

The Western Sun



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

June 2020

Vol 4 No 06

We want to remind our members of our policy, as stated in the AANR By-Laws:

"AANR welcomes all people willing to conform to its principles and standards, regardless of age, gender, marital status, religious beliefs, ethnic origin or sexual orientation."

Region News



Shangri-La Ranch Featured on Arizona TV Morning Show

The local Fox affiliate in Phoenix broadcast a four-and-a-half-minute feature on nearby Shangri-La Ranch as part of its morning news on May 25.

Reporter Tom Fergus received a tour of the Ranch by Cyndi Faber via golf cart. Cyndi provided a perky and positive narrative then reviewed the amenities, some of the basic rules (i.e. towel), and invited non-nudists to give it a try. Here is the link to the tv segment:

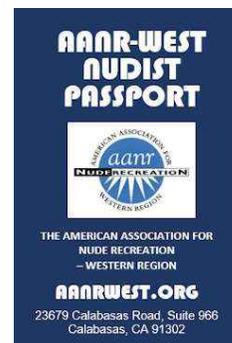
<https://www.shangrilaranch.com/images/videos/azam-shangri-la-ranch.mp4>

Cyndi said the station contacted them about doing a story. This is a common request during "sweeps month" (May and October every year) since stories about nudity tend to boost local ratings.

In 2016, Shangri-La also was featured on the local NBC affiliate in Phoenix. A copy can be found at:

<https://www.12news.com/video/features/shangri-la-ranch-in-new-river-az/75-2272273>

AANR-West Nudist Passport Raffle Deadline is July 1



The deadline is July 1 to mail in your stamped passport pages to be eligible for the AANR-West raffle to be held at the end of that month.

Starting in July 2019, members of SCNA were able to purchase a Passport book containing the names of all affiliated clubs and parks in the western 8 states.

Each time you visited a new park, members got their passport stamped at the registration desk. Each stamped club is equal to one raffle ticket, so if you visited 10 different clubs, you get 10 raffle tickets.

Prizes include merchandise (T-shirts, hats, etc.) and also includes some overnight stays at some of the nicer parks in the west.

Submit the back pages of your passport book by July 1 to:

AANR-West
PO Box 966
23679 Calabasas Rd,
Calabasas CA 91302

Events Cancelled Due to COVID-19

Sadly, some events scheduled for the summer months have been cancelled due to social distancing concerns.

AANR-West Kids' Camp Is Cancelled for June 21-25

by Claudia Kellersch, AANR West Youth Director

Sadly, this year's extraordinary pandemic conditions have made it impossible to carry out a successful youth camp June 21-25 at De Anza Springs. We have had no choice but to cancel the event.

Because of current state restrictions, De Anza could not provide a dorm-style sleeping area, and no self-serve buffet style food service was available (a necessity for summer camp dining), and the park is unable to cater to the special dietary needs of some of the kids. Also, while the indoor and outdoor pools have reopened, social distancing requirements meant we could not do any of the water sports we had planned.

As part of the activities, we had planned a field trip to Black's Beach, San Diego's local naturist beach. While the beach is open, face coverings must be worn on the beach and group activities are not yet permitted.

We hope to have all these fun activities available for our 2021 summer camp! I hope the three girls and three boys who had signed up will look forward to next year with me.

I wish to thank my team of local and out-of-region experienced counsellors and director for keeping themselves available. I also wish to extend the invitation to out-of-state families to please get in touch with me at claudiakellersch@gmail.com, so I can keep you informed and start planning future kids events and next year's camp with you and your input. I look forward to hearing from you!

Naturist Society's 2020 Western Gathering Is Also Cancelled

The Naturist Society has announced they are "reluctantly" cancelling both the Eastern and Western Naturist Gatherings for 2020. The Western Gathering had been scheduled for Thursday – Sunday, June 18 – 21 at De Anza Springs Resort, during the few days just before the AANR-West Kids Camp at the same park (now, also cancelled).

World Naked Bike Rides Cancelled in Portland and Los Angeles

Organizers of the **Portland World Naked Bike Ride** posted a similar message on their website although they are also expressing the hope that some riders may choose to do the ride themselves after dark on June 27.

Portland's is the largest Naked Bike Ride event in the world with an average of 10,000 riders each year.

Meanwhile, the statement below was issued by the WNBR-LA Board of Directors who organize the ride:

"We have been carefully monitoring California's modified stay at home orders as well as both LA city and county updated health regulations.

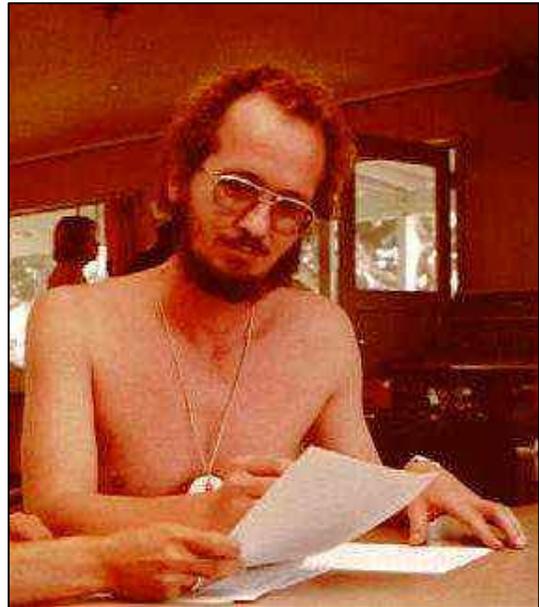
"We also have been collecting feedback from our volunteers and many former riders on Facebook, several have expressed that even if we held a ride this year they would not attend.

"While the ride is a protest and we could choose to exercise our First Amendment rights, doing so under the current circumstances could be detrimental to both our health and to our ideals.

"Therefore, we regret to inform our riders that we have decided to cancel the WNBR-LA this year."

"We hope to come back in the summer of 2021 with an even better ride! We look forward to seeing you then!

In Memoriam



Remembering David Cheek September 1, 1943 – May 3, 2020

Last month we lost David Cheek, age 77, a popular former President of the Western Sunbathing Association (the previous name of AANR-West).

Cheek died from a chronic heart condition after a long illness. He had retired to Olive Dell Ranch (ODR) and been an member there for over 30 years.

Becki Kilborn of ODR emailed us: "David loved playing Texas Hold'em and he was one of the smartest guys I knew. He was a member of Mensa and loved watching *Jeopardy*. Not to mention he was a hell of a nice guy, who I considered a very dear friend. We all miss him."

Cheek served as WSA President from 1980 thru 1983. He then was the organization's Secretary/Treasurer from 1984 thru 1989. He was also a member of its Board of Directors for several years and



The image above was borrowed from David's Twitter page.

David was also technically savvy and helped create the region's first web site.

Also, he was the first editor and publisher of *The Western Sun*, the region's newsletter. At his death he still maintained an active Twitter website.

He served the organization for over 40 years.

His tenure in office was a period of transition for WSA into AANR-West as it changed from overseeing a group of smaller nudist camps into interlocking destination parks.

David was always seen to be a gentleman, an avid reader and historian, and a loyal friend to those who knew him. His wry wit was always appreciated, and he would insert humor at the appropriate time when needed during heated discussion.

Reminder: Annual World Naked Gardening Day Photo Contest

Last month AANR-West challenged our members to submit photos taken last May 2, World Naked Gardening Day (or any time, really) showing yourselves doing something in the garden while nude.

We got a good response so we decided to extend the contest until June 15 to give everyone a chance to enter.

Submit your photos to our email address at information@aanrwest.org no later than midnight, June 15, 2020 to be considered for the contest. Winner will be announced in the July newsletter.

Here are the photos we have received as of May 25:



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23679 Calabasas Road, Suite 966
Calabasas, CA 91302
Web Site: www.aanrwest.org
Contact: Information@aanrwest.org



Fun and Flappers – the AANR-W Convention IS Coming in July 2020

The theme of the AANR-W Convention is “Celebrating the 20s – 1920’s that is.”

Hearken back to the days where fun was the only requisite. Shangri-La Ranch is celebrating with a Roaring 20s theme complete with a Burlesque-style performance before inviting people to show off their best Charleston moves at the dance on Saturday with Broadway Joe and Anita.

Don't forget to participate in one or all of the myriad tournaments: Water Volleyball, Billiards, Pickleball and much more.

One of the highlight events will be a fundraiser for the Education Foundation. Andrew Walden, Secretary, has agreed to have his hair and beard shaved off in response to donations to the Foundation. The more donations received, the more hair that will fall, so bring your wallets and cameras for this FUNdraiser.

The Convention runs from July 26 – 28, 2020; Make your reservations now as rooms and RV sites are going fast! Contact the office at 623-465-5959 or email the club at joinus@shangrilaranch.com.

Delegate Credentials Packets

The credential committee is sending out a packet via email the first week on June to all club presidents concerning your participation in the summer convention.

Clubs get delegates based on a formula of one vote per 25 AANR members.

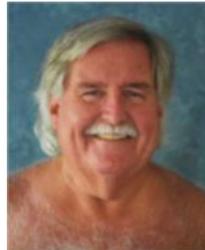
All clubs need to mail back a signed form listing the names of who their delegates and alternates to the convention will be. Also included in the packet will be nomination forms should anyone wish to run for a seat on the Board of Directors for AANR-West. There are five Director seats open this year.

Also, in the packet will be 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 extremely hard and deserve some recognition.

Please return your completed forms to the address indicated by the end of the month.



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vs.



AANR International Elections: Remember to Vote by June 20

As we reported last month, the online and mail-in balloting period has opened for all AANR members to vote in the biennial elections. **The deadline for voting is June 20.**

While many of the positions at the national level are uncontested, members in the Western Region have an important decision to make regarding the AANR Trustee Board:

Tim Mullins, chairman of the AANR Government Affairs Committee, is seeking the Trustee position to represent the Western Region.

He is opposed by longtime Trustee **Beverly Price**.

Members of the Western Region also get to decide if incumbent **Kathy Watzel** gets a second term as AANR President. Her opponent is **Gloria Wayrus** who is a former president of AANR-Eastern region.

The May AANR *Bulletin* magazine and our own May issue of *Western Sun* newsletter contained summaries from all the candidates, their campaign statements, as well as a review of the six ballot propositions that modify some of the language in our ruling By-Laws.

At least one additional reminder will be sent by AANR to all who have emails within the next two weeks. Please remind your club members to vote so that they may help determine the future of their association.

AANR International Convention

The annual AANR convention remains scheduled for Star Ranch outside Austin Texas from August 11-16, 2020. Kathy Watzel, AANR President, said the main office is watching the COVID-19 infection rate carefully but with proper social distancing the organization feels the meeting can go on safely. The problem now is that the Canadian border remains closed so our members (and the AANR-East President) from north of the border are not able to attend until the border opens again. A final “go/no-go” deadline is June 15.

AANR-West Member Wins 2020 Nudist Poetry Slam

On a trip to Australia last year, AANR member Stan Weber took this photo of his wife, Linda. This inspired her to write a poem which she submitted to the nudist poetry contest put together by ClothesFreeLife.com, and she won First Place! Congratulations, Linda!



A Walk in the Forest

By Linda Weber

As I cast off the textile shackles that shroud my body and soul from the world,

I feel the trees, ferns, and foliage rise to envelop me like a long-lost friend.

As I stroll, the soil cushions my walk as I breathe deeply the pure air that sustains my cells.

The stream bubbling by beckons me to receive her liquid embrace.

After, the sun dries me off and warms me as I sit in the realm of Mother Nature and let her nourish my spirit as well as rejuvenate my mind.

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The Birds of Glen Eden

During late Spring, many clubs along the west coast report sightings of many species of birds as they seek nesting sites or as they pause on longer journey to the Pacific Northwest.

Recently, the Glen Eden club in the Temecula Valley saw a wide variety of birds adopt the park since there were very few people about during the pandemic closure.

Local GE residents got out their binoculars and cameras and enjoyed the chirps and songs coming from these lovely critters of various colors and sizes. In its May club newsletter, GE published a photo album of the experience:



Top to bottom, clockwise: A hawk rules the roost near the front gate; a Great Egret pauses on its journey north atop a tennis court light pole; a yellow hooded oriole; a roadrunner pauses on a shaded rock; a scrub jay looking for a grub for breakfast.

Images taken by Cindy S. at Glen Eden.



Clubs Start to Open in Stages from COVID-19 Lockdowns

Note: The information here is believed to be accurate as of the date we received it from the club. However, events are changing fast, so we recommend you check with the club's web site to see the latest news.

ARIZONA

- **Mira Vista**

June 1: We are now accepting day guests and new visitors. We will do our best to provide a clean and safe place for you to relax and enjoy while visiting Mira Vista. There will be hand sanitizer in all the common areas. The lounge chairs, common areas and public bathrooms will be sanitized daily.

The main pool and volleyball pool will be open but no volleyball at this time. The Conversation pool and Jacuzzi will be remained closed.

The Cantina in the main building will be open for cocktails to go. Restaurant and Lounge are currently closed. Please continue to practice social distancing of at least 6 feet apart. The pool lounges are spaced accordingly.

- **Shangri-La (New River)**

We are fully open as of May 15. Check the club website for further details: <https://shangrilaranch.com/>

- **Mohave Sun Club (Lake Havasu)**

Mohave Sun Club is only doing a restricted-sized pool party in June. During May we took 3 boats onto Lake Mojave and are practicing social distancing. We expect 7-9 on June 6 for the pool party. Please contact us if anyone is interested in online games or an online party. Email mohavesunclub@gmail.com for more info.

- **Canyon States Naturists (Phoenix)**

CSN has put a phased reopening plan in effect. Phase 1 is in effect until the end of June. During this phase, we are limiting attendance to members only. Phase 1 may be extended past June if the new infection rates for COVID are increasing substantially in our area or we will move into Phase 2 in July to see if we can open up to visitors and a higher attendance limit.

- **Buff-a-teers (Tucson)**

The Tucson Buff-A-Teers members and invited guests are planning on attending a late afternoon outing on Sunday, June 21.

In consideration for all in attendance, the event will not be a potluck so members should bring their own food and personal utensils. Wearing masks will be encouraged and appropriate social distancing in conjunction with diligent sanitation practices will be strongly enforced.

A future visit to Mira Vista Resort is in the planning stages once the resort reopens to the public. For more information about the Tucson Buff-A-Teers club please send email to tucsonbuffateers@gmail.com.

CALIFORNIA

- **De Anza Springs (Jacumba)**

As of May 19, 2020, we have reopened the motel and cabins. Unfortunately, we are not able to open the pools, hot tub, gym, café, and lounge as of today. Starting this weekend, we will be continuing our regular scheduled activities except water volleyball as that requires for the pool to be open. Just like all of you we are waiting patiently for the California government to tell us that we can reopen the pools and other facilities.

We are offering Bingo via Zoom Meeting to anyone that would like to join. To get your bingo cards send an email to info@deanzasprings.com and in the comments section please specify how many people will be

- **Glen Eden (Corona/Temecula Valley)**

At its May 10 meeting, the Glen Eden Board of Directors approved the implementation of the Phase 2 Reopening. This means Glen Eden will continue to be open to residents, sunbirds, employees, and approved vendors.

Opening for non-site holder members will come after the Stay-at-Home requirements are lifted and additional reopening phases are approved by the Board. Large group activities will remain closed.

Naked Yoga is popular on Zoom, and tennis and pickleball courts are open with proper distancing. We are hopeful the annual Nudestock scheduled for July 17-19 can go on as scheduled.

The Taskforce recommends not opening common areas for socializing until Phase 3. We have done great so far! These are tough times. Your cooperation will make a difference and help keep GE a safe place.

- **Laguna del Sol (Sacramento)**

As of June 6, we are are now ready to welcome non-member visitors who have been here before and are registered in our system! The restaurant is also open, but we continue to follow social distancing rules there as required by the county.

We had to make the unfortunate decision to postpone the **Motorcycle Poker Run** originally scheduled for Saturday June 6. However, the July 18 **Rockets & Sprockets** Motorcycle and Car Show is still on the calendar, as is the **LDS Naked Man Festival** scheduled for July 31-August 2.

If you are a current member and would like more information, please contact the office by calling (916) 687-6550 or email office@lagunadelsol.com.

We thank you for all your patience, dedication and understanding. Stay Safe and healthy!

- **Lupin Lodge (Santa Cruz)**

After 7 weeks of serving only members and residents, Lupin opened its gates on May 15 to overnight guests. The park reports there were “many, many very happy guests maintaining social distancing but enjoying the warmth of the sun and the walking trails as well as the quiet and peace of Lupin.”

The Nourish restaurant is open for takeout orders.

Our wonderful **yoga** instructors are leading groups with social distancing outdoors. The May 16 class was well attended.

- **Northern CA Exposure / River Dippers (Sacramento)**

All events through June have been cancelled. Once we have a firm date when social activities are again the norm, we will let you know when we will hold these events.

- **Olive Dell Ranch (Colton)**

The park opened on a limited basis for the **Memorial Weekend Music Festival**. Attendance was restricted with advanced RSVP required so social distancing could be enforced. Those who attended told us they appreciated the music, food service, and the special precautions the club took.

“For as long as we are not under a lock-down or shelter in place order, Olive Dell Ranch remains open to visitors. “You must always maintain proper social distancing from other guests.”

You can visit our **Facebook** page for the most recent information. There will be no organized events until further notice.

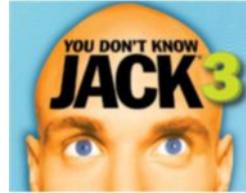
“We have postponed the annual **Comedy Show** until July 11. The park has postponed its **Bare Burro 5K Trail Run**. until October 25.

- **Sequoians**

Sequoians Clothes Free Club will open June 13, however, on very, very restricted terms. Members only will be allowed, no exceptions. The lawn area and hiking trails will be open but most other facilities will be closed, including the recreation hall, pool and hot tub. We will not be able to host potlucks. Email them at sequoians@gmail.com for up-to-date information.

- **SCNA (Los Angeles)**

SCNA launched a new on-line email service, **Staying In Touch**, where anyone can sign up to exchange any non-political thoughts, share jokes and memes, etc. During the first week several dozen signed up and now it is up to over 40. The service is keeping members and friends connected and is proving to be of great added value.



The club also has hosted several on-line Meetup meetings for first timers with about a dozen participants each.

The club holds monthly online Game Night parties that attract 8-10 participants for You Don't Know Jack, Cards Against Humanity, and Trivia Murder Mystery..

SCNA's annual election meeting, scheduled for mid-July, is being converted to a vote-by-mail process to elect new officers and members of its Board of Directors.

COLORADO

- **Mountain Air Ranch (Denver)**

MAR had a soft reopening on May 15 with restrictions. Only members can come up, no non-member visitors or guests. Per state regulations, only 30 members of this level may be on the property at a time.

Face masks to be worn inside all buildings and masks are strongly encouraged in any social setting. The club asks that members stay home if they are considered “high risk” per CDC guidelines.

All scheduled social events for June are cancelled unless restrictions loosen.

We are putting in rest rooms next to the kid's room in the sauna building They will be accessible both from the outside and directly from the sauna. The dining room is closed, except for transit. A max. 2 people may use the hot tub at the same time, practicing social separation and masks are required. Swimming pool will not be open until the government guidelines permit it.

The Ranch hosted a successful Zoom Happy Hour on April 3 with many members logging in from afar. People exchanged online jokes and did a group singalong.

Rev. Cal Kemper led a group of almost 20 MAR members in a wonderful virtual Easter service on Zoom. Between the kind and encouraging words of Rev. Cal and the musical entries provided by Randall Dubois; the service was inspiring.

General Manager Chris May reports she is doing better now. A week ago she had some COVID-19 complications--pulmonary embolisms--and was on oxygen, but she is up and around now. We are all thankful for that.

[Note: On May 23 we lost Doug Triggs, leader of youth activities at MAR for many years. There will be a more complete obituary about Doug in the July newsletter – Editor]

HAWAII

All businesses and residents in Hawaii remain under a “shelter in place” order.

- **Swim Free Hawaii**

“All commercial permits were suspended so we cannot charter any boat trips. Hopefully, it'll all be back to normal soon. Rock On!!” - Chuck

- **Hangin' Loose**

"It's really hard being shut down. We have all our ads on hold. We hope to be able to reopen in the fall."

NEVADA

- **Tahoe Area Naturists**

We are still planning our potlucks as scheduled. We have had an unusual number of beach attendees this spring due to the lockdowns, and we have spotted lots of trash along the trails and the highway as the trash cans were closed and folks have been leaving trash by the cans and along the trails. Please make plans to join for the annual highway and trail cleanup on June 6. Any questions please contact us at tahoeareanaturists@yahoo.com

- **Las Vegas Bares**

We did not receive a reply from this club to our inquiry. Last month they wrote that all events through June remain cancelled.

- **Las Vegas Naturists**

The state of Nevada had a soft opening. Now groups of 50 and less is allowed, the rest of Las Vegas is supposed to open June 4. LV Naturist has been doing spring cleaning and painting around the clubhouse and looking forward to our water volleyball events starting back up in June. Email for information to: actionnude@gmail.com

NEW MEXICO

- **Roadrunner Naturist Club (Albuquerque)**

Roadrunner Naturists is still not having events. We have a late summer pool party that has not been cancelled at this time, and our annual Faywood weekend is still on for the end of September.

UTAH

- **Wasatch Naturists (Salt Lake City)**

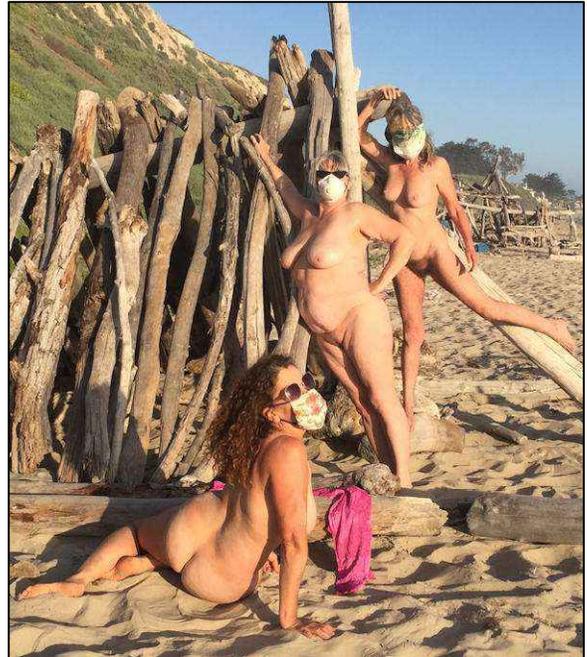
Most of Utah has been reduced to a low threat level, but some counties (and Salt Lake City) remain at a moderate threat level). We haven't decided yet how soon we are resuming our activities. We also have a couple of campouts planned for summer that we are looking forward to. We are talking about doing another online meeting.

- **SUNS (St. George)**

As of now we are scheduling a pool party every second Saturday of the month. We had 20 people at the 1st pool party of the year on May 10. It was 94 and the water was great. Had 4 folks up from Vegas and 4 folks down from Provo. A BIG thanks to Arlene and Mills for their hospitality and creating such an amazing safe space.

June 4-8 we will be at Shangri LA Ranch. If you want to join us, call the Ranch to reserve a room or RV spot at a club discount.

California's Nude Beaches Are Back in Business



During May, **Friends of Bates Beach** hosted several group outings to the beach near Carpinteria and there is a major picnic event planned for June 13. Masks and social distancing on the sand required.



Blacks Beach near San Diego has a posted "Keep in Motion" condition, so no umbrellas or groups congregated on the sand. Above, Claudia Kellersch poses alongside the beach rules sign.

Pirates Cove, near San Luis Obispo, is also open but deputies are enforcing social distancing so the usual Saturday night bonfire parties from the nearby college are banned. Clothing-optional volleyball is slowly making a comeback.