



Volume 3, Issue 1

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Fun Facts about Oceano Dunes:

- This region's interesting history goes back to 1769, when Don Gaspar de Portola & parties camped in the area. Diary entries from a member of the Portola party stated, "The party continued over the sand dunes and then descended to the beach, along which they walked for several miles before camping for the night. Near their camping place was an Indian village of some forty people."
- Pismo's original wharf opened for business in 1881. Taking off from a point below the present Main Street, remnants of the pilings may still be seen at very low tides.
- In the 1900s. Pismo was noted for having many saloons, along with several notorious brothels. Other amusement type businesses at the time, besides the hotels, offered a variety of entertainment including a skating rink, a bowling alley, & a dance hall.

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Is your "Head in the Sand?" How about your friends?

The Sierra Club recently wrote to their supporters;

"...we press onward to remove vehicles from the beach as our end goal." "I believe we will get there... all the way....but the steps are incremental and the necessity for continual pressure is certain."

This isn't a trick question. So many times we meet people who say, "Oh, They'll Never Close This Place!" The ODSVRA is the last beach open for camping and OHV recreation and it is slowly experiencing "Death by a Thousand Cuts." From 18,000 accessible acres to 1,500 acres! From 18 miles of beach to 4 and we lose 2 of those six months a year during Plover and Least Tern

season! Add to that, our adversaries are trying to close 600 acres between poles 3.5 and 6 all the way to the fence line! Most recently, the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) is suing to re-impose a "Critical Habitat" designation for the entire beach! (We stopped that designation once but it was an expensive fight.) The Fish & Wildlife Service is considering taking riding area to create protected space for an endangered "Thistle Plant" that is nowhere on the 1,500 acres! And, one of the biggest thrusts is to stop us from crossing the creek to protect endangered Steelhead, Tidewater Goby, and a few others. Losing that access will close the ODSVRA due to no alternative access!!! These are only a few of the

issues we are fighting. We currently have six legal actions that need to be taken to fight these adversaries. Without donations we will have to prioritize which knife "cuts" we can try to stop and accept losing more acreage year after year. Think about your last campsites and those around you; what was the average value of each family's toys and RVs? Let's say an average family has \$75,000 – \$150,000 invested. Would \$75-\$100 annual donation be worth preserving your beach? An attorney charges \$300 to \$350 per hour. If it closes, where would you go to play in a more family friendly environment?

How important is it to you and your family and friends that access is preserved??



The ODSVRA helps build family foundations

The ODSVRA provides quality-sharing time. It helps build family foundations

Whether it's preparing recreational equipment together, excitedly looking forward to the fun trip, & even more exciting driving down the ramp & heading to a campsite with high expecta-

tions of enjoyment & adventurous riding together. It's playing together, mutually appreciating what nature has provided, reliving the day's challenges around the campfire, eating & meeting friends.

It's leaving the adult troubles at home, and instead, sharing new family experiences.

Parents learn about their children & children about parents. Returning home with memories of a time with family, with strengthened relationships built through these sharing of common interests. It builds values & character which continues for generations & maybe more importantly it builds family.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER... *Jim Suty puts things in a 'clam'shell*



Jim Suty, President & Founder of Friends of Oceano Dunes

Have you played poker or watched it on TV? Ever notice the player with the most poker chips has the power; they are less cautious and can be more aggressive. The players who have fewer chips are very cautious and unable to play as many poker hands.

Have you ever played Chess or watched as experienced players strategize and plan their moves over time, not just the next move but several moves into the future? In addition to playing their offensive moves they are also watching and making sure they are analyzing their opponent to ensure they are prepared to counter their moves in a strong defensive role.

The fight to keep the Oceano Dunes open is a cross between Poker and

Chess. Unfortunately as we are playing this chess game we have to be aware of our stack of poker chips. The more poker chips we have, the more poker hands we can play. In other words, the more money we have available to us, the more lawsuits we can file, we can intervene in our adversary's lawsuits and be active in the political process through legislation. Currently, we are "short stacked" and our opponents have the larger chip stack. We are still very much in the game, but we are being a lot more cautious than we want to be!!!

We have our offensive strategy in place and we have analyzed our opponents strategy. We feel confident in our approach, but we need your help in getting the funds in place to WIN the fight. Make no mistakes about it; our goal is to pro-

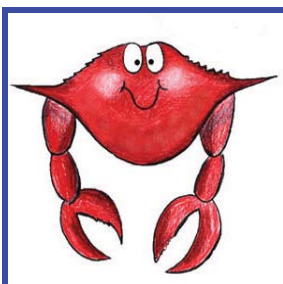
tect what we have and to work to regain what we have lost!!!

Do you want more dunes opened...I do! I know where the good dunes are, and right now they are behind fences.

We are presently involved in 4 lawsuits (as described in a recent email to our paid members, are you a paid member?) and our legal bills are growing. We are working to raise the necessary funds, but we need your help. We can NOT do it alone, and we will need to stop if we run out of money. So ante up, we do not want to fold this hand!!!

I look forward to playing in the good dunes with "Friends!!!"

7th Annual Friends of Oceano Dunes Crab Feed



You've heard about it before... you've even thought about going... So, what are you going to do about it??

Now is the time to go online to www.OceanoDunes.org and order your dinner tickets for the Friends of Oceano Dunes 7th Annual Crab Feed in Hanford, CA. Overnight camping is available for trailers at the Kings County Fairgrounds.

On Saturday, March 21st, 2009,

the party begins at 6 p.m. All proceeds from the Crab Feed will benefit the ongoing battle to keep YOUR BEACH open. We simply can't do it without your support.

There will be a Silent Auction, Live Auction and lots of raffle items available.

Of course, you will be able to purchase drinks from our "World Famous" Tiki Bar as well.

Friends from all over the state of California - and of course, those that truly love Pismo Beach will be there. **So, will you be there too?**

At \$40 per person, \$75 per couple or \$350 per table of ten - **you simply can't go wrong!**

If you have any questions, please contact Richard at Save_Pismo@comcast.net or 559.903.3875.





Community Outreach Beach Meetings

After Thanksgiving & after New Years', FoOD President Jim Suty presented Community Outreach Beach Meetings to share the current ODSVRA "Pismo" situation with interested offroaders who took the time to come to the "Friends" camp.

During these meetings Jim was able to discuss how the *extreme enviros*, with lots of money, have increased their attacks to shut the park down.

Jim was able to briefly speak about the following:

- Sierra Club lawsuit filed to close 600 acres
 - County may not allow riding in the LaGrande Tract.
 - The effort to stop beach camping and riding on the beach by the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD).
 - Lawsuits filed by CBD to stop all special events & races in the park.
 - Fish & Wildlife's plot to close more riding area to protect plants & wildlife.
 - No creek crossing means no access to the park.
- Jim graciously took the time to answer questions presented by the small group of those in attendance. In addition, he shared that FoOD does have an amazing attorney, yet our legal costs have become overwhelming—and we cannot fight all the battles at one time **without your help!** When we have to start deciding WHICH battles to fight we CAN'T protect for "Access for All."



All You Can Eat Round-Up BBQ in Clovis, CA!



Come one...Come all to the first Friends of Oceano Dunes Round-Up BBQ! This is an **ALL** You Can Eat Round-Up BBQ & Shine'n Show. It will be held on April 18 in Clovis, CA, at the Odd Fellows Lodge on the corner of Helm & Gettysburg. Tickets are \$40 person. All proceeds from this event will go to help in the fight to keep Pismo open. "Friends" is not backing down with the ongoing battle!

This is the time for you to help "Save Pismo" by attending, spreading the word & buying your dinner tickets.

Anthony Freitas Catering has stepped up; donating most of the food & taking care of the BBQ. There will be many Raffle prizes, a 50/50 & the "World Famous" No-host Tiki Bar.

Show'n Shine is limited. Call Rob at 559.325.8908 to reserve a spot. Call or go online (www.oceanodunes.org) to buy tickets!

By Rob Hunter

Don't wait! Tickets will go fast! This BBQ is definitely going to be a great time!! Now is the time to show your support, right here in Clovis! Come Join us & find out what's going on!!!



How Can You Help Save Pismo? We Need YOU!

People often ask us: "What can I do to help?" First and foremost the help we need is financial. Unfortunately in this economy that's usually the hardest for people to do. One way you can help is to encourage your friends and family to become a member. That not only helps us financially, but also increases the number of people who can help when we need letter writing campaigns or people to show up at meetings. Make it a new year's resolution to sign-up

five new friends. They can sign-up online at www.oceanodunes.org.

We also need people to volunteer to work at some of our fund raising events. We need you to attend or volunteer: help set-up, sell tickets and clean-up; at our Crab Feed (March 21 in Hanford) and our First Annual BBQ (April 18 in Clovis). If you can attend or can offer to help, please contact Richard at

save_pismo@comcast.net or call 559-903-3875. Lastly, we need to get the news out about what's going on at the beach! Please send letters to the newspapers and politicians to explain why it's important to you to keep the beach open!

explain why it's important to you to keep the beach open!



You love Pismo - you know you do! So what are you doing to help "Save Pismo?"

Now is the time to figure out what **YOU CAN DO TO HELP!**





Friends of Oceano Dunes would like to thank the new “Friends” for showing their support & becoming members in 2008

Rick Landucci Waterford, CA	Shannon Frost Woodland, CA	Randy Bisho Santa Maria, CA	Robin Pimblett Carson, CA	Tom Sexton Placerville, CA
Randy DeVries McFarland, CA	Bill Andrews Wasco, CA	Karl Mason Ventura, CA	Tucker Family Elk Grove, CA	Gary Bynum Atascadero, CA
Ann Brunson Woodland, CA	Don & Linda Deeds Hanford, CA	Kay Bellamy Hanford, CA	Rod S. Rodrigues Carmel, CA	Heather Gonzales Bakersfield, CA
James Hix Arroyo Grande, CA	Mark Baker Corona, CA	John & Tonya Blaylock Merced, CA	Ronnie George Selma, CA	Alicia Tovaraz Modesto, CA
Allan Taylor Clovis, CA	Chad Buttozy Chowchilla, CA	Margaret Homen Merced, CA	Darin Williams Petaluma, CA	Kristi Scheidt Fresno, CA
Cliff Wright Reedley, CA	Gary Moran Arroyo Grande, CA	Lisa McDowell Concord, CA	Chad George Selma, CA	Mike Kuntz Bakersfield, CA
Dustin Triplett Clovis, CA	Vince Rodriguez Madera, CA	Bryce Hove Santa Ana, CA	Pacheco Family Santa Ynez, CA	Blake Foster Bakersfield, CA
Michael Hatfield II Alamo, CA	Loree Rowley Visalia, CA	Brian McGregor Selma, CA	Rick Burrows Aromas, CA	James & Heidi Roberts Bakersfield, CA
John Underwood Vacaville, CA	Nate Rodrigues Atascadero, CA	David Tafoya Kingsburg, CA	Greg Wiedel Campbell, CA	Joe Costa Tulare, CA
Dave Robinson Chino Hills, CA	Dale & Susan Davis Modesto, CA	Henry Guerrero, Sr. Santa Maria, CA	Henry Houpt Petaluma, CA	Matt & Susie Wise Hawthorne, CA
Kirk Ferris La Mirada, CA	Manuel Silva Tulare, CA	Gregory Ramos Fresno, CA	Lane Ingram Bakersfield, CA	Robin Irwin Oceano, CA
Larry Sudweeks Brentwood, CA	Jim & Sharon Oliveira Tulare, CA	Hank Guerrero San Juan Bautista, CA	Brian Campbell Manteca, CA	Steve Kaplan Arroyo Grande, CA
Alfredo Ramirez Castroville, CA	John Baronian Madera, CA	Leroy Azevedo Dos Palos, CA	Nathan Jones Bakersfield, CA	Jessie Calley Chowchilla, CA
Karl Trahan Lemoore, CA	Nathan Parriott Bakersfield, CA	Michelle & Bruce Rhoades Selma, CA	Andy Crane Riverside, CA	Silvia Herrera Arroyo Grande, CA
John Schmeltz Elk Grove, CA	Larry Pickard Dos Palos, CA	Joel & Sara Machado Tulare, CA	Roger Hitchcock Sanger, CA	Psycho Rhino Customs Lodi, CA
Josh Johnson Visalia, CA	Ana & Joe Gois Ceres, CA	Layne & Nancy John- son Madera, CA	Shawn Del Moss Chowchilla, CA	Geneva Irby Live Oak, CA
Jim Pranes Copperopolis, CA	Ron Dias Fresno, CA	Gale Watson Tulare, CA	Anthony Freitas Chowchilla, CA	Margaret McDowell Live Oak, CA
Shelley Wright Dos Palos, CA	Jeremy Watts Bakersfield, CA	David Beigel (renewal) Clovis, CA	Chris Wheller Arroyo Grande, CA	Chris Funk San Jose, CA



Let's Take A Closer Look: 2009 Friends of Oceano Dunes Raffle Buggy



Front & Rear Views



Side Views



Interior Views



Accessories



Raffle Tickets Available for \$10 each
Auntie@oceanodunes.org



2008 was a great year! “FoOD at Work!”

Bakersfield Outdoor Show
February 8-10, 2008
Bakersfield, CA



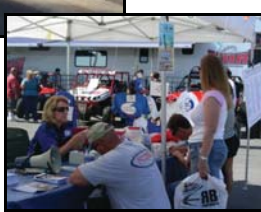
6th Annual FoOD Crab Feed
May 3, 2008
Kings County



6th Annual FoOD Poker Run
July 3-6, 2008
ODSVRA, Oceano, CA



Sand Sport Super Show
September 19-21, 2008
Costa Mesa, CA



Pictures with Santa
November 28-30, 2008
ODSVRA, Oceano, CA



New Years' Community Outreach
December 31, 2008-January 2, 2009
ODSVRA, Oceano, CA



Friends of Oceano Dunes Calendar for 2009

February 6-8, 2009
Bakersfield Outdoor Show
Bakersfield, CA

February 13-16, 2009
Presidents' Weekend Community Outreach
ODSVRA, Oceano, CA

March, 2009
Kings Speedway / Dirt Track Racing
Hanford, CA

March 21, 2009
7th Annual Crab Feed
Hanford, CA

April 18, 2009
Western Round-Up BBQ
Clovis, CA

April 29 - May 10, 2009
Merced Spring Fair
Los Banos, CA

Interested in helping at any of these events? Contact Richard @ 559.903.3875

Friends of Oceano Dunes

Post Office Box 398
Oceano, CA 93445

Email:
friends@oceanodunes.org
bod@oceanodunes.org

Who Are We

The Friends of Oceano Dunes is a 501(c)(3) California Not-for-Profit Public Benefit Corporation. This corporation is comprised of citizens and business representatives who enjoy the benefits of Public Access and usage of the Oceano Dunes State Vehicle Recreation Area (ODSVRA).

Our Objective

To unite the many people who enjoy the Oceano Dunes in a cohesive organization that can promote and reinforce responsible recreation. This will be accomplished by developing a large network of FRIENDS and collecting donations to accomplish our objective. We support ALL forms of responsible recreation and we will work to ensure continued access to the ODSVRA.

Please Note:

No Salaries Are Paid,

We Are a 100% Volunteer Organization.

Board of Directors:

Chairman:	Gene Schroeder (Fresno)
President:	Jim Suty (San Jose)
Vice President:	Ginger Schenk (Oceano)
Vice President:	Butch Hotz (Hanford)
Vice President:	Don Preble (San Jose)
Vice President:	Ed Waldheim (Glendale)
Treasurer:	Cheryl Hunter (Clovis)
Secretary:	Bill Knoff (Los Banos)



Friends of Oceano Dunes Membership Application

Please print carefully. Make checks payable to FoOD & mail to FoOD, POBox 398, Oceano, CA 93445

Please mark your choice:

- \$30 Individual Annual
- \$55 Family Annual
- \$450 Lifetime Membership
- \$100 Annual Business Sustaining Sponsorship
- \$250 Annual Business Contributing Sponsorship
- \$500 Annual Business Friends Sponsorship
- \$1000 Annual Business Advocate Sponsorship
- \$1500 Annual Business Executive Sponsorship
- \$2500 Annual Business President Sponsorship



Business (Business sponsorship only): _____
 Individual name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/Zip/State: _____
 Business Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
 FAX: _____ Email address: _____
 I am interested in helping Friends of Oceano Dunes with: _____