

# AANR-Florida Monthly Newsletter March 2024



AANR-Florida

President

Ralph Collinson

## **President's Corner March 2024**

February was a busy month in Florida, Nudists from all over the country and Canada arrived to hang out for a few days in Florida before boarding the Big Nude Boat which is out to sea as I'm putting this newsletter together. Bare Necessities Cruises give a big economic boost to Florida naturism every year and it is always great to see naturists spending some additional time in the sun at Florida's resorts.

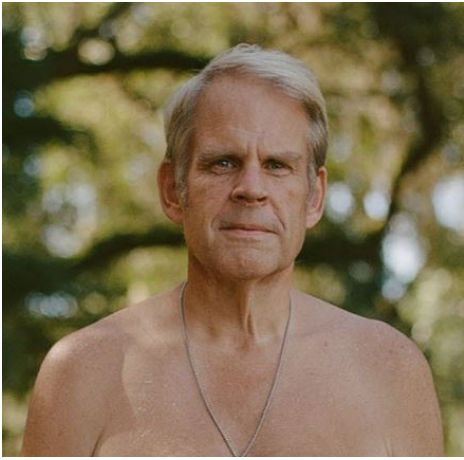
I had a great time at SunSport Garden's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Naturist Mid-Winter Festival talking about what has transpired in AANR-Florida's world in 2024. We have again dodged any negative legislation in Tallahassee. We have been very involved in a proposed massage bill and so far we have been successful in protecting massage therapy at AANR-affiliated resorts in Florida. Florida "Nakations" has also had a lot of success. Jack Clark and Maryanne Rettig from Florida "Nakations" joined me at SunSport Gardens to discuss their success at the Governor's Conference on Tourism in Florida in September and their recent participation in marketing Florida's naturist clubs and beaches at Visit Florida's Visitor Centers on I 95 and I 75.

Jack and Maryanne also updated the seminar participants on the latest developments with Tampa Bay Free Beaches (TBFB). TBFB's has made significant inroads with county officials in Pinellas County in 2023 and they are continuing their efforts into 2024 to secure a section of beach at Ft. DeSoto County Park as a dedicated clothing-optional beach. So far, all interactions with local officials have been positive. If you have not attended one of SunSport's Winter Festivals in the past, I strongly recommend it.

I believe it is the longest-running Naturist Festival in the country, hosting over 220 workshops on numerous subjects over President's Day Week each year.

As a reminder the deadline for applying for a scholarship from the AANR Education Foundation is May 1, 2024. The scholarship is open to all AANR members and their children and grandchildren. There are three scholarships offered \$500, \$1000 & \$1500. Scholarships are not limited to undergraduate applicants, grad students as well as students attending trade schools are also eligible. The application can be found at [AANR-EF.com](http://AANR-EF.com)

Join Susan Shopiro, Secretary of The Naturist Society Foundation, and Joan Harris, AANR-Florida Trustee, and WINR Chair this weekend at the International Women's Day Celebration at Cypress Cove in Kissimmee. The theme for this year is "Inspire Inclusion". Check out The Naturist Society Foundation or Cypress Cove's website for further information on this exciting event.



Erich Schuttauf

Executive Director

A deep thanks to AANR members, clubs, and regions, whose support along with other Naturist organizations and WNBR, helped stop anti-nudity bills in Wisconsin this year. At 1:00 am this morning the Assembly adjourned without taking these two bills to the floor. This is a WIN for now. Your membership dues and donations provided funding for a lobbyist whose work and strategies proved effective.



## Legislative Efforts

### Bills And Resolutions

Principals do not report on the budget under the bill number, but by Budget Bill Subjects as published by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau. You can search for Budget Bill Subjects on the [What Are They Lobbying About](#) page.

## Assembly Bill 503

**Relating To:** Relating to: intentional exposure of genitals and providing a penalty.

[Bill Text and History](#)

[Add to a FOCUS Subscription](#)

### Lobbying Principals

Principal Name	Notified Date	Communication Date	Comments	Supporting Documentation
↓ <a href="#">American Association for Nude Recreation</a>	10/19/2023	N/A		
↑ <a href="#">Milwaukee Police Association</a>	10/31/2023	10/31/2023		
↑ <a href="#">Wisconsin Family Action Inc</a>	10/26/2023	N/A		

### To All Clubs

Election deadline is March 15. New memberships must be submitted by that date to be included in the Voter's List.



Joan Harris, Interim, AANR Trustee

The AANR Florida midwinter meeting was held at Cypress Cove Resort January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

As always, Cypress Cove hosted a great Friday Meet and Greet and a welcoming weekend overall.

The main focus of the midwinter meeting is the presentation and vote of the annual budget. The Finance Committee, led by Vice President Mac Fleck, shared much information and the proposed budget was passed.

The loss of AANR members and clubs across the Florida Region made up much of the day's discussions. Part of these discussions included the need for liaisons to be more directly involved with their assigned clubs to offer support and encouragement to help clubs keep their current members, and bring in new ones.

The Nautical Nudist Club was selected to host the summer meeting at Bare RV Club in Land O'Lakes. The meeting will open with a Meet and Greet Friday, June 7 and continue with the Regional Assembly and Board Meeting on June 8. Elections for President, Vice-President, and three directors will be held during the meeting. For more information about the positions, contact Nominations Chair Joe Rives

at [Joe.rives@aanr-florida.org](mailto:Joe.rives@aanr-florida.org).

International Women's Day will be celebrated on March 2 with a great program including many presentations and vendors. Once again, Cypress Cove is hosting and inviting all women to attend without grounds fees. Women in Nude Recreation (WINR) will be represented, as well as AANR-Florida, and AANR.

AANR National held its midwinter meeting at Lake Como Family Resort in February. The budget presentation was very thought-provoking and generated much discussion among the Trustees. The proposed budget was ultimately voted down and the AANR Finance Committee is meeting to rework the proposal to include feedback from trustees.

Hopefully, as you read this, our Florida "winter" will be over and we'll be back to enjoying being nude outdoors!



Are you ready to help us protect, promote, provide, and preserve nude recreation?

The American Association of Nude Recreation-Florida seeks nominations for Board members and the President and Vice President positions from our members in Florida, the Caribbean, and Eastern Mexico.

- Each Board member and officer is elected for a two-year term and can be re-elected.
- An individual can be nominated or self-nominated for a Board or officer position.
- The President and Vice President must be a member in good standing for 2 years immediately preceding nomination who, at the time of nomination, holds an AANR membership through an AANR-Florida club or the AANR-Florida Associates plus 1-year minimum experience as a Board member or elected officer.
- Board members must be a member in good standing for 2 years immediately preceding nomination who, at the time of nomination, holds an AANR membership through an AANR-Florida

club or the AANR-Florida Associates.

- All AANR-Florida Board members and officers must have an official place of residence that is within the geographical boundaries of the AANR-Florida Region or no more than 100 miles from the AANR Florida boundaries.
- The Board of Directors conducts the business of AANR-Florida during the period between summer and mid-winter meetings of the Regional Assembly.
- The application form can be found at <https://aanr-florida.org/links>

Now is your time to shine. While our Bylaws welcome nominations for Board Officer and Member positions from the floor at the Annual Convention, we strongly encourage interested applicants to submit their materials to

[joe.rives@aanr-florida.org](mailto:joe.rives@aanr-florida.org). by April 26, 2024.

This allows fellow AANR-Florida members to know who is running for office when meeting materials are distributed to clubs 30 days in advance of our summer meeting at Bare RV and hosted by Nautical Nudists on June 7-9 in Land O'Lakes, Florida.

All Board members and officer candidates will have the opportunity to present why they are interested in serving on the Board at the summer meeting. Please use the [joe.rives@aanr-florida.org](mailto:joe.rives@aanr-florida.org) email address if you have questions before submitting your nomination form.



March 2024 Column

The Midwinter Naturist Festival was a great success. There were over 220 activities. Many thanks to

the workshop leaders, the Sunsport volunteers, and the Sunsport staff who worked long hours to produce a smooth-running and stimulating Festival. Contributions from the Festival registration fee will go to the Naturist Society Foundation, South Florida Free Beaches (Haulover Beach), and Treasure Coast Naturists (Blind Creek Beach). As always, the Festival was six days of fun, growth, and community.

The Annual Coed Volleyball Tournament on February 25th was lots of fun. It is unique in that players are a member of a different team for each game. Vickie Wesby and Mike Patchkowski were crowned queen and king for totaling the most points in the games in which they played.

Many people volunteer at Sunsport; their help is valuable and builds community. Sunsport hosted a volunteer appreciation dessert party near the end of February. All people who helped with the Festival, construction projects, or any activity were thanked. Speaking of volunteers, they have largely cleared the pond near the gazebo and the canal of invasive plants. Particular thanks to Allen Wesby for his extensive work.

Many activities are planned for March. There will be a community drum circle on Friday, March 1st. Dance to the music of the Blue Crusaders Band poolside on Saturday, March 2nd. Also on March 2nd will be a petanque tournament.

Ongoing activities include Tuesday morning line dancing, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning water aerobics, Saturday evening dances, arts and crafts on Wednesdays at 2 pm in the pavilion, yoga on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at noon in the pavilion, and canasta Monday evenings at 7 pm in the clubhouse. Continuing are daily pickleball in the morning and volleyball and petanque in the afternoon.

Lot rents will be increased by 30% beginning April 1st. This is necessary because operating expenses have increased dramatically, particularly propane, electricity, water, supplies such as pool chemicals, taxes, and insurance.

Check out the two new beautiful waterfalls, one at the north end of the butterfly garden and one in the small pond. They are the work of the maintenance staff...

Harvesting produce from fruit trees and plants at Sunsport is restricted. It is OK to pick a piece of fruit to eat while passing by, but not multiple pieces. Don't climb in the trees to pick fruit. Also, please do not pick flowers; they are for all to enjoy. Thank you for your cooperation.

Coming up will be a "Plant-Based Retreat, A Healing Weekend In Tropical Paradise" April 12-15. The cost is \$150 plus \$30 for non-Sunsport members or anyone tent camping. Call 914-886-3148 for information.

Sunsport now has 348 full-time members, a record number. Sunsport is the naturist resort to choose

if people are looking for a friendly, natural club with the most amenities, open to all, and offering an environmentally sensitive and healthful environment with the best year-round weather in the nation.

This March, all RV sites with hook-ups at Sunsport are full; tent and dry RV camping sites are available. Two new glamping tents are now open for rent. They include a double bed, a small refrigerator, carpeting, lighting, and a USB port.

Interesting activities are scheduled daily or people can relax by the pool or explore the nature trail through the jungle. We will have a busy month with much fun in a great community.



**813-949-1810**  
**LakeComoNaturally.com**  
**a 200 acre Florida family nudist resort**

tennis ♦ volleyball ♦ pickleball ♦ golf  
heated pool & whirlpool spa ♦ sauna  
35 acre private lake ♦ nature trails  
Bare Buns Cafe & Butt Hutt bar  
motel ♦ cabins ♦ RV & tent camp sites



*2024 special events include:*  
10-day Volleyball Tournament – March 8-17  
Dare to Go Bare 5K Run – April 14  
Naked Arts & Music Burn Festival – May 3-5