



June 2009

Dear *Hometown* Villager and Parents:

We're looking forward to seeing you this summer!

My name is Paul "Walter" Magnuson. I am the leader of *Hometown*.

There is information in this letter about your stay at *Hometown*. If you have questions about the content of this letter, please e-mail us at elv@cord.edu. We will do our best to make communication as easy as possible.

Where will you live?

Hometown, Europe is located at the Hochalpinen Institut in Ftan, Switzerland. You will be sharing a room with someone in your age group. Counselors will stay in rooms nearby. Linens and blankets will be provided for everyone.

Staff

Staff members are mostly from the United States, but also from other countries. Some staff members are college students, some are professional teachers. All of them will speak to you in English. They are all very patient.

What will you do?

There will be lots of sporting activities and diverse games in which you can participate. For example, arts and crafts, dance, music ... and you will spend a lot of time with new friends. There will be many opportunities for you to speak in English, to read English, and to write in English.

What should you bring?

The enclosed packing list should help you decide what to bring to Hometown.

- The weather can be cool or warm. Be sure to bring rain gear as well.
- Villagers who would like a more challenging outdoor experience should bring broken-in hiking boots (not new boots), a backpack, and a sleeping bag.
- You will also want a camera that is not part of your cell phone, since you will not have access to your cell phone every day.
- It's a good idea to bring along some spending money. This money can be deposited in our *Hometown* Bank and withdrawn when you need it.
- You should bring a school bag. Write your name on the bag. In the bag, please have:
 - o A notebook
 - o Envelopes
 - o A folder
 - o Pencils and pens
 - o Markers
 - o Dictionary

What not to bring:

Cigarettes and alcohol. There is no smoking and no drinking at *Hometown*.

Video games, personal music players (such as Discmans, MP3 players, or I-Pods), and non-English books (except for religious texts), distract from our program. Please do not bring them with you. If you do bring these things along, we will store them safely in our business office for you and return them at the end of the session.

Cell phone policy

If you feel you must have your mobile phone at *Hometown*, you will be given a limited time period every second day when you can use it. You will not carry your phone with you during the day. If your mobile phone is your camera as well, you should bring another camera.

Safe Deposit Box

When you arrive, you will put your passport, other identification, airplane tickets, cell phone, and money in our office to keep them safe.

We encourage you to write letters to your friends and family while at *Hometown*. Your family and friends can send letters to you at:

YOUR NAME
Hochalpinen Institut Ftan
c/o Concordia Language Villages
CH-7551 Ftan
Switzerland

Enjoy the time leading up to your *Hometown, Europe* session. I look forward to meeting you soon!

Sincerely,

Paul "Walter" Magnuson
Dean, *Hometown Europe*