

SAHNOAN STAR

Stand Not Between Me and the Sun

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Hear Ye **Council Elections were held Saturday, June 3, 2023**

The newly elected Council members are:

Place 1—Mike & Linda G.

Place 3—David McG. & Pete T.

Place 5—Deborah V. & Bob R.

Oh, what a great time to be at the Ranch this past weekend!

First, Kate and her crew served up a sumptuous breakfast, then we all race to the Hall for the election of new Council members (see above), then it was relaxation at the Pool until it was time for BUBBLY! (June 3rd was National Bubbly Day)

The Bubbly Drink Contest was judged a hit. It's simple. You take your preferred bubbly (champagne, cava, prosecco or other) add in your chosen embellishments, pour out drinks for the judges then wait for the results.

And the winners were:

1st Place - Ronnie and Jolynn with StarLinni (a variation on the peach bellini)

2nd Place – Visitor Colleen P. with her Star Ranch Sunrise (sort of like tequila sunrise)

3rd Place – Pete T. with Berry Berry Fizz (you got it)

After the contest there was an “open bar” where you could sample the wares of all the contestants (and Jennifer’s Lemon Drop Champagne Punch). Quite a successful event!

And then, oh my, what a potluck! The Ranch crowd sure does know how to do this after 66 years perfecting this art form. Lots of meats (thanks Crystal for the Southside treats) and the stuffed peppers and the sausage and the chicken (you get the idea), sides - chips/ salsa, beans, the cornbread, and the desserts – brownies, cookies and even two kinds of cobbler (thanks to Colleen for not wasting Ronnie’s infused peaches). A great crowd with great food...

Saturday night DJ Tara entertained with her always eclectic playlist. I think the crowd may have been affected by the the Bubbly contest (just saying). Tara even called in a lightshow from the skies. It was an amazing sight. Thanks to all who moved everything from the elements, and to Jack for laying down the umbrellas – a real need these days, as we already have three with broken ribs.

But I think all in attendance will agree that it’s hard to beat a weekend at the Ranch. Looking forward to the next!

President's Message

Well, I think we have had another record-breaking Memorial Day Weekend. Despite rain in the forecast, we managed to have a fantastic sunny weekend. We are on a trajectory to have another banner summer. I was so pleased to see many young people by the pool. I happened to be in the office when some of them checked out, and they raved about how much fun they had. They are talking to and inviting their friends! The food trucks were a success on both sides. People loved the food and the variety and the vendors left smiling all the way to the bank. Thank you all for supporting the vendors, it encourages them to come back! The games were well attended and Mike K. was smiling from ear to ear after a real live sand volleyball tournament! The wet volleyball was well attended too! DJ Travis had the place jumping into the wee hours and Mike W. gave us an education in music from 1967. His request list was a mile long. We challenged the septic system at the new pool bathrooms. I guess that is the new bar for a successful weekend, if the septic over-flows! Mike M. has already sorted that out and hopefully it will not happen again on the 4th of July weekend.

I wanted to send some well wishes to David P. who has moved to Brenham. He found a small house near a church that he has joined and he is looking forward to getting out into the community there. He sold his house to Tim and Moe and they are very happy to be moving to a more permanent residence here at the Ranch. They are also still working to tear down the eyesore that was Ernie's old single wide. We are all looking forward to the completion of that project. Thanks to Tim and Moe for taking that on. We have 3 folks who are long term members and/or past residents returning to the Ranch, Paul O., Dee F., and Ben T. Please make them feel welcome as they transition back onto the property.

Our maintenance crew is hard at work addressing projects that have been needing to get done. The Board will be presenting what we have determined are high priority projects for this year at the meeting on June 17th. If you have ideas for improvements or want to participate in priority setting, please come to the meeting. I am looking forward to continuing to get Star Ranch looking its best and functioning smoothly. So much work has already been done that we are set to really fly.

The new picnic tables on RV row look so good we want to do 10 more! We thought we had a donor lined up but he was not able to fund all 10. Mike W. put out the call for donations and people generously responded! I think we have 7 tables funded so far. [Ed. -We have had 11 tables funded!!!] We will be putting some of the new ones out in the Pines RV sites, outside Tara Hall and around the pool area. The metal frames will last forever and the wood can be replaced when it gets too rotten. They have been a welcome addition.

I want to say thank you to Larry S. who has been doing research into improving the pickleball court. We have barely scratched the surface of what it is going to take to make this happen, but folks are already on board! Thanks to Nancy R. and Jean M. who donated the proceeds of the garage sale to the project. Thanks to Jack and Sabrina B. who donated the proceeds of their sticker sales and some out of their own pocket to the cause. We hope to be able to fund this project with donations but may be able to kick in some money from the budget to keep the ball rolling.

I am very excited to see all these new projects grow legs. I also love to see projects that have been a long time coming get finished. One of those is the rehab of Cabin 5. It will be getting a new roof and screened porch soon! After that the inside will get new framing,

walls, kitchen and appliances. We anticipate we can get a return on investment in a year when it gets back into the rental pool. When it is complete we will have 9 rental cabins! The next step will be to look at what we can do to increase the number of rentals. That will also be a topic at the next Board meeting. Come and share your ideas!

I wanted to encourage those of you who are AANR members to attend the convention that is happening at Star on 6/8-11. They need a quorum of members present to be able to conduct their business. Please help them by showing up! The meetings are happening on 6/9 so plan accordingly. The AANR reps will be out and about on Saturday 6/10 and would love to talk to you about issues and your passions. They are also looking forward to playing games and having great food! Brian (Midnight Smokers BBQ) will be back with the BBQ on that Saturday, so bring your appetite!

Well, I think that you are probably tired of reading all this so I will just say, it is beautiful at the Ranch, why aren't you here? Happy summer!

Crystal



Next installment of The Beginning and History of the Sahnoans and Star Ranch by Myrl and Ditto S.

The Sahnoans Saved Nudism in Texas

Bob and Ann C., owners of the "Sunrangers, located at Telephone, TX, were accused of cattle rustling by the local Baptist Preacher and the local sheriff. This was juicy news as the Texas State Legislature was in session. A Representative from that local area introduced a bill outlawing nudism and it passed in the House. The Sahnoans used our own legal defense funds to hire a lobbyist who kept track of the bill and got it tangled in committee, where it died. Nudism was saved in Texas with no thanks from the American Sunbathing Association (ASA). The Texas Rangers were notified of the problem at "Sunrangers". The Preacher and the Sheriff were caught doing the rustling, not Bob C. Bob was then elected Sheriff by write-in vote, which he refused due to ill health. Bob passed away a short time later and Ann operated the club by herself for several years until her health required her to close it down.

McDade Watermelon Festival

Saturday, July 8, 2023

By Larry S.

It's that time again for the annual McDade Watermelon Festival! What a great day it is to get into downtown McDade, listen to live music, play games, ride rides, shop vendor booths, eat good food and generally enjoy the company of our neighbors in McDade. You can even enter the watermelon seed spitting contest!

For at least the last couple of decades, Star Ranch members have volunteered to staff the beer booth at the Watermelon Festival. Melissa and I have coordinated it for the last ten years or so. Anyone who is interested in having a good time, talking to customers, selling a little beer and representing Star Ranch as a contributing member of the McDade community is welcome to join us.

The beer booth opens at 9-ish and closes at 6-ish, or all the beer is gone. Volunteers are welcome to come when they like, serve as long as they like and leave when they get ready. There are no set schedules!

To make sure we have sufficient volunteers to run the beer booth all when day, I am asking for responses via email or text. Tell me you will be there. Tell me about when. Tell me whatever's on your mind. But email me at larrysilvey@gmail.com or text me at 512-417-8685. We need your help. Can't do it without you! Thank you to all who volunteer!

[The Board approved the rental of a booth at this year's festival, instead of building a float. We will be passing out brochures and selling a limited supply of shirts and caps. Contact Mike W. if you wish to assist—512-423-0659]



Star Ranch Pickleball Complex!

By Larry S

Well, OK, “Complex” may be a little high-falutin’, but our Star Ranch leadership has embraced a project to create four brand new pickleball courts on the concrete slab that now serves as a tennis court (with no backstop) and a single pickleball court (thanks to Mike W!).

With the popularity of pickleball growing daily, especially among the demographics represented by our membership, a campaign has begun to plan, design, fund and create this new pickleball facility. In case you didn’t notice, the operative word in the previous sentence is “fund”. While Star Ranch has become a more profitable business over the last few years, we do not have the funding to simply write a check for a new facility such as this.

We have contacted several vendors and are in the process of defining the scope and deliverables for this project, including adding an additional six feet to the long side of the current concrete slab; removing the surface paint from the slab; repairing cracks and other flaws in the slab; sealing the slab; painting the slab; planning, outlining and painting the pickleball courts; installing nets; installing backstops and “sidestops”; and, maybe even some lighting for night games.

We plan to finance as much of this project as possible through donations from our members, especially those who are supportive advocates for pickleball. You may already have heard that the proceeds from the Memorial Day garage sale have been dedicated to this project (thank you Nancy!), as well as the proceeds from the ice cream sale (thank you Gail!), and the proceeds from Jack’s stickers (thank you Jack!); however, since preliminary guesstimates for the project range from \$20,000 up to just under the cost of Jeff Bezos’ new yacht, it is unlikely that we will realize sufficient funding from these three sources to complete the project. That’s where you come in!

Once the project parameters are fixed, and a reasonably accurate cost figure has been determined, we will announce a fundraising drive. That fundraising drive will be multi-faceted: we may have auctions, we may have bake sales, we may create a GoFundMe page, we may recruit matching donors who will match the contributions of others, we may just call you and ask for a donation, we may surprise you with creative ways to convince you to support this project. Who knows, we may even have another male bikini cart wash! (looking right at you Pete.)

If you watch PBS, you already know how exciting fundraising is, right? But, when you come to the Ranch and see the beautiful new pickleball facility that exists due primarily to your generosity, it will be exciting.

We foresee an increase in visitors coming to the Ranch, just to play pickleball. With four courts, we could imagine tournaments with players from other clubs in the southwest region. We could draw visitors who may want to enjoy pickleball in the buff for the very first time. We already host two of the most successful nude 5K’s in the country; why not make a similar mark in the pickleball community? And, in the meantime, we can all have a chance to play this great game on one of our very own courts.

As you can see, this is a terrific opportunity to create more fun (and exercise) for our members and guests as they enjoy the facilities at Star Ranch. We can’t wait to get the project plans finalized and get the project started. Stay tuned for more information!



JUNE BIRTHDAY DINNER

WHEN: Friday, June 16, 2023

TIME: 6:00pm

WHERE: Santa Fe Steakhouse, 581 W Austin St.

Giddings ([click here for map](#))



June, July & August Birthdays

June	
6/1	Sandi S
6/1	Larry T
6/1	Nathan B
6/2	Anthony M
6/3	Deborah V
6/5	Juan H
6/7	Tara V
6/8	Timothy R
6/9	Destin S
6/12	Debbie J
6/19	Marietta D
6/20	David T
6/21	Kelly R
6/23	Jody J
6/28	Chris A
6/28	Stephen T
6/29	Dan A

July	
7/1	Susie V
7/1	Mark S
7/4	Scott T
7/4	David S
7/5	Sandy C
7/7	James "Jim" P
7/7	Richard T
7/8	John S
7/10	Melody T
7/11	Marvin K
7/12	Melissa A
7/15	Tommy.S
7/15	Linda G
7/15	Jana F
7/17	Jim A
7/17	Angie R
7/23	David Mc
7/23	Deidra F
7/25	John M
7/26	Abegail M
7/27	Gary A
7/29	Megan S

August	
8/1	Cat W
8/1	Phyllis Z
8/2	CM J
8/4	Vicky I
8/4	Stephen C
8/5	Barbara K
8/5	Jonathan T
8/6	Joe R
8/6	Melissa C
8/7	Jennifer M
8/7	Christina T
8/11	Bill B
8/13	Beverly C
8/13	Robert N
8/23	Earl H
8/24	Mike M
8/24	Ardeth S
8/31	Myrl F. S
8/31	Genie C

UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE - [Click Here For Online Calendars](#)

Monday, June 5

OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, June 7

12:00pm Fire Siren & Horn Tests

Friday, June 9

AANR SW Convention+Schedule ([for more details click here](#))

5:00pm AANR-SW Meet & Greet - At the pool.

7:00pm Wine & Cheese & more!

Saturday, June 10

AANR SW Convention+Schedule ([for more details click here](#))

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot

10:30am Sahnoan Council Meeting

8:00pm KARAOKE!

Sunday, June 11

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot

Monday, June 12

OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, June 16

6:00pm Birthday Dinner @ Santa Fe Steakhouse in Giddings

7:00pm Wine & Cheese & more!

Saturday, June 17

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot	11:00am Blind Golf Cart Races
10:00am COG Board of Directors	2:00pm Snacks @ the pool
	2:00pm Golf Cart Wash
8:00pm DJ DANCE	

Sunday, June 18

FATHER'S DAY—Dads get free breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot

Monday, June 19

OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, June 21

6:30pm Tunes at Tara Hall

Friday, June 23

7:00pm Wine & Cheese & more!

Saturday, June 24

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot	6:00pm Potluck @ the pool
2:00pm Snacks @ the pool	7:00pm 10th Running of Sahnoan Downs
8:00pm DJ Dance - Country Classics!	

Sunday, June 25

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot

Monday, June 26
OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, June 30
7:00pm Wine & Cheese & more!

Saturday, July 1

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nek-kid Parrot	2:00pm Snacks at the Pool
10:00am Petanque Tournament	4:00pm Washers Tournament
12:00pm Water Volleyball Tournament	6:00pm Sand volleyball
8:00pm DJ Dance @ the pool	

Sunday, July 2
8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot

Monday, July 3
OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, July 5
12:00pm Fire Siren & Horn Tests

Friday, July 7
7:00pm Wine & Cheese & more!

Saturday, July 8
75th McDADE WATERMELON FESTIVAL
INTERNATIONAL SKINNY DIP DAY

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nek-kid Parrot	10:30am Sahnoan Council Meeting
9:00am Nativist Amateur Radio Club	5:00pm AANR "everybody-in-the-pool" photo!
8:00pm KARAOKE!	

Sunday, July 9
8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot

Monday, July 10
National Nude Recreation Week July 10 – 16, 2023
OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, July 14
National Nude Recreation Week July 10 – 16, 2023
7:00pm Wine & Cheese & more!

Saturday, July 15
National Nude Recreation Week July 10 – 16, 2023

8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nek-kid Parrot	12:00pm Frozen T-shirt contest
10:00am COG Board of Directors	2:00pm homemade ice cream contest @ the pool
8:00pm DJ Dance @ the Pavilion	

<p align="center">Sunday, July 16 National Nude Recreation Week July 10 – 16, 2023 8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot</p>
<p align="center">Monday, July 17 OFFICE CLOSED</p>
<p align="center">Wednesday, July 19 6:30pm Tunes at Tara Hall</p>
<p align="center">Friday, July 21 6:00pm Birthday Dinner 7:00pm Wine & Cheese & more!</p>
<p align="center">Saturday, July 22 8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot 11:00am Super Soaker 8:00pm DJ Dance @ the Pavilion</p>
<p align="center">Sunday, July 23 8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot</p>
<p align="center">Monday, July 24 OFFICE CLOSED</p>
<p align="center">Friday, July 28 7:00pm Wine & Cheese & more!</p>
<p align="center">Saturday, July 29 8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot 2:00pm Snacks @ the pool 8:00pm DJ Dance @ the Pavilion</p>
<p align="center">Sunday, July 30 8:30am Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot</p>
<p align="center">Monday, July 31 OFFICE CLOSED</p>



AANR-SW 2023 Convention – hosted at Star Ranch. Meetings on Friday, with a Meet & Greet Friday @5 @ the pool.

Friday June 9

9:30 am – AANR-SW Meetings – Tara Hall

5 – 6 pm – AANR-SW Meet & Greet – At the pool. All Star Ranch members and guests are invited!

7:00 pm – Corn Hole Competition – on the tennis court

Saturday June 10

A giant waterslide will be set up near the Slim Gym for use throughout the day. There will also be a book swap table at the pool. Bring a book to leave and take a book.

8:30 – 10 am – Poolside breakfast at the Nekkid Parrot. Select from Menu items for your breakfast with friends!

9:00 am – AANR SW Direct Members Meeting @ the pool

10 am – Petanque @ Oldmixon Courts

10 am - Kids Events at the pool for kids ages 4-10

10:30 am – SAHNOAN COUNCIL monthly meeting

11 am – WINR Event/Lucy's activity – Margie's Nekkid Cafe

12 noon – Water volleyball

1 pm – Indoor Games – Tara Hall

2 pm – Kid's Event at the pool

3 pm – Vision Board Activity at Margie's Nekkid Café'

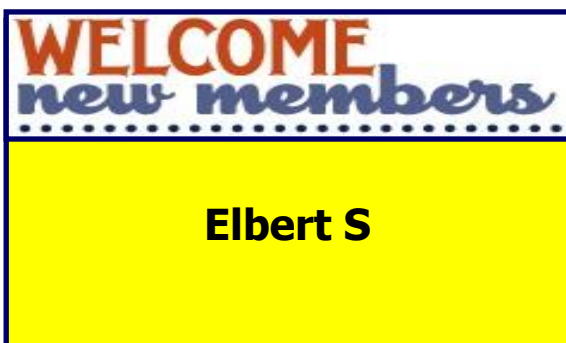
4 pm – Shuffleboard – outside Tara Hall

6 pm – Sand Volleyball

7:45 pm – Turn in poker cards to Sandi – at the pool

8 pm – KARAOKE with KJ Captain Jack.

**The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for
Saturday, June 17, @ 10am @ Tara Hall**



Classifieds

Perfect Weekend Camper for Sale!

2005 Pilgrim for sale for \$7000, located under cover at H1. Well maintained bargain, no leaks or soft spots. 20 footer, 5000 pounds, and ½ ton truck towable. More pictures: <https://bit.ly/ReginasCamper>
Call Regina at 512-766-8454 if interested.



Mark's Musings

AANR

The American Association of Nude Recreation is an organization for folks that enjoy nude recreation. It is my opinion that our AANR affiliation is what keeps clubs away from the dark side. I am not implying that Star has any desire to go there, our constitution mandates affiliation with AANR. To my knowledge, Star is the only club in Texas with such explicit language actually documented in its constitution. It makes me very proud to be a Star Ranch member. As Sandi and I have traveled around the country, we only visit AANR affiliated clubs. No affiliation and we will simply not visit.

The ANNR-SW team will be visiting Star Ranch this weekend for their summer convention. Lucy, the ANNR-SW president, and her team have been working with Linda, Crystal and the food committee to ensure all involved have a great time. Sandi has games lined up. It is a chance to capture some ANNR cash. First place will be 10.00 and second 5.00. The usual games will be played: Water volleyball, Petanque, cornhole, shuffle-board and board games. Captain Jack will champion the Karaoke as CM and Jody are unavailable.

While we will no doubt have a great time, the purpose of my article is not to discuss the convention. I want to point out the value of ANNR. Why should you as a reader of the Star Newsletter consider ANNR membership? If you are reading this, I am assuming you are a nudist or at least considering social nudism. Just imagine if politicians decided to make that decision for us. When I say make the decision, I am not talking about an affirmation. I know what you are thinking, we live in America, how can that happen? As an example, I offer Arkansas who has a rule on the books that forbids all public nudity. The political winds can change in the blink of an eye. Don't think so? See Anheuser-Busch. As I type, they have lost 27 billion dollars in value over a marketing cam-

paign. My point is not the politics but rather the speed of change. AANR has lobbyist that routinely approach politicians about anything that may impact our ability to enjoy social nudism. Sounds like insurance without an assurance of success. I suppose that is a fair position but would you rather leave the politicians to themselves without an AANR lobbyist? I think not.

Before you think it, how can Austin or Washington DC come calling in little McDade Texas. Things like this start at the local level. They have already come calling once. Listen to Star Cast our official podcast Episode 11 "good neighbors". I interviewed Willard who is our next-door neighbor. He told the audience about a time when folks in the neighborhood tried to convince his father Star Ranch was undesirable and needed to be shut down. Willard's father stood up for us and squashed the effort. To hear Willard tell it, he feels like we are great neighbors and does not wish anything to negatively impact Star Ranch. Willard felt strong enough about it to go public on our podcast. We obviously owe him a debt of gratitude.

Please consider joining ANNR. You can join through the Star Ranch office, go online and join direct or join through Ted Peck's running group. Your membership fee could be the contribution that allows ANNR to convince that politician to leave us alone. As a benefit, you are granted reduced day fees at any AANR club. I am a huge advocate of traveling and highly recommend experiencing other ANNR clubs. It has certainly given me a huge appreciation for Star Ranch.

Thank you for all you do.

Mark S

C.O.G. Board of Directors

President	Crystal W
Vice President	Ronnie B
Directors:	Jamie M
	Jean M
	Bart W
Treasurer	David M

Sahnoan Council

Deborah V
CM J
Mike W & Jennifer M
John M
Bob R
Mike & Linda G
David Mc & Pete T

Star Ranch Staff

General Manager	Linda McC
Front Office	Melissa S
Maintenance	Mike M
Housekeeping	Paula T

Thoughts

Pat W

And

Rod McC

Prayers

Classified Ads

The Board recently approved the reinstatement of ads in the Sahnoan Star, our monthly newsletter.

Please send your finished ad as a .jpeg file to Jennifer at jkm8765@gmail.com

Ad rates are as follows:

Full page ad—\$80

1/2 page ad—\$60

1/4 page ad—\$40

Business card ad—\$25

The Sahnoans at Star Ranch is a family-oriented nudist community/club that has been in operation since 1957. Dedicated to maintaining a wholesome and safe environment for the enjoyment of nudist activities, the Club is a member in good standing of the American Association for Nude Recreation (AANR) and AANR-Southwest. You have received this Newsletter because you are either a member of the club or you have opted-in on our website. Please let us know if you do not wish to receive future editions.

STAR RANCH



McDade, Texas

**The next Council meeting
is scheduled for
Saturday, June 10,
at 10:30am @ Tara Hall**

Note from the Editor

Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 25th of each month. If you have an idea or submission for the newsletter, please email me at jkm8765@gmail.com. Jennifer M.

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