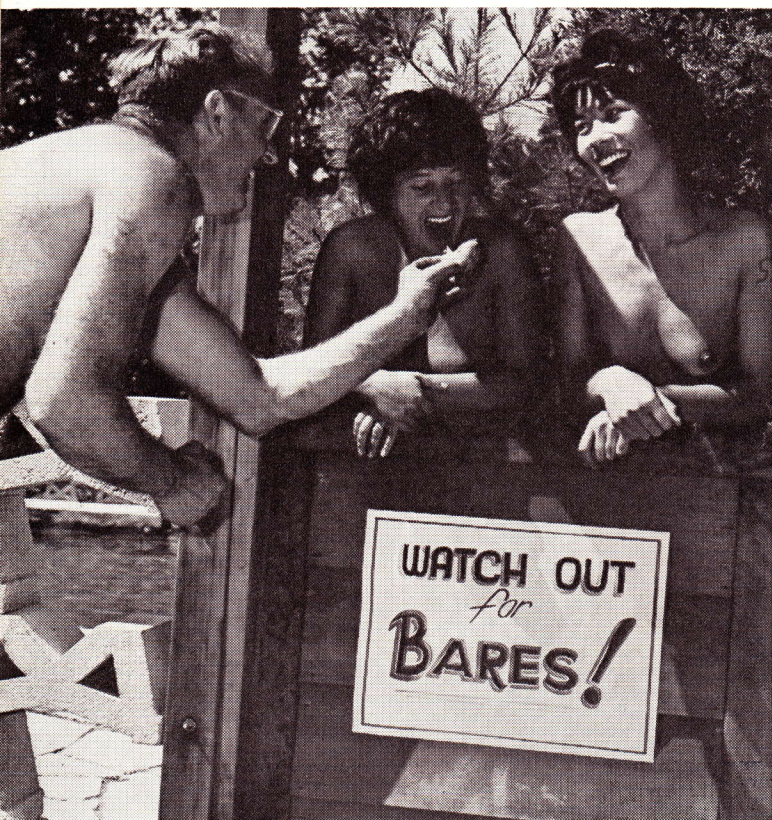


Well-graded roads lead to Sun Valley Gardens. Sign and intercom on right post evidence Ruebles' concern for good community relations.

A "Natural" for Sun Valley Gardens—

SEVEN COME ELEVEN...

By Michael Leonard



Karl Ruehle, SVG owner, offers a peach to a couple of peachy nudists. They are leaning on new redwood gate at entrance to pool.

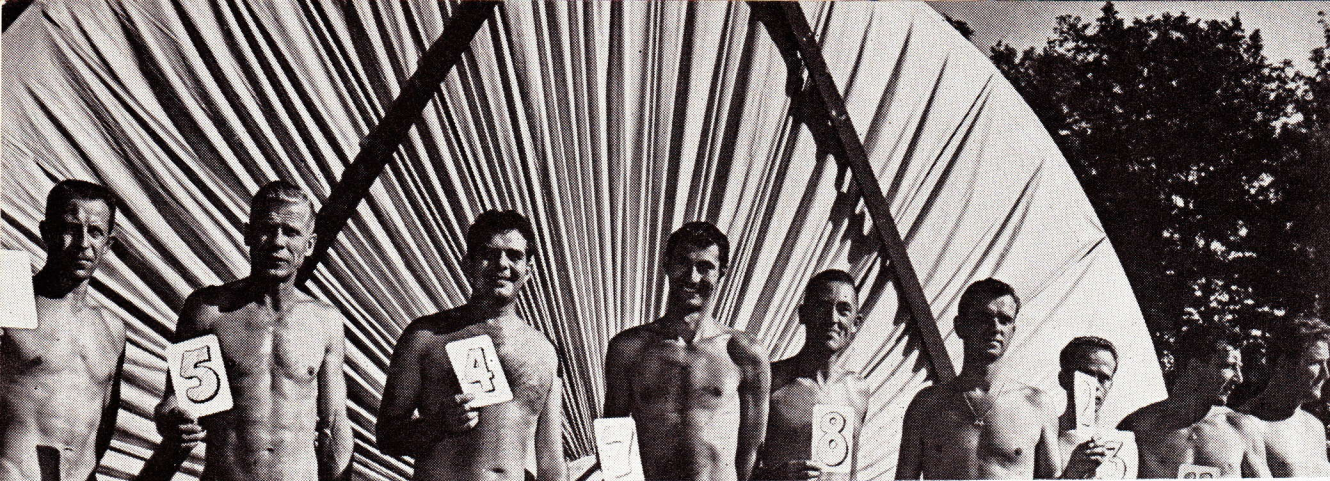
IN OUR COMPLEX daily lives, no matter what our station in life, we are constantly called on to make decisions which ultimately influence our lives and perhaps those around us. The question often arises: if you enjoy what you have, would you be happier with more?

Karl and Marlies Ruehle, owner-operators of Canada's largest nudist stronghold, Sun Valley Gardens, came face to face with this dilemma some three years ago. They had been in operation seven years. Their facilities showed signs of strain due to constant growth in membership since their humble beginnings. They had to decide whether to control membership and do with what they had or go for broke and let Topsy just grow and try to keep up with it all. Liking what they had, Karl and Marlies decided on the latter course.

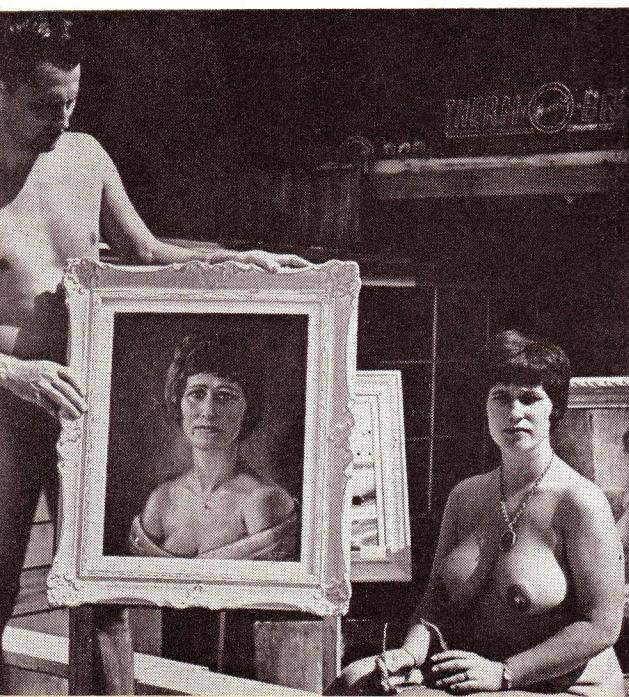
Sun Valley Gardens passed the 10th season of operation with a huge celebration of their Anniversary Days over the 1964 Labor Day week end, incidentally proving the Ruehles had made the right decision. With well over 600 skinkfolk in attendance, it was a sight to see. My travel agenda includes at least two visits a year to this resort, and each time I return it is with utter amazement that I see Karl has up and done it again — a new motel unit, a new snack bar, or something — but this time I could not believe my eyes. He is under way with a complete new apartment on top of the present familiar central structure, with a new three-stall garage on the side. These garages are king-size, to hold workshops, photo labs, storage for camp equipment, etc.

So on it goes — and this is not all. At the costume





Volleyball game had to be called for selection of Mr. SVG from among camp's finest. Below, Michael Rueble shows off something he picked up at rummage sale to two ladies strolling on sidewalk just like downtown.



Artistry in evidence includes portrait by Canadian artist and blue, gold, sequinned crowns made for this occasion.



ball and talent show held on the gaily-decorated dance floor, announcement was made that by next year, on that very site the new clubhouse will be erected. Oh, yes. It's all part of the master plan. The concrete foundation and piers that hold the present floor are already in and are large enough to hold a two-story structure. Karl told me once, "Michael, I believe in building for permanence. Concrete block, cement, redwood, steel, etc. If you do it, do it right and only once. Then it's done. Ja?"

On Saturday, SVG held a giant bake sale, rummage

a card with our name and address on it. Everyone let his go at the same time. What a spectacle! Then several large balloons were filled. One bearing a large wallet of nudist literature was set aside to be released by the winners of the Mr. and Miss SVG contest. What happened? I received a letter from Karl a couple of weeks later and he said that two balloons were found by farmers, one in New York and one in Pennsylvania, and they responded by mail. How about that?

In the "royalty" selection Mr. and Miss SVG, a Master



Bevy of beauties falls in for contest in larger numbers than in many American conventions. To be eligible contestants must sign photo releases.

sale, a treasure hunt and costume party for children under 12, and then with the little ones in bed, the adult costume ball. Refreshments were served continuously throughout the party. Prizes were given for the best costumes and then the whole shebang was topped off with a candlelight swim. What a day!

On Sunday the various sporting events were scheduled — volleyball, horseshoes, etc., children's games with prizes for all, and at one P. M. a gas-filled balloon flying event. Balloons sold for 10 cents and we attached to each one

and Miss SVG and a "little" Master and Miss SVG were to be chosen. Contestants? You be the judge. Pictures speak for themselves. One could not want for a more handsome, healthy and good looking group of men, women and children to represent nudism. All winners received trophies plus certificates suitable for framing (something new in nudist circles). These also were awarded to members for outstanding achievement and contributions to nudism and their club.

Ideas? Karl and Marlies are full of them, and many are



*More than festive note are these balloons.
Gas-filled, each carries nudist literature, name
and address of SVG member to contact.*

*Finalists for title of Miss SVG
each hold certificates attesting to their
participation. These were
awarded to members too for outstanding
achievement and contributions to
nudism and their club.*

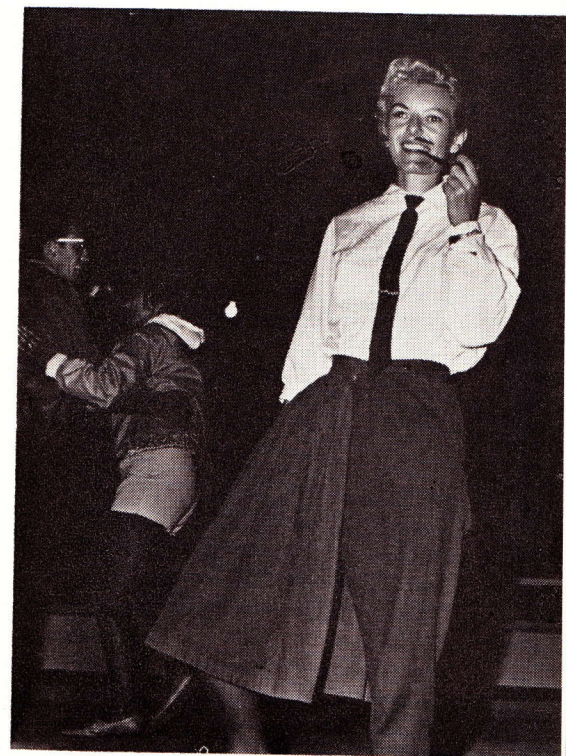
“borrowed” by others, but Karl doesn’t care, so long as nudism grows. I also learned that over the years, some 16 couples, thinking camp management would suit them as a vocation, have left SVG’s membership to start their own parks. However, Karl told me that only five or six are still in existence. But still a good percentage, I’d say. So in addition to other achievements, Karl and Marlies have also run an indoctrination school for prospective camp operators. And all this without politics. Quite an achievement! My home park owner is Alois Knapp who is a friend of Karl Ruehle, as he is to all nudists. He believes in strongly encouraging new camps and resorts to open and flourish. He further believes that this is what will eventually stimulate more participation in nudism. Why? Put nudist facilities closer to people’s reach and eventually they will at least investigate and perhaps use them. True?

So Karl and Marlies made a decision and are rolling the dice for a natural — to be the biggest, best, friendliest, most prosperous nature park operating in Canada. I am proud to be affiliated with them and wish them God-speed in reaching their goal. It’s a stimulating experience to visit SVG. Try it and see. Most folks come back for seconds. There must be a reason. ★





Rudy and Lorraine win smiles, trophies, certificates, flowers and applause as Mr. and Miss SVG.



Evening costume ball brings out the creativity in everyone. Lydia's half-man, half-woman get-up takes the cake for painstaking detail. Note shirt-blouse, makeup.