

2016 Convention Report

As your newly elected member representative from this (South West) region of AANR, I attended the national AANR convention held August 8 through 13 at the Willamettans in Oregon.

There were meetings over three days, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, these being committee Reports, Membership Meeting, the Out Board Meeting, and the In Board Meeting. Our president, Bev Price ran a structured and efficient meeting. We started on schedule, and ended on schedule. A rare and appreciated change.

There are fourteen trustees who comprise the AANR board. The new member Trustees, by region, which were sworn in and seated at the Inboard meeting are:

AANR East	Fred Van Nest
AANR Florida	Ralph Collinson
AANR Midwest	Richard Quigley
AANR Southwest	David (Slim) Heide
AANR West	Tim Mullins
AANR Northwest	Kathy Smith
AANR Western Canada	Bob Campbell

These trustees are supposed to represent you, the members, at the International level.

Then there are club trustees, who represent the AANR clubs at the International level. These trustees represent the different size clubs.

Club Group 1,2 and 3 (club membership of 334 and up), trustees are Lewis Dreblow, Ronna Krozy and Kathy Watzel.

Club Group 4 club (membership of 215 up to 333) trustee is Patty Faber.

Club Group 5 (club membership of 139 to 214) is Joan Harris.

Club Group 6 and 7 (club membership of less than 139) trustees are Susan Weaver and Theresa "T" Price.

Much of the business of AANR is conducted by the various committees. Listed below, the various standing committees and the chair of each.

Internal Affairs,	"T" Price
Government Affairs,	Tim Mullins
Federal Government Affairs,	John Hunter
Membership Marketing,	George Oberley

Public Relations,	Sharon McLeod
Legislation	Julie Erlenmeyer/T. Price
Convention and Facilities	Brenda Spangler
Glen Miller Fund	Fred Van Nest
Planning	Kathy Watzel
Finance	Bob Campbell
Research and Education	Joan Harris/Lucy Heide
AANR Youth	Patty Faber
Club Representative	Kathy Smith

Then there are various Ad Hoc committees;

Women in Nude Recreation (WINR)	Joan Harris.
Liaison with Young Nudist Leaders	Jessica Osborne.
Utilization of Restricted Funds	Kathy Watzel.
Membership Issues	T. Price

Highlights of business, items discussed and action taken.

Membership issues were discussed. Why were the associate membership numbers so robust, and clubs seemingly reluctant to sell membership? Thus the Ad Hoc committee.

Club frustration with AANR was expressed. Examples included such things as AANR planning events and expecting the clubs to participate internationally on a certain date. Many clubs develop a yearly activities calendar. Not realistic to expect clubs to drop or change their plans to accommodate AANR. Greater cooperation with the clubs was encouraged.

It was recognized that the electronic social media was the more effective way to promote and sell our message. Coupled with this was a request for any and all members and clubs to submit content to The Bulletin. They are constantly looking for content. This is a cheap way to show case and advertise your club and region. And don't forget to submit Club Happenings.

Paradise Valley in Georgia lost their charter. This was not related to low membership, but rather a life style that is not in accordance with AANR standards. It was gratifying to see our organization stand up for decency and defend beautiful honest social nudity. Thank you AANR.

Our current President, Beverley Price was elected to the AANR Hall of Fame. This really is quite an honor. There have been very few elected since the incorporation of this organization.

Of all the honor awards available (man of the year, woman of the year, family of the year, etc.) there was only one nomination. This was for and awarded to Judy Mason, for woman of the year, for her

tireless dedication and work helping Bob Campbell with the organization's finances. Next year, at the convention at OakLake Trails, we increase the number of nominations for these awards for members who deserve to be recognized for their contributions to AANR..

Bob Campbell (finance chair) reported that AANR is in a good/strong financial position.

A reminder, for 100% clubs, interest free loans of up to \$10,000 is available through the Glen Miller fund. Repayment over five years.

Next August the AANR International convention will be in our region at Oak Lake Trails. In year 2017, it will be at De Anzas Springs in southern California.

For several years now I have heard various clubs and individuals complain about the club being the "point of sale" for AANR membership. Comments I have heard are "we are expected to sell an AANR membership. Take the money, mingle with our own, then we have to separate it out, send it on to AANR, plus we have then to give a discount to the person. This is a conflict of interest, with no or little benefit to the club. Then AANR office threatens us if our membership numbers drop." Other comments are "we don't need AANR, AANR needs us". Well, I am happy to report that AANR is (at least now) listening. T. Price is heading up an Ad Hoc committee that will be addressing such club concerns. Our President asked me to be on that committee also. Our initial meeting was most encouraging. I see positive change and attitudes, bringing benefit to the clubs and members. Beverly Price appears to be a good leader, in that she will accept change if it is researched, thought out and demonstrated how it will benefit the organization. More on this as it develops.

As your member trustee, I am to represent and champion your needs, concerns and desires. I can only do this with your feedback, your input. Please communicate with me. I promise I will listen. In years past, someone made mention to me that "we are talking, but AANR is not listening. As part of the AANR board, I promise I will listen. Contact me at dlheide@msn.com

Until next time,