

THE CIRCLE - NEWSLETTER

THE ONLY INFORMAL NETWORK OF U.S.F. ALUMNI IN THIS WORLD

Because the last Newsletter dates already from October '96, it is most appropriate to wish you all a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a Happy Easter !

Want to follow up on some missing items like the report on the previous Circle Meeting in Vevey, Switzerland ? Or even the report on the Circle Meeting '95 in Paris, France ?

Sorry about that, but both report writers are apparently still reviewing their drafts ...

however, DON'T throw away this Newsletter yet !

The most important information is on page 4 !

Let's take an early start on the

- - - Gossip - - -

* **Alexander Fick** has been moving again and lives in the USA now. As of January 1, Alexander accepted a new position at a different business unit within the same company (Campina Melkunie). He is now working for Creamy Creation and manages their activities in North America. They are specialized in developing and manufacturing a new dimension in drinking pleasure which they sell to the distilled spirits industry. The products are mainly dairy alcohol combinations such as cream liqueurs, pina colada's, mudslides, etc. Alexander enjoys his new job tremendously because of the new challenge and the fact that he has the opportunity to move back to the US for a couple of years.

Alexander is based in La Crosse, Wisconsin where life seems to be comfortable despite of the long cold winters. Fortunately he travels regularly and has the opportunity to visit warmer places; e.g. he has already been back to San Francisco several times. New address and phone can be found in the data-base.

* **Rannveig Rist** and **Jon Rikhardsson** are reporting from Iceland that are doing well and keeping them fit. Jon has been appointed as financial manager at the Icelandic Fisheries Laboratories where he was working. And Rannveig too moved up on the corporate ladder. She is now the general manager of the Icelandic Aluminium Company.

* **Christophe Lemaire** and his wife Katie are happily struggling to raise their now one year old son. They also hope to move into the house they are constructing by May.

* **John De Klerk**, who was until the last Newsletter still listed as working for Henkel, a detergent company, has actually joined already since 3 years his family company K.P.I., Klerk's Plastic Industriees. John is sales manager, marketing plastic for the agricultural and horticultural industries. Updated addresses and numbers in the data-base.

* **Beatrice Leduc** has moved within Nestlé France to the study and market analysis department, where she is now responsible for study services.

* And what about chickens ! **Jos Piron** visited Abidjan, Cotonou, Libreville, Johannesburg and Durban during two one-week trips to Africa in an effort to keep the poultry business afloat.

+ Where have Jan Melsen & Luis Martinez been hanging out ?

* End November '96 Barcelona was the location for the World Premiere of the movie 'The Laundry Bag', as announced in the last Newsletter. The party was incredible, Jan reports. 150 people, great music and drinks till 7 a.m. Attending were a.o. **Luis Martinez** and 6 pickups, **Mariano Colmenar** and spouse; **Wilfried Kainz** and no spouse but pickup; **Jan Melsen** and no spouse but pickup. Jan even got lucky...

* **Jan Melsen** and **Wilfried Kainz** happened to be at the Italian/ Austrian annual Ball in Milano last February. One of these two showed the rest the real phenomenal art of walsing.

* **Jan Melsen** and **Luis Martinez** and some 170 other locals spent a nice (!) weekend early march in Barcelona again; seafood & party ...

* **Wilfried Kainz** has been visiting the **Johnsen** family in London; was in Barcelona; travelled to the US and to Holland and even managed to get some business done (like getting a big catering contract with KLM-daughter Transavia).

* **Igancio Gonzales**, in his capacity as M.P. for the Canary Islands visited the european parliament in Brussels (although just for one day)

* **Petter Danielsen** managed to get out of China for a (short?) holiday in Europe. He still recognized wife & child.

* Jan Melsen also doubled as Brussels Host having, on seperate occasions, drinks with Nacio Gonzales and Petter Danielsen when they were visiting/passing through Broekzele.

Circle Membership Fee

The situation on fee-collection has not really improved.

The '94 outstandings still number 10 units. Some entries on the address list have therefore now been removed. A remaining 8 problem areas are marked with an X on the list and might go the same way next time.

Thirteen people still need to pay the '95 fee.

The fee-paid field on the data-base currently reflects the status of the '96 fee.

Data-Base

As usual an updated copy of the data-base comes along with the newsletter. Several changes have been processed since the last edition.

Note that under the Current Address a new item has been introduced : GSM (replacing the unused telex). If you want your mobile phone number listed, please let us now.

E-mail

If you have an e-mail address, please pass it on. It is so much more polite to download your mail instead of being called in the middle of the night ...

Epilogue

Life is like riding a bicycle. You don't fall off unless you stop pedaling.

...AND WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT