

THE BATES BEACH BEAT

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May 2022

Vol 1 No 02

Weekday Beach Visits Have Started Again This Month

UPCOMING EVENTS

May

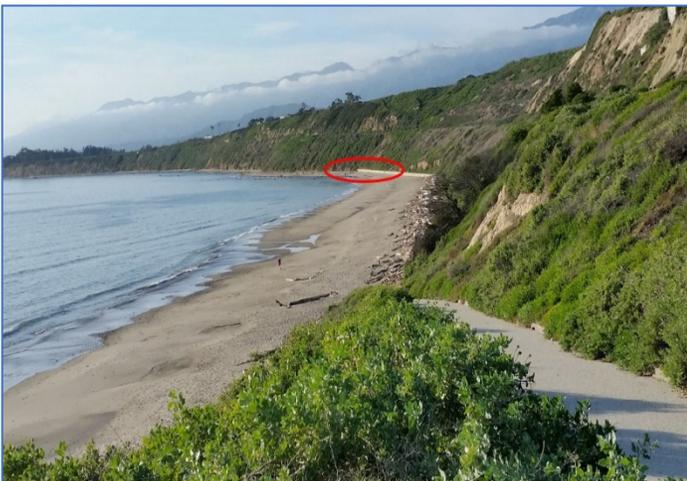
May 5, 12, 19, 26 Bates Thursday Picnics, Noon
May 11 Carpinteria Business Mixer- Bring \$2 bills!
May 13 Meetup Dinner at Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm
May 17 Meetup Online 7 pm – 8:30 pm

June

June 2, 9, 16, 23 Bates Thursday Picnics, Noon
June 10 Meetup Dinner at Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm
June 11 Bates Beach Saturday Multi-Club Picnic
June 21 Meetup Online 7 pm – 8:30 pm
June 25 World Naked Bike Ride, Los Angeles

July

July 7, 14, 21, 28 Bates Thursday Picnics, Noon
July 2 Carpinteria Independence Day Parade
July 8 Meetup Dinner at Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm
July 12 Bates Beach Saturday Multi-Club Picnic



Designated clothing-optional area starts at the concrete rockslide

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Thursday Is The Day, If You Can Get Away!

By Gary Mussell, FOBB Director

Now that the weather and sea temperatures are starting to warm, we have once again started our weekly mid-week visits to Bates on **Thursday afternoons. Look for the sign (at left) so you know where to sit.**

The tentative May schedule is the following: **Thursday May 5, 12, 19, 26 after noon to about 6 pm.**



Greg reports that the first Thursday visit was cool and partially overcast, and the group who came down were still able to remove their clothes for most of the afternoon. Helen even went swimming in the 60-degree water.

Weather conditions in May are always iffy. In fact, we received a phone call from Bates the following day (Friday) to say the beach was sunny and warm. One never knows! The weather usually is consistently okay by mid-June, but we will keep to the May schedule just in case we get a break in the pattern.

Contact our beach hosts **Helen or Greg** if you plan to come down so we can be sure to sit together. Email: friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org with your plans.

Bring your own picnic supplies, chairs, bathing suits (just in case) and “Reef-Safe” sunscreen (to protect the dolphins) and make a day of it! RSVP to (818) 225-2273 to get directions.

The area approved for our use is down the walking path from the parking lot toward the west end of the beach starting about 1300 feet ahead where the beach starts to curve to the left and a concrete rockslide is visible on the cliff slope.

Because the nudity ordinance has not yet been amended, this is a “Bare as you Dare” Beach Day. Use common sense while nude and respect those walking past our location with their dogs and families. Never be nude to the east of the concrete rockslide or you will be ticketed!

Welcome to Our Second "Bates Beach Beat" Monthly Newsletter!

What you are reading is the second of what we hope will become a long-lasting monthly newsletter about what is happening at Bates Beach.

It is only for those who have paid their annual membership dues. Go to www.friendsofbatesbeach.org to sign up.

FOBB Gets New Phone Number: (805) 225-3304

For the past few years we have used the personal cell phone number of one of our members to act as the Bates Beach club line. We have grown to where that is no longer appropriate.

We have arranged to have a specific phone number devoted only to Friends of Bates Beach business, and that number is:

(805) 225-3304



This number will be used from now on for members and non-members. We average about a dozen calls each week during the colder months (more during the summer) from people who need directions or who want information about our organization.

The email: friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org remains in place for all inquiries that may require a text reply or attachments such as documents or photos.

Do You Want Your Membership Card Mailed or Held?

We have started mailing out FOBB membership cards to those who want them.

The membership card allows FOBB members to attend any SCNA activity by paying the same gate admittance fee as SCNA members instead of the higher (usually \$20) non-member rate.



We prefer to distribute these cards in person, either at the beach or at one of our dinner meetings or pool parties, as it saves us postage.

Not everyone wants a card but if you do and we won't be seeing you in person soon, please drop us an email at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org. Be sure to include your mailing address as we are missing that information for several people.

What Are Beach Ambassadors?

Beach Ambassadors are volunteers who observe and report what is going on at our particular beach. Currently, our Beach Ambassador program is established at North Rincon (Bates) Beach, and at Hope Ranch/More Mesa Beach.

- Beach Ambassadors also watch out for those occasional individuals who may spoil the beach experience for others.
- Beach Ambassadors observe and report to the authorities when there is suspicious activity around parked vehicles.
- Beach Ambassadors help the parks department remove graffiti from parking lots and sea walls.
- Beach Ambassadors provide an avenue for beach regulars to get to know one another and to build a sense of community.
- Beach Ambassadors gently remind dog owners to pick up after their animal. (Sometimes we also remind dog owners that county laws require they keep their dogs on a leash.)
- A Beach Ambassador foot patrol is in the best position to notice and report sick sea lions or other wounded wildlife on the beach or injured/sick people who may need immediate medical attention.
- In practice far more time is spent on providing information and explaining the accepted standards of beach etiquette and courtesy.

Clear recognition of the presence of Beach Ambassadors on the beach can in itself go a long way toward maintaining a friendly family atmosphere at the beach.

We find one of our most effect tools to deter crime is simply walking around. People who want to break into cars, to sell drugs or paint graffiti on walls prefer to do it when nobody is around to watch it happen. Our very presence acts as a deterrent and sends a message to those on the beach that inappropriate behavior and crime will not be tolerated.

When we see a problem, our job is to report it to a park ranger, sheriff deputy, or city/county park personnel to make sure that problem receives a prompt and effective response.

It is NOT our role to enforce the law, but simply encourage people to do the right thing, and if not, to report our concerns to those in authority for their consideration and possible action.

How Do I Become A Beach Watch Ambassador?

We need additional volunteers, willing to devote some of their beach-going time to walking a foot patrol and then reporting what they see to local authorities if it seems appropriate to do so.

3-Hour Certification Classes Are Held Monthly

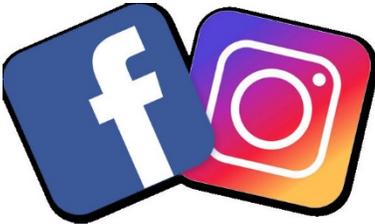
All applicants then are required to undergo a basic background check. Once the required training course is completed, the Director of Friends of Bates Beach has final approval of all appointments.

Once approved, Beach Ambassadors carry a distinctive form of identification: a hat with logo and/or a name medallion, to make them easily visible on the beach should a beachgoer have a problem or need a question answered.

To learn more or to volunteer, send an email to friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org.

Volunteers Needed to Rebuild Instagram and Facebook Sites

Some months ago we reserved an Instagram account so FOBB could start posting messages there. Since nudity photos are not allowed on the site (same as Facebook), the steering committee decided to focus on a wider range of posts besides just our section of the beach.



Some of the topics we decided to include are comments about the large surfing community at the Point, the paragliding experience, the seal rookery, the proposed Rincon Trail above the beach, etc. We want to show how much a vital part of the South Coast culture that have become.

We lost the person who was going to coordinate these posts for us, so we need to find someone willing to take this on as a volunteer.

Anyone interested? Please drop us a note at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org. It would be even better if we can find several people interested so we can divide up the work!

Will Elon Musk’s Purchase of Twitter Help or Hurt Nudists?

By Gary Mussell, Director, FOBB



Over the past several years, FOBB has invested a lot of time and effort into creating and maintaining an account on Twitter, only to see it mysteriously and suddenly blocked a few months later for “violating” the host’s guidelines.

We never were able to learn exactly what the violation was, especially

when other nudist sites – and even sexually suggestive sites – were allowed to remain.

We launched and re-launched our Bates Beach site three times in 4 years, only to see it suspended each time. Currently we have no presence on Twitter.

In April, business entrepreneur Elon Musk purchased Twitter for a reported \$44 billion and promised to open the social media site up to a wider range of opinions.

On May 3, he tweeted his support for “free access” for “casual users” but hinted that business and government entities will be asked to “pay to play.”

We don’t know if that includes promoting nude beach recreation or not, or if we will have to “pay to play”, but as soon as he settles into his new management role, we intend to test the Internet waters again.

We will keep you informed whether his purchase is good news or more of the same.

Orange County Club Adds Link to FOBB Petition to its Members

Friends of Bates Beach continues to solicit signatures for its online petition last year to "Make the Traditional Nude Section of Bates Beach Official."



With enough signatures we can ask the Board of Supervisors to change the county’s nudity ordinance. Without a large positive response (somewhere in the neighborhood of 10,000 signatures), we will have to accept our current situation for a while longer.

Last month, the Naturists in Orange County (NitOC) naturist club sent an email message to all of its members about the petition and added a link to its Meetup.com website to encourage everyone to sign it and to promote it to their friends.

With their help, we have seen a jump in signatures to about 900 signatures, not nearly enough. You do not have to live locally to sign it, nor even live in the country!

We ask all of our members (and their friends) to log into the web site to add their names to the list. The petition site is: <https://www.change.org/p/friends-of-bates-beach-make-the-traditional-nude-section-of-bates-beach-official>.

If you are unfamiliar with the text of the petition, here it is:

We believe that all beach users should have access to California’s beaches and, where practical, certain sections be set aside for clothing-optional use. Local polls show Carpinteria residents overwhelmingly agree a designated beach with proper signage is a positive addition to the south county.

Since 2015, those who have enjoyed the designated clothing-optional section at Bates Beach have done so responsibly with great respect for the diversity of the people who enjoy it. There have been few complaints and no tickets issued.

We believe the time has come to make this traditional area official. It will require a small change in the Santa Barbara County ordinance. We want to ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to support this change so you can have a place to enjoy responsibly and to better serve the diverse needs of their constituents.

Please sign this petition so we can show them how many people agree with us.

You Don’t Have to Be A Nudist Yourself to Support Our Efforts!

All you have to do is believe that we have the right to our own designated “space” the same as the country provides now to golfers, tennis players, horse riders, equestrians, skateboarders, dog park users, and others. We support the rights of everyone to their own beliefs and values, even if they differ from ours. Please support ours



Driving South from Carpinteria to Ventura Just Got Harder

Beginning April 22, Caltrans has temporarily moved the leftmost traffic lane going south into the northbound side of the freeway while roadway repairs are made. The two right lanes on this five-mile stretch going south from Mussel Shoals to Faria Beach is being repaved so traffic is reduced to two lanes only. Those who want to exit at the little hamlet of La Conchita or eat at the Cliff House Restaurant nearby now have to drive all the way to Ventura and double back on the northbound lanes to use the only exit available.

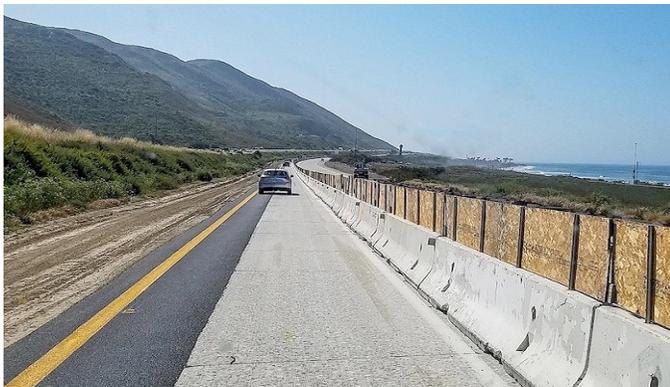
Construction is expected to be completed by January 2023, at which time the construction will flip to the northbound lanes with its two slowest lanes on the right being blocked for repaving until early 2025.

All the lane-boggling changes are part of a \$48 million project, through the U.S. 101 Pavement Rehabilitation Program, a part of the 2021 Stimulus package passed by Congress.

Speed limits through the area are posted at 55 mph, but about 75,000 trucks and cars use this route on a daily basis, so Caltrans expects to see speeds down to about 40 miles per hour during non-commuter weekday hours and as low as 20 mph during rush hours and on weekends as beachgoers attempt to traverse this seaside stretch of the 101 Freeway.

This is obviously going to affect our visits to Bates Beach for the remainder of the year. Carpooling is probably going to be a practical solution. It is also possible to take Highway 150 north past Lake Casitas to Ojai and then south on Highway 33 to rejoin the 101 Freeway in Ventura.. If the coastal route becomes gridlocked next summer, this circuitous route may actually be faster timewise.

As the saying goes, we will all find out together!



Planning Commission Approves Another 500 ft of Rincon Trail

On May 2, The Carpinteria Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit to build a 500-foot segment of the planned Rincon Coastal Trail, on the bluff about a mile west of our nude beach area. We were not informed in advance of the proposal, and there were no dissenting public speakers, so the entire presentation and debate took 30 minutes before the 3-0 vote in favor with 2 of the five commissioners absent.

This segment of the trail loops around beach side of the S&S Seed property at 6155 Carpinteria Avenue. This is just east of the Tea Time Golf driving range property, where two weeks ago a large crowd of dissenting speakers got the city council to agree to vote down a planned hotel on the bluffs above that part of the beach.

The next step in the approval process is to take out the proposal for bid. Construction costs are estimated to be \$350,000.

FOBB Will Attend Carpinteria Business Mixer on May 11

The Chamber also announced it will host an after-work Business Mixer on **May 11** from 5 pm to 7 pm at the Island Brewery Co off Linden Avenue and Sixth Street in downtown Carpinteria. The cost to non-members is \$20 each but there is usually free food and a no host bar available..

If you would like to attend, contact us via the club email at: friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org so we can arrange carpooling and other instructions.

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



Carpinteria's restaurants and retail stores restaurants have been very supportive of out beach efforts over the years, so .it is important we be seen publicly supporting them now and remain financially hurt by the recent pandemic.

Buying things using \$2 bills not only supports them but it also gives us some positive publicity as it is identified as "nudist" currency by the locals.

Next time you go to your bank, give them a \$20 bill and ask for ten \$2 bills in exchange. Carry them in your wallet for use next time you visit Carpinteria.

Also, be sure to carry our \$2 bill business cards with you to give to the merchant when they inevitably will ask about why you are paying with such a non-traditional currency. The card explains we are nudists supporting local businesses and we would appreciate them giving out the bill as change to their customers so the word can spread.

Drop us an email if you need additional cards.

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



Santa Barbara County 2022 Primary Election Roundup

Important: While we have Bates Beach supporters across the political spectrum (and opponents as well), when certain candidates start calling their opponents “pedophile supporters” that is only one small step from bringing in nudity as a campaign issue, which we must carefully avoid, in my opinion.

When (or if) we endorse or make campaign contributions, we do not want to endanger our supporters to be vulnerable to these charges. And we need to do our best to be sure that those who level such reckless charges do not attain any political or appointive office that can endanger our purpose.

FOBB is actively reviewing local candidates to see if we can identify those who have no problem with simple nudity on the county's beaches.

The California primary election is June 7. Ballots are being mailed to all registered voters beginning May 9.

Carpinteria City Council

At its March 26 meeting, the City Council voted to divide the city into five council districts for future elections. Districts 1, 3, and 5 will be on the ballot in November with Districts 2 and 4 held over until 2024.

Conveniently, lines were drawn so that the homes of all incumbent council members are in different districts, so none have to run against each other this time around.

The filing deadline is not until late August, so none of these district seats will appear on the June primary ballot.

County Supervisor

For the open District 2 County Supervisor seat, which contains the nude beach at **More Mesa**, candidate Laura Capps is running unopposed and will therefore be officially elected in June. Capps lost to incumbent Das Williams in the 1st County Supervisor District race two years ago. She was not particularly friendly to FOBB, especially after we endorsed Williams for re-election. We have reached out to talk to her campaign but so far we have not heard any response. Capps currently serves on the Santa Barbara Unified School District board of trustees.

First District Supervisor Das Williams is not up for re-election until 2024.

US Congress

The county has one member of Congress, and the district also covers the southern portion of San Luis Obispo County (where the legally nude **Pirate's Cove** is). U.S. Rep. Salud Carbajal, D-Santa Barbara, appears likely to face a number of challengers for the job representing the 24th Congressional District. Among those who have filed are three No Party Preference candidates plus Republican Brad Allen. The June primary will decide who are the top two vote getters, and they will run against each other in November. Carbajal, whom FOBB has supported in the past as he has supported our beach, is expected to win handily.

District Attorney

John Savrnock is the only candidate running for County District Attorney, replacing the retiring **Joyce Dudley**. Dudley's endorsement of the 58-year-old Savrnock gave him a huge boost and scared away anyone else thinking of running.

Dudley has been a strong advocate for enforcing the anti-nudity laws in the County. We suspect Savrnock feels the same.

Sheriff-Coroner

Sheriff Bill Brown, who has spent 45 years as a law enforcement officer, is seeking his fifth term. He will face off against sheriff's Lt. Juan Camarena, who has served in the Sheriff's Office for 23 years. Brown is also expected to win easily. although Brown has backed off enforcement of the county nudity ordinance absent complaint or lewd behavior.

State Assembly

Former Santa Barbara County supervisor Mike Stoker, who was more recently removed as former president Donald Trump's West Coast Regional Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator, has thrown his hat in the ring as Gregg Hart's Republican opponent in the race for the 37th District State Assembly seat. Neither candidate has responded to our emails asking their position on legalizing nude beaches in the county, although Hart maintained a “don't ask don't tell” attitude while serving as a County Supervisor.

As the current registration shows 45.79% Democratic, 25.34% Republican and 23.72% No party preference, the Democrats (Hart) is expected to win easily.

What Should Our Members Do?

FOBB makes no formal endorsements but many members have clear favorites based upon the candidate's past support for Bates Beach. We urge everyone to review all the information and select candidates that best fit their personal beliefs and who also will best benefit our beach.

We encourage members to volunteer and to make personal donations of either supplies or financially to the candidates of their choice, if so motivated.

Important! Collect contact information of campaign staff and key volunteers whom we might contact after the election is over to educate them about our Bates plan.

Then, be sure to vote in the June primary. Democracy dies when citizens become apathetic.

FOBB STORE



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

Also available are our “**I ♥ Bates Beach**” cap for \$15 plus shipping.

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

Nantucket, Massachusetts Voters Vote to Allow Anyone To Go Topless On Its Beaches

Nantucket is a tiny, isolated island 30 miles south of the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, population 11,327 (2018). It is a summer destination for tourists principally from New England, New York, or Western Europe. It is known worldwide for its dune-backed sandy beaches. The only way to get there these days is by 2-hour ferry from the mainland. The wharves and cobblestone streets of the town of Nantucket are lined with restaurants, high-end boutiques and steepled churches, all promoting the town's 19th-century history. Nantucket was the place whaling ships embarked to hunt the behemoths of the sea before oil was discovered in Pennsylvania in 1832 and effectively brought all American whale hunting to a halt.

On May 4, 2022, Nantucket voters returned the sleepy island back into the headlines, as they approve a ballot resolution to allow "Gender Equality on Beaches." By a vote of 327-242, this means any person – male or female – is allowed to go topless on the island's beaches. The ballot proposition said the reason was "In order to promote equality for all persons."

The proposal was the brainchild of seventh-generation islander Dorothy Stover, whose local nickname is "Naughty Dottie" as she runs the Nantucket Love School. Back in February, when the idea was first proposed, Stover told WBSM's TV reporter Phil Paleologos, "Currently, the law states anyone over the age of five is to have a top on at the beach. I'm looking to make the law equal for all genders."

The measure still has to be approved by Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey before it can go into effect this summer.

"We still have to go to the state level," said Stover in her video message, "So we'll see. But thank you everyone for the support and the love. It's been wild."

Hawaii's Little Beach Still Under Attack

We received this email from Friends of Little Beach (Maui) on April 27 (*so glad we don't have this problem at Bates Beach!*)

To all Little Beach Activists,

We failed again!

There were 2 nudists issued citations after 4 pm on Saturday April 23. Every citation emboldens the bigoted Park management and gives them propaganda to label Little Beach as lawless. Although Park rules are a petty misdemeanor, they result in a criminal record for those found guilty. Cops are now ordered to issue both nudity and closed area citations. This couple were lucky because the cop kindly overlooked their nudity and they have received only one criminal charge.

Saturday and Sunday at 4 PM remains the main danger time as that is when the cops come down to close the beach and cite anyone they still remaining on the sand.

We can't warn everyone when we circulate with the cards because some are sleeping, or in the water, or arrive unnoticed later. Some

days there may be no one giving cards. So it is kind of up to everyone who happens to be present on the day and stays until the last 10 minutes. Please adopt the motto:

"No Nudist Left Behind."

When you are all packed up, look around for sitting ducks or swimming ducks. It is easy to assume they have been warned and are taking it to the limit. Their neighbors also make that assumption and walk off, not saying a word.

If you are there ready to leave on Saturday or Sunday at 3:50 PM, please stay to 4 PM. Please go tell anyone, not packing up or still in the water: "The cops are coming!"

Aloha!

Bill Watts, Friends of Little Beach

If you want to help with Little Beach Defense Fund, go to:

<https://www.littlebeachmaui.org/join.html>

World's Longest Legal Nude Beach Proposed for Sinaloa, Mexico

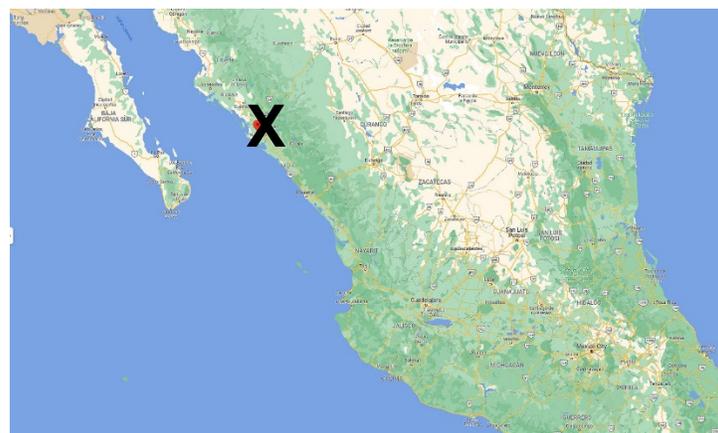
The Congress of Sinaloa Province in Western Mexico has opened hearings in its House of Deputies on a proposal to designate the world's longest legal nude beach near the town of Las Aguamitas in the municipality of Navolato, Sinaloa.

The proposed beach, 200 kilometers north of Puerto Vallarta, will be 2.1 kilometers in length, 100 meters larger than Zipolite Beach in Oaxaca, Mexico, about 500 kilometers to the south.

According to the bill's sponsor, Deputy Serapio Vargas Ramírez, the site for this new Navolato Beach was chosen because it has a nearby pier to attract cruise ships, potentially boosting tourist dollars to this underdeveloped coastal area. "We did this with the intention of attracting European and American tourists to the center of Sinaloa," said the deputy.

For those willing to fly or drive to the town, Culiacán International Airport is a one-hour commute over land from Las Aguamitas where there are many established Inca tourist attractions, museums, and hotels.

In Mexico there are currently four designated nudist beaches: Zipolite in Oaxaca, Matachén Bay in Nayarit, Maurata in Michoacán and Playa Secreto in Guerrero.



Largest nudist beach in the world could be in Sinaloa, Mexico



Meetup Dinners

Friday, May 13, and June 10

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



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 dinner as a courtesy to the service staff.

Meetups Online

May 17 and June 21, 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, Access Code: 724-415-629

Online meetings are held every third Tuesday each month.

Mid-Week Beach Visits Schedule

As planned now, the midweek group visits to Bates Beach for the next two months will be only on Thursdays after noon to about 6 pm as follows:

- May 5, 12, 19, and 26
- June 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30



Look for the sign (at left) for where our group is sitting. As the weather and sea temperatures start to warm, we may add other days to this schedule. It also depends on the availability of our two beach mayors, Greg and Helen.

Contact our beach hosts **Helen or Greg** if you plan to come down so we can be sure to sit together. Email:

friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org.

Weekend Bates Picnics to Begin in June

Starting in June we will be inviting all the nudist clubs across Southern California to join us at Bates for a community picnic. We expect 50-60 people to attend each.



This year, FOBB will be hosting beach volleyball although depending on local conditions we may need to get dressed temporarily while playing.

Bring all your own supplies and food. Mark your calendars:

- June 11
- July 12
- August 20
- September 17 (Beach Cleanup Day)

Parade Truck Needed for July 2 Independence Parade



Each year for the past 9 years, FOBB has been invited to participate in the Carpinteria Independence Day Parade, through the heart of the city on Linden Avenue. The parade is always on a Saturday a few days before the actual holiday; this year it falls on July 2.

We need volunteers to help decorate the truck, ride in the back of the truck and wave to the crowd (yes, we will be appropriately dressed), and to hand out literature and beach balls to the crowd.

This year we also have the need for a new truck as our previous vehicle and driver are no longer available.

Anyone have a Ford F-150 or equivalent size we can borrow for the afternoon? You can even drive it yourself in the parade. How great is that?

Let us know at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org.



Arroyo Del Sol
Altadena, CA
RSVP at (866) 268-8852
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www.arroyodelsol.net
Enjoy the pool & sunshine...naturally!
Clothing Optional
Bed & Breakfast