

# NATURES TALES

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LIVING LIFE NATURALLY



*The Survivors of the Laguna Atascosa Bike Ride!*

## ***Laguna Atascosa Bike Ride***

On Thursday, January 10, nine bicycle riders rode a thirteen-mile loop through the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge -- the largest protected area of natural habitat left in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. During the course of the ride, participants traveled through thorn forest intermingling with freshwater wetlands, coastal prairies, mudflats and beaches. A portion of the ride goes along the Laguna Madre (seen in photo) where there is an abundance of water fowl. This is one of the most challenging rides undertaken by Natures Resort riders. Because of prevailing winds part of the ride has tail winds, while another part involves riding into head winds. Even though a support vehicle driven by Rebecca (33) was available to pick up tired

riders, all participants completed the entire thirteen mile ride.

## ***AANR Membership – Is it Important?***

These are tough economic times, and we are all learning how to stretch a dollar just a little further than we used to. Where we used to spend money on this AND that, now many of us are finding that we have to make choices and can either spend money on this OR that. These decisions can be difficult and whether or not to renew AANR membership often is in the 'this OR that' category.

Many of us are settled in a routine of spending summer at one nudist resort and winter here at Natures. We no longer spend

weekends or short vacations hopping from one nudist resort to another taking advantage of the discount that our AANR membership gives us, so why should we spend money on AANR membership?

In trying to answer this question we need to find the answers to some other questions:

- a. How important is our nudist lifestyle to us?
- b. How important is it to us to be able to continue living in or visiting nudist resorts, clubs and beaches?
- c. Where would we be able to get help and representation should our nudist lifestyle be challenged by law?

If the questions above are not important to you, then there is little point in renewing your AANR membership. However, if our nudist lifestyle is important to us, then we need to consider what AANR does for us besides giving us discounts at various resorts.

AANR's mission is to advocate nudity and nude recreation in appropriate settings while educating and informing society of its value. AANR was created to protect our rights to practice social nudism and as an organization AANR monitors proposed legislation that may affect us negatively. AANR educates state and national government as well as the general public. Although all this work is done by non-paid, member-elected volunteers, there are huge costs involved in these educational and legal processes.

Most people who are new to nudism presume that there are just a small number of slightly crazy people who run around without

their clothes. Then they discover that there are many thousands of us who belong to a HUGE organization which both protects us and sets high standards to ensure the continued wholesome practice nude recreation. AANR definitely gives us a sense of security because of the huge number of AANR members and the power that these numbers give us in fighting for our rights.

If nude recreation is important to you then protect your rights. Join AANR, an organization committed to keeping nude recreation safe, wholesome and legal.

### ***Tidbits from Speckles, Natures Proud Cat!***

The New Year is marching on and we are having so much fun here. There are all kinds of things going on.



- The fun never stops. We are just as happy to have Steve & Tish join our Natures family as they are to have their new home.
- I was told that the new flag was put up upside down to see how observant people are. I think someone was trying to cover up his mistake – which was noticed by LOTS of people!
- Have you seen Dan & Karen's new golf cart? It can seat 4 people! Check it out!
- Thanks to Sylvan & Sylvie and all their helpers who did a great job of hosting the Renaissance Rockers Dance
- The New Year started off with a brunch. Doug didn't look as though he was

awake, but we enjoyed a good meal. Thanks to everyone who helped with this event.



*Getting Ready for Brunch*

- We had a fun karaoke night! There were lots of people willing to take the mike, and over 50 songs were sung! Thanks to Russ and Patti for hosting the evening!
- A new experience! One of our guests offered to lead two Aque Zumba sessions. According to those who were in the pool it was a good workout!
- Dennis & Francine have finished their shed. It even has little LED lights in the soffits. If you are out for your walk in the evening, go take a look.
- Something else to look at is Mike & Julia's new porch, ramp and steps with rope lights. Thanks to everyone who helped with this project!

- At last Steve & Sue have their cement pad on Lot 312. Because of the “north Mexico” syndrome and the weather there was a delay of a couple of weeks after the forms were built. To celebrate they invited everyone to a “Concrete Pad Warming” – which was held at Sandy's because of the wind.
- The wind was blowing so hard at Steve & Sue's cement open house that David & Sue parked their Volvo Semi Tractor as a wind break. This just lent itself to a photo opportunity!
- Now that Jay & Lee are settled into their new home they invited everyone to their house warming. Everyone had a great time!

That's all from me. With all the activities and everything else that is going on in the park I hope that I haven't missed anything! Have a purrrfect February!



### ***Special Events for February***

- 1<sup>st</sup>** Ladies Lunch at Alejandros Mexican Restaurant. Leave at 11:30 a.m. Drivers needed.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>**: Dance with 12 String Tim & Sharon 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>**: Super Bowl Party & Chili Cook Off. Please sign up
- 5<sup>th</sup>**: Dance with Jackson Haney
- 5<sup>th</sup>**: Med Check. Please sign up.

**6<sup>th</sup>:** Spaghetti Dinner followed by Joke Time. Please sign up.

**10<sup>th</sup>:** Join us in the clubhouse to celebrate the February birthdays and anniversaries.

**13<sup>th</sup>** Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Please sign up.

**14<sup>th</sup>:** Valentines Brunch. 10 a.m. to noon. Buy tickets from Met in advance.

**14<sup>th</sup>:** Valentine's Dance 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

**16<sup>th</sup>:** Members Meeting 9:00 a.m. Everyone in the park is encouraged to attend. Complimentary coffee and donut.

**17<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> + 12<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>:** Fun in the Sun. Please sign up for all the activities in which you wish to participate.

**23<sup>rd</sup>:** Dinner Surprise. Please sign up.

**24<sup>th</sup>:** Daytona 500

**27<sup>th</sup>:** Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Please sign up.

### ***Weekly Activities***

**Aerobics** (Low Impact) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m. Clubhouse

**Bible Study:** Monday 10:00 a.m. Card Room

**Bike Ride:** Thursday 9:00 a.m. Meet outside the office

**Bingo:** Friday 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. card sales. Bingo starts at 7:00 p.m.

**Breakfast:** Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Clubhouse. Sign-up.

**Campfire:** Friday 5:00 Fire Pit. Bring your hotdogs, buns and drinks and join the fun.

### **Country Western Line Dancing Lessons:**

Thursday Clubhouse

6:30 p.m. Couples Country Western

7:15 p.m. Line dancing

8:00 p.m. Music will continue to be available for those having special requests, seeking additional help, or simply wanting to enjoy more dancing.

**Darts:** Saturday 7:00 p.m.

**Euchre:** Monday 6:30 p.m. Card Room

**Happy Hour:** Wednesday 4:00 p.m. Sandy's

**Men's Breakfast:** Every second Tuesday. Meet outside the office at 8:00 a.m.

**Mexican Train:** Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Card Room

**Petanque:** Every day 2:00 p.m.

**Pickle ball:** Every day 10:00 a.m.

**Stitch & Chat:** Friday 1:00 p.m. Clubhouse

**Texas Cards:** Saturday. 10:00 a.m. Clubhouse

**Water Aerobics:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:15 a.m.

**Water Volleyball:** Every day 2:00 p.m. Check the Impromptu Board by the pool for additional information.

**Wii Bowling:** Tuesday 3:45 p.m. Clubhouse