

THE CIRCLE - NEWSLETTER

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

May we convey to you our (late) wishes for a MERRY CHRISTMAS & (still somehow timely) wishes for a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This is your winter issue of the Circle Newsletter. For once we're on time. Too bad the winter is not on time; a freezing cold this time of the year would be more appropriate in stead of the mild but wet weather.

What about Cuba?

But let's first stop to congratulate some happy mothers and fathers:

Lars & Ina, with the birth on 28th of September of a baby girl, *Ella*. Mother and child are in perfect & healthy condition.

Christophe & Katie, with the birth on 17th of October of *Megan*, a new little sister to now 21 month old Alexander.

A thing to remember is to contact Luis and announce your physical presence at the 1998 Circle Meeting in Pamplona.

1998 CIRCLE MEETING:

May 1-3, 1998: **PAMPLONA** (that's in Spain, folks)

Hosted by Luis Martinez-Aoiz

If you're not yet convinced, check further on in this Newsletter for more detailed information on the planning and the proposed program.

The last newsletter ignited quite a lot of gossip, so let's get on with it:

- - - Gossip - - -

- If you had trouble contacting **Willi Lerner** lately, that seems to be all right. Only early October Willi returned from a four month long sailing trip in the Aegean Sea (didn't know that that sea is that big, Willi). He announces not just a new home address, but also a new function with A.D.Little. He is now European Associate Director; whatever that means Willi still has to find out himself.
- Regarding the birth of Ella, the newborn daughter of **Lars Johnsen** and Ina, you are informed that she has her mom's beautiful looks and her dad's brain. And Lars will not appreciate your jokes on the latter.
- In the Boston area, **Christophe Lemaire** moved wife and children to a newly build home. You can find their new address in the database. Christophe also reports a new business address. And with that new office location came also a new job at Analog, since last June. Christophe works in the micromachined products division, which makes accelerometers in silicon chips. They sell them to airbag manufactures and in hundreds of other cool applications (joysticks, gamepads, car alarms, washing machines, car navigation systems, etc....) He is responsible for worldwide business development for the consumer and industrial segments.
- **Dirk Haro** and family are living the gypsy way. Having moved within San Francisco to Jones Street, I suspect them now to be living again in Germany. Anyway, that's the address you'll find in the database.
- To continue the list of moving people, **Anne Sorensen** lets us know that she has moved together with her boyfriend, but still lives in Oslo. Anne also has a problem with the new item "gsm-number" in the database, insisting that her mobile phone is a NMT and not a GSM.
- Marocco and Madrid were the holiday destinations for **Bo Chansiri** and his family earlier this year, where they met with Luis Martinez-Aoiz.
- The same **Chansiri**-family was spending the New-Year holidays in beautiful Vienna, where they met **Wilfried Kainz**, **Jan Melsen**, **Luis Martinez-Aoiz** and **Petter Danielsen**. Vienna needs to worry.
- **Danelle McDermott** has finished her real estate exams and received her license (to do what Danelle?) Let it be know that even over there in San Francisco Danelle has not been safe from Jan's travelling and extortion.
- So, if you really want to know about **Jan Melsen** and his whereabouts: he has been to San Francisco & Utah, for work he claims (?). On the plane back to Europe he had an excellent chicken meal. Begin September Jan checked on the Spanish league, visiting **Erik Vermeulen**, **Luis Martinez-Aoiz**. These must have been expensive trips, because Jan sold his Chinese tang period horse. Besides all this, Jan has probably traveled throughout Europe and some other remote continents.
- Now that Japan has qualified for the World Cup '98 in France, **Dai Takahashi** is wondering what 'offside' means, in preparation of his hooligan-trip.

A message from Luis:

What About PAMPLONA

Please note that the "Circle Annual Meeting 1998" will be held in Pamplona, Spain from April 30th to May 3rd. The program may very well look as follows:

Day Zero: Wednesday 29th

Arrival of the first group. Get together for a casual "tapas" dinner.

Day One: Thursday 30th

Wine tasting and lunch at one of the best wine cellars in Spain – the "Bodegas Rioja Alta" – where we shall be able to sample the best Rioja wines, starting from the young Crianza wines, the Reserva wines, and finally the select Gran Reserva wines. This is a medium sized wine cellar, which serves lunch (if you reserve a year in advance). After lunch we shall visit various villages and small wine producing towns in the Rioja Region on our way back to Pamplona.

Day Two: Friday 1st

We shall visit the GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM (Bilbao) which is an hour and a half's drive from Pamplona. This is a 24.000m² Contemporary Art Museum that opened last October. It is considered to be one of the world's top contemporary art museums. With a budget of 200 million Ecus, the Guggenheim Museum displays the works of Picasso, Matisse, Chillada, Tapies, Kandinsky, Pollack, Marc Chagal, etc.

On our way back to Pamplona, we will visit San Sebastian, one of the most beautiful towns in Spain on the North Coast. There we will tour the Old Part of Town on foot, and have some "Tapas" before going to the "Sideria" for dinner.

The Sideria is a farmhouse (Caserio) where cider is made by the owners. It is a very popular, casual place where you basically eat cod tortilla and rip-beef and drink as much cider as you like from the 300 liter casks. Do not miss this opportunity since the season is only from February to May.

Day Three: Saturday 2nd

We shall visit the hills of the Pyrenees, stopping at the "Senorio de Bertiz" – a beautiful garden park – before going on to visit the "Itxea" residence and museum of Pio Baroja, a Basque anthropologist.

After this we will visit the Caves of Zugarramurdi, Urdax and Share (in France) where the Akelarres (pagan feasts) were held of old. Unfortunately, we shall not be able to participate in these feasts because they are now only held during the Shrovetide carnivals.

We have no time to waste, as my friends will be preparing dinner for you guys at Gazteluleku, a Gastronomic Society in the heart of the old part of Pamplona.

Day Four: Sunday 3rd

We plan to visit the Castillo de Javier, where the co-founder of the Jesuits, Francisco Javier, was born, and the nearby 7th Century Cistercian Monastery, forty minutes east from Pamplona.

We shall also visit the "Olite Castle" (20 minutes south of Pamplona), the summer residence of the Kings of Navarre until 1524 when Navarre became part of Castille.

PRACTICAL ARRIVAL INFO:

1. VIA BARCELONA: fly to Barcelona and take a 45/50 minute connection flight to Pamplona (Air Nostrum: 8.50/13.15/16.00/21.30hr and Aviaco: 3 flights)
2. VIA MADRID: fly to Madrid and take a 45/50 minute connection flight to Pamplona (Air Nostrum: 4 flights; Aviaco: 3 flights)
3. FLY TO BIARRITZ: there are several flights a day from Paris to Biarritz, and we will be able to pick you up since it is only a one-hour's drive from Pamplona.

ACCOMMODATION:

I think that the best idea is to be all together in the same location, so we can spend more time together and waste less time waiting around. So I will try to rent an Apart-Hotel in Pamplona, or in San Sebastian.

Please inform me well in advance so that I can make the necessary reservations.

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Data-Base

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

Circle Membership Fee

This dramatic situation, as discussed in the last Newsletter, has hardly improved. Listing names has not resulted in massive payments. Most members with long outstanding fees make it clear that they wish not to be included in the Circle anymore. Which means that the next issue of the Newsletter will have a much shorter database.

The fee-paid item in the date-base relates to the status of the 1997-fee. For earlier years, please check the previous Newsletter.

Epilogue

Q: How do you call a hundred lawyers buried up to their necks in the sand?

A: Not enough sand.

... AND WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!