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The Newsletter of the *Naturist Action Committee* and the *Naturist Education Foundation*

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30 Years of Naturist Action!


With a stamp and a signature, history was made in February of 1991, when the Secretary of State in Nevada filed the Articles of Incorporation of the Naturist Action Committee, Inc. Thus began the story of “the NAC” but, as always, there’s quite a bit that led up to it.

This newsletter contains a pair of articles that dig into the fascinating history from the 1960’s up to 1991. Both provide great history lessons! Hopefully they will encourage more naturists to step forward and become naturist activists.

First, the article by Shannon Lewis explores the early activist interest of Lee Baxandall. Lewis’s focus is on the 1960’s up to 1989. He re-introduces some interesting concepts from Baxandall including the “propaganda of the deed” and the “naked ghetto.” Although Baxandall wasn’t writing about naturism specifically in the 1960’s, his grassroots political activism concepts certainly have the same undertones as NAC. This article conveys how big his mission really was.

Second, the article written by me, Doug Hickok, explores the direct roots of NAC around 1989-1991. It’s fair to say this research has enhanced my understanding of why NAC exists and

provides a reminder of NAC’s original purpose. By sharing it, I hope it’ll revitalize your support for naturist activism. There was clearly broad support and a passion for activism back then.

Thirty years later, we’re still staying true to our roots. As long as naturist activism is still required in our gymophobic society, we’ll be there to do our part. 

<p>FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA</p> <p>FEB 15 1991</p> <p><small>CIVIL, A. LAW SECRETARY OF STATE</small> <i>[Signature]</i></p>	<p>ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF NATURIST ACTION COMMITTEE, INC.</p> <p>I</p> <p>The name of this corporation is NATURIST ACTION COMMITTEE, INC.</p> <p>II</p> <p>(a) This corporation is a nonprofit public benefit corporation, organized solely for general charitable purposes, and is not organized for the private gain of any person.</p> <p>(b) The specific purposes of this corporation are to protect and restore the legal and constitutional rights of naturists, through defending human and civil rights secured by law and by State and Federal constitutions; to educate the public on naturist rights and values; and to advocate legislation and regulations which respect naturist rights and values.</p>
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Lee Baxandall: Evolution of an Activist

By Shannon Lewis

We Shall Spread the Penicillin

In the April 1966 issue of the New York political journal *Liberation*, a thirty-one year-old Lee Baxandall penned a memorable article that provides something of a blueprint for building an effective grassroots political movement. In the essay, Baxandall stresses that successful activism requires two key elements: an engaged and educated constituency and a readiness to infiltrate and reshape the prevailing political institutions.

He warns against acting “only as after-hours radicals,” and falling into the trap of “idealist, unpolitical, fuzzy-headed capitulation.” Baxandall makes it clear that effective activism must progress beyond protest and agitation, and that activists must strive to establish and nurture productive political alliances. “Colleagues and superiors must be won as political allies, or disarmed, or confronted,” he writes. “To win allies requires energy and a practical set of issues on which to unite a professionally encountered constituency.”

Baxandall stresses that effective activism cannot occur when participants see themselves as nothing more than vocal dissenters or separatists, or embrace an outsider status. Activists must work within the system to confront corruption or oppression. “We shall spread the penicillin of creativity and participatory democracy from within the economic lifeblood of this system. Or we shall succumb to its bacteria.”

Baxandall also recognizes the importance of a multifaceted activist approach, including the possibility of working within the existing capitalist structure to advance progressive causes when courts and politicians are unresponsive. “This country constitutionally provides for the freedom of dissident political minorities,” he writes, proposing that “we must now force the institutions of capitalism to protect the freedom to practice dissident values.”

Propaganda of the Deed

Baxandall’s naturist philosophy was shaped by his casual skinny-dipping outings during his Boy Scout years and his experiences with friends and family on the free beaches of Cape Cod. While not opposed to social nudism in private resorts and campgrounds, he recognized the activist limitations of “the world of a ghettoized nudism” as he described it in the Autumn 1984 issue of *Clothed With The Sun*. He was concerned that the nudist movement was too insular, secretive and private, and that it would never be able to effectively work within its communities and governments to establish legal protections and ultimately, widespread public acceptance of the philosophy behind social nudity if its adherents were content to remain hidden away in gated camps.

Camp nudism has long focused almost exclusively on public relations and marketing initiatives to secure a somewhat grudging level of tolerance. Early nudist publications were extremely propagandistic, depicting a society of healthy,

happy, tanned families and beautiful young women. Wordy essays repeatedly assured outsiders that nudism offered many practical benefits, ranging from stronger marriages to healthier bodies, less neuroses and fewer teen pregnancies. Interviews with the mainstream press boasted of a membership that included physicians, attorneys, celebrities, even religious leaders, often stressing that “undesirables” were never allowed to pass through the gates of the local nudist camp.

Baxandall was an enthusiast of the free beaches, where a far more diverse array of people exercised their right to be nude in nature, and he saw the exclusivity of organized nudism as problematic and counterproductive. The beaches were frequented by hippies, people of color, the LGBTQ community, outspoken feminists and single men, the very “undesirables” so many of the camps sought to exclude out of fear of tarnishing their wholesome and apolitical image. But Baxandall recognized the untapped collective power of this broad coalition of naturists, and he realized that nudist leaders could and must do much more than merely provide public relations support for private nudist businesses. In Baxandall’s eyes, social nudity wasn’t a form of recreation, it was a fundamental freedom that must be fought for on many fronts, for many people. In the June 1977 issue of *Free Beaches*, Baxandall writes, “To expand human freedoms through taking risks may make old-line nudists physically and psychologically insecure and anxious. This is a creeping conservatism, amusing to see in a social group whose premise was originally so audacious.” He goes on to advise that naturists must become more comfortable with political activism and focus less on public relations. “Carry forward the revolution through deeds rather than provocative slogans,” he writes, “since ‘propaganda of the deed’ provides the only profound agitation in any event on any issue.”

Baxandall also expressed concern that organized nudism had become more consumerist than activist. In the autumn 1984 issue of *Clothed With The Sun*, he rails against the camps and their “sexist beauty contests and backlot swingers as the answers to the need for celebrities, heroes and relationships.” This statement was no doubt inspired by the influence of a strong feminist perspective present in those early days of the publication, when many articles were harshly critical of the sexualized images in the nudist press, but perhaps it also hints at Baxandall’s distaste for the promoters of nudism that relied on pageants and pinup girl images in magazines to attract prospective members. Not only did Baxandall find these images philosophically and aesthetically objectionable, but also strategically ineffective in promoting the philosophy of social nudity. The camps wanted customers. The magazines wanted subscribers. Lee Baxandall was on a bigger mission.

The Body Acceptance Element of a New Paradigm in Formation

In the groundbreaking skinny-dipper issue of the *Green Mountain Quarterly*, published in August 1976, Baxandall’s activist leanings are, for the first time, specifically applied to

naturism, and he makes it clear that his evolving mission is much broader than merely securing spaces for nude recreation and relaxation. Nude recreation was *the way*, not *the idea*. He pushes back against the notion that social nudity is a trivial issue, “at best a harmless and perhaps healthful hobby, one that provides personal relaxation while offering nothing to social advancement.”

For those that suggested that the freedom to be nude was a trivial issue when compared to “the battle against racial oppression, national oppression, the struggle against war and fascism and authoritarian rule,” Baxandall retorts that this very innate, fundamental freedom of expression is “a key element of every one of those struggles, and more.”

“We would argue that the taboo on nudity and the direct contact with nature is... an inhibition, an unnecessary repression, destroying our sense of community and shared creature fate. It is the token of an incomplete stage of civilization, a makeshift of social control, not in the interest of civilization but rather of elites – males, generals, corporation heads. When the social nudity taboo goes, with it goes a prime inhibition on social solidarity.”

Baxandall was ready to bring the nudist and naturist philosophies out of the camps and into the mainstream. In an editorial in the October 1991 issue of *Nude & Natural*, he writes, “We didn’t want to form a narrowly-based and guarded microcosm. We didn’t care to use first names only and avoid any talk of faith or politics. We saw ourselves as the body acceptance element of a new paradigm in formation.”

“We weren’t building a new naked ghetto against the world. We were out to change ourselves, while changing the world.”

An Interest Group Which Is Not To Be Ignored

Witnessing harassment from police and park rangers, crackdowns and arrests on the free beaches and other sites popular with naturists and topfree advocates, Baxandall recognized that the movement required more than a cheerful public relations campaign, it needed legal and political savvy. It needed activism. More importantly, it needed organization. In the August 1982 *Clothed With The Sun*, Baxandall defines naturist activism as “what you do to interpose your body, spirit and mind between naturist sites or events and a repressive force that wants to terminate the site or event.” He warns that naturists must be proactive to possible threats, not reactive to immediate crises. He goes on to describe effective activism as something that demonstrates “you’re an interest group which is not to be ignored and must be accommodated.” He once again refers to the “propaganda of the deed,” which he insists is “far more powerful than what you claim, which is hardly heard and easily misunderstood.”

Baxandall was a crucial figure in the earliest naturist activist initiatives. He helped form the Free Beach Committee in 1975, worked with Eugene Callen of the Los Angeles-based Beachfront USA to designate August 7, 1976 as National Nude Beach Day, while also agreeing to store important documents related to the free beach movement at his Oshkosh warehouse, naming it the Free Beaches Documentation Center. He distributed the first issue of *Free*

Beaches newspaper in June 1976, The Naturist Society was established in 1980, and the first issue of *Clothed With The Sun* was published in 1981.

But the first steps toward a national naturist political action group came when Michelle Handler announced what was described as the “beginning of organized naturism on a whole new scale” in the Autumn 1985 issue of *Clothed With The Sun*, the formation of the Naturist Leadership Council. Formed over the course of a three-day gathering in 1985 near Charlotte, North Carolina, the meeting was attended by Lee Baxandall and representatives from a number of east coast organizations. NLC hoped to build a national collaborative network of nudist and naturist groups, funded by \$50 donations from each participating member group, along with smaller donations from individuals. A master file of relevant state nudity laws and legal briefs would be assembled, and NLC would organize workshops and share information from member groups, possibly through an ambitious “computer link-up system.”

Unfortunately, the effort failed to materialize. Internal debates over the scope of mission of the organization, combined with a lack of involvement from the already busy member groups eventually led to a restructuring effort, and a new organization focused specifically on “legal challenges and lobbying efforts,” the Naturist Nudist Leadership Council, was announced by John Sprague in the August 1988 issue of *Clothed With The Sun*. Significantly, this was backed by both TNS and ASA but failed to generate the funding necessary to become viable. Undeterred, organizers went back to the table, and The Association For Clothes Free Rights was formed at the Eastern Naturist Gathering in June 1989. A lasting solution was finally achieved when Lee Baxandall offered to open up TNS to an autonomous “action committee,” paving the way for the Naturist Action Committee, which was incorporated in 1991.

Lee Baxandall was an activist. Based on his earliest writings and approach to naturist politicking, some might even call him a radical, a term he would likely embrace, given his defense of the word in his introduction to 1972’s *Radical Perspectives in the Arts*. Citing a definition of radical as “of or relating to the root,” Baxandall proclaims, “Radical does not mean extremist or way-out and marginal. It would be more accurate to regard ‘fundamental’ as the proper synonym.” And perhaps he was unintentionally referring to himself in his 1972 introduction to *Sex-pol; essays, 1929-1934* when he referenced “the fresh generation of radical youth-whose own limitations of courage and vision, we should add, remain to be demonstrated.”

While many may view the concept of social nudity and the philosophy of naturism as revolutionary ideas, Lee Baxandall believed, and fought for the belief, that acceptance of human nudity was a fundamental right and an unmistakable indication of a civilized society.

Radical, indeed!



Grassroots Activism on a National Scale

The Formation of the Naturist Action Committee

By Doug Hickok

Even though the history of forming NAC only spans a few years (1989–1991), there's a whole alphabet soup of organizations that led up to it. There were two large national organizations during that timeframe, ASA and TNS. ASA is the American Sunbathing Association, which is currently known as the American Association for Nude Recreation (AANR). At the time, ASA was focused almost exclusively on nude recreation within private resorts and campgrounds. TNS is The Naturist Society, whose main focus has always been naturism on public lands and free beaches. Even though the two organizations covered all aspects of nudism/naturism on a national level, some still felt there was a missing piece of the puzzle.

Bridging the Gap

An article in *Nude & Natural* 9.4, penned by Irene Shannon, did a great job of summarizing the frustration that many people felt in the late 1980's. "In both organizations, ASA and TNS," she writes, "a lot of people feel like they have no voice in what actions are taken and how their money is used." She continues later on stating she "had that left-out feeling in the ASA.... The nude world is changing so fast there has to be a way that people in local areas can feel they have a real role in dealing with it. TNS started with that idea. It still [in 1990] does a great deal of umbrella assistance. But a myriad of questions and problems multiply outside the landed

clubs all over the country, and to the extent it is a one-man 'dictatorship,' benevolent or otherwise, TNS is unable to deal with it all."

Her summary is spot-on: "ACFRI, the Association for Clothes-Free Rights, Inc., was conceived in 1989 to fill those gaps and give voice and activities to those who feel left out by both TNS and ASA."

ACFRI: The Third Try

In *Nude & Natural* 9.2, articles by Larry Landrum and Leland Beverage talk about the historic meeting and the founding of the ACFRI during the June Eastern Naturist Gathering.

The Association for Clothes Free Rights, Inc. (ACFRI) was founded as a collaborative and all-inclusive "united front" to "make North America safe for nude recreation and body acceptance." It continued the work started by the Naturist Leadership Council (NLC) and later the Naturist/Nudist Leadership Council (NNLC), but purposefully avoided using the words "nudist" or "naturist" in an effort to gather support from others who may have been sympathetic to the clothes-free cause. This allowed for anyone who didn't identify as a "nudist" or "naturist" but who still enjoy clothes-free opportunities to more likely feel a desire to support ACFRI.



FOUNDING MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR CLOTHES FREE RIGHTS, INC. ACFRI continues aims of lobbying, legal initiative and coordination earlier articulated by participants in the Naturist/Nudist Leadership Council (NNLC) and before it the Naturist Leadership Council (NLC). ACFRI founding was at the 1989 Eastern Naturist Gathering.

Visible from left: Mark Orpin, Ron Marsh, George Harker, Lee Baxandall, Larry Landrum, Bern Loibl, John Kyff, Carol Newman, Turner Stokes, Lee Beverage.

Image and caption of this historic meeting is from *N* 9.2.

The NNLC never really succeeded in what it set out to do. Initially, the group wanted to pool resources from across the country to target specific potentially-winnable legislative cases. This never really happened due to a lack of organizational structure and a lack of funding. Part of organizing the ACFRI was to hopefully fix some of the issues present in the NNLC.

The NAC Idea

The ACFRI acknowledged that in order for legal and lobbying efforts to succeed, they must also educate the general public. “We can only expect favorable political decisions when we can show politicians that it is not dangerous to provide clothes-free opportunities.” They suggest publicity through news broadcasts, talk shows, and other forums, after professionally training people for these things. Not only would this help the ACFRI in its mission, but it would generate interest in the local groups and provide more local opportunities.

Primarily focused on supporting legal and lobbying efforts, the ACFRI had some pretty big goals. As part of their membership and support base, they intended to tap into the large crowd of skinny-dippers who didn't yet identify with any of the existing organizations. They intended to “foster the development of firm, cooperative relationships within the movement, with organizations such as the ASA, the Naturist Society and other similarly-oriented groups, to become an effective national organization representing the full range of clothes-free interests.” Other goals were to compile a state-by-state analysis of the laws impacting nudity, maintain a list of attorneys, maintain a good relationship with federal agencies and national organizations, train for and participate in public appearances, and develop new clothing-optional opportunities.

If the above doesn't already sound like NAC, then perhaps the finer details will. ACFRI planned to work closely with The Naturist Foundation, a new tax-exempt non-profit that was an “educational, scientific research and charitable organization that will further the interest of the clothes-free movement in a variety of ways.” ACFRI was intended to be a membership-controlled group, with elections to choose “leaders in the Naturist/Nudist movement across the United States and Canada.” The board consisted of nine directors with staggered terms, such that three will be elected by the membership each year.

Basically all of the fundamental ideas, goals, and processes that have been and are currently recognized in NAC were present in the ACFRI. The only notable exception was in the name. “Naturist” is the first word of the Naturist Action Committee, which again could have excluded all those casual skinny-dippers who didn't identify themselves as being a naturist.

ACFRI Founders

Was the ACFRI created by Lee Baxandall? No, but he did participate as a board member. Concerned activists from coast to coast were the driving force behind the ACFRI, and the

list of board members published in *Nude & Natural* 9.2 show a very diverse set of them.

The founding Board of Directors, as listed in alphabetical order, consisted of:

- ▶ Lee Baxandall, president of The Naturist Society.
- ▶ Lee Beverage, board member of the New England Naturist Association and an activist at Moonstone Beach.
- ▶ Toni Egbert, president of the Tri-State Metro Naturists.
- ▶ Larry Landrum, president of The Naturist Foundation.
- ▶ George McCormick, staff member of the Minnesota state legislature and Vice President of the Minnesota Naturists.
- ▶ David Southall, former president of the Sanibel Naturists.
- ▶ Turner Stokes, NUDEPAC leader, former president of the National Capitol Naturists, immediate past president of the American Sunbathing Association, and ASA Government Affairs Chairman.
- ▶ Judy Williams, leader of the Wreck Beach Preservation Society.
- ▶ Walt Zadanoff, owner of the Silver Valley Sun Club and vice president of the American Sunbathing Association.

Rocking the Boat

Durand Stieger, of the Sacramento River Dippers, didn't seem happy about the ACFRI. In *Nude & Natural* 9.3, he made this pretty clear: “Just what we don't need, another inadequate, ineffectual national naturist organization!”

The fundamental observation he had was that the ASA, for the 50 years prior, was focused on social nudity on private property. The Naturist Society was basically an “everything else” umbrella. His conclusion on this was that the ASA and TNS, together, cover everything without the need for an additional “bridge” organization like the ACFRI. He believed a third organization would just splinter the efforts.

He continued on with a statement that'll raise some eyebrows: “I wish to express profound thanks to Lee Baxandall for doing more for naturism in America than any other person. But, I must also point out my belief that nobody today stands more in the way of naturism's needed progress than this same Lee Baxandall.”

The various things that Baxandall did not do and the projects he did not take on are the whole reason why the NLC, NNLC, and ACFRI had come into being. None of these organizations were strong enough to survive on their own, and Stieger believed Baxandall already knew that. Stieger laid some blame on Baxandall for his encouragement in sending certain missions to “pre-doomed organizations”, and thus wasting precious naturist resources on this distraction. He was pushing Baxandall to change TNS into a more democratic and all-encompassing organization.

Of course, Baxandall published a response to Stieger in this same issue of *Nude & Natural*. Most notably, Baxandall stated: “ ‘Encouragement’ (your word) of NLC, NNLC, and finally ACFRI is not the correct word. Each of these national fledglings came along on its own feet unencouraged by me. Perhaps two dozen people in all have been behind the impetus to found these organizations. I felt it wasn't my place not to support them, if that makes sense; they represented aspirations which needed to work themselves out.”

It's worth re-reading that statement. It shows that neither Baxandall nor TNS were responsible for creating these organizations. Baxandall's participation was only because he felt he had to be part of it.

Baxandall recognized the desire by concerned activists to have some kind of independent national political infrastructure, but he specifically didn't want to centralize it like this. In his words, "TNS should work directly with local grass-roots groups, where the politics would basically remain." He remained open to improving this system, later stating that "if these functions can be improved by activating more of a national infrastructure, let us try."

Stieger made it a point to fly down to the Midwinter Gathering the following month to participate in further discussion face-to-face.

"Does An Alphabet Make a Soup?"

Returning to the article in *Nude & Natural* 9.4, Irene Shannon wrote about the above-named gathering workshop that she described as "the most lively, interesting, and potentially productive workshop ever." Leaders of both ASA and TNS were confronted by concerned activists. They expressed their feeling of having no voice, having nobody to complain to, that their individual talents weren't being utilized, and that donation dollars weren't going where they'd like them to. Almost everyone present were both ASA and TNS members and spoke with years of pent-up frustration in their voices. This "workshop" continued on for a full four hours! (Not counting the many discussions afterward.)

Naturally, the ACFRI came up as one of the talking points, since it had hoped to bridge the gap and achieve what most of the activists wanted to do. However, most everyone agreed that the ACFRI wasn't working. It was sort of a "third wheel" to the ASA and TNS. It's hard to imagine that any organization could fully come up to speed within only eight months, though.

ASA president Jack DePree made the pitch that the ASA, at a \$1 million budget, was ready to do all the things everyone wanted done and was already moving in that direction.

Durand Stieger made his pitch, suggesting that the ASA will always cater to landowners and that TNS was far more flexible. His suggestion was to "Open up TNS, with an advisory board which is an Action Committee that can function on its own to raise funds and accomplish projects, along the lines that ACFRI set out to do."

An interesting observation I had when researching ACFRI is that, after searching and browsing all of the ASA *Bulletins* of that timeframe, including what ASA Government Affairs Chairman Turner Stokes was writing, there wasn't any mention of the ACFRI. Stokes was a founding board member of ACFRI but never mentioned it in his columns. Quite possibly this was to maintain ASA Government Affairs' image.

This Midwinter Gathering clearly had an impact on them. In *The Bulletin* from April 1990, DePree conveyed a change of attitude: "In the past five years there has been a growing realization, led by Jim Hadley and Turner Stokes

among others, that there is another world out there, and it's the world of beach nudism.... The days when we could dismiss beach nudists as long-haired, hippie weirdos ... are long gone. Beach nudists are mainstream America." His conclusion was that "the ASA risks becoming irrelevant if we don't work with beach nudists, and we will miss a great growth opportunity if we don't work diligently to develop beach recreation opportunities."

"The days when we could dismiss beach nudists as long-haired, hippie weirdos ... are long gone. Beach nudists are mainstream America."

The Offer

Stieger obviously had an impact on Baxandall too during that Midwinter Gathering. In *Nude & Natural* 9.4, Lee Baxandall made "The Offer". His open letter was to Lee Beverage, acting secretary of the ACFRI.

Citing much discussion with several people at the Midwinter Gathering (including John Kyff and Morley Schloss among several other names I've mentioned already), Baxandall requested that the ACFRI establish a new "autonomous Naturist Leadership Committee of The Naturist Society." Basically, requesting that ACFRI move under the TNS umbrella so that the "ACFRI may thus achieve its objectives with the assistance of TNS and without the constraints imposed by TNS." To be clear, Baxandall specifically states "...ACFRI will establish the autonomous Naturist Leadership Committee of The Naturist Society."

To sweeten the deal further, Baxandall offered up that "TNS is to provide TNS members with the opportunity to vote for the Committee members and to donate to the Naturist Action Fund, these monies to be controlled by the Committee." He also stated "The Naturist Society is prepared to turn over N space for Committee use in publishing independently-edited and prepared materials."

In summary, Baxandall stated "The Naturist Society in this way will not dilute its authority, responsibilities or income, and will enhance the stated objectives, authority, responsibilities and fiscal health of the Committee established by ACFRI." He then waited for ACFRI's decision.

The Response

Obviously, the ACFRI accepted this offer, and the Naturist Action Committee (NAC) was born. Lee Beverage announced this in *Nude & Natural* 10.1, stating "Our Grass-roots effort lives in the NAC! ACFRI's Board of Directors recently voted to pursue this direction."

Fundraising was immediate and the goal was high, at \$50,000 per year minimum. (In the following issue of *N*, they stated an annual goal of \$300,000.) "ACFRI brings \$2,700 into NAC, a start." Beverage then described how a giving system would work through *Nude & Natural* magazine and through the membership renewals: When renewing a membership, a suggested \$15 donation could be made to NAC. TNS doesn't directly contribute to NAC. Instead, the publication and the renewals asked members for NAC donations.

On February 15th, 1991, NAC was officially

incorporated in Nevada as a non-profit 501(c)4 organization by Toni Egbert, Lee Beverage, and Durand Stieger. The full list of the nine initial Trustees are:

- ▶ Toni Egbert, from ACFRI board, is NAC Chair.
- ▶ Lee Beverage, from ACFRI board, is NAC Secretary.
- ▶ David Southall, from ACFRI board.
- ▶ Durand Stieger, chief proponent to convince Baxandall to do this.
- ▶ John Kyff, Jr., from NLC, NNLC, and attended ACFRI founding meeting.
- ▶ Morley Schloss, from the Eastern Sunbathing Association.
- ▶ John Boteler, from National Capital Naturists.
- ▶ Johanna Moore, from the International Congress of Nude Beaches, is NAC Treasurer.
- ▶ Petra Scheller, from the Federation of Canadian Naturists.

It's noteworthy to point out that the ASA VP and past President (Walt Zadanoff and Turner Stokes) didn't transition to the NAC board. They continued their efforts through the ASA instead. Lee Baxandall became an "ex officio" non-voting board member of the NAC.

Fourth Time's the Charm

The first call for candidates and election for NAC brought forth 21 candidates, and all nine board positions were elected

through the 1,099 resulting ballots. Where ACFRI only generated about \$2,700, and ended up rolling \$2,401.92 into the NAC account, NAC had about \$20,000 after the first year. This fourth try (NLC, NNLC, ACFRI, and finally NAC) was apparently the recipe for success. The rest, as they say, is history.

Even though Lee Baxandall stated that the NLC, NNLC, and ACFRI "came along on its own feet unencouraged by me," he certainly had some influence. Someone got all these activists motivated. If you pick up and read through any issue of *Clothed With The Sun*, it's likely you'll feel motivated to take action as well!

Looking Toward the Future

It's amazing that NAC has been leading the good fight for 30 years! In the 1990's, NAC published lots of updates through its newsletter. NAC Action Alerts, Advisories, and Updates are archived on the website and there's about 250 of them between 1999 and 2019. The activities during the pandemic are logged in the December newsletter. Last but not least, NAC is working on numerous projects right now!

Here's to the next 30 years!



INAUGURATION OF THE FIRST ELECTED NATURIST ACTION COMMITTEE, convened at the Eastern Naturist Gathering at Empire Haven on August 24, 1991. From left: Durand Stieger, Leland Beverage, Morley Schloss, Lee Baxandall, Johanna Moore, John Boteler, Brian Wright, Toni Egbert, Molly Moore-Sullivan. Naturist Society government affairs representative Kevin Kearney is at right.

Mark Orpen

First elected NAC board, N 11.1. John Kyff is not pictured and soon resigned due to health reasons. Next in the vote tally, Heinz Heumann, waived his board seat, and Richard Pasco ended up taking the seat. Durand Stieger also resigned early and Patrick O'Brian accepted that seat.

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