



The New American Family?

The poster boy for nude living has love handles, cellulite, and control of a \$400 million industry.

THE MEN ARE ALL IN UNIFORM: A SWEATSHIRT, SHOES, AND LITTLE ELSE. ONE MIGHT CALL IT THE PORKY PIG LOOK IF IT WEREN'T for the peekaboo penis. The women, by contrast, make a variety of fashion statements: from topless with cheetah-print skirt to bottomless with open blouse to stark naked, accessorized with jewelry or just a sculpted patch of pubic hair. ¶ Such is what passes for proper attire here at the Cheeks Bar in Kissimmee, Florida, though Erich Schuttauf, 37, is wearing pants and a shirt, flouting the dress code. He can be forgiven, since his business day isn't quite finished; the executive director of the American Association for Nude Recreation is still busy discussing what he does for a living. His 3-year-old son, who's noshing at a nearby table, knows that Schuttauf keeps his clothes on until he punches the clock, which is why junior joyfully chants "Nake! Nake!" each night when Daddy comes home. ¶ Schuttauf and his wife, Georgie, a former church secretary and teacher, are registered Libertarians, committed home-schoolers, faithful Christians, and dedicated

naked lunch: WHEN MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR NUDE RECREATION GET TOGETHER, THEY LIKE TO DO IT IN AN ATMOSPHERE THAT RESEMBLES A BAPTIST CHURCH SUPPER IF THE BAPTISTS WENT IN FOR STRIP VOLLEYBALL. "THE PEOPLE ARE JUST SO FRIENDLY AND GENUINE," SAYS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ERICH SCHUTTAUF (PICTURED, WITH FAMILY).

nudists who believe the nicest spot under God's heaven is right here at the Cypress Cove Nudist Resort & Spa. Anyone who thinks nudity is automatically sexy hasn't spent much time with nudists. When AANR members get naked, they like to do it in a wholesome, family-friendly atmosphere that would resemble a Baptist church supper if the Baptists went in for strip volleyball. Cypress Cove is one of 267 AANR-affiliated resorts, inns, and RV campgrounds; guests play tennis and shuffle-

board, swim, ride bikes, and even garden and take out the trash in the altogether.

Nudist resorts attract a surprising demographic. The typical member of AANR, according to an independent study, is a moderate Republican who prefers the suburbs and reads golf or business magazines. "They tend to be professionals in white-collar jobs, a lot of attorneys, clergy, banking professionals," Schuttauf says. In fact, it was a man of the cloth who first dropped trou and embraced nudity:

AANR began to flourish in 1931 under the leadership of Ilsley Boone, a Baptist minister (at the time they called it the ASA, for American Sunbathing Association).

Schuttauf speaks about the lifestyle promoted by the good reverend with the devotion and earnestness of an Eagle Scout, which he happens to be. As late as 1990, he and Georgie did most of their strutting in the confines of their home in Kansas City. Then they spotted a classified ad for a local resort and, on a lark, decided to check it out. "The people were just so friendly and genuine there," Schuttauf says. He skinny-dipped in the pool and "it was awesome, incredibly freeing. When you take your clothes off," he says, "you take some of the barriers down." The couple moved to the more temperate Tampa, and Schuttauf spent hours at a

WHILE BECOMING A CORPORATE LAWYER, SCHUTTAUF SPENT HOURS AT A RESORT, STUDYING FOR THE BAR EXAM NAKED.

nice rack: "when you take your clothes off," says SCHUTTAUF, "you take some of the barriers down."





local resort, studying for the bar exam, naked.

He became a corporate lawyer. But he wanted more time with his family. In 1998 he joined AANR as government-affairs coordinator and made executive director only two years later. He's the country's best-known nudist, at least among other nudists. They recognize him from his photo in the monthly newsletter, the house organ, as it were, of a \$400 million industry with major growth potential: An AANR poll found that one in three 18-to-34-year-olds would consider going to a nude or clothing-optional resort. Nearly 50,000 folks pay to join AANR, which organizes conventions, offers discounts on day fees at resorts, and provides access to nudist travel agencies, where, say, you can book rooms at the posh Desert Shadows in Palm Springs and hire an artist to cast your body in plaster. You can also go for adventure: nude cross-country skiing, rock climbing, an annual flight to Mexico, and cruises on which Gopher and Captain Stubing are exposed to the fresh ocean breezes.

Member fees also pay for Schuttauf's advocacy efforts, such as trying to convince lawmakers that a nude beach in their district would be good for their constituents and lobbying federal agencies, including the National Park Service, to discuss

REAR WINDOW: THE NUDIST INDUSTRY HAS MAJOR GROWTH POTENTIAL. AN AANR POLL SAYS ONE IN THREE 18-TO-34-YEAR-OLDS WOULD CONSIDER GOING TO A NUDE RESORT.

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nudist concerns. (Nudists could turn out to be the next soccer moms; all they need now are bumper stickers that say I AM NAKED . . . AND I VOTE.) The group also sponsors a booth at the National Conference of State Legislatures. But Schuttauf isn't just the public face for the liberation of your privates. He passionately believes in the emancipatory potential of this lifestyle that allows you to play with your kids on the beach, then towel off and stroll to dinner, all without the nuisance of even the tiniest banana hammock.

Though Erich and Georgie are dressed tonight, the kids bound naked into the Lakeside Restaurant

and Lounge. Guests have to sit on towels, which they carry around throughout the resort, and clothes are required for chefs and servers, to comply with government regulations. Meanwhile, clothing is forbidden in the pool; the fabric of swimsuits brings bacteria into the water, says Debra Peterson, the resort's marketing director. "Besides," she adds, "we're not really promoting sexual swimwear or sexual attire."

Which means you can forget cameras. And straighten up, bub: You're expected to behave. You look others in the eye. Ogling might have limited appeal, anyway, depending on the resort and time of year. Choose Florida in midwinter and you may find yourself facing all the temptation of a hay toss with Grandma. At Cypress Cove, a gated community, most of the residents are retirees. Younger folk—couples and families—come for a day or vacations and stay in RVs or at the resort, which has 84 rooms.

Joining the Schuttaufs for dinner are AANR colleague Steve Vickers, 23, and his buddy Eric Moser, 22, both clothed. Vickers, a third-generation nudist, grew up at the Cove with his grandparents. Moser, a former electronica DJ, plans the resort's karaoke nights and other activities.

Vickers loved growing up here. The occasional "nudie boy" taunts at school didn't bother him and died down as he grew up, anyway. Once, though, he bumped into his fifth-grade music teacher at the Cove. "She said, 'Oooh, oh, my God, what are you doing here?'" Vickers recalls. "I'm like, 'I live here. What are you doing here?'" She went totally white."

Close by, a table of mostly seniors, some naked, some not, sort out their orders. A diner dressed exactly like someone with no clothes inspects the salad bar. As Vickers talks, an old guy rises behind him and squeezes between the close-set tables on his way to the john, his bare elderly ass nearly abutting Vickers' head. Schuttauf and his wife leave the table to slip out of something uncomfortable.

The steamed broccoli is getting cold, but the chicken has disappeared when Georgie Schuttauf returns to the table wearing nothing but a delicate cross necklace. Hers is an Earth Mother body, comforting and soft.

It's after 8 P.M. now, but there's still an hour to take the kids to the heated pool. Erich Schuttauf escapes from the table, chats on the dance floor, and draws a map for a visitor. His love handles catch her eye. So does the cellulite on his thighs. He doesn't mind who sees him. The night has turned chilly as he steps outside, but he doesn't shiver as he puts his arm around his wife's shoulders and herds his children in the right direction. ■