



European Burn Association

BURN CAMP COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 8

AUTUMN 2011

THE COMMITTEE

Chairperson:

Mona E. Lunke,
Nurse – Norway

Vice Chairperson:

Anita Boekelaar,
aftercare nurse –
the Netherlands

Committee members:

Carolyn Cripps, O.B.E.
Charity advisor -U.K.

Katarina Åkesson,
ICU nurse – Sweden

Marinke Plantinga,
Physiotherapist -
The Netherlands

Dear Burn Camp Friends,

Thank you to all who attended our session at the EBA congress this past September. We enjoyed meeting you and hope you got some inspiration, knowledge, and encouragement from the presentations.

Thank you to Corinne Reynders, who gave us the history of how burn camping came to the continent in the 80's. Thank you to Jan-Kees Zuiker, Kim Caluwe, and Anne Bakker, who gave interesting presentations of their projects with burn camps. We are sorry that we ran out of time, we hope this means that there is interest for a second session devoted to burn camp activities at future congresses. The committee will be meeting in December to evaluate the session, and start planning the themes for the next congress. We will also begin addressing the requests for visiting other burn camps, which were indicated on the sign-in sheets.

We would like to ask those of you, especially, who did not attend the congress a few questions. If you would take a few minutes to answer and return your replies to us, we hope to make the session, website and newsletters more burn camper-friendly.

1. Did you attend the EBA but not the burn camp session?
2. If so, why?
3. Did the cost of the congress/ hotel/ travel to the congress keep you from attending at all?
4. What issues would you like addressed by the committee?
5. Are you afraid of being misunderstood/not understanding the presentations in English?
6. Would you be interested in an extended burn camp session/workshop on opening day of the congress, when there might be less conflict with other presentations?
7. Are you interested in visiting another burn camp/ having leaders visit your camp?
8. Are you interested in more information/attending the International Assoc. of Burn Camps (IABC) workshop in Alabama, USA, October, 2012?
9. Does your burn camp have a leader handbook? Would you be willing to share it with others?

We hope you will give the questions your attention and take the time to answer. We can serve you better when we know what issues you want the committee to address. Let us know what interests you. Please mail: monalunke@gmail.com

For now, I hope you all enjoy this newsletter with interesting stories from Switzerland and Israel! And more information about the congress in the Hague!

Sincerely,
Mona

Eba congress in
The Hague





Camp for kids and teens with scars

Every year in summer, since 1997 we arrange a camp for kids and teens with scars. We always try to fit the camp programme around a theme or a story. In 2010 the theme for the camp week was "Going to the moon and back". Every year we stay in a different place in Switzerland. Last summer we went to Hochybrig, this is in central Switzerland in an alpine region.

In order that the participants get to know each other and to enforce the team spirit, we started the week with a challenging activity. Immediately upon arrival at the camp site they had to build a cord bridge together. Everyone did his/her best and in a joint effort we were successful! After about 45 minutes, the bridge over a little brook was built and every participant walked over it alone.

Thereby the final barriers between the kids were broken and a fun, exciting and enriching week could start.



As in every year, hiking, handcraft and playing games together with barbecuing on an open fire, were further activities we did during the course of the week. Also a bike tour around a mountain lake was on the program with the obligatory bathing day after. Furthermore, we went to one of the largest caves of the world and walked in there for about two hours. It was indeed for all of us a very impressive and interesting adventure!

Another day we did a workshop session with the theme "Camouflage". Everyone who was interested in covering his/her scars with makeup could participate. All of the girls and boys wanted to try and were happy with the result.

But the highlight of the week was something else. With the goal of showing the aliens on the moon what we eat in Switzerland, we went to produce our own cheese. Together with a professional cheese maker we made cheese in an alp cottage from the 18th century. Everyone had to help to stir the milk, cut the cheese pudding, take it out of the tank and press it into the cheese forms. During this process the cheese maker gave us information about the handcraft, old traditions and the genesis of cheese. After three hours, 160 litres of milk was turned into 16 cheeses of about 1kg, which had to mature in the cellar for around 14 weeks. Later on, a whole mature cheese was sent to each participants home.

Time goes by very quickly when you are enjoying yourself. And so, after 6 nights the trip to the moon was already at an end and we had to return to earth again.

Due to very generous sponsors, we're in the privileged situation which enables us to do many exciting and special activities.

Written by: Stefanie Graf, one of the leaders of this Swiss camp

An original activity:
Cheese making!





מחנה לילדים ניצולי כוויות בישראל
The Israel Burn Camp for Children
مخيم للاطفال الناجون من الحروق في اسرائيل



מרכז שניידר לרפואת ילדים בישראל
مركز شنايدر لطب الأطفال في اسرائيل
Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel

SCHNEIDER CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER OF ISRAEL



INTRODUCTION.

SCHNEIDER CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER OF ISRAEL is the only comprehensive, tertiary care hospital of its kind in the country and in the entire Middle East, **dedicated exclusively to the healthcare of all children** from the time of birth till age 18. Offering the full range of pediatric specialties, Schneider Children's also receives patients from neighboring countries and from as far away as Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, thus fulfilling its mandate to serve as a "bridge to peace" in the region. Since its establishment in 1991, Schneider Children's has become recognized as an institution of medical and academic

excellence, and today it is considered one of the leading pediatric care centers in the world.

As a national referral center, Schneider Children's receives the most complex burn injuries. On average, between one to three burn patients are hospitalized at any given time. Children with severe burns are automatically admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, after which they are transferred to the Burn Recovery Suite. Upon discharge, children require long-term multidisciplinary follow-up care and attend as outpatients in the Day Care Rehabilitation Unit.

Burn Camps

"Burn camps provide an effective means to help young burn survivors cope with their painful new world", states the Burn Advocates Network (BAN), a

support organization based in Teaneck, NJ, USA, which assists burn survivors as they face the challenges of recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration and brings therapeutic music and recreational programs to camps and burn centers all across the United



Children who participate in burn camps use their experience to share their emotions and stories in a safe, nurturing and fun environment. In addition to participating in usual camp activities such as swimming, horseback riding, hiking, canoeing, and crafts, children also gain social confidence and the ability to cope with challenges that stem from their burns. Camp also allows interaction with caregivers outside of the painful medical atmosphere. The goal is for kids to have a great time and experience personal growth.

The First Israel Burn Camp

The first burn camp for children in Israel – and the Middle East – was co-founded by Sam Davis Esq., and Marcia Levinson, head of physical therapy at Philadelphia’s Jefferson Hospital. It opened in March 2009 at Kibbutz Ha’On in the Galilee for 25 children aged 7-17 with burn injuries. Together with a staff of over 30 volunteer therapists, social workers and supporters, children enjoyed a variety of activities including a “drum circle” for learning to play different percussion instruments. “The activities were not just fun, but also an excellent way to bring young burn survivors out of isolation and depression, which frequently follows disfiguring burn injuries,” said Ms. Levinson. “It was amazing,” added Mr. Davis, “to see religious and secular, Jewish and Muslim children participating together, singing the same songs and sleeping in the same cabins. Real bonding took place.”

Participation in the Israel Burn Camp is free of charge for children with burn injuries. While all professionals volunteer their time and skills, the future operation of the Israel Burn Camp is altogether reliant on outside resources – private contributions in the main, alongside business sponsorships. Each burn victim, irrespective of race or religion, will be recommended by the treating institution.



The next camp is scheduled to take place in March 2010 (prior to the Passover Festival).

It is hoped that sufficient funding will be raised to support the participation of 35 children, along with two children from the USA.

The camp will run for 4 days (3 nights) and include a wide range of fun activities as well as special treatments for burn patients, such as massages to promote physical and emotional well-being. The Heads of Schneider Children’s Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy services – Yuliana Eshel and Nili Arbel, respectively – will once again volunteer their services to children throughout the duration of the camp alongside their colleagues from other medical centers.

Written by Yuliana (2009)

The 4th Burn Camp in Israel will be
In April 2012

See also on Facebook:
Sababa, the Israel Burn Camp
For children: many photographs
And nice films!



“The courage of life is often ... a magnificent mixture of triumph and tragedy” (John F. Kennedy)

EBA Congress in the Hague september 2011

During our burn camp session at the congress a new CD "How to organise Burn camps and other support programmes for Burn Survivors" was presented.

The last few years we have been working on new chapters of the booklet. The booklet was first presented at the 2001 congress in Lyon, where a burn camp workshop was held. Two years ago we have revised the booklet. At the congress in Lausanne it came available as a booklet and as a CD.

The new chapters we have added now, give information of possible activities for older children, young adults and adults. For older children you can think of starting the camp on a more serious tone with conversations about the impact the scars have on their lives, and a workshop self defence for instance. Later on all kind of fun activities can be held. For young adults a sailing trip and a survival weekend are described.

The booklet gives suggestions for adult activities like a residential burn camp, a national survivors day, a partner weekend, walking tours and swimming activities. And an example is given of a small camp held in Sweden, with items like horsemanship and Qi-gong.

Our experiences have learned that specialised programmes for adolescents, young adults and adults are very much appreciated by the participants. As with younger children, companionship, sharing experiences and learning from each other in a pleasant surrounding, also benefits older participants.

Interested people are invited to ask for a CD

at aboekelaar@rkz.nl

More information about the EBA:

www.euroburn.org



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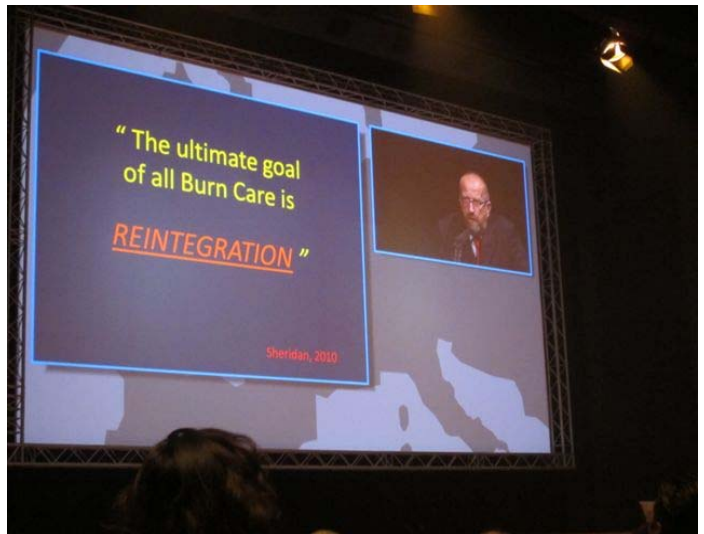
**NEWSLETTER VOLUME 8
AUTUMN 2011**

PAGE 6

IMPRESSION OF THE CONGRESS



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The EBA Burn Camp Committee likes to thank Rudi and Luzia for all the work they have done for the PAM Committee! We are also grateful for the meaningful cooperation between our two committees!

Mona, Carolyn, Katarina, Marinke and Anita

