

= PEOPLE TO PEOPLE EUROPE =

October, 2002

Message from the President

Another summer of very diversified PTP chapter activities is coming to a close as cold arctic air has started to intrude into our region. Please allow me to mention just one or two **highlights of European events and programs**, which I am aware of. The **first PTP-ESL-Camp in Narva-Estonia organized by PTP Estonia** appears to have been a great success based on what I heard from students, teachers, organizers and Lars! Despite some tense moments and commotion, unexpected surprises and very short term improvising, everybody involved has been enriched by a new and unique life time experience. Such feedback is most gratifying to all the great sponsors and I want to express my appreciation for all the generous support received. Congratulations and a big thank you to PTP Estonia with its leader Ruta Pels and to the volunteer American teachers from Germany for a job very well done so well indeed that it should be repeated next year!

The **Student Ambassador Program Europe** did exceed the rather low expectations after 9-11 of 2001. Therefore, a great number of American High School Students and their group leaders were afforded the culturally unique experience of a home stay. 9 out of 10 young visitors do rate their European home stay as **the highlight** of their 3-week trip!

Once more I am asking the **chapter presidents and their board members** to write to Lars Poignant and/or Otto Burri and/or me and Cindy Spake **about your chapter activities** that we may spread the news and stay informed of all your commendable efforts.

Based on the decisions taken at the Annual Meeting 2002 in Stockholm-Sweden the European Executive Committee (EEC) did follow up on **chapter questionnaires and annual dues**. Unfortunately and despite many contacts and reminders, some chapters are still not in compliance and some do not even reply thus leaving us no other option but to recommend dis-chartering and closure to PTPI-HQ. We do not like this step at all but we are obliged to uphold our basic rules and to maintain fairness.

During the weekend of 13-15 September 2002 Reto Limacher, Lars Poignant and I visited **Roman in Northeastern Romania, the location of our PTP Europe Annual Conference 2003**. The trip itself with a one way scenic drive of 4 hours between Bucharest Airport and Roman was unique, the presence of and the hospitality by the PTP members of the Roman Chapter with its President Sorina Danciu was most impressive and the preparations for the conference right on target. We left with an excellent impression and great confidence in the very capable Organizing Committee with business professionals of all levels and disciplines. Thanks a million to Sorina and all chapter members which includes the town's Mayor!! Look out for the upcoming news on **our major event 29 May to 01 June 2003** and do plan your vacation around these days in a wonderful, yet widely undiscovered country! Do join us in a special meeting and happy celebrations where the YGs (Young Generation of 18-35 year olds, our future leaders!) from throughout Europe are planning to be omnipresent.

Now, I hope to see many of you at this year's **World Conference in Kansas-City 9-13 October 2002**, the location of PTPI's Head Quarters where you can meet the hard working staff.

I wish you all the very best throughout the autumn season; keep well and smiling.

Your President Ernst Honegger



International

PTP Open meetings

PTP has held three "open meetings" the last months:

In Prague, Czech Republic, 15 members and some new showed up for a meeting at the Technical Museum. The meeting was hosted by Dr Ivo Janoušek and was also attended by Ambassador Julian Niemczyk Chairman Emeritus of PTP International. During the meeting Mr Michael Rainey offered his assistance to coordinate the chapter efforts during the fall.

In Bratislava, Slovakia 20 interested members and some met to hear about PTP programs and organisation. A provisional committee was formed under the guidance of Sona Macugova. Attended the meeting did also Marian Gajdos, President of PTP Banska Bystrica.

In London, England a first meeting for a possible start of a chapter was held in September. Also here PTP programs and organisation were discussed. The group decided to meet again in November.

PTP Estonia Summer Camp with English Classes

For two weeks in July PTP Estonia held its annual youth summer camp. The program consisted of civic program, English classes, sports and fun. Estonian teachers and members set up the detailed and comprehensive civic program. For the English classes six teachers of English (five from the US and one from the Netherlands) volunteered for the program.

The summer camp has been offered for many years by PTP Estonia. Young members come from all over Estonia and this time also from Ekaterinenburg (Ural Mountains, Russia). The English classes were a nice addition to the program and the teachers were very well received in Narva. The participants had classes both mornings and afternoons.

PTP Estonia offered homestay in Tallinn to the teachers, who also visited Helsinki (Finland) and St Petersburg (Russia) before they returned home to Frankfurt, where most of them currently work.

European Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive committee of the European Board held its fall meeting in Roman, Romania. During the weekend, which was very well organised by the local Roman chapter through Sorina Danciu, the committee met with the Organising Committee of the European Conference May 2003 to outline the event. The weekend long visit to Roman also offered a good chance to meet with members and local officials such as the Roman Mayor Dan Ioan Carpusor. Local media (newspaper and TV) met at the PTP press conference.

The board decided to allow the last nine non-responding chapters until October 15th to respond about their interest to remain as PTP chapters. After that PTP Europe will report the non-communication to PTP International.

Coming events

Time	Event	Homepage
October 9-13	World Wide Conference in Kansas City, USA	www.ptpi.org
October 9-13	Global Youth Forum in Kansas City, USA	www.ptpi.org
November 11	Zürich Christmas Dinner	
December 7	Brussels Christmas Dinner	www.ptpe.org/programs/brussels-december-7.htm
May 30-June 1, 2003	PTP Europe Annual Conference in Roman, Romania	www.ptpe.org/roman2003
Summer 2003	European Caravan of Youth Envoys	

Mission in Understanding: China and Cuba

Planned so far for the spring are two "Missions in Understanding"

Questions related to these projects should be addressed to: Marc L. Bright, Vice President-Special Programs, People to People International. Phone 816-531-4701 ext. 103; Fax 816-561-7502; Email marcb@ptpi.org.

Education and Humanitarian Initiative to China

April 3-13, Co-Hosted by:

- People to People International and
- Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

Delegation leader: Katheleen Betts, Board of Directors, people to people international

2003 President's Educational and Humanitarian Initiative to Cuba

April 10-19, Co-Sponsored by:

- People to People International
- Friendship Force International

Delegation leader: William Jarvis, President, People to People International

European Caravan of Youth Envoys

People to People will next summer organise a three-week program for 40 youth (20-25 years). This first time meeting is based on the experience of Student Ambassador Program for US High School students. The program consists of a series of meetings in and with 4-5 communities in Europe. There are three basic aims:

During the program the participants will meet with representatives from different communities, who will introduce their communities with emphasis on a youth perspective: level of youth community involvement, means and level of community's international contacts and identify initiatives to increase awareness of developing European countries. The participants will as envoys promote discussions to compare the identified issues.

We anticipate that many young PTP members will be able to participate in this exciting program, which has received funding from the European Council, Strasbourg. Program details and invitations will be ready in January.

Chapter reports

Interlaken

Autumn finds our leaves turning gold in the shortening days, and our hearts, once again, warmed by golden memories of our summer visitors. This summer Chapter Interlaken hosted 47 guests: a group of 41 students and 4 leaders from Illinois, and a couple from Chapter Las Vegas.

On August 17, when we gathered with the host families in a little house in the forest for food, fun and feedback, we heard that the host families, once again, had incredible experiences with their homestays.

The work of PTP goes on, across the generations. Our own 20 year old Marie-Anne Aebi, a second generation PTPer, will represent Chapter Interlaken in Kansas City at the Worldwide Conference.

Ronnie Blakeney

Chester

On September 8th the chapter had an enjoyable tea party with nice weather and collected some £180 towards incoming visitation next year.

Between October 7 and 19 the chapter will host Christian from Switzerland. Three other programs are planned for the fall:

October 23: Visit to Manchester with a visit to the new museum "Urbis", which is all about life in Worldwide cities.

October 26: Justin Burns, one of the Lake-wood students in the past will be performing at the Stockport Town Hall.

November 24: For Thanksgiving celebrations a canal boat has been arranged, which will surely offer a relaxing way to enjoy the Sunday.

Heather Exell

Brussels

More than 50 guests were welcomed on Saturday evening, June 29, 2002, for cocktails in the panoramic "Plein Ciel" banquet room on the 27th floor of the Hilton Hotel in Brussels by an attentive Brussels PTPI Chapter committee, to celebrate the 32nd anniversary of the establishment of PTPI in Belgium. After personal introductions and a tour of the large bay windows giving a unique view on the European capital, the guests enjoyed a delicious dinner.

A lady committee kindly made sure that each guest would receive a prize in the drawing of a tombola - a small gift reminiscing everyone of this festive occasion. Suddenly, the lights were dimmed; the waiters rolled in the anniversary ice-cream cakes brightened by fireworks. The dinner occasion was concluded by "evergreens" played by a polyvalent band; no one could resist joining the dance floor.

Denise Maurice, Blanche De Coster, Marie Louise Smeets and the other active board members of the Brussels chapter deserve our warmest appreciation for "keeping PTPI's colors flying" over the European capital, and organizing a most convivial and enjoyable dinner dance marking 32 years of continuous activities of PTPI in Brussels.

On September 23, at a tea party at the Hotel Hilton in Brussels, Denise Maurice honoured Irene de Molinari, a dedicated veteran member and past Treasurer (for some 20 years) of the Brussels PTPI Chapter, on the occasion of her 101st Birthday.

On Saturday, December 7, PTP Brussels will host its traditional Christmas Dinner Dance at the Hilton Hotel in Brussels. On September 11, Daniel Schaubacher spoke at the town hall of Koekelare, a city in West Flanders, which may result in the establish-

ment of a PTP Chapter in the Flemish part of Belgium, near the historic city of Brugge.

PTP Brussels has drawn up an active program for the Fall and early Winter, including excursions to Holland, Antwerp, Namur, and visits to concerts and to the great sights of the inner city of Brussels, and of the Royal Cathedral of SS Michel and Gudule.

PTP Brussels cordially invites visitors from other PTP chapters to its activities, especially to the Christmas Dinner Dance, December 7.

For additional information, contact Denise Maurice, President, PTP, 29 av. Minerve Box 27, B 1190 Bruxelles, Belgium Tel/Fax + 32 (0) 23 45 68 54.

www.ptpe.org/programs/brussels-december-7.htm

Daniel Schaubacher

Zürich

Chapter Zürich hosted this summer Raquel Mendez-Krebs and Philip Krebs from the Southern Nevada Chapter and 15 student Ambassadors.

On August 31 was the annual Swissmeeting, this year organized by our Chapter. 25 members from all 4 Chapters and as a special guest Hans-Dieter Robel from Berlin, walked from Stammheim to Stein am Rhein.

A cityguide showed us this special place and told in an interesting way about his history. The meeting ended with a boat trip on the river Rhein to Schaffhausen.

We invite you for our traditional Christmas dinner, which will be held on November 11/02 at the Restaurant Canard in Zürich. For further information please contact Peter Morger, people-zh@bluewin.ch

Peter Morger

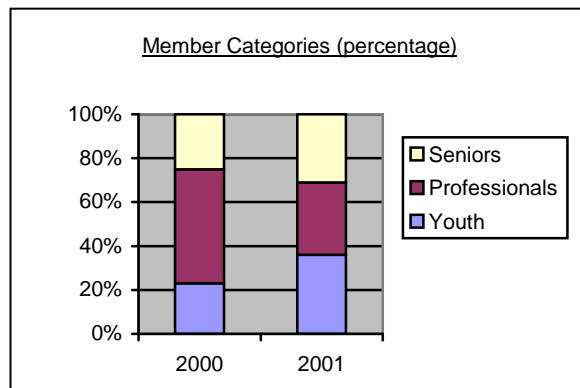
PTP European Chapters – a Review

In February the annual chapter questionnaire was sent out to all European Chapters. Until September 40 of 51 chapters have responded to the questionnaire. Below is a summary of the questionnaire with comparison to last year's result. Please notice that the questions for the questionnaire were for last year: 2001.

Number of chapters and members

During the year seven chapters have been closed and one chartered. The number of *reported* members has increased to 935. The distribution of ages is fairly even for 2001 with almost a third of each member category. Most chapters report that members belong to one or at the most two membership age groups.

	2000	2001
Charters (beginning)	52	52
Closed chapters	2	7
New Chapters	1	1
Members	784	935



Programs and communication

The most reported program is *homestay*, which for 2001 (2000) was indicated by 21 (19) chapters. 6 (7) chapters reported artistic programs as a main activity. 14 (7) indicated that "English as a Second Language" was a chapter program.

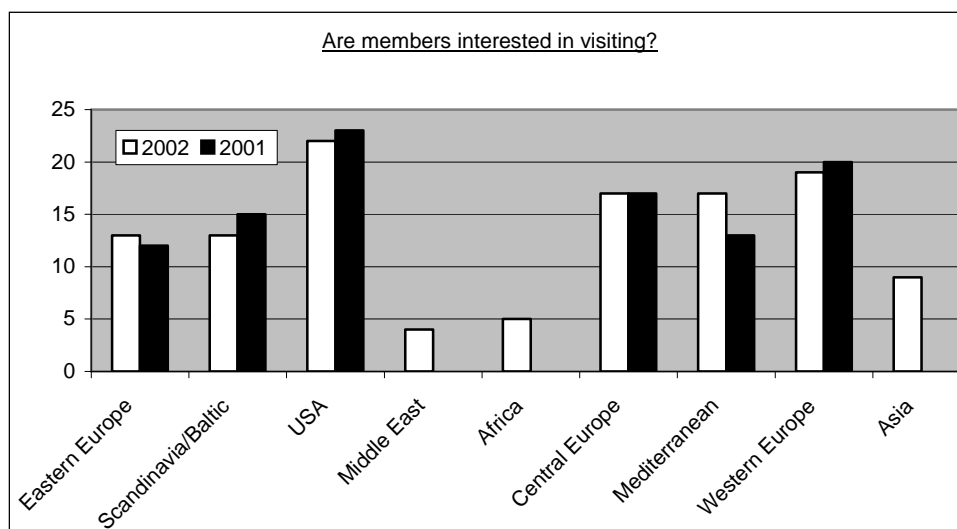
For the homestay program 411 (400) visitors were reported. There is a big difference between most chapters with 1-5 visitors and chapters hosting Student Ambassador groups. (Denmark alone hosted 700 visitors 2000, here excluded from the summary to allow comparison).

13 (9) chapters reported that they have a youth committee.

10 (10) chapters have own homepages.

Visiting countries

From 2000 the chapters were asked which regions the chapter members would like to visit. Multiple answers were possible. 30 chapters (24) responded in total. There was no significant difference from 2000. For 2001 Middle East and Africa were added as options.



Comments about People to People in European

Some comments from various chapters:

Program development

- *To develop and co-ordinate more various programs that would unite different chapters, apart from annual meetings and conferences, more cooperation with European programs and funds which allow more financial support to participants, making it easier for the Eastern European countries to attend the meetings.*
- *Assistance in realising Chapter's programs.*

Coordination and communication

- *To work and co-ordinate with the local organising committee for the European Conference. To ensure a certain standard for the European conference (program, grants, optional programs etc.)*

Other general comments

- *Would like to participate in the artistic project Annick Debien proposed in Stockholm. To do exchanges between artists.*
- *Interested in contact with Australia.*
- *I think there should be adopted a strategy of creating a stronger link between the chapters in Eastern Europe with those in the Western Europe and the USA. Common projects, twinning, help in fundraising*

Addresses

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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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