

DEAR FRIENDS FROM COEXISTENCES, SUPPORTERS AND MEMBERS



ASCENSION DU MONT-BLANC (PHOTO: FRANÇOIS FEIHL)

FOLLOW-UP OF THE MONT-BLANC CLIMB BY THE HAIFA YOUTH

We are getting some very encouraging and rewarding news from the group. Since their return from their successful climb of the Mont-Blanc, the 8 youth of Haifa have worked very hard and have defined the basis of their future action. As outlined during the diner on August 1st at La Fouly, their aim is to try conveying a message to the young generation of Israel: that when mutual help, trust and respect are the foundations of a common effort, then any mission, any task become possible and distrust can give way to friendship. To convey the message that a judeo-arab coexistence is possible, they will visit 5 Jewish and 5 Arab schools. They will present in pairs of arab-jew the presentation of the Breaking the Ice 2010 expedition and their testimony to students in their final years of high-school.

To foster this positive interaction between youth from different backgrounds and make them acquainted with mutual support, they will propose to the youth attending the presentation to take part in a day of activities and challenges in nature.

For those who would like to continue with common activities or trekking, the group will offer help and advices, to: Develop tolerance and patience, break the stereotypes, Bring together closer the Arab and Jewish youth,

Develop individual and group communication through enriching activities in nature

These activities will be held with the authorization of the parents. No financial contribution will be asked, but the parents will have to help shuttle the kids on the activity day. Besides, Tomer and Olfat are organizing meetings between two clubs of cyclists, Jewish and Arab, of the Misgav area. The Mont-Blanc Breaking the Ice 2010 team has finalized the visuals and the content of the presentation, the integration of the project on Facebook and the work on the clubs of cyclists. They are contacting schools as we speak to present their projects and get some time slots. For those who have met her, you will recognize in this rigorous approach the distinctive mark of Olfat, who builds so well on the enthusiasm and the sincerity of these youth who are keeping the words of their commitment.

NEWS FROM THE YMCA

In spite of the departure of Sylvie Berkowitch and the arrival of a new director, the Coexistences program of the West Jerusalem YMCA continues. The recruitment of new youth has started and a 2011 summer trip is being prepared.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010

It was held on November 11, 2010 in Lausanne. The Activities of the Association's report 2009-2010 with the 2009 accounts and the activities held between June 2009 and September 2010 was approved and is available online.

From an association born 6 years ago from the will of a mere 20 people, we have grown now to 154 members, 47 donors and 150 supporters.

The resignations and nominations to the committee have been postponed to the statutory general assembly of April 2011, given the imminence of this event and the other important item on the agenda of the general assembly, the action of the association in the future.

The intense activity of these last two years with a greater number of groups hosted in Switzerland, of adults (the soldiers of Wounded Xssing Borders, the religious leaders of the Ono group, the Mont-Blanc youth), imply a greater ambition than the initial intent of our association. This intensification of activities has led to new organizational, fund raising challenges and internal coordination challenges.

Therefore the logical question is whether this increase in number as well as public and media activities is really what we wish, and if so, whether the current structure is suited to this ambition, and which conclusions and actions do we need to draw from this analysis.

A first working session involving the committee and the heads of the work groups was held on October 10 and made some recommendations; the summary of this work was presented at the general assembly and it was agreed that this work needed to be developed further on January 16th with those interested and wishing to participate.

A LITTLE REMINDER OR AN ANNOUNCEMENT

The concert of the Bal Jaune du Petit Nouvel An will take place on January 14 at the Montbenon Casino, Lausanne. More details will be sent out very soon and we already look forward to seeing you in numbers at this first and very special event of the year.

What is the Bal Jaune? It is a dancing evening where the Orchestre Jaune plays live famous old Italian rocks or screaming slows with wit and a unique blend of professionalism and fun. The result is joy and happiness that stick to you for many days...

The Bal Jaune du Petit Nouvel An is important for us as we derive funds for our activities from the sale of the entrance

**GRAND BAL
DU PETIT NOUVEL AN**
AVEC L'ORCHESTRE JAUNE
WWW.ORCHESTREJAUNE.CH

VENDREDI 14 JANVIER 2011
CASINO DE MONTBENON, LAUSANNE
BAL DE 21 H À 2 H, PORTES, SOUPES ET SANDWICHES DES 20 H
ADULTES 30.- / ETUDIANTS 15.- / SOUTIEN 50.-
EN FAVEUR DE COEXISTENCES
WWW.COEXISTENCES.CH



tickets and food & drinks. This is why we need to reach at least 400 visitors. Thank you for passing the word around as of now publicizing this unique evening! The prom will run from 9pm to 2 am so that it allows to combine activities that evening.

From deep under snow and well into the Avent season leading to Christmas, while Eid was celebrated and Hanukha starts, we, the Communication group and everyone at Coexistences, wish you a beautiful and happy holiday season. We wish you also health, happiness, fulfillment, peace, good resolutions and keen volunteering for the year to come. And as the first year of these Newsletters closes, we hope that they have given you as much satisfaction as we have had pleasure in creating them.

**With our warmest regards,
Fiuna (Seylan-Ongen)**