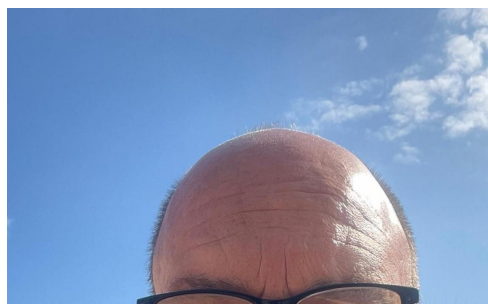


AANR-Florida Monthly Newsletter October 2024.

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AANR-Florida

President

Joe Rivas

President's Corner September 2024

September was a very busy month for your Government Affairs Team. We planned actions with regards to The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) proposed changes to nine state park management plans that included building multiple golf courses at Jonathan Dickinson State Park as well as 350 room resorts at Anastasia State Park and Topsail Hill Preserve State Park. Our concern was that future development will negatively affect current and future nudist and naturists opportunities and damage fragile ecosystems. However, action was not necessary. The DEP Plan was withdrawn after considerable public opposition.

We also expressed concern to Visit Florida (VF) for its removal of LGBTQ+ navigation tools from its website, as it could be perceived as an expression of non-support to nudists and naturists in the LGBTQ+ community; and that could influence the decision of members to stay in the State or tourists to come and stay at our clubs and support our participating businesses and beaches.

Since that time, we have learned that information prominently displayed on the VF website is now by virtue of sponsorship, which is a model used in other states. However, you can find information by entering key words in their Search box. For example, when I entered nude and gay, 13 and 9 links were provided, respectively.

During September, the Board learned that Edun Lake closed. Their members were contacted to reassure them that they will be direct

members, and they were provided with club options. Through the efforts of Dave Berry and Ralph Collinson, we are working to contact the new owners to encourage continued AANR membership. During this period of transition, we wish Dave and Roxanne from Edun Lake continued success and thank them for all of the opportunities and support that they have given our community over the years.

The AANR-Florida Region Board of Directors postponed its September 24 meeting until October 1 due to Hurricane Helene. At the meeting, the Board:

- Discussed member and club actions to support those suffering harm, displacement, and/or suspension of operations resulting from the Hurricane. We believe that Suwannee Valley Resort is the only AANR-Florida regional club that is temporarily closed pending repairs.

But if you know of others or clubs that sustained damages, please let me know. Please feel free to share with impacted clubs that AANR-Florida has some fiscal disaster relief options that we could discuss. And they could reach out to our Regional Trustee, Ralph Collinson to learn about options at the national level.

The Board also extends its gratitude to Bay Bares, Tampa Bay Free Beaches, and many more clubs and members helping those in need. Together, we are strong.

- Reviewed the Monthly Membership Report to begin forecasting the budget context for 2025. Our Region had a second consecutive month of membership growth. August 2024 and September 2024 membership dues received compared to membership dues received in August 2023 and September 2023 were up by 11.7% and 13.6%, respectively.

We appreciate everyone's previous and continued efforts to increase the number of club and direct members. While we all have made great strides since June 2024, very important work remains. Our total 2024 annual dues revenue is still 5.2% below the 2023 total. Every member you help to recruit or retain and every assistance you give in helping hurricane impacted clubs' re-open matters greatly.

- Learned about a new non-landed club based in Orlando. You can learn more about it at www.nudistclubhouse.com and at the [AANR Website](#). We welcome Nudistclubhouse.com to the AANR-Florida Region family.

- Thanked Maryanne Rettig and Jack Clark for their leadership at the Governor's Conference on Tourism 2024. I had the pleasure of working in the exhibition hall with them and Marysol Medina from South Florida Free Beaches in representing the AANR-Florida Region and other Florida nudist/naturist organizations in the Florida Nakations Booth.

When speaking to conference participants (travel, tourism, and marketing professionals as well as representatives from college and university hospitality programs) Jack's, Maryanne's, and Marysol's knowledge of and passion for the AANR-Florida Region and our fellow nudist/naturist organizations was second to none. Page 3 of the Naturist Action Committee's and Naturist Education Foundation's [October 2024 Newsletter](#) shares a similar sentiment.

- Passed [Conflict of Interest Protocol](#) to follow best practices in non-profit governance and to be included within the AANR-Florida Region's Procedures Manual.

The next AANR-Florida Board of Directors meeting will be October 15, 2024, and I seek your input in advance of the meeting. One of the agenda items will be a new national AANR Committee on dues Memberships and Modernization. AANR President Linda Weber created and charged this ad hoc committee that I am chairing with "researching and proposing a modernized and streamlined membership dues structure for the Association to better align with the needs of the Regions as well as our members."

To these ends, the Committee will be looking into best practices in achieving 100% club participation, as well as challenges for clubs and individuals in registering and renewing memberships.

Your feedback is essential for committee, club, and member success. It will allow me to advocate for what is working well and where there needs to be process improvements. With your feedback and our recent and

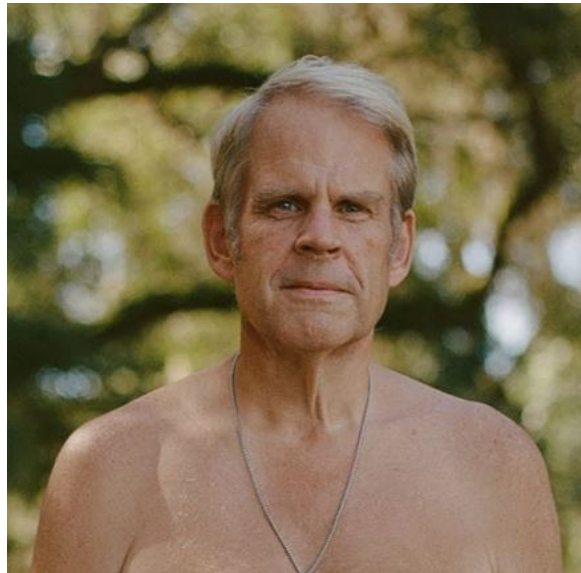
continued gains, we will make the Florida Region the leader in reversing membership declines of 10.7% between 2021 and 2024.

Thank you in advance for your feedback. My email address is below, or you can call me at 787-975-0719. And, for now, I end by wishing you and yours a safe and enjoyable October.

Yours Naturally.

Joe

joe.rives@aanr-florida.org



Erich Schuttauf
Executive Director

AANR is deeply concerned about the members, clubs, and people throughout Florida, the Caribbean, and the entire SouthEast United States who have had their lives and property devastated by Hurricane Helene. While we have not heard from every AANR club, we have reached out to affected areas as far as West Palm Beach, Georgia, and Tennessee. Thankfully we have not learned of any injuries to persons. However, several clubs experienced loss of utilities... sometimes for several days. Most notably, Suwannee Valley Resort in White Springs had significant damage to its power, well system, border fence, and several roofs. The club is undergoing extensive efforts by volunteers to recover.



Ralph Collinson
AANR-Florida Region Trustee

Hopefully, you had little damage or inconvenience caused by Helene. Unfortunately, the storm had a wide path through Florida and into Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. [Suwannee Valley Resort \(SVR\)](#) in White Springs was hit hard with extensive fence damage and well-system damage.

They have had to close down temporarily to make costly repairs. If you can afford to donate toward their speedy recovery, look at their website and donate.

In the Tampa area, [Tampa Bay Free Beaches \(TBFB\)](#) is sponsoring an effort to collect donations for those in need in that area. Check out their website for more information on how you can help out there. I have heard from several AANR members in the Northeast Florida area that have had downed trees and damage to their homes and pools, clean-up will take some time. [Northeast Florida Naturists \(NFN\)](#) has canceled their Sipper Meet Up for October because of the storm.

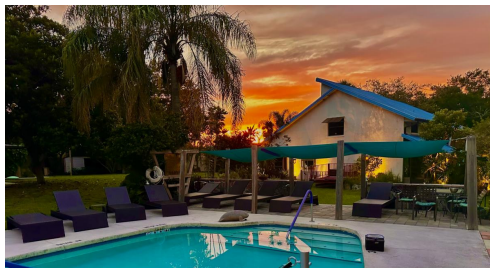
Other than that, we believe all other clubs are open for business. and to the best of my knowledge, the clothing-optional beaches on the east coast of Florida were spared any damage. We have learned that Edun Lake has been sold and is closed at least temporarily. We have been told it will reopen as a private membership-only club once the renovation is complete. We will keep you posted as we learn more.

As your AANR Trustee, I look forward to serving the needs of all of our members and clubs. Please feel free to contact me with your concerns and suggestions. I can be reached at Ralph.collinson@aanr.com or by text or telephone call at 904-305-7139.



5 PM - 7PM

<h1>KARAOKE</h1> <p>W/ DJ Jack 6 - 10pm</p> <p>free for members & overnight guests</p> <p>\$5 females \$10 males</p> <p>21 and over, must have ID</p>	<p>S A T U R D A Y</p>	<h1>POTLUCK</h1> <p>7PM UNTIL..</p> <p>bring a side dish or dessert to share</p> <p>BYOB, but no glass please</p>
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American Association For Nude Recreation - FLORIDA REGION

Contact Us Today

