

THE BATES BEACH BEAT

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March 2023

Vol 2 No 03

IN-PERSON MONTHLY DINNER MEETINGS BEGIN AGAIN MARCH 10

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

Mar 10, Meetup Dinner, Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm
Mar 17, Online Meetup, 9 7:00 pm

APRIL

April 14, Meetup Dinner, Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm
April 15, Potluck/Jacuzzi Party, Ventura, 2 – 8 PM
April 21, Online Meetup, 9 7:00 pm

Our in-person meetings at Denny's Restaurant in Ventura always go dark during the colder winter months of November through February. This winter season was especially dark and stormy!

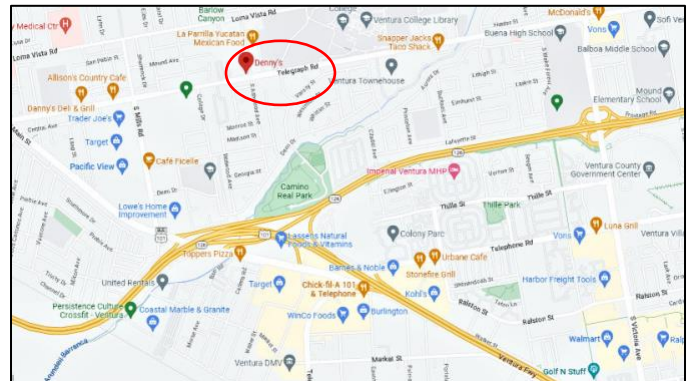
But March brings Spring and a change back to Daylight Savings Time (March 12) so it is time to unbury ourselves from the recent snow and flood waters and start to organize our beach and community activities for 2023!

Our monthly dinners on the **second Friday of each month** will again be held at the **Denny's Restaurant on Telephone Road** in Ventura (near Ventura College) starting this coming **March 10** at 6:45 PM. You will be responsible for buying your own meals. The meetings usually last until about 8:30 PM.

We look forward to seeing all of our Friends again! The dinner is open to anyone interested in learning about our scheduled beach activities and participating in our organizational business with ideas. As you can imagine, after this time layoff, there is much to discuss! See you there!



Bates Beach on February 11 shows exposed rocks at low tide at the designated clothing-optional area. See story on page 2. Photo by Helen O'Neill.



Map to Denny's Restaurant on Telegraph Road in Ventura



Time to Spring Back!

Don't forget to set your clocks and watches **BACK** one hour at 2 AM, Sunday, March 12. We gain an hour of sunshine in the afternoon!



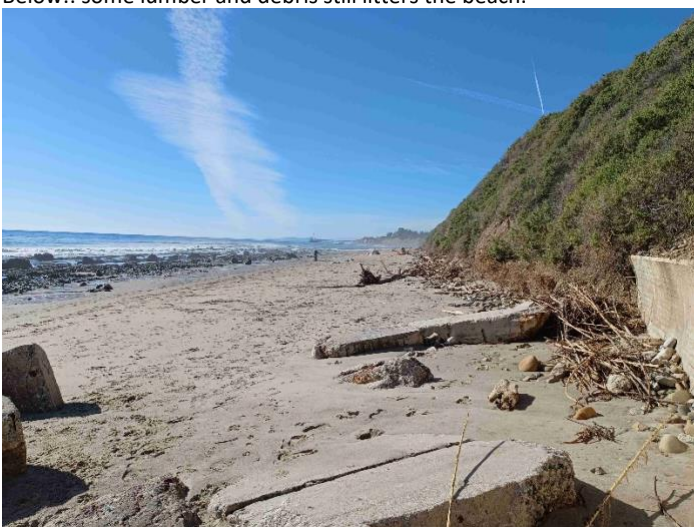
Photo from a Meetup dinner in Ventura last year.

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By Gary Mussell, Director



Above: Uncovered rocks at the start of our designated area.
 Below:: some lumber and debris still litters the beach.



Sand Slowly Returning to Bates Beach After Winter Storms

The heavy storms in January and February, matched by pounding “King Tides” has removed about five feet of Bates Beach sand depth, so that the concrete retaining wall that we could once sit on is now 6 ft. above the beach surface.

The erosion also uncovered what was below the sand: yards and yards of rocks ranging in size from pebble size to boulders. FOBB members David and John, who were at the beach two weeks ago participating in our ongoing Sand Measurement Project, reported there is some smooth sand suitable for sitting about 100 yards farther to the west beyond our usual spot, so we are directing people to sit there instead.

High tides continues to creep up almost to the cliff’s edge at times and can cut off our designated area from the rest of the beach to the south (the ramp side) so be mindful of having to walk back in ankle-deep water if you misjudge the tide cycle.

Over website Information page shows a daily tide chart for your convenience.

The beach is also much narrower this time of year so be respectful of any clothed beachgoers walking past our area. The sand will eventually return with the change of seasons but probably nothing like “normal” until May if past years provide any clues, but it has

definitely been a weird weather year. Read your newsletter for further updates monthly.

A reminder the beach area closer to the pier north of our area remains closed until June 1 so that the sea lion pups can be born and raised. Violators risk a hefty fine and arrest for trespassing.

Last week’s count showed 79 sea lions returning to the area after the storms with several new pups in tow.



Surfing Tournament at Bates

The Rincon Classic is an annual event at the southern end of North Rincon (Bates) Beach that attracts many of the best surfers in the world and hundreds of fans to cheer them on. Local participants refer to it as their Super Bowl. They don’t compete for money (there is none) but for glory.

The date for the Classic varies from year to year, between early January to late March, depending on how the winter weather gives shape and size to the ocean waves. Often, the date is set just days before. This year, the Classic took place over the weekend of February 11-12 between the two large rainstorms that pummeled the area.

Conditions on Saturday were challenging and less than perfect on Saturday as cross winds broke up the swell. But Sunday’s waves were considered perfect for the competition.

Rincon Point is consistently listed among the Top 25 surf spots in the world.



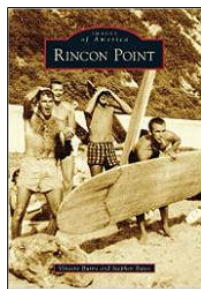
Following the unusually heavy rain/snowstorm of February 25-26, the Santa Ynez Mountain Range glistened with the results of record snowfall that was visible from Camarillo to Goleta.



Nudists Get Mentioned In New Book About History of Rincon

"Images of America: Rincon Point" is a new book by Vincent Burns and Stephen Bates about one of the premier surfing spots in the world. It traces the area history from a Chumash village to Mexican Rancho to American banditos, movie stars, and nudists (Friends of Bates Beach gets a mention on page 124.)

Helen O'Neill, Asst Director of FOBB attended a book signing on February 25 at the Museum of Ventura County auditorium. (her photo above with the two authors).



Helen reports the event was standing room only with about 200 people squeezed into the room where the authors gave a slide presentation about the Point. Included was one slide that showed the "No Nudity" sign at the top of the ramp alongside a photo of our blue "Entering Clothing Optional" sign. The authors gave FOBB a big mention and Mr. Bates said he really appreciated our love for the beach. As an aside, he said he would like to come down to our area and say hello one of these days.

The book is available either online through Amazon or at various local book stores. The paperback book sells on Amazon for \$23.99 and at www.santabarbaracompany.com.

Club News

Text For New FOBB Promotional Cards Approved

During the online Meetup on February 21, the group agreed on the text for the updated promotional business cards that we use. The decision was to make two cards, one for people interested in our organization that promote FOBB's meetup site and online petition. The second will be distributed when we use \$2 bills to pay for meals and other purchases in Carpinteria and elsewhere.



The cards are being printed and should be ready for our members by mid-March.

Renewal Notices for March and April Will Be Emailed Soon

FOBB continues to send out member renewal notices to its Beach members based upon the month when the person joined. Friends of Bates Beach only asks for \$10/year per person which is the cost of one unhealthy lunch at McDonald's.

Per member request, there is now a separate button on the FOBB website's Home Page for those who wish to donate more than the \$10 dues amount. Some of you already have! Again, many thanks.

FOBB Meetup Website Reaches 500 Members

On the 25th of February, FOBB reached a milestone with its 500th member on our Meetup.com website. Meetup is where we place our current information about the beach and upcoming activities.

In reality, many of these "members" are just passive observers who never come to a meeting or go to the beach. However, many are important influencers within the community who wish to know what is going on. On the other hand, the good news is almost all of our beach participants and current paid members come from this website, so we welcome them all.

The 500th person is "Rosel W." who is a Ventura artist. We have a special gift to commemorate her joining at the moment she did.

Our Online Bates Petition Sits at 1600 Signers

As of March 5, the number of signatures on online Beach Petition reached 1600 signers.



The petition asks people to request the County Board of Supervisors amend the county's nudity ordinance and "Make the Traditional Clothing-Optional Section of Bates Beach Official" and not just a verbal agreement. With enough signatures (somewhere in the neighborhood of 5,000 signatures) we can take the petition to the Board as less than that will not be persuasive.

We ask all of our members (and their non-nudist friends) to add their names to the list (it doesn't matter where you live!) The petition site is at: <https://www.change.org/p/friends-of-bates-beach-make-the-traditional-nude-section-of-bates-beach-official>.

Sand Measurement Project Still Needs Volunteers

David Tiktin and John Parsons have participated these past several weeks in the UCSB grant program that measures the width of the beach sand at Bates Beach over time to determine the effects, if any, of climate change and sea rise.

They need more volunteers! Email us at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org if interested.

Canadian Beach Interested in Our Beach Ambassador Program

By Gary Mussell

Early in February, I was contacted by Holly Hayes, the Managing Director of A Beach For Everyone, Inc, located in British Columbia. She had found the Friends of Bates Beach website online and wanted to know about how our Beach Ambassador program worked. After several email exchanges, she suggested we meet in person as she would be in Los Angeles in a few weeks on other business.

Our lunch took place on February 16, 2023, at Lovi's Delicatessen in Calabasas, a couple of blocks from the SCNA post office box. (Great food, by the way. Lovi's makes a delicious corned beef sandwich piled to the sky!)

Holly explained that her non-profit was based in Vancouver and is organized very similarly to how FOBB runs, with a small but dedicated group of beachgoers and a volunteer steering committee. Originally from Australia, she has lived in Vancouver for the past 4 years and was dismayed to see beach attendance at nearby Sunset, Kitsilano, and English Bay beaches declining as they were becoming unsafe due to an uptick in drug use and parking lot crimes. She formed A Beach for Everyone (aka AB4E) a year ago to reverse that trend and assist their understaffed lifeguards and rangers.

I think she was surprised to learn we formed FOBB in order to secure community and political support for a legally-designated clothing-optional beach at Bates, where it had existed for 30 years before being shut down by a few nearby wealthy neighbors. I explained about how drugs and crime increased on our beach and parking lot after we left, similar to what she was describing happening at her beaches.

Holly said that while her beaches were not clothing-optional, she had no problem with them herself. She had even visited the nude beach at nearby Wreck Beach in Vancouver once although she confessed she was too shy to undress. She said she wanted to know about it, so after our lunch I put in contact with Judy Williams-Corbett, the "Beach Mom" at Wreck to give her some local assistance. I put her on our mailing list for future events in case she wants to join us during some future visit to our area. She may also be joining us on future online Meetup meetings.

I also sent Holly an email containing all of the Beach Ambassador training books, tests, and the certificate template. It is nice for Friends of Bates Beach to have a reputation that goes beyond our local community!

A Beach for Everyone has created a very nice website worth visiting at <https://abeachforeveryone.org/>.



Above: Kitsilano Beach near Vancouver, British Columbia



Nudists Celebrate International Women's Month

March is designated as National Women's Appreciation Month and International Women's Day, designated by the United Nations, is March 8.

What exactly is International Women's Day?

It started in 1908 in New York City when 15,000 women marched through the streets to demand shorter work hours, better pay and the right to vote. They won.

In 1987, Congress formally declared the month and the day to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women globally. It's also a call to action for accelerating women's equality. There is an annual theme – this year it is: #EmbraceEquity. When we embrace equity, we embrace diversity, and we embrace inclusion. Equality is the goal, and equity is the means to get there. "Through the process of equity, we can reach equality."

Internationally, purple is the designated color for symbolizing women. Historically, the combination of purple, green and white to symbolize women's equality originated from the Women's Social and Political Union in the U.K. in 1908. Purple signifies justice and dignity.

Unfortunately, there are only a few of the landed clubs on the West Coast formerly honoring their women members: Glen Eden held their annual Women's Appreciation Day and Talent Show on January 28; Lupin Lodge is hosting a Women's Wellness Weekend March 24-26.

However, there was a big celebration happening at Cypress Cove in Florida on March 4. They had invited speakers, yoga, a women's choir, and a cooking demo.

So, we invite all of our members to celebrate the month in their own way. If you get dressed, wear purple!

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



My Return to Harbin Hot Springs

By Helen O'Neill, Asst Director, FOBB

I first discovered Harbin Hot Springs in 1983 and have been a regular visitor ever since. I was even a resident there from 2010-2013. When I went to return in 2015, it was on fire, as was the entire Middleton, CA valley.

I was able to return for this Winter holiday season amid apprehension that the valley I used to enjoy was going to still be covered with leftover burn scars.

Fortunately, the road driving in was still lined with trees. Where one sees the fire's mark is mostly on the back mountain side that houses the Domes. Only one original dome survived, but they have added 2 new ones and the adjacent pool is still there.



The drive in though was still lined with trees. The Greeters Booth looked the same. Where one sees fire's mark is mostly in the back mountain side that houses the Domes. Only one original dome survived, They have added 2 new ones and that pool is still in order. The communal kitchen is not. And speaking of communal kitchen-the

one by the main pools is long gone. Very sad. I've met the most amazing people and amazing food in that kitchen. There are plans to put one in the camping meadow and should be completed by the summer of 2024.

The Food Scene was fun with the Blue Café offering good outdoor dining. The rebuilt restaurant plans to reopen in the spring of 2024. The indoor dining continues to be a makeshift trailer. Plans for a permanent building are done with hopes for a grand opening in early 2024.

The gate fees are now \$40, Mon-Thurs, and \$55 Fri-Sun. Reservations are required for all visits. There is overnight accommodation available in the lush Grove Cottages, or you can tent camp (camping is included with gate fee). Two new hotels are still being rebuilt and slated to open in Spring, 2024.

The massage rooms are all up and running. And yes, I got one of my BEST Massages E-V-E-R, by Justin.

But really... "What's it all about, Alfie?" It's all about THE POOLS, THE POOLS, AND THE POOLS!! And they're GREAT!! Everyone's old favorites are still there. One can still do the Warm, Hot, Cold plunge regimen. The large lap pool has an added sunning area. And the two new pools are Fab! One is a smallish hot pool that you can talk in, while the other is a bigger quiet Meditation Pool used for water therapy and candle

ceremonies. Both are all filled with the magic waters from the two natural hot mineral springs nearby.

But the bathroom scene up by the pools are temporary portables for now and the dressing room is not only outside but *NOT* on the same deck as the pools. (there is a near-by elevator). The new Dressing Rooms with a steam sauna should be ready this summer. The new Dry Sauna is massive. (but lacking enough warm places to change and hang clothes.) And now there's ADA parking with an elevator to the pool deck.

I had a friend who went a couple of years ago and he remarked that there were a lot of swimwear being worn. Harbin's head Minister, Lia said, "It's all the new Millennials." I only saw 3 bathing suits being worn.

The "Event Center" still offers the ultimate in Healing modalities. People told me that having the events back on property, gave it that "old Harbin feeling again". You have people walking around still glowing from their previous class. And all this is FREE/Included with your gate fee

Harbin is still owned and managed by the Heart Consciousness Church. The emphasis is on Earth-based ceremonies and "Un-Plugging." So, they ask you to leave your party substances and electronics in the car.

While there I experienced a beautiful Hanukkah Candle Lighting and New Moon Ceremony by Sherry Froman and Michael Gelbart. I also had the joy of experiencing Wisdom Healing Qigong with R Lane Hairston, 5 Rhythms Dance Class with Heather Christensen and Harbin Yoga with Ashley Swihart.

I also met a gardener claiming that Amanita Muscari mushrooms would cure all my ailments. Also, on the grounds that day was author Alan Brooke who wrote the book, *The Humem State*, which portends the next stage in our cultural evolution.

Yes, Harbin is still the magical place where you leave deeply relaxed and as a better version of yourself.

Check out the calendar for Ostara on March 19, and Betaine, and May Day. Yes there will be a May Pole!



Photos Courtesy of Harbin Hot Springs.



So. Cal. 2023 Hiking Calendar Announced

By Scott Schmitz

Many who enjoy visiting nude beaches also enjoy nude hiking. Several of the nudist clubs across Southern California recently got together to coordinate their calendars so that people interested in an alternative to the beach could enjoy clothing-optional recreation with their friends elsewhere in the region.

Thankfully, there are no Federal laws prohibiting nudity on Federal lands, so it is possible to hike in Southern California in the National Forest and on Bureau of Land Management property. But the managers of these areas will bow to the customs of the local constabulary if textiles complain, so enforcement of local nudity laws may occur.

It is therefore hard to find places even on Federal lands to hike naked. It requires areas where the population of textiles is minimal so that the chances of timely complaints is reduced. Looking at various naturist sites, I have identified possible locations where we can go freehiking without much disturbance. Since there has been some demand for nude hikes, I have planned the following series of hikes.

However, in most cases we can't hike totally naked. With the increased awareness of skin cancer, wearing sunblock/sun protection lotions and a wide brimmed hat is now part of the nudist culture. Also, we'll be strapping on a day sack packed with water, snacks, a first aid kit, a pocket knife, flashlight, and a towel to sit upon. And unless you are used to walking barefoot on rough terrain, you will need to wear a pair of sturdy hiking boots and two layers of socks to prevent blisters. You do not want to hike with painful feet.

These hikes will be posted to the Friends of Bates Beach Meetup Group where you can get more details about the hike and post your RSVP. So, let's go hiking!



Sun. Mar. 12, The Utah Canyon Loop

Utah Canyon is a colorful slot canyon named for its resemblance to the colorful canyons of southern Utah. 4 miles, 600 feet, approx. 3 hours. Easy, low chance of textiles. Meet 10:00 am at the Mecca Travel Center Starbucks, 90480 66th Ave, Mecca, CA. (33.569840, -116.091080)

Sat. Mar. 26, Hike to Carrizo Overlook and Mine

Follow the Northeast Trail to a jeep trail that climbs, at times steeply, to the rounded top of Peak 336. The trail drops steeply down to a saddle and zigzags the final distance to the Carrizo Gorge Mine. There is a magnificent panorama of the entire middle section of Carrizo Gorge and the precariously huge San Diego & Arizona Eastern railroad. 6.8 miles, 1100 feet of gain, approx. 4 hours. Moderate difficulty, low chance of textiles. Meet 9:30 am at the De Anza Springs Resort Clubhouse, 951 Carrizo Gorge Rd, Jacumba Hot Springs, CA. (32.654530, -116.182676) No resort fee for hikers.

Sun. Apr. 16, Deep Creek Spring Flowers Hike w/NitOC & Camping Bares

Naturists in the O.C., Camping Bares and SCNA are planning a clothing optional hike to Deep Creek Hot Springs. Classic upside-down hike, 3.6 mi miles, 970 feet of gain. The hike down to the trail is moderate if you are in fair shape. There are only a couple of steeper sections (no intense rock climbing) Spend as much time as you like but be aware the Bowen Ranch closes their gates at dusk so please be out by then. Meet at 10:00 am at the Bowen Ranch lower parking lot. Pay your dues at the cabin (\$5 per person), go straight through the chicken fence gate, then make a left and immediate right and drive all the way down the hill to the parking area (34.357863, -117.162835). Nudity is accepted in the parking area and on the trail down to the hot springs.

Sun. May. 28, Tule Canyon

Tule Canyon is the main drain for McCain Valley and as such has water in it until late in the season. We will hike the Old Carrizo Gorge Road to the Walker Canyon Trail. After visiting the remains of Camp Walker, we will follow the McCain Cattle Trail to the bottom of Tule Canyon. Our return route will follow the Migrant Trail from Camp Walker to Carrizo Dam, a route that has been used for years by illegal immigrants. 5.3 miles, 925 feet of gain, approx. 5 hours. Mostly easy except for the climb out of Tule Canyon, low chance of textiles. Meet 9:30 am at the De Anza Springs Resort Clubhouse, 951 Carrizo Gorge Rd, Jacumba Hot Springs, CA. (32.654530, -116.182676). No resort fee for hikers.

Sun. Jul. 02, The Wild Rock Ramble

A chance to wander naked among the rocks at De Anza Springs Resort. Four dry falls, five peaks, and a boulder cave. Some parts of the route are steep so wear sturdy shoes. A towel is recommended to protect your skin when squeezing through the boulder cave. You will see the resort from several different angles and travel on some rarely travelled trails. 4.3 miles, 1860 feet of gain, approx. 5 hours. Challenging rock scrambles, low chance of textiles. Early start to beat the heat. Meet 7:00 am at the De

Anza Springs Resort Clubhouse, 951 Carrizo Gorge Rd, Jacumba Hot Springs, CA. (32.654530, -116.182676). No resort fee for hikers.

Sun. Jul. 29, Bare Mountain

Of course, there needs to be a nude hike to the top of Bare Mountain. Situated in the rain shadow of Mount Pacifico, Bare Mountain has no trees adorning its crown, just chaparral. That means sunscreen and lots of it. 6 miles, 2600 feet of gain, approx. 5 hours. Moderate cross-country and fire breaks. While the trailhead is shared by the Pacific Crest Trail, this area of Angeles National Forest is rarely visited so there is a low chance of textiles. Meet 8:30 am at the Three Points Trailhead (34.343394, -117.982794). Caravan to trailhead near Alder Saddle.

Sun. Aug. 06, Vincent Gulch

This is a classic upside-down hike. It's a round trip that drops into the upper reaches of the East Fork of the San Gabriel River. The first 2 miles of the trail down from the parking area are well maintained, passing through nicely shaded high country forest. After the trail reaches the bed of Vincent Gulch, it becomes more eroded and less well maintained with occasional deadfall and a decrease in shade. The trail essentially ends at Mile 3.5. The final 0.4 mile to Mine Gulch is on gravel and talus with the route well ducked. The Prairie Fork junction is easily identified as there is a large old wooden trail sign with Mine Gulch just a few hundred yards beyond that. Hopefully the swimming hole will have water in it. We'll have lunch and rest before tackling the hike out. 7.8-mile, 2116 ft of gain, approx. 7 hours. Moderate, some chance of textiles. Meet at 9:00 am at the Vincent Gap Trailhead (34.372988, -117.752205).

Sun. Sep. 03, Hiking The Maze

Beyond the end of the Northeast Trail and east of the Carrizo Gorge Overlook Trail is a jumble of rocks that appear impenetrable, but there are nooks and crannies that give passage to brave explorers. We will enter the Maze from its southern border, visit a prominent landmark before skirting to the east side of the Maze. From there we will penetrate the heart of the Maze via the Narrows Gate Wash with an option to explore a boulder cave before hitting the Top of the Maze. We will descend into the Hidden Valley where we will exit the Maze via Small Camp. We will then head back to the resort via Camp Sizzle Ridge and Prospectors Hill. 4.9 miles, 1950 feet of gain, approx. 5 hours. Moderate, low chance of textiles. Early start to beat the heat. Meet 8:30 am at the De Anza Springs Resort Clubhouse, 951 Carrizo Gorge Rd, Jacumba Hot Springs, CA. (32.654530, -116.182676). No resort fee for hikers.

Sat. Sep. 30, Cactus Spring Trail to Horsethief Creek

A moderately challenging day hike owing to the rollercoaster nature of the trail. We will only go as far as Horsethief Creek, which features year-round water except during the most extreme drought as well as beautiful riparian shade trees such as Fremont cottonwoods and willows. After lunch and exploring the canyon downstream of the trail, we will head mostly uphill to an old limestone quarry on the way back to the parking lot. 5.1 miles, 1230 feet of gain, approx. 5 hours. Moderate, some chance of textiles. Meet 10:00 am at the Sawmill Trail Parking Lot, Pinon Flats Transfer Station Rd, Pinyon Pines, CA. (33.580046, -116.450424).



Sun. Oct. 08, Morongo Valley - Big Morongo Canyon

We will hike clothed for 1.5 miles to the Canyon Trail and, if there aren't many people around, disrobe there. We'll meander down the wash for as far as we want to go, or 6 miles to a gate, before turning around and heading back. We'll clothe ourselves near the junction of the West Canyon Trail before heading back to the parking lot. 12.6 miles, maximum, 1,240 feet of gain, approx. 6 hours. Easy route down a sandy wash, a greater chance of textiles close to the parking lot. Meet at 10:00 am at Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, 11055 East Dr, Morongo Valley, CA (34.050579, -116.570416).

Sat. Nov. 25, Deep Creek Hike w/NitOC & Camping Bares

This is the end of the hiking season and post-Thanksgiving hike put on by the Naturists in the O.C., Camping Bares and SCNA to Deep Creek Hot Springs. Burn off that Thanksgiving dinner! Remember, this is a classic upside-down hike, 3.6 miles, 970 feet of gain. The hike down to the trail is moderate if you are in fair shape. Be aware that the days are now short and the Bowen Ranch closes its gates at dusk so you'll need an early start for the hike out. Meet at 10:00 am at the Bowen Ranch lower parking lot. Pay your dues at the cabin (\$5 per person), go straight through the chicken fence gate, then make a left and immediate right and drive all the way down the hill to the parking area (34.357863, -117.162835). Nudity is accepted in the parking area and on the trail down to the hot springs, but it may be a little chilly this time of year.

Contact me at saschmitz_tv@charter.net for further information.



Carpinteria Community-wide Cleanup Set for Mar 25

In partnership with Carpinteria Beautiful, the City of Carpinteria will hold a Community-wide Cleanup on **Saturday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to noon**. Volunteers should meet at the City parking lot at the Amtrak station before being assigned a litter pick-up location elsewhere in the City. This is a drop-in event; come for 30 minutes or the entire time!



Photo of dumping debris from petition website. Photo is by the Army Corp of Engineers.

Petition to Ban Dumping Flood Debris On Carpinteria Beaches Reaches 1200 Names in 3 Weeks

An online petition created by some Carpinteria residents to have the county stop moving rock and sand debris onto the local beaches has gained quick momentum. In the month since it went online at Change.org, over 1,000 people have signed up. The petition implores those responsible to “stop using Carpinteria as a dumping ground.”: Meanwhile, an article in the Coastal View newspaper estimates that 14,000 pounds of dredged sediment and debris was deposited on the north end of Carpinteria State Beach where it meets Ash Avenue during January. Storm surges and high tides have yet to take it out to sea.

https://www.change.org/p/stop-using-carpinteria-beach-at-ash-ave-as-a-dumping-ground-from-debris-basins?source_location=search

Online Beach Ambassador Training Now Available

Our Beach Ambassador training program is now online. We need more ambassadors to fulfill our promise to the community that we will patrol ourselves and keep our clothing-optional area a safe and family-friendly place to visit. Email us at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org for further information.



AANR West Announces a Haiku Writing Contest

April 17 is National Haiku Day, and to celebrate, the Western Region of the American Association for Nude Recreation (AANR-West) has announced a Haiku writing for later this spring.

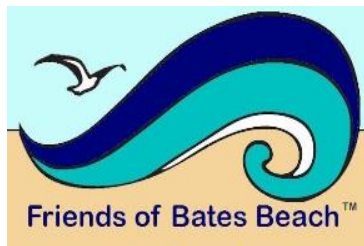
For those unfamiliar with the format rules, a Haiku is a short 3-line poem where the first line can only have 5 up to syllables, the second line can have a maximum of 7 syllables, and the third line can only have 5 syllables For example:

**"Family starts road
Trip to nudist camp as kid
Shouts, "Are we bare yet?"**

The contest will be open to everyone whether or not they are members of AANR or any nudist organization. Let's get creative! More information next month.



FRIENDS OF BATES BEACH WANTS TO MEET YOU!



Each month, the Friends of Bates Beach hosts a monthly dinner and also 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](tel:(571)317-3122), Access Code: [724-415-629](tel:724-415-629)

Upcoming Friday Schedule for 2023:

- **March 17, 2023**
- **April 21, 2023**
- **May 19, 2023**
- **June 16, 2023**
- **July 21, 2023**
- **August 18, 2023**
- **September 15, 2023**
- **October 20, 2023**

IN-PERSON MEETINGS

This dinner is at a public restaurant in Ventura so obviously it is a clothed event.

Meals are "Dutch treat." Bring yourselves, some money for food, and your thoughts and enthusiasm.

You don't have to join the group to attend these dinners; they are open to everyone. Also, bring your curious friends and spouses!

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 own dinner.

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

Leave Messages at: (805) 225-3304 or
email: friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org

There is no Friday dinner meeting from November through February.

- **March 10, 2023**
- **April 14, 2023**
- **May 12, 2023**
- **June 9, 2023**
- **July 14, 2023**
- **August 11, 2023**
- **September 8, 2023**
- **October 13, 2023**