

= PEOPLE TO PEOPLE EUROPE =

December, 2002

Message from the President

The year 2002 of our great organisation was quite eventful and a lot of great progress was made. As a member of the PTPI's Board of Directors I was able to witness first hand and to be in part involved in many most constructive and positive improvements which are for the good of our NGO! If for some members too slow and for others too fast, we have to maintain the momentum and the trend going.

As another year with lots of changes and economic uncertainties is nearly over let us focus on the positive side in our lives. With the daily bombardment of negative information by the often illguided and not very accurate news media one tend to forget that every day overwhelmingly more positive things are happening in today's world! Living our mission, we PTP member can make a substantial difference in many communities in Europe and around the world. Even with simple greeting for the Holiday Season and your best wishes for the New Year accompanied by a personal note you can enlightened the lives of many friends. Be generous with your means and possibilities and exercise your full discretion. Just think of what joy it is when children wrap their drawings in gift paper and proudly present them to you as their personal gift!

On behalf of the European Executive Committee (EEC) and the Vice Chairman Europe of the Board of Trustees I wish you all a joyful festive season and the best for a Happy New Year 2003! Do keep smiling and see you in Roman – Romania.

Ernst Honegger, President

World Wide Conference in Kansas City

At the 14th World Wide Conference in Kansas City the European chapters were represented by members from Albania, Estonia, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland.

Board changes

Peter Whitby of PTP Chester, who had served as chairman of the Board of Trustees since the World Wide Conference in Chester in 1998 received much recognition as his term ended. Among other things he was inaugurated into PTPI's Inner Circle. Thanks Peter for a very dedicated job! Anita Manuel, PTP Palm Beach will serve as new Chairperson.

There is one new European on the Board of Trustees: **Bertrand Shijaku**, PTP Tirana, Albania.

Awards – Congratulations!

Simon Troxler received the PTP Outstanding Leadership Award for his work in the PTP Lucerne and with the initiation of the Young Generation (YG) group in Switzerland. Also, the **PTP Roman**, Romania, chapter received the James T. Doty Memorial Award.

Updates

PTP Europe – new brochure

There is a new brochure for PTP Europe. A copy will be distributed with this newsletter. Please contact the office for additional copies.

Pen Pal – Pals are sought!

The PTPI Pen Pal Program is currently seeking pen pals from the following countries: Australia, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. If you have contacts with clubs, civic, service, trade or religious organizations in these countries, please contact Renin Gilmore Pen Pal Coordinator (penpal@ptpi.org), at world headquarters.



PTP International – New office in Berlin

The People to People International has its European office at a new address in Berlin-Wilmersdorf. Located in the Jean-Monnet-Haus together with several international organisations and European Information Library the office is easy to reach with public transportation. More about the office you will find on the European homepage: www.ptpe.org

People to People International	Phone: +49 (0)30-88916433
Jean-Monnet-Haus	Fax: +49 (0)30-88916434
Bundesallee 22	Internet: admin-europe@ptpi.org
10717 Berlin	Lars_Poignant@Compuserve.com
Germany	

You may also notice that the address of Lars Poignant has changed;
Lars Poignant, Sigmaringer Strasse 17, D-10713 Berlin.

Mine Action Initiative

The landmine crisis is one that cannot be overlooked any longer. It is estimated that there are 50 million landmines in 71 countries that maim or kill tens of thousands of civilians every year. Landmines threaten life long after wars are over and impede any future development or progress in those war stricken countries. People to People International has made this crisis a priority to ensure that these instruments of death no longer lead to their inevitable devastation on individuals, families, communities and nations. For more information or if you have any additional questions, please contact Meka Cayce, Special Projects Coordinator (specialprojects@ptpi.org).

People to People International – Peace Camp in Egypt

We are delighted to announce that preliminary plans are underway for the creation of the People to People International Peace Camp, to be held in Egypt in December 2003. The PTPI Peace Camp is a safe environment in which young people of different nationalities and religions can freely express their views and experiences while learning valuable listening, communication, and conflict resolution skills that will allow them to develop empathy and understanding for one another. The PTPI Peace Camp helps teenagers from various world regions learn the skills of creating peaceful solutions on an individual, communal, and global level. In addition to trust building and conflict resolution exercises, there will be opportunities to visit major tourist destinations throughout Egypt.

Chapter questionnaire – 2003

For 2003 the chapter questionnaires will be sent out with this newsletter. Information on chapter fees will follow.

January 31: Chapter questionnaire

February 28: Chapter Fee payments

PTP Wedding – in Gliwice

We are happy to announce and congratulate the marriage of wedding of Joanna and Slawomir Lasota – both PTP Gliwice.

Geography – Europeans find their way!

The National Geographic Society made a survey about geography knowledge. The result offers some food for and possibly reasons to initiate programs to increase our geographical awareness. How many countries border to France? From National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/geosurvey):

Despite the daily bombardment of news from the Middle East, Central Asia, and other world trouble spots, roughly 85 percent of young Americans could not find Afghanistan, Iraq, or Israel on a map, according to a new study.

Americans ages 18 to 24 came in next to last among nine countries in the National Geographic-Roper 2002 Global Geographic Literacy Survey, which quizzed more than 3,000 young adults in Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, and the United States. Top scorers were young adults in Sweden, Germany, and Italy. [Parts of the study showed that:]

- *nearly 30 percent of those surveyed could not find the Pacific Ocean, the world's largest body of water;*
- *more than half—56 percent—were unable to locate India, home to 17 percent of people on Earth; and*
- *only 19 percent could name four countries that officially acknowledge having nuclear weapons.*

Several perhaps interrelated factors affected performance—educational experience (including taking a geography course), international travel and language skills, a varied diet of news sources, and Internet use. Americans who reported that they accessed the Internet within the last 30 days scored 65 percent higher than those who did not.

Jobs at PTP office in Berlin – full time and internship

Full time

PTP International seeks one additional staff for the Berlin office. The position is full time and will encompass either PR/Communication or Resource Development.

Profile of an ideal candidate:

- Very good spoken and written English
- Good spoken and written German
- One more language is beneficial
- Very good experience with Microsoft Office programs especially Word and Excel. Good experience in internet use.
- Experience from volunteer organisations.
- Experience from international communication.
- Independent work and goal oriented approach.
- Very good ability to work in small groups.
- References are expected.

Since the office is small, there will always be a need to assist with other functions.

Internship

People to People will offer one internship position at Berlin office. The work will be to support the European chapters and program together with other staff in Berlin and Kansas City. Specifically the following areas are suggested:

Web-design - Assist the office and chapters with web design.

Accounting- Assist the office in accounting matters.

Program support - Assist the chapters with information about People to People programs.

PTP Berlin - Assist the local PTP chapter with its programs.

More details and application

You may find the details on the PTP Europe homepage: www.ptpe.org or you may contact the office. Deadline for the full time position is January 5th.

Coming events

Please visit the PTP Europe homepage for most accurate information: www.ptpe.org – or the PTP office.

December 19	PTP Roman – Christmas dinner	Sorina Danciu: Irvroman@email.ro
December 21	PTP Roman – Christmas dinner (Youth)	Sorina Danciu: Irvroman@email.ro
December 25	PTP Estonia - Christmas dinner	Ruta Pels: ptpest@hotmail.ee
December 26-30	PTP Estonia - Winter Camp for teenagers in Narva-Joesuu	Alex Smulski: alex_smulski@hotmail.com
January 25	PTP Lucerne – Annual meeting	Miriam Casas-Troxler: casas@tic.ch
February	PTP Estonia visits PTP Zurich	Ruta Pels: ptpest@hotmail.ee
March 30	PTP Estonia 10 year anniversary	Ruta Pels: ptpest@hotmail.ee
May 30-June 1	PTP European Conference in Roman Romania	Sorina Danciu: Irvroman@email.ro
June 22	PTP Estonia - Receives guests from Delaware	Ruta Pels: ptpest@hotmail.ee
June 22	PTP Berlin - Barbecue	Brigitte Kasigkeit: info@ptpberlin.de
June/July	European Caravan of Youth Envoys	www.ptpe.org

Chapter reports

Brussels

On September 23, at a tea party at the Hotel Hilton in Brussels, Belgium, Chapter President Denise Maurice honored Irene de Molinari, a dedicated veteran member and past treasurer (for over 20 years) on the occasion of her 101st birthday.

PTP Belgium held its 32nd Christmas Dinner Dance on Saturday, December 7, at the Brussels Hilton International Hotel.

Daniel Schaubacher

Estonia

The chapter is preparing for its Christmas dinner and Youth Winter Camp. Also, next year is the 10 anniversary of the chapter with celebrations on March 30th.

Ruta Pels

Roman

The chapter is not only busy with the preparations of the Annual Meeting in May, but have also time for other things.

The Roman PTP youth group continues to meet every week, and the high school students have some new projects in addition to their regular activities and discussions in English. After the Halloween party was met with such enthusiasm, they decided to plan a holiday party for the 21 December. Activities will include carol singing and ballroom dancing lessons, and small groups of students will present the holiday traditions of selected PTP countries to the rest of the guests. With assistance from Sorina and PTP member Violeta Ene, and in cooperation with the director of the Roman Children's Club, the youth group is working on building a toy library in town. More to come on this latter project in the future.

Most recently, the adult members of the chapter met to celebrate the chapter's receipt of the James T. Doty award for Most Innovative Programming, and they are also planning holiday festivities for PTP members and friends.

The chapter and youth group are also working hard on logistics and crafting the invitation and registration form for the 2003 PTPE conference; chapters should look for conference materials in their mailboxes in the near future!

Charlotte Lee

Lucerne

The chapter will hold its annual meeting on January 25.

Denmark

The executive committee of the organization - People to People, Denmark - has made the decision not longer to have an official office in Copenhagen.

We have in the years worked very hard to change to situation of no incoming groups to Denmark. We have tried to have other activities but we now have to accept that a period in the history of PTP, DK have come to an end. It is impossible without activities to run an office with employed people.

It will chance our way of working but not necessary in a bad direction. Many of the members of the organization have a long life with voluntary activities and we are now going to use in the organization.

We are now a organization of volunteers where the members are doing the job. In the first way you will see the members of the executive committee but we will try to make some of over well-working charters more active in the organization. Some of them are already working with homestay tours to Switzerland, Australia- New Zealand and Japan.

All the contact to People to People, Denmark must in the future go to the secretary of the organization, which will be the national address for the organization.

PTP Denmark	Phone:+ 45 33 14 10 35
Fasanvej 12	E-Mail: ptp@peopletopeople.dk
4683 Roennede	
Denmark	

The president of PtP, Denmark is still: A.P. Tage.

At least I will tell you that this changing in the organization only have something to do with the official address. We are still ready to welcome groups from People to People all over the world, and it will be possible to have homestay in nearly 20 different places in Denmark.

In the name of People to People, Denmark
Svenn Erik Kristensen (Secretary)

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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