

# SAHNOAN STAR

*Stand Not Between Me and the Sun*

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE ACCOLADES CONTINUE!

Accolades from the AANR leadership and staff, our visitors, and even some members continue to pour in. We really impressed all in attendance. They were happy with every aspect – the placement of the Ranch in the “middle of nowhere”, our beautiful grounds, of course the pool, the amazing events, our warm and welcoming people, the variety of entertainment and, of course, the food!

Please read Mark Bs article about the awesome volunteerism here. As I said a few weeks ago, “My thanks to so many of you I can’t count – I’ve tried.”

Three years ago, when I submitted our bid, only two people at that convention had ever heard of Star Ranch. Now they have...

The goal was always to put Star Ranch “on the map”. Judging by the up-tick in attendance on some “nothing weekends”, I would say we are now on the map!

Thanks to everyone that makes this a special place.

Mike W.



Thank you

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
From the President	1
From the General Manager	2
Tidbits	5
Birthdays	7
This & That	8
Calendar/Upcoming Events	9-11
Board/Council/Staff	12

## **And the Volunteer Of the Month Is....**

Often, I struggle with finding a theme for this monthly feature, but this month was obvious. Ever since I took the job of General Manager, we have had the 'big thing' looming on our radar. First there was 'the race' but AANR National was out there. Then there was Memorial Day, AANR South West, The 4<sup>th</sup>, but AANR was still out there. Now, at last, it is behind us, soon to be a fading memory and a source, I'm sure, for stories that start out "Remember that time that..."

It was a success.

From the beginning of the bidding process 3 years ago, Mike had clearly stated the goal of this event was to "Put us on the map" with AANR. We have accomplished that, and in a very good way.

There were the usual bumps in the road leading up to the event. Reservations for more people than we have ever hosted on site, overnight, was a biggie. Arranging to feed that many folks for a week without an accurate head count was also a problem. Convincing attendees that we were not in the middle of Stage 5, Covid-addled Austin, TX was another late breaking concern.

But despite all that, we had a great week.

And the enabling factor was, without a doubt, the worthy efforts of our staff and our volunteers. Volunteers are always a part of the success of our large events here, but never have we asked so much, for so long, from you.

I can't even start to list all the good work that was done. I have a 'word limit' I must abide by. But, to my knowledge, every volunteer and every staff member came through by doing their job, with a smile. I heard nothing but good reports from our guests, all the way from the AANR national leadership and staff, all the way down to the folks that drove two days straight to get here just to be a part of their first AANR convention.

We will not be attempting to single out an individual for the July or August 'volunteer of the month' that would do a disservice to the vast effort put forth by so many people.

This is your Ranch. Thank you for the pride you take in it and the way it shows through your work on it's behalf. It is an honor to be the GM of such a place.

MB

### Thanks from the Beer Booth!

The second Saturday in July is always a special day for Star Ranchers. The McDade Watermelon Festival provides an opportunity for us to demonstrate to the McDade community that we are – and have been for over sixty years – an integral part of our neighborhood. Although the festival was canceled last year for obvious reasons, this year's turnout was outstanding. Even without the car show, it was one of the biggest crowds in recent memory.

And, of course, Star Ranchers took center stage when it came to volunteering. We had volunteers in the food pavilion, in the parade and at the beer booth. With the help of many of our fellow Sahnoans, we sold every can of beer we had – before noon. We then proceeded to make three beer runs to the Dollar General (thank you Liz!) to restock. By 3:30, we had sold out completely and decided to call it a day.

The proceeds from the Watermelon Festival fund projects for the McDade school district and for the McDade food bank. The community is very thankful for those additional funds and for the workers that make those funds possible.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank each and every one of you who joined us at the beer booth and helped us sell beer (and soft drinks and water and tickets!). Without your unselfish dedication it would have been a sad day indeed. If I have not contacted you personally to thank you, I hope you will forgive me. We'll blame it on old age, OK?

If you did not have an opportunity to join us this year, please mark your calendar for the second Saturday in July 2022. We'll be there, representing Star Ranch, and helping our community. Please join us. I guarantee you'll have a great time.

Larry S.

## Silent Auction and Garage Sale 2021

### Silent Auction

One of the most enjoyable activities we had during the pre-pandemic days of 2019 was the silent auction, held on the Fourth of July. Many of our members donated items ranging from furniture and clothing to tools and artwork to be included in the auction. The proceeds, of course, went to the Star Ranch general fund to help pay for some part of the expense of maintaining and improving our community.

This year, the silent auction is back, scheduled for **Saturday, September 4, 2021**. As in 2019, this year's auction is being coordinated by Melissa S. She has already received quite a variety of donations; but, but there is room for plenty more.

If you have anything of value you would like to donate to this fun event, please contact Melissa and make arrangements to drop off your item(s). Please make sure your donations are clean, in good working order (if applicable), and ready to be auctioned. **Deadline for donations is Thursday, September 2.**

### Garage Sale

This year, we are also having a garage sale that will run concurrently with the silent auction. If you have any items that you would typically put out for a garage sale, you are invited to donate those items to the Star Ranch garage sale. **Deadline for garage sale donations is Friday, September 3.**

### Volunteers Needed!

As always, we need volunteers to run the garage sale. If you can give us a couple of hours (or more) of your time on Saturday, you will receive in return our undying gratitude.

Contact Melissa at 512-417-8698 or at [melissasilvey@gmail.com](mailto:melissasilvey@gmail.com).

## Where Were You Ten Years Ago?

The Bastrop County Complex fire was the most destructive wildfire in Texas history, striking areas of Bastrop County in September and October 2011.

**Date(s):** September 4, 2011 – October 10, 2011

**Cause:** Sparks from damaged power lines

**Deaths:** 2

**Cost:** \$325 million

**Buildings destroyed:** 1,645–1,691 homes; 40 commercial structures

**Burned area:** 34,356 acres (139 km<sup>2</sup>)

**Location:** Bastrop County



## August Yard of The Month: Rob and Marietta D. (V3)

### *A Touch of Whimsey*

By David P.

A yard doesn't have to be rife with rainbow-hued annuals and perennials in full bloom. Marietta, a native Netherlander, has a history with gnomes. (Gnomes, you say? That pointy-headed piece of kitsch which populates numerous yards nationwide?) Au contraire. Make it a point to stop at V3 on the northern edge of Long Long Trail, and you'll find icons from Marietta's past.



On the right is a little Dutch boy, flowers clutched behind his back, hoping for a kiss. He and the young lady are posed in front of an elegant butterfly bench. In the Netherlands, it is believed that gnomes bring good luck, attract butterflies and birds, make flowers bloom, and gardens grow. Birds peck away at the edible chalk of which some gnomes are made.

Beside the tree is a nudist gnome with a VERY long beard. He has a dimpled butt, thusly named "Dimple Butt." On the far right is a nude surfer and his board (a souvenir of Hawaii). Gnomes remind Marietta of her mother's and grandfather's pasts. She manifests a gentle, memory-laden approach to Nature---one at home anywhere.





**2021 International Skinny Dipping Day**  
**Happy 90th AANR!**

**September Yard of The Month: D4/The "Gold Standard" Continues**

By Wanda & David

Neither of us can recall the source of our Butter Daisy seeds in 2019.

We DO know that we need to have septic tank/leach line work done regularly, which leaves a frequently-damp bald spot in the yard: a perfect seed bed. Butter Daisies self-seed annually; they love sun, and don't need much water. The blooms last for 2-3 months, after which they dry up into tater-tot-sized seed pods. You can collect jillions of seeds for broadcasting at your own discretion. 2020 saw a yard-wide distribution; 2021's planting was more modest, but you can't tell that by the photo.



This year's crop of three varieties of Purple Hull Peas continues to show unrestrained growth, bursting out of their wire cage, overtaking and breaking their 8' bamboo "climbing" poles. Wanda has shelled and frozen about five quarts, while saving numerous pods for 2022.

Elsewhere, Cypress vine, Four O'Clocks and Morning Glory blossoms intertwine freely, as they compete for bees and butterflies.

Lesson: The YOM doesn't have to be planned and containerized.

With a few damp spots and native seeds which thrive in the sun, other Star Ranch yards can be overrun by native beauty.

And feel free to stop by for YOUR Butter Daisy seeds for 2022.

# Tidbits

**The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 18 @ 10am @ Tara Hall**

## Why Do We Celebrate Labor Day?

Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters. Labor Day 2021 will occur on Monday, September 6. Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans, and is celebrated with parties, street parades and athletic events.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages.

People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly supplanted agriculture as the wellspring of American employment, labor unions, which had first appeared in the late 18th century, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions and compel employers to renegotiate hours and pay.

Credits-History Channel



*Charles and Laura L*  
*Richard T*  
*Thomas B*  
*Larry and Tammi S*



# BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY DINNER

**WHEN:** Friday September 17, 2021

**TIME:** 6:00pm

**WHERE:** TBD



## September, October, & November Birthdays

September	
9/5	Mark W
9/6	Jennifer H
9/6	Crystal W
9/9	Belinda
9/10	Kim D
9/10	Mark B
9/13	Dina P
9/15	Craig B
9/17	Ron E
9/18	Jamie M
9/19	Joe W
9/21	Brandi T
9/23	Adam C
9/25	Mike W
9/26	Cathy S M
9/28	Pat W
9/30	Bob R

October	
10/7	Donna K S
10/7	Cody H
10/8	Bill G
10/9	Tyler C
10/14	Lottie H
10/17	Gregory S
10/18	Patrick L
10/19	Heather K
10/19	Ethel M
10/21	Rod McC
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
11/5	Billy S
11/9	Mace T
11/10	Pexie D
11/12	Lynn D
11/15	Kathryn McG
11/17	Gopal A
11/18	Adam W
11/18	Jordan S
11/19	Mike A
11/21	Sabrina B
11/25	Ann D
11/25	David/ Monica
11/26	Colton H
11/26	Joel B
11/27	Bill H
11/30	David P

# This & That

## **Wisdom story: Things aren't always what they seem**

Two traveling angels stopped to spend the night in the home of a wealthy family. The family was rude and refused to let the angels stay in the mansion's guest room. Instead, the angels were given a small space in the cold basement.

As they made their bed on the hard floor, the older angel saw a hole in the wall and repaired it. When the younger angel asked why, the older angel replied, "Things aren't always what they seem."

The next night the pair came to rest at the house of a very poor, but very hospitable farmer and his wife.

After sharing what little food they had the couple let the angels sleep in their bed where they could have a good night's rest. When the sun came up the next morning the angels found the farmer and his wife in tears. Their only cow, whose milk had been their sole income, lay dead in the field.

The younger angel was infuriated and asked the older angel, "How could you have let this happen? The first man had everything, yet you helped him." she accused. "The second family had little but was willing to share everything, and you let the cow die." "Things aren't always what they seem." the older angel replied.

The older angel waited for a couple of moments then explained the situation to the younger angel. "When we stayed in the basement of the mansion, I noticed there was gold stored in that hole in the wall. Since the owner was so obsessed with greed and unwilling to share his good fortune, I sealed the wall so he wouldn't find it. Then last night as we slept in the farmers' bed, the angel of death came for his wife. I gave him the cow instead. Things aren't always what they seem."

### **Moral of the story:**

People jump to conclusions based on what they see at a glance. It takes time, knowledge and experience to see in-depth things. Never judge a situation too fast. Never react too fast.

Source: <https://purposefocuscommitment.com/wisdom-story-things-arent-always-what-they-seem/>

Submitted by Marietta D

## 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](#)

### **Saturday, September 4**

8:30am Breakfast at The Nekkid Parrot  
9:00am Petanque Tournament  
12:00pm Concessions @ the pool  
12:00pm Water Volleyball Tournament  
3:00pm Silent Auction (R-1 Bid Book @the pool until  
3:00pm Washers Tournament  
6:00pm Smoked Meat @ the Nekkid Parrot  
8:00pm Dance @ the pool with DJ Trav

### **Sunday, September 5**

8:30am Breakfast at The Nekkid Parrot  
9:00am Petanque Tournament  
12:00pm Concessions @ the pool  
12:00pm Water Volleyball Tournament  
3:00pm Washers Tournament  
6:00pm Fajitas @ the pool

### **Wednesday, September 8**

6:00pm Potluck with Live Music

### **Saturday, September 11**

#### **Roadkill Cookoff and potluck**

8:30am Breakfast at The Nekkid Parrot  
2:00pm Snacks at the Pool

### **Sunday, September 12**

8:30am Breakfast at The Nekkid Parrot

#### **10:00am Council Meeting**

2:00pm Snacks at the pool

### **Friday, September 17**

6:00pm Birthday Dinner @ The Paige Roadhouse

### **Saturday, September 18**

8:30am Breakfast at The Nekkid Parrot

#### **10:00am BOD Meeting**

2:00pm Snacks at the Pool

### **Sunday, September 19**

8:30am Breakfast at The Nekkid Parrot

2:00pm Snacks at the pool

### **Friday, September 24**

## **Members Only Weekend/64th Anniversary**

**Saturday, September 25**

**Members Only Weekend/64th Anniversary**

8:30am Breakfast at The Nekkid Parrot

11:00am Homemade Ice-cream contest

12:00pm Water Volleyball

2:00pm Snacks AND Anniversary Cake at the Pool

2:00pm Super Soaker

4:00pm Toddie Carts

6:00pm Open Grill

8:00pm Dance @the pool

**Sunday, September 26**

**Members Only Weekend/64th Anniversary**

8:30am Breakfast at The Nekkid Parrot

12:00pm Golf Cart Races

2:00pm Snacks at the pool

**Saturday, October 2**

9:00am **WORK DAY**

**Saturday, October 9**

**Chilly Cheeks 5k Run**

**Sunday, October 10**

**10:00am Council Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 13**

6:00pm Potluck with Live Music

**Friday, October 15**

6:00pm Birthday Dinner

**Saturday, October 16**

**10:00am BOD Meeting**

8:00pm Star Ranch Drive-In

**Saturday, October 23**

3:00pm Blind Volleyball at playground

**Saturday, October 30**

10:00am Decorate The Hall

6:00pm Hot Dog potluck

7:00pm Halloween Costume Contest

8:00pm Halloween Dance

**Saturday, November 6**

6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall

**Wednesday, November 10**

6:00pm Potluck with Live Music

**Saturday, November 13**

6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall

**Sunday, November 14**

**10:00am Council Meeting**

<p align="center"><b>Friday, November 19</b> 6:00pm Birthday Dinner</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, November 20</b> <b>10:00am BOD Meeting</b> 6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p align="center"><b>Thursday, November 25</b> 1:00pm Thanksgiving Lunch</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, November 27</b> 6:00pm Thanksgiving leftover potluck</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, December 4, 2021</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>Wednesday, December 8, 2021</b> 6:00pm Potluck with Live Music</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, December 11, 2021</b> 6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p align="center"><b>Sunday, December 12, 2021</b> <b>10:00am Council Meeting</b></p>
<p align="center"><b>Friday, December 17, 2021</b> 6:00pm Birthday Dinner</p>
<p align="center"><b>Saturday, December 18, 2021</b> 5pm Wreath Auction <b>10:00am BOD Meeting</b> 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, 2021</b> 1:00pm Christmas Lunch potluck 6:00pm Stop-n-Socialize in The Hall</p>
<p align="center"><b>Friday, December 31, 2021</b> 5:00pm Progressive Dinner 8:00pm New Year's Eve Dance Party</p>

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

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

**Sahnoan Council**

Pete & Lisa T  
Craig & Linda Mc  
Deborah V  
Mark D  
Rob & Marietta D  
Bob & Nancy R

**Star Ranch Staff**

General Manager Mark B  
Front Office Linda Mc  
Melissa S  
Tammi S  
Maintenance Mike M  
Larry S  
Housekeeping Jean M  
Tonya M

*Thoughts For Pam H, Eric G,  
And & Joe W  
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, September 12, 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.

Copyright 2021—Conference of Olympus Gymnosophical, Inc.