

## AANR-Florida Monthly Newsletter

September 2023

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**AANR-Florida**

**President**

**Ralph Collinson**

### President's Corner September 2023

Are you seeking one more great experience that just might be the highlight of your summer? Then check out one or more of the many AANR-affiliated nudist resorts in Florida or one of Florida's sanctioned clothing-optional beaches. September is a great month to have a one-of-a-kind clothing-free vacation.

I had the opportunity, at the beginning of August, to attend the AANR Summer Meeting at Solair Recreation League in Woodstock, Conn. If you are traveling in that area, I highly recommend visiting Solair. They have a beautiful clubhouse and pool area with a restaurant and a very active pickleball and volleyball crowd. They also have several great nature trails that you can hike naked.

The following are a few of the highlights from the convention. AANR will again participate in the Wreaths Across America effort during December 2023. Be watching "The Bulletin" for further information. The Women in Nude Recreation (WINR) calendar has been very well received. The response has been great and I believe that there are less than 55 calendars left from this initial printing.

Many awards are given out during convention, watch the Bulletin for a full listing. I would like to commend Suwannee Valley Resort for again winning the award for Increased Membership and The Glen Eden Award for Most Outstanding Publicity Event of the Year for their Nude Rock Weekend. Cypress Cove Resort won the Friendliest Club Award. Laurence Ellis won the Public Relations Non-Nudist Magazine Photo Award.

This was a project that AANR and AANR-Florida partnered on which resulted in a feature article in a worldwide publication. I would like to thank the management and members of Cypress Cove, Lake Como Nudist Resort, and Sunny Sands for their assistance in making this happen. The AANR Educational Foundation will be running a raffle in the fall. Four artworks will be up for grabs, watch "The Bulletin" for more information.

Crossed Oaks Haven will again be holding their Wigs for Kids Event at Cypress Cove Resort in Kissimmee on September 2. The day will include a silent auction, bake sale, and raffle. Hair donations can be made or you can get your hair cut on site by the experts at Natural Hair. In addition, Cypress Cove will have its normal

**Erich Schuttauf**  
**Executive Director**

**Thoughts and Concerns for People and Clubs at a Difficult Time**

While many look forward to an enjoyable holiday weekend, AANR is mindful that there are many people and clubs that are hurting. Whether it is from fires raging in Hawaii or hurricanes on the East Coast, AANR wants to know and report how those affected are doing. As of this morning, here is what the AANR office has learned in the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia:

AANR Office in Kissimmee, Florida – No injuries; no storm damage to the office or to building tenants.

Bay Bares - No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

City Retreat in Hudson, Florida - No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

Cypress Cove in Kissimmee, Florida - No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

Edun RV Club in Hudson, Florida

Hidden River Club in Georgia - No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

Lake Como Club in Pasco County, FL – No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

Travelites Club in South Carolina - No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

Whispering Pines in North Carolina - No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

White Tail Resort in Ivor, Virginia - No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

Serendipity Park in Cleveland, Georgia - No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

Sunsport Gardens in West Palm Beach / Loxahatchee, Florida -- No reported injuries; only minor wind and water damage.

Suwannee Valley Resort in White Springs, Florida – No reported injuries; however, the club had a great deal of damage and loss of power. Volunteers are pitching in to make repairs.

If you are aware of the status of other clubs or members that have not been updated here, kindly email to AANR Club and Member Relations Director Carolyn Hawkins ([pubaffairs@aanr.com](mailto:pubaffairs@aanr.com)) and let us know.

**August 2023** – A team from AANR staffed the Association’s booth this year at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in the famed home to the Indianapolis 500 race. Souvenir pins for state lawmakers

and staff commemorating the host city, along with the [www.aanr.com](http://www.aanr.com) web address, brought visitors in from throughout the conference. Their response this year was overwhelming.

**Building on a 30-Year Tradition.** The NCSL began in 1975 as a way for lawmakers to share best practices and discuss trends in lawmaking. Everything from electronic voting systems to outfit chambers to internet policy get discussed. As part of the program, an exhibit hall with booths from over 200 businesses, industries, and trade groups provides an incredible opportunity to speak one-on-one with decision-makers with important messages. For AANR it's a message that nude recreation is good for state economies and a reminder of the unintended consequences of overly broad legislation.

AANR has attended NCSL for more than thirty years. For each of the past three decades, the Association has distributed collectible lapel pins, which had become highly prized by conference visitors. By changing the design each year and building on a theme increases the value in visiting annually. AANR is able to cultivate long-standing relationships in this way.

**The Team.** Past AANR President and current AANR West Trustee Kathy Watzel joined me, along with AANR Secretary / Treasurer David Levine. David also serves on the AANR Education Foundation board and, as a resident of Indiana, provided a local perspective. Rounding out the team, my son Max answered questions about the wholesome, family-oriented experiences he grew up with in AANR clubs. Appearing fresh from the 2023 AANR convention at Solair Recreation League in Connecticut he and I made the trek directly from that event equipped with a host of literature including lists of AANR clubs, Women in Nude Recreation (WINR) brochures, detailed economic analysis of the significant contribution that nudist clubs make to their communities, and much more..

**Reaching Canadian and Worldwide Lawmakers.** Numerous decision-makers from Canada, the Caribbean, Europe, and beyond attend. During this year's conference, the team talked to quite a few from the Canadian parliament, as well as provincial legislatures.

**Other Benefits.** Here are a number of other benefits that AANR receives from attending:

Vendors – AANR can network with companies that provide legislative tracking services, as well as government affairs professionals who can assist with individual local issues.

Media Opportunities – AANR interviews with members of the press. This year *Governing* magazine talked with Kathy and I about the issues important to AANR.

Social Events – Such as an open house held at Lucas Oil Stadium, home to the Indianapolis Colts football team, provide a less formal setting where attendees can talk and ask questions.

Allied Organizations – Groups ranging from First Amendment advocacy groups to those fighting breast cancer, even dermatologists, provide opportunities to find others who may be helpful.

Information on Trends – The questions and topics of interest which arise in the course of an NCSL annual meeting often help AANR to spot trends and emerging legislative patterns.

### **Congratulations, and Thanks, to Incoming AANR Trustee Joan Harris -**

As you may know, BG Parkes stepped down as the AANR Trustee from the Florida region due to personal reasons/commitments. The region has selected Joan Harris, who previously served as a Trustee, to fulfill the duties of the office. We congratulate, and thank, both Joan and BG for all of their assistance and service.

## Current Events in the Nude World

Joan Harris

Recently there have been some disturbing stories in the news regarding nudism and nudist destinations and events.

The most disturbing one I have seen was about Empire Haven Nudist Resort and Campground in Moravia, NY. For those who don't know this club, the area is in rural upstate New York, in a very small town and has been open since 1959. The club is less than 20 miles from my hometown. They operate so peacefully and quietly that most of the people I knew growing up had never heard of it.

They have held the Northeast Naturist Festival there for over 30 years. This year they cancelled it. An Instagram video by a poster with 214,000 followers claims that the festival sponsor this year, Nudism.TV, encourages people to send them photos of nude children and offers people video equipment and money to do so. The poster claims that those who send photos of family children are paid \$700 per hour. The result of this posting was death threats against Nudism.TV and its founder.

*Empire Haven, a 65-year-old club, felt they had no choice but to cancel a festival held for over 30 years, for the safety of all involved.*

They were correct to cancel, but it is terrifying that someone who probably has never been to a family-friendly nudist event can wield this much power and stir up so much hatred and credible threats of violence based on lies that he felt like spewing.

I am tired of the lies, the hatred and the violence that have become so common as a result of the malevolent use of social media. I am tired of the disappearance of people's ability to disagree with how others live without turning their opinion into divisive and dangerous calls to destroy the peace of others lives.

We all realize that it is imperative for us to continue to address the on-going need for better education of the public regarding social nudism and family-friendly nudism. We cannot give in and acquiesce to the malevolent behavior of on-line disruptors. We need to become stronger than them. It will continue to be a difficult battle.

Florida's AANR Trustee **BG Parkes** resigned recently due to pressing personal issues that she needed to attend to. We thank BG for her tireless efforts in promoting AANR and nude recreation in Florida.

She has always been a leader and positive force in AANR and she will be greatly missed. On the positive side, **Joan Harris** has agreed to step up and complete the remainder of BG's term as Trustee. Joan was a former AANR Trustee and AANR-Florida Director.

In addition, she has been in a leadership position with the Neighborhoods of Paradise Lakes (NAPL) and with the Florida WINR Group (Women In Nude Recreation) for many years. I'm sure she will be able to step in as a Trustee without missing a step.

## SUNSPORT GARDENS SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Labor Day Weekend will be very special. The Community Drum Circle will be on Friday, September 1, from 9 p.m. to midnight. Preceding the drum circle will be an Authentic Relating Game Night from 6-7 p.m. in the pavilion. The Game Night features free human connection games led by Cee Love of Occupy Love

Miami. Then on Saturday, September 2 will be Judy Clark and Bobby Whetsel's "Bodacious Birthday Bash" with poolside music starting at 4 pm. Bobby Whetsel will return on Labor Day Monday with poolside music from 2-5 p.m. Food will be available from the smoothie bar on the restaurant deck Friday through Monday at the usual hours.

Daily afternoon petanque and water aerobics on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 10 a.m. continue as does pop-up karaoke.

The 2023 Flow Harvest Music and Arts Festival for Young Adults will be the September 8-10 weekend. There will be poolside live music, campfires, flow arts, yoga, meditation, fire spinning, body painting, a plant walk, a women's circle, karaoke, a free raffle, and interesting workshops. The weekend is only \$30 for people aged 18-30 including tent camping. Others are welcome to attend all events for the regular fees. The Weekend is produced by Karl Harris for Young Adult Naturists (YAN).

Check out Sunsport's website. The photo galleries for the 2023 Midwinter Naturist Festival and the Family Youth Camp are now up.

Extension cords are used by most people at Sunsport. However, the size of cord people use can make a big difference in power use and can be a dangerous hazard. You are advised to use 10 or 12-gauge extension cords on all your large and small appliances. Smaller cords can get hot and become a fire hazard. When not in use, please unplug all extension cords to save power. Yes, people pay a higher electric bill by leaving them plugged in.

Please no longer place items in recycling bins at the end of driveways. Place large items in the dumpster in the recycling area. Place all other items in the trash collection stations or the recycling area. Remember, the large blue containers are for metal, glass, juice boxes, and plastic, but not styrofoam, plastic bags, straws, or plastic utensils. The yellow containers are for clean paper and cardboard. Aluminum soda, seltzer, and beer cans may also be placed in specially marked containers. All other items should be bagged and placed in the large grey containers or in the dumpster.

September is the month Morley organizes the program for the Midwinter Naturist Festival. The 2023 Festival will be February 15-20. If you would like to lead workshops or activities for adults or children, please call him at (561) 254-9878 or email him at [morleynaturist@hotmail.com](mailto:morleynaturist@hotmail.com).

He will need to know the title and a one-sentence description of your workshop(s). He will also need to know which days you will be attending the Festival, hopefully the whole time, and any special needs for your workshop/activity.

**Bare Facts**  
**[Edun Lake Newsletter](#)**  
**[September, 2023](#)**

**Newest Press release and link to all press releases.**

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO ENJOY A NAKATION VACATION**  
*Celebrate the comfort, freedom, and body acceptance that Naturism fosters*

**KISSIMMEE, Fla. (August 2023) -- As 2023 is a bounce-back year for travel, why not take a trip before or during the Labor Day holiday that takes you out of your comfort zone and your clothes and takes you on a journey from self-conscious to self-confident. We're talking about taking a Nakation<sup>SM</sup> vacation to a club/resort/campground/RV park affiliated with the American Association for Nude Recreation (AANR.com).**

**If you are completely new to the idea, naturism is based in the belief that the human body in its natural state should be celebrated, not concealed with clothes between you and the open air. It also helps foster self-respect and respect for others and the environment.**

**If your calendar is too full to Nakation now, budget-conscious travelers seeking to enjoy deeper discounts during the fall shoulder season can extend their summer by taking a Nakation vacation in the sunbelt region.**

**So what's to do on a Nakation? While swimming and tennis are among the sports most often associated with nude recreation, many facilities offer a variety of leisure activities to accommodate the interest of nudists young and old, active or passive. Swimming pools and lakes are commonplace, as are sports such as volleyball, golf, pickleball, badminton, bocce ball, shuffleboard and hiking/nature trails. Many clubs also offer fishing, boating, full-scale exercise rooms, basketball courts, croquet, table tennis, and spas.**

**To find an AANR-affiliated club/resort/campground across the U.S. or Canada log onto: <https://www.aanr.com/club-locator/>**

**For other press releases go to:**

**<https://www.aanr.com/aanr-press-room/>**

**Click below for more**

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

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