



Aldo's report

22nd of June – Monday

My first “official” day here at the EVS house since I’ m arrived in St. Caprais de Bordeaux. There are 6 volunteers sharing the flat with me: Aziz (Turkish - EVS), Jacob (German - EVS), Nico (French – Service Civil Volontaire), Emma (English – EVS), Lisa (Austrian – EVS) and Ruth (Portuguese – EVS). Aziz and Jacob they work together within a project called “Tools for life”: they repair old and broken tools to be sent to Africa. Nico works in the Aquitaine delegation office while Lisa, Rute and Emma are animators in different primary schools closed to St. Caprais. All of them will take part as animator at least at one work-camp this summer.

I spent the morning writing down the report of the last training week and I had a meeting with Frederic (my tutor here in St. Caprais). In the afternoon I had the possibility to interview a former French Service Civil Volontaire.

23rd of June – Tuesday

In the morning I spoke with Frederic about the possibility to have a meeting with a person working within ACSE: it would be very interesting for the research. I spent the rest of the day recollecting and organizing all the material needed for a work-camp, such as dishes, knives, spoons, cups, pots and so on.

24th of June – Wednesday

In the morning I had to organize and verify there was nothing missing in the folders to be given to the animators in charge of the several work-camps that will take place here in the Aquitaine region. In the afternoon I had to recollect other stuffs needed for the future work-camps, such as small mattress.

25th of June - Thursday

In the morning I worked in the office and I had to organize other documents to be put in the different work-camps' folders. In the afternoon I went together with Rute in a primary school closed to St. Caprais where we did some leisure's activities with children.

26th of June – Friday

I spent all the day working in the organization and subdivision of spices, salt and other stuff, legacy of the past work-camp season. Here in St. Caprais de Bordeaux life goes on very slowly.

29th of June – Monday

I spent the morning talking with Nico in order to start planning our work-camp (we will be working together in a small village called Gouriac from the third until the twenty fifth of July). We had a look at volunteers' profiles and we organized their welcome and the activities we will be doing during the first days.

In the afternoon we had a meeting with Gaell (the person in charge of the administration and organization of the work-camps here in Aquitaine) who gave us more recommendations concerning the work-camp itself (what to do and how to do it in specific situations such as volunteers missing at the arrival point, etc.) and about how to deal and behave with volunteers. After that I went to Bordeaux together with Frederic (my tutor here in St. Caprais de Bordeaux) to visit AFEV, a French organization providing scholastic support to French and foreign children. There I had the opportunity to interview a volunteer at the end of her Civic Service.

30th of June – Tuesday

I spent the morning working in the office together with Gaell. I had to answer to volunteers questions via e-mail, to distribute more material in the several work-camps' folders, etc.

In the afternoon I worked together with Nico in order to better plan and organize the first days of the work-camp, in order to better know each other and in order to decide what to cook and what to purchase!

July

1st of July – Wednesday

In the morning I went together with Nico to purchase a lot of stuff for the work-camp such as food, toilet paper and so on. After that we talked again in order to better plan the arrival of the volunteers and the activities we will be proposing during the first days.

In the afternoon I worked at the office together with Gaell helping her in several tasks such as answering phone calls and e-mails (both in French!).

2nd of July – Thursday

We spent all the day together with Nico in Gouriac, the small village where our work-camp will take place. There we met Patrice and Richard, in charge of the monitoring of our physical job:

restoration and preservation of an old path in Gouriac. Together with them we made a first inspection of the place where we will be working with the volunteers and we spoke about the job we will have to do. Moreover we made an inspection of the school where we will be living during the three weeks. Everything looks very good and the people seemed to be really nice! Tomorrow we will move to Gouriac again waiting for the volunteers and on Monday the work-camp will start!

Because of internet reasons (no connection available!) the next report will be forwarded to you at the end of the workcamp.

Carolina and Davide's report

21th of June – Sunday

We arrived at Vieille Brioude at 20o' clock with Anne, a girl who's making a stage in CONCORDIA Auvergne. We met the others volunteers for the work-camp and we've been introduced to the trainers: Aurélie, Denis & Jacquo.

After that we had some games to introduce ourselves (speed-dating dinner etc, chairs game etc..)

22th of June – Monday

In the morning we had an 'energizer' game to know better each others and then the trainers introduced to us the planning of the week with all the details and the objectives to reach at the end of the training and then they gave us all the instruction to animate our nights by our own. After that we had others plenary games to explain our past experiences and our interests.

In the second part of the morning we had a meeting to speak about this experience: our expectation, needs and why we decided to be a work-camp animator.

In the afternoon we organized all the activities like night animation or cooking and cleaning turns.

23th of June – Tuesday

During the morning we had an 'energizer' and then we had a reunion to explain our plan with all the activities of the week (linguistic dinner, an astronomic presentation, a traditional night with typical plates and folks dances, an environmental research and cooking, cleaning turns.) After that we had a meeting with Mr Ramona, a member of the general council of Haute Loire who introduced us which kind of activities, the fund and the organization of French 'Youth Sector'. Next, a new speech by Thierry, the regional delegate of Auvergne who works in CONCORDIA's office with us, about how the work-camps work, the relationship with the local people, fund and others administrative responsibilities.

The theme of the afternoon was about our responsibilities toward the work-camps volunteers on alcohol ,sex ,and drugs;what we have to do in this case of emergency during the work-camps ,how to manage this kind of situation being sensitive and straight at the same time cause will be our responsibility if something happen to the other volunteers; and was good to know this kind of

information because it's one of the crucial point during the our project ;this presentation was made with some role-play and simulation of a few of situation..

At the end the trainers explained us how to make 'the compta', the account booklet.

24th of June – Wednesday

During the morning the plan was a simulation of a typical day of work-camp organized by three of us. We pruned the plants along a country-path to facilitate the passage for the inhabitants with tractors; this as well was a very nice part during our training cause we can had a look to the practice part of our project how could be a day of work ;how hard and sometimes stressful and grateful would be for all of us a day of work another very important part to get if we're really ready for to affront something like that.

In the afternoon at first, we had a meeting all together to speak about the organization, the eventual problems and the work done during the simulation, then each one spoke directly with the three organizers to evaluate their work and next we thought about how to resolve the problems that we met during the simulation.

Then we had a plenary-game and at the end of the afternoon the trainers explained us through a scheme the dynamic of the group: its evolution during the time, its eventual problem, conflicts etc..

25th of June - Thursday

At 9:00

During the morning we had an other check about the planning of the life in common ;problem,turn for cleaning and cooking etc

After that we had the evaluation in group to create a moment during the day where your ideas coming out to have the opinion of each one of us.

After that we met the Major of Vieille Brioude ,that told to us why and when is it began the relationship between the city hall of Vieille the Brioude ,why he decided the to host the group of volunteers in a public structure.

We spoke again about the role of the animator,our responsibility ,life in group,etc.....

During the afternoon we did a confront in group to know what we get during the training ,what if we need to know more ,and etc...

And at last like every night we had the animation .

For that evening the organization for the animation was our job;we decided to have a dinner where speak in french was forbidden ,a game to learn new word that we can find during a day of work and role play (in English)to affront sensitive moments during our intercultural exchange .

And was a good idea because during the work-camps we going to speak just in English with the volunteers.

26th of June – Friday

We began the morning with an 'energizer' and then Yannick, presented us the animator's dossier in which there are a lot of useful info (food, account, responsibilities, rules, laws etc..) that could help us to organize the work-camp in a better way facing all the eventual problems.

In the second part of the morning we checked the 'compta' made previously.

During the afternoon we had a role-game organized by the volunteers to simulate a conflict situation and to found a way to resolve it. After that, all together with the trainers we examined real cases of conflict and which are the way to solve them.

Then Denis told us a little about CONCORDIA's history and after that, we prepared all the stuff to throw a party with the Vieille Broiude's inhabitants to explained them CONCORDIA's actions, aims and its organization.

27th of June - Saturday

At 9:00 we make a questionnaire to write down our experience during the training ;to say our opinion

about the the information that we got in this week;new advice to make better the activities and a personal valuation on the trainers .

Cleaning of the structure where we been hosted, all together (toilets,kitchen,class,etc....)

after that we took it off all the tents in the camp and took the receipts for close all the credit with baker of the village.

During the morning I had a individual conversation ,to make the point :what we got ,our role of animator ,feelings,and with who we're able to working with,and if we are really ready to animate work-camps.

At 13:00 we had a last lunch in the back yard all together ,and was nice moment for everyone cause of the friendship that we made.

DAILY ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY VOLUNTEERS:

- Tuesday

environmental activity: Xavier, Jérôme, Alexis, Soline and Nathalie organized a night to show us a little the Vieille Brioude's nature, we had a walk through along the river and we had to recognize certain plants and at the end they played a short comedy about environment.

- Wednesday

regional tradition activity: Anne and Alexis cooked a traditional french plate for dinner and then they taught us a regional folk dance.

- Thursday

conflict management: Alix, Julién and Elodie organized a role-game to simulate conflict that could come during a work-camp (for ex: between volunteers,between volunteers and animators or between volunteers and inhabitants..)and then all together we thought about the way to resolve it.

linguistic dinner: Carolina, Davide and Jovana throw a party where everybody had to speak in English and a lot of games to memorize useful tools useful for work-camps and to simulate eventual difficult situations caused by intercultural differences (all in English!)

- Friday

intercultural activity: Anne, Alima, Pauline organized a game to help us face our prejudices and reflect about the importance of intercultural's exchanges and how this kind of experiences could enrich everybody.

astronomic activity: Florent, Pauline and Elodie organized a night to show us what were the most important constellations with funny games.