

# THE BATES BEACH BEAT

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September 2022

Vol 1 No 09

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BATES CLEANUP, AVOFEST EVENTS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### September

Sept 1,8,15,20,27 Bates Tuesday Picnics, Afternoons  
Sept 6,13,22, 29 Bates Thursday Picnics, Afternoons  
Sept 9, Meetup Dinner at Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm  
Sept 17, Bates Beach Saturday Multi-Club Picnic  
Sept 20, Meetup Online 7 pm – 8:30 pm  
Sept 24, SCNA Ice Cream Social Pool Party

#### October

Sept 30 – Oct 1-2, Avocado Festival, Carpinteria  
Oct 5, 7, 12, 14, Bates Tuesday Picnics, Noon  
(weather permitting)  
Oct 4, 6, 11, 13 Bates Thursday Picnics, Afternoons  
(weather permitting)  
Oct 14, Meetup Dinner, Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm  
Oct 15, Women-only Gathering, Ventura, 1 pm-8 pm  
Oct 18, Online Meetup, 9 7:00 pm  
Oct 29, Annual Halloween Party

#### November

Nov 11, Meetup Dinner at Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm  
Nov 15, Online Meetup, 9 7:00 pm



Fun at the August 20 Bates Beach Picnic. See story page 2.

By Gary Mussell, Director

We have two important community events coming up soon that require some volunteer time from our members and friends.

The first event comes up **Saturday September 17**.

Once again, SCNA and Friends of Bates Beach are coordinating the cleanup at both Bates Beach and the cliffs above as part of the annual California Coastal Cleanup Day. The event starts at 9 am and goes to about noon, but you can come later than 9 am (up to 11 am is okay, but earlier is better) if you cannot make it that early.

We supply trash bags, rubber gloves, and “poking sticks” and join with about 2,000 other volunteers at 38 beaches, streams, and hiking trails throughout the county. Because we keep the beach pretty clean all summer this is a much easier effort than at other beaches, and we average about 100 pounds of trash each year.

At the end of the event, we take a group photo with what we collected and submit it to the local newspapers in order to reinforce our positive PR with the community.

After the cleanup we invite everyone down to our clothing-optional section for our last multi-club picnic of the year, with about 40-50 people expected.

The second event is **September 30 to October 2, Friday through Sunday**, at the Avocado Festival in downtown Carpinteria.

We always receive a warm response from the 70,000 visitors who come into Carpinteria to enjoy all things Avocado, and where local merchants will be celebrating with 200 food booths and 50 bands. For the eighth year, FOBB will have an information booth, handing out literature about our beach. Also, there will be a prize wheel so passersby can spin it and win a small giveaway item. Some larger prizes will also be raffled.

This is an important way we show the local community that nudists are just normal people like themselves, and the importance of positive body acceptance.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF OUR BOOTH!** We need help setting up Friday morning (10 am) and tearing it down late Sunday afternoon. We also need people to help staff the booth all three days. A four-hour shift (minimum) is appreciated. The event is free, although there is a fee for parking at the state beach if you cannot find free parking on a side street.

Please email if you can assist us:

[friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org](mailto:friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org)

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## Bates Beach Is Attracting More & Younger First-Time Nudists

by Mike Glinzak

Let's see: pack ice chest, sunscreen, beach chair, towel, snacks, get gas, stop for Subway sandwich and Double Guzzler soda...all check! Drive 145 miles, one-way! Why? Nearest nude beach to Bakersfield, both sunny, both breezy, but forecast temperatures: Bates Beach mid-70's, Bakersfield 106°, no brainer.

I arrived just after noon and already there were several nudists set up beyond the end of the concrete wall and it only continued to grow in numbers throughout the day, peaking about 3:30 PM.

At the end of the wall were many of our usual beachgoers, both from SCNA and FOBB, but something was different today. Many singles, couples, and clusters of six to eight people had taken up spots extending almost ½ mile further north of the start of the clothing optional beach.



And many of these were young people! Twenty and thirty somethings who have "found" the beach and are now bringing their friends, many for their first public nude experience. It seems word of mouth, the **MeetUp.com**, and **SCNA/FOBB websites** were how they discovered the beach.

Most were content to frolic in the brisk surf, but one was surf fishing catching only kelp today. And

they all said they want to come back! I walked the beach and counted 47 nudists, 43% were women, a good mix.

It's good to see the sense of community being fostered among the nudists. Two from the group trekked up the beach and passed out delicious home-made chocolate chip cookies, cherries, and rambutan, a fruit that looks like a sea urchin but with an edible grape-like center when peeled.

While no one wanted to play volleyball, some FOBB regulars played a casual game of **Spike/Slam ball** (see photo, above).

Everyone appeared to be having a great time and there were absolutely no issues with textiles on the beach. There weren't a lot of them today, and those that walked by seemed to care less about our presence.

I know I was really glad to be at the beach as Bakersfield missed its high temperature forecast of 106°; it was 108°!

## FOBB Beachgoer Dies of Heart Attack AFTER a Perfect Day at Bates

Joshua W. Myers, 48, a longtime friend of our efforts at Bates died suddenly of a heart attack while walking back toward the beach parking lot at sunset on August 20



Friends who were with him told us he had enjoyed the day there with the other nudists. He was in otherwise good health, but he told friends he had not felt well all day, having trouble catching his breath at times as early as his drive to Bates from his home in Thousand Oaks.

After he collapsed on the beach, 911 was called, but neither police nor fire department personnel were able to revive him.

Josh was born January 13, 1974, in Flagstaff, Arizona and raised in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. He loved his work as a certified geologist. Josh was an accomplished musician and played guitar and bass in many bands. Until a recent injury prevented it, he was an avid skier.

Although Josh never married nor had children, his life was rich with many close relationships.

Josh was a passionate naturist. He advocated for naturism by frequently inviting non-naturist friends and acquaintances to Bates Beach picnics, (sometimes piggybacking on the FOBB or SCNA events) or to join him at naturist resorts or World Naked Bike Ride. In fact, on his last day, Josh had organized a group of folks (newbies included) to come down to Bates Beach for the day.

Josh was kind, irreverent, and fun. At 48, he was taken from us way too soon. Josh spent the last day of his life as he would have wanted it: naked, on the beach, playing his ukulele in good company, with a couple of loved ones by his side. Those loved ones were there with him in his last moments, right as the sun was setting. "

News of his death has been shared to many of the beach regulars and they are all shocked and dismayed about losing their friend.

## Mid-Week Beach Visits Continue To Tuesdays And Thursdays

- September 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22
- October 4, 6, 11, 13.

We continue to draw small groups of people during the weekday visits to Bates Beach. We have scheduled visits on both Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at noon, weather permitting. These trips will continue through mid-October, weather permitting. These mid-week picnics allow us to enjoy the beach when there are fewer people around.

Look for the sign (above) for where our group is sitting.



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## Bates Beach Online Petition Approaches 1500 Signatures



On August 30 we hit 1,464 signatures on the Bates Beach petition to change the county's nudity ordinance and "Make the Traditional Nude Section of Bates Beach Official." We gained about 200 new names last month. We ask all of our members (and their non-nudist friends) to add their names to the list. The petition site is at:

<https://www.change.org/p/friends-of-bates-beach-make-the-traditional-nude-section-of-bates-beach-official>.

With enough signatures (somewhere in the neighborhood of 5,000 signatures) we can ask the Board of Supervisors to change the county's nudity ordinance.

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## Bates Beach Steering Committee Report to the Members

The **August 11** dinner meeting attracted 8 people.

We discussed the upcoming August 20 beach picnic event, the September 17 beach cleanup and the September 30-October 2 Avocado Festival.



The group reviewed the variety of giveaway items for the AvoFest booth and agreed to recommend three new items to the SCNA Board of Directors for purchase: A 12 oz Mood cup, a Keychain Flashlight - blue & green, and 2.5" round Bates Beach lapel pins.

These will be added to the items already purchased for the booth's prize wheel: Tropical Lip Balm, a gel writing pen, a UV detecting wristband, and an emery board. [Note: The SCNA Board approved the purchases with the caveat that FOBB had to use some of its treasury funds to help with the costs.]

The **August 16** online meetup had 10 participants, and several were newbies. The team discussed the same things as the dinner meeting. They also agreed FOBB should distribute **trash bags** on the beach to other beachgoers during our visits. Gary has delivered about 30 bags left over last year's Beach Cleanup event to Robert to give to other beach leaders for distribution on their mid-week beach visits.

Tony suggested we create a business card-sized message summarizing our guidelines, a pitch for the beach and the website for more info. This would be useful for all the people that are going farther north than our area to be nude on their ow (near and beyond the beach rocks).

There is still a need for **social media director**, but nobody has volunteered yet.

All members and guests are invited to participate in our two meetings each month, one in person and one online. See the last page for directions and link information.

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## FOBB's Director Attends Chamber of Commerce Business Mixer

By Gary Mussell

The August 24 Chamber of Commerce Business Mixer was hosted by the Coastal Bloom Nursery, the largest cannabis grower in Carpinteria. Director Gary Mussell attended on behalf of Friends of Bates Beach, and he got a tour of the 10,000-plant indoor farm. Ah, the perks of being in charge!

These events are important so FOBB can maintain contact with key officials and local merchants. Chamber officials estimated about 60 people attended.

Among those who said hello was Eric Friedman, a member of the Santa Barbara City Council whom we met a decade ago when he was a staff assistant to Salud Carbajal (a strong supporter of our beach who is now the Congressman representing Santa Barbara County.)

We also found support from Charlotte Gullap-Moore, a candidate for SBCC Trustee who didn't know our beach existed until Gary told her at this mixer.

FOBB donated a large beach towel for the raffle, which was won by the chairperson of the Carpinteria Art Center.

I was asked by one of the Chamber leaders why FOBB was no longer a member of the group. I replied it was because of the \$550 membership fee, over double what it was previously as there was no longer a discount for small non-profit organizations. She said she would take this issue back to her board of directors for review as she "really missed us in the Chamber."

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## Want to be A Bates Beach Ambassador? Please, Sign Up!



With larger and more frequent crowds coming down to our clothing-optional section of the beach, we need to increase the number of Beach Ambassadors so that we have better coverage more often. It's easy to get certified.

Apply on our website at:

<https://www.friendsofbatesbeach.org/information/beach-ambassadors> and we will download the training workbooks to you

All applicants are required to attend an online 90-minute class to receive final certification.

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## Training Setback for the Sand Measurement Project

Jenna Wisniewski of UCSB's **Sand Measuring Project at UCSB** has postponed indefinitely her training class for this program due to scheduling difficulties. She will contact our members directly to reschedule once her calendar allows.

## More Bates Photos

Thanks to all the members who are sending us photos from their experiences at Bates Beach. We will continue to share these with our readers as space allows. – Editor



Sunset at Bates August 16, 2022



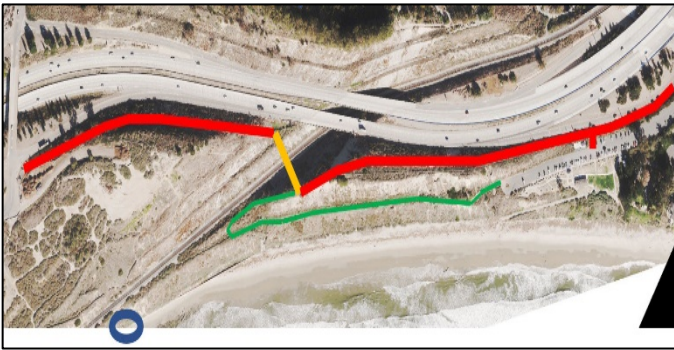
Pelicans playing in the Bates Beach surf,



## Meme of the Month



**Arroyo Del Sol**  
Altadena, CA  
RSVP at (866) 268-8852  
arroyodelsol@c-ohomenetwork.com  
[www.arroyodelsol.net](http://www.arroyodelsol.net)  
*Enjoy the pool & sunshine...naturally!*  
**Clothing Optional**  
**Bed & Breakfast**



New proposed trail path (red) includes bridge (yellow) across RR tracks. Secondary walking path (green) is also proposed. Nude beach is circled (blue).

## After 9 Years, Rincon Trail Route Finally Takes Shape

By Gary Mussell, Director FOBB

Friends of Bates Beach has been involved in the plan to put a hiking and biking trail above Bates Beach since we first heard about it in 2012. It has gone through several planned routes, each rejected for various reasons over the years from expense to unstable geology to parking lot safety. Finally, there may be a plan we can all agree to.

Attending the August 9 meeting at Carpinteria City Hall were a half dozen representative of various beach and biking interest groups including Friends of Bates Beach, and the cycling clubs from Ventura to Santa Barbara.

The discussion began with an admission that the coastal route previously preferred by planners is “dead” after its rejection in April by the Carpinteria City Council because of safety concerns for the cyclists exiting the trail into the busy Rincon parking lot.

Therefore, the focus of this meeting was to discuss the “inland trail option” running parallel to the 101 freeway and not on the ocean side of the beach cliffs. We had proposed (and the city agreed) to cut a short walking “notch” between the inland trail and the Bates parking lot for pedestrian hikers wishing a shortcut to the parking lot and direct beach access. The bike trail would then descend to Bate Road terminate alongside the freeway offramp.

A second walking-only trail was also presented to run along the old flat bench trail on the ocean side of the existing hill. It will be designed with gravel pebbles and a 20% decline so it will be impossible for bikers to use as an alternative. This also satisfies the Coastal Commission desire to have a trail with ocean views. The downside is the walking trail is on railroad-owned property that will have to be purchased, which make this supplementary trail unaffordable at the moment.

The “soaring” community had their Trail meeting separately in a previous week. Their leaders prefer the bridge over the railroad tracks to be angled differently, in order that their favorite hill is not touched at all. This makes the bridge longer, a bigger engineering challenge, and more expensive, We disagreed with our paraglider friends on this, as we see this new city proposal as the most viable option. At the end of the meeting Friends of Bates Beach agreed in principle, to support it, pending geologic results on how much of the hill gets cut. The city will now go back and create detailed engineering drawings in order to get some realistic costs estimates.



The five candidates for Carpinteria City Council are, from left, Vice Mayor Al Clark, Councilmember Gregg A. Carty, Patrick O'Connor, Councilmember Roy Lee and Monica Solorzano.

## Carpinteria City Council Candidates Meet Filing Deadline.

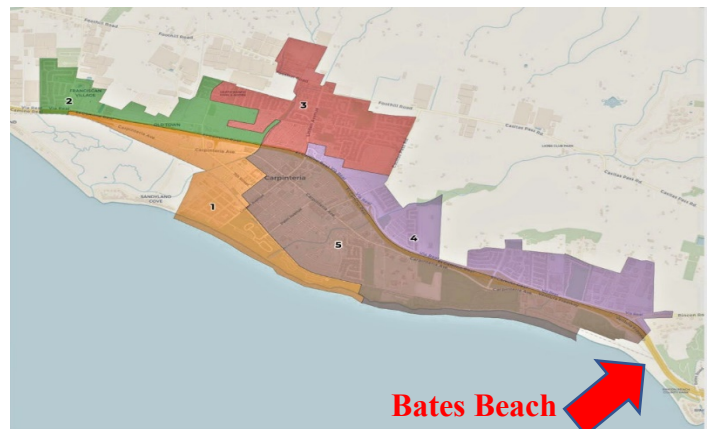
The filing period has closed for people who want to run for the Carpinteria City Council in the new districts 1, 3, and 5. **District # 5, covers up to the bluffs above Bates Beach,** and there are three candidates running.

- ✓ **Al Clark**, a longtime member of the City Council. He is a “no growth” advocate in the city, very pro-environment. When he and I last spoke about it a few years ago, he expressed a “live and let live” attitude toward the nude beach.
- ✓ **Gregg Carty**, also a longtime member of the City Council and a former Mayor. Carty is a supporter of our “clothing optional” area on Bates Beach but he does not want to say so in public. His wife is Chairperson of the Avocado Festival.
- ✓ **Patrick O’Conner**, an aerospace executive, who is an outspoken supporter of Measure T on the November ballot. **Measure T** opposes building the Surfliner Hotel on Linden Avenue next to the Amtrak station. Measure T has hotly split the city in half between very vocal supporters who want to keep the city as it is and those who want to expand tourist capacity in town. I do not know his position on the beach, and I suspect he doesn’t even know we are there.

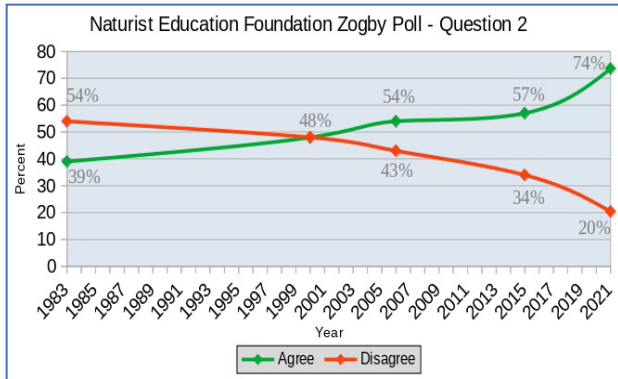
Candidate Clark strongly supports measure T and Carty opposes it. FOBB is wisely staying neutral on this measure.

There are also candidates in District 1 and District 3. Roy Lee is running unopposed in #3. He is a supporter of our beach. Monica Zolorzano is running unopposed in district 1. She is president of the Aliso Elementary School PTA.

The remaining two councilmembers, Wade Namura (the current mayor) and Natalie Alarcon, do not stand for reelection until 2024.



# New Zogby Poll Reveals America Feeling Better About Nude Recreation



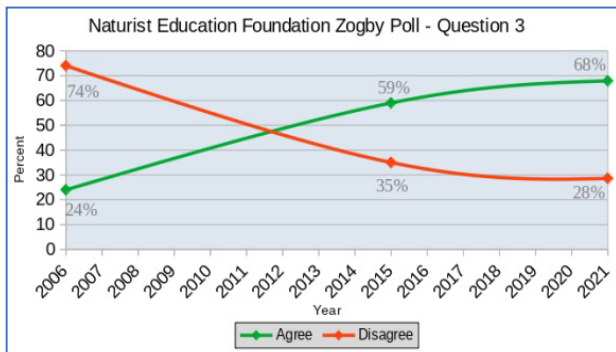
Results Announced by Bill Schroer, NEF Board Member, Reprinted with permission, edited for space.

A new Zogby Poll has been released measuring the attitudes of Americans about nude recreation. The poll was funded during 2021 by Zogby Analytics and announced September 4 by the Naturist Education Foundation (NEF), which had commissioned similar polls in 2000, 2006, 2009, and 2015.

Pollsters asked nine questions to a representative cross section of 1,101 people from across the country. Most of these questions are the same asked every time so it is easier to measure changes in attitude over time. The poll has a 95% confidence of accuracy rate, typical of most polls taken.

### Summary of Findings:

1. The poll found some public attitudes staying about the same while other changed significantly in our favor. Support for the right of those who enjoy nude sunbathing remained at about 75%.
2. However, the number of respondents who affirmed they have gone skinny dipping or sunbathed nude with others has more than doubled since 2000. The current percentage number is 39.8% of the United States population, up from 24% in 2000.
3. There also was a significant increase in the number of people favoring local and state governments setting aside public lands including beaches for nude recreation. In 2000, the public was split evenly at 48% Yes and 48% No. (in 1989 support was only 39%) In 2021, the Yes vote was 74% and the No vote had dwindled to 20%.



The poll asked if the respondent would “...visit a nude beach if it was safe and legal?”. First asked in 2015, this question has grown in positive agreement level from 28% in 2015 to 45.3% in 2021.

Year	Likely	Unlikely	Not Sure
2015	28%	68%	4%
2021	45.3%	49.8%	4.9%

4. A new question this year asked if the respondent has “participated in nude activity at home during Covid-19 lockdowns either by oneself or with others?” The Yes percentage was 45%.

Yes, self	27.0%
Yes, others	8.2%
Yes, self and others	7.5%
No	55.0%
Not sure	1.8%

5. Finally, a question was asked on “...whether the government should compel women to cover their chests when men are not required to do so?” (i.e., “Free the Nipple”). This was asked for the first time in 2015 and the majority still agreed to covering up but by a smaller margin. In 2021 46.2% feeling the government should compel women to cover up (this was 52% in 2015) but 44.1% (up from 39%) approved the idea of top free equality.

Looking at the details of the 2021 survey there were few differences by region -coastal or middle of the country - on any of the questions.

On question #1, men taking the survey were significantly more supportive of the right to be nude than women at 83.1% vs. 64.6%. Also, support is positively correlated (again) with education and income. Liberals are more supportive than Conservatives 80.3% to 72.4% and parents are significantly more supportive than nonparents (80.1% to 70.7%).

Also, there were no major **differences by age** cohort although when looking at generational differences, the highest-ranking generation was the Millennials with 80.1% agreement, followed by the Silent Generation (born pre-1946) with 79.9%. Who says older and younger people have nothing in common?

We also would like to point out the support for setting aside public lands for nude recreational use stands in dramatic contrast with the rigid opposition to the creation of nude beaches demonstrated by most public officials and park managers.

Copies of the complete poll may be found in the Naturist Education Foundation website: [www.naturisteducation.org](http://www.naturisteducation.org)

## ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER

\$55/month for a 2” h x 3.5” w ad. (Discount: \$400/year) buys you direct exposure to over 1500 naturists in the greater Southern California area. Personal ads accepted \$20/mo. for 25 words max.

We retain the right to reject ads that do not reflect our club’s social media guidelines.

Email us at [friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org](mailto:friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org) for details.



## Dinner Meeting Schedule

Friday, Sept 9 and Oct 14, 6:45 pm

Denny's Restaurant on Telegraph Road (west of Ventura College), 4095 Telegraph Rd, Ventura, CA 93003



This dinner meeting is open to all FOBB members, guests, and first-time visitors.

Topics range from personal experiences to current club info and news events affecting local beaches, nudist parks, or the naturist movement in general.

This meeting is a great first step for non-nudists who are curious and have questions about naturism, and it is a required orientation before non-members are invited (on a space-available basis) to attend one of our regular monthly parties.

Dinners are held every second Friday of each month.

The meeting will start at 6:45 PM and run about two hours. We have a separate room reserved in the back, to the right from where you enter the building. Come prepared to buy your own dinner as a courtesy to the service staff.

No dinner meetings are held in December, January, or February.

## Online Meetup Schedule

Tuesday Sept 20, and Oct 18, 7 pm to 8:30 pm

The link is <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/724415629>.



You can also dial in using your phone at:

**(571) 317-3122 with Access Code: 724-415-629**

Online meetings are held every third Tuesday each month, year-around.

To receive advanced notice of these dinners, online meetings, and other changes in the status of upcoming beach picnics, please go to [www.meetup.com/Friends-of-Bates-Beach](http://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-Bates-Beach) and register at our website. There is no charge to join this Meetup website.

## SCNA Invites Friends of Bates Beach to Upcoming Pool Parties

At its August 28 meeting the SCNA club Board agreed to invite all dues-paying members of Friends of Bates Beach to its two upcoming pool parties to be held in Ventura County.

1. The Saturday, September 24 party is at a Simi Valley home from Noon – 6 PM. It is the club's annual ice cream social that celebrates the end of summer with complimentary confections of various flavors for cones, floats, or bowl scoops and also some individually wrapped ice cream novelties The club will also provide water and soft drinks. Participants are asked to bring a potluck dish to share. About 40 people are expected to attend.

Persons who have paid their annual dues to FOBB may attend for the same \$10 fee as do SCNA members. The non-member rate is \$20/person. Children under 18 may attend for free.

2. The Saturday, October 29 party is located at a home in the hills overlooking Camarillo from 3 pm to 9 pm. This is the clubs annual Halloween-themed party, and wearing a creative costume is encouraged! There will be prizes for the Best Costume and for the Best Pot-Luck Food Using a Halloween Theme.

This is a beautiful home with a private yard and a backyard BBQ, indoor heated pool, and Jacuzzi. There is also on the patio and a fire pit.

The club will provide soft drinks/water. Please bring a "Halloween-themed" dish or dessert to share. The host asks that you prepare your food ahead of time, as there is limited kitchen and refrigerator space. Up to 75 people are expected to attend.

As with the first party, persons who have paid their annual dues to FOBB may attend for the same \$10 fee as do SCNA members. The non-member rate is \$20/person. Children under 18 may attend for free.

All who wish to attend either party MUST call the SCNA office at (818) 225-2273 to reserve your place. A list of all Bate Beach members who have paid their dues has been provided to the SCNA office to verify you qualify for the member entry rate.

You may not invite your own non-member guests without advanced notice of their name and address so that a proper background check may be done. Those are the SCNA rules we agreed to follow. Persons not approved in advance may not attend the party.

3. A third event for women only will be held for SCNA and Bates Beach women only on Saturday October 15 from 1 pm to 8 pm in Ventura. There is no pool or hot tub at this location, but a beautiful patio for a lively discussion.

Any woman interested in coming should plan on bringing a dish for a potluck dinner we usually have between 5:00 and 7:00. This is open to any woman in the club or friend that a club member would like to bring with them, or a woman from another club that wants to join us. Please contact us at 818-225-2273 or [scna@socalnaturist.org](mailto:scna@socalnaturist.org). to RSVP.