

THE NATURIST SOCIETY Foundation

Our New Journey

Since 2000, Nicky Hoffman and Margaret Thornton have been the stewards of Lee Baxandall's vision and mission for The Naturist Society and its members. They have worked tirelessly and passionately to insure these ideals of the free beach movement and clothing-optional living for almost 20 years. As the years went along, they began to think about The Naturist Society's future and how to preserve Lee's vision. After long contemplation, Nicky and Margaret decided it was necessary to move The Naturist Society into a new direction. As it was announced this spring, The Naturist Society will reorganize into a new non-profit entity called The Naturist Society Foundation. Nicky and Margaret chose an initial Board of Directors to help steer the organization into the next generation.

The new board has met over the past six months to develop a vision for the new organization and a mission statement. The Board developed the following:

Vision: Creating a clothing-optional world where your body does not define who you are.

Mission: Promoting a culture of body acceptance through clothing-optional recreation, education, and community outreach.

Along the way, the board discussed the optimal non-profit designation that would best serve The Naturist Society Foundation in meeting this vision and mission statement.

After long discussions with all of the interested parties including the Foundation's attorney, it was decided to apply for a section 501(c)(3) designation as a charitable organization. Within 30 days of filing The Naturist Society Foundation was awarded the status of a section 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code.

What does this mean for The Naturist Society Foundation and its members?

For The Naturist Society Foundation, it provides the opportunity to generate additional funds through donations to support its vision and mission. More specifically, it

will provide additional funds to help publish and distribute *N* magazine to our members. Keeping in mind that this magazine is the most vital resource concerning the benefits of clothing-optional living. These additional funds will be used to help promote the foundation and its stated mission to educate and reach out to the public concerning naturism and its benefits.

More importantly, through memberships, product sales, event fees, and additional donations, the Foundation will continue to serve our members with unquestionably the finest naturist publication and be able to promote naturism effectively to the public for generations to come.

Our members for the first time will receive a partial tax deduction through membership fees, and a total tax deduction for money given to the Foundation. Since The Naturist Society Foundation is a designated charitable organization under the Internal Revenue Code, funds donated to the Foundation will be considered a qualified charitable donation, deductible on individual's tax returns. It should be noted that individuals can also donate marketable securities (stocks & bonds) to The Naturist Society Foundation. In this case, the charitable donation would be equal to the fair market value of the security at the date of the gift. Furthermore, we would encourage individuals and families to consider bequests to the Foundation to reduce potential estate and inheritance tax issues; and more importantly, provide a legacy to The Naturist Society Foundation that can be sustained for generations to come.

It is our hope that The Naturist Society Foundation will endure well into the future. By reshaping the organization, it is the goal to provide economic stability that will benefit not only the Foundation but its members as well. It's an exciting time for The Naturist Society Foundation and the Board hopes it's only the beginning. **N**

Margaret and Nicky are pleased to introduce the board members of The Naturist Society Foundation our nonprofit organization formed to "Create a clothing-optional world where your body does not define who you are" as a continuation of Lee Baxandall's original vision for naturism. Our diverse Board of Directors is dedicated to promoting our values of Naturism, Understanding, Diversity, and Education as they sustain the work of Lee Baxandall, Nicky Hoffman, and Margaret Thornton into future generations.

Tracy Horgan

I grew up in the Midwest in the 1980s as an only child with relatively progressive parents. My parents never seemed to give much thought about their state of undress in our home and seeing them unclothed was not unusual. However, social nudity outside of the home was never a consideration.

My introduction to social nudity was prompted by a curious mind that had finally overcome a dulled skill for observation. I had been dating my [now] husband Michael long-distance for several months, and we were enjoying a nice dinner out at a restaurant. It randomly occurred to me that he did not have tan lines—as I mentioned, my observation skills needed a bit of a tune-up—but that he often went to the beach. I naively asked him about the lack of tan lines, and he replied simply, “I don’t wear a bathing suit at the beach.”

I was intrigued by the thought of social nudity and quite open to learning more. I asked him many questions and did a few searches online. It was the late 1990s and the Internet was just finding its place in the world. It was full of good, bad, and often-incorrect information. I discussed my findings with Michael, and he would provide input and correction to information as needed. We looked through *The World Guide to Nude Beaches* together and began discussing places we could visit together.

I moved to Massachusetts from Missouri in 1998 so that Michael and I could live together and share our lives more fully. We were invited to a wedding in New Jersey that May, and decided to take the opportunity to visit Sandy Hook. I was very interested in social nudity, even while I struggled with my own body shame and self-criticism.

We were fortunate to have beautiful weather, and the beach was packed with naked people. Michael was careful in selecting where we would put our towel. As he was laying it on the sand, he assured me that I did not have to disrobe; I could leave my swimsuit on or we could even leave. He was shocked to look up and find me completely naked. There were so many naked people all around us that I felt no inhibitions in taking off my clothes, too.

That experience marked a turn in our lives together, as we began to incorporate social nudity in as much of our daily lives as possible. We made it our mission to visit as many new places as we could find in books, reputable websites and by word-of-mouth. We searched out skinny-dipping spots and even created many of our own during our adventures.

As an only child I have always been very open with my parents. I told them of our adventures and while my mother seemed intrigued, my father did his absolute best to tune out the conversations (it was close to fingers in his ears and him saying “la la la”). They were each remarried and their daughter was 1600 miles away in a strange (naked) land; I’m sure it was perplexing.

Michael was already a member of The Naturist Society when we met, and I became a member by de facto. We attended our first Eastern Naturist Gathering in 1999 and have gone every year except one since then. We waited by the mailbox each quarter for the new issue of *N* so we could read about current politics, travel adventures, and personal experiences. The articles solidified both body acceptance and a strong sense of community among naturists.

As the years have passed I have grown to value my naturist family more and more. All our close friends are naturists. We have met people from around the world and shared adventures with strangers we never would have co-mingled with if we didn’t have the common passion for social nudity. I value the honesty and openness of the naturists I meet—shedding clothes seems to naturally remove the armor we suit



ourselves with to survive in the hectic world. Naturism has enabled me to own who I am and to embrace my unique qualities.

Naturism and my own body acceptance have given voice to feelings I never would have shared if I did not have *N* magazine as my forum. I was finally ready to face down my own demons after spending 17 years immersed in the naturist community and poured my heart into an article about overcoming my own body shame. I am grateful for the support of this membership group in giving anyone a voice without judgement.

My life has been enhanced so much by social nudity. When I look around me and see confusion, hurt, loneliness, and shame, I can’t help but wonder how much better those lives could be if they had the community and love of naturism that I revel in every day. In the perfect world that lives in my mind, everyone should simply be who they are, accept others for what they are, and social nudity would be the norm rather than the exception.

I feel that social media has been both a blessing and a curse for our naturist communities. It connects us in ways we never could have imagined 15 years ago. We always feel “in the know” about our friends and their adventures. But social media has also isolated us from the world by making it so easy to stay in the loop that we can easily fall into the trap of staying in our bubbles rather than getting out and connecting face-to-face. I think that many people—naturists and textiles alike—struggle with finding balance between their online and “real” lives. I am grateful that TNS works so tirelessly to continue forging these personal connections while using its online presence to enhance those connections.

My membership with TNS is the best membership I have ever invested in. It is truly an investment of so much more than an annual or lifetime fee; I have invested my time and my heart to an organization that has drawn me in, shown me acceptance, and made me family. I am blessed and grateful to be a part of such a special community.

I am honored to serve as a board member for The Naturist Society Foundation. I believe that my professional experience of more than 20 years in mapping, demographic analysis and consumer care harmonize with my passionate dedication to TNS in an extraordinary manner that will complement the skills and experience of the board as a whole. I am excited to work on your behalf to sustain naturism and TNSF into future generations. **N**

youtu.be/jMhsxMaiU9s

Mike Abramson

My first brush with naturism came in the late 1960s. My family and I had just moved to a new neighborhood, when we met our next door neighbors. Right away, they informed us that they were nudists and that in the home, they and their family did not wear clothing. After processing this information, my very open parents said that would not be a problem with them and were glad to have them as neighbors.

I was intrigued!

The children next door were my age and I spent a fair amount of time playing at their home. It became routine to see their parents naked while at home. In a very short time, it all seemed very normal and healthy to me. Although, I did not have the nerve to try it at the time. During my many visits to my friend's house, I was introduced to my first naturist publication; *O*, which was very popular in the 1960s. My friend's parents left the the magazine around the house. It was fascinating and wonderful to me that people lived their daily lives without clothing. I thought that I would like to try that someday if I had the nerve.

Over the next decade or so, I was not exposed to naturism other than an occasional skinny-dip with friends. However, that changed when I began my professional career as a CPA.

In the mid 1980s, I had a client that purchased some real estate near Tampa, Florida and was asked by him to go down to Florida and access the investment. However, he told me that there was one thing that I needed to know first. The property was located within a clothing-optional resort. Since he was paying the bill and I had always wanted to try social nudism, I said, "Why not!" So, after convincing my wife to travel with me, we embarked to Paradise Lakes Resort in Land 'O Lakes, Florida where my client had purchased a number of condos.

After we arrived, I reviewed the property investment and told myself I was going to try life without clothes for a few days. "When in Rome!" My wife did not want to join me on this new journey. However, she told me to go ahead and try it and enjoy. It was a wonderful and liberating experience that changed my view going forward about naturism. It was on this visit that I read a magazine called *Clothed with the Sun*, which was published by The Naturist Society in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. It was an interesting read and jogged my interest in naturism even further.

With this in mind, sometime in the late 1980s, I had the occasion to travel to Oshkosh for a client matter. Remembering that The Naturist Society was located in Oshkosh, before leaving, I contacted The Naturist Society office to see if I could arrange a visit to find out more about the organization and its role with naturism. I was connected to Ron Burich who was the Executive Director of The Naturist Society at the time. Ron was gracious enough to invite me to stay at his home for my visit and give me a tour of the TNS offices. Based on this initial visit, in 1989, I became a member of The Naturist Society. I made several more trips back to Oshkosh and The Naturist Society, including visits to Mazo beach with Ron and his wife Adrienne.

Ron and Adrienne Burich eventually moved to South Florida and my wife and I made a point to visit them at least once a year. During these trips, we were introduced to Haulover Beach and became acquainted with Richard and Shirley Mason. As many know, Haulover Beach is a first class clothing-optional beach which Richard and Shirley helped create and maintain.

Over the years, Richard and Shirley became close family friends of ours. Through Shirley Mason's insistence, I became an active member of the South Florida Free Beach Group and became a founding board member of the B.E.A.C.H.E.S Foundation, including serving as its President.

My friendship with the Mason's lead me to be asked to be a frequent



guest speaker at the annual Trade Association for Nude Recreation meetings where I spoke about business and tax planning. At these meetings, I was able to meet many of the naturist resort and business owners and develop a good working relationship with them. As I give many talks on business planning during the course of the year, this was the only one where I could give the talk without the need to wear clothes.

To be sure, the most relevant and rewarding contact with naturism for me has been my association with The Naturist Society. I have had the honor of attending many Eastern, Midwest, and Western Gatherings, as well as many Mid-Winter Festivals over the years. All along the way, nurturing lasting friendships that have been so important to me. From California to Florida, The Naturist Society has allowed me to be a part of a wonderful naturist family with relationships that will last a lifetime.

Giving back to naturism, whether it is by volunteering or by donating directly, has been a priority for me. My work with South Florida Free Beaches and the B.E.A.C.H.E.S Foundation has been very rewarding. For a short time, I was a NAC/NEF Board member elected by the members of The Naturist Society. In addition, I feel it is important to give back monetarily to The Naturist Society; and in 2015, I became a Lifetime Member. By becoming a Lifetime Member, it was my hope that others would take note and also invest in the The Naturist Society. We all need to invest in The Naturist Society and now the new Foundation; so it can provide a strong voice in promoting and defending naturism.

So for me, naturism is a way of life; and a state of mind. You see people as they are without pretense. You see their soul. Naturism for me, is always welcoming with a lack of pressure. I'm at peace when I am undressed and totally relaxed.

Which brings me to the present; I am honored to be a board member of the newly formed Naturist Society Foundation. I feel strongly about the Foundation and its ability to forge our collective passion for naturism well into the next generation. I look forward to helping the Foundation serve its members and provide economic stability that will promote better awareness; and, hopefully, more passion for naturism and clothing-optional living.

It's a new beginning for a storied organization, and I am thrilled to be a part of it. The future is bright for The Naturist Society Foundation and for naturism. We should all be excited for this and look forward to great things to come.

It's hard to believe that I have been actively involved in naturism for almost 30 years. Sometimes, I wonder what my naturist neighbors of long ago would think of me now. **N.**

Les Dearing

I wasn't raised in a naturist home; however, with three siblings, my parents, and one bathroom, there was no privacy. I knew boys had penises; I knew dads had bigger penises and something called a foreskin which I didn't have. Sometimes, I wondered where my mother's penis was. One day as my mother was stepping out of the bath, I pointed at my Mom's crotch saying, "What's that?" Her answer confused me. I knew what my sitter called her "tea cups," but I didn't understand what my Mom's body had to do with china.

Until my teen years, I was very timid about being naked around strangers. When we went to the public pool at Arcadia Park, I changed into my bathing suit as quickly as possible while hiding from other bathers. I even became shy about being seen by my brothers.

The original Woodstock occurred during the summer before my freshman year in high school. My older brother had planned to go but wasn't able to at the last minute. I heard a lot about the event and even saw some pictures of it in *Life* or *Look* magazines. Although I would never have considered doing it myself, I was intrigued by stories of men and women skinny-dipping together. I imagined myself being older and joining them but I wasn't yet ready to actually do anything like that.

The summer before my junior year, I started hiking by myself in the canyons and hills near my home. There was a creek that flowed year-round through Fish Canyon. When hiking, I looked for hidden places near the creek to take my clothes off. Most days I was able to go naked for a little while; however, later in the day the area often got busy with hikers so I would get dressed and go home.

One day I hiked much further back into the canyon than I ever had before. About two miles in, there was a waterfall with a large pool at its base. As I neared the falls, I could hear voices of several people talking and laughing along with splashing noises. Rounding a bend on the trail which opened to a full view of the pool, I was stunned to see about a dozen young men and women naked in the water along with a few non-nude folk. One of the guys, a friend of my older brother, recognized me and called out. I waved and walked over to the group. He asked me if my brother was with me. I said no, feeling glad that he wasn't with me. One of the women invited me to hang out with them; I was nervous, but agreed. I sat without saying anything for a while, but my mind was ablaze with notions frightening and exciting. Finally, I stood up and began to undress. Now naked in the company of strangers, I felt elated and more connected to these people than I ever had to any of my classmates. I felt little of the anxiety about my body that I had felt in the past. I continued going nude at the falls and even did some naked hiking during the final two years of high school and my first two years of college. I never told any of my classmates about my hikes and thankfully never ran into any of them.

Years later after moving to San Diego to finish college, I became a regular at Blacks Beach. One of my earliest friends at Blacks was Clara Bailey, the beach mom. Clara introduced me to several others including some of the Camping Bares. By this time, I was already going out solo to remote areas of the Anza-Borrego desert for naked camping trips. It was a joy to find a group of people who enjoyed doing the same things.

I became active with the Camping Bares in 1978 and have



Les Dearing (on left) with his husband Dave Colo.

been involved in some or all of its day-to-day operations since the late 1980s. I have served as newsletter writer/editor, database developer/manager, treasurer, activities planner/leader, and email correspondence manager. Together with my husband Dave Colo and other Bares members, I have organized activities for Western Naturist Gatherings, including workshops and NAC fundraisers. I remain very active with the Bares and available to support them whenever and however needed.

Lee Baxandall and I became acquainted through his friendship with many of the founding Camping Bares. In 1985, I joined The Naturist Society and attended my first Naturist Gathering. Participation in many gatherings and meeting so many remarkable people has been a wonderful experience. Dave and I visited TNS headquarters in Oshkosh, Wisconsin for the first time in 1995. At the time, TNS was located in the city's central business district. Lee gave us a tour of his operation with special attention to his office and library which has served as the foundation of the current Naturist Education Foundation Research Library. Lee was very proud of his accomplishments for naturists. I believe he would be thrilled with the new direction TNS is taking as a nonprofit membership organization. Lee's passion for the rights of naturists inspired me to be more open to family, friends, and even coworkers about naturism. I have become a strong advocate for naturist rights in all facets of life. I believe naturists have the same rights to use public lands, including urban environments, as any other group. I have participated as a nude runner/walker in San Francisco's Bay to Breakers since 1993 and in World Naked Bike Rides in San Diego East County, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

In 2017, Dave and I became TNS lifetime members. Serving as a member of The Naturist Society Foundation board of directors is a great honor. I look forward to continuing my activism and contributing to the ongoing growth and defense of naturism around the world. **N**

Jane Groth

I grew up on a small farm in southeast Wisconsin across from what was known as “Hahns International Airport.” It had one airplane that flew and several that were used for parts. Our farm started out as a dairy farm with about 25 cows and then when stricter dairy rules came into play we went to raising beef. I was the youngest of six children and 16 years younger than my oldest sister, who married when I was only three. Mom eventually went to a job outside of the farm. By the time I turned four I had a nephew. I never realized my family was poor until I was told so by a peer in a second grade Catholic school. It didn't seem true to me as I had everything I needed, but what she said did influence me as she made me feel somehow “less.”

As for nudity—no way! My parents were influenced by their parents, and they thought nudity was a sin. My siblings are not naturists nor are our children. I respect everyone's choice. My mother was always clothed—in layers as was her tradition, even when she came back home to live or travel with us.

When I made the decision to visit a nudist venue—on the prompting of my husband—I did a lot of soul searching. I had a negative image of what the goings on of social nudity entailed, but wanting to try something new for my husband and our marriage, and being able to research the venue gave me the inclination to give it a try. I will admit I was scared. Scared of something different, scared of the unknown, scared my marriage was in peril. I agreed to go on the premise that if I felt uncomfortable we could leave. In the first couple of hours there were some actions of others at the venue that made me feel very uncomfortable, but with each of them there was a swift action by someone that must have been monitoring any misunderstandings of the rules of conduct (I didn't know about beach ambassadors at the time). What a revelation—I could feel safe here! In all my imperfection I was accepted. It was that experience that guided me to where I am now and a deeper knowledge of all the things I do not know. It was that experience that led us to open “Toadally Natural Garden.”

In late 1997, my mother sold her farm and I sold my house; together we bought this 32-acre hobby farm about 20 miles away in an area near my mother's relatives. It has rolling acres and a view of “Holy Hill,” a national basilica which is a place where many come with great inner pain to find solace, healing and comfort. This property also has a peaceful, safe feeling. When we first moved in I was told a story passed down from father to son from one of the neighbors across the street, Mom's third cousin. The owner was going out of town and asked a neighbor to watch over his place. One day a strange car pulled up the long driveway and stayed longer than the neighbor figured he should have, so the neighbor jumped in his truck to take a look at what was going on. I kid you not—the story was—this neighbor came around the bend in the driveway and he saw this stranger being chased by a man with a pitchfork. The stranger high-tailed it to his car and sped past the farmer. When the farmer looked back to where he had seen the man with the pitchfork—there was no man to be found! All the neighbors who know the story say he was a devil, but I figure he was protecting the farm. I still feel this presence, and a feeling of constant relief that he is still watching over the place. I have told him many times he may go—but he stays. I feel him mostly around the barn.

I have experienced great happiness and excruciating pain. I am no more or less than any of you. The land represents a home and gives of its bounty. It is with a spiritual grace that we are able to share our land with others.

In 1998, I remarried and together we have five children and six grandchildren. It wasn't until 2011 that our youngest turned 18 and moved out that we opened our farm to the public, under the business name of Toadally Natural Garden, as a naturist gathering space. Our basis is gardening, but many people come to de-stress relax, meditate, sunbathe, walk the trails, socialize, or play volleyball.



Our children, siblings, and community are influenced by ex-spouses or their other parental forces, peers, and media that have the power to interpret nudity to mean something negative and unlawful, therefore our naturism is not widely accepted at this time.

One very important difference in the quality of naturists and nudists that I found is that my mother did not judge us by our nakedness and those that showed her kindness and love were rewarded with heartfelt appreciation. It was this loving care that became her family and the acceptance shown her with all her clothing and living challenges that will always be humbly remembered. “Thank You” from the depths of my heart.

I believe it is through listening to others, the words we use, our attitudes and actions we choose that will bring respect and acceptance of self and others. This does not mean I am perfect, I have many faults and failures, but I will always keep trying. I feel great humility in “being my brother's keeper” as best I can by providing a stewardship for all forms of life, soil, insects, water, self, and others. My hope is, I am borrowing this sentiment from a fellow board member, “that people will come to accept that what I wear or don't wear does not define who I am.”

One of my visions is to reflect “that” literal idea into a physical representation through art and architecture of the different cultures of the world and show the importance we have on each other throughout our property, I heard about this idea from representatives of a Native American pioneer encampment we held on the farm.

Another way I like to introduce the public to naturism is to show support in my community by volunteering. I feel it brings about an opportunity for those who might be curious about naturism but would not normally venture into a nudist venue to ask questions, of course after getting to know me by working side-by-side.

I am a member of the Hartford Senior Center (where I enjoyed happy times with my mother for several years). It helped that the members knew my mother, and their thoughts of me and our farm changed positively through the years. I belong to Volunteers For A Beautiful Hartford (working on flower plots throughout the city of Hartford, Wisconsin) Master Garden Volunteer (sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Madison), and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team—Under direction of the Hartford Fire and Rescue Department). Besides the gardening venue, we have “Direc Link Tower,” both are members of the Hartford Chamber of Commerce.

Another vision I have is to build “The Naturist Society” name as “the” national and world-known entity based on its morals, values and vision and be the preferred membership accreditation that businesses, naturists, and nudists in the United States and around the globe look for to form a partnership with.

If you love naturism; please support your local and out-of-state naturist venues, groups, and beaches! **N**

Ruth Percey

It's inevitable that my profile will be different from the profiles of the other foundation board members. The tone and voice will not be the same. We each have unique writing styles. And although there will likely be similarities, there will also be differences.

And that's what I love about this board, and the naturist community: diversity.

I first heard of naturism when I was a recent college grad in my mid-20s. TNS founder Lee Baxandall and his eventual wife Johanna frequented the public library where I worked. One Friday evening he asked if anyone at the library would be interested in writing for him. Having just been laid off from my second job as a telephone suicide counselor, I said I was interested. And that's how I became the compilation editor of three editions of Baxandall's *World Guides to Nude Beaches*. I resigned my position ten years later, in 2000, to pursue a master's degree in library science.

The concept of social nudity was foreign to me, but it was clear within my first hour of working at TNS that there was nothing sexual about naturism. Further, it didn't seem to be hurting anyone. Browsing back issues of *Clothed With the Sun*, (the precursor to *N* magazine) I noticed the nude people in the photos looked ridiculously happy, whether standing precariously on the edge of a steep and rocky cliff, or near-drowning under the weight of a cascading waterfall.

In an early conversation with Baxandall, he told me that naturists "judge people by their behavior, not by their appearance." That was kind of an "Eureka!" moment for me. Isn't that something we should all aspire to? I wondered. Who could oppose that?

I lived in a non-naturist world and this seemed an appropriate way to explain my new job and naturism to others in my life. I continued to get teased by family and friends, but even my faithful Catholic aunt could not find fault in the simple principle.

My first social nudity experience was at the 1990 Eastern Naturist Gathering, where I worked at the TNS booth selling merchandise. Much like writing this profile, I felt self-conscious: What do I say? How will I fit in?

Initially, it was awkward for me to talk to naked people. I didn't know where to look, so I opted for lots of eye contact. It's hard to put on pretenses when you're looking someone straight in the eyes. I found myself attentive and focused. There was an intimacy, a familiarity that I didn't usually feel when meeting strangers. The depth and breadth of conversation at my first few gatherings were the equivalent of having cataracts removed; instead of seeing the shadowy shape of a human body, I saw the fine details of the person living inside. One's stage of dress (or undress) became irrelevant.

I've missed only one ENG since 1990, and have attended numerous gatherings in other parts of the U.S. I've also visited the recently closed Mazomanie nude beach in southern Wisconsin, and attended events sponsored by the Friends of Mazo.

Of the current TNS Foundation board members, I practice nude recreation the least. It's nice to know people like me, for whom opportunities are infrequent, are welcomed within the naturist community. The society of naturists is one of inclusion and this has been demonstrated throughout the history of TNS.



Ruth Percey is on the far right.

In my tenure at TNS, I saw Baxandall reach out to organizations that shared similar values, including the Le Leche League, LGBT organizations, and conservation and wilderness preservation groups. Gays were welcomed at the gatherings when many clubs were turning them away, as well as single men and non-naturist partners. Breast feeding in public? We support that! A topless event at a federal park? Read an article about it in *N* magazine.

As a member of the TNS Foundation Board, I hope to continue Baxandall's education and outreach efforts by appropriately supporting peer organizations and expanding our membership base. In addition, the Board must strengthen ties with groups and businesses within the TNS network.

Further, it's imperative that *N* magazine remain a quality publication, and leading voice of naturism. It's the best vehicle for introducing textiles to the naturist world, and an invaluable tool for bringing naturists together. Since its existence, the magazine has chronicled the evolution of modern naturism, as well as examined naturism's roots. *N* magazine is, I believe, the most valuable asset of TNS.

I agreed to serve on the Board because transitioning TNS into a non-profit status is the best direction for the organization. Working in tandem with the other board members, I believe we will successfully make this transition, and ensure the future of The Naturist Society for decades to come. **N**