

May 2013

Dear BioNova® Partners &
Customers,



This is a special Newsletter about BioNova® Natural Swimming Pools in Italy. As you may know, Italy is a very popular destination for holidays in Europe. It's rich in beautiful landscapes, historic buildings - especially churches - and the people there are very, very kind.

Our BioNova® Project of the Month is located in Italy. The materials used and the design of the pool have a

Mediterranean flair, and so the BioNova® NSP fits perfectly into the surrounding landscape.

The BioNova® Partner Company we want to present to you this May is also located in Italy in the small village of Borgo Valsugana in the province of South Tyrol.

If you plan to go on holiday in Italy, we'd like to suggest two beautiful destinations where you can also enjoy a chemical-free swimming experience in a BioNova® NSP: a holiday camp at Villa Castelli in Apulia, and a public NSP in the community of Toblach in the province of South Tyrol.

Last but not least, we will feature an historic BioNova® NSP built in 1996 which is still operational and in great shape: the public NSP in Corvara, Italy.

Enjoy reading!

*Rainer Grafinger, Christine Schoeck,
Andrea Enseleit, Stephanie & Jusuf Rifatov*



Project of the Month



The BioNova® Project of the Month fits perfectly into the surrounding landscape! This BioNova® NSP was built by our Italian Partner, Gino Podavini, and demonstrates a true Mediterranean influence. Although the NSP looks like a conventional swimming pool, the water is 100% chemical-free and clarified biologically. Since the NSP is built into a hillside, Gino Podavini constructed two narrow, rectangular basins for the 28 square meter (300 sq ft) regeneration zone.

The photograph of the regeneration zone was taken directly after the NSP was built last year, so

you'll see that it is not planted yet. Please imagine this regeneration zone full of lush, green aquatic plants with colorful blossoms. That's exactly what it will look like this season!

The swimming pool is 48 square meters (517 sq ft) with an infinity edge overlooking the beautiful Italian landscape. The water remains crystal clear without the use of chemicals - who wouldn't love that?



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BioNova® Family



The BioNova® Family has a number of Italian Partners. Gino Podavini is the Head of BioNova® Italy. You just read about his beautiful Project of the Month. We also presented his company Garda Bio Pools (www.gardabiopools.com) in detail in the April 2012 BioNova® Newsletter. If you missed one of our Newsletters, please visit our archive at:

<http://bionovanaturalpools.com/contact-us/newsletter-download/>

or contact info@bionovanaturalpools.com

In this month's BioNova® Newsletter we want to present the Italian BioNova® Partner Flavio Voltolini in detail. He is the Head of a team of architects whose office is in Borgo Valsugana in South Tyrol. The company has five employees who work on residential and public projects.

Mr. Voltolini first contacted Gino Podavini just to get some information about natural ponds. They began talking about BioNova® NSPs and Mr. Voltolini fell in love with the idea of biologically filtered water for swimming and bathing, so he and Gino Podavini met several times to discuss the possibilities of BioNova® NSPs and the advantages of a BioNova® Partnership. Also, Rainer Grafinger (CEO of BioNova® Global) travelled to Italy to meet with Mr. Voltolini in person, and shortly after Mr. Voltolini decided to join the BioNova® Family. The combination of architecture and nature is always very interesting, and we hope to present some more pictures of NSPs built by this Team of architects soon!

Not long ago, the BioNova® Family welcomed two more Italian Partners: Dr. Torresan Terenzio and his company Il Giardiniere Verde (www.ilgiardiniere-verde.it) in Vicenza, Italy and the company DAF Costruzioni s.r.l from Monopoli, Italy (www.dafcostruzioni.it).

We will present these partners in more detail in one of our upcoming Newsletters!



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Upcoming Events

June

BioNova® Summer Meeting 2013 - June 18-20, 2013 - Metropolitan area near Bocholt, Germany

The BioNova® Global Head Office invites all Partners to come to the annual BioNova® Summer Meeting in June, 2013. On the agenda for this year's Summer Meeting are activities including visiting some BioNova® NSPs built by the local BioNova® Partner Gartenpartner Bitters, and interesting lectures about limnology and fertilizing aquatic plants. In addition, the local BioNova® Partners Konrad and Andrea Bitters invite all BioNova® Partners to a barbecue on Wednesday evening.

We hope to welcome many of our BioNova® Partners at this meeting in June! The invitations were sent out by email to all BioNova® Partners.

July

One Day Seminar on Natural Swimming

Pools/Ponds - July 27, 2013 - Chicago, Illinois, USA

BioNova® Natural Pools will host a One Day Seminar on NSPs in Chicago, IL on July 27, 2013. Homeowners, Students, Pool Builders, Landscape Professionals, and anyone interested learning more about these sustainable watershapes are welcome to attend! Please click [here](#) for more information.



August

Information Session on Natural Swimming Pools/Ponds - August 1, 2013 - Binningen, Switzerland

In August, BioNova® Partner Heinz Gutjahr will once again hold an information session on NSPs at the office of VIVA Horticulture AG in Binningen, Switzerland. All swimming pool/pond owners and other interested parties are invited to participate. For more information, please contact: mail@viva-gartenbau.ch

Second Annual Training Program for BioNova® Partners in North America - August 7-11, 2013 - Morristown, New Jersey, USA

This event will be held from August 7-11 in historic Morristown, New Jersey. In addition to classroom training, the Partners will take field trips to pools in Princeton, NJ and Killingworth, CT. If you are a Landscape, Pool, or Design professional and you are interested in attending, please contact Alan Weene (alan@bionovanaturalpools.com) to learn how you can join our Team and participate in this world-class training event. To all current BioNova® Partners in North America: please save these dates on your calendar and we look forward to seeing you all then!



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A BioNova® NSP in Apulia, Italy



We are proud to offer you a suggestion for your next holiday in Italy! If you enjoy spending your holidays outdoors and appreciate Nature then you will love the Masseria Sciaiani Piccola (www.sciaiani.it). This holiday camp is located in the small, peaceful village Villa Castelli in Apulia, southern Italy. It's a long way to travel by car - and if you travel by plane you will arrive at the airport in Bari, which is 90 km away from Villa Castelli, so you have to rent a car anyway - but this place is worth the extra effort! At Villa Castelli you'll get to know the pure, traditional Italy!

On your way to Villa Castelli you may see some strange stone buildings. These "Trullis" were the typical homes for this region in former times. Most of these Trullis consist of one room. The design looks like they were "dropped" onto the landscape. The opening at the top is used for ventilation and as chimney, and the massive stone walls are the perfect protection against the heat. Many of these buildings are in disrepair, but the locals have begun to renovate them.



During your holiday at Villa Castelli you can rent some of these Trullis. The owner, Lorenzo Marco, and his employees renovated more than ten of these buildings at Masseria Sciaiani Piccola in the last years. The holiday camp also has sporting grounds and a tavern. Until 2009, the holiday camp had everything that tourists needed - except a place to swim! A chemical pool didn't fit into the ecological concept of the holiday camp, but a natural swimming pool was the perfect solution. In 2009, the owner built a BioNova® NSP with the guidance of the BioNova® Global Head Office who supported him with plans and technical know-how to make the project a success. The NSP is 2.5 meters (8.2 feet) deep and has a swimming area of about 500 square meters (5,400 sq ft). There is also a separate kiddie pool just for small children! Because of the rocky terrain, the facility is made entirely of concrete and then sealed with liner. The BioNova® experts had to choose special aquatic plants that were suited to the warm climate.

Since spring 2010, the facility has been used by the guests of the Masseria and also by the residents of Villa Castelli. The temperature of the water can rise up to 30°C (86°F), but this is no problem for plants or the water quality. The NSP is surrounded by olive groves which is one of many highlights of the Masseria!



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One NSP for All



Punto Verde Ponti is the name of an extraordinary holiday and seminar center in the Piedmont region of Italy. It's located about 12 km southwest of Acqui Terme on a sunny terrace above the village of Ponti. In this beautiful landscape you can forget the stress of your daily routine and recharge your batteries. In addition to the hotel rooms, there are also indoor and outdoor spaces for seminars and workshops. But the most special thing about Punto Verde Ponti is that the whole hotel and outdoor facilities are handicap accessible.

The owners place great value on environmentalism and sustainability. The energy requirements of the facility are met by a solar photovoltaic array. They also operate an organic farm and sell homegrown produce such as fruits, vegetables, and nuts to their guests and visitors.

You may have recognized by now that the owners thought a lot about how to embrace the needs of both people and nature. A chemically treated swimming pool would certainly have been out of place.



The BioNova® NSP that has been built at Punto Verde Ponti is both

eco- and user-friendly. The swimming area is about 75 square meters (800 sq ft). Wheelchair users or physically disabled visitors can enter the pool easily with the help of a fully automated lift. A small waterfall made out of stainless steel brings additional elegance and provides the biological system with aeration.

The planted regeneration zone is completely separate from the swimming area and seamlessly integrated with the surrounding landscape - you might not even notice it at all unless someone tells you it's there.

For further information in German and Italian language please visit:

www.puntoverdeponti.it



A public NSP in the Puster Valley



At 1,200 meters above sea level you will find the community of Toblach. The village is well known for winter tourism. But many people go there to in spring, summer, and autumn to enjoy the pure natural beauty of the alpine world. Toblach truly had everything that a tourist's heart desires except for a swimming facility because the local public pool had to be closed due of technical defects. There is an alpine lake nearby, but the water there is too cold for swimming and bathing.

When the so called "Sports Zone Griess" was about to be rebuilt, the local council of Toblach decided to invest in a public NSP.

The NSP facility consists of a swimming pool, a wading area for non-swimmers, and a separate kiddie pool. There are vertical concrete walls on three sides of the pool, and the fourth side is designed like a beach entry. The pool area is surrounded by a wooden deck. There is a stairway made out of natural stones to enter and leave the pool.



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BioNova® History



1,568 meters (5,144 feet) high in the mountains is the small north Italian village of Corvara. It is classified as a first-class destination for holidays in the Dolomite Alps and has been a popular tourism spot since the 1950's. The beautiful mountain scenery is very appealing to hikers, mountain bikers, and alpinists in the summer time.

In 1996, BioNova® founder Gerhard Brandlmaier built a large public NSP with a surface area of about 2,400 square meters (26,000 sq ft). Surrounded by the summits of the Dolomite Alps, this manmade pool looks like a natural alpine lake.

The facility consists of three bodies of water (swimming pool, regeneration pond, and a pool designed especially for children) and a lawn for sun-bathing. At the concessions stand by the lake, visitors can buy beverages and snacks. There's also a playground for children with a slide and some swings.

This biotope lake is an oasis for both children and adults and a lovely attraction for visitors to Corvara.

