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Between wind and clouds

« Mee(h)r erleben » 2015 also saw some sunlight.

Johannes from Böblingen participated for the 3rd time at « Rosenfelder Strand ». He discovered naturism in New-Zealand, because in his Swabian homeland, the choice of nudist beaches is not great and that's why the "Rosenfelder Strand" is always a special event for him. Ronny from the city of Jena is also involved for many years and it's the same for many others.

A fascinating event attracts many participants.

A good mix...



It's the mix of people, meetings and events that makes the charm of "Mee(h)r erleben". It is the same for the weather conditions that were very special in 2015. Records were broken regarding the number of participants to the naturist race. Other records have not been achieved due to the weather conditions during the naturist hike. The first naturist hike had to be canceled completely. But the main factor for "Mee(h)r erleben" are always the participants. About twenty volunteers were needed day by day to prepare the grills and other succulent menus to fill hungry stomachs

in the evening. Such an event can't be organized without volunteer's assistants, as stated repeatedly by the organizer Günther Hedderich.



..was only present at "Mee(h)r erleben" during some periods and days. Only the naturist race took advantage of a sunny day. Otherwise, a cool wind swept often over the place and the beach, but it rained most of the time

only during the nights. Some hoped for a repeat of the great weather during recent

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A splendid weather...



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years. But it's perhaps better not to expect too much for fear of being disappointed. Some events had to be canceled completely; the fantastic trampoline was rarely used. But one should follow the logic of the DLRG (Maritime Search and Rescue Society): « The Baltic Sea is not frozen, no hail or snow. Where is the bad weather? ». Claudia had found the solution: She jumped without hesitation in the waves of Baltic Sea where the DLRG showed a temperature of 16 ° for the sea and in the air. « At home, the Pacific Ocean is also only 16 degrees, but the air is a bit warmer». So one could say that time has contributed to a greater variety.

Expectations and wishes....



Saturday Last allowed us to get some sleep. The training in the various sport disciplines was canceled, а welldeserved rest for the participants before the big foreseen effort. But most,

given the first rays of sun, had breakfast in the open air in front of their tents and caravans. Some brave moved even to the beach. About ten o'clock there was already the big rush to get a starting number for the naturist race. The children were very eager to see painting their starting number on their skin. The tension mounted for Uli and Sigrid from the city of Bremen, because due to early training they had gained confidence in their strength at home and took advantage of the holiday to sleep well. Sigrid was nevertheless sure to get a good place in the middle of the group. Patrick from the city of Kaiserslautern realistically appreciated his abilities and thought he could run the ten kilometers in under an hour.

He performs his (textile) training around his hometown in the absence of other possibilities. He is delighted every year with his family to practice naturism here. For Alexander Gifhorn from the city of Lüneburg, only the participation is important. Especially the nudist race interests him because it is practicable here without problems. He sometimes tries this at home in the forest by constantly having his shorts by hands.

At the beach, the delegation of 33 members of the Danish naturists resumes its forces since 22 of them are participating in the naturist race. Several patriots painted their national flag on their bodies. This is already their 2nd presence at the naturist race. Other



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participants imitate this. In this way, the flags of the United States and of Bavaria appeared during the race.

On your marks, ready, go!



The starting line gets gradually crowded when approaching 2 pm. The photographer of the local "Lübecker newspaper Nachrichten" is impressed. Some other accredited photographers from the DFK are also present, private cameras being prohibited. A respectful handling of people's pictures is mandatory.

More than 70 helpers have already taken place around the route. The drinking water supply is guaranteed with clear fresh water, not mineral, promoting the movement. Due to the relatively cool weather during the past few days, the number of participants has only skyrocketed over the past three days. Unexpectedly, a record participation of 201 participants has been reached. It was also a good day for members of the DLRG and volunteer firefighters from the village of Grube. The international nudist race is a charity run. Entry fees will be divided equally between the DLRG and volunteer firefighters.

Gradually, the runners took place at the starting line. Children's participation was so great that they had to perform two separate starts. This is quite promising for the years ahead. All hikers were duly applauded by the audience. It was really successful to see some children run with adults and get respectable results. Julia was not impressed during the 5000 meters and kept her personal rhythm, guarantor of success. Leonard did the same and Alexander from the state of California (US) fully exploited his physical condition. His parents also participated. It was a challenge for all hikers and they well managed under sunny skies of the Baltic Sea.

A unique experience for children...

Some adults disappeared during the race with their towel and enjoyed a break on the beach. They had deserved it: Marcel and his friends had entertained the children of the circus and other events all over the past week. Trampoline competitions and building sand castles were included there. "Bingo" games were held during the evening. The few



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hours at the beach during the naturist race were for them just the calm before the storm, because the circus show was held in the evening. One could point out that this had delighted the children since no one missed rehearsals. Nobody voluntarily came late to rehearsals, and many feats were still dutifully repeated on Saturday morning in the presence of parents.

The rehearsals were held under very difficult conditions under the main tent due to the bad weather. Coordination was difficult; not only for children but also for many adults as the children's Saturday evening circus show was undoubtedly the highlight of the week at "Rosenfelder Strand".

These are just some impressions of a rather windy week that offered much diversity. Contacts, meetings, friendships and memories were brought back home. Since the weather gradually improved at the end of this event, some spontaneously decided to extend their stay. It was really the highlight of this meeting.

> Pictures: Detlef Schleicher (DFK) German text: Dirk Koch (DFK) EN translation by Jean (INF-ENC)

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