

ICASSI 1987, Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands

Once again the Leeuwenhorst Congress Center at Noordwijkerhout in the Netherlands welcomed ICASSI. It was the 20th Rudolf Dreikurs Summer Institute.

Between Amsterdam and Den Haag in the midst of the bulb farms, close to the North Sea lay this peaceful, quiet place. The landscape with its windmills, green grass and mooing cows gave one an experience of freshness. The neighbourhood of Leiden gave on the taste of the Dutch Atmosphere away from the noisy tourist center. The Congress Center was ICASSI's home and catered to everyone's needs. It was renovated and modernized in comparison to the time ICASSI last met at the Center. Small informal groups often met to



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socialize after attending classes.

The Opening Ceremony, led by Theo and Antonia Schoenaker as hosts, started the intensive, sharing time. Newcomers could experience the concepts of social interest and equality immediately. All participants were welcomed with warmth and love and were inspired to attend the courses.

The special interest groups, the Dreikurs video tapes, and the in-between coffee sessions, contributed as additions to the regular classes to provide a variety of activities and programs. The smiles and encouraging atmosphere suggested a deeper dimension that strengthened belongingness in the human community.

The weekend excursions offered visits to Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Den Haag and the beautiful Dutch vicinity. To those who preferred, bicycles were available to explore nearby villages and the seaside dunes.

Evening sessions included folk songs, dances, skits, and classical music. The daily Newsletter helped keep everyone informed and participants looked forward to it each morning.

The bright and cheery office staff, especially Betty and Waltraud, helped keep the good humour for everyone. It was Betty Haeussler's last year as secretary to ICASSI. She had been with us since 1976. This was also a time of transition with Hal McAbee handing over the administrative leadership to Roland Hawes. A warm ceremony of thanks was given to Hal for his fine administrative work and never ending contribution to ICASSI.

This was the first ICASSI in Holland in which a person currently working and living in Holland was a faculty member. Ger van Eldert added a special contribution. He was appointed as liaison for ICASSI, to continue an outreach program after the Summer School ended, and in that capacity he began the mini-ICASSI program in Ireland prior to the 1988 ICASSI. He was not able to be a liaison for long. To everyone's great sorrow, Ger van Eldert died soon after the successful mini-ICASSI in Ireland.