

THE BATES BEACH BEAT

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December 2022

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**A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON FROM
YOUR FRIENDS OF BATES BEACH**

Bates Holiday Party Canceled Due to Covid Exposure to Host

By Gary Mussell, Director

On Tuesday, November 29, the couple hosting our December 3 holiday party emailed me to say they had been exposed to Covid over the Thanksgiving weekend. At the time we had just over 20 confirmed partygoers with a projected attendance of probably 35.



Because he has a deficient immune system, and out of an abundance of caution, he and I agreed it was best to cancel our event, especially since the weekend weather forecast indicated cooler temperatures and scattered showers, meaning most everyone would

be in close proximity indoors and not on the backyard patio as originally planned.

With the number of Covid, flu and RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) cases on the rise, this is a reminder to take care of yourself through the holiday season.

We will reschedule the party for early Spring when the weather starts to get a little warmer.

Thanks for understanding.

King Tides Expected At Bates Mid-December, Photos Asked



The California King Tides Project is asking us to take photos at the beach on December 23-24 and also next January 21-22 when the highest tides of the year are expected. A normal high tide average 3 feet during the summer

months but below are the projected heights and times at Rincon point on these scheduled dates:

Fri Dec 23	8:31 AM PST	6.99 ft
Sat Dec 24	9:18 AM PST	6.96 ft
Sat Jan 21	8:24 AM PST	6.95 ft
Sun Jan 22	9:13 AM PST	6.88 ft

This should provide the opportunity for some spectacular photos, even as the tides chew up the beach and carry away much of the sand there.

Before taking your photos or videos, make sure you are standing in a safe place away from where the surf might be a danger to you.

The King Tides Project requests you submit your results to them at california@coast4u.ccsend.com. But we would like to publish them too in a future newsletter. So send us a copy of the best photos to friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org.



Sand Measurement Project Still Needs Additional Volunteers

By David Tiktin

John & Jenny Parsons and I recently met with Craig Stuart from UCSB who is part of the important Sand Measuring Project at Bates Beach. The project has grants from California and the federal government to measure the width of local beaches over time in order to determine if/how fast sea levels may be rising due to climate change. Since one of the permanent measuring locations happens to be exactly where our FOBB nude section is, **we felt it would be an excellent goodwill gesture for FOBB to help UCSB with this project.**

The training went well. The actual measuring takes about 10-12 minutes, and each measurement requires at least two people. It isn't difficult, and John and Jenny and I had a lot of fun doing it. The biggest challenge is that we'll undoubtedly need more people willing to take part in this project. Ideally, they would like measurements taken once a month, during very specific time frames, so we would need more volunteers who have relatively easy access to the beach. **If we can recruit six pairs of people, each pair would only need to commit to doing this twice a year!**

Craig didn't know that we were a naturist organization, nor that this stretch of Bates Beach was clothing optional, but he was very supportive of it, and even said he might consider joining us at one of our beach events next summer. More importantly, he agreed that more people in the UCSB community ought to know about us. If we volunteer as a partner in this project, that could be a wonderful way for FOBB to gain a positive reputation among the much-needed younger university demographic in the SB area, who really would be the future of FOBB. Craig said he would be willing to come back out to train more people if we get more volunteers.

For more information go to our www.friendsofbatesbeach.org web site and click the link on the Home Page or if you prefer, just **drop us an email at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org** and we can discuss how you can help us with this very useful project and connect us with others who may be interested in our beach.

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Carpinteria Seal Sanctuary Off Limits Beginning December 1

The Carpinteria Seal Sanctuary is a harbor seal rookery next to the old oil pier just south of Carpinteria State Beach. By city ordinance, this section of the beach at the sanctuary is off-limits to the public **from December 1 through May 31** so that the seals and sea lions who return there may birth to and raise their pups until the offspring are strong enough for their summer migration. Violators can be fined \$10,000 per occurrence.

This area is just north of our designated clothing-optional beach area at Bates.

There is a public overlook on the bluffs above the beach providing safe viewing at a distance. Dogs, drones, and other possible disturbances to the animals is prohibited and may result in a ticket from deputies who patrol the area often.

You are advised to keep their distance should any seals migrate south onto our section of beach and remind others on the beach to do the same.

Bates Beach Online Petition Stuck at About 1500 Signatures

On December 2, we hit 1,538 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 only 4 new names since last month, so we seem to have leveled off. We ask all of our members (and their non-nudist friends) to add their names to the list. **You don't have to be a nudist to sign up, just be a person who supports our right to have 1000 yards of our own out of the 86 miles of coastline in the county.**

The petition site is at:

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

All names and addresses are kept confidential.

Bates Beach Steering Committee Wants Your Ideas for 2023

By Gary Mussell

Because the December 3 party was cancelled, we are seeking the advice of our members and beach guests as we begin planning our 2023 events and itemizing our budget for the coming year..

Do you want more organized beach picnics? More planned midweek trips? More communication (i.e., \$2 Bill Days) with the merchants and restaurants in nearby Carpinteria?

Some of the activities we do every year include participation in the Carpinteria Independence Day Parade and the town's 3-day Avocado Festival in October. We also need to pay for our web site and PO Box, both of which renew every year. It has also been suggested that we replace some of our display signs as they are showing some wear and tear from many years of service.

We also need to reorder more business cards we distribute with our \$2 bills, so now is a good time to review the words on the cards to see if we want to change our message there. Anyone have a suggestion?

Submit your thoughts before the end of the year via email to: friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org.

Support Our \$2 Bill Campaign

FOBB advocates the return of the designated clothing optional area at Bates (North Rincon) Beach. We are making purchases today using \$2 bills to demonstrate the purchasing power of our supporters, and to show support for our local merchants and vendors who will benefit greatly once the beach is restored. Please pass along these \$2 bills as change to your customers.


Friends of Bates Beach
Web Site: www.friendsofbatesbeach.org
 Email: friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org

Renewal Notices Going Out in January to Friends of Bates Beach Dues-Paying Members

Beginning in January, we will begin sending out renewal notices to our FOBB members.

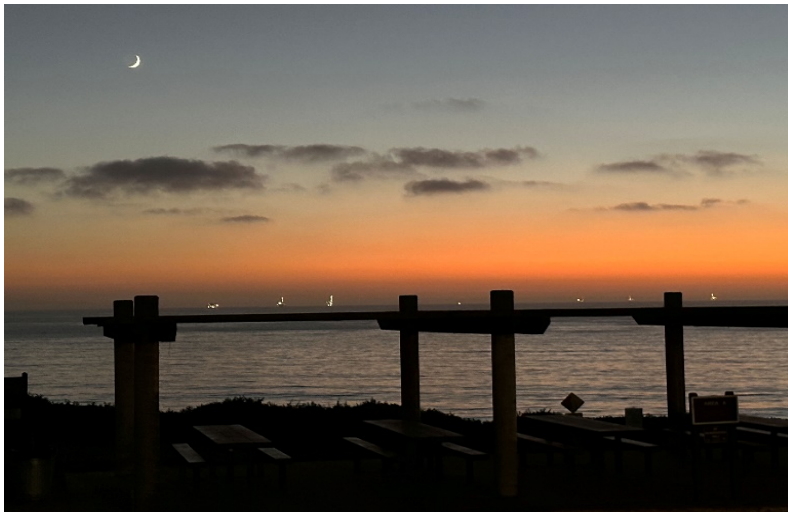
Your freedom to plop your towels down on the sand of our favorite beach is not really "Free." There are a lot of moving parts that go on behind the scenes to keep the pervs away, to keep local law enforcement happy with us, and to keep the support of the local city council and the town's merchants. Without this work by your FOBB team, your permission to use the beach might suddenly go away.

This work requires money, and so we ask our supporters to join us as dues-paying members on an annual basis. We only ask for \$10/year which is the cost of one unhealthy lunch at McDonald's. Is that too much to ask for your continued enjoyment of our clothing-optional beach?

Join – or renew- your membership on the home page of our website at www.friendsofbatesbeach.org. Of course, larger donations are also gratefully accepted! Thanks for your continued support.

BATES BEACH AUTUMN PHOTO ALBUM

Many of our members continue to visit our clothing-optional beach on nice days through the winter months. We encourage you to submit your photos to friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org.



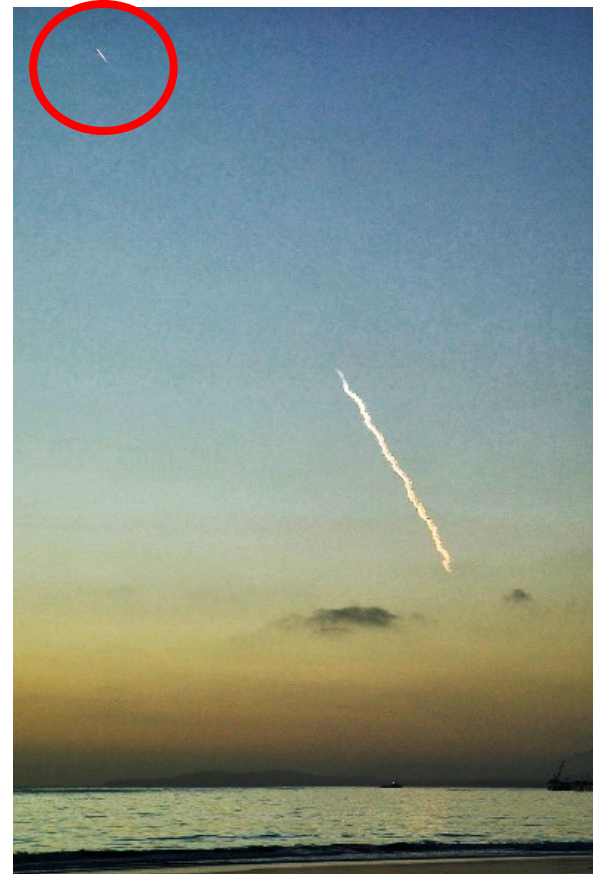
Top: Left: Bates at low tide during the winter looks quite different at low tide as tide pools are exposed. Right: John says "Hello". Middle: Left: The lights of the offshore oil platforms are visible at dusk over the Pavilion structure. Right: Helen explores hundreds of sea anemones at low tide.



Left: Marialyce, Helen, and Dianna, aka "The Three Amigos," enjoy a nice day at the beach. Center and Right: Michael Jimenez and Vivian Barela visited Bates on November 25.



Above: Sunset at Bates, taken by Michael Jimenez on November 25.



Left: a time lapse photo of the launch of a Falcon X rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base in a spectacular view from the Santa Barbara pier. Right: Helen submitted this photo of the same launch, taken from Bates on November 5 (the rocket is circled, top left corner, as the second stage ignited).

Local Election Results



(l-r) Carpinteria candidates Al Clark, Gregg Carty, Mike Lee, and Monica Solarzo.

SB County Election Results Is a Win For Bates Supporters

By Gary Mussell

As I have written many times, nude beaches are not a legal right under the First Amendment (in 1992 the Supreme Court decided against us), but we earn the privilege of being there based on state or county laws, or verbal agreements not to prosecute within certain limitations. The latter is the principle by which we operate at Bates Beach. So, it is important that we support local politicians and business leaders who support us being there. Every election cycle, our survival gets tested as old friends leave office, to be replaced by new candidates who don't know who we are. One of the objectives of Friends of Bates Beach is to keep tabs on local politics.

The political reality emerging from the November General Election in Santa Barbara County is that candidates affiliated with the Democratic Party swept every elected position in the county, at all levels, from School Board to City Councils, averaging 60% of the vote every time. This had never happened before but is basically good news for Friends of Bates Beach.

For example, Democratic **Congressmember Salud Carbajal** — a three-term incumbent and strong supporter of Bates Beach — won 60.97% of county votes with his opponent Dr. Brad Allen winning 39.03%.

For the open 37th Assembly seat, county supervisor and Democratic Party stalwart **Gregg Hart** (a live-and-let-live supporter of Bates) won 59.29% while his Republican challenger and opponent to the beach, Mike Stoker, took 40.71%.

As of Tuesday, November 15, 12,330 votes were still uncounted in the county. Most of these were provisional and mail in ballots. By law, the county has until December 12 to certify all election results.

Carpinteria Results

The race that affected Bates the most was Council District #5 which includes the bluffs above Bates Beach. Carpinteria councilmembers **Gregg Carty** and **Al Clark** — both long time incumbents — were forced to run against each other because of redistricting. In early returns, Clark, an unapologetic slow-growth advocate was decisively ahead of Carty, a good friend of Bates Beach supporter.

<u>District #3 Candidate</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent</u>
AL CLARK	321	54.15%
GREGG A. CARTY	185	34.52%
PATRICK O'CONNOR	59	10.03%

While there are still provisional ballots left to tally, the consensus is Clark has too great a lead for Carty to overcome. I have met with Clark a couple of times over the years, and he has a “whatever” opinion about the beach. So, we have to meet with him again soon.

Council incumbent **Roy Lee** won reelection unopposed in his new district #3. Lee says he supports Friends of Bates Beach. Newcomer **Mónica Solórzano** also won unopposed in the new District #1. We have not yet spoken with Monica, but we plan to before the end of the year.

Perhaps the biggest nail-biter of the night involved Carpinteria's **Measure T**, which opposed the building of a new downtown hotel next to the AMTRAK station. The election campaign split the town right down the middle between no growth and pro-growth advocates, and the semi-final vote totals reflect that split, showing those favoring the hotel **72 votes** ahead with 49.8% of the vote compared to 49.2% opposed to the hotel. FOBB wisely took no position on it.

Carpinteria city turnout across its five council districts was 58.7% (4,778 of 8,137 registered).

Districts 2 (Natalia Alarcon) and District 4 (Mayor Wade Namura) were not up for re-election this year. Alarcon has told us she supports us being at Bates, while Namura is personally opposed but won't act against us as long as we self-police the area and prevent any inappropriate behavior from occurring there.

That is the same attitude of Police Chief “Butch” Arnoldi and County Park ranger Alex Contreras, who support our Beach Ambassador program.

There has only been one ticket issued at Bates since 2015, and that was two years ago to a man who stripped nude in the textile section of the beach.

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. Winter is the perfect time to apply, take the online course, and get certified for next year!



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.

Cartoon of the Month



Upcoming Activity Calendar

There are No Dinner Meetings Until March 2023

Next meeting: Friday March 10, 6:45 pm

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

We have a separate room reserved at 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.



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.

There are no dinner meetings in December, January, or February.

Next Online Meetup Will Be Friday, January 20

NOTE: Due to scheduling conflicts, the monthly online meeting is being moved from Tuesdays to Fridays starting in January.



The meeting runs from 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 on the third Friday of each month, January through November.

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 and register at our website. There is no charge to join this Meetup website.

Our Store Has Some Great Holiday Gifts for Purchase!

We have brand new items for sale left over from the recent Avocado Festival while supplies last. Below are pictured a flashlight keyring/whistle, a 9 x 11 sign, and a Bates Beach hat.



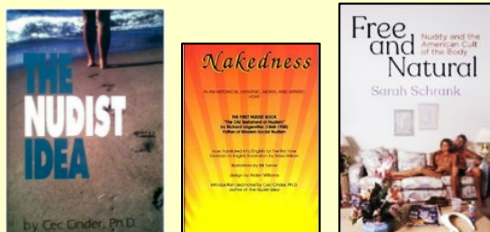
\$2.00

\$8.00

\$15.00

All books (below), hats, keychains, and signs may be ordered by calling SCNA at. (818) 225-2273 or emailing us at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org

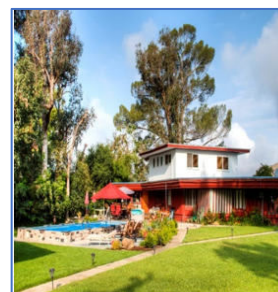
Three Books That Belong on Every Nudist's Bookshelf!



The Nudist Idea: \$27.32 incl tax, plus shipping.

Nakedness \$19.66 incl tax, plus shipping.

Free and Natural – \$39.55 plus tax and shipping



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