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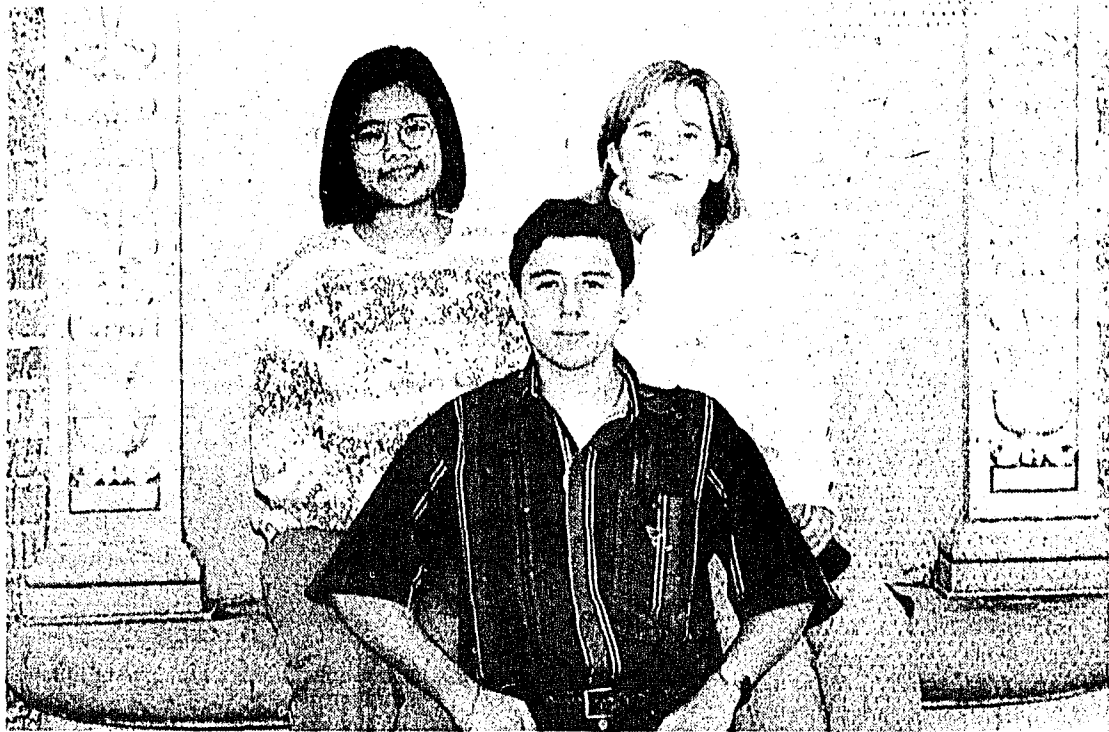
Santa Anna News

"He Profits Most Who Serves Best"

Newstand Price 50c

Volume 109 Number 52

Thursday, December 29, 1994



Students in the Santa Anna Independent School District and members of the Santa Anna community have been able to learn about other cultures this year through the three foreign exchange students who are visiting here. Pictured above left to right are Kasinee Bourpair of Thailand; Pedro Looor of Ecuador, and Ulrika Afeldt of Sweden. These young people will be in Santa Anna until May 1995 when the school year ends.
News Staff Photo

Three Foreign Exchange Students Enjoying The School Year In Santa Anna

Editors Note: In preparation for this introduction of Santa Anna's foreign exchange students, the young people were given a questionnaire which helped us to overcome any possible language barriers.

Name: Kasinee Bourpair
Host Parents: Waide and Pam Messer

Hometown and Country: Khonkaen, Thailand

Parents Names and Occupations: Father Somnuk Bourpair is a government official and Mother Parichart Bourpair is a teacher

Brothers and sisters: Brother Kritsanarong, 14 and Sister Kittiporn, 12

About school in Thailand: Kasinee's home school is for grades 7-12 with 3,000 students and about 100 teachers. Classes average 55 students and schedules are changed every week with each class lasting one hour with an hour break for lunch. There are no lockers for books and supplies; the teachers move from room to room to teach except for the science classes in the lab.

Students must pay to attend high school with a test required for admission. Students choose from two courses of study, math-science or math-arts. Kasinee is in the math-science course. Students are required to wear uniforms to school, blue skirt, white shirt and socks, black belt and shoes. Girls are required to have short hair cuts.

About your country, climate and land area: Khonkaen has a population of two million. It is located in northeast Thailand with a tropical climate. The winter weather is comparable to our fall temperatures. There is never any snow in Thailand. The Thai language with its own alphabet is spoken and written, and ninety-five percent of the people are of the Buddhist religion.

Difference in your country and Texas: Kasinee has noted that everything in Texas is larger--vegetables, people, etc. In Thailand vehicles are driven on the left side of the road with drivers on the right of their cars.

What she misses most: Her family and friends in Thailand

What are you enjoying most about being here? Kasinee is enjoying small town living and the absence of pollution and crime.

School activities involved in: Santa Anna Science Club

School activities involved in in Thailand: Membership in the English Club and Math Club

Favorite American food: Kasinee's favorite food is pizza which she was already familiar with since there are Pizza Hut's in Thailand. The bean burrito is her new favorite.

Plans when she returns to Thailand: Kasinee will continue her education at the University and perhaps return to the United States to study. She plans to keep in touch with her friends in Santa Anna after she returns to Thailand.

Kasinee added that she is especially grateful for her host parents for the opportunity to live in Santa Anna this school year. She also expressed best wishes to her new friends for the holiday season and new year.

Name: Pedro Looor Zavala
Host Parents: Alex and Juanita Frausto and Nathan and Patsy Starr

Hometown and Country: Machala, Ecuador

Parents Names and Occupations: Father Pedro owns a John Deere Company. Mother Alexandra Zavala de Looor is a housewife

About school in Ecuador: The education system is different here than in Ecuador. Each subject is taken at different grades, with different people and while in Ecuador you stay in the same class with the same people. The people here are very friendly, and the teachers are too.

About your country, climate and land area: Texas has four seasons and in contrast Ecuador has only two season--winter and summer.

Difference in your country and Texas: Here there are a lot of trees and in Ecuador there aren't many trees.

What he misses most: His family.

School activities involved in: Band, F.F.A. and sports

School activities involved in in Ecuador: Band, art classes, Idioms (various languages class), sports, social club, editor of school newspaper.

Favorite American food: Pizza, cheeseburgers and Mexican food.

Plans when he returns to Ecuador: Pedro's future plans are to come back to Texas and attend college and study business and computers.

Pedro added that Texans are very friendly and wants to encourage anyone who has chance to visit Texas.

Name: Ulrika Afeldt
Host Parents: John and Peggy Hensley

Hometown and Country: Stockholm, Sweden

Parents Names and Occupations: Kenneth and Birgitta Feldt. They own a heat producing company

Brothers and sisters: Maria, 16

About school in Sweden: There are more rules but school is easier here in Texas.

About your country, climate and land area: Sweden is colder in the winter even in the summer.

Difference in your country and Texas: Everything in Texas is different from Sweden.

What she misses most: The snow, the ocean and the forest.

What are you enjoying most about being here? Ulrika is finding everything in Texas most enjoyable.

School activities involved in: U.I.L. Spelling, One Act Play and Athletics

Favorite American food: Fried Okra

Plans when she returns to Sweden: Two years of school after which Ulrika is not sure what she will do.

NEWS Office Closed For Vacation

The NEWS Office will be closed from Wednesday, December 21 through December 30.

The NEWS office will be open on Monday, January 2 long enough to get the necessary items done for that issue.

Everyone is asked to drop news items through the slot in the door.

You will receive a paper on Thursday, December 29, however since the paper is actually being printed earlier, some of the current events may not be included. Anything which may occur between now and then will appear in the January 5 issue of the NEWS.

The staff of the Santa Anna News is taking this opportunity for some vacation and spending the holidays with family.

Santa Anna Project Show Set For Saturday, January 7

The Santa Anna Project Show will be held on Saturday, Jan. 8, 1995 at the Show Barns on the Santa Anna ISD Campus.

Animals are scheduled to begin arriving on Friday with pigs weighing in from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Beginning at Saturday morning at 7 a.m. lambs should arrived followed by rabbits at 8 a.m.

The show will begin at 8:30 a.m. with lamb judging followed immediately by swine. Rabbits will be judged at 9 a.m.

At noon a community barbecue lunch will be served to anyone wishing to attend. Donations will be accepted to help support the Santa Anna 4-H and FFA project program and exhibitors.

Swine judging will continue following the noon lunch.

Judges for this years show will be Lynn Stames of Bangs, rabbits;

and Chandra Scott, Ag. Science teacher from Sands-Ackerly ISD, lambs and pigs.

Superintendents of the show will be Michelle Morgan, rabbits; Danny Kellar, lambs; and Roddy Dean, swine.

Officers of the 1994-94 Santa Anna Livestock Association are Donald Carter, president; Rob Cheaney, vice president; Shirley Rankin, secretary; and Gary York, advisor.

Students Return To Classrooms Wed., January 4

Students in the Santa Anna ISD will begin their second semester of the school year when they return on Wednesday morning, January 4 following Christmas vacation.

Mountaineer Basketball



Members of the 1994 Santa Anna High School Mountaineer boys basketball team are, back row: James Balderas, Manuel Frausto, Tim Abernathy, Chris Lewis, Bobby Malaer, Josh Daniels. Front row: Chris Guerrero, Tony Abernathy, Chris Cheaney, Ryan Keeney, Lupe Castillo and Tony Brashear. Not pictured is Anthony Thomas.
News Staff Photo



Members of the 1994 Santa Anna High School varsity girls Mountaineer basketball team are pictured left to right, top row, Amanda Lishka, Virginia Thomas, Brandi Martin, and Bertha Frausto; and front row, Ami Beal, Amy Ellerbe, Katrina DeLeon and Briana Horner. Staff Photo

Happy New Year!!!

Holt's General Store

WEEKLY SPECIAL ----- Shurfresh Thin Sliced Meat.....3/\$1.00

See other specials page 3

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4

Emergency Numbers For City Utility Problems

To report a city utility emergency call City Hall at 348-3403 24 hours a day.
The city crew member on call may also be reached by calling the mobile phone 348-7950.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- DECEMBER 28**
B.D. Brock
Manuel Frausto
David Garza
Beth Craig
- DECEMBER 29**
Paula Blanton
Lyle Pearce
David Tidd
- DECEMBER 30**
Mr & Mrs Danny Kellar *
Charles Weisel
Dalia Weizel
- DECEMBER 31**
Steven Blanton
Graham Fitzpatrick
- JANUARY 1**
Rocanna Barton
Pete Simmons
Minnie Young
Mr & Mrs John Naron *
Karen Bowker
Thomas Nixon
Cathy Gene Strother
- JANUARY 2**
Nora Castillo
Chris Simmons
- JANUARY 3**
Cameron Cleveland
Heather Jackson
Patsy Starr
Vernon Valdez
Eddie Dillard
- JANUARY 4**
Angelica Hernandez
Michelle Malone Shelton
Sammie McCreary

Social Security Representative In Coleman Jan. 4

A representative of the Brownwood Social Security office will be at the Coleman County Courthouse on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1995 beginning at 9 a.m.

Santa Anna Nutrition Center Menu

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30
Creole steak, steamed cabbage, blackeye peas and pears and cheese

MONDAY, JANUARY 2
CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR

Commodity Recertification December 29-30

It is that time of year that Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. must recertify those who participate in the commodity program.

Texas Department of Human Services guidelines state that to receive USDA commodities, households must apply once a year in the area in which they live.

Margaret Burkhart, CTO Center Director, and CTO staff will be available on December 29 and 30 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Armory to assist in filling out the applications.

Proof of identity, residency and income must be provided. A new requirement this year is that any individual who wishes for someone else to pick up their commodities to submit proof that they are handicapped. Exceptions may be made for elderly shut-ins.

Volunteers are to receive training and recertifications on December 29.

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Check It Out

In many countries the proper way to celebrate the new year is to clean up your home and business. This means literally and figuratively. In other words, dust and mop but take care of unfinished business. Please do this for the library. Go through the books around the house, find the ones that are due and bring to the library. Do the same for friends. Does anyone have a copy of a *Southern Belle Primer* by Marilyn Schwartz with a lovely note to me from Monique?

Oh! If you have some no longer wanted books donate them to the library.

Another custom at the year end is to thank people. THANK YOU to everyone who has worked, behind the desk; who donated books; who gave donations and remembered others with donations; to those who helped repair a light, a door, etc; to those who gave chairs or equipment, like copy machines; who moved books; loaned pickups and trailers; to all of you who came in to check out books; to this newspaper for faithfully telling our story—a special thanks from the library and others who have mentioned the pretty flower boxes. Betty Key deserves thanks for ours. But the friend who quietly worked on others was Charlotte Mosley. She does so many good deeds unknown—I wanted to share this one.

The Chamber of Commerce, West Texas Utilities, the Parks Department and clubs who donated time, work and money, Santa Anna's business people and everyone who decorated their homes have made this the best holiday in many a year. The churches and those

Scientists Studying New Methods For Detecting, Treating Respiratory Virus

HOUSTON—Scientists are studying new methods for detecting and treating respiratory syncytial virus, a common organism that can cause severe effects in some children.

Shorter periods of medication, six hours, with the aerosol drug ribavirin have proven as effective as standard treatment that can last 12 to 18 hours. Shorter treatment means less discomfort for the patient and reduced costs as well, says Dr. Armando Correa, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

"Respiratory syncytial virus or RSV is the most common cause of bronchial pneumonia in children," said Correa. "While most children are infected with RSV by age 3 and experience few problems, there are thousands of children who require hospitalization each year." RSV in the majority of children may produce a mild cold or have no effect at all. In children with congenital heart disease, immune deficiency, asthma, cystic fibrosis and other chronic respiratory diseases, it can cause severe bronchial problems and can even be fatal.

Like its cousin, the rhinovirus, which also causes the common cold, RSV is spread among families through close contact. Handwashing is crucial to reducing the chances of exposure.

Correa is also studying "patient-friendly" methods for checking for the virus' presence. Currently, the adults in the community choir and the children and adults who gave the nativity play have reminded us of the real reason for this season. Most everyone in town helped—did you?

Thank and to all may 1995 be the MOST BLESSED NEW YEAR. EVER!

virus is confirmed through use of the enzyme immunoassay test (EIA), a 15 minute test that involves a nose wash. A ball syringe is used to insert water into the nasal passages and then suction it out. The procedure can be uncomfortable. Correa has found that doing simple throat swabs for the EIA are far less unpleasant for the patient and even more effective.

"RSV is extremely common, but if children are at risk and develop symptoms, medical help should be sought," said Correa. "If you wait too long, a simple cold in these children can quickly become serious."

Moderation Key To Relief From Indigestion

HOUSTON—For people who suffer from indigestion during the holidays, relief is spelled m-o-d-e-r-a-t-i-o-n.

"The holidays are a common time for people to get indigestion," said Dr. Alan Buchman, an assistant professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "You can avoid ruining the festivities by being careful about how, when and what you eat."

Acid indigestion, or heartburn, is often caused by a backlog of stomach acid into the esophagus, a long tube connecting the throat and stomach. Buchman says indigestion can usually be avoided by not eating late night meals, eating at a casual pace, and cutting back on certain foods.

"If you eat holiday leftovers late at night, the esophagus cannot clear out the acid before you go to sleep," Buchman said. "When you lie down flat, there is not gravity to help the esophagus force out the acid."

Holiday revelers should keep fatty foods to a minimum, says Buchman, because they may increase the risk of heartburn.

"The fat in creamy sauces and other foods can cause acid build-up," said Buchman, who is also director of nutrition support services at Baylor.

Heartburn signs to watch for may include a burning sensation in the chest or throat, nausea, coughing while eating, and difficult or painful swallowing.

Antacids usually relieve heartburn symptoms, but if they are taken regularly, they can cause constipation or diarrhea.

"Don't put off seeing a doctor if the pain becomes severe," Buchman said. "If the pain is continuous, more pressure than burning or the pain radiates to jaw or arm, seek medical help immediately. You could have ulcers, gallstones or a heart attack."

For a heartburn-free holiday, Buchman recommends the following:

- *Eat small meals.
- *Avoid or cut back on caffeine-containing products like cola, coffee, tea and chocolate, and mints, aspirin, cigarettes and alcoholic beverages.
- *Refrain from wearing tight belts or other restrictive clothing.
- *Do not bend over immediately after eating.
- *Wait at least one hour before lying down after eating.

"Skills For Life" Theme For Project Show Homemaking Division Jan. 8

"Skills for Life" will be the theme for the homemaking division at the local Project Show on Jan. 7, 1995.

In keeping with the theme age classifications will be up to 6 years old, 7-12 years old, adult and senior citizens according to Lois Wise, Home Economics Teacher at Santa Anna High School.

Skill areas for competition will be general arts and crafts, paintings, photographs, shop and tack; ceramics, clothing construction, decorated clothing, needlework, cakes, candy, decorated cakes, pies, cookies, breads and demonstrated project skills.

There year there will be a special section for people to share their skills, family heirlooms, talents and such. This section will not compete in the various divisions. Among the ideas for entries are old family pictures of life in Santa Anna, needlework, weavings and collections.

Whether exhibiting or competing, all items must be in the Ag Building between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Saturday, January 7. There will be a \$1.00 entry fee for each item in competition. All food entries must have a copy of the recipe attached.

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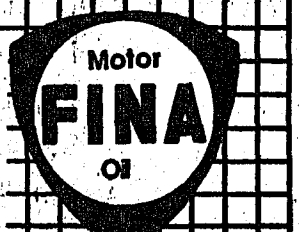
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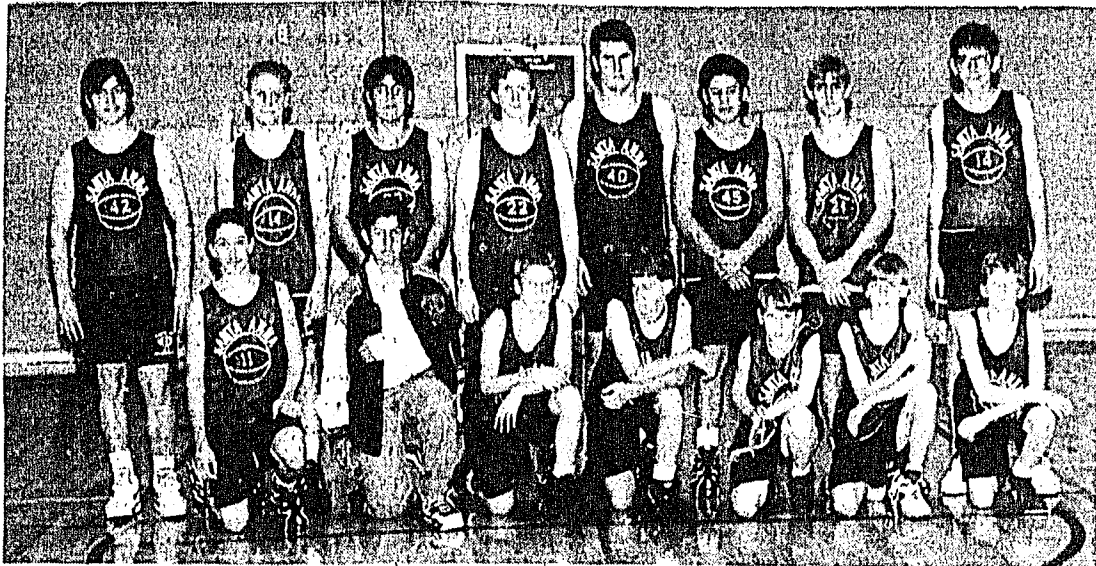
THE FORMULA FOR THE FUTURE

News For And About Santa Anna Mountaineers

1994-95 School Calendar
 January 4: Beginning of Second Semester
 January 9: Staff Development Day
 January 16, 17: Holidays
 February 17: End of Fourth Six Weeks
 February 20: Beginning of Fifth Six Weeks
 March 17: Holiday
 March 24: Holiday
 March 31: Holiday
 April 7: Holiday
 April 10: Beginning of Sixth Six Weeks
 April 14: Holiday
 April 21: Bad Weather Day
 April 28: Bad Weather Day
 May 26: End of Second Semester



Mountaineer Basketball



Members of Santa Anna Junior High School Mountaineer boys basketball team coached by Ray Findley are pictured left to right, back row, Everett Taylor, Dustin Maedgin, Junior Padilla, Chris Powell, Dusty McCreary, Adam Garza, Chris Boyet and Zachary Lawton; and front row, Boone Cook, Jesse Castillo, Donelle Wright, Clay Crossley, David Gilbreath, Edgar Mullin and Gary Geeslin.

School Menu

Choice of dry cereal, graham crackers, whole white, lowfat white and lowfat chocolate milk offered everyday

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4
 Breakfast: Donuts, orange or apple juice, milk and raisins
 Lunch: Corndog, potato salad, baked beans, chilled peaches, milk and mustard

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5
 Breakfast: Waffles, orange or apple juice, milk, raisins and syrup
 Lunch: Taco bowl w/meat, refried beans, lettuce, tomatoes w/cheese, orange or apple juice, fruit cup, milk, picante sauce or peppers and spanish rice

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
 Breakfast: Oatmeal, cinnamon toast, orange or apple juice, milk and raisins
 Lunch: Hamburger w/bun, burger salad, french fries, orange or apple juice, milk, brownie, catsup and mayo or mustard



The Santa Anna Junior High School Mountaineer girls basketball team is coached this year by Debbie Bacon. Team members pictured are left to right, back row Latosha Lewis, Jennifer Johnson, Maria Ellerbe, Andrea Siller, Bonnie Britton and Eliza Sikes; middle row, Johnnie Spires, Randa Wats, Emily Alonzo, Chrystal Pelton and Tabatha Franke, and front row, Buffy Martin, Davja Rankin, Jaci Kuykendall, Jessica Powell and Elenda Balderas. Not pictured is Delisa Nicholas.



The Santa Anna High School Mountaineers Junior Varsity girls basketball team are left to right back row, Rene Guerrero and Marty Siller; and front row, Melonie Smith, Kristan Keeney, Kasey Strength and Yolanda Frausto.

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By Ace Reid



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Lana Korzenewski, Funeral Director

Santa Anna Junior High Basketball Schedule

Jan. 5	Jim Ned "B"	H	5:00
Jan. 9	Cross Plains	T	5:00
Jan. 16	Jim Ned "B"	T	4:00
Jan. 21	Cross Plains Tourn.	T	TBA
Jan. 23	Rising Star	T	5:30
Jan. 30	Gorman	H	5:00
Feb. 6	Eula	H	5:00

Santa Anna High School Basketball Schedule

Dec. 27-30	Ranger Tourn.	T	VG, VB	TBA
Jan. 3	Novice	T	VG, VB	6:30
Jan. 6	Cross Plains	H	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	4:00
Jan. 10	Huckaby	H	VG, VB	6:30
Jan. 13	Rising Star	H	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	4:00
Jan. 17	Gorman	T	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	4:00
Jan. 20	Eula	T	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	4:00
Jan. 24	Cross Plains	T	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	4:00
Jan. 27	Open			
Jan. 31	Rising Star	T	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	4:00
Feb. 3	Gorman	H	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	4:00
Feb. 7	Eula	H	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	4:00

*DISTRICT GAMES

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About The Santa Anna News
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Traveling With The Karthausers

Editors Note: David and Margaret Karthausers have been traveling abroad again. This time to a number of European countries. We hope our readers will enjoy sharing the Karthausers' travels over the next several weeks.

By David and Margaret Karthausers
Part VII of a Series

The next morning we had a wonderful breakfast and headed back to Berchtesgaden. What a blessing. Yesterday was dark and dreary and today the weather was clearing. The clear weather would make our visit so much more enjoyable.

After a delicious breakfast, we left to go to the parking lot to catch the bus. We purchased our tickets and caught the bus at 9:30 that took us almost to the top. The road going up was very steep and very narrow. Three bus loads of tourists left at the same time to make the ascent. The buses were timed so they met about halfway up and there was a short stretch of road that allowed the descending buses to park while the ascending buses made their way up. The bus seemed to cling to the gigantic cliffs that stretched upward. On the opposite side, there was a sheer drop of hundreds of feet. In many places the road had to be built up for several hundred feet along the sheer cliffs to make the road wide enough for one vehicle to drive. The drivers seemed very experienced as they drove the buses up at full throttle. On some of the very sharp turns you would think you were about to fly down to the valley floor below but the driver, with a quick flick of his wrist, sailed the bus around the turn and up the hill. The view of the valley floor and the steep mountains were spectacular. At each turn, one spectacular view would be replaced by a more impressive view. I believe the buses went most of the way up the hill between 25-35 mph. Considering the steepness of the slopes and the sharpness of the turns, the speed sometimes seemed excessive. All three of the buses made it to the top without incident. About 400 feet from the top, there was a large parking lot carved out of the mountain.

On the outside of the parking lot, you could see a series of mountains that ringed the valley below. On the mountain side, carved out of the mountain was a restaurant, gift shop and restrooms. At the extreme left of the protected buildings, was a large tunnel opening. The tunnel was wide enough and tall enough to drive a fairly good sized truck in. We walked along the cobblestone floors about 400 feet until we came to the elevator. The tunnel was very damp and drippy. I presume it would serve as a very good bomb shelter since there was 400 feet of rock over your head. When the doors of the elevator opened, it was like the doors of a large reception hall had opened. As we walked in, we noticed that the walls were lined with mirrors giving it an appearance of being much larger than it really was. Even so the elevator measured at least 20 feet by 20 feet and the ceiling was almost 10 feet tall. It seemed that Adolph Hitler was claustrophobic and this elevator was designed to minimize the impact. It even had green leather benches that folded down from the walls so that the passengers could sit and be comfortable while making the 400 foot trip. The benches are not used anymore, to make room for 40 or so passengers with each trip.

When the elevator stopped at the top and the doors opened, we found ourselves in a restaurant. To the right, lay the large conference room that Hitler had built, with a small room off of it, where Eva Braun used to stay and entertain her guests. The restaurant lay straight ahead and to the left was the path to the outside. To the extreme right was an open air part of the restaurant. Straight ahead lay the paths to the viewing stations. A little bit to the left was the souvenir kiosk. We went outside and went up another 100 feet or so and stopped to view the scenery. I believe it was on the north side of the mountain, you could look down and see a footpath that led to the valley floor below. I believe we were almost one mile above the valley floor. To the south you could see a ring of mountains that were part of the Austrian border. This is not the highest we have been to in Europe but the extremely steep side of the mountain makes it appear you were standing atop a pillar in a vast bowl. The clear weather gave us many opportunities to take breathtaking photos. Considering the narrow steep road and the steep cliffs one could be assured unwelcome guests would find it difficult to get to your front door. After a while, we reluctantly made our way back to the elevator and descended 400 feet back to the damp tunnel. You have to make reservations for the bus going down as soon as you arrive in the parking lot on the way up. We had just enough time to take a last picture or two, before our bus started to load.

Three buses loaded to go down the hill. We managed to select the front bus. We had thought that the buses went uphill very fast considering the sharp turns and narrow roads but on the way down, it seemed like we went even faster. The buses seemed to pick up speed as we started down the grade. The driver was continuously applying the brakes with extra emphasis just prior to each hairpin turn. It gave me the feeling of being in a high adventure movie and the bus was about to leap out into space and fall thousands of feet to the valley below.

About halfway down our bus pulled very close to the left edge of the road and came to a stop. We first suspected that it was to let the brakes cool off. After sitting there a few minutes, we saw a convoy of four buses coming out of a tunnel and flying by us on the right. We don't think we passed any downward

buses on the way up but then we could have had our eyes closed. After the fourth bus passed, we were still stopped. Just as we were wondering why we were still there, a fifth bus came out of the tunnel and flew by. I do not know what the signal was, but our bus immediately rocketed downhill barely missing the rear end of the upward going bus and we continued our flight to the parking lot. We discussed what maintenance procedures were necessary to keep the buses running. On the way up, the motor was very essential and we hope they check the brakes often for wear.

We hurriedly ran through the gift shop and went to our parked car. We hoped to get west of Innsbruck today. As we drove down the road, we came to a small town. We noticed that all the traffic was stopped in our direction and no cars were coming toward us. We noticed the people in the cars in front of us were getting out of their cars hurriedly. We grabbed our cameras and jumped out also. We had barely gotten out of the car when the parade arrived. The parade was led by some well dressed cows, complete with their Christmas tree headdresses and massive bells. There were many people driving this herd of cattle through the town, celebrating the return from the high country. The herders were dressed in their native costume. The men in lederhosen and the women in dirldes. Our picture did not do as well as when we saw the decorated cows in the field. We were too close and there were too many people lining the road. It seems that it is a very nice festival and everyone including the natives seem to enjoy it. The setting was very picture-postcard-like with the high Austrian Alps that already had patches of snow on them. It appeared that even though the valleys would be warmer than the high meadows, it would still be very cold.

As we continued westward towards Innsbruck, we noticed some very unusual lawn mowers. The mowers were pulled by a tractor and instead of a bag to collect the clippings, there was a large cart attached in the back. The farmer would make a couple of swaths through the fields, cutting the desired amount of lush green grass. This grass would be taken to the barn and the cows would eat this all night. I had looked in a barn on our previous trip and had seen cows eating from this sea of green grass and had wondered how they had acquired it. So every day after the evening milking the cows would have their fill of fresh cut green grass. This specialized mower was a lot less work than I had imagined.

Fairly late that day we arrived in a little town west of Innsbruck. We stopped at "Hanna's Haus", a B&B that we had stayed in on our previous trip. We explained to Hanna that we had one more person than we had two years before. Martha had acquired a husband. It was at Hanna's home that we had witnessed the Entredunkfest parade that went by her house. We had great difficulty finding a place to eat in that it was a little bit later when we started looking. We did find a nice restaurant and had an excellent meal.

We woke early the next morning and had a wonderful Austrian breakfast with good bread, soft boiled eggs and meats. These are cold meats such as we might use for a sandwich. We left early and drove straight to Liechtenstein, finding our favorite souvenir store without any trouble this time. After we made all our purchases, we drove to the palace at Vaduz and spent time looking at the castle. I believe you can see Switzerland and Austria from the castle as well as most of Liechtenstein.

Our destination for today was the airport (or close by) at Zurich. Since we had a lot of time, we drove toward the north and followed the coast of the Bodensee for many miles. There was a nip in the September air and we could see hundreds of sailboats out on the water. We ate a light lunch at a little cafe overlooking the sea. We then headed toward Zurich. We followed the freeways and drove to the airport. As soon as we were close to the airport, we left the freeways and drove on the smaller roads looking for a B&B. The B&B sign is almost as universal as the octagonal stop sign. The sign is a cross knife and fork with a bed underneath. Most of the time it includes a B to the left and right of the crossed utensils. In German speaking countries, the wording might be "Zimmer Frei" and in France, it would be "Chambres". We found a small hotel and our balcony overlooked the runway from which we were able to see the planes stopped and you were able to sleep until daybreak the next day uninterrupted by noisy airplanes.

This was a very difficult evening in that we had to carry all the luggage out of the car into our rooms. It took well over an hour for the four of us to sort through all the presents and then pack Dave and Martha's luggage as full as we could get them. A couple of times we thought we were finished only to find another group of packages that must be taken by Dave and Martha. We finally finished all but the last minute packing and went out to eat. We had a good, but somewhat more expensive meal. Prices seem higher in Switzerland.

We woke up very early in the morning, so that we could get Dave and Martha to the airport in time for their flight. David took them to the airport while Margaret finished packing our things. After David got back, we walked around the neighborhood for a little while before we loaded up our luggage and headed out on our own again. It was fairly early and we had to drive through Zurich on our way out of town. We had decided to drive down to Lake Luzern and a little farther south before we turned around and headed back to Germany. Just as we were leaving Zurich, we came to a long tunnel. We drove many a mile climbing steadily through the tunnel.

Occasionally we would break out into the open for a short period of time only to re-enter the tunnel after a few hundred yards. It is very easy to get disoriented and wonder what direction you are traveling after a short time in the tunnels.

After the tunnels, we had a very beautiful drive to Lake Luzern. The high snow capped Alps and the deep valleys were beautiful. As we arrived on the shores of Lake Luzern we saw an unexpected glass factory. We parked and went inside and bought many places, while saying that it was too bad that Martha and Dave had left for home. We had all this new crystal and wished they could have taken it as well. Fortunately many of the things were the right size for the printer's trays, so they didn't take up much room. I think we should try to find a bumper sticker that reads, "We brake for glass factories!"

It was kind of cold and windy as we stood on the shores of Lake Luzern and the tops of some of the mountains were hidden in the clouds. A few miles down the road we stopped at a bakery and bought all kinds of good things to eat. We drove a few miles farther south and found a little road that David had picked out on the map the night before. One of the intriguing features of the road was that it had an 18% grade and looked like it almost disappeared at the top. We hoped the little Opel could handle the 18% grade.

The road rose sharply from the valley floor. We drove in second and third gear most of the time. Pretty soon we entered the clouds, making it somewhat difficult to see. At one point we saw a sign written in German. The sign meant butter and cheese for sale, so on a whim we left the narrow but well paved road and got on a much narrower dirt road that went back to a farmhouse. The road just cut through the edge of a steep hill. Green grass was above and below the road. We pulled to a stop at the gate by the barn. David was fascinated by the rustic house and barn, photographing the cows with their bells and the barking dogs, complete with their bells. Margaret made her way up to the front door and knocked. After a time, an unkempt man came to the door and Margaret indicated that she wanted to buy a small amount of cheese. Since the man spoke no English, I took Margaret a little longer to make herself understood. The man motioned for Margaret to follow him into the house. As Margaret entered, there was a similarly attired man eating his lunch in an adjoining room. Margaret became a little bit apprehensive and wondered where David was. The man led Margaret to the back of the house and opened the door to a dark, low-ceiling room. He walked over to a round of cheese that was almost three feet across and around eight inches deep. The round must have weighed in excess of 40 pounds. He sliced off a small piece for Margaret to taste. About that time David walked in, taking pictures of everything. In one corner was a spring-lead tub that had large balls of butter floating in it. David was also given a taste of the cheese. It was very good cheese. Margaret indicated she wanted to buy some and frantically yelled "Kleiner, Kleiner" meaning smaller, smaller as the man started to slice a large wedge. The wedge cost more than we had anticipated but considering the size it was very inexpensive. The man wrapped our purchases in a wax paper and made change and then we made our way to the car. At the car Margaret told David of her apprehension in the house while David was trying to tell her of the wonderful pictures he had taken.

As we drove the short distance back to the main road, we occasionally could see the town below through openings in the clouds below. It was sort of raining but only below us. As we drove, moisture formed our car, but when we were outside, it did not seem to be falling. As we got back to the main road and started to climb, we saw the farm where we bought the cheese. As soon as we got directly above the house, the road made a hairpin turn at a switch back. In the inside of the turn was a parking place complete with a bench. Since it was lunch time, we decided to stop here and eat our lunch which would include the just purchased cheese. David parked the car while Margaret prepared lunch, he walked to the edge of the road and took pictures of the farmhouse from above. Once back at the car, we started to eat our lunch. The excellent cheese even tasted better in the alpine air. The cheese went very well with the fresh bread that we had bought at the bakery that morning.

About halfway through our lunch, we heard a strange sound coming from the mountain above us. It was a sound that neither of us had ever heard before. It sounded ominous and somewhat foreboding. We started eating slower, while we were searching with our eyes the cloudy slopes above us for the source of the din. As the suspense grew almost unbearable and the noise appeared to be very close, out of the clouds came a herd of cattle being driven from the high meadows to the safe valleys below. Each of the cows had a very large bell about its neck. The bells were bigger than the cows' heads. The bells looked to be a foot wide and 15 inches long and at least six inches deep. In addition to the loud noise they made, they also kept the cows from grazing. About five herders drove this herd of thirty or more cows down the road. After the last cow was a long line of cars that were following the herd. The cows had the right-of-way. We took quite a few pictures of the herds on foot driving their cows to the lowlands. After the cows left, we finished our lunch and packed up the car. As we got ready to leave, we remarked how we had just lived another chapter from "Heidi" and we were so thankful that we had taken part in this drama.

TO BE CONTINUED