

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Charles Bliss

### January – May 1, 2026

Fellow Members,

The AANR-East Board of Directors began 2026 with a productive Interim Board Meeting held via Zoom on January 24 due to inclement weather. I'm pleased to report that the Board continues to operate effectively, with strong participation and a clear focus on governance, advocacy, and membership engagement.

### Board Actions and Leadership Updates

The Board unanimously approved several key motions to ensure continuity and effective leadership. We welcomed **Bill Norris** and **Melody Bage** to fill vacant Board positions, strengthening our leadership team. Additionally, **Al Gilewicz** was appointed as Nominations Chair and is currently forming his committee in preparation for upcoming elections.

We also approved the 2026 operating budget, ensuring that AANR-East remains financially stable and positioned to support our programs and initiatives throughout the year.

### Meetings and Events

Plans are in place for our **Summer Meeting at White Tail Resort (June 15–18, 2026)**, with both in-person and Zoom participation options available. The 2027 Interim Meeting will also return to White Tail.

### Committees and Operations

Our committee structure continues to evolve to better serve the region:

- **Legislation Committee** is finalizing proposed bylaw changes for the 2026 ballot and reviewing updates to the Procedure Manual.
- **Club Liaison Program** is being refreshed to improve communication and support for our clubs.
- **WINR leadership transition** is underway, with Terri Grothe stepping forward to assist.
- **Website and digital communications** are being enhanced, including development of an Eastern Travelers web presence and improved email engagement tracking.
- **Background check resources** for clubs are being explored to strengthen safety and compliance practices.

### Advocacy and Oversight

The Board remains committed to maintaining high standards across all affiliated clubs. Following Executive Session discussion, we will continue to monitor club operations where concerns have been raised, ensuring alignment with AANR's ethical and operational expectations.

### Membership Outreach and Growth

One of the highlights of early 2026 was AANR-East's presence at the **Bare Necessities cruise**. With the help of dedicated volunteers, we:

- Engaged with hundreds of prospective and current members
- Distributed promotional materials and club directories
- Increased visibility for AANR and AANR-East

This effort demonstrated the value of direct outreach, while also highlighting opportunities for improvement, particularly the need for digital membership sign-up capabilities and better event coordination.

### **Ongoing Initiatives**

Recent Board discussions have focused on:

- Enhancing member engagement through new platforms such as Discord
- Improving election processes and candidate outreach
- Addressing operational challenges with membership data and communication systems
- Exploring payment processing solutions for events and programs
- Expanding marketing tools, including video content and updated website features
- Getting the Eastern Travelers, a new AANR-East travel club, web site up and running
- Placing a new AAR-East clubs event page up on the AANR-East web page to showcase club events taking place in our region.
- Three monthly newsletters, one to all AANR-East members, one for clubs, and one to prospective members. These three newsletters have been going out since January.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we move toward the summer season and Regional Assembly, our priorities remain clear: strengthen our clubs, grow our membership, improve communication, and continue advocating for the values of social nudism.

I appreciate the dedication of our Board members, committee volunteers, and club leaders who make this work possible. Together, we are building a stronger and more connected AANR-East.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Robert Roche**

Since our Interim Winter Meeting held via Zoom due to inclement weather, I have participated in our executive (President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer) conference calls, as well as our board Communication Calls and completed any requested paperwork related to doing business as AANR-East.

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

**Mary Fleck**

As usual, the past year has been busy. Our ruling documents were updated and posted on our website. They are available for download, or a hard copy can be requested from the AANR-East office. Working with our finance team, a budget was successfully prepared and submitted to the Board for their approval.

The 2026 Delegate Credential forms have been emailed and 2 were mailed to our contract clubs for the AANR-East Regional Assembly which will be held in person and via ZOOM Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at White Tail Resort. We ask that the clubs hold their elections and submit the delegate credentials to the AANR-East office as soon as possible and to be sure that their delegate has a copy at the Regional Assembly.

As always all of the submitted written reports will be available on our website. If a printed copy is desired, the delegates can request them from the office by email at [secretarytreasurer@aanr-east.com](mailto:secretarytreasurer@aanr-east.com).

The Ballot had been prepared by Melody Bage and posted on our website. Thank you, Melody. We had a slate of four candidates for three positions for the membership to consider as well as one motion to consider. A tally will be conducted at the end of May, so the elected candidates have time to make arrangements to be present at the 2026 Annual Summer Meetings.

The awards, medallions and plaques have been ordered to be presented during the Regional Assembly. Also, Charlie is working on the board gift.

Last but not least, I want to thank the AANR-East Officers and Board of Directors for allowing me to serve the association for 25 years as the Secretary/Treasurer. It has been a pleasure and I hope that they will allow me to continue in that capacity.

**AANR-EAST REGIONAL TRUSTEE REPORT**  
**Sandra Cordell**

I attended via zoom the mid-winter meeting of AANR-East in January 2026 due to the crazy weather that the country was dealing with. It was a good zoom meeting with continued emphasis on how to get more clubs active within AANR and what we can do to assist the clubs with anything that may be issues for them and their AANR members. Also how to get new and retain our membership. Still continuing the discussion on the emphasis of contacting the clubs to be proactive.

Public Relations is continuously concentrating on increasing the presence on Facebook, Twitter and other social media. 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.

The Summer meeting will be held June 15-18 at White Tail Resort in Ivor, VA. Zoom meetings will continue, which allows members who can't travel to still participate in the meetings.

I also attended the mid-winter meeting at Suwannee Valley in Florida in February 2026. It was a productive meeting. I have also attended several zoom meetings with the Officers, other regional Trustees and office staff to discuss various issues from office organization, changes in bylaws, budget issues and suggestions for improvements for our organization.

GAT (Government Affairs Team) has been busy. The committee chairperson is Tim Mullins. Tim and his team have been working diligently with hundreds of bills being presented in several states. The GAT team continues to make a strong presence with the states' legislative committees with a lot of success showing that AANR is a strong association with the purpose of having a positive role in nudism and protecting the rights of our members. A big thank you to our National GAT team and also to Bob Roche, East's Vice President for being our East's GAT representative.

The AANR annual convention will be at Williamettans in Oregon in August. I look forward to going to a new resort and meeting the members there.

**ADVOCACY AND ALLIANCES KRA**  
**Robert Roche, Shaun Card, Albert Gilewicz Team Leaders**

**Submitted by Robert Roche**  
I have no report in this area.

## **BRAND KRA**

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS/MEMBERSHIP/MARKETING/SOCIAL MEDIA**

#### **Submitted by Terri Grothe**

Consent Contact seems to be working pretty well, except for a few that seem to have gone to spam. The newsletter seems to be getting a lot of attention; it had a 78% opened on the last 3 sent.

### **WOMEN IN NUDE RECREATION (WINR)**

**Terri Grothe** - no written report

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

I review the monthly QuickBooks reports provided by secretary/treasurer Mary Fleck. The budget was reviewed at the January meeting and no changes required. I prepared the 2025 Federal 990-EZ tax return. The 990 was e-filed to the IRS.

**BUDGETARY COORDINATOR**  
**Sandra Cordell**

In preparation of the June meeting, I will update the year-to-date income and expenses as of May 31, 2026 on the annual budget report. A budget update will be presented to the Board during the Summer Meeting.

## **GOVERNANCE KRA**

### **Al Gilewicz, Team Leader**

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

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

This year we are meeting together again for our Annual Summer Meetings at our host club, White Tail Resort in Ivot, Virginia. The meeting dates are June 15-18, 2026. Our Interim Board Meeting will be held at White Tail Resort January 22-24, 2027, with travel days being January 21 & January 24.

#### **INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION**

##### **Charles Bliss**

Since the beginning of the current board term, we have had 2 formal IA complaints and 2 informal complaints where the complainant did not wish to complete a complaint form. The formal complaints have been resolved. And one of the informal complaints. The other complaint involves items that do not violate AANR principals and are thus not under the control of the board. It does involve larger scale problems that may benefit from board guidance and policy suggestions.

#### **LEGISLATION**

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

There were three motions that the Board had considered since our Interim Board Meeting.

**Motion 1.** Move to seat Bill Norris as a Director until current term expires in 2027.

**PURPOSE:** To fill a vacancy on the Board.

**FISCAL IMPACT** (if any): None

Passed

**Motion 2.** Move to seat Melody Bage as a Director until current term expires in 2026.

**PURPOSE:** To fill a vacancy on the Board.

**FISCAL IMPACT** (if any): None

Passed

**Motion 3.** Move to add the following to Section 400.08 a. of the Procedure Manual:

1. If an elected candidate cannot be present at the Regional Assembly to be sworn in, they can take the Oath of Office presided by either the president or vice president of AANR-East when they can meet in person. This allows for the director(s) to have voting rights.
2. If a director was voted in with a motion, they can also be sworn in by either the president or vice president of AANR-East when they can meet in person.

**PURPOSE:** To allow newly elected directors to have a vote even if they were not present at an in person meeting to receive the Oath of Office.

**FISCAL IMPACT** (if any): None

Passed

Currently there are 7 motions that will be presented at the Outboard Meeting.

**Motion Proposal 1:** Move to amend section 4.07.00 of the AANR-East Procedure Manual as follows:

**4.07.00 Committee Coordination**

The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a **Committee Coordinator** to oversee and support all standing committees of AANR-East.

**a. Suggested Qualifications**

1. Commitment to the mission of AANR-East.
2. Current AANR member with an understanding of the organization’s structure and programs.
3. Proficiency in computer applications, including spreadsheets and word processing.
4. Strong verbal and written communication skills.
5. Ability to analyze issues and engage in constructive discussion and decision-making.

**b. Duties and Responsibilities**

1. Provide leadership and coordination among all committees.
2. Assist committees in developing objectives, policies, and work plans.
3. Monitor progress and provide guidance to ensure committees achieve their goals.
4. Communicate with the President at least monthly regarding committee activities.
5. Recommend improvements to committee operations, systems, and procedures.
6. Participate in strategic planning and ensure committee goals align with the AANR-East Strategic Plan.

**Motion Proposal 2:** Move to amend section 6.00.00 of the AANR-East Procedure Manual as follows:

**6.00.00 Standing Committees**

AANR-East shall conduct its operational work through the following standing committees. Each committee shall develop annual priorities and report to the Board of Directors and the Regional Assembly.

**Motion Proposal 3:** Move to amend section 6.00.01 of the AANR-East Procedure Manual as follows:

**6.00.01 Governance Committee**

**Purpose:**

To oversee governance, organizational structure, policies, and internal administrative functions of AANR-East.

**Responsibilities include:**

**A. Meetings and Facilities**

1. Solicit and evaluate bids for Annual and Interim Meetings.
2. Coordinate meeting planning with host clubs.
3. Ensure adequate facilities and logistical arrangements.
4. Coordinate publicity, media outreach, and youth programming related to meetings.

**B. Internal Administration**

1. Investigate alleged violations, grievances, or complaints.
2. Submit findings and recommendations to the President and Board.
3. Conduct investigations as directed by the President, Board, or AANR.

**C. Legislation**

1. Receive, review, and recommend proposed bylaw or procedural amendments.
2. Consolidate similar proposals for ballot consideration.

#### **D. Government & Legal Affairs**

1. Monitor legislation affecting nudist interests.
2. Recommend legal action or funding support.
3. Coordinate with AANR on lobbying and legal matters.

#### **E. Nominations**

1. Recruit and recommend qualified candidates for elected positions.
2. Ensure diversity and broad representation.
3. Manage nomination processes and timelines.

#### **F. Club Liaison**

1. Maintain regular communication with assigned clubs.
2. Communicate organizational priorities and gather feedback.
3. Report liaison activities to leadership.

**Motion Proposal 4:** Move to amend section 6.00.02 of the AANR-East Procedure Manual as follows:

#### **6.00.02 Advocacy and Alliances Committee**

##### **Purpose:**

To develop and maintain relationships with organizations and groups that support body acceptance and the mission of AANR-East.

##### **Responsibilities:**

1. Build strategic partnerships within and outside the nudist community.
2. Promote collaboration to advance shared goals.
3. Strengthen the organization's external influence and visibility.

**Motion Proposal 5:** Move to amend section 6.00.03 of the AANR-East Procedure Manual as follows:

#### **6.00.03 Brand, Marketing, and Communications Committee**

**Purpose:** To manage branding, marketing, public relations, and communications in order to strengthen organizational identity and membership growth.

##### **Responsibilities include:**

##### **A. Membership Marketing**

1. Develop and implement recruitment and retention strategies.
2. Recommend improvements to membership processes.
3. Coordinate marketing initiatives with AANR.

##### **B. Public Relations**

1. Manage media relations, publicity, and educational outreach.
2. Develop promotional materials and press releases.
3. Maintain speaker programs and media contacts.

##### **C. Club Support**

1. Provide guidance and resources to member clubs.
2. Conduct educational sessions and seminars.
3. Coordinate with AANR on club development initiatives.

**Motion Proposal 6:** Move to amend section 6.00.04 of the AANR-East Procedure Manual as follows:

**6.00.04 Finance Committee**

Purpose: To oversee financial planning, accountability, and resource development.

Responsibilities:

1. Monitor financial compliance and internal controls.
2. Verify accuracy of financial records and income sources.
3. Ensure expenditures align with approved budgets.
4. Prepare and recommend the annual operating budget.
5. Support development of additional funding sources.

**Motion Proposal 7:** Move to amend section 6.00.05 of the AANR-East Procedure Manual as follows:

**6.00.05 Member Services and Outreach Committee**

Purpose: To facilitate communication, member engagement, youth programs, historical preservation, and recognition programs.

**Responsibilities include:**

A. Youth Programs

1. Support youth activities and events.
2. Oversee Youth Leadership Camp operations and scholarships.

B. Educational Grants

1. Review applications and select grant recipients.
2. Administer scholarship and service requirements.

C. Historian/Archivist

1. Maintain historical records and documentation.

D. Awards

1. Select recipients and coordinate award presentations.

E. Communications and Outreach

1. Manage website, social media, and information flow.
2. Support communication among members, clubs, and the public.

F. Roving Ambassadors

1. Support outreach efforts as defined in applicable procedures.

The above 7 motion proposals are:

**PURPOSE:** To revert back to a committee structure.

**FISCAL IMPACT (if any):** None

**MAKER:** Legislation Committee

**GOVERNMENT & LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**Robert Roche** - Attended our GAT Chats and checked continuously for adverse bills in my assigned area

**NOMINATIONS**

**Al Gilewicz**, No written report.

## **CLUB LIAISONS**

**Submitted by Liaison Coordinator, Leo Blake**

There have been no requests for reimbursement since the Winter 2026 report.

A couple of clubs were switched between Liaisons, at the Liaison's request.

As always we are working to ensure we have up-to-date contact information for all clubs.

With the upcoming changes to the elected Directors I will be working again to make sure we have all clubs covered.

**WINR – Terri Grothe**, No written report.

**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 Camp 2026 is going to be held at Serendipity again this summer, we are hoping another facility is available in the future, as exposing the youth to the different locations adds to the experience.

“Nude U” is planning a “Phat” camp for 2026, it is going to be the “bomb!” with the “90’s” theme for camp this year.

We are busy sorting out the staff and “Nude U” and are hoping to have a “dope” staff on hand to work with the youth this summer.

**EDUCATIONAL GRANTS**

**Submitted by Mary Fleck**

There have been no submissions for the Grant this year.

**Communications**

**Robert Roche** - I respond to all emails and calls as needed.

The following Directors on this committee will report on their respective areas:

**Website** – Terri Grothe reported that she is working on Eastern Travelers website and it should be done before the meeting, Sandra and I have set up payment account for the website.

**Facebook** – Terri Grothe reported that we are at 9.2k followers, with views increased by 188% Interaction has increased from January meeting by 58%.

**Twitter/Instagram** - Shaun Card, no written report

**Roving Ambassadors** – need volunteer/volunteers

**X, INSTAGRAM** - Shaun Card, no written report

**AANR-EAST HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST**

**Al Gilewicz**, no written report

**AWARDS**

**Submitted by Mary Fleck**

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