

THE BATES BEACH BEAT

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November 2023

Vol 2 No 11

False Complaints Gets FOBB Booth Removed From Avocado Festival

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Friday, Nov 17, Online Meetup, 7:00 PM

DECEMBER

Saturday, Dec 18, Noon – 4 PM
Annual Holiday Brunch and Gift Exchange

JANUARY

Saturday, January 27, Noon – 5:00 PM
Nudes at the Getty Scavenger Hunt

By Gary Mussell, Director

By any measure, Friday, October 6, was a very successful day for Friends of Bates Beach at its Avocado Festival booth in Carpinteria. Our new location in the high-traffic area brought us many visitors, almost all supportive and enthusiastic about our being there, and we collected nearly 300 names and emails from our raffle. (see story on page 2).

During that Friday, we met many enthusiastic visitors, some of whom had visited the beach when they were younger, and we shared happy memories. We said hello to several members of the city council who came by the booth, and Supervisor William's Field Deputy Spencer Brandt also dropped by to say he approved of the way we were running our booth. I also made sure to say hello to other civic leaders and council members who were present during the afternoon's opening ceremonies.

But there are always a few complainers who ask out loud why we were allowed to be there. This is a normal occurrence and as a rule, we never engage with them as their minds are already made up. We didn't expect a couple of them to take their anger to the next level.

At about 4:30 PM a sheriff's deputy motioned me out of the booth to talk. I walked across the street to meet him, and he said our booth had received a complaint that we were soliciting minors as I and others were seen answering questions from teens about the beach. The complaint was about me, personally, as I had talked to a teenage girl who spun the wheel and asked about the beach. I strongly disagreed with the complainer and invited him to watch the booth operations for himself. He did so for several minutes and suggested we not talk to anyone about the beach who was not an adult, that we could have kids spin the wheel for a prize, but don't engage them in conversation, only their parents. I agreed and returned to the booth and informed the staff of the conversation and the suggestion. When I got home that evening, I emailed all of the Saturday volunteers about not speaking to teenagers about the beach unless their parents were standing right there and giving permission. I thought that was the end of it.

Then came 7:30 AM the following morning. I was awoken by a phone call from the Festival director, Olivia Sorgman, that she had received two complaints that we were soliciting minors because we allowed them to spin our prize wheel. I told her we always asked everyone – all ages – who walked by to spin the wheel and win a small prize.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Dianne and Mark enjoy a game of cornhole beanbag toss at Bates Beach on a sunny September afternoon. Thanks to Rolf, Cynthia, Helen, Diane, and Mike who came Friday to staff the booth.

FOBB Booth Removed From Avocado Festival

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We had already been visited by the officer the night before and had made changes to how we operated the prize wheel. Sorgman didn't care.

She said our booth was being removed from the show at that moment, our contents packed up and placed on the sidewalk, (see photo) and can we please come and pick them up? There was no discussion, no explanation allowed, we were just out.

This after five years of being in the Festival, always working our booth the same way, without any complaints.

Obviously, these two complainers saw what they wanted to see and heard what they wanted to hear, and they strongly disagreed with the subject of us promoting the nearby clothing-optional beach.

So we missed the last two days of the Avocado Festival. Are we angry at being labeled something we are not? Of course! But there was little we could do about it at the time.

Our team was pretty shaken up at this news, as you can imagine. I told them that the more visible we became the more our opponents would come out of the woodwork, and we need to be prepared for more pushback in the future.

On October 15, I wrote a strong but constructive letter to the Festival organizers that we are an ongoing part of the community, and we will find another way to get our positive message out to our friends in the local business community. I also demanded a refund of all booth fees (about \$800). We have not heard a reply yet. We have contacted an attorney in case we need to go to small claims court. The truth is legally there is nothing else we can do about it, although going to court virtually guarantees we will never be asked back.

I was relieved that no letter to the editor appeared in subsequent issues of *The Coastal View*, the local town newspaper. The story seems to have faded into "yesterday's news."

Emails were sent to Bob Morton, the former Exec Dir of the Naturist Action Committee, and Stuart Brandt at Supervisor Williams' office.

Morton replied that he suspected we were set up. "There's no other reason to believe that two obviously antagonistic biddies would station themselves so close to your booth that they would overhear a personal conversation. Likewise, there's no other reason that the festival organizers would have acted so quickly, precipitously, and irreversibly. The fix was in."

Brandt wrote that he was sorry to hear of this incident but "appreciate you keeping me informed."

The leftover giveaway items we had planned to give away at the booth wheel will be slowly distributed through the following year at the beach and at other FOBB meetings and parties.



Our booth was set up at 10 a.m. on Friday morning before visitors started to arrive. Many thanks to Harold for helping Gary with the setup.

Avocado Festival Survey Showed Strong Support For Nude Recreation

Each year since 2017, we traditionally do an informal survey at our AvoFest booth of our visitors asking their opinion about having an official clothing-optional beach nearby and a second question about top freedom in general.

The results have always been positive, averaging 75% "Yes" most years for the beach, and hovering just under 50% for top-freedom.

Although our booth was only up for one day and our total visitor count was about half its normal sample (154 votes this year compared to 234 votes in 2022), the results were much more positive this year:

Results of our two-question survey:

1. Santa Barbara County should designate a section of beach for **clothing-optional recreation**. The beach should have **proper signage** so people can decide whether to go there or not.

I agree (Yes)	84%
I do not agree	8%
No opinion	8%

2. Women should be allowed to be top-free wherever men are allowed to do so.

I agree (Yes)	56%
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The results showed a remarkable increase in the "Yes" vote after 5:30 PM, where the mostly younger "date night" crowd voted **93% "Yes"** for the clothing-optional beach and **70% Yes** on the Top Freedom question.

As always, these results will be forwarded to the Carpinteria City Council and the County Board of Supervisors to demonstrate our positive community support for our cause.

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Mid-Week Bates Beach Outings Come To An End, Maybe

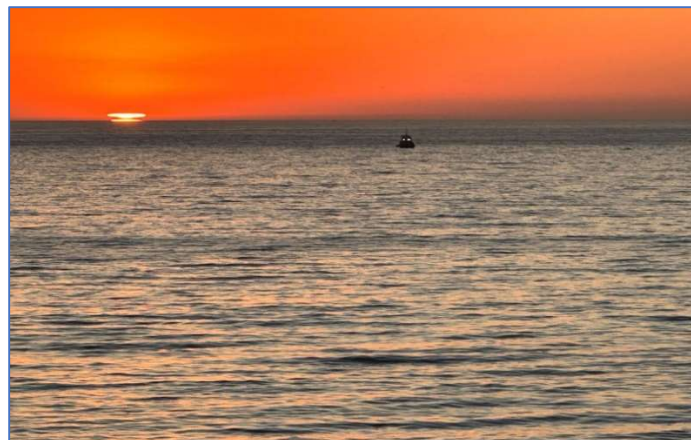
We continued to host beach picnics on Tuesdays and Thursdays through Friday, October 13. These mid-week visits have now been discontinued for the rest of the year due to lower attendance as the weather has cooled and the ocean temp has dropped to the low 60s.

That said, there may be occasional opportunities through the rest of the Fall and Winter when weather conditions allow us to go down as a group on very short notice. Please read our www.meetup.com/friends-of-bates-beach/ website where we post comments from our members and beach leaders daily.

We thank Helen and John for being our beach captains on these scheduled days!



The Friday the 13th beach outing was sunny and warm, although the water temperature was a brisk 62°F. Pictured above are Helen, Diane, and Mark enjoying the day. At left is Lynn with her ukelele, entertaining everyone. Below is the lovely sunset that evening from the cliff above the beach.



Photos submitted by Helen O'Neill



Helen snaps a selfie with the Dragonfly Ladies.

Local Dragonfly Ladies Gathered in Fillmore on October 14

By Cynthia Holbach

It was a small group for our combined SCNA and Friends of Bates Beach women's Gathering but having it at Rachel's house proved very pleasant and warm. Besides Rachel and Nathalie, we had Linda Weber, Helen O'Neill, and me. We had some scrumptious appetizers to keep us talking all afternoon, and then dinner was a combination of different tastes as usual. There were lots to discuss, considering we just had the Avocado Festival fiasco, and all the other events going on around us. It was also a joy to get to know Linda better as she has been so instrumental in different projects around the US.

Rachel doesn't have a pool or jacuzzi, but it was very comfortable being nude in her home. Rachel's house was a plethora of eclectic items and artwork. Her kitchen was like being in the fifties again. All the appliances matched from that era.

I hope to have another get-together in Fillmore. I was also pleasantly surprised at how nice the 126 highway is from Santa Clarita. I expected it to be two lanes and it was four during the entire drive. Forgive my ignorance as this was the first time that I used that road. I know many of you are very well aware of the roadway.

We would like to hold our next Dragonfly Gathering sometime during March 2024. Normally we schedule three meetings a year. We would like to find another location that would attract women in areas that we haven't used before, like Santa Monica, or Riverside. It would be nice to branch out. We don't always need a pool or jacuzzi, so we could do more of these Gatherings throughout the year.

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SCNA participants in the Best Costume parade show off their creative side.

End-of-Season Halloween Party Sees Large Turnout

By Mike Glinzak

The call went out to nudist witches and warlocks, ghosts and goblins, spooks, and spirits to assemble at Peter Connoly's hilltop retreat on Saturday, October 26 in Camarillo for the annual SCNA Halloween Party. Peter's is an ideal location for an activity that depends on good weather, for if the coastal breeze slips in early with its damp chill, Peter has the perfect defense...a large, warm (99°F) and inviting indoor pool enclosed in a comfortable atrium where all can gather and socialize or enjoy the warmth of the outdoor fire pit.

This year's event brought a sunny afternoon and a quickly cooling evening for the three dozen attendees, including a first-time couple from Brazil, who gathered to celebrate an old fall fire harvest tradition based on the Celtic holiday Samhain, which lasted for three days and nights. It was marked by the consumption of huge amounts of food and overwhelming amounts of alcohol. Fortunately, since most of us drive home after an evening of fun, the feast and alcohol are kept in moderation.

This year's celebration potluck included themed dishes such as Dee's Brains & Bonz, Rolf's Mummy Meatballs, Harold's spicy Graveyard Chili, which won first place in the best food vote, and Theresa's creepy Severed Hand Charcuterie which came in second.

Rounding out the menu were items like KFC, tacos, Pasta Tarantino, chips, dips, veggie and fruit trays, Valentina's Chilaquiles, Sonya's Spidery Deviled Eggs, and assorted spooky decorated cookies and cakes for dessert. As usual, SCNA supplied the sodas and water.

Later in the evening, nudists "dressed" in their finest Halloween costumes, featuring a gamut of characters including Scott's Hard Salami, and Nathalie's Great Pumpkin. Robert got Honorable Mention dressed in the Emperor's New Clothes. Third place winners were Valentina and Tim as Senior Citizen Adam & Eve. Second place went to Sonya and Tony as the Pool Ghouls and first place to Steven for his great homemade costume of Namor from Wakanda Forever.

So, whether you celebrate Samhain, Día de los Muertos, All Saints Day, Halloween, or just the traditional end of outdoor SCNA nudist activities for 2023, stay warm, stay nude, and we hope to see you at our upcoming Friendsgiving and Holiday Parties.





FOBB Holds Last Meetup Dinner Of The Year In Ventura

We had a nice turnout for our last meetup dinner of the year at the Ventura Denny's restaurant on Friday, October 13. There were a dozen FOBB members present plus a first-time visitor. The discussion included

1. A recap by Robert on the September **Beach Cleanup** event, where 26 volunteers helped collect about 100 pounds of trash from the entire North Ricon Beach area.
2. A recap of the aborted **Avocado Festival** (see story on page 1) and suggestions for what to include in a follow-up letter to the Festival organizers.
3. There were suggestions made for **new activities for the 2024** beach season.
4. There was a review of the proposed **2024 meetup dinner schedule** and approval for moving the online monthly meeting back to Tuesday evenings from Friday.
5. The meeting agreed that more than ever, we need to **spend more time in Carpinteria during the off-season, purchasing dinners and gift items from local merchants using \$2 bills** to rebuild our goodwill following the AvoFest snafu. [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. Tell the store clerk we are nudists supporting local businesses.
6. Use the **\$2 bill business cards** when making the purchases so they know who we are. Let Gary know if you need additional cards mailed to you.
7. **Membership renewal reminders** for people who joined during the last quarter of 2023 will be emailed around November 1. Please renew via the home page of our website at www.friendsofbatesbeach.org. We need to replenish our bank account so we can do things in 2024!
8. **Membership cards** for those who have recently joined FOBB have been printed and will be available for distribution at the Halloween party, to save mailing expenses. Those who do not attend the party can have them mailed to them on demand.
9. **The next Meetup dinner in Ventura will not be until Friday, March 8** as we are dark during the winter months.
10. There will still be an **online meeting on Friday, November 14** at 7 PM, our last of the year. The next one after that will be in February.

Carp Council Member Roy Lee Will Challenge Supervisor Williams In 2024

Two supporters of Bates Beach will be squaring off against each other in March 2024 for the County Supervisor seat whose district includes Carpinteria and Bates Beach.

Roy Lee, owner of the popular Uncle Chen Chinese restaurant in Carpinteria and a second-term member of the Carpinteria City Council, is challenging two-term County Supervisor Das Williams for his seat.

My preliminary assessment of the race is that Williams is vulnerable this time because he approved of a large number of cannabis-growing farms in northern Carpinteria, near the town's high school. Other zoning decisions converting nearby farmland to lower-cost housing have also made many residents angry.

Councilmember Lee also dropped by the Festival booth on Friday and said he wanted to talk to us about his campaign.

Our conversations with both candidates will continue as the election season approaches.



VISIT OUR ONLINE 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 and can be used at home on a bedroom wall, outside the backyard, or even on the front door! The reduced price is \$8 plus shipping.

Our **"I ♥ Bates Beach"** cap is also available 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.

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

OTHER IMPORTANT NUDIST STORIES

To our readers: Besides our setback at the Avocado Festival this month, there were several other important news events in October that rocked the nudist community. The following pages reveal that we can never take our way of life for granted.

Following the changeover at De Anza outside San Diego in September from nudist-friendly to textile-only, and the August announcement that the Two Roads Theater where we enjoyed the Nude Comedy shows during the past six years is up for sale, we were surprised to hear that California might lose two additional nudist-friendly resorts. The fast-moving events in Wisconsin remind us that there are always people lurking in the shadows ready to shut it down based on their own prejudices and ambitious politicians ready to use social nudity as a wedge issue to gain votes for themselves.



Palm Springs Desert Sun Resort Is In Escrow To Private Buyer

By Evan Nix, Planet Nude Blog (Edited for space.)

10/24/23 - In yet another significant development that could bring further changes to California's naturist community, Desert Sun Resort in Palm Springs has been sold for **\$6,950,000** and is currently under contract, as indicated in public listings on Redfin.com and LoopNet. The specific details about the new owners and their plans remain undisclosed.

No public announcement has been made by the club on their website or social media. This sale adds to an expanding series of recent transformations in the state's nudist landscape, and a growing malaise among California naturists, who have seen no less than four nudist clubs either go textile or go up for sale just in the last three months.

When Planet Nude called the Desert Sun Resort seeking comment, the unnamed voice on the other end confirmed that the property had indeed been sold and was currently in escrow. However, they couldn't provide any information about the new owners or their intentions regarding the resort's clothing-optional status.

[Editor's note: The resort is not accepting any new reservations after December 31 and there will be no New Year's Eve party.]

The description provided in the listing does offer some insight. Notably, the description suggests that the property could be "converted to a traditional hotel" with "additional options for increased revenue." This reference to a potential shift towards a clothed hotel raises questions about the fate of clothing-optional experiences at the Desert Sun Resort, leaving naturists eager to see how this story unfolds.

DESERT SUN HISTORY

Desert Sun Resort has a storied history that has been a notable part of the Southern California naturist community for more than thirty years. Originally established in 1992 as the eleven-room Desert Shadows Inn, the resort rapidly expanded to take up nine full acres in just eight years and became for a time the number-one nudist resort on the West Coast.

The club underwent a significant transformation when John and Elizabeth Young purchased the property in 2008. There was a million-dollar remodel of all hotel rooms, pools, Jacuzzis, the restaurant, and spa facilities. However, the new ownership instituted a "no minors" policy, making them the only non-sexual nude resort in Southern California to allow only people over the age of eighteen into the club.

One iconic feature of the resort is the Lee R. Baxandall Bridge, affectionately referred to as the "naked bridge" or "Bridge of Thighs." This distinctive pedestrian bridge was built in 2003 and was designed to conceal the unclothed pedestrians who crossed it from the drivers busy passing on Indian Canyon Drive below. The bridge was named in honor of The Naturist Society founder Lee Baxandall and became a symbol of the resort, offering a unique gateway to guests, visitors, and residents, and adding a distinguishing feature to the city and community of Palm Springs.

<https://www.planetnude.co/p/desert-sun-resort-in-palm-springs>

More About the Desert Sun Sale

By Gary Mussell

On 10/25/23, I telephoned friends who live in the nude condos across the street from Desert Sun, and they said the following:

A group of 10 nudist condos were built by Steve Payne, a previous owner of the resort, on the west side of Indian Canyon Drive for nudists wanting to live adjacent to the resort. The bridge was built to connect them to the resort. After ownership changed, it was fenced off a few years later when the Desert Sun's owner learned the bridge was not technically part of his property. Instead, the condo owners were given easement and membership rights to the resort.

The condo owners reorganized as the Desert Shadows Condo Association (DSCA), and they voted to keep their area "nudist only" in its common areas (pool, clubhouse, etc.), not "clothing-optional." To this day, these areas are only open to their condo members and their guests and not to the general public.

In January 2023, the DSCA received a letter stating they would be officially separated from Desert Sun effective June 1 with access rights further restricted. Memberships in Desert Sun by any condo members will not be renewed as of 01/01/24.





Lupin Lodge Near Santa Cruz is Up for Sale as Owner Retires

We received the following email on 10/23/23

Dear Friends of Lupin Lodge,

In this letter, I would like to directly share with you upcoming changes for the Lupin Lodge club and to avoid rumors. It is with a heavy heart and with much consideration and many sleepless nights that I must announce to you my upcoming retirement from Lupin Lodge.

I have been a member of Lupin for 41 years. I have managed Lupin Lodge myself for the last 18 years. When I first took over from Glyn, I thought I would be doing this for just three years. Since Glyn's passing in November of 2015, I have been solely responsible for the management of the club and Lupin property with an ever-increasing workload. I have put in long working hours, often 24/7 for nearly two decades. Managing Lupin has been often so intense that I needed to back-burner my successful art career.

It is time now to retire, take better care of myself, and focus my efforts on my highest priority, the health of my family. After some eye-opening meetings with my cardiologist, I realized that I need to consider my health first and foremost.

With my retirement, the Lupin Lodge Club and the property on which we operate will go up for sale. The listing of the property will take place within a few weeks. Lupin Lodge is a separate entity and could be preserved on this property or another depending on the individuals who are involved.

It is with all my heart that I wish for Lupin Lodge to continue without me. We have a former member and neighbor with extensive business experience who is willing to invest seven figures in the effort to continue Lupin. He is looking for additional investors to help.

If you would like to be involved sign up on the website www.Lupinclub.com.

There are several other options that I have thought of and probably many more. Our team involved with the sale would favor a bid for the property or separately the club by a potential consortium of Friends of Lupin. That could be a co-op or other naturist entity, landed or non-landed.

Please understand that continuing Lupin on this property would face many challenges, including significant increases in taxes,

insurance, compliance with new regulations, ADA, disability upgrades, septic upgrades, and other deferred maintenance. Keeping Lupin compliant could require millions of dollars beyond a purchase. However, the wealth of the Bay Area is considerable, and we might find these backers.

Our sister club, Sequoians in Castro Valley, established in 1947, still operates as a co-op. I have great respect for the Sequoians. Friends of Lupin might consider application for Sequoians membership <https://sequoians.com>.

My late husband Glyn always insisted that I put family first and that is what I intend to do. I have also promised myself to pursue my art career again as my health permits. I have given my very best to Lupin day by day over the decades and it is now time to pass the baton.

I realize that this change is disruptive for many of us. I truly hope that you will support this change and find a way to continue supporting the Lupin that we all love.

Naturally,

Lori Kay Stout

In a supplemental FAQ, Lori added: (*edited here for space*):

- "I plan to retire and move when the property is sold...I have not decided on the location. My health and my family's health come first and foremost."
- Current Lupin memberships will remain unchanged until the end of the year. After that members may choose to transfer to The Sequoians Club, located in the East Bay's Castro Valley.
- \$32,800,000 is the opening listing price for the property. She hopes to sell it to someone who will continue its clothing-optional tradition.
- Transferring ownership to her daughters is not an option as "they are at college building their own futures."



Friends of Bates Beach members pose near the Lupin clubhouse during our last group vacation there in 2022.

The stories about Lupin Lodge, The Wisconsin WNBR, the Desert Sun sale, and the Halloween party were copied from the SCNA Newsletter with permission.,



Uproar In Wisconsin Over Nude Child In World Naked Bike Ride

By Gary Mussell

The World Naked Bike Ride (WNBR) has been held in various cities worldwide for over 20 years, with Wisconsin's inaugural ride taking place in 2010. The event's organizers present it as a means to promote positive body image and encourage cycling—an environmentally friendly form of transportation that reduces the reliance on fossil fuels.

BACKGROUND

About 150 people participated in the June 17 World Naked Bike Ride, now in its 13th year in Madison. Their route included State Street and two loops around Capitol Square. Also staged in other cities around the country, the ride is aimed at encouraging body-image positivity and reducing dependency on petroleum.

But Wisconsin is a state in deep political turmoil with a veto-proof GOP majority in both legislative houses opposing the Democrat governor and a newly elected liberal majority on the state supreme court.

In July, two GOP state senators had received complaints about the bike ride, citing a photo of a girl, “younger than 10 years old,” riding with her mother at the event. According to later reports, the mother had asked her daughter if she wanted to participate. She said yes, and she decided to ride naked. The mother claimed that her daughter enjoyed the experience and that she still asks when they're going to do it again.

After the event, Dane County Supervisor Jeff Weigand of Marshall said he filed an online report about the incident with Madison police after a county resident sent all County Board members an email about the girl.

The concerns of this lawmaker had gone nowhere as the Madison City Council had enacted an ordinance allowing nudity as a legally protected form of “political protest.” The department's Special Victims Unit was assigned to the case and detectives “looked at the state's statutes on possession of child pornography and exposing a child to harmful material or narrations,” but that “based on the image observed and city-sanctioned event status of the bike ride, it was determined at this time that neither statutes are applicable.

In an email to the Mount Horeb resident a few days after the race, Madison World Naked Bike Ride organizer Peter Keating said the participation of children in the event is “not an issue at all” and that “it has always been our position that minors are perfectly

welcome to participate as they please, as long as they are accompanied by parent or legal guardian.”

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT

In response, two state senators introduced two bills that will badly impact nude recreation:

SB 477 - This bill prohibits a person from causing a person who is under the age of 18 to attend an event at which a group of adult participants intentionally expose their genitals, buttocks, or other intimate parts in a public area. The bill also prohibits taking a picture or other representation of a child at such an event if the representation depicts the child's intentionally exposed genitals, buttocks, or other intimate parts.

SB 478 - Current law prohibits a person from publicly and indecently exposing genitals or pubic areas. It would label the exposure of a naked body in a public place, regardless of intent, as a misdemeanor offense. Presently, public exposure is only considered illegal if it is deemed indecent. Violators could face up to nine months in jail and a monetary fine of \$10,000.

Republican Senate Senator Chris Kapenga, who introduced the bill said, “This is nothing to laugh at. The public exposure of genitalia should not be allowed.”

Supervisor Weigand added “When you take your nudity into the public square, you're actually violating my rights... and my children's rights to not want to see that. That's where it crosses the line... We need to protect our children.”

Republicans, who are now making this a campaign issue, have fast-tracked committee hearings, although as of our newsletter deadline, no committee votes have been taken yet. Both AANR and the Nudist Action Committee have combined their resources and hired a lobbyist to speak on their behalf and to try to amend the bills if they cannot kill them outright in committee.

Wisconsin's Democratic Party has voiced opposition to the proposed regulations, making it a partisan issue now. Sen. LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee) voiced her concerns that the changes could mean parents would not be allowed to take children to a Beyoncé concert, for example, where dancers may show their buttocks on stage.

CA Gov Signs Bill To Curb Online Child Sexual Abuse

10/9/23 - SACRAMENTO, CA – California Governor Gavin Newsom has signed AB 1394, effective January 1, 2025, a bill that will punish social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram and Tik-Tok for “knowingly facilitating, aiding, or abetting commercial sexual exploitation” of children. It also requires social media platforms to have a method for people to report child sexual abuse material for blocking. Fines could run up to \$4 million, depending on the circumstances.

Opponents said that it would have a “chilling effect” on free speech because tech platforms might delete more lawful content or disable popular features. Opponents included the California Chamber of Commerce, the Civil Justice Association of California, and several tech lobbyists, but the bill passed the State Assembly 77-0 and the State Senate 38-0.

Nudist websites and platforms might be affected if they need to defend against unjust child exploitation complaints or compliance challenges.

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.

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 **1,886** 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>

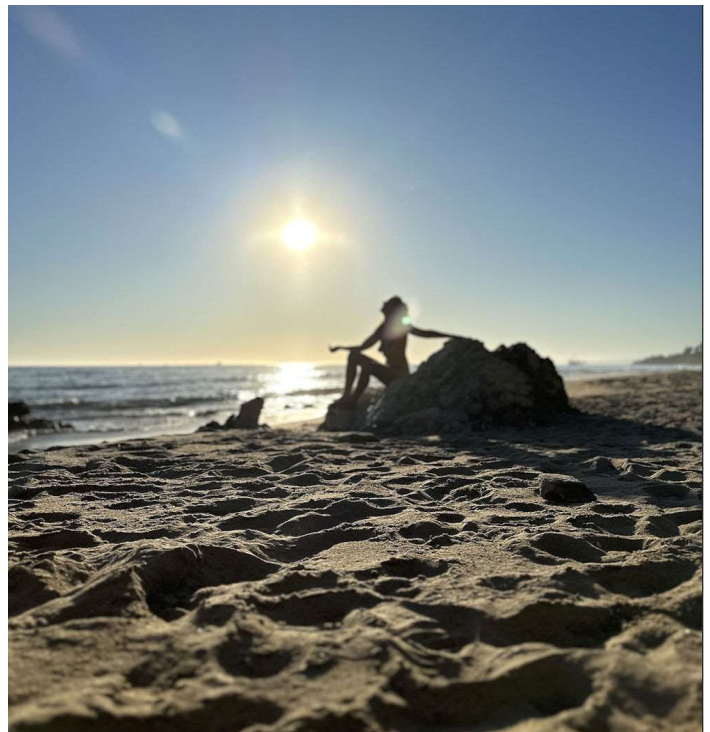
With enough signatures (somewhere in the neighborhood of 5,000 signatures) we can ask the Board of Supervisors to change the county's nudity ordinance.



PHOTOS OF THE MONTH



This sign is outside Helen's house. Nudist and Proud!



Taken October 13 at Bates Beach, the photo shows Helen soaking up the fading rays of the sun at the end of the last scheduled mid-week outing of the year.

FRIENDS OF BATES BEACH UPCOMING CALENDAR!

Everyone is welcome to attend **at no charge** the online ZOOM meeting, to join the Meetup.com website, and to send us emails. Attendance at the monthly dinners in Ventura is also free but it is expected that you will purchase dinner as a courtesy to the restaurant and the server.

The rules to attend our occasional pool parties or holiday events are different because they are usually at private residences, and we usually share the event with our nearby sister nudist club, SCNA. No one will be admitted to these parties from FOBB who is not a paid member, and you must have attended one of the online or dinner meetups so we can meet you first (we will run your ID through the Megan's Law database beforehand). Also, we must have your RSVP at least five days before the event so we know how much food/drinks to order. Thank you for understanding.

ONLINE ZOOM MEETINGS

VENTURA/SANTA BARBARA ONLINE MEETUP

November 17, 2023, 7 PM to 8:30 PM

There is no online meeting in December or January



Friends of Bates Beach hosts an online meeting each month for the people who cannot make the in-person meeting. Be aware that since everyone will be at their own home, these meetings are clothing-optional, and people often take advantage of that opportunity.

Please join our Meetup from your computer, tablet, or smartphone. Just click the link and any browser will connect you!

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

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

MEETUP.COM

<https://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-Bates-Beach/>



Our beach "Mayors" (Helen, John, Robert, and Greg) use this website to post daily information about that week's outings to Bates.

Joining is FREE and then you can send/receive their plans as to the time they will be on the beach with our yellow/blue identification signs so you will know where they are. Also, weather conditions may open up a new day to visit or cancel plans. This is the place to find out.

This Meetup site also lists many of the upcoming events, dinners, phone meetings, parties, etc.

EMAIL

You can always contact us with your questions or to share information by email at friends@friendsofbatesbeach.org.

IN-PERSON MEETINGS

Monthly Friday Night Dinners

There are no Friday dinner meetings from November through February.

The next meeting is scheduled for **March 8, 2024**.

Saturday, Dec. 16, Noon – 4 PM Holiday Party, Gift Exchange, & Awards Ceremony (Clothed)

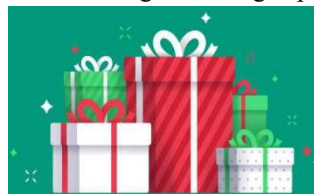
Location: **Simi Valley**

Members and non-members: **\$30/person**, (This covers the hall rental and the catering.)

Our party will be provided by Green Acres Farms and will include your choice of Chicken or Tri-Tip, BBQ Beans, Au Gratin potatoes, roasted vegetables, Caesar salad, and a dinner roll. Desserts, sodas, and water will be provided also.

This is also the one party each year where an individual can bring their non-nudist spouse or partner who would not otherwise share an event with us. The idea is to provide a non-threatening opportunity to have them meet us while enjoying a great meal! The club will also present our annual service awards for outstanding volunteer service to SCNA and the community at large.

Then we will have some fun exchanging white elephant gifts. To participate, provide an interesting knick-knack or other odd item that you feel someone else might enjoy. These are preferably something that you already have stashed away in your garage or attic, but if you decide to purchase a gift spend no more than about \$10. We will have a random pick-and-steal game to distribute the gifts. One gift per person (2 per couple). Your gift



MUST be wrapped to participate; there should be NO TAGS attached to say who it is from. There will also be a raffle drawing for some additional prizes.



YOUR FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!

Your ability to lay on your towel, clothed with the sun, was won through the hard work of hundreds of nameless people who fought for your rights. It must never be taken for granted! Support your local club or nudist organization!