



LARC



Lake Associates Recreation Club

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NUDE VIEWPOINT

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AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR NUDE RECREATION, IT'S NORTHWEST REGION, AND THE INTERNATIONAL NATURIST FEDERATION – PARTICIPATING WITH THE NATURIST SOCIETY. LAKE MCMURRAY RECREATIONAL RESORT – HOME OF LARC

WEB SITE: www.larcnudists.com

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HAPPILY EVER AFTER

February 2008 includes not only Valentines Day, but this year is a leap year. February 29 is the day a woman is legally “allowed” to ask a man to marry her, according to a law passed in Scotland in 1288. I’m a romantic at heart. I enjoy hearing stories about how people met and fell in love. I love romantic comedy movies and romance novels. In my own perfect little world, everyone lives happily ever after.

However, real life isn’t always sunshine, happiness, roses and dinners by candlelight every night. There’s a lot of hard work involved in maintaining any kind of relationship. Whether it’s a friendship, brothers/sister, parents or partner, it’s important to remember the positives about the person. To remember what he/she actually does contributes to the relationship. I have found that if I am constantly dwelling on what I’m not getting from someone, I’m miserable. BUT-I can choose to be grateful for the little things, and appreciate that someone is doing the best that she/he can in this busy world. And I have learned that by helping someone else be their best, putting their needs ahead of my own, that by being open and willing to change, that I feel a whole lot better about myself. I’m helping myself without even realizing it sometimes.

After the busy-ness of last season, I thought these last few months would be a time to rest up, relax and enjoy a little slower pace in my life. I was wrong. And since I have been so busy, I’m assuming everyone else is just as busy and their priorities are the same as mine...LARC being almost my #1 priority at the moment. When I realized that I was wrong it was a little disappointing. But, then I remembered how hard members worked last year during Bare Images and Nudie Blues. How much fun we had at the karaoke and the potlucks, the progressive dinner, and the LARC Birthday Weekend! (Who was that humble person that won the Chili Cook-off anyway?!) And now I’m feeling grateful and lucky to have such wonderful people as my friends and “Family” here at LARC.

So, I’ve come full circle, back to my “happily ever after” world. And I wouldn’t have it any other way. We’ve got an exciting season ahead, rest up while you can, and I’ll see you soon.

—Alice Anderson

TENT UP! CELEBRATION AND MARDI GRAS DANCE MARCH 29



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MEMBER'S BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY: 3 Mary R.,
5 Robert D., **7** Sandi J.,
16 Dorla N., **16** Therese B.,
16 Russ R., **16** Lucky E.,
17 Joleen G., **18** David M.,
21 Tammy S., **22** Joe S., **24** David S.,
27 Christi C., **28** Winnie C.

MARCH: 1 Lloyd A., **1** Tim H.,
3 Curtis W., **5** Lynne L.,
9 Elizabeth Y., **10** Chuck H.,
19 Pat K., **30** Sylvia P.,
31 Shawn W.

Upcoming Events in March:

- 08** Board Meeting 10am
Clean out storage container
- 29** "Tent Up" Work Party 9am
Mardi Gras Dance** 8:00pm,
Potluck snacks

This event is our only Adults Only event of the year

- 30** Potluck Lunch 12:30
General Membership Meeting 1:30pm

This is the time of year when we plan for the upcoming year, when you can join in the planning and scheduling all the fun events that will be happening all year. Come to a board meeting!

Also plan on attending the General membership meeting March 30, and input your input!

***BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEB SITE
www.larcnudists.com***

Also-

Be sure to check the message board at the office when you enter the park.

From the Editor's Chair-



This is our Valentine's Day Issue, and I don't remember having such a special issue in the past.

Should Nudists admit that we have romantic interludes (see p. 4)? Is romance even possible, when naked bodies are so commonplace? We know that simple nudity isn't what attracts us to each other; so what might actually attract one person to another? And besides, Is there any such a thing *anywhere* as "True Love Forever (TLF)"?

My research led me to my local newspaper where the required February articles appeared about couples who had been together for many many years. The reporter, asked the usual questions about the secrets of their success.

And then the reporter, who is also the editor of the paper (I relate to editors somehow) did something a bit unusual, in a separate piece, on another page. She revealed a few things about her own pursuit of "TLF". She like many in this country (including yours truly) had been divorced. She entered into her first marriage with high hopes, but unrealistic expectations about "TLF". Her personal story is much more common these days than the stories of the couples who have stayed together. And perhaps, a bit more instructive. When you fail to live up to your own hopes and dreams, it can be a bit easier to see where you made your mistakes (many of us tend to beat ourselves up), rather than those who are successful, attempting to explain why they succeeded.

We all know the drill; successful couples have to have a sense of humor, and they have to "work" at their relationships, and that the relationship has to be a high priority, etc. etc.

The eye-opener for me was the emphasis on "self-awareness," which can be amplified in our consciousness, when we are evaluating "what went wrong" after a big mistake. In other words, the process of "beating ourselves up" can be healthy, after a fashion, if we not only "learn from our mistakes", but actually MAKE some mistakes and acknowledge them!

How can we have a sense of humor about ourselves, if we never make mistakes? How can we "work" on a relationship if we never make mistakes? How can we make our relationship a high priority if we never have other interests competing with that relationship? How can we become "self-aware" without making and recognizing our mistakes?

We've all heard the song about how Love is more wonderful "The Second Time Around" (If you haven't heard it, maybe I'll sing it to you at the next Karaoke!); and I can report from personal experience that this can really be true. But it's

—Cont. p. 4 "editor's"

Have We Had Enough?

By Erich Schuttauf, AANR Executive Director

I consider myself to be relatively easy going about most things. For example, consider the Florida primary elections this week and the accompanying mudslinging. It didn't faze me too much either way as I took it all in from the sidelines. But something else happened in government that, while publicized, may have gone on less noticed with all the election coverage.

This week the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced its intention to levy a 1.4 million dollar fine against ABC Television over a 2003 airing of an episode of NYPD Blue in which a woman's naked buttocks appear onscreen as she prepares to shower.

I'll just describe the sequence of events. The camera depicts a woman in a plain bathrobe standing in front of a bathroom mirror. After checking the condition of her hair, she removes the bathrobe and hangs it on a towel bar. Viewers see the woman nude from behind, including her bare buttocks, for about 3-4 seconds as she checks her hair in the mirror again before turning to walk toward the shower. "Side nudity" is visible as she walks. When she stops to turn on the water from outside the shower curtain and waits for it to warm up, there is again rear nudity.

The camera cuts to a bedroom in the apartment where a boy about age 11 gets up out of bed, fully clad in pajamas, and stumbles down the door to the bathroom. He turns the knob on the door and walks in. Cameras show a startled look on his face and, after a few awkward moments, he backs out into the hallway closing the door as he leaves. A final shot on the nude woman shows her standing with her arms modestly crossed in front of her.

Now let's talk about how the FCC's fine breaks down: The 1.4 million represents a \$17,500 penalty on each ABC affiliate which aired the episode with this sequence before 10 p.m. which occurred, apparently, due to time zone differences.

We do not have an explanation for why it took the FCC five years to get around to meting out this punishment. We only have the commission's public statement, along with one from a media watchdog group, to the effect that this action clearly demonstrates an intent to keep America's airwaves safe for children.

Since when, and how?

I cannot begin to describe how annoyed this makes me both as a person who really does care something about morality on television and as a nudist.

As to morality, it baffles me that the FCC, guardian of what little eyes and ears see and hear on the tube, seem to have absolutely no problem with the depiction of brutal murders and crimes that air at all hours. Or the marital infidelity that is the staple of daytime soap operas. CSI, Law & Order, NCIS, and countless other programs often show multiple murders in the span of one hour. And not of the "bang bang" you're dead or "we found a dead body slumped in the corner" variety of Matlock. That would never do. There must be simulated bullets ripping through simulated flesh. Viewers have to see victim's eyes bulge as they are strangled to death.

Of course there's no problem with airing what may have been another theme running through the NYPD episode that night (I confess I've never watched the show): the strange woman spending a night with dad. THAT isn't a problem. Only if she showers

The morning after, and ONLY if she showers in the state I thought we all showered in: naked.

If we're concerned about the messages our children may be learning from television, what is the message so troubling in that shower scene? That people shower in the nude? Or, that if you inadvertently walk in on someone's privacy you should politely back out and close the door?

As a nudist and the Executive Director of AANR, the FCC's actions this week do even more to make my hair fall out: (1) The fine is levied not for any illicit message or activity, but ONLY due to the showing of bare human buttocks; (2) the pride which the FCC and citizen groups take in announcing their readiness to severely punish those who would dare depict ordinary nudity in a place we would ordinarily expect it like the morning shower; and (3) most of all, due to the chilling effect that a \$1.4 million fine may have on the future willingness of the media to show ordinary nudity, as when covering news of an AANR convention. Some will say that to a big corporation like ABC, the fine isn't all that much. But many of us would expect to pay about \$17,500 for a year of college. So a fine of such amount per station has still got to sting.

Developments like this are why there must be an American Association for Nude Recreation and accompanying regions, members, and clubs, to help restore some sanity to North America's views of nudity within appropriate settings. In fact, right now StateNet and NetScan are helping me and Debra Sue Stevens track a bill pending in the committee on Energy and Commerce of the U.S. House of Representatives (H 3559 by Rep. Pickering) that would make a single word or image subject to FCC punishment.

On the more immediate issue, there is the question "What do we do?"

We have already heard from one member who went to the FCC's website after reading about the story on AANR's E-Bulletin yesterday. According to the member, the FCC website only offers a place to lodge a complaint about a show -- not its process.

And so, for right now, the answer is "I don't know."

But I aim to find out.

Editor's Footnotes :

*****As reported by the Associated Press, the FCC rejected the network's argument that "the buttocks are not a sexual organ."***

*****This fine far surpassed the amount of the fine meted out to CBS for the famous Costume Malfunction of Janet Jackson at the Super Bowl a few years ago.***

**Also Newsworthy:
LARC Karaoke
Goes "on the road"
In Thailand!**



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FOR SALE —OAK ROLL TOP DESK \$300

See Margaret or Jerry Lot B6.

Continued next column

VALENTINE'S RECIPE

"Nothin' says "Honey" like somethin' warm in the tummy"

Valentine's Day Tuna Cheddar Chowder

Dice
2-4 potatoes
1-2 onions
1-2 zucchini or broccoli



In stockpot, put 4-8 cups water or chicken broth
Add Veggies, set to boil, then turn to simmer

In Large sauce pan, melt 1/4 cup butter or margarine, whisk in 1/4 cup flour, gradually stir in 1 1/2 to 2 cups milk, cook on med. until smooth and thick, stirring continually. Add 2 cups cheddar cheese, stir until melted, Add to veggies
Add 2-3 7oz foil packs of Albacore tuna (without the foil packs!)
Add 2 15 oz cans of creamed corn
Heat and stir until potatoes are cooked through.
Good with crusty bread.

—Wendy

Could Nudists put some spice in their Valentine's Day Celebrations?

Struggling to find the perfect gift or getaway for your loved one? Make this Valentine's Day unique, spicy and fun with the *Terra Cotta Inn Clothing Optional Resort and Spa's* romantic suggestions from a press release by Terra Cotta Inn:

Palm Springs, CA, February 07, 2008 --(PR.com)-- What is the perfect Valentine's gift? It is the gift of time with your spouse or partner. You need to disconnect from the world and just spend some fun time with each other. Forget work, kids, the phone, e-mails and everything else that gets in the way of spending quality time together.

Here are two fun, spicy Valentine's day suggestions on how to spend some romantic time together.

1). Dare to Bare. Try a vacation at one of the top clothing optional resorts in the U.S., The Terra Cotta Inn Clothing Optional Resort and Spa located in sunny Palm Springs, CA. <http://sunnyfun.com> . Called the most mainstream nudist resort in America, it is perfect for couples trying topless or nude sunbathing for the first time. Nothing is more romantic than the both of you relaxing poolside, sipping ice cold beverages, wearing nothing but your birthday suits and smiles, and gazing romantically into each others beautiful eyes.

2). If you don't have time to travel to Palm Springs on February 14th, create your own clothing optional resort. Book a favorite bed and breakfast, boutique resort, or even chain hotel. Once you check in, crank up the room heat, and check out of your clothes for the weekend. Order in room service. Don't forget some candles. Lingerie can be optional. How about some chocolate syrup, with whipped cream, berries, and nuts mixed in for good taste?

HELPERS NEEDED TO PREPARE TENT FOR THE SEASONAL UPRISING

Those who participate will be rewarded with a hot lunch and the feeling of pride you will have when you see the tent all decked out for the

Mardi Gras dance party—MARCH 29

The traditional Mardi Gras celebration takes on a different twist at Northwest Nudist Clubs. Our "textile" friends look at it as a time for "debauchery" BEFORE a time of going without. So they "flash" certain body parts and are rewarded with beads as a "Last Opportunity" to be "naughty".

We nudists look on this with a certain level of amusement. We see this celebration as coming at the END of a season of "going without"—the dark winter months of no social nudity; and an opportunity to break out of our confining clothes, and maybe flash some (wholesome) body parts yearning to breathe free. Sure, we may reward each other with some beads as a festive tribute to the return of body freedom! But it's all in good clean fun!

We ask that you do not bring your children, who may not understand the historic silliness of this event.

Astrid Recommends—

A Naturist Society Membership

Benefits for you, and benefits for our club.

See 'N' Magazine in the office.

It's easy to join through LARC, and it can be added to your dues.

Ask Astrid for details.

"editor's," cont. from p.2

more than just "moving on to the next one."

I have no explanation or theories about people who marry their high-school sweetheart and stay together "forever". If you are one of those, please submit your experience, and I'll run it in this newsletter!!

But for the rest of us, take heart: those "mistakes" of the past are better described as training grounds, or learning experiences.

Joleen and I have been blessed with this understanding. We started out by divorcing our previous partners with a desire to build something special, that we never had before. Each of our first marriages were about following along with a program handed to us by others; AND taking for granted that our "love" was all it took. We thought "forever" just happens "til death". Wrong!

For our new relationship, we wanted to build something on our own terms. We love each other, yes, but as reported by the other couples who have been together "forever," that, by itself, is not enough.

We have common interests, a common spirituality, common goals. We have bared our bodies (with most of you!), but more importantly, we have bared our souls with each other.

"True Love Forever" doesn't just happen; it's created.

—Jay Gearon