide Conference 2004 in Europe

The 16th Worldwide Conference will be held in Europe. European chapters are encouraged to submit applications to host the event, which is scheduled for the fall of 2004. Applications are due to PTPI Headquarters by August 15th. Please direct any questions to Karen Hoch at karenh@ptpi.org.

George W Bush as Honorary Chairman of PTP International

PTPI is delighted to announce that U.S. President George W. Bush, is "pleased to accept" the "gracious invitation" to serve as Honorary Chairman of People to People International. President Bush is the 9th U.S. President to serve in this capacity.

European Tour

One effect of the Angoulême meeting was the idea of a "European Tour". For a group of people - possibly a youth group - a 2-3 week long tour would be organised through a few European countries. The group would make stops and be accommodated at chapters, which also would be responsible for program during the stay. The participants would come from different countries securing cultural exchange during the trip. Anyone interested in working for a program like this may contact Annick Debien and/or Lars Poignant.

PTP Europe Questionnaire

Each year PTP chapters are asked to report their chapter status. The result of the questionnaire will be used to among other things update chapter contact information and level and type of activity in the chapters. So far one third of the 52 chapters in Europe have responded to the questionnaire. The non responding chapters will be sent a reminder of the questionnaire. Needless to say it would be helpful if all those would answer as soon as possible.

Closing of chapters - Grangemouth, Scotland and Crimea Ukraine

During the spring two chapters have been closed. The long time active chapter in Scotland, PTP Grangemouth, decided on their annual meeting in spring to close the chapter. The reason was among other things the declining number of members level

of activity. Sandra and James Reid have attended PTP meetings and some of us remember the 1993 European Conference in Grangemouth. PTP Crimea, chartered in 1997. Among the members Andrew Shipilov has assisted in youth programs. For now the chapter feels that there is not enough people to continue with the programs. We hope to have the individual members as good friends and hope that the contacts made during the years can continue in the future.

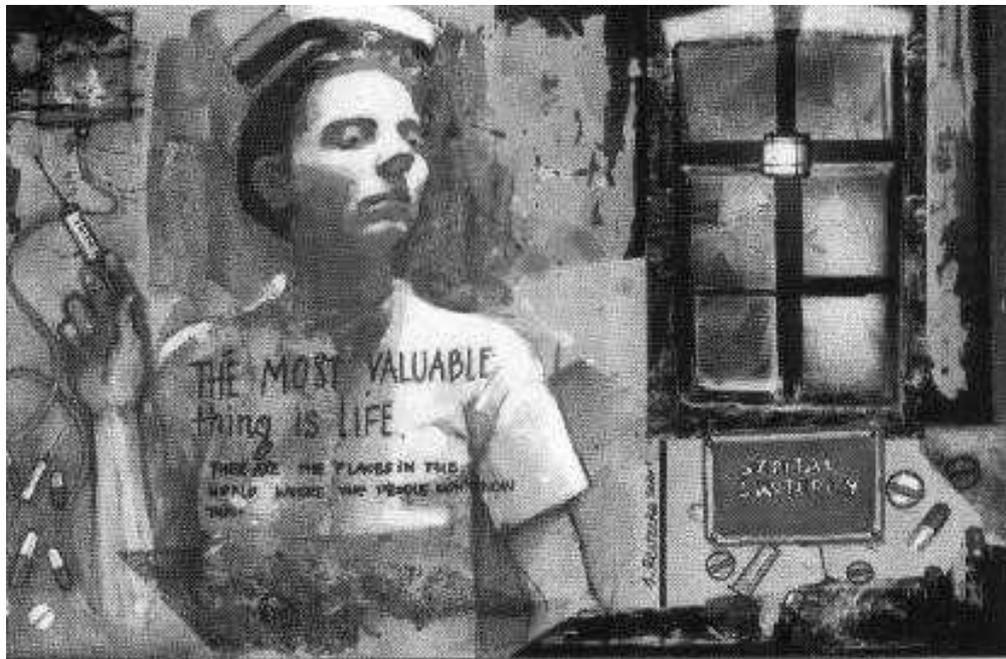
PTP 2002 Calendar

People to People International will produce a calendar for 2002. Chapter members are kindly asked to submit photographs of a favourite PTP moment and dates for 2002 special events (chapter anniversaries, meetings etc). Deadline for submissions is July 1st.

PTP Artistic Program

The pieces of work created by the young artists at the January meeting displayed at the conference is available for all chapters. So are also the slides and catalogues. They can be used for meetings with cartoonists or people interested in drawings such as art schools.

After the January meeting the Angoulême chapter received ideas and questions of a continuation of the project. If you are interested in participating in the continuation of the PTP art programs in Europe, please contact Annick Debien.



PEOPLE TO PEOPLE ARTISTIC PROGRAM

"Picture as a universal language"

Coming events

June 25	PTP Chester Annual Meeting
July 3	PTP Tallinn Annual Meeting
July 7 - August 5	PTP Estonia Summer camp in Jurmala, Latvia
July 23-August 11	Girls' camp in Romania
August 4-5	PTP Romania meets in Suceava
August	PTP Tartu Summer Camp
September 1	PTP Switzerland: All Swiss Meeting
September 6-8	Board of Trustees' meeting in Aalborg, Denmark
September 9-18	Mission in Understanding: Italy, Slovenia and Croatia
September 17	PTP Albania Annual Meeting
September	PTP Stockholm - Japanese Weekend

PTP Estonia Summer camp in Jurmala, Latvia

This years summer camp is for teenagers (13-16 years old). It will be from July 23 to August 7 in Jurmala, Latvia. It will be the part of PTP Estonia project Civil Society and Civic Education. Currently there is a group of 27 high school students from Tallinn, Tartu, Narva, Sillamae, Kohtla-Jarve, Voru (Estonia) and Riga Classical Gimnazium (Latvia). There will be several guests from the Youth Centre, Vilnius (Lithuania). Most children participated in PTP Estonia seminars in civic and were in Riga to learn bilingual teaching in Classical Gymnazium. Languages in Europe, in the world and in the Baltic countries will be one of the theme for camp discussions.

Every day children will meet representatives from the local community, Estonian and Latvian MPs, teachers and than discussions about the future of the Baltic states in the European Union. Children will visit Jurmala Town Hall and local newspaper, they will issue own newsletter.

One day will be about PTPI history, chapters and projects. The discussion will be about NGOs in the Civic Society. The last day is Republic day and children will create their own state with own Constitution, with president and parliament elections.

We invite all PTP chapters to participate in Summer camp and for homestays in Estonia before and after the camp. Please, let us know what the languages speak children, because most of discussions will be in Russian and English. Working languages in the groups are Estonian and Latvian. For more information, please contact Ruta Pels (ptpest@hotmail.com).

Girls' Camp in Romania

PTP Roman, Romania invites young girls to one of three camp sessions in Neamt, Northeast Romania. The location is near a national park and a small farming village and will be held at a "cabana" (a bed and breakfast type accommodation).

All sessions will have activities based on the idea that young women benefit from an atmosphere where their skills and talents aren't compared to boys or perfect girls in magazines.

Grade	Time	Theme
9-12	July 23-July 28	business and leadership
7-8	July 30-Aug 4	sports and adventure
5-6	Aug 6-Aug 11	health and environment

The costs for participants will be kept low but the final amount is not set yet. The program has received support from PTP and the US Peace Corps.

Here in Vanatori-Neamt we are making preparations for a fun and exciting summer. This camp will be a week of learning, excitement, and new friends. Our mission is to provide a healthy, supportive environment where young girls feel safe and are encouraged become leaders of their communities. At camp you will learn all sorts of useful information, interesting facts, and just plain fun stuff. Plus, it will give you an excellent chance to practice English!!

Jennifer Rachels, Erin Belitskus and Robin Hong, co-organisers

The US Peace Corps has about 150 volunteers in Romania teaching English or business skills, working for environmental protection, or helping unfortunate families. The volunteers live in the country for two years and learn Romanian language and about the local culture.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Rachels, PTP Roman j_rachels@lycos.com, j_rachels@mailcity.com +40 (0)95-675003.

PTP Romania meets in Suceava

PTP has increased its contacts in Romania. At the European Conference in Angoulême, "People of Sibiu for Peace " was represented by Andrea Telea. Since before PTP has contacts with representatives in Suceava. From Suceava, Florin Stan initiated a PTP meeting at which both local possible members would be invited and all PTP chapters in Romania. There are currently four chapters in Romania: Bucharest, Constanta, Cluj and Roman. The details on the meeting are not decided on yet. More information will follow for all Romanian chapter members and some.

Tartu Summer camp in Valgemetsa

In August PTP Tartu is organizing an international youth summer camp in Valgemetsa, Põlva county, Estonia. During the summer camp young people aged 14-18 of different nationalities living in Estonia will present their cultural folk dance and music, will also participate in project-management training and different sports activities. Dates are not set, but will probably be either August 23-28 or 24-29. More information is available from chapter president Marianna Drozdova (marianna1901@yahoo.comDrozdova).

Annual Swiss Meeting

The Lucerne, Switzerland Chapter is hosting the Annual Swiss Meeting on September 1. Homestays are available for this event and highlights will include a boat ride on Lake Lucerne and a luncheon in the Swiss Alps. For further information, we encourage you to contact Chapter President Miriam Casas-Troxler via email: casas@tic.ch.

Board of Trustees Meeting, Aalborg, Denmark

The Board of Trustees Meeting Early Bird Deadline is fast approaching! The Board of Trustees Meeting will be held in Aalborg, Denmark, September 6-8. The Board of Directors Meeting is September 6-7, and the Board of Trustees Meeting

is September 8. Chapter Presidents are welcome to participate. Please remember that Early Bird Registration is July 1! Registration forms should be sent to Headquarters, attention Karen Hoch. karenh@ptpi.org.

Mission in Understanding - Italy, Slovenia and Croatia

A Mission in Understanding to Northern Italy, Slovenia and Croatia led by PTPI President, Bill Jarvis, is scheduled for September 9-18. Through Ambassador Programs International the following Missions in Understanding are planned. For details about the Missions in Understanding, please contact Kristi Wheeldon (kritiw@ambassadorprograms.org)

Central Europe Cruise	July
Greenland & Iceland	July
Mongolia & Manchuria	August
South Africa	August
Scotland, Ireland	September
Bucharest, Vienna, Istanbul	September
Italy & Croatia	September
Bahrain, Saudi Arabia	October
Peru & Bolivia	October
Malaysia & Borneo	November
Australia	November
Cuba	November
Costa Rica	December

The American West - the Old and the New

PTP member and Trustee Penny Pipkin Edwards suggest a trip to US for a group of ten people. In fact there are two suggested trips as the details are not set, but anyone interested may contact PTP or Penny (PenEdwards@aol.com). The estimated cost would be around 2.000 USD not including international airfare.

Tour A: Roundtrip to Dallas, Texas

Overnight in **Dallas**. Next day van trip to Matador, Texas (a six hour drive).

Day 2, 3 and 4: Ranching community of **Matador** with homestays, cattle branding, roping, country western dancing, horseback riding, hiking, cattle roping - a real experience of the American West as it was 50 to 80 years ago.

Day 5: **Lubbock**, Texas - home of Buddy Holly rock & roll star. Visit to Museums, entertainment, cowboy heritage, and shopping.

Day 6: **Amarillo**, Texas, with an evening performance of the professional musical performance, "Texas". Visits to western artists galleries, antiques, Route 66 shops, American Quarter Horse Assn.

Day 7 - 10: Van trip back to **Dallas** - Ft. Worth to experience the "New" West. Homestays at least two nights. Visits to Museums, Kennedy Assassination spot, "Six Flags Over Texas" amusement park, professional baseball game - The Rangers, shopping.

11th Day: **Departure**.

Tour B: Roundtrip to Phoenix, Arizona.

Overnight in **Phoenix**.

Day 2: Fly to **Lubbock**, Texas. Same activities as for Tour A.

Day 3: **Lubbock**

Day 4: **Amarillo**

Day 5 and 6: **Matador**, Texas

Day 7: Return to **Phoenix**.

Day 8, 9 and 10: **Phoenix, Scottsdale and Tucson**, Arizona. Homestays for at least one night, trip to Indian Reservation, museums, desert experiences, and shopping. Country western dancing and great restaurants.

Day 11: **Departure**

US Chapters and Homestays

Below is the current list of US chapters. The list will be updated in the fall. For information on homestays, members are kindly asked to contact the Kansas City office for assistance. Jewel Stofferle (homestays@ptpi.org). Chapters with an asterisk (*) have not shown any interest in hosting visitors for 2001.

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|---|--|---|
| <p>Alabama
 1. Baldwin-Mobile *
 2. Montgomery *</p> <p>Arizona
 3. PTP Arizona (Scottsdale)</p> <p>California
 4. El Dorado County *
 5. Golden Gate/San Francisco *
 6. East Bay Connection (Fremont, Dublin)
 7. Stockton/San Joaquin Chapter
 8. Greater Los Angeles
 9. Los Angeles County (Pasadena)*
 10. Orange County
 11. San Diego</p> <p>Colorado
 12. Northern Colorado *</p> <p>Delaware
 13. Delaware (Greenville) *</p> <p>D.C., Virginia, Maryland
 14. National Capitol Area *</p> <p>Florida
 15. Greater Palm Beach Area
 16. Delray
 17. Coral Gables</p> | <p>Illinois
 18. Abraham Lincoln (Barry, Pittsfield)</p> <p>Indiana
 19. La Porte
 20. Lafayette Area *
 21. Central Indiana (Franklin)*</p> <p>Iowa
 22. Iowa Council for Int'l. Understanding (ICIU) (Des Moines)*
 23. AIPT Americans Abroad (Des Moines)*
 24. Oskiowa (Oskaloosa)</p> <p>Kansas
 25. Sunflower/KC *</p> <p>Michigan
 26. Sault Ste. Marie
 27. Saginaw
 28. Midland
 29. Oakland Area
 30. Birmingham-Bloomfield
 31. Ann Arbor *</p> <p>Minnesota
 32. Minnesota (Burnsville) *</p> <p>Missouri
 33. Greater Kansas City
 34. Greater St. Louis
 35. St. Charles County</p> | <p>Montana
 36. Ennis</p> <p>Nevada
 37. Southern Nevada (Las Vegas)</p> <p>New Jersey
 38. Greater Trenton
 39. Jersey Shore (Red Bank)</p> <p>New Mexico
 40. New Mexico (Albuquerque)*</p> <p>New York
 41. Buffalo/Niagara Falls
 42. Albany/Capital District Area</p> <p>Ohio
 43. Buckeye (Westerville)*</p> <p>Oklahoma
 44. Global Oklahoman (Oklahoma City) *</p> <p>Tennessee
 45. Nashville Area *</p> <p>Texas
 46. Greater North Texas
 47. Lone Star (Burleson)
 48. Austin Capital
 49. San Antonio</p> <p>Wisconsin
 50. Green Bay
 51. Sheboygan</p> |
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Chapter reports

Below are reports based on material directly submitted and/or chapter newsletter. Chapters are welcome to send material to have published at any time.

Angoulême, France

The chapter in Angoulême was very pleased to welcome all the participants. It was a good opportunity to motivate all the members and it is a real pleasure to receive all the thanks from the participants from all the different countries. The new chapter in La Rochelle is being created and all the families who hosted people from the conference were very pleased. Pleased were also the members in Poitiers, where also homestay was offered.

We all received cherries from the chapter in Céret and we discovered we can find together new activities. (In France we say that the first cherries come from Céret).

We would encourage the chapters to organise such conferences to find news ideas of activities or meeting as the one with the cartoonists in January. We must have initiative to go to a new public, to reply to news questions from the people and to go to the young. Many people want to speak to people from all over the world, we can do this but we must find new motivations to put people in contact.

I would like to remind everybody that we now have a perfect PR tool in the pieces of art from the January program along with slides and catalogue. In addition I would like to suggest that any one interested in a European Tour, please let us know. (Annick Debien)

Bern, Switzerland

PTP Bern had its Annual meeting in March. As new president was Ernst Honegger elected. He has served as vice President until now. The motto for continued programs will be *Having friends all over the World*". Among other things the chapter will, with the help of Graham Tritt, create a homepage for all Swiss chapters. (Otto Burri)

Interlaken, Switzerland

The chapter had its Annual meeting in early March. They will host several groups from the US during the summer. The chapter also continues to support PTP Troitsk member Ekaterina Gajdenskaja during her music studies in Genoa, Italy. (Regina Wälti)

Gliwice, Poland

Gliwice chapter planned since over a year to celebrate 750th anniversary of the city together

with PTP friends throughout the world. Very many people showed their initial interest in participation but finally only a few arrived.

The event, originally called Great World Meeting: Gliwice - three quarters of a millennium in the borderland of three nations, languages and cultures lasted for 5 days from 4 through 8 of May. The guests had a choice of staying in a hotel or having homestays

All our guest were welcomed at the Gliwice/Katowice airport and driven to their hotel or home. The event started with dinner with Gliwice chapter members. Later our guests listened to the concert (oratorium "Creation of the Universe" by Haendel performed by Silesian Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir).

Most of the next day was sightseeing of Gliwice and surroundings. In the evening the guests watched the open-air performance of the classical operetta "Night in Venice" performed by Gliwice Musical Theatre. The day ended with a glass of beer at the old brewery converted to a fashionable restaurant and night stroll in the Old Town.

On Sunday our guests had an opportunity to learn about the history of the town and region when visiting two city museums and listening to the lectures. In the afternoon they were offered an opportunity to watch and listen to the highlanders folk group and a performance based on the Apocalypse. The latter took place in the ruins of the Gliwice theatre. The theatre was destroyed by Russian troops leaving Gliwice in 1945. Now it was partially rebuilt to enable having performances there but with preserving a truly unique charm of ruins.

Monday was an industry day. It began with a visit to a very modern steel mill (one of the most modern in Europe) and to the old foundry specialising in casting monuments. Monuments produced in this foundry can be found on every continent and in almost every country in the world. The afternoon was more cultural - visits to some picture galleries and an organ concert in the Gliwice cathedral organised in the framework of the International Organ Festival - Gliwice Days of Organ Music.

In the morning of the last day we visited Gliwice green house - the second biggest in Poland. Later our guests were driven to Auschwitz to visit former Nazi concentration camps Auschwitz-

Birkenau. The day as well as the whole event ended with a banquet

Those who stayed in Gliwice after the meeting had a chance to visit medieval salt mine in Wieliczka and palace in Pszczyna.

At the end every guest was driven to the airport of Gliwice/Katowice. We hope the event was a success even if the number of participants was much smaller than expected as the guest seemed to extremely enjoy their stay. (Tadeusz Grabowiecki)

Lucerne, Switzerland

The Lucerne Chapter had its Annual meeting in March and to the board Anna Bühler, Reto Limacher and Simon Troxler were elected. The chapter will host the all Swiss meeting in September and will hold the first "International Night" at the Glaubenberg in October. After the Angoulême meeting the chapter considers forming a sister chapter alliance with the PTP Buckeye chapter (Ohio, US). (Miriam Casas-Troxler)

Roman, Romania

PTP Roman has the We have now a Peace Corp volunteer working with our chapter. Her name is Jennifer Rachels. Here are some of the activities we are doing now:

PTP English Essay Competition for the primary schools in town. The local press and TV are already advertising the event. This will be a contest sponsored by our chapter. There will be a preliminary essay, done by any child who wishes to compete. From those preliminary essays, due March 9th, we will choose the students who will compete in the real competition March 31st. There will be eight prizes.

GLOW Camp-Jennifer Rachels, Robin Hong and Erin Belitskis (TEFL) have written and won a grant in the name of PTP Chapter to hold a four week long GLOW camp this summer. The theme is The Empowerment of Women. The participants will be from several counties and will be determined by an English essay competition, then an interview. The competition will be in May. Jennifer will do the Risk Management Plan and participant packet, which will contain information about the program and a packing list for campers. By chance she met Princess Lea of Romania and she pledged to help us with the camp. We have sent her a copy of the grant with a letter of introduction from PTP Roman.

PTP English Discussion Class on Modern World Civilisation. Jennifer meets about eight high school students every Friday for an hour to discuss modern world civilisation. They discuss

topics like human rights, civil rights, NGOs, etc. (Sorina Danciu)

Stockholm, Stockholm

PTP Stockholm is happy to host the 2002 European Meeting. Before that the chapter plans together with International Friendship Center, Tokyo a reunion for the some 160 participants in the program. The program has been working for over 15 years. The reunion will consist of two parts - one day/weekend in Stockholm in September and an event planned by IFC in Tokyo in late September/early October.

Tallinn, Estonia

PTP Estonia started that year another project in democracy "Civil Society and Civil Education" for high schools students and teachers in civic. There were four seminars and one-week winter camp in the end of February. Twice Estonian groups of students were in Riga Classical Gymnasium and one group from Riga was in Tallinn for two days trip. The main themes for discussions are democracy and civic society in the Baltic countries, citizenship and multiculturalism, the way for Baltic to the European Union.

Four PTP Estonia members participated in PTP Europe meeting for cartoonist in Angoulême in January. PTP Estonia helped for three Russian cartoonists to go there as well.

Estonian National TV made half-hour program about PTP Estonia - one of the old NGOs in Estonia. Members of Family Club told about homestay program, teachers and students - about programs in democracy and Global Citizenship, "April-Club" - about programs in culture. There was background information about PTPI and PTP Europe and PTPI conferences.

April 25-29 Aza Aleksandrova from PTP Tallinn hosted Ruth van der Loo from Zurich chapter. It was very nice homestay, and Zurich chapter suggest to organise every year at least one homestay for member from Zurich in Estonia and one homestay for PTP Estonia member in Switzerland. Our chapters decided to be sister-chapters, and during the European Conference in Angoulême we discussed this project further.

Three PTP Estonia members participated in PTP Europe Conference in Angoulême. Katerina Vernitskaja from PTP Tallinn was elected to the European Boarder.

PTP Estonia will host guests from USA (Arizona chapter), from Germany (Berlin chapter), from Latvia and Russia during the summer holidays, 14-year boy from PTP Tallinn is going to Angoulême (France) for homestay.

Julia Samogina from PTP Tallinn will participate in June in the International conference in civic and human right in Tallinn.

Tartu, Estonia

Three young artists from Tartu participated in the "Picture as a Universal Language" meeting of artists-cartoonists organised by People to People Europe that took place in Angouleme, France in January 2001 during the 28th Festival of the Cartoons. The artists also contributed their works for the exhibition.

In February 2001 one of the members of PTP Tartu Chapter Kadri Kiiskman started her work as a volunteer in the Activity Occupational Center Cercimarante for young people with disabilities in Amarante, Portugal. The work is connected with co-ordinating an artistic project in the center and also assisting in physiotherapy. The service is organised through European Volunteer Service program. Kadri will continue working in Portugal until February 2002.

People to People Estonia was represented by Ms. Marianna Drozdova on the study session on the influence of Media in the society „Brave New World“. The meeting took place in European

Youth Center, Strasbourg during 4th-11th February, it was organised by International Young Nature Friends organisation. Themes discussed on the meetings were connected with Gender Roles in Media, Media and politics, NGOs in Media, Ethics and values in media campaigns. The participants were representatives from different youth organisations from more than 20 countries all over Europe.

People to People Estonia will be represented on the International Study Session Minority Course 2001 for young people active in NGO-s by ms. Marianna Drozdova, president of People to People Tartu. The course will take place in Aabenraa, Denmark during 22 July – 11 August 2001. Among the participants in the course are 65 young people from different organisations in Eastern and Western Europe, representing minority and majority groups in their countries. Themes that will be discussed on the session are: importance of cultural rights, regionalism/autonomy, the EU-enlargement, participation on a European level. As a result of the study session from the articles written by the participants will be compiled the “Catalogue of European Ideas and Impressions” booklet. (Marianna Drozdova)

Georgia - A short Presentation

Georgia has a long history and a country with old culture. It borders to Russia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Turkey and was part of the Soviet Union. Now it is a republic with its capital Tblisi. The official language is Georgian, which is spoken by 71% of the 5 million inhabitants.

Georgia is at the junction of Europe and Asia, and this has led to a diverse, moderate culture developing over thousands of years. According to ancient tradition, when God was handing out land to the peoples of the planet, the Georgians were too busy eating and drinking and arrived late. God told them that there was no land left, and the Georgians told him that they had been toasting his health. They invited God to join them, and he had such a wonderful time at the Georgians' table that he gave them all the land he had been saving for himself. Truly God's own country.

Food in Georgia is one of the biggest attractions for visitors, and is the centrepiece of domestic cultural activity. Part of this family focus, and an unusual phenomenon for foreign visitors, is Georgian meal-time. Complicated ritual relationships are manifested in it. The table is led by tamada, who proposes traditional toasts throughout the meal. To the outsider, it can seem as though nothing is done before everyone drinks to it. It's best not to toast while drinking beer; it's regarded as a subtle insult.

The Georgian alphabet includes 33 symbols (5 vowels and 28 consonants). The shape of the letters is absolutely unique and it cannot be compared to any other existing alphabet.