

Eins, Drei, Zwei! – SU “Get trashed the green way!” by AEGEE-Aachen

*“If you do not know what is Flunky Ball Game and did not visit German wedding, you wasted your summer”
SU “Get trashed the green way!” Participants*

AEGEE-Aachen Summer University “Get trashed the green way!” was organised as a rare combination of three types of SUs – Language Course for those, whose passion was German language, Green SU for those, who did take care of nature, and Travel SU for lovers of traveling and exploring new cities. One may think that it is impossible to find an ideal participant for such a three-dimensional event, however 24 ideal participants have arrived to Aachen in the middle of June. At that moment 24 strangers from 10 different countries started their amazing travel-green-German-speaking competition for Broccoli points.

First week – Aachen, Rohren, Cologne, Monschau, Brussels

In the first days all participants have undergone an extreme team building in Rohren, living in one house in mountains, learning German, and playing Flunky Ball. Wait, you do not know what Flunky Ball is? Find AEGEE-Aachen people at the nearest AEGEE event to learn their favourite game, break barriers and fall in love with them once and forever.



During that time the participants were explained the Broccoli Challenge game, when during the whole period of SU one could win Broccoli points for “green actions”. The game was motivating to stay “alive” during whole Summer University, take active part in all activities and of course be green.

As the most remarkable moments of the first few days every participant would surely name night forest wandering, requiring strong nerves and iron self-control from each participant, and wonderful Monschau city with warm welcome by AEGEE-Aachen member Katja Sontag and her family.

“I feel like I know you all for ages!” said Cristina Rolli, AEGEE-Verona, going back to Aachen after days in Rohren. And this was 100% true. The feeling that in Rohren everybody acquired a new precious friend did not leave participants in the next days of learning German together or traveling to Cologne in that special, already family atmosphere.

Next trip to Brussels deserves a separate description, simply resumed by one short word “mix”. Indeed, since Brussels is a big mix of everybody and everything in one city, our two days of SU there included all possible things: from typical observing both old and new town and dancing/singing at The Grand Place, to serious role-play in the European Parliament when each of us could try on a role of the member of parliament and feel how hard is to follow party guidelines and take contradictory decisions. At that moment no one knew what a surprise expected us at the second week...

Second week – Rursee, Maastricht

The halfway point of trashing ourselves the green way was started from 44-km bike ride to Rursee, a wonderful lake in the Eifel National Park, where the participants spent their time relaxing, playing at

improvisation workshop...and wedding! That day at the lake nobody expected to finish dancing at real German wedding, however all SU participants were invited for local wedding celebration at the lake, which ended up with small live rock concert and amazing fireworks at the lake side. That night was later unanimously voted as the best and happiest night of the whole Summer University.



What can be better than a Summer University? Only two Summer Universities together! A trip to Maastricht and meeting with forever-bicycling AEGEE-Maastricht and AEGEE-Tilburg Summer University “Burgundian bicycles”, and their return visit to Aachen were that new blood, which one needs in the middle of every SU to wake up, get additional energy and once again understand how cool is to meet AEGEE people everywhere.

Final – tears, hugs and kisses



During those two weeks of “Get trashed the green way!” with AEGEE-Aachen SUpEr team under Lida Deermann’s leadership, the participants have managed to live a whole short life together, with weddings, injuries, love and friendship. Needless to say, that after constant talking in German, all participants became quite fluent in German. And after Broccoli Challenge competition even the most “no-green” participant became a little bit more ecological. After all, in two weeks 24 not-strangers-anymore, but good friends were leaving Aachen with tears in their eyes. Leaving home with extremely strong wish to come back.

Written by Olga Iatsyna, AEGEE-Dnipropetrovsk