

The Western Sun



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

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AANR NEWS



Left: AANR's President-elect Kathy Watzel. Right: Newly elected AANR--West Trustee Walt Stephens.

COLORADO'S KATHY WATZEL WINS AANR PRESIDENCY

By Gary Mussell

After a hard-fought campaign, **Kathy Watzel** was declared the winner and will become the next President of the American Association for Nude Recreation (AANR). Watzel lives in Colorado and her home club is Mountain Air Ranch above Denver. She defeated **Tim Mullins**, who is a member of the Northern Exposure club in Sacramento, California.

The vote was 2323 for Watzel (51%) to Mullin's 2217 votes (49%). Turnout was 18%, the highest on record since AANR changed to direct mail voting a decade ago.

Watzel is currently Chair of the AANR Planning Committee, while Mullins is Chair of the organization's Government Affairs Committee. Watzel will be inaugurated at the AANR International convention this August at De Anza Springs

Bev Price, the outgoing president, was elected to the national Board of Trustees.

Two trustees were elected to represent clubs with fewer than 100 members: **Susan Weaver**, also a past AANR president, and **Margi Cantlon**, who owns Sun Meadow Resort in Idaho.

Walt Stephens was elected a member of the national Board of Trustees representing the Western Region of the United States. Stephen is a former AANR-West President (2015-2017).

The new AANR Vice President is **Patty Faber**, owner of Shangri-La Nudist Ranch near Phoenix is currently a

Trustee from Arizona. The new Secretary-Treasurer is **Kathy Smith**, currently an AANR Trustee from Spokane, Washington. Both ran unopposed.

The AANR ballot **Proposition 1** to eliminate the Philippine Islands from the Western Region of AANR was enacted overwhelmingly with 91% "Yes" votes.

Proposition #2, which reduces the number of the AANR Trustees from 14 to 7 was also approved 70% Yes and 30% No. This change takes effect in 2020.

Regional News

Reminder to Clubs: Return Your Delegate Credentials Forms

AANR-West has mailed credentials packets to all club presidents confirming their participation in the summer convention, August 2-5.

If you did not receive a packet please contact Cyndy Faber at information@aanrwest.com.

Clubs need to mail back a signed form listing the names of who their **delegates and alternates to the convention** will be. Clubs get delegates based on a formula of one vote per 25 members.

Also included in the packet will be nomination forms should anyone wish to run for a seat on the Board of Directors for AANR-West. There are five open seats this year. Please consider giving some us some volunteer time this next year!

In the packet you also will find forms to nominate any worthy **Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, and Family of the Year**. We prefer these awards be given to the unsung heroes in the clubs who work very hard and deserve some recognition.

These forms are also available online at: www.aanrwest.org/legal-documents.html.

We need to receive your signed delegate form plus any Award nominations **before July 31**.

Mail them to **Cyndi Faber at Shangri-La Ranch, 4444 N Shangri-La Lane, New River, AZ 85087**.

All **Associate members** (those not affiliated with a specific club) also are eligible to participate and vote at this annual meeting where your ideas and suggestions for improving our service and operations get discussed and voted on. Each Associate in attendance gets one vote.



A RECORD NUMBER OF RIDERS MAKE THIS YEAR'S WNBR-LA A WHEEL-ROUNDED SUCCESS

By Rolf Holbach, SCNA President

As in years past, the leading naturist organizations in the area, SCNA, NitOC, AANR-West, and the Naturist Action Committee joined in support and sponsorship for LA's version of the World Naked Bike Ride on Saturday, June 23.

Around 350 riders from all over participated in a 19-mile ride through Los Angeles where clothing is optional and which the rule is that you can ride "as bare as you dare." Some wore costumes or masks, some got body painted, but most went completely nude! Many riders decorated themselves and their bikes with signs or sayings reflecting the environmental aspect of the human powered transportation that the ride promotes.

The World Naked Bike Ride (WNBR) is actually a protest ride that advocates and celebrates sustainable energy, environmentally-responsible living, human-powered transport and body-positive values. These reasons fall within the "First Amendment" Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Assembly, which is one of the reasons that we have the support of the LAPD.

The ride is divided into two parts for those who only want to ride part of the distance. The first loop (a little over 5 miles) went through downtown LA past some classic landmarks. The second loop (a little over 13 miles) went along the LA River, up through Silverlake, and back downtown along Sunset Blvd.

The staging area where both rides began and ended was in a large, open industrial area that afforded plenty of parking along with enough room for a body-painting booth, a registration booth, tables for our sponsors, two food vendors, and of course the all-important porta-potties!

We had many great volunteers who helped organize this year's ride and keep it running smoothly. At the staging

area we had a team that helped with parking, registration, body-painting, and generally keeping everything running smoothly.

During the ride, we had a lead vehicle decorated with signs and balloons to keep us on course.

At the end of the parade we stationed two follow-up vehicles who picked up stranded riders whose bikes broke down.

In between we had bicycle-riding monitors wearing orange vests and carrying walkie-talkies, so they could communicate with the lead car and the follow-up vehicles, along the route.

At both front and rear we had uniformed motorcycle officers who kept us moving along and preventing any outside problems (there was no such problems this year, only surprised and happy onlookers who applauded and cheered us on as we passed by).

Those smiles plus the enthusiasm of all the riders made this the most fun of all the WNBR rides to date, and certainly ranks as one of the most fun clothing-optional events in all of Southern California this year. We accomplished our own goal of spreading our own message about the joy of naturist living!

Thanks to all who participated! Here's to an even better ride in 2019!

Reprinted above with permission from the SCNA Newsletter, July 2018



AANR-West was one of four groups that underwrote the WNBR event. It allowed us to have an information table where we gave away lip balm, emery boards, pens, and beach balls as well as brochures about the region and every nearby AANR club, plus a directory of all the clubs in the region. It allowed us to reach an audience of naturist-friendly young people eager to learn about other clothing-optional locations.

We recommend other clubs in our region get involved with their local World Naked Bike Ride organizations in order to help us spread the AANR message.

What Does the AANR-West Board Do for Me?

With the convention fast approaching, we thought we would list some of the many projects we are involved in so you will know where your dues money goes. We encourage anyone with skills in these areas to volunteer a little time to help AANR grow! Email us at information@aanrwest.org with your suggestions and ideas.

AANR-WEST COMMITTEES

The primary work of the Directors is done in the various regional committees. The president appoints all members to the various committee and selects the leader/chair of that committee to coordinate its activities. Directors are appointed based upon their skill set and job experience. Some directors specifically request to serve on specific committees, but that is up to the president. Each committee writes a report before each of the three Board meetings that gets distributed to all the clubs, so they know what we are doing on their behalf and to solicit comment.

Below are names and descriptions of the most common committees so you can see what kind of duties each performs:

Finance

The members of this committee are familiar with QuickBooks and they supervise the budget-making process each Fall. During the rest of the year they approve all major expenditures and help the committees manage their allocated funds. They periodically review and make recommendations regarding reimbursement procedures.

Membership Marketing

This is one of the most important committees because it focuses on improving membership retention by doing all the things that give the existing members a good AANR experience. There are two kinds of members: those who belong to one of the existing 28+ clubs in the region, and the 1900+ members who are not affiliated with any club. We call them Associate members.

AANR West Associates mostly are administered to by the main office in Kissimmee. However, here in the west, we also communicate with these “virtual members” directly to let them know about the services we can provide locally, such as special events like the World Naked Bike Rides, hikes to hot springs and lakes, and group visits to beaches. We send them our monthly Western Sun newspaper directly.

The **Club Liaisons Subcommittee** focuses on constant contact with the local clubs and their members, so all the clubs know what the others are doing, such as the Nudestock festivals or 5k Runs, so that major events do not occur on the same day, etc. The Liaisons collect stories from each club about people or events, so they can be published in the monthly Western Sun newsletter.

Each Director gets assigned a few clubs each, so the liaison process is more evenly shared by all. Directors can either visit their assigned clubs or communicate via phone or email to keep up with the latest news.

Membership Marketing also administers the new **Nudist Passport program**, which goes into effect during the summer of 2018. It encourages AANR members to visit many nearby clubs to be eligible for some great prizes at an annual drawing.

Membership Marketing also contains several special interest subcommittees:

WINR (Women in Nude Recreation)

This committee promotes issues of specific interest to women in social nudity. They have their own brochure, sponsor workshops, and host information booths at trade shows and other events.

Singles

This committee promotes the acceptance of single men and women of all ages at nudist clubs, as some clubs discourage entry to unmarried people or whose spouses are uninterested in participating.

Young Adults (18-35) and Youth (0-18) Committees

These two committees promote the inclusion of activities at nudist clubs that are specifically attractive to these two age groups. It makes alliances with other nudist-friendly youth organization (Vita Nuda, YNA, Free the Nipple, WNBR). These committee specifically oversee:

- **The AANR-West Youth Mini-Summer Camp program** is designed for kids/young adults 11 to 17. These camps are full of fun workshops about self-esteem, leadership, and principles for being a good community citizen. There will also be the usual fun activities such as: volleyball, swimming, hiking, and some competitive games.
- **The AANR-West Scholarship Program** is being re designed to include not only high school seniors and college students, but also older persons returning to class for technical training in order to return to work or get a promotion.

Sports

This committee is our usual “public face” to the members at most clubs as it creates, coordinates, and promotes various sport events at AANR clubs. Its goal is to create multi-club league competition (Volleyball, Tennis, etc.) with trophies for intra-club play, usually at the annual Summer and Fall Festivals sponsored by AANR-West, but also at other inter-club competitions sponsored by groups of local clubs (i.e. The Summer Games at Olive Dell and at De Anza Springs).

The committee also promotes the annual 5K races held at several of the region’s clubs and provides awards for those participating in most or all the races.

Public Relations

Unlike Membership Marketing, the PR Committee focuses on public outreach programs, educating those unfamiliar with what social nudity really is through the AANR-West web site and other social media, writing feature articles for magazines, etc.

The **Social Media Subcommittee** consists of a team of Internet-savvy users who can post information positive to social nudist movement and to AANR-Wets on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other similar electronic media.

The **Web Site subcommittee** works with our hired Web Manager to keep the www.aanrwest.org site fresh with both fun activity announcements and background FAQ information and articles for those seeking educational materials about nudism (“we provide both the sizzle AND the steak!”)

The **Western Sun Newsletter subcommittee** writes and published the region’s monthly newsletter distributed to all Associates via email and to the clubs for distribution to its own members. There is always a need for club news, photos, and feature articles!

The **Trade Show subcommittee** finds events where our presence is important, arranges for booth rental, staffing, etc., and provides spiffs and raffles to the booth visitors.

The PR committee make alliances with other nudist-friendly organization (TNS, INF, BEACHES Foundation) so that the promotion of the social nudist way of life can be shared by our friends and allies.

Government Affairs

This is one of the more important committees as it monitors news stories and legislative bills to be sure no government entity (federal, state, county, local community) is proposing any laws or other restrictions on our ability to enjoy our nudist way of life. The committee chair(s) sit on the AANR Government Affairs Board and attend monthly telephone conference call with our counterparts in other regions to decide courses of action on issues that may occur at any time.

The committee’s goal is to create and maintain a book of standard policy positions, so we can be consistent with our mission statement’s goals.

The committee works with the Naturist Society’s Naturist Action Committee (NAC), our GAT counterpart, to be sure all actions are aligned.

Legal Committee

This committee is tasked with making sure that AANR-West complies with all federal non-profit regulations, state corporate law, and local business regulations. It also assures that AANR-West follow all bylaws and procedures as specified by AANR.

The committee also seeks out and vets private practice attorneys interested in providing legal advice to the attorneys of nudists who may have received tickets for simple nudity in areas where it is traditional to be nude. The attorneys will also provide advice or appropriate

assistance to AANR members involved in legal custody disputes where nudity has become one of the issues.

Legislation Committee

When it is found that AANR-West By-laws or procedures need to be updated in order to comply with federal, state, or local laws, or AANR bylaws or procedures, or simply need to be updated to replace outdated wording, the Legislative Committee assembles the appropriate motions to be presented to the Board of Directors at its next scheduled meeting for discussion and possible action.

Bylaw changes can only be made by the regional assembly once each year, but procedure can be changed at one of the three Board meetings or my email if it is an emergency.

Conventions & Facilities Committee, Credentials Committee, and Nominations and Awards Committees

These committees are important only a few times each year as they:

- Secure the locations of the three Board of Director meetings, and the Annual Regional Convention,
- Assign the number of delegates each club may have at the Regional Convention and administers their credentials;
- Seeks out the names of persons interested in seeking election to the Board of Directors or as elected Officers of AANR-West, confirms any necessary qualifications, and collects/distribute candidate statements for review by the convention delegates prior to the annual election process.
- Seeks out the names of persons from the various clubs who are the “unsung heroes” of the region, those volunteers who do so much at the local level who deserve recognition as Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Family of the Year, Young Man/Woman of the Year, and the Hall of Fame Award (Lifetime Achievement). Other awards are given out to individuals in such categories as Sports, Government Affairs, etc. Clubs also receive annual awards for membership increases and other categories of merit.

The Nominations and Award committees are traditionally led by the AANR-West Vice President.

Other Committees

Other special committees also exist, such as Audi-Visual Committee, and the **Western Nudist Library Committee**, etc., usually consisting of a single person interested in taking on that task.

From time to time we will add a temporary (Ad Hoc) Committee to handle a specific task that is not expected to need long to complete.

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23679 Calabasas Road, Suite 966

Calabasas, CA 91302

Web Site: www.aanrwest.org

Contact: information@aanrwest.org

There's Always Something Happening Around the Region!

Below is a list of major club activities for the next several weeks from around the region. This is only a partial list. Visit the aanrwest.org web site for a more complete list. Click on the club link at right to view some details about the event at the club's web site.

Calendar of Major Events at the Clubs July 1-31

Date	Event Description	Host Club	Club Link
7/4/2018	Independence Day Parade	Laguna del Sol	office@lagunadelsol.com
7/5/2018	Hop-A-Park Weekend	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
7/6/2018	GE Independence Day Celebration Weekend	Glen Eden	info@gleneden.com
7/7/2018	Family Day	Mountain Air Ranch	marinfo@trynude.com
7/7/2018	Pool Party	Olympian Club	olympianclub@aol.com
National Nude Recreation Week July 8-16			
7/8/2018	Bates Beach Party	SCNA	scna@socalnaturist.org
7/11/2018	Crazy hat Dance	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
7/12/2018	National Nude Weekend	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
7/14/2018	Rockets & Sprockets Motorcycle & Car Show	Laguna del Sol	office@lagunadelsol.com
7/14/2018	Golf Cart Rodeo	Mountain Air Ranch	marinfo@trynude.com
7/14/2018	MAR Olympics	Mountain Air Ranch	marinfo@trynude.com
7/14/2018	SCNA Pool Party and Elections	SCNA	scna@socalnaturist.org
7/14/2018	Camping at Faywood Hot Springs	SunTree Travel Club	information@suntree.net
7/15/2018	Ice Cream Social	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
7/19/2018	Lollipop Weekend	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
7/20/2018	GE Annual Nudestock Music Festival	Glen Eden	info@gleneden.com
7/20/2018	Cornhole Tournament	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
7/20/2018	"Art-rageous Weekend" Festival	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
7/26/2018	AANR Western Convention Weekend	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
7/27/2018	Full Moon Social	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com

Calendar of Major Events at the Clubs August 1-31

Date	Event Description	Host Club	Club Link
8/2/2018	Tell-A-Joke Weekend	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
8/2/2018	NAKED MAN Festival	Laguna del Sol	office@lagunadelsol.com
8/2/2018	AANR-West Convention	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
8/4/2018	Firemen's Fund Raiser	Mountain Air Ranch	marinfo@trynude.com
8/6/2018	Hawaiian Luau Weekend Dance	Glen Eden	info@gleneden.com
8/6/2018	AANR International Convention	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
8/11/2018	Club Night	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
8/11/2018	Annual Picnic	Olympian Club	olympianclub@aol.com
8/11/2018	Bates Beach Party	SCNA	scna@socalnaturist.org
8/16/2018	Nudestock Weekend	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
8/18/2018	Denim & Diamonds Western Weekend Dance	Glen Eden	info@gleneden.com
8/18/2018	Pool Party	Laguna del Sol	office@lagunadelsol.com
8/18/2018	Body Painting	Mountain Air Ranch	marinfo@trynude.com
8/18/2018	Glow Dance	Mountain Air Ranch	marinfo@trynude.com
8/18/2018	SCNA Summer Games	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
8/18/2018	Glow (Black Light & Body Paint) Party	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
8/18/2018	Green House Party	Roadrunner Naturists	http://www.roadrunnernaturists.com/
8/18/2018	Annual Naked Summer Games Day	SCNA	scna@socalnaturist.org
8/18/2018	Pool Party and potluck	SunTree Travel Club	information@suntree.net
8/21/2018	Tailgate Party	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com
8/23/2018	National Whiskey Sour Weekend	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
8/26/2018	Full Moon Social	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
8/28/2018	End of Summer Dance	Mountain Air Ranch	marinfo@trynude.com
8/30/2018	Labor Day Weekend	De Anza Springs	stay@deanzasprings.com
8/31/2018	Wild West Days! / Western Games	Olive Dell Ranch	olivedell1952@gmail.com