



The Western Sun



News from the Western Region of the American Association for Nude Recreation

December 2017

Vol 1 No 4

We publish this newsletter every month for our independent members and clubs. We appreciate it being forwarded to club members and other AANR guests as you feel appropriate. Communication is the key to everyone understanding all the things that AANR and AANR-West does for the social nudist movement.

AANR-West Has Moved!

We have moved to a new permanent address in Calabasas, California! Please change your directories accordingly and send all future written correspondence to the address effective immediately:

AANR-West
23679 Calabasas Road, Suite 966
Calabasas, CA 91302

Your Regional Board at Work



Quartzite RV Travel Show Booth

Once again, ANR-West will have a booth at what is promoted as "the largest Sports, Vacation, and RV show in the world" in Quartzite, Arizona, January 20-28, 2018. Over 100,000 are expected to attend.

Come visit us at booth #506!

We are looking for volunteers to help staff the booth. Quartzite is located about 30 miles east of the California border on Hwy 10, and about 2 hours west of Phoenix. This will be a camping/RV experience as there are no hotels/motels in the immediate area.

If interested, contact Patty Faber at (623) 465-5959.

Co-op Advertising Deadline Nears

In the October 2017 issue we discussed how Cooperative Advertisement Reimbursement program works. Some additional things perhaps you did not know:

AANR West chartered 100% clubs may be reimbursed either 50% of the cost of qualified advertising, the amount not to exceed \$400.00 per year per club, or 25%, the amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 per year per club.

All receipts must be submitted by December 31 to the AANR-West office. Note: next year the deadline is being pushed back to November 31, 2018.

You Are Invited! Monthly Board Phone Conference Call

All members and club leaders are invited to listen in to our monthly telephone conference call on **the first Thursday of each month at 6pm Pacific Time.**

Board members use this opportunity to inform other board members of their committee work and to ask/receive advice from other Board members on their projects. This is not a formal meeting, so no minutes are taken.

Drop us a note at information@aanrwest.org with your request and we will add you to the people receiving notification and the login password.

Copies of the minutes of all Board meetings, as well as financial reports, are available to any AANR-West member upon request. Drop is an email at: information@aanrwest.org

The next Board meeting will be held March 3 at Laguna del Sol. All members are invited to attend!

What's New on the www.aanrwest.org Web Site

The first phase of the AANR-West's new web site is almost completed. From your suggestions,

1. We are promoting **Activities** to the main menu on top, so people can review the types of events that we promote from park dances to nude comedy shows, yoga, women' workshops, hiking, the annual World Naked Bike Ride, and more.
2. We have added club Discount Coupons for those visiting our parks for the first time,
3. We are re-organizing the **News**, so you can download our monthly newsletter in PDF form. We have also added a Nudist Library area, and moved the Nudist History and Pioneers biographies here.
4. Under **About Us**, we have added text for the Kids Camps and the Scholarship program, and we now have application forms for Scholarship you can complete on-line.

We have also had some changes to the masthead and footer on each page.

We expect all of these improvements to be done by the end of the month.

Government Affairs

One of our mission obligations is to protect our right to be nude in appropriate locations and situations. We are constantly monitoring court cases and proposed laws at the state, local, and federal levels that affect us. Below are a few recent items that might interest you. If you read some story on line or in a newspaper that we should know about, please contact us via email.

FEDERAL

H. R. 4472 in the House of Representatives makes it illegal to distribute images of private parts without a person's permission. It is written so broadly that it might affect our club newsletters, web sites, and even our naturist libraries. We are hoping to see it amended so the intent is narrowed.

The recently-passed tax bill has a clause in it that bothers us. It allows 501c3 non-profit charitable corporations to take political positions and even endorse candidates. This radically changes the longstanding, vital protection in law for nonpartisanship of charitable, religious, and philanthropic organizations, known as the Johnson Amendment. The change will allow political operatives to pressure those organizations to endorse or oppose candidates for public office, and powerful donors to exert even more pressure by giving or threatening to withhold charitable contributions to get the organizations to endorse or oppose candidates the donors prefer. The proposed change would also make political donations – for the first time ever – tax-deductible when funneled through charitable nonprofits, houses of worship, and foundations.

We hope this clause is stricken from the tax bill that comes out of the conference committee.”

CALIFORNIA:

The general plan for the Auburn Dam Recreation Area in northern California is up for renewal and public comment. There is a traditional clothing-optional area just south of the dam that some local would like to see closed.

AANR-West is sending representatives to speak on behalf of the nudists at the December 7th meeting.

ARIZONA

The Tonto National Forest general plan is also up for renewal. In this case, the decision is made by the local Forest Supervisor who can change the rules on his own.

Currently, nudity is allowed in the “undeveloped” areas where nudists are free to hike and camp, but not around the lake or other “developed” areas where other people may be around. We are watching developments here to be sure our rights are preserved.

News from Around the Region

Western Nudist Research Library Receives Donation from Region



Rolf Holbach (Director of AANR West and the library) present Richard Hirst, Vice President of the library a check from AANR West for \$1500.00. AANR West has always supported the library since 2006. The Western Nudist Research Library is located on the grounds of Glen Eden. Their web site is at nudistresearchlibrary.com.

Two AANR-West Nudist Parks Have Closed for the Winter

Mountain Air Ranch, located in the mountains above Denver, has shut down until Spring. The park will still host its traditional New Year's Eve party for its residents.

The Sequoians club in the Castro Valley east of Oakland has also shut down for the winter except for its residents.

Mira Vista Pool Area to be Upgraded During December

We received word that the entire pool area at the Mira Vista Nudist Resort in Tucson is closed December 18 through December 28 for improvements to the conversation pool and the pool deck. Only the Jacuzzi by the lobby will be open between those dates.



Local Fires Displace Many AANR Members but No Homes Lost (Yet)

12/13/2017 - Although no nudist parks are threatened, several local fires these past few weeks have inconvenienced AANR members and other nudists across southern California.

The Thomas Fire in Ventura County and Santa Barbara County is now the fifth largest fire in California history, charring over 290,000 acres and burning an estimated 900 homes in its path.

The Rye Fire near Casitas burned about 6,000 acres, the Creek Fire above Sylmar burned 16,000 acres, and the Lilac Fire in north San Diego destroyed 85 homes over 4,100 acres.

The Skirball Fire in West Los Angeles only covered 500 acres but because it was located alongside the 405 freeway that connects the San Fernando Valley and West LA, here was a total disruption of that popular commuter route toward LAX for several days.

We made a telephone survey of members from SCNA, Glen Eden, and Olive Dell but, thankfully, we have not heard of any members' homes being lost.

Several members of SCNA had to be evacuated in Ventura and Santa Barbara. Heavy smoke over 150 square miles there made the air unbreathable without wearing a mask for a few days.

The eastern half of Carpinteria in Santa Barbara was evacuated as flames reached Rincon Mountain just above Bates Beach and its clothing-optional area. The fire was stopped on the ridge above the beach.

AANR-West President Gary Mussell was given a pre-evacuation order on Tuesday evening 12/5 with orders to standby to leave, but the winds changed direction during the night and the warning was rescinded 30 sleepless hours later.

We were told nobody from Glen Eden was evacuated from the fire burning 15 miles south of the park in Fallbrook, and Olive Dell also reported everyone there was safe also.

The fire in Santa Barbara is expected to burn until Christmas. All the other fires are no longer a threat.

Nudists Have the Right to Privacy

Considering recent news stories about sexual harassment we thought it a good thing to remind our club guests about this proper nudist etiquette:

They do not have to tell anyone else their name, occupation, or where they live. They have the right to sit by themselves and enjoy the day without having another invade their private space.

Of course, they can decide to interact and enjoy the day with others (most people do!) one of our basic tenants is "**No means no**," which means if a person indicates by either words or body language they are not interested in associating with another person, the other person must back off.

If the person does not back off, the nudist should first try to handle the situation themselves but telling the person to back off. The nudist can also complain to management and ask for them to intercede if the person continues. Some people may not like to complain and "get the other person in trouble." Nothing could be further from the truth! Stand up for yourself!

These situations do not happen very often, but we want to be sure all our members and guests understand they have this right to this privacy.

Staring or gawking at another person's private parts also is a major taboo.

AANR-West Twitter Site Attracting People to the Clubs

https://twitter.com/AANR_WestRegion

We just passed 2000 followers on Twitter! Andy Weldon, our PR Chair, is in charge of posting messages there, which he does once or twice daily. Many of the posts are generic positive thoughts about the joy of nude recreation. He also sprinkles in promotional tweets about what is happening at our clubs that weekend, such as a DJ Dance or holiday party.

We greatly appreciate all the clubs sending us email weekly about your latest events, so we can get them posted on-line.

Our web site statistics are showing about 19% of all our visitors are using smart phones instead of laptops, and 68% of those coming to our web site are first timers, most from the twitter site. The most popular pages viewed at the Directory of clubs and the Calendar of Events, so our clubs should be experiencing an increase in interest coming from first-timers.

This is the result we hoped for when we developed our marketing plan last year and we are glad to see Associate (non-club affiliated) members starting to come to the clubs to give them a try!

Upcoming Activities from Around the Region

Thank you to the clubs for sending us your monthly promotional events. We have these listed on our web site in the Calendar section. Below is a list of those activities for the next six weeks. Please send us your 2018 Calendar as soon as possible so we can update the web and keep the list below as complete as possible.

Calendar of Major Events at the Clubs December 15-31

These are major events only as each club holds weekly volleyball games and other parties besides those listed. Click the link to find out more information about the event.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event Description</u>	<u>Host Club</u>	<u>Club Link</u>
12/16/17	Christmas Potluck	Glen Eden Sun Club	info@gleneden.com
12/16/17	Ugly Sweater Dance	Laguna del Sol	office@lagunadelsol.com
12/25/17	Christmas Day Potluck	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
12/31/17	New Year's Eve Party	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
12/31/17	New Year's Eve Party	Glen Eden Sun Club	info@gleneden.com
12/31/17	New Year's Eve Party	Laguna del Sol	office@lagunadelsol.com
12/31/17	New Year's Eve Party	Mira Vista	relax@miravistaresort.com
12/31/17	New Year's Eve Dance	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
12/31/17	New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance	Mountain Air Ranch	marinfo@trynude.com

Calendar of Major Events at the Clubs January 1 – February 14

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event Description</u>	<u>Host Club</u>	<u>Club Link</u>
1/1/18	Brunch Potluck	Olive Dell	olivedell1952@gmail.com
1/1/18	Polar Bear Swim	Olive Dell	olivedell1952@gmail.com
1/1/18	Champagne Breakfast/Polar Bear Swim	Glen Eden	info@gleneden.com
1/12-14/18	Country & Blues Weekend	Glen Eden	info@gleneden.com
1/13/18	Denim & Diamonds Dance	Laguna del Sol	office@lagunadelsol.com
1/13/18	Nude Scavenger Hunt	SCNA	scna@socalnaturist.org
1/9/18	Movie Night	Mira Vista	relax@miravistaresort.com
1/20/18	80's Theme Prom Dance	Olive Dell	olivedell1952@gmail.com
1/20/18	Wine Tasting Party	Laguna del Sol	office@lagunadelsol.com
1/20/18	Board Installation Dinner	Olympians	olympianclub@aol.com
1/20/18	Women Only Gathering	SCNA	scna@socalnaturist.org
1/27/18	Korean Spa Night	SCNA	scna@socalnaturist.org
1/27/18	Women's Appreciation Day	Glen Eden	info@gleneden.com
2/04/18	Super Bowl/Chili Cookoff	SCNA	scna@socalnaturist.org
2/04/18	Super Bowl Tailgate Party	Glen Eden	info@gleneden.com
2/11/18	Valentines Dinner	Buff-a-Teers	tucsonbuffateers@gmail.com
2/10/18	Valentine's Day Dance	Mira Vista	relax@miravistaresort.com



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Clip this page and post you're your other holiday cards:



**Wishing Everyone a Very Merry Christmas
and Holiday Season
(Whatever You Are Wearing!)**

**The Board of Directors,
AANR-Western Region**
