

# SAHNOAN STAR

*Stand not between me and the sun.*

## From the Board

### THANKS TARA V.!

One week's notice, that's all the time Tara V. had to gather decorations for our New Year's Eve Celebration (by herself), put together an awesome playlist for the dance (by herself) and get up and clean out the Hall the next morning, with assistance from the Council. Often in life, people will step up and perform miraculous acts. I witnessed an instance of this on New Years Eve and saw it continue into the night and the next morning. We all owe Tara a round of applause for her effort in ringing in the New Year for Star Ranch!



Thanks also to Marietta D. for the wonderful towel door prizes – nice corks!

### A GREAT NEW YEAR THIS YEAR!

This should be a banner year for Star Ranch – hosting the AANR-SW Mid-Winter Meeting, the two 5K races in April and October, the usual Holidays – Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Labor Day, and, of course, the 2020 AANR International Convention in August. These events mean increased exposure, lots of visitors and record revenue for the Ranch. All of these events and associated activities can only happen with the help of our dedicated members, who provide the labor to fuel these many events. I'm thanking you all in advance for your help throughout this this coming year. Without you we will not realize the successful completion of all we have planned.

Mike W. – President of the Board



**THE JANUARY BOARD MEETING  
HAS MOVED TO THIS SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 11th AT 10AM!!**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Board	1
From the Office/GM	2
Decorating Contest	4
Birthdays	5
Calendar/Upcoming Events	6
AANR SW Schedule	7
Board/Council/Staff	8

# From the Office

It has been a very good and busy year at the Ranch, with sad times scattered in that mix.

On the side notes, lost long time members Peg L., Mike M. and Jim B. as they passed away this year. We lost long time staffers, Rod and Pixie M., as they have decided to take some time off for a while. Losing Pixie was a huge bump in the road to the administrative side of the Ranch. Because of her departure, I have become more involved in the office.

With all the things Pixie did over the years, there was a lot to learn on the fly. As I saw what all she had to do, I was amazed she was able to keep up. I worked to simplify all those tasks before training staff on things I knew little (or nothing) about. We came up with a great solution for record keeping in a CRM that retains all data in one place. This eliminates about 50 spreadsheets and makes reports on about anything instantaneous. We have now started training on the CRM and have loaded just about all data. We do ask that you stop by the office and make sure we have all accurate and up to date information when you get a couple minutes to spare.

I will be sending out more updates as we make a few other changes. But for now, please take note on the new [members only page of our website](http://www.starranch.net/membersonly.html) (<http://www.starranch.net/membersonly.html>) . Access is our current member gate code.

Our BOD has elected to alter the policy of 12 nights a month stays for non-residents. We had a few folks who were apparently grandfathered in at 16 nights a month. As you can imagine, keeping up with those 2 separate standards for different folks is a bit of an administrative nightmare, or difficulty to say the least. The new policy is that all non-resident site holders will be afforded 16 nights a month and/or consecutive nights. The new charge for exceeding the 16 night policy is \$30 per night. That means all you weekenders out there can now stay 4 nights a week or a couple of weeks at a time, without incurring additional charges for your site. We ask that each of you be fair and honest by reporting your overstays as they occur. If they are not reported to the office as they occur, there will be an additional charge of \$150 for that month.

## **HELP NEEDED IN THE NEAR FUTURE!!!**

If any of you members have any brick laying experience, give me a call. I have a job for you, great environment and wonderful helpers very flexible work schedule, all for zero dollars per hour. But the friendships you build during this project will last a lifetime and that's way more valuable than a couple of bucks! You will also have the pride in being the integral part of our new restroom by the pool. We may even name the facility after you. In example "Gary's S#!+hole", or something like that.

## **NEW OFFICE**

The office is about ready to move into. We have the parking area and a couple decks to put up and then it will be time to move in. Mail will remain at the current location in Tara Hall until we get a roof over the deck at the new office. No plan as of now to move the package room, but if members would prefer it near the new office, we have a little space for that as well. The plan is to clean out the current office and room one to create more rental rooms. We will also be cleaning out the old store and turning into the council office to hold all the stuff they need. Council will still have C-16 for their use as well.

## **GATE**

As you can see the new gate has come to a short delay. My volunteer welder who will be setting up the mechanics of the controller mount as well as the swing gate, has been working full time during the Christmas season. We are hoping this will all be completed by the end of January.

## **ACCOUNT NUMBERS**

I know that nobody wants to be a number and I don't want anyone to feel that they are a number here at Star Ranch. For privacy reasons, members have opposed using first and last names on our concession sheets and meal tickets. I understand that, but due to the facts that several folks share the same first name and several have doctor type signatures when writing their names, it is some-time difficult to discern who should be billed for their concession purchases. So hopefully the account number will resolve both the billing needs for the office and the privacy need for those members who are concerned. We have assigned account numbers to each member. The number is on your invoice next to your name. This number is being used to simplify billing of incidentals as well as check membership renewals. It also eliminates the need for last names on incidentals and meal tickets. For now those are your account numbers. They are comprised by Membership Level (G=Gold, S=Silver, B=Bronze) followed by the month and date of your membership (Feb 1998 = 0298) then a final alpha character to accommodate the rare instances of same membership level and start date. A Silver member whose membership anniversary is April 22 would be given account number of S0422 followed by a single alpha character.

I could go on for several more pages but will spare all of you the pain. In closing, I would like to thank each and everyone of you for all the help that you have given in making Star Ranch what it is today. I feel like we are the safest community in Texas, if not the entire USA. It is only with the involvement of all our members that we can maintain this environment. I hope that each of you have a great 2020! Thank You,

Ken Wilson

General Manager

### **2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- ◆ RV Sites Prepped x 3
- ◆ Cabin Tear Downs x 3
- ◆ Old Mobile Home removals x 3
- ◆ Rental Cabin Renovation (cabin 11)
- ◆ Tennis Court fencing tear down
- ◆ Shipping Shed installed
- ◆ New COG use only laundry room for House-keeping
- ◆ New Office – 80% complete
- ◆ New Gate – 70% complete
- ◆ New members only area on the website
- ◆ Added Online Cabin wait/priority list to members only page of website
- ◆ New Office CRM Software
- ◆ Billing Process altered

### **2020 TO DO'S**

- ◆ Complete Gate
- ◆ Complete and move into new Office
- ◆ Clean and setup store room to be Council room
- ◆ Remodel Tara hall room 1 and old Office to become another couple of rental rooms. 1 Queen and the other room as a family room with 1 Queen and 1 Bunk or futon.
- ◆ Remodel Slim Gym into a 2 bedroom Family rental
- ◆ Repair and setup 2 RV's for bunkhouse rental
- ◆ Build new restroom near pool
- ◆ Rebuild road from Eely Rd to new long term RV area

There will be a memorial service for Jim B. on Sunday, February 9 at 2 PM. The service will be held at the National Association of Letter Carriers Austin office. The address is [601 Williams Street in Austin](#). (Click on address for map.)

## Jennifer Manning - Volunteer of the Month December 2019

Jennifer has been one of our most active members not only in December, not only this year, but for as long as I have been around. Almost every Thursday, Friday and weekend you see Jennifer working around the pool area keeping things neat and tidy, setting up sound systems or making small repairs. Jennifer is always here willing to do anything on workdays. On a whim Jennifer will see something like brush needing cleared, then go back and get necessary tools to take care of the issue. Her list of capabilities is quite amazing.

Recently, I needed someone to takeover the newsletter job. This is a bigger job than most folks can imagine. Jennifer once again stepped up to take on that task as well.

What amazes me most is that Jennifer very seldom comes and tells me of her accomplishments. She just does them out of love of the Ranch and never looks for recognition. Because of this, I could never list all that she does, but just the things I know about, make her a huge asset to the Ranch.

### Thank You, Jennifer, for all you do!

Ken Wilson

General Manager

### This year we tried something new for decorating Tara Hall for the Holidays

One was a Wreath Auction which raised \$1,100 for staff bonuses, Craig M. designed the top winning wreath which sold for \$199!!!

The other was a Window/Door Decorating Contest. Our GM, Ken W., won the first place. Jennifer M's window took second place and Wanda W.'s window was third. Thanks for all the decorations and wreaths!



# BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

## JANUARY BIRTHDAY DINNER

**WHEN:** Friday January 17

**TIME:** TBD

**WHERE:** TBD



## JANUARY & FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

January Birthdays	
Diane S	1/4
Lorraine A	1/6
Teresa S	1/6
Phil A	1/7
John S	1/8
Ashley T	1/9
Bryan D	1/10
Kathy M	1/10
Neil A	1/11
Kathleen C	1/12
Bill B	1/14
DA G	1/18
Thomas M	1/18
Mark D	1/19
Hal D	1/22

February Birthdays	
Debra C	2/1
Chris H	2/4
Ben T	2/9
Celeste D	2/10
Tina L	2/10
Brian K	2/13
Dylan L	2/17
Jeffrey N	2/17
Jason S	2/18
Ken W	2/18
Matt D	2/23
Grace L	2/26
Logan B	2/28
Ronnie B	2/28



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Join us on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> for our annual Valentine's Day Dinner (6PM) and Dance (8PM). Menu and DJ to be announced soon.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS/EVENTS

The Council has been busy planning a wealth of events to keep us occupied this Winter. Here are a few: (As always, check the online calendar for the most current schedule of events and activities)

[Click Here For Online Calendars](#)

### **Wednesday, January 8**

6:00pm Monthly Pot Luck at Margie's Cafe (Music by Phil and Phriends)

### **Saturday, January 11**

10:00am BOD Meeting

7:00pm Reverse Strip Poker \$5 buy-in

### **Sunday, January 12**

10:00am Council Meeting

### **Friday, January 17**

Birthday Dinner TBA

7:00pm AANR SW Mid-Winter Meeting Meet and Greet

### **Saturday, January 18**

12:00pm AANR SW Mid-Winter Meeting Lunch

6:00pm AANR SW Mid-Winter Meeting Dinner

7:00pm AANR SW Mid-Winter Meeting Hot Chocolate Social

### **Saturday, January 25**

9:30am Chili Cook-off

1:30pm Judging

2:00pm Pie Contest Judging

5:00pm Pie Auction

6:00pm Chili Potluck

### **Saturday, February 1**

7:00pm Movie Night hot dogs and popcorn provided

### **Wednesday, February 12**

6:00pm Monthly Pot Luck at Margie's Cafe (Music by Phil and Phriends)

### **Friday, February 14**

No Birthday Dinner for February

### **Saturday, February 15**

King and Queen of Hearts announced at the Dance

10:00am Decorate the Hall

6:00pm Sweetheart Dinner

8:00pm Sweetheart Dance

### **Saturday, February 29**

Leap Day Events TBA

\* CASH IN/BUY-IN GAMES EXPLANATION: Come to Tara Hall, pick a game to play, pay the amount set for that game. If you win the game, you win the pot for that game!

**AANR-SW Mid-Winter Meeting Schedule JANUARY 17-19, 2020**

**Friday January 17**

7pm Meet and Greet – Finger Foods

**Saturday January 18**

8:30am Breakfast in Café

9am Meeting in Tara Hall

12 – 1pm Lunch Menu: Broccoli & Cheese or Potato Soup, Turkey or Ham Sandwich, Cookies/Dessert, Tea/Lemonade

Cost \$7.00 per plate

**GAMES – TBD**

6 – 7 pm Dinner Menu: Chicken Alfredo Casserole, Salads, Green Beans, Breadsticks, Tea/Lemonade

Cost \$10.00 per plate

7pm Hot Chocolate/Dessert Social

\*\*\*\*Bring a dessert or things to add to hot chocolate (marshmallows, peppermint, whipped cream, chocolate shavings, etc.)\*\*\*\*

(Available details at release time of this newsletter)

**NEW RESIDENTIAL LISTING**

Please contact me if you are interested in acquiring the largest residence on Eely Road or the largest enclosed 5<sup>th</sup> wheel/front porch at the Ranch (coming soon) - Mike Weems 512-423-0659.

The office has just one unwinterized cabin remaining (Cabin 10) for the AANR SW Mid-Winter Meeting. If you know of or hear someone mention needing a place to stay that weekend, let them know to act fast.

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

President	Mike W
Vice President	Wanda H
Secretary	Larry S
	Ivan Mc
	Paul O
Treasurer	Gary H
Corp. Secretary	Linda M

### **Sahnoan Council**

Roy F  
Grace L  
Pete & Lisa T  
Craig & Linda Mc  
Deborah V & Tim S  
Rob & Marietta D

### **Star Ranch Staff**

General Manager	Ken W
Treasurer	Gary H
Front Office	Carla W
	Linda M
	Melissa S
	Michelle G
Maintenance	Mike M
Housekeeping	Jean M
	Kerry A

Note from the Editor

If you have an idea or submission for the newsletter please email me at [jkm8765@gmail.com](mailto:jkm8765@gmail.com).

Jennifer M.

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 your are either a member of the club or you have opt-ed-in on our website. Please let us know if you do not wish to receive future editions.

**STAR RANCH**



McDade, Texas

