

# THE BATES BEACH BEAT

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July 2022

Vol 1 No 07

## Carpinteria Independence Parade Returns With Friendly Audience

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### July

July 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 Bates Tues & Thurs Picnics, Noon

July 2 Carpinteria Independence Day Parade

July 8 Meetup Dinner at Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm

July 10 Bates Beach Saturday Multi-Club Picnic

#### August

Aug 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25- Bates Tues & Thurs Picnics, Noon

Aug 12 Meetup Dinner at Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm

Aug 16 Meetup Online 7 pm – 8:30 pm

Aug 20 Bates Beach Multi-Club Picnic

#### September

Sept 1,8,15,22,29 Bates Thursday Picnics, Noon

Sept 9 Meetup Dinner at Denny's, Ventura 6:45 pm

Sept 17 Bates Beach Saturday Multi-Club Picnic

By Gary Mussell, FOBB Director

After a two-year hiatus due to Covid, the Carpinteria Independence Parade once again strutted its stuff down Linden Avenue on Saturday, July 2 to a large and very appreciative community audience.

Friends of Bates Beach once again was invited to participate. This was our seventh year in the parade and the six-block route was filled with families and seniors applauding our decorated truck all along the way. Five FOBB members participated, with two sitting inside and three riding in the back of the truck, all waving American flags and decked out in holiday-themed décor.

Mike Glinzak donated his truck for the event and drove it as his wife Dee sat in the passenger seat to his right. As fitting the holiday, we had decorated the truck with red, white and blue bunting, tied a "Feel the Freedom" sign to the front bumper, and hung a huge Friends of Bates Beach sign and logo on the rear tailgate hatch.

I stood right behind the cab with a boom box blaring out Beach Boy oldies loud enough for some in the crowd to start dancing to its rhythm. Meanwhile Sonya and Robert sat back-to-back, each facing a different side of the street since the crowd was three to four-persons deep on each side.

There were perhaps 40 different groups in the parade, representing local community or youth groups as well as local city and county officials. It is always crucial to use the 30 minutes prior to the start of the parade to meet the other participants and to introduce ourselves as representatives of the nearby clothing-optional beach. It is important to our continued survival to be seen as part of the local community and supporting their events. Sonya and I found a moment to chat with the local police chief and his head deputy to remind him of our Beach Ambassador program and assure him we are doing our part to keep our beach safe and family-friendly. We also tipped him off to the upcoming weekend volleyball games just in case he got any calls. He appreciated the chat.

After the parade, we had dinner together at Nutbelly's on Linden Avenue and paid our meal tip using \$2 bills.

A big thank you to Mike and Dee for donating their Sierra pickup truck and driving in the parade!



Sonya, Gary, and Robert represented our Bates Beach group in the Carpinteria Independence Parade July 2.



## After Twenty Years, Nude Volleyball Is Back at Bates Beach!

The first weekend picnic day on June 11 went really well for the 20-30 people who attended. It was nice to see some new people come down the beach, see us, and decide to join our area.

While it was typical June beach weather - it was overcast most of the day with the sun barely breaking through in late afternoon – the air temperature was still warm enough to be comfortable without clothes. The sea temperature was listed on the website as about 68 degrees - 10 degrees warmer than normal for this time of the year - so it was actually warm enough to get in and splash around a bit.

Meanwhile, several people broke out the new volleyball equipment donated by Joe H. The section of beach between us and the walking ramp to the east was very underpopulated on this day, so the players played nude as it quickly became obvious that nobody on the beach around us cared if we were nude or not. Afterwards, a few tossed a Frisbee back and forth. Bates definitely has returned to its former “live-and-let-live” pre-Covid attitude!

Ours was a really nice and friendly crowd. There was a decent amount of mixing and mingling among people, sharing stories, and catching up from the last time they saw each other. People also shared food and water with others on nearby blankets. A feeling of community is taking hold at Bates once again!

Much thanks to Helen, Greg, Robert, and the others for helping coordinate the day and setup the volleyball equipment (and carry it back up the hill to the cars later).

### “My Day At Bates Beach”

By Lee Butler

On Saturday, June 11, SCNA President Rolf Holbach invited members from all local nudist organizations to gather together at the northern end of Rincon Park County Beach, known to the locals as Bates Beach due to its Bates Road exit off the 101 in Carpinteria, California.

We gathered up our beach chairs, suntan lotion, some snacks and water and headed for the beach Saturday morning. Traveling along the 101, the beach was fogged in but we saw encouraging glimpses of blue sky to the east of us over the hills so we were encouraged that it would turn out to be a great day in the full sun.

We arrived at the beach and wandered down to the nudist safe zone past the cement embankment, where Sheriff’s Department officials have agreed to allow us to sunbathe clothes-free so long as they did not receive any complaints to find 20 to 30 fellow nude sunbathing enthusiasts lined up along the base of the bluffs.

We enjoyed talking with friends, old and new and enjoyed stretching out enjoying the view of the ocean and the many beach-goers strolling by. Several brave souls went to play around in the water and there were brief bouts of volleyball throughout the afternoon.

We continued to watch the skies for the sun to break through, but alas, it only happened for a few minutes late in the afternoon.. But as the day went on, it became windier and quite a bit chillier. So around four o’clock, we packed up our things and bid our friends adieu. Another fun, nude, day at Bates Beach had come to an end.



## Mid-Week Beach Visits Expanded to Tuesdays and Thursdays

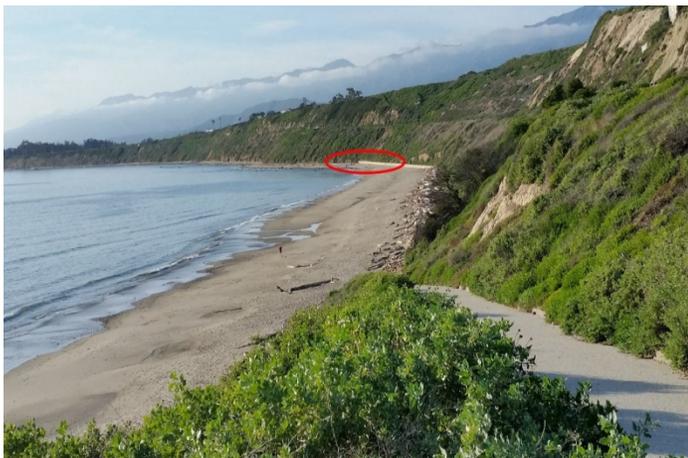
- July 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28
- August 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25
- Sept 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

By popular demand (and great weather), we have added an additional weekday to visit Bates Beach as a group. Effective immediately, we will have our team there on both Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at noon. These trips will continue through the summer. These mid-week picnics allow us to enjoy the beach when there are fewer people around, and they supplement with larger planned events once a month on Saturdays when we invite all the other local clubs to join us.

Join us from noon to about 6 pm at our designated clothing-optional location on the beach:

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





Where to find us: Designated clothing-optional area starts at the concrete rockslide

## Celebrate Nude Rec Weekend At Bates Beach on Sunday July 10

We will celebrate **National Nude Recreation Week, July 5-11**, with a weekend picnic on Sunday, July 10, starting at noon. We have invited members from all the local clubs across Southern California, so we expect about 50-60 people to attend.

This year, FOBB has added purchased volleyball equipment and it is our intention to host a few games while we are there. Depending on how crowded the beach it, we may have to get dressed to play early in the afternoon, but as the beach crowd thins later in the day we fully expect the clothes to come off too!

A few words for those visiting our beach for the first time:

- Bring your own picnic supplies, chairs, bathing suits and sunscreen (dolphin-friendly) and make a day of it!
- Because the nudity ordinance has not yet been amended, this is a **“Bare as you Dare”** Beach Day. Both the Sheriff’s Department and County Parks Department have assured us they will not issue warning or citations if nobody complains, so use common sense while nude.
- If the beach is crowded when you get there with non-nudists, please **move further west** to a more deserted area so we can avoid user conflict. Never be nude farther to the east (toward the ramp) of where we are sitting, or you may be cited, as someone was last year!
- Always respect those walking past our location with their dogs and families. If an irate beach visitor approaches you, do not argue or cite “your rights” as that is a sure way to have them call in a complaint and that will bring the deputies down. Simply cover yourself up, give a friendly smile. If you do not engage, they will usually just walk away.

At the end of the day plan on going into nearby Carpinteria to eat dinner at one of their restaurants and use \$2 bills to pay your tips.

The first **National Nude Weekend** was held in Cape Cod in 1978 as a protest by Lee Baxandall, future founder of The Nudist Society, to that park’s superintendent’s closure of the nude section of the beach. In 1992, Nude Weekend turned into Nude Recreation Week. The celebrations have now been embraced by many nudist clubs and naturist organizations. Nude Recreation Week aims to raise awareness about naturism and clothing-optional opportunities among the general public.

## My Meeting With the SB County Supervisor’s Field Deputy

By Gary Mussell

On Wednesday June 8, I had a one-hour meeting with **Esmeralda Estrada**, Field Deputy for 1<sup>st</sup> District County Supervisor **Das Williams**. This is our annual meeting to exchange information about our Bates Beach approval arrangement, update the Supervisor about our planned beach calendar, and to make sure that local park rangers and sheriff deputies are up to date about our being at the beach.



I informed her it is our intention to re-introduce a volleyball game on those weekend days as was done for about 20 years until 2005 when we all left for several years. We intend to watch the reaction of the other beachgoers carefully so as to avoid any user conflict. It is our hope we can play volleyball while nude, but we do not want to cause any excuse that would cause deputies to be called.

We asked Esmeralda to find out how many signatures we need to collect on our **online petition** for the Board of Supervisors to consider amending the county nudity ordinance. Esmeralda wrote me back a few days later to say, “the Board is not going to consider changing the nudity law for the near future.” We said we would continue with the online petition anyway.

Esmeralda suggested we meet with other local and state officeholders after the November election to bring them up to speed on Bates. This list includes 2<sup>nd</sup> District Supervisor-elect Capps, probable winner of the State Assembly race Greg Hart, and others around Carpinteria. I said we would do so.

She said the Supervisor recently met with the Soaring community about the proposed **Rincon Trail** route and his tentative support to the “Alternative 4” path favored by the paragliders and FOBB. She guessed it might take an additional five years before this missing link in the California Trail system gets completed, if ever.

We ended the meeting by saying we looked forward to seeing the supervisor and his family again in Carpinteria at the July 2 Independence Day parade.



## OUR MONTHLY FAQ

### Know Your Rights If You Get Stopped By A Deputy

What do you do at that inconvenient moment when, after enjoying the afternoon relaxing on a nude beach, out of the corner of your eye you spot a deputy or ranger approaching? Do you scramble to get dressed and hope he/she doesn't notice you? Do you stand your ground and confront the officer about your civil rights? There are many possible scenarios, and how the officer reacts often will depend on if you are in a state park, on a county or a state beach, or on federal land.

Attorney Allen Baylis has kindly provided us with some advice:

1. **Do exercise your right to remain silent.** The officer is there to investigate what he/she observed first and to gather evidence before taking any action. Officers are trained to elicit confessions from citizens. Unfortunately, nudists are very good at volunteering things (why you were nude, that "nudity is a first amendment right," that you got dressed when you saw the officers approaching, etc.). Any statement made by you can be admissible evidence at trial. Remember: anything you say can and will be used against you, or more likely, will be misquoted and then used against you.

2. **Do get officer names and badge numbers** and by which law enforcement agency they are employed. Ask permission to get a pencil and paper from your backpack to write it down; they are supposed to always give their permission for you to do so. Later, write down a description of the event from start to finish including as much of the conversation as you can recall.

3. **Do have your ID with you.** You are legally required to identify yourself to law enforcement officers. Do not provide law enforcement officers with false information as to your identity; doing so is a misdemeanor. Failing to have your ID with you gives the officer an excuse to have you put your thumb print on the back of the citation, **take you into custody, or escort you to your car** (where they will then try to get you to let them search your car).

4. Do exercise your right to be **free of unreasonable search and seizure**. Do not consent to a search of your backpack, purse or other closed belongings. Do not consent to a search of your vehicle.

5. Please note that State Park Regulation section #4300(e) authorizes a ranger to **eject a person** from the park if that person violates any law or regulation. County parks have their own regulations which may vary from place to place, but if the officer says you must go, please comply with the request. That doesn't mean you can't come back tomorrow!

6. If simple nudity is the issue, don't be intimidated by any threats of sex offender registration. **Under California law, simple nudity is not a register-able sex offense** under the law regardless of what an officer may try to intimidate you with during your conversation with him.

**Important:** If a group of people are given tickets, such as during a beach sweep, try to **exchange names, emails, and telephone numbers with the others before leaving** the area. This will help us to contact the whole group later so we can compare notes on what happened and what was said, which can aide in your defense later.

Last, if you are cited, **please contact the Los Angeles office of the Southern California Naturist Association (SCNA) at 818-225-2273** immediately. We can put you in touch with our legal team, who can explain your legal options. We also have access to local attorneys ready to assist, should you decide to fight the ticket.

Sadly, most nudists don't want to "get involved" with us until something happens to them. Obviously this frustrates us greatly, because by the time we learn about your ticket days or weeks later, you may have already abrogated many of your rights to the prosecution.

**Most nude ticket cases have the potential to be won** if those involved simply follow the steps above and then contact us immediately.

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### Does Not Matter Where You Live, Ask a Friend to Sign Our Online Bates Beach Petition

As of the date we published this newsletter, we are at **956 signatures!** Let's get to **1,000!**

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.

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>.



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### September Date Set for California Beach Cleanup Day

In mid-May, FOBB received an email from Veronica Lee, an environmental educator at Explore Ecology, who will be Coastal Cleanup Day coordinator this year in Santa Barbara County. She confirmed the annual coastal cleanup date is Saturday, September 17.

She asked us to reconfirm FOBB will be in charge of the day at Bates, and we said yes. In August, there will be a meeting of the 38 Beach Captains who are responsible for coordinating the cleanup efforts at all the Santa Barbara beaches, islands, hiking trails, and parks. At the meeting we will gather supplies and receive some training. We need volunteers to come down to the beach for a few hours during the morning of September 17 to do the cleanup. Afterwards, we will celebrate with our last major picnic of the year in our designated area. Anyone interested?

Be sure to mark this date on your calendars!

## OTHER NUDIST NEWS



Many members of Friends of Bates Beach participated in this annual nudist event.

## LA's World Naked Bike Ride A "Wheel-Rounded" Success

By Dennis Crane

The 2022 WNBR-LA ride was back to pre-COVID status. Except for last year, we've traditionally done two routes, a long 12-mile route, and a shorter 7-mile downtown route. And for the second time, we were able to use the MOCA parking lot as our staging point!

As both riders and volunteers arrived, they were directed to any available parking spaces, then onto Registration. Amazing how many riders arrived early just to experience the energy of our ride. LAPD showed up and I greeted him by asking if he was here for the "ride". His response was priceless, "No...I wish, I'm here to see Ron Mercer". He filled us in on some of the potential protests going on in the area, which limited the LAPD from additional support for our ride. He was extremely happy with what we had laid out concerning our rides, routes, and rules of the ride.

While the official LA temperature was 81°, one rider measured 91° in the "pavement zone" where we were riding. We started this year's ride at 10:00 am with the longer 12-mile ride, thinking that more riders would be "fresher" and able to complete it, rather than later in the heat of the afternoon.

Our morning ride took us first through downtown following many major streets, led by Elliott in his white Tesla. We were fortunate to again have motorcycle escorts. They really help to assure that our ride is legitimate and peaceful. And they helped to make sure we kept our group all caught up and not strung out. Like in the past, we were greeted with overwhelming acceptance and cheers, along with jealousy and disbelief in what they're seeing. The looks on the people's faces in their cars, and along the streets are simply priceless. And the majority had their cell phones out documenting our ride.

We reached the LA River Bike Trail which has had several improvements to the trails. It's really nice to see this part of LA that very few people get to experience. At the end of the LA River Bike Trail was our midway point on the ride. Here we had our water break station manned by a new volunteer, Raul. Due to the heat, he passed out well over 8 cases of water immediately. Carlos manned the trash bags, so we left no trace. After a nice break to hydrate and regroup, we were off to the second half of our ride.

The next portion took us along Silver Lake Reservoir, which provided us an opportunity to try a group picture. After the photo, we were off on our last leg of the ride which took us down Sunset Blvd and then back to Alameda St. to our staging area at MOCA. The enthusiasm from the spectators was powerful fuel for our riders. Those 12 miles were 3 hours of pure bliss!

Unfortunately, we had more breakdowns this year than in the past with a few riders experiencing heat exhaustion and some with flat tires. LA Streets can be very brutal on bike tires. But our Support Vehicles were there to pick up the broken bikes and riders, even though they had to drop off some, and then go back out to pick up more.

Once we were back in the staging area, it was time to start preparing for our 2:30 pm short ride. Some riders who had enough on the first ride left, while others who came just for the afternoon ride showed up. We were very fortunate to have two food trucks show up this year to feed our hungry participants. And again, our registration tables, t-shirt sales, body painters, bike mechanic, support vehicles, and bike monitors, were there for round two. Many people took advantage of our wonderful WNBR-LA backdrop for photos. It's such a great advertisement for WNBR-LA and I'm flattered because I designed it last year.

Our afternoon short ride was about 7 miles and took 2 hours to ride. This was led by Daniel in his Hyundai Hybrid. This ride was exclusively through downtown LA. We were able to ride major streets that took us in front of the Disney Concert Hall, Lady of Angels Cathedral, Ahmanson Theater, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and many other amazing landmarks. We planned on doing a group photo next to the Ahmanson Theater / Mark Taper Forum as there are beautiful large stairs there to get most riders lined up for a photo.

After the photo we rode to Pershing Square on 6<sup>th</sup> Street for our water break. Again, our new volunteer Raul had tables set up with water waiting for everyone, and Carlos handled the trash bags for recycling.

Then the most amazing thing happened! Early on we were warned by LAPD that we would cross paths with the Women's Rights protest occurring that day. Sure enough, as we headed down Broadway, we could see protesters walking towards us with signs taking up the opposite side of the street and several news helicopters hovering overhead. As we approached the Women's Rights group, both of our groups sounded like a sports stadium cheering for both sides! There was such a powerful positive feeling of acceptance from both groups. The leader of the Women's Right protest had a bull horn, and Ron had one on our side, and they both gave incredibly sincere hugs of positivity and acceptance. I don't think that feeling can ever be generated again on future rides. This exchange also helped to energize our riders. After that moment, it's seemed a little anti-climactic for the rest of our ride, but we were really in excellent spirits.

Once we returned to our staging area at MOCA, riders and volunteers were both exhausted, but we all have amazing stories to share with our friends now. WNBR-LA 2022 is now officially in the books as another great success. Our success was due to the Board Members and amazing Volunteers who donated their time and resources to make this another awesome event. And thanks to the almost 400 riders this year! We can't do this without all the support from everyone.

*Reprinted From the SCNA Newsletter With Permission*



## Meetup Dinners

Friday, July 8, Aug 12, and Sept 9

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

July 19, August 16, and Sept 20, 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.

## Here IS Our Tuesday & Thursday Mid-Week Beach Schedule

- July 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28
- August 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25
- Sept 1, 8, 15, 22, 29



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](mailto:friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org).

## Weekend Bates Picnics Summer Schedule

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:

- **Sunday, July 10**
- **Sunday, August 20**
- **Saturday, September 17 (Beach Cleanup Day)**



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## 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 8.5×11 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.

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



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

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