

THE BATES BEACH BEAT

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October 2023

Vol 2 No 10

Come Visit Our Booth at the Avocado Festival Oct 6-8

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

Oct 6-9, Avocado Festival, Carpinteria
Fri, Oct 13, Meetup Dinner in Ventura, 6:45 pm
Sat, Oct 14 3 pm -9 pm, The Dragonfly Ladies
(Women Only) Gathering, Santa Paula
Fri, Oct 20, Online Meetup, 7:00 pm
Sat, Oct 28, Halloween Pool Party, Camarillo

NOVEMBER

Fri, Nov 17, Online Meetup, 7:00 pm



Dianne and Mark enjoy a game of cornhole beanbag toss at Bates Beach on a sunny September afternoon.

Reminder: Ventura Freeway Construction South of Bates Rd.

Please allow extra time (and patience!) when planning to visit our beach if you are coming from the south, especially if driving after about noon. There is northbound freeway construction at Seaward Ave. in Ventura, and a longer stretch of construction for about 4 miles south of La Conchita. The backup there can add up to 30 minutes to your travel time.

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By Gary Mussell, Director

FOBB will host an information booth during the three-day Carpinteria Avocado Festival, October 6-8, 2023. An estimated 80,000 attend the Festival each year, and perhaps 3,000 of those stop by our booth to learn about our beach, our club, and the joys of nude recreation.

After the article in last month's newsletter, several of you responded to our call for volunteers to staff the booth, and we want to thank you in advance.

We could still use a little more help, especially during the heavy traffic periods of Saturday and Sunday afternoons, so please contact us at scna@socalnaturist.org if you can spare a couple of hours. It isn't hard and most volunteers in past years say it is a lot of fun!

After your shift, feel free to enjoy the rest of the Festival, the Ferris wheel, a hundred food booths where avocado is a prime ingredient (ever try avocado ice cream or avocado beer?), and dance to one of the 60 bands playing a wide variety of music styles at six different music stages set up at the end of each side street. Be sure to spend \$2 bills to show the purchasing power of the nudist community (get them at our booth).

FOBB has had a booth at AvoFest since 2015. SCNA, FOBB and AANR-West are co-sponsors. We always receive a warm response. 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.

See the booth location map on page 2.



Beach Cleanup And Picnic Celebrate Start Of Autumn

The September 23 picnic at Bates was the last scheduled calendar event on the sand for 2023 and the turnout was moderate with many new faces and friends. After Labor Day, attendance at the beach always drops as the tourists go home so we get our part of the beach pretty much to ourselves – and all the dog walkers.

This time of year the sunsets are spectacular even if their earlier hour means the beach closes a little early, but by 6 pm the skies had grown cloudy and the mid-70 temperatures had fallen enough that most people were dressed or had left by then anyway. It was a very nice way to end an extended day at Bates.

The day began early – 9 AM! –we counted 28 participants in the morning California Beach Cleanup event, the largest number of volunteers in many years. FOBB co-director Robert Bye managed the check-in table, had people sign a waiver form, and assigned groups of two or three to look for trash and recyclables along the 3.5 miles of beach, the hiking trail above, and the parking lot. The volunteers included many non-FOBB or SCNA members from the local community who wanted to help. In 2+ hours, these teams had collected 86 pounds of trash. The most unusual items found were a tote bag emblazoned with faux gems, a propane tank, and a bicycle wheel (Ranger Jim told us he found the rest of the bike abandoned on the trail above the beach the day before). An 8-ft diameter monster-car-sized tire was too big and bulky to carry so we alerted the rangers to bring it up with their cart.

Across California, it was reported over 25,570 volunteers had picked up 126,605 pounds of trash from its beaches, lakes, and river beds, and an additional 7,041 pounds of recyclable materials, for a total of 133,645 pounds or 67 tons.

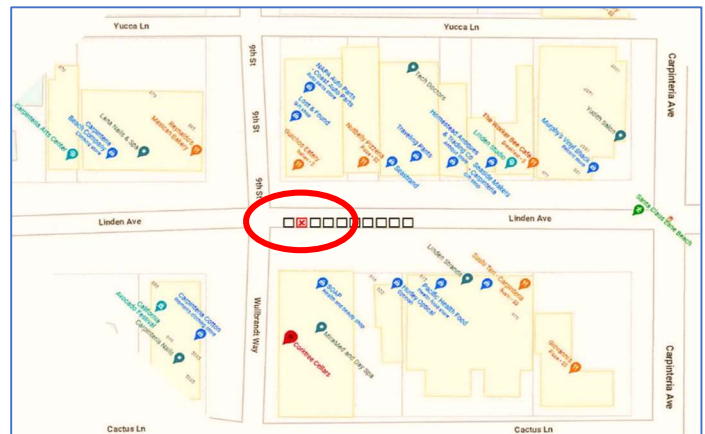


Some of our cleanup volunteers pose with their collected trash.

Park Rangers Visit Bates

On the afternoon of September 12, three park rangers drove down the Bates pedestrian ramp and drove across the sand to visit our designated area. Someone had called in a complaint and at their discretion law enforcement may respond. It doesn't happen very often. By 4 pm there were only two male individuals left on the beach as the other had left by 3:30 PM. The deputies talked to both individuals separately, reminding them of the county ordinance, and then left. No tickets were issued. The police report said everyone was polite and cooperative.

Where To Find Us At the AvoFest



Our booth is in a great location this year! It is between Carpinteria Avenue and 9th Street facing east (see the box marked “X” above).

When Shopping in Carpinteria, Don't Forget to Spend \$2 Bills!

Carpinteria's restaurants and retail stores have been very supportive of our beach efforts over the years, so we must be seen publicly supporting them now as many are still hurting financially after the recent pandemic.



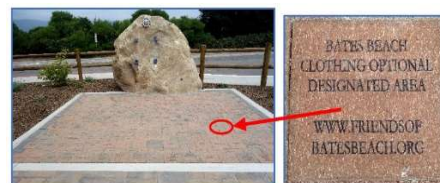
Buying things using \$2 bills not only supports them but also gives us some positive publicity as the locals identify it as “nudist” currency.

Next time you go to your bank, give them your \$20 bill and ask for ten \$2 bills in exchange. Carry them in your wallet for use next time you visit Carpinteria (You can also use them anywhere, even in your own community!) Tell the store clerk we are nudists supporting local businesses. **Let us know if you want us to mail you additional cards to use.**

When in Town, Visit our Brick at the Carpinteria Skateboard Park

By Gary Mussell

The new Carpinteria Skateboard Park that opened on August 26 has proved to be a smashing (poor choice of words?) success. I dropped by after I finished helping with the Beach Cleanup to find around 30 young people enjoying their jumps and other acrobatic skills under the careful watch of parents and friends.



Alongside the ramps is a small picnic area so people can watch the fun, and alongside that is an area set aside for a brick garden. Each brick contains the name of a person or organization that donated money to help build the skate park, including ours. I invite all of our members, after an easy day enjoying the beach, to stop by the skate park on their way home to say hello to our brick. The skate park is at 3781 Carpinteria Avenue, about a mile up the road from Bates, next to City Hall.

Other Upcoming Events



End of Season Halloween Party Planned October 26

When: Saturday, October 28, 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM. Members: \$10/ Non-Members: \$20/person, Children under 18: Free.

Once again, we will be co-hosting our annual Halloween party in Camarillo with SCNA, our parent club. There will be prizes for the Best Costume and for the Best Pot-Luck Food Using a Halloween Theme.

For this year's location, we have a beautiful home with a private yard, indoor heated pool, and Jacuzzi. There is also a backyard BBQ 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. The kitchen



is available for heating dishes but must be shared with everyone so consider limiting use. Unfortunately, the refrigerator is already full so bring an ice chest if needed. To avoid duplications, please enter your dish at:

<https://www.PerfectPotluck.com/HAOS0301>. You're welcome to bring your own alcoholic beverages, but please drink responsibly.

To RSVP, please call the SCNA office at (818) 225-2273 (CAL-BARE) or email scna@socalnaturist.org. They have a list of our paid FOBB members to confirm the \$10 entrance fee.

Peter has also decided to allow overnight stays for any member who does not wish to drive home, especially if you've been imbibing any alcoholic beverages. Please bring your own sleeping bag or bedding if you intend to stay overnight.

This will be a great Halloween party that you don't want to miss, so start working on your costume now!

Women's Dragonfly Ladies to Meet Oct 14 in Santa Paula

The Dragonfly Ladies, the women-only sub-group, will next meet Bates Beach women only from **1 PM to 8 PM on Saturday, October 14** in Santa Paula for some sun, food, and fun conversation. 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 that we usually have around 6 PM. This is the last meeting we will have during this year. These gatherings are open to all women, especially women who want to try naturism for the first time but want to do it in a safe setting with other women first. Any woman interested in coming should plan on bringing a dish for a potluck dinner. RSVP at **818-225-2273** or scna@socalnaturist.org.



Final Bates Dinner Meet of Year Set for October 13

Our final scheduled dinner meeting of the year in Ventura for Friends for Bates Beach will be Friday, October 13, at 6:45 PM at the Denny's restaurant on Telegraph Road near Ventura College.

We meet from March through October taking the winter months off.

The discussion will focus on what happened the week before at the Avocado Festival and on ways to improve the event next year.

We also will begin thinking about new activities for 2024 at Bates Beach and in nearby Carpinteria and creating a budget to cover anticipated expenses.

Members and new guests are always invited to learn about our non-profit organizations and to ask questions about our clothing-optional preferences.





Sign Petition to Establish Chumash National Marine Sanctuary

Our co-director Helen O’Neill has asked that our Bates Beach members and friends sign the online petition to establish the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary.

The proposed sanctuary is offshore near and above Santa Barbara County and will protect the habitats of hundreds of sea creatures in a 7,600 square mile area and promote increased biodiversity there. Specifically, it would ban the development of new oil and gas leases in the area and carefully manage the number of future wind turbine farms.

The petition is being promoted by a collection of Native American tribes and other environmentalists in the area.

Go to <https://chumashsanctuary.org/public-comment/> for more information and to sign the petition. Supporters are requested to sign before October 25, when the petition is scheduled to be submitted to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is considering the matter.

VISIT OUR ONLINE STORE!

ENTERING CLOTHING-OPTIONAL BEACH AREA
www.FriendsofBatesBeach.org



By popular demand, we have added a **Clothing-Optional** sign to our store. This is the same sign used at Bates Beach.

It is 8.5×11 and can be used at home on a bedroom wall, outside the backyard, or even on the front door! The price is \$20 plus shipping.

Our **“I ♥ Bates Beach”** cap is also available for \$15 plus shipping.

Please check out the store at our parent organization (<https://socialnaturalist.org/store/>) to order these items using the club’s PayPal processing link.

Have You Asked Your Friends to Sign the Bates On-Line Petition?

Our online petition to Santa Barbara County, asking them to make Bates an officially designated nude beach, has reached 1,706 signatures but the rate of signing has slowed in recent months.

We ask that all members talk to their friends to support our efforts. The names are not made public (only a few of us know who signed) so anonymity should not be of concern.



You don’t have to be a nudist to sign the petition, and you don’t even have to live in America to sign it! All you need to be is a person who believes we have the right to a small stretch of sand to enjoy the beach away from everyone else, no different than if we were asking for a dog park or a public tennis court for a hiking trail.

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.

How To Become A Member Of Our Bates Beach Group

Many thanks to all who have renewed their memberships! We need your contributions to be able to fund our entry in the recent Independence Parade and the upcoming Avocado Festival in Carpinteria.

Membership is only \$10 per person per year, about the cost of an unhealthy meal at the Golden Arches.

Most people continue to use our Pay Pal link to join or renew. You don’t need a PayPal account to use it as we accept all major credit cards. Go to our website home page to find the link on the home page.

Alternatively, Bates members may now pay their memberships and renewal dues via Zelle as a second option to using PayPal. Using Zelle means the total dues amount will be transferred to our bank account instead of having a small processing fee deducted as PayPal requires.

All the members have to do is create a Zelle link at their bank for their account, then assign **“friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org”** as the recipient, and the transfer will go into the correct club account.

Membership cards are available upon request (we are trying to save postage costs by only sending them to people who want them). These cards show proof of membership so you can gain entry to parties and other activities sponsored by the SCNA parent organization across Southern California.

OTHER NUDIST BEACH NEWS



Black's Beach Hosts the Relocated Bare Booty 5K Run

By Dennis Crane

The De Anza Springs 5th annual Bare Booty 5K Run ran into a slight problem this September. Last August, De Anza announced they would be converting to a textile resort beginning 9-1. The run was scheduled for 9-24. Dilemma, how to make the run happen? The run organizer Graham came up with a brilliant alternative. Move the 5K to Black's Beach on the clothing-optional side. We needed to keep it low-key because we did not have a permit for the run.

Graham mapped out a course for us on the beach. Pretty simple, run to the end of the beach towards the rocks, and make a U-turn. Run back past the start line towards the last volleyball courts and make another U-turn back to the finish line.

This is where I was truly amazed at this run. We're running naked on the sand or water, past the public on the beach. We had to pass numerous people enjoying life at the beach or strolling along in the water. There was not one person who even noticed us. Lifeguards drive by us without even noticing us. And we're running at a public beach! Plus...it was a level flat ground run, so running times were much faster. The bonus part was that para-sailors were soaring above us adding lots of color to the sky. At one point I counted 22 of them above us. This was magical to me. It was a beautiful and perfect day. Once the runners crossed the finish line, we were rewarded with a medallion and a sense of achievement.



This Bare Booty run had to be my most passionate nude run ever. And thanks to Graham's determination, he made it all possible for all of us. We are all grateful to him.

Note to Our Readers: Our designated clothing-optional area at Bates is too short to try one of these races ourselves, sorry.

Top Male finishers and their times:

1. David H. 0:21:05
2. Miles P 0:22:06
3. Francois 0:23:52
4. Dennis Crane 0:26:22

Top Female finishers and their times:

1. Michelle 0:23:42
2. Christine 0:27:06
3. Claudia Kellersch 0:49:04
4. Inge 1:00:00

Note: (Ron Mercer of NitOC at 32:17 placed 11th overall)



Paragliders graced the skies over Black's Beach while we were there.

San Onofre Beach Cleanup



On September 16, members of the NitOC club in Orange County returned to their old haunts and did their Beach Cleanup of the Trail 6 section of San Onofre Beach.



Burning Muck

MY WEEK OF MAGIC, MERRIMENT, AND MUD AT BURNING MAN

By Michael Heneghan, SCNA member

Your SCNA Burning Man Correspondent was back this year for more nude fun in the Black Rock Desert of Northern Nevada. Despite last year's searing heat wave that saw nearly every day exceeding 100F, this year's forecast didn't call for those kinds of temperatures, so I thought it couldn't be nearly as rough this time around...However, Climate Change proclaimed, "Hold My Beer!"



After four normal days, in an area that normally gets NO precipitation this time of year, it got hit with 48 hours of monsoonal rain. Although it only totaled about an inch, it was enough to completely shut down the city, turning the whole Playa into a giant mud pit. Cars and bikes

trying to navigate the muck experienced serious trouble and trudging through it on foot was possible, but exhausting. The only solution was to hope the downpour stopped and to wait for the sun to re-emerge and dry everything up.

It took two long days before the playa was stable enough for vehicles to escape the city safely. Needless to say, the cold showers curtailed most nude activities, with the exception being some insane mud wrestling that I witnessed. The true Burner spirit persevered and we had a great time helping and feeding each other once the rain and complaining stopped.

In the dusty days before the deluge, I indulged in the Burning Man WNBR for an unclothed bicycle tour of the city, which was also a pub crawl, that culminated in a huge naked after-party.

I happened upon the Human Carcass Wash, a camp where around 50 participants at four stations soaped, scrubbed, rinsed, and finally hand-squeezed each other clean before getting to the front of the line to receive the treatment themselves.

I also managed to visit three different Sauna/Steam Bath camps for the ultimate feeling of Playa cleanliness. I disrobed and entered a super-heated steam tent or a wooden structure with other nudie burners for 15-20 minutes. After sweating out all my toxins, I was spritzed with cool water, then emerged outside, creating an amazing, refreshing feeling as I air dried.

The muddy shutdown at the gate kept the majority of original Burners in, and all the weekend warriors out. So, when the decision was made to Burn the Man on Monday night, two days later than scheduled, it was less jam-packed than usual. A sense of relief was felt as the ceremonial Burn commenced with a stellar fireworks show that climaxed with the Man finally burning to the ground. Then a crowd rushed in to dance around the mesmerizing flames,

A good percentage of them stripped off their clothes and costumes to do so. Those who partook in this unique nudist experience, whether first-timers or veterans, clearly enjoyed the uninhibited celebration, myself included. However, for me, it's an annual tradition to bask in the glow of the felled Man and soak in the incredible warmth all over my bare skin.

Although this year's Burning Man lasted longer than expected, overall, it was unforgettable.

I look forward to going back again next year, getting nekkid, and asking Global Warming "Is THAT all you got?"



More Burning Man photos are on the next page

LA's Nude Comedy Theater Owner Seeking A Buyer

By Rolf Holbach

In 2016 the owner of Two Roads Theatre in Studio City, Allen Levin, took over organizing the Nude Comedy Shows that Tim Chizmar had started and formed Nude Comedy LA. Since then,



he's organized and hosted many really popular shows co-sponsored by AANR, SCNA, and the Clothing Optional Home Network.

Over the years, we've enjoyed many hilarious comedians including Derrick Jackson, Kevin Lahaie, Lisa Laureta, and the late great Marty Ross (RIP). Since everyone in the audience is

required to be nude along with all the comedians, these shows have been instrumental in introducing many people to social naturism for their very first experience.

With the change in leadership beginning this year, AANR decided not to continue its financial support of Nude Comedy LA. Not only that, but Allen decided to take on other work priorities which took up the bulk of his time, so we haven't seen a Nude Comedy Show at Two Roads since December of 2022.

At this point, Allen is looking for someone to take over running Nude Comedy LA and putting together new shows. If you are interested in purchasing and learning (Allen is happy to teach you the ropes) how to run and continue to grow this amazing and beautiful company: please text him at 818-415-9568.

He's open to negotiating the purchase price and terms.

SCNA and the Clothing Optional Home Network will continue to help publicize and support any new owner and shows.



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Altadena, CA

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arroyodelsol@c-ohomenetwork.com

www.arroyodelsol.net

Enjoy the pool & sunshine...naturally!

**Clothing Optional
Bed & Breakfast**

ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER

\$55/month for a 2" h x 3.5" w adv. (Discount: \$400/year) buys you direct exposure to over 1500 naturists in the greater Southern California area. Personal ads are accepted for \$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 for details



All photos by Mike Heneghan

FRIENDS OF BATES BEACH WANT TO MEET YOU!



Each month, the Friends of Bates Beach hosts a monthly dinner and an online ZOOM discussion group. These meetings are open to members, non-members, and first-timers who are interested in social nudity. The focus of this dinner meeting is on naturist activities at Bates and other Southern California beaches; however, topics vary every month. Anyone with a sincere interest is welcome.

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 backyard pool parties.

ONLINE MEETINGS



Friends of Bates Beach hosts an online meeting each month for the people who cannot make the in-person meeting. Most participants live in the Santa Barbara to Los Angeles area, although sometimes we will get people from as far away as Canada and Florida!

Be aware that since everyone will be at their own home, these meetings are clothing-optional, and people often take advantage of that opportunity.

THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
7 pm to 8:30 pm

VENTURA/SANTA BARBARA ONLINE MEETUP

Just click the link and any browser will connect you! (You will be asked to link to the online application; click "OK") Cell phone users: It works like connecting to any other call. If you want to be seen, just click your camera "on."

Please join our Meetup from your computer, tablet, or smartphone at:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/724415629>

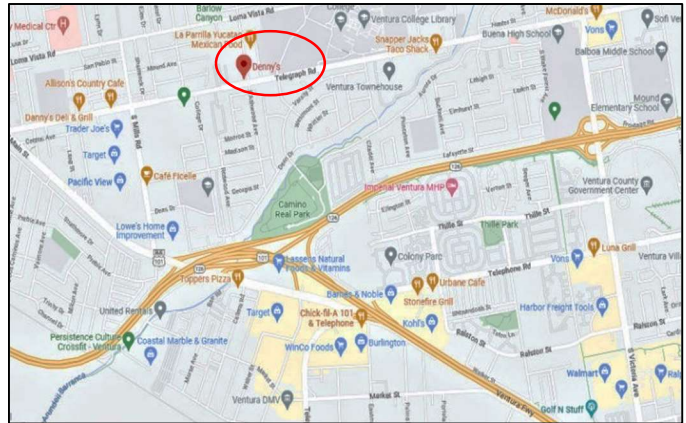
You can also dial in using your phone at:
(571) 317-3122, Access Code: 724-415-629

Upcoming Friday Schedule for 2023:

- **October 20, 2023**
- **November 17, 2023**

There is no online meeting in December.

IN-PERSON MEETINGS



Map to Denny's Restaurant on Telegraph Road in Ventura

SECOND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
6:45 PM – 8:30 PM



MEETUP DINNER
Denny's (west of Ventura College),
4095 Telegraph Rd, Ventura,
CA 93003

Our meeting room is to the right and rear from where you walk in. Buy your dinner.

RSVPs for the dinner meetings are not necessary but appreciated so we have an advanced head count.

Email us at: friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org

- **October 13, 2023**

There is no Friday dinner meeting from November through February.



Let's Help Each Other To Get To Our Events!

Parking, fuel, and money can all be limitations on our ability to attend events. Sharing rides can help improve all three. If you need a ride or wish to offer a ride, to our various events, please make your information known at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org. We encourage your participation in offering rides, to save gas and to help out fellow members with transportation limitations. For those members who are offered rides, be sure to do the right thing and monetarily compensate your driver with gas money!