

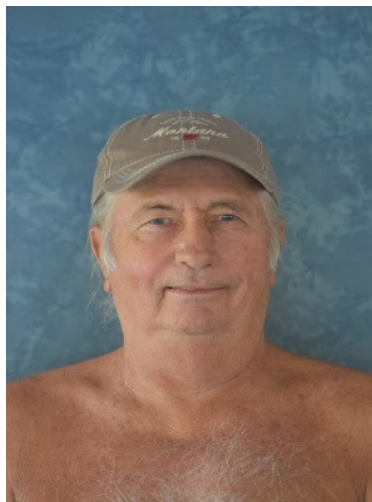
AANR-Florida Monthly Newsletter February 2023.

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AANR-Florida Monthly Newsletter
February 2023



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**AANR-Florida
President
Ralph Collinson**

President's Corner

February 2023

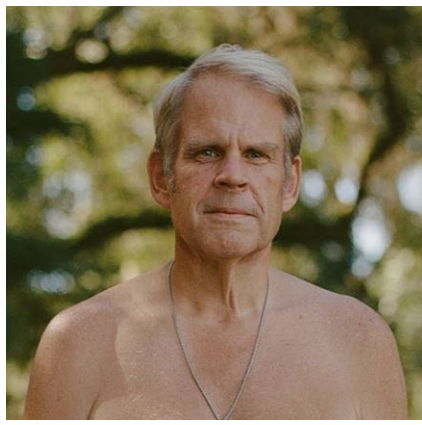
Hope everyone is doing well in the New Year. I want to thank Suwannee Valley Resort (SVR) for hosting AANR-Florida's winter meeting. Despite cool temperatures, the meeting was very well attended and SVR's staff went out of their way to make us feel welcome. Watch for a detailed article as to what took place at the meeting in an upcoming edition of The Bulletin.

Most of Florida resorts and clubs have weekly events scheduled throughout February, especially for Valentine's Day. Check your favorite club's website to see what they are planning. Cypress Cove has re-opened its beautiful Lakeside restaurant, check their website for special events in February. Lake Como is hosting AANR's Winter Meeting on February 3-5. Come out for the day or weekend and meet the AANR Board, BG Parkes, AANR-Florida's Trustee, and myself. Meetings are scheduled on Friday and Saturday and a social meet and greet is on Friday evening.

SunSport Garden's Family Nudist Resort in Loxahatchee is hosting The Naturist Society's (TNS) Winter Festival. This is one of TNS' biggest event of the year and one of the premier naturist gatherings in Florida during the winter months. Workshops are held daily from Feb.16 -21 with entertainment in the evening, naturist movies, cooking demonstrations, and field trips to Blind Creek Beach and Haulover. I will be leading several workshops including one giving updates on what is happening in Naturist circles in Florida.

If you know anyone who is worthy of being nominated to the AANR-Florida Naturist Hall of Fame please get in touch with me to discuss
(Ralph.collinson@aanr-florida.org).

I'm also interested in nominations for Man, Woman, and Family of the year. Several of our AANR Director positions will be up for election at our June Summer Meeting if you or anyone you know is interested in running for office, please contact me as soon as possible.



Erich Schuttauf
Executive Director

I look forward to seeing many of you during the Midwinter meeting of the AANR Board of Trustees at Lake Como Club in Lutz, Florida from February 3-4, 2023. A number of important subjects will be addressed including the annual association budget, government affairs developments, and much, much more.

Just one week later, the Bare Necessities Tour and Travel cruise departs from Tampa, Florida where passengers will spend two weeks journeying to beautiful destinations along the way.

If you are traveling on this voyage, please plan to stop by the AANR welcome table during days at sea and say “Hi” to AANR Club and Member Relations Director Carolyn Hawkins and others on the team. They will be happy to provide you with some free gifts, plus information about AANR clubs throughout North America. Enter for a chance to win door prizes too!

Cruise Departures are just one of the many ways that nude recreation contributes billions annually to Florida’s economy.

I deeply appreciate the many cards, emails, prayers, and good wishes that so many have extended to me as I’m restored following major surgery last month. Thank you for your thoughtfulness!



Joan Harris
Liaison Committee Chair
Liaison Committee Changes in 2023

The AANR-Florida Board held its Mid-winter Meeting on January 7th at Suwannee Valley Resort. Many thanks to BG and her staff who did a great job welcoming all of us and making us comfortable through a very cold (well, North Florida cold) weekend.

One topic of business was the Club Liaison Committee. The Board agreed that the Committee needs to increase its presence and encourage greater interaction between the liaisons and their individually assigned clubs and resorts.

According to the established Procedural Manual, the purpose of the Club Liaison Committee is first and foremost to provide open, speedy, and personal communication between AANR-Florida club leaders and members and AANR-Florida officials.

This communication is to include sharing best practices in areas such as club operations and public relations while recognizing that each club has its own special identity. It is also the means of ensuring awareness of the benefits that clubs are entitled to receive.

The Committee is responsible to share information and offer support for the formation of new clubs and work with the AANR office to help new clubs become chartered.

Other support includes contacting affected clubs that may be impacted by natural disasters to offer the support of AANR-Florida. We have seen first-hand in recent years how important this is.

All club liaisons have been trained on the procedures and purposes of the Committee. The Board believes that a more open and supportive approach with the clubs may help to establish stronger and more mutually beneficial relationships.

All club managers/owners will be contacted by their assigned liaison to mutually determine the best way for your liaison to support you. Please give this some advanced thought to be able to share your ideas. The expectation is that the liaison will make a *minimum* of two contacts with you per year, with hopefully at least one being an in-person visit.

It may take some time to get our new plans into action. In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas please contact your liaison directly, or me: Joan.harris@aanr-florida.org

I welcome all input and inquiries and look forward to hearing from you.



BG Parks
AANR-Florida Trustee

As the new year begins and our legislative issues and priorities start back up I was speaking with our Florida Vice President Mac Flack about the why's of our organization. Many people say What is AANR or Why should I become a member? Do people realize the importance of this organization? Do clubs that are both landed and non-landed understand this?

Have you ever reached out to your senators and met with them? Do you realize that your nudist rights could be taken away? How would you feel if one day you are told you can't do this, that you no longer have a right to enjoy nude recreation? Please support your rights and do not take these for granted. We need to as Mac stated at a meeting "Protect and foster a like-minded COMMUNITY of individuals who practice social nudism in appropriate settings."

AANR coined a phrase several years ago:
"Feel the Freedom."

Guess what? Freedom is not free. A politician could change your "Freedom" and "Community" with the stroke of a pen.

Many of you who are members of clubs (but not AANR members) feel protected because this is the only place you live or go. This is not the case anymore. A State or County could change the laws and regulations overnight.

So, if you enjoy your time at any of the clubs, sitting around the fire pit at night, sunbathing au natural around a pool, having a libation with your campground friends, hiking or biking on nature trails, or simply a good old community potluck put together in a minute....

Thank AANR members.

If you currently are not an AANR member, please become one, so you and I can continue to enjoy our COMMUNITY now and in the future.

If you will please take the time to read an update from our Lobbyist from Florida you will understand the importance of becoming a member today.

Governmental Affairs 2023
Monitoring
Florida Interim-Committee Meetings & Regular Legislative Session

Legislative Issues and Priorities

Monitor "Grooming" Legislation

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and the overwhelmingly Republican Legislature have taken issue with sexually explicit sex and gender education being pushed in Florida public schools, primarily between k-3rd grade, priming children for abuse by allowing such instruction pushing them to question their gender identity and sexualizing children.

Monitor Legislation Where the Alcohol Sales, Nude-Recreation, and Children Are Involved

Florida Law Chapter 562, prohibits serving, selling, or allowing alcohol to be served to anyone under 21 and is a misdemeanor in the second degree. As part of the "woke" and "grooming," the Legislature may look into curbing or prohibiting the sale of alcohol where nude recreation, adults, and children are in the same environment in the same manner where clubs that allow full nudity sometimes are prohibited from selling alcohol.

. It would behoove every resort and club to create and implement a viable action plan addressing Parent and Club responsibilities to pre-empt unwarranted legislation.

Support Beach Renourishment

Governor DeSantis continues his commitment to environmental preservation, restoration, and spending. After Hurricanes Ian and Nicole devastated the state of Florida, several counties suffered extensive or devastating beach erosion including, Lee, Collier, Volusia, and Duval among the worst impacted.

Beach restoration is critical to Florida for many reasons: tourism, private property protection, environmentally sensitive lands, turtle nesting, and better health. In previous years, we fought to preserve beach renourishment and secured three years running \$50M per year.

This year, however, environmental preservation groups are questioning in Washington and in coastal states the practice of sand dredging and its impact on the ecosystem. A balance will have to be reached between the interests of the state and the environment this year to properly balance the best interest of both. Beach renourishment is critical to all coastal areas including Haulover, Blind Creek Beach, and every other beach where nude recreation takes place.

Support and Prevent Plastic Pollution

Each year 7000 tons of wasteful plastic pollution enter the ocean in Florida posing a major threat to our marine environment and coastal economy. State pre-emption on the regulation of most plastics prevent meaningful regulatory action to curb marine plastic and its negative impacts. A coastal plastics regulation pilot bill, intentional balloon release repeal, repeal of state pre-emption on the regulation of most plastics may be a way to begin the much-needed discussion, not just nudists and eco-friendly citizens conducting yearly beach clean-ups.

Support the Protection of Clean Water and Public Health

Sewage spills and stormwater runoff threaten the health of beachgoers, coastal ecosystems, and economies. Consistent water quality monitoring and public notification is needed to protect public health and inform solutions, while significant investments are needed to repair, upgrade, and ensure the climate resilience of Florida's failing water infrastructure. We must encourage and support the Florida Department of Health appropriation of \$500,000 for the "Florida Healthy Beaches Program, Safe Waterways Act, and implementation of Blue-Green Algae Task Force recommendations.

Support Resiliency Solutions

Florida's coastal communities, infrastructure, and marine ecosystems are increasingly threatened by sea level rise, extreme weather events, and flooding. State leadership is needed to implement sea level rise solutions that advance coastal resilience, protect coastal and marine habitats and communities, and harness

the power of nature to protect and prepare Florida's coasts from flooding and sea level rise by supporting the "Resilient Florida Grant Program," and implementing CS/HB7053.

May you have a safe and healthy month ahead of you and we will look forward to those of you that are attending the AANR Board meeting at Lake Como on the 3rd – 5th of February.

Respectfully,
 BG
 Florida Trustee



Edun Lake
 Calendar
 for



February 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|--|---|----------|------------------------|---|
| | | | 1  | 2 | 3 | 4  |
| 5  Michael B | 6 | 7 | 8  | 9 | 10 | 11 Good Morning!  Have a Fabulous Saturday! |
| 12  DJ Riptide | 13 | 14 HAPPY Valentine's Day | 15  | 16 | 17 | 18  |
| 19  DJ Tony | 20 | 21 | 22  | 23 | 24 | 25  |
| 26  Guitar Terry | 27 | 28 | | | | |
| | | Notes Visit the website: https://edunlake.org/ Email us at: edunlake@gmail.com | | | Our new # 239-398-3931 | |

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February is an exciting time at Sunsport.

The Midwinter Naturist Festival, February 16-21, is Sunsport's and the Naturist Society Foundation's largest event of the year. Sunsport will be full of naturists from all over North America to choose from over 210 scheduled activities. Favorites Armand and Angelina and Faerie Elaine will return. Drum circles, live entertainment, and movies happen each evening, four or five workshops every hour daytimes, and trips to clothing-optional beaches on Tuesday. There will also be skin cancer screening available Saturday. The restaurant will be open for three buffet-style meals daily. You can find the updated full Festival program including a description of each workshop on Sunsport's and the Naturist Society Foundation's websites.

Sunsport members who lead at least two workshops or volunteer to help for at least five hours will have their registration fee waived. Those wishing to volunteer in the restaurant, at the hospitality booth, in the office, checking showers and restrooms, moving chairs, or parking cars should attend a volunteer meeting Wednesday, February 8th, at 8 pm in the pavilion.

Anyone registered for the Festival may set up a booth at no charge in Vendor/Practitioner Row as early as 9 am on Wednesday, February 15th. Vendors and practitioners must supply their own tables, chairs, canopies, etc. as desired. These booths help to enrich the Festival experience.

While at the Festival, check out the beautiful Serenity Garden which now has a Budha statue surrounded by flowers, a pond with a waterfall, and a new Zen Garden.

There will be a Community Drum Circle on Friday, February 3rd.

The Annual Coed Fun Bowl Volleyball Tournament will be on Sunday, February 26th. To register for the

volleyball tournament, sign up at the volleyball court any afternoon with a \$5 entry fee. All skill levels are mixed with teams made up of different people each game.

Ongoing activities include Water Aerobics Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 10 am, morning pickleball, line dancing Tuesday at 9:30 am, yoga Thursday at 10 am, daily afternoon petanque and volleyball, and Saturday evening dances.

The Permaculture Committee led by Geoff Farmer organized a project to remove invasive green salvinia from the surface of the pond near the clubhouse. Fifteen people spent over 2 hours using boats to move the salvinia to the dock where a crew put into buckets. The salvinia was moved to the community garden area where it will make excellent fertilizer. Thanks to all the Sunsport members and guests who helped.

The office now has a variety of Sunsport Gardens T-shirts available. The shirts have attractive designs by Christopher Vuk.

Although Sunsport's legal name is Sunsport Gardens Inc., we use the title Sunsport Gardens Family Naturist Resort. The Family part is important. There is a family with three generations residing at Sunsport plus many other children. But that's not all. Children are welcome at all activities at Sunsport. Our Midwinter Naturist Festival is the only large event sponsored by a national naturist organization that has a full schedule of activities designed to interest children. Sunsport's July Family Youth Gathering is a wonderful experience for children with parents encouraged to participate with their children. Sunsport employs several young adults. I am proud that Sunsport provides a safe, healthy resort and community for families.

Reminder: Please use the appropriate containers for throwing out items. Place materials such as clean paper and cardboard in the yellow bins; cans, plastics (except styrofoam, utensils, and bags), juice boxes, and glass and plastic bottles in the blue bins. Place large items such as platforms and furniture near, but not in, the dumpster. Place only bagged garbage and small items in the dumpster.

February is always Sunsport's busiest month of the year. Most camping sites with hook-ups are full as are rental units. However, we always have space for tenting and dry camping. This is a great time to enjoy Sunsport with friends you haven't seen for a while and an opportunity to make new friends.

**American Association For Nude Recreation -
FLORIDA REGION**

Contact Us Today



American Association for Nude Recreation | 1703 N Main St, Ste. E, Kissimmee, FL 34744