

AANR-Southwest President's Message for September 2022

Greetings!

As we head into Fall, we are looking forward to the final two AANR-SW Nude Racing Series 5K runs for 2022. The first will be held at Bluebonnet in Alvord, Texas, on September 17th at 1 p.m.

The "Bare as You Dare" run at Bluebonnet will also be attended by our Membership Committee Chair who will be manning a booth to inform runners who are not AANR Members about the joys of nude recreation and the Association whose Purpose is to "...protect, publicize, and promote the practice of social nudism in a wholesome, family environment..."

AANR President Mitch London may also be in attendance to assist with the booth as will others who will be participating in the race and will help out as much as they can. One member who will be on hand is Ted Peck, who has just formed (and is the Certifying Officer of) a newly approved non-landed club, called "Southwest Nude Runners Travel Club" and will target runners at the 5K races who are not (yet) AANR members. This activity is approved by Bluebonnet management. Ted hopes to find new members at other 5K races as well, with prior approval of host club's management.

The second AANR-SW Nude Racing Series 5K run for this fall is "Chilly Cheeks", and is planned for Saturday, October 8th at 1 p.m. at Star Ranch in McDade, Texas.

Even if you don't plan to enter the races, it is Fun to watch and also Fun to volunteer at these events.

Clubs, if you have some upcoming events that you would like me to help publicize in this newsletter, please let me know! I hope to visit as many of our clubs as possible during the next 12 months.

Meanwhile, back at the Board of Directors of AANR-SW, your leadership team, which includes not only Board members, but also Committee Chairs and Special Assignments Coordinators, has been busy working on their respective assignments to help make our Region, its Clubs and Members enjoy an ever-better experience in social nudism.

As President, I have signed a contract with Star Ranch regarding our Midwinter Board Meeting, which will be held on Saturday, January 14th in Tara Hall. This meeting is very important because it is when we set the AANR-SW Budget for 2023. Each individual on the leadership team will be asked to submit any budget requests prior to the preparation of a proposed budget. Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairs will work together to formulate a proposed budget. The

2023 Budget will be discussed and finalized at this meeting and input from any of our members is always welcome. Send your ideas to me at aanrsouthwest@gmail.com.

Our Treasurer is also preparing to receive and process all co-op advertising reimbursement requests from the clubs. Please contact Wayne with questions about that program. December 1st is the deadline for submissions.

Plans are also underway for next year's Convention meetings, which will also be held at Star Ranch the weekend of June 8-11. I met with the President of the Star Ranch Board of Directors over Labor Day weekend, so we could start thinking about some ways to make Convention time more interesting and fun for our Members. We are going to offer events for Youth, more indoor games, prizes for all the games sponsored by the Region, a Meet & Greet open to everyone, an event for Women in Nude Recreation, etc. If you have some good ideas for enhancing our Convention, please let me know.

Director Dan H. has had several articles published on the AANR website and also in the latest edition of *The Bulletin*. Congratulations! (Did you know that Dan once appeared on the TV show *Who Wants to be a Millionaire*? Yep, he's famous!) Ask him about being a published author.

(Club Owners: If you are interested in hosting a Midwinter Board Meeting and/or our summer Convention meetings, please contact me. Bids for the 2024 Convention meetings will be considered at the General Assembly meeting next June. (The President selects the meeting place for the Midwinter meeting.)

Our Government Affairs Committee Chair is attending monthly meetings of the AANR GAT chats. Some new software is being utilized to follow proposed bills that could be of concern.

Our Legislation Committee Chair will be doing the work required to change the wording in our Procedure Manual from "Associate" to "Direct" now that that designation has been changed. Similar changes to our Bylaws will be made at the Convention General Assembly, as only our Members may approve changes to our Bylaws.

I am very pleased to announce that the Associates/Direct Member Committee has been working on producing a newsletter especially designed to reach out to our non-Club members. We hope this will be well-received by the more than 900 Direct Members in the Southwest Region.

The Resort and Club Management Committee is working on updating and adding to the number of Club Delegates. Delegates are *ex officio* members of the Board – they have a voice, but no vote – and they serve as a liaison to their respective clubs to pass along information about what is happening in AANR-SW. Each Club may designate one Delegate.

The Public Relations/Marketing Committee Chair has been asked to submit articles to *The Bulletin* and other publications to raise awareness of the joys of social nudism and to also help

our Clubs with advertising ideas and to educate the clubs on our co-op advertising reimbursement program.

The Planning and Goals Committee is continuing its work on a SWOT analysis with the objective of identifying specific goals for each Committee/Special Assignment and then recommending a Plan to bring those plans to realization in a timely manner. As Chair of this Committee, I feel it is very important to create an overall Strategic Plan for this Region, with each Committee responsible for doing its part to foster an enhanced experience for its members and clubs.

I had a very good report about the 3rd Annual Christian Naturist Retreat which was held at Star Ranch July 25th thru 29th. I was fortunate enough to meet some of the attendees over Labor Day weekend and hear about what a wonderful time they all had at their Retreat. I understand that there were quite a few kids in attendance with their families and I think that is a great thing. The Mission of AANR-SW is “the awareness and acceptance of social nudism and nude recreation in this region.” Our energy and work should all be in furtherance of this goal.

HELP WANTED: The Southwest Region is looking for a “media person” to take on a Special Assignment to monitor several social media sites. Up until now, Mitch London has been doing the work in this area. Being AANR President will be taking up a lot of Mitch’s time now, so he has asked me to find a replacement. If you are interested, please contact me right away. Mitch will be happy to guide you in this endeavor.

Finally, I was very pleased to be asked to be interviewed for the Star Ranch podcast. I was told I would “be famous!” I just hope that, if that is so, it will only be in a good way!

Until next time,

Lucy