

AANR-Florida Monthly Newsletter January 2025.

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HAPPY NUDE YEAR!

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**AANR-Florida
President
Joe Rivas**

Happy Nude Year from Board of Directors: Dave Berry, Mac Fleck, Lu Ann Heintz, Lewis Dreblow, Joe Rives, Rocco Terrizzi, Michele Weiss, and Margaret Young. We wish everyone continued prosperity and all the best in 2025!

This month's Newsletter starts with a call to action: We have a temporary director opening. Per our governing documents, the Board will elect a replacement director who will serve from January until the 2025 Regional Assembly. Then the membership will elect two directors whose terms have expired.

If you are a champion of nude recreation and wish to join our action-focused Board of Directors, please fill out a [Nomination Form](#) and return it to Jonathan Duffield at jonathan.duffield@aanr-florida.org. Nomination can also be made on the floor, as long as a signed Nomination is provided before the Directors vote. All nominees will be asked to give a brief statement to the Board on their qualifications and desire to serve the membership.

Director expectations are maintaining active club liaison relations and attendance at monthly Board meetings and subcommittees. The January 11, 2025, Midwinter will start promptly at 9 AM EST and the director election will occur within the first hour. The meeting is at Suwannee Valley Resort or can you attend virtually at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3035012318?pwd=Y1R2c3RIZVZ1K3U0UzgzdGFsRjNadz09>.

This month's Newsletter continues with a large thank you to our clubs and members. Comparing December 2023 and August 2024 membership totals shows that you were responsible for:

- Achieving our goal of membership stabilization by
- Increasing club memberships, up by 40 members (1.2%), and
- Resulting in total (club and direct) membership that is only 7 members fewer than 2023.

You have positioned our Region for growth at an the most opportune time. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis recently announced:

- \$131 billion in tourism spending during 2023, a new record for the State and up 5% from 2022.
- \$36.9 billion in tax revenue generated from tourism spending.
- 9.5% of all jobs in Florida are in the tourism industry. This represents 2.1 million jobs, generating \$76.4 billion in wages throughout the State.

To support your efforts, please remember that you have access to our [Committee Chairperson appointments, contact information, and volunteer opportunities](#) and you have a standing invitation from me for club and member meetings with the President. Just contact me and I will gladly come to a meeting at your request.

Displayed below is a portion of the agenda for our 2025 Regional Midwinter Meeting. We hope that you will attend and be an active participant in the Meetings.

Special Ad Hoc Committees

Tabled Items.....	Dave Berry and Lu Ann Heintz
Voting Protocol.....	Mac Fleck
Club Listening Tour.....	Joe Rives
Establishing a 501(c)(3).....	Joe Rives
Fundraising.....	Joe Rives

Business Items

2025 Legislative Context.....	Joe Rives
Environmental Scanning.....	Joe Rives
FY25 Budget Discussion and Approval.....	Mac Fleck

2025 Regional Assembly Location and Dates..... Lu Ann Heintz
Feedback for the Board..... Joe Rives

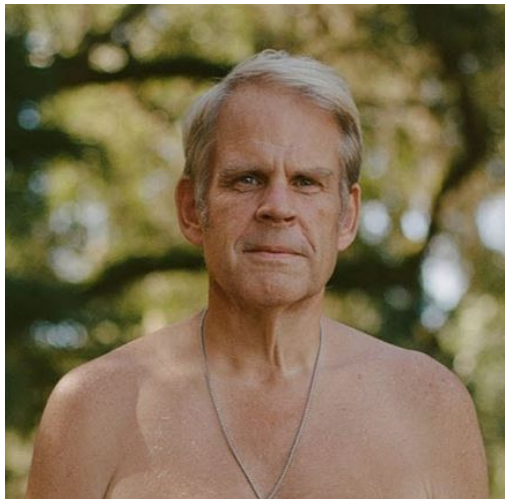
Work Session

Dues Modernization & Streamlining Committee..... Joe Rives
Regional Strategic Planning..... Joe Rives
Ideas to Increase Membership
Ideas to Increase Revenue
Challenges and Opportunities to Achieve 100% Club Status
Other Ideas

Finally, Senior Consultant for Governmental Affairs Jonathan Duffield continues to monitor one possible and actionable topic during the 2025 Florida Legislative Season, the banning of alcohol sales where children are present, and nudity is permitted. However, no bill has been proposed at this point, and no pending legislative issues are affecting nude recreation in Puerto Rico or the United States Virgin Islands. We are concerned about insurance access and affordability club and property owners and will be working within the region and with AANR to find affordable solutions.

Looking forward to seeing you in 2025 and yours naturally,

Joe Rives, President, AANR Florida Region



Erich Schuttauf
Executive Director

Florida Government Affairs Team member Jonathan Duffield advised the team that the City of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida was taking a second look at the nudity restrictions on its books after a local business announced plans to make clothing optional at its establishment where alcohol is served. After Jonathan opened a dialog with the interim city attorney, I prepared a legal memorandum outlining key constitutional issues with enforcing such laws. The memo included citations to a number of federal court decisions reversing anti-nudity measures on several grounds including equal

protection and First Amendment law.

AANR has yet again responded to a request for assistance from a parent---this time located within the Midwest---who is having parental custody challenged by an ex-spouse over simply enjoying nudity within the home. Arlette and I have already had discussions with this parent (who is an AANR member) and arranged to speak with legal counsel whom they have retained.

A Florida case decided decades ago in which Cypress Cove was deemed an appropriate place for custodial visits by a divorced parent remains one of the more powerful resources available when advocating for nudist parents in such matters.

I look forward to participating in both the region and AANR leadership meetings to be held at Suwannee Valley Resort later this month.



Ralph Collinson
AANR-Florida Region Trustee

It has been a good year for AANR-Florida. Membership is on the rise. Most clubs and back up and running after the hurricanes this fall. The beaches are all open. Playalinda's nudist beach is now at Lot 7 and to the north. The road is still blocked and will take time to repair. Please cooperate with the Park Service, they are doing their best with limited funding and staffing. Also please note that the Parking Lot at Blind Creek Beach will be closed in January for significant upgrading and increased facilities. It is expected to be closed till early summer.

In the meantime the county will keep the beach open with parking and access at an alternative site nearby. Again please cooperate with the county, they have been a very strong supporter of Blind Creek Beach. Joe Rives took over as AANR-Florida President in June and has hit the ground running. I for one appreciate his energy and commitment to nude recreation here in Florida and in the

Caribbean. He has been a great asset to AANR and AANR-Florida.

On a negative note Maryanne Rettig has had to step down from her position on the AANR-Florida Board for personal reasons. However, she will continue to be involved with Tampa Bay Free Beaches and Florida Naktions. I want to thank Maryanne for everything she has done for AANR-Florida. She was of great help to me personally during my time as AANR-Florida President. She will be hard to replace.

I'm including an [end-of-year message](#) from Maryanne and Tampa Bay Free Beaches in this month's newsletter explaining the progress that they have made in Pinellas County over the last year. I think a new nude beach is on the horizon and we owe it to Maryanne, Jack Clark, and the rest of their organization who have worked tirelessly to make this happen. As we come to the end of 2024 and the beginning of 2025 I strongly encourage those who can afford it to assist Tampa Bay Free Beaches in reaching their goal by making a tax-deductible donation to their 501(c) (3) foundation, Normalizing Nudity By Education Advocacy and Research (NNEAR).

Check out their website at <http://WWW.NNEAR.org> . If you seek more information regarding their efforts read the letter from Maryanne that is included in this Newsletter or email them at jack@nnear.org.

Remember, that even though it is January and nudist clubs north of us are closed, all of Florida's clubs stay open all Winter, so get out there and enjoy the freedom.



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

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