

# SAHNOAN STAR

*Stand Not Between Me and the Sun*

*Following is the Address given by interim Board President Wanda Hannah  
At the Sahnoan 64<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party on September 25, 2021*

Happy Birthday, Sahnoans! My thanks to Mike and Mark. Mike will stay on the Board, and he will help with our Tax assessment appeal. Mark has done SO much to transition many procedures in the office. You both have my heart-felt thanks for all you've done. My goal is to help everything run smoothly so Star Ranch is the fun place it is supposed to be.

Back in 1957, the six couples who were our founders had a Texas-sized vision and 111 acres of untamed wilderness to make it happen. There were no roads, no plumbing, no electricity. Eely Road wouldn't appear until several years later. To get here, our founders literally had to carry in their water, food, camping equipment and bug spray through the untamed forest from Brown Road.

Over time, their fierce determination, matched by hard physical labor, slowly created what is now Star Ranch. The term "Sahnoa" was taken from the Spanish, and it means "healthy." For their first swimming pool they dug out what amounted to a stock tank beside what became Tara Hall. Then they literally dug out, by hand, our current pool, shoveling through sand and clay, creating a six-inch depth at one end for children, down to eight feet at the other.

Now, our State of the Art pool exists in that space, and its sparkling waters catch the sun's rays like diamonds. Like these two pools, all our decks, pavilions, the Nekkid Parrot, and now or new bath house were built by Volunteer labor. By the way, our outdoor pool and indoor pool with hot tub make us one of the very few clubs between Canada and Mexico to offer both amenities.

The founders simply cut down trees and carved out trails to what would become their campsites. Now, we have RV Row,

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with motor homes which are joined by fifth wheels and other richly appointed trailers. We have The Pines, a quiet, almost-hidden residential or temporary camping retreat. In these 64 years, EVERYthing has been built by volunteer labor by people who have sought and found privacy, beauty, and other nudists of like mind.

Our recent AANR Convention, whose hosting was two years in the making, thanks largely to the tireless efforts of Mike Weems, came into fruition by the countless hours put in by dozens of Sahnoans.

Now, as our busy season winds down, volunteers are still necessary. Our Fun Run in two weeks has decisions to be made, and jobs to be assigned. You may volunteer online just like you did for the Convention.

I believe that the same pioneering spirit of our founder exists in every one of you. You don't have to cut any more trails through the trees, or dig a pool out of sand and clay. What you DO need to do is volunteer, volunteer, volunteer, or say "Yes, I'll help" when called upon to accomplish a necessary activity over the next six months. You know, no one has ever said "No" when I've asked them to help.

So when 2022 brings the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Star Ranch, we'll ALL be able to say, "I helped build that!"

Thank you.

## This & That

**BREAKFAST:** Sundays only through the month of October. Bacon Breakfast Tacos served from 8:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in Tara Hall.

**OFFICE HOURS:** The office will be closed on Sundays beginning Sunday, October 3rd. Regular office hours are Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**YOU ARE INVITED:** Please join us at the next Board of Directors meeting on Saturday, October 16th at 10:00 a.m. in Tara Hall

**Race is Saturday October 9, 2021**  
**Start time is 1:00pm**



WE NEED YOU for the 5K. We have seen a surge in registrations for runners in the past 10 days and now have over 70 runners. (And we expect 10 to 20 more) This will be the largest "Chilly Cheeks" we have ever run and it will be about half the size of the Bare Buns run last spring. But it takes as many volunteers to run a small race as it does a larger one, so we need your help. The easiest way to volunteer is to click the button below, but you can also call the office and let them know by phone that you are interested in helping out. Let's close out this summer season in style with an awesome race (and burgers at the pool afterwards).

Mark B, GM

[Click Here to Volunteer](#)

# A Welcoming Attitude Is a Key to the Growth and Acceptance of Nudism

Re-printed with permission of Karen Lahey, AANR-NW Trustee



Welcoming. What does that mean?

The dictionary meaning is “to greet the arrival of (a person, guests, etc.) with pleasure or kindly courtesy.” But what does that mean to us, as nudists?

For clubs, it is important if one wants new members or returning day guests. I feel welcomed when my reservation or communications are handled in a friendly, efficient, and timely way and when I am greeted with a smile. I want to know what facilities are available and where they are. I do want to know what the rules are. If I have physical limitations, I want to be able to navigate the club without problems.

If some of the club’s amenities are out of order, I want to know before I travel to the club that they will not be available. I want to know what food is available. If food is not available, I would like to know where I can get food. For example, how close are the nearest restaurants and groceries? If I have some small special needs and it is not onerous, I would appreciate some flexibility.

As a member, I want the rules to be well documented and for all members to be treated similarly. I hope that there are no cliques and that I am not ignored or ostracized by groups of people in the club. I want my contributions to the club to be recognized and appreciated.

Members are the most important ingredient to making a club welcoming. No matter how friendly the front desk is, if members are not welcoming, I will not feel welcomed. So as a member, what can I do to help guests feel welcome at my club or local beach? First of all, I can greet them. If they act like they want to be left alone, then I can leave them alone. Otherwise, I can introduce them to other members. I can engage them in games we are playing and conversations we are having.

Even if they didn’t bring a dish to share, I can invite them to the community potluck; there is always food to spare. If they make a mistake and break a rule, I can be kind when I help them learn the rules. I can be gentle and friendly. Every religion has some form of the golden rule. I should apply it whenever I meet a new nudist.

The more new people are welcomed at clubs, the more opportunities clubs have to grow. The more restrictive clubs are, the fewer growth opportunities there will be. There are ample studies that indicate that the more inclusive a business is and the more guests feel welcomed, the more financially successful it will be. No matter who is included, it is important to welcome all guests and members.

AANR and nudism need new people. The pandemic could have been worse, and we did lose members. However, we are seeing a resurgence of members. Perhaps new people learned to enjoy working at home without clothes. Perhaps they are looking for new vacations near home without significant travel. Perhaps they want to check items off of a bucket list.

Let’s do all we can to welcome these new nudists and keep them coming back!

## Yard of the Month: Larry & Melissa S. (V7)

By David P.

Follow the gentle curves past the volleyball courts, and Larry and Melissa's tasteful home peeks through the trees. In that corner of Star Ranch, they have created a Better Homes and Gardens-quality, eye-popping venue.

Melissa's landscaping talent is on display in numerous mini-gardens around the site. The first attention-grabber as you enter the property is a pair of seven-to-eight foot tall Hyacinth bushes next to the house. A "weed it and reap" sign welcomes visitors to a nearby bed of colorful annuals. Similar layouts about the property demand a second look, lest they be missed.

A modest wading pool is nestled inside a vine-covered latticework enclosure, complemented with restful lounging furnishings. The elderly pool boy was hesitant to pose for this article.

What Larry & Melissa have created is a cornucopia of beauty, relaxation and class.

As seasons come and go, these folks' palettes will find expression almost beyond description.



### Reminder

With cooler weather just around the corner, it's time to start thinking about keeping pipes protected, turning off your water, etc. while you are away.

# Tidbits

**The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 16 @ 10am @ Tara Hall**

**NOVEMBER 13, 2021**



Another Sip-and-Paint!!! We had such a fun time with the first one, we decided to start the 2021 Holiday Season with another fun-filled afternoon!!! Bring your favorite beverage and come join us Saturday at 2:00PM. The cost is \$30.00. Pay options will be listed in next month's newsletter. You can also check the Sahnoans Facebook page for updates!

For those who feel painting is not on your list of fun things to do, there will be a gathering of Cigar smokers at the pavilion (The Cigar Man is no longer in business.)

**Kudos from the Cook...**

Thank you, Gracias, Merci, Grazie, Danke, Bedankt, Obrigado/obrigada, Tesekkurler to the outpour of volunteers that made "Breakfast at the Pool" such a huge success this year!!! More than 40 different folks volunteered, and some were only visitors! Breakfast was served from 8:30AM until 10:00AM; however, to make that happen, some mornings started as early at 6AM. And, there was another hour or more on the tail end to get everything cleaned up and ready for the daily activities. It would not have been a success without everyone's participation - preparing and feasting. I wish I could find a more sincere-sounding phrase than "Thank You" - so, until I do, my most genuine "Thank you" to each and every one. CM



*Peter & Laura G*

*Teresa S*

*Thomas L*

*Tom M*



# BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAY DINNER

**WHEN:** Friday October 15, 2021

**TIME:** 6:00pm

**WHERE:** TBD



## October, November & December Birthdays

October	
10/2	Luke T
10/7	Cody H
10/7	Donna S
10/8	Bill G
10/9	Tyler C
10/14	Lottie H
10/17	Gregory S
10/18	Patrick L
10/19	Ethel M
10/19	Heather K
10/21	Rod Mc
10/24	Rob D
10/27	Kathy J
10/28	Tammi M
10/29	Jason A
10/29	Ronald F
10/29	Steve O

November	
11/1	Russell S
11/2	Judy L
11/3	Dominique D
11/3	Kirby G
11/3	Mike K
11/4	Carolyn C
11/8	Thomas M
11/9	Mace T
11/10	Pexie D
11/12	Lynn D
11/15	Kathryn Mc
11/17	Gopal A
11/18	Adam W
11/19	Mike A
11/21	Sabrina B
11/25	Ann D
11/26	Colton H
11/26	Joel B
11/27	Bill H
11/30	David P

December	
12/2	Courtney M
12/5	Russell N
12/8	JT
12/12	Terry P
12/12	Bill B
12/15	Jean M..
12/16	Travis L
12/17	Bruce S
12/19	Elizabeth D
12/19	Kenneth "Scott " F
12/20	Pete T
12/21	Richard G
12/21	Connie T
12/22	Regina B
12/22	Gwen Wimer G
12/25	Jane M
12/26	Mary Alyson P
12/28	Judy Mc



## COMING ATTRACTIONS/EVENTS

(As always, check the online calendar for the most current schedule of events and activities)

**\*\*\*ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\***

[Click Here For Online Calendars](#)

<p><b>Saturday, October 9</b> <b>Chilly Cheeks 5k Run</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday, October 10</b> 8:30am-10am Bacon Breakfast Tacos by JT 10:00am Council Meeting</p>
<p><b>Friday, October 15</b> 6:00pm Birthday Dinner - TBD</p>
<p><b>Saturday, October 16</b> 10:00am BOD Meeting 8:00pm Star Ranch Drive-In</p>
<p><b>Sunday, October 17</b> 8:30am-10am Bacon Breakfast Tacos by JT</p>
<p><b>Saturday, October 23</b> 3:00pm Blind Volleyball at playground</p>
<p><b>Sunday, October 24</b> 8:30am-10am Bacon Breakfast Tacos by JT</p>
<p><b>Saturday, October 30</b> 10:00am Decorate The Hall 6:00pm Hot Dog potluck 7:00pm Halloween Costume Contest 8:00pm Halloween Dance</p>
<p><b>Sunday, October 31</b> 8:30am-10am Bacon Breakfast Tacos by JT</p>
<p><b>Saturday, November 6</b> 6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p><b>Saturday, November 13</b> 6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p><b>Sunday, November 14</b> 10:00am Council Meeting</p>
<p><b>Friday, November 19</b> 6:00pm Birthday Dinner - TBD</p>
<p><b>Saturday, November 20</b> 10:00am BOD Meeting 6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p><b>Thursday, November 25</b> 1:00pm Thanksgiving Lunch</p>
<p><b>Saturday, November 27</b> 6:00pm Thanksgiving leftover potluck</p>

<p align="center"><b>Saturday, December 4</b>          Adopt a Door or Window Decorating Contest          10:00am Decorate The Hall          2:00pm Cookie Contest          6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, December 11</b>          6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p align="center"><b>Sunday, December 12</b>          10:00am Council Meeting</p>
<p align="center"><b>Friday, December 17</b>          6:00pm Birthday Dinner - TBD</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, December 18</b>          10:00am BOD Meeting          5pm Wreath Auction          6:00pm Christmas potluck          7:00pm Adopt a Door or Window Winners Announced          7:00pm White Elephant Gift Exchange</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, December 25</b>          1:00pm Christmas Lunch potluck          6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p align="center"><b>Friday, December 31</b>          5:00pm Progressive Dinner          8:00pm New Year's Eve Dance Party</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, January 1, 2022</b>          10:00am Polar Bear Plunge w/ hot chocolate to follow          1:00pm New Year's Day Lunch potluck</p>

**YOU'RE INVITED**

**JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL HALLOWEEN  
 COSTUME CONTEST AND DANCE ON  
 SATURDAY OCTOBER 30, 2021.**

**COSTUME CONTEST IS AT 7:00PM AND  
 THE DANCE STARTS AT 8:00PM**

**GET YOUR COSTUMES NOW.  
 THEY ARE FLYING OUT THE DOORS ...**



**C.O.G. Board of Directors**

President	Wanda H
Vice President	Crystal W
Secretary	Jamie M
	Ronnie B
	Mike W
Treasurer	David M

**Sahnoan Council**

Craig & Linda Mc  
Deborah V  
Mark D  
Marietta D  
Bob & Nancy R  
CM J

**Star Ranch Staff**

General Manager	Mark B
Front Office	Linda Mc
	Tammi S
Maintenance	Mike M
	Larry S
	Patrick L
Housekeeping	Jean M
	Mo V

*Thoughts*  
*And*  
*For Pam H & Eric G, 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](mailto: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.

**The next Council meeting  
is scheduled for  
Sunday, October 10, 2021  
at 10:00am.**

STAR RANCH



McDade, Texas

**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](mailto:jkm8765@gmail.com). Jennifer M.

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