

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Robert Roche**

The AANR-East 2023 Annual Summer Meetings were held once again at White Tail Resort in Ivor, Virginia.

The Outboard and Inboard meetings were scheduled for the evening which allowed the Officials to enjoy the pool, hot tub, and sauna and to socialize with the members of WTR. The Regional Assembly took place Wednesday afternoon. All the meetings went much smoother this year thanks to Charles Bliss and Mary Fleck making sure everything ran correctly and testing the ZOOM setup all day on Sunday.

Robert Roche and Melody Bage were reelected to serve another term as President and Vice-President respectfully. The election of three Director positions was accomplished via electronic voting and this year we had a little better turnout than last year. We need to figure out how to get a better response to the electronic ballot and to combat member apathy.

This year Charles Bliss and Judith Turner were elected once again as Directors and we have a new Director, Leo Blake. Please help us welcome him to the AANR-East Board.

The officials were treated to a presentation by Pine Tree Associates about their club in Annapolis, Maryland. They did a presentation to bid on the 2024 Summer Meeting, since it will be their 90th Anniversary next year. The Directors voted in favor of holding our meetings there this coming June.

Once again, the Black Naturists Association received the award for the largest number increase in membership and the Maryland Area Naturists Association received the award for the largest percentage increase in membership awards this year. Stainless steel tumblers; one was coffee cup size the other was for a 24-ounce size beverage were the gifts provided to directors and officers.

WTR hosted a Meet and Greet social Monday evening after our Outboard meeting and dinner. Our Single Malt Scotch event Wednesday evening resulted in donations of \$600 towards our Legal Defense fund.

Since our Summer Meeting I have conducted our executive (President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer) conference calls, as well as our board Communication Calls and completed necessary paperwork related to doing business as AANR-East.

I publicized the GAT Challenge in order to raise funds for the AANR Government Affairs Program. As owner of White Tail Resort, I offered the opportunity to win a free week in one of our park models here at the resort, with all of the amenities of the resort available to the winner.

As president, I also donated a painting to be auctioned with proceeds going to the AANR Education foundation. I continue to attend the AANR Public Relations Zoom meetings, as time allows, to keep up with what is being done at the national level that can serve as guidance for our region.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Melody Bage**

I am available to attend our executive (President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer) conference calls as needed and attend our Board Communication Calls. I serve as the history/archivist for AANR-East and I am on the Branding Committee. Reports from both of these areas are provided in detail in other sections of this report.

## **SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Mary Fleck**

As usual, the past year has been busy. Our ruling documents are current and posted on our website. They are available for download or a hard copy can be requested from the AANR-East office. The minutes of the Outboard, Regional Assembly and Inboard meetings are also posted on our website.

As always all of the submitted written reports are available on our website. If a printed copy is desired, a copy can be requested by email at [secretarytreasurer@aanr-east.com](mailto:secretarytreasurer@aanr-east.com) or snail mail.

The current status of all of our savings accounts will be available upon request as well as our Capital Assets list.

Our Interim meeting will be held at White Tail Resort in Ivor Virginia and available via ZOOM which has been renewed for another year. The login information is on the schedule.

On a final note, we had received \$600 in pledges from the Single Malt Scotch event that we held after Regional Assembly June 21st. As of this writing, I have received all of the funds that were pledged except for one of \$50.

## **REGIONAL TRUSTEE REPORT**

**Sandra Cordell**

One of the most active committees is the AANR Membership Marketing/Public Relations. The AANR Online Meet & Greet taking place the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of each month is a big hit. The various breakout rooms offer plenty of topics for discussion, such as writing, music, photography, science, nudism, nudist culture and just plain chatting with others on any topic that may come up, and you can make suggestions as to other types of breakout rooms that you may be interested in. I was online along with over 150 others, both AANR members and non-members. I have to say it was interesting to chat with others about whatever comes up in discussions. If you are interested in joining in, please send an email to [sigs@aanr.com](mailto:sigs@aanr.com) to be put on the automatic invitation list. The email will direct you to the zoom meeting and then you can see what is going on all over the nudist world (actually throughout the US and even from Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Jamaica). It's a bunch of people wanting to chat with others in the nudism world who have the same interests in common with others. It was fun and I plan on attending more Meet & Greets.

**CLUBS and MEMBERS:** There is a big concern with the number of clubs that are closing due to owner retirement, lack of AANR membership, or turning to textile. We should all be concerned that membership is dwindling as we have strength in numbers to keep our nudists rights. We insure our home, we insure our vehicles, we insure our life, we need to insure our right to be nudists by keeping our membership healthy by promoting AANR membership within our Clubs.

**AANR -East:**

I am working along with the East Board to contact the club owners to discuss various issues with them to give direction to the Board and also how we can assist them. Most clubs are closed for the winter, but we will continue to make attempts to contact them. The biggest concern is potential closings and loss of membership, so direct conversations with the clubs may help point us in new directions.

The AANR-East website is continuously being updated. We are looking for new positive articles all the time. So if you have something you would like to share, please let us know.

I look forward to attending the Eastern regional board meeting on Jan 26-27, 2024 at Whitetail Resort in VA and the AANR board meeting at Lake Como, FL on Feb 2-3, 2024.

**ADVOCACY AND ALLIANCES KRA**  
**Judy Turner, Albert Gilewicz, Shaun Card Team Leaders**

**Submitted by Al Gilewicz**

The AANR brand and a collection of 5 of AANR affiliated organizations sponsored the 2023 Buffalo World Naked Bike Ride were the first sponsors of this event held for the past seven years. The co-sponsors included AANR, AANR East Region, the Black Naturists, AANR Education Foundation and the local AANR club the Niagara Naturists (NN). Each group donated \$100 with AANR Kissimmee donative \$150. Sharing the cost of the sponsorship made it feasible to each group participate without significantly impact the individual organizations budgets or placing too much of a manpower burden on any one group.

Pre-event planning started in early 2023 with meetings of the WNBR organizers to work out details to ensure the success of the event and promotion of the AANR family. Much was learned in the preparation of the event as well as the actual day of the ride that will be of value to future sponsorship.

This pre-planning included multiple meetings with the Niagara Naturists with members signing up to help at the start of the ride and the preparations of the naked after party held at the venue in downtown Buffalo. This included handing out our stickers and shirts at the start of the ride and privacy screening at the venue site. Behind the privacy screens AANR had tables set up to welcome rider participants, assist the organizers in wrist banding the attendees, provide give-aways of AANR branded merchandise, display a video about social nudism, and answer questions from people about AANR.

By the numbers, between 350 and 400 people participated in the ride all of whom saw and spoke to NN members and about 10 people provided their email addresses for follow up contact. Lots of East Region merchandise was handed out as well as promo goods from AANR Kissimmee, Black Naturists and the Education Foundation. Where did these nudist put this material and merchandise? Why in some of the backpack type merchandise given to interested participants!

Beyond the welcome table, NN members also manned the beverage and food table until the food ran out well into the after-party and general clean up. During the party between DJ sets, the NN drew names for more valuable and less available promotional giveaways.

Overall the event was well run, no negative incidents incurred during the ride or at the after party. Everyone was well behaved, and a good time was had by everyone. This was made possible by the AANR family working collectively to ensure social nudism as presented appropriately to all attendees. This is one of the benefits of being an AANR member or club. Our thanks to all who helped shepherd the funding through their AANR group but especially the 12 plus NN members who worked together to reach out and educate the ride participants about AANR.

## **BRAND KRA**

**Melody Bage, Leo Blake, Charles Bliss Team Leaders**

### **MEMBERSHIP/MARKETING**

#### **Submitted by Melody Bage**

As a special project, a customer service/satisfaction survey was developed to address issues with Impexium. To date, only four AANR-East clubs have responded. Full responses will be provided at the upcoming Mid-Winter Board meeting.

There has been no additional communication with clubs on my liaison list. Even though I have confirmed emails and phone numbers, no returns have been made.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

#### **Submitted by Charles Bliss**

AANR has several separate committees. Of them, there are two that are the subject of this report. The Public Relations and Membership and Marketing committees. . Since these two committees shared some of the main goals and duties, they have joint meetings. A separate subcommittee – The Social meeting subcommittee meets on a separate night. A new subcommittee – the Visual Altruism Subcommittee has recently been formed.

The following is a compilation of some of the topics discussed and the action items. For the benefit of the AANR-East Board, I will forward these meeting minutes each month.

#### **Areas of interest.**

##### **1) Social Media Subcommittee (SMS)**

The committee has produced an updated Social Media Guideline. They Stressed the importance of regional representation and buy-in of the SMS. This proposal requires collaboration with regions and AANR central, timely input of information and understanding of the purpose of this endeavor.

We need preparation and training for press rebuttal, i.e., an AANR response to negative press. The AANR Negative Press Guide (ANPG) was drafted and distributed to Committee.

##### **2. Visual Altruism Subcommittee (VA)**

There is a need for strategies for visible altruism campaign and Evan's creative and thought-provoking document which all members received. There were discussion about the many civic activities of individuals, clubs, regions and AANR and possible projects that could be initiated

##### **3. Public Relations (PR)**

The PR Committee concerns itself with "all media for internal and external education.", requiring established ways to facilitate communication between the board and the office staff. For example, it is important to know who chairs our various committees so that these individuals will be involved with activities that fall under their charge. In the past, an online program about women was presented without any input from the AANR WINR Committee, causing some hurt feelings. Recently however a process is being tested for negative press to be handled by the SMS

with notification to the President and ED. This will ensure that the appropriate people will be apprised of the issue and will respond in an expeditious way.

#### **4. AANR national or regional news (regional reps)**

#### **5. Meet & Greet Update**

The AANR Meet and Greet Zoom meetings are going very well. They are held every 1st and 3rd Thursday nights starting at 8:00 PM Eastern time.

Almost 2300 people have signed on to the M&Gs with 100-150 people attending every 2 weeks. The Meet & Greets are continuing successfully with very positive feedback from many participants. Several who have not been members of AANR or who have needed to renew have signed up. This is satisfying our goals for retention and recruitment. One suggestion is for regions to have M&G's.

As with any new venture, the Meet and Greets have had some glitches. It has been determined that none of the rooms will be opened without a moderator to keep things on track and prevent any disrespectful behavior. There are currently around 20 moderators, but more are needed.

#### **6. Social Media/Website**

Naturist Hub is continuing to grow. Linda noted that some people think they need to be members of AANR and join for that reason. She is working with create a survey to try to determine how many NH participants are in fact AANR members.

We all need to look at the website, consider if something needs to be changed and notify the office.

#### **7. Membership and support**

A question that is being asked is what programs can regions roll out to support direct members. What funding can regions provide? It seems like the numbers of direct members is remaining constant while club membership is decreasing. There is a need to identify target audience and who needs helps.

We need to identify and announce ourselves as a membership organization, not a club organization; M&Gs doing great job, clubs need to do same; need to think outside club box and direct more energy to engage new/non-club members.

New memberships by Directs continue to surpass Club memberships.

It was suggested that we use the motto, "AANR... Your nudist life insurance." After all, we ensure our cars, our homes and our lives; shouldn't we be ensuring the opportunity for our way of life...especially today when more threats to nudism exist?

It was noted that we need to go back to having 100% clubs.

Discussed leadership strategy for mentoring their clubs. Dave asked about role of AANR or region Presidents in introducing their clubs. Committee suggested having Presidents send out



welcome letters to new members in their regions as soon as they join. This would be good PR as well as informative. It was stated that the Regional Presidents are not informed of new members or immediately given their contact information. Contact information is held tightly guarded by AANR, which has been an issue for years.

The region presidents are not given any notification when a direct member joins and they have no access to member contact information.

## **8. Club Closure and Conversions**

How to start a club

Write up process and put it online (Reddit comment)

## **9. Additional/miscellaneous**

AANR should present itself as a collective voice.

A Communications Office was suggested where communication input and output are processed. This supports the suggestion that the Social Media Subcommittee have a role in ascertaining that all AANR communications follow the Social Media Guidelines and demonstrate brand consistency throughout all of the regions.

Legal issues are becoming more complex regarding nudity and bills are becoming more blurred than ever. These include banning books with nudity; calling nude works of art pornography; blending nudity, alcohol and children, considering certain impersonators harmful to children, etc. These issues can cross over with implications for wholesome social nudism. A suggestion was made to substitute the term nudist lifestyle for nudist culture has met with great approval in informal discussions with consensus that the term culture serves the purpose for defining our way of life without causing confusion or misinterpretation.

British Naturism (BN) has written an article about intimate images without consent. Another concern was with a local newspaper article reporting the posting of nude bodies with teenage girls' faces using AI and Photoshop. Nudism is a freeing and wholesome way of life for those that choose it and the human body is natural and not something to be shamed. But the action of portraying anyone falsely, by manipulating pictures, whether posting them as nude or in a compromising situation, **without their consent** is illegal, and damaging. This criminal act can severely traumatize victims and engender punishment for perpetrators.

**FINANCE KRA**  
**Sandra Cordell, Team Leader**

I review the monthly QuickBooks reports provided by secretary/treasurer Mary Fleck and discuss any issues with President Bob Roche. The 2024 budget will be reviewed at the January meeting and add any changes if necessary.

## **GOVERNANCE KRA**

### **Judy Turner, Team Leader**

#### **ANNUAL MEETINGS & FACILITIES**

##### **Submitted by Mary Fleck**

The 2024 Interim Board Meeting will be held at White Tail Park in Ivor, Virginia as well as being available via ZOOM. The dates are January 26, 27 and until noon on the 28 if necessary. The travel days for officials are January 25 and 28. Login information is available on the schedule. Our Summer Meeting will be held at Pine Tree Associates in Annapolis, MD, June 17-20, 2024 with travel days for officials being June 16 and 21.

#### **INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION**

##### **Submitted by Robert Roche**

Nothing had been submitted that needed attention since June.

#### **LEGISLATION**

##### **Submitted by Mary Fleck**

There were no motions that the Board had considered since our Annual Summer Meetings and there are no motions for the Interim Meeting as of this writing.

#### **GOVERNMENT & LEGAL AFFAIRS**

##### **Robert Roche & Paul Wernersbach**

No written report submitted.

#### **NOMINATIONS**

##### **Submitted by Charles Bliss**

There are three directors whose terms expire in 2024. They are Shaun Card, Al Gilewicz and Paul Wernersbach.

## **LINKAGE KRA**

**Submitted by Mary Fleck, KRA Leader**

This KRA is a category for the various things that AANR-East offers to our members and clubs. Volunteers are always needed to enhance, expand and improve these areas.

### **AANR-EAST YOUTH CAMP**

#### **Submitted by Judy Turner**

The AANR East Youth Camp 2023 was a success. We had 8 returning campers, and 3 new campers. We had 5 Nude "U". We had 3 volunteers that traveled to volunteer their time for the week, and volunteers at the host camp. The Circus theme made the week full of circus themed food and activities. They enjoyed floating down the Chattahoochee on the field trip day.

The kids enjoyed learning the leadership skills in the workshops in between learning the skits for the show and having an ice cream fight. They were able to cool off in the pool. Circle of friends around the campfire in the evening campers were able to wind down and share their answers to the question of the day. Everyone enjoyed their week. Hopefully we can inspire other kids to participate to continue camp and grow our future Nude Leaders.

### **EDUCATIONAL GRANTS**

#### **Submitted by Mary Fleck**

We did not receive any submissions this year.

### **AANR-EAST HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST**

#### **Submitted by Melody Bage**

The additional plastic totes provided at the summer session contained a small number of advertisement brochures, two nude travel directories, and an assortment of AANR lapel pins. This information has been added to the spreadsheet.

At this time, a space for the AANR-East Library has not been determined.

### **AWARDS**

#### **Submitted by Mary Fleck**

As of this writing, I have not received any submissions.

### **YOUNG ADULT NUDIST ENHANCEMENT**

#### **Submitted by Mary Fleck**

This was discontinued at the AANR level, so it has gone into limbo in AANR-East.

### **WEBSITE**

#### **Submitted by Mary Fleck**

We now have a new website. Please visit it and give us feedback on the new look.

I am just the go between for the website, so if anyone has any suggestions or corrections for the website, please send them to [secretarytreasurer@aanr-east.com](mailto:secretarytreasurer@aanr-east.com) and they will be discussed with President Roche before we proceed.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

### FACEBOOK, Submitted by Charles Bliss

Several items of interest to AANR-East clubs have been posted to the Facebook page. More items will be posted as more clubs forward their events to us. Since Charlie is fully retired now, there will more time to gather information about events.

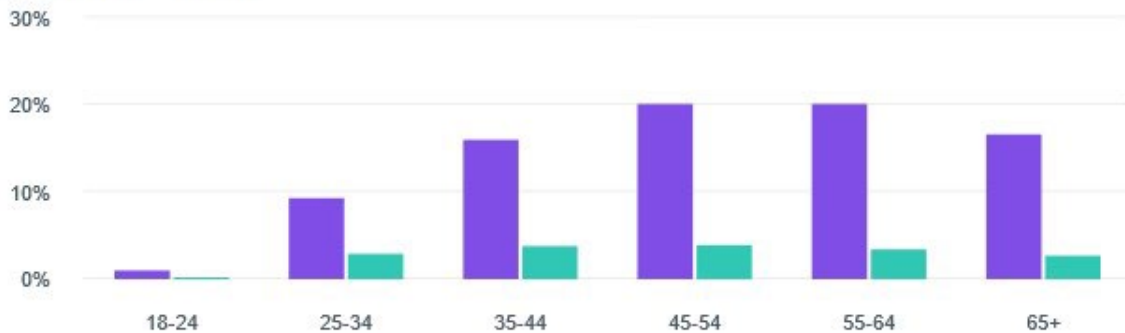
Events will also be forwarded to the AANR office in accordance with the proposed PR committee guidelines.

The page currently has 8275 followers. The percentage of women viewing increased slightly over last year.

The following is the chart with the demographics:

### Age and Gender

Men 83.10%  
Women 16.90%



It is interesting to note the locations of the views:

## Location

Cities

Countries

New York, NY	93
Land O' Lakes, FL	45
Dhaka, Dhaka Division, Bangladesh	39
Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan	39
Los Angeles, CA	38
Philadelphia, PA	35
Phoenix, AZ	34
Tampa, FL	30
Chicago, IL	29
Mumbai, Maharashtra, India	28

### **Twitter, Submitted by Evan Nix**

No written report

### **ROVING AMBASSADORS**

We currently do not have Roving Ambassadors.

### **CLUB LIAISONS**

#### **Submitted by Mary Fleck**

We have a list of six groups that have been assigned AANR-East clubs to contact at least every other month to provide them with updates and information regarding AANR-East. They also have been requested to confirm that the information that we have is current regarding their address, phone number, email address, etc.

To date some contacts have been made but this time of year is difficult because most of the AANR-East clubs are closed for the winter season.