



Florida Sport Horse Club Newsletter

2077 W. Lake Hamilton Drive, Winter Haven 33881

April 2017

+++++

Dedicated to trail riding and the preservation of the many riding areas in Central Florida.

Officers:

President:

Mike Charron
mike@rps-fl.com
863-670-4727

VP for Trails:

Barbara Lassiter
Barbgeiger123@comcast.net
863-534-3459

Treasurer:

Judy Cloninger
jrcloingerwh@gmail.com
863-588-1179

Secretary/Newsletter Editor:

Janet Schneider
Jm_schneider@msn.com
863-858-6848

<https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>



Calendar of Club Rides and Events:

All club rides begin at 9:00 am. unless otherwise noted

- **Saturday, April 22, 8:30am:** Joint work party at Colt Creek State Park with Triple B Riders
- **Saturday, May 6, 9:30am:** Joint trail ride with Triple B Riders at Colt Creek State Park
- **Monday, May 8, 11:30am:** Club lunch at Sweet Magnolia's Tea Room, Auburndale
- **Monday, May 15, 7:00pm:** Monthly meeting, St. John's Methodist Church, Winter Haven, Room 206
- **Saturday, May 20, 9:00am:** Club ride at Tenoroc; Barbara Lassiter, Trail Boss
- **Monday, June 19, 10:00-11:00am:** Pony rides for the Polk City Public Library reading program

We're switching to an abbreviated riding schedule during the hot summer/vacation months. Remember you can always email club members to get a pick-up ride!

Please RSVP Barbara Lassiter for club rides! If nobody responds by the Thursday night before the ride, it will be cancelled.

- email her at barbgeiger123@comcast.net
- Call her at 863-534-3459
- Keep up with the club rides and "join" via our Facebook Page (Events section).

Those wanting to ride other days—please contact Barbara Lassiter and/or Karen Turbeville, or email club members directly.

If you need more information or directions for any of the rides, contact Barbara. You can also check the "Upcoming Events" section of our web page at <https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>, or the "Events" section of the Florida Sport Horse Club's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FloridaSportHorseClub>.

News

WELCOME to new member **Astrid Evans!** She has 2 horses, including an exceedingly large OTTB, and is looking forward to trail riding with the club.

Colt Creek State Park is expanding resources for equestrians with an expanded primitive camping AND new day parking area near the existing equestrian camp. Thanks go to Triple B Riders for setting up a **work day Saturday, April 22**, to help clear the area. And, of course, FSHC members will be there to help as well.

Colt Creek State Park Manager Scott Duncan is accepting the club's **second picnic table**. It will be placed in the new Equestrian Day Parking area which will be adjacent to the Equestrian Campground, at the April 22nd work day. The next time you ride, look for it!

Our NEXT club dine-around lunch will be 11:30am **Monday, May 8** at **Sweet Magnolia's Tea Room**, 212 Howard St., Auburndale. This restaurant **requires reservations**; please let Janet Schneider know if you're coming by Wednesday, May 4.

The "Get to Know **Colt Creek**" event on Sunday, April 2 was a huge success. Most of our membership plus 4 "members for the day," along with 11 horses, worked in extreme heat to give 160 "kids" of all ages pony rides. Paula



Dockery declared that "Clearly the horseback riding is our most popular" event of the day. Check out the pictures on our Facebook page, as well as the video at

<https://www.facebook.com/lkldtv/videos/1850612574964485/>.



Save the Date! Laura Branch is again asking the club's help in providing **pony rides** from 10:00 to 11:00am on Monday, June 19th to kids who meet the Polk City Library's summer reading goals. The event will be held at Freedom Park in Polk City, at the corner of Hwy 33 (Commonwealth Ave.) and Berkley Road. Laura says "Every year the kids and adults tell me how this is their only exposure to horses, and they anxiously await the annual event." Laura has been involved in this program for several years; we salute her commitment and civic responsibility! If you can help, please let Laura know (cell 970-372-9032, email alaskabrand@gmail.com.)

If you do bring your kid-safe horses to the library program, you can also ride on the Van Fleet trail which is on the other side of the street from the park. Horses are welcome on the grass strip beside the pavement; beware, however, of the numerous hikers, dogs, joggers and bicyclists.

And one last thought for helpers at the Library event: the Country Angels restaurant is just north of the park on Commonwealth Blvd. They have great shakes and huge, cold iced teas. Consider having lunch there.



The long-leaf pine **tree planting** party at Lower Green Swamp, originally scheduled for Sunday April 30, has been **postponed** due to drought. We'll let you know when it's been rescheduled.

Notice: SWFWMD has **closed** ALL campgrounds due to fire risks until the drought lessens.

A reminder: we share our riding areas with many other users. If your horse makes a deposit in the parking area, **PLEASE PICK IT UP OR SPREAD IT OUT!** Nobody likes to step in poop.

Let's grow the club! Think about how we might reach and recruit new members, AND how you might be able to help. Notices in feed stores and stables? Articles in the newspaper? Spreading the word in our riding areas? Perhaps a get-to-know-the-club event.... Sharing our Facebook posts in

your own news feed is an option. How about approaching the equestrian 4-H clubs? Please let us know your thoughts and ideas, and perhaps the newer members can tell us how they discovered the club.



Tips & Activities by Members:



Melody Cazort had a great evening watching horse movies on YouTube: “Smokey,” “Thunderhead,” and even “Gunsmoke.” Free entertainment!

Barbara Charron related a harrowing tale of an endurance rider who put 5 horses in an electric corral near her camper. During the night there was some kind of ruckus that caused the horses to break down the fence and run; a nearby high-tied horse panicked, pulled back and broke his neck while one of the loose horses ran straight into a parked vehicle and died. Another horse was badly injured.

Janet Schneider was worried about her horse slipping on her trailer's ramp. She found Behr's “Extra textured DeckOver,” which has a gritty texture that has helped considerably. The gallon cost about \$30, and required a special roller to apply the paint. So far she is very pleased with the result.

Melody Cazort stores her salt block in her goose-neck trailer, and leaves it open so Shiloh can come and go as she pleases.



Join the club! Meet some great people who love their horses. What are YOU doing? Let us know, and send us pictures--we'd love some action shots of you and your horse! Send to jm_schneider@msn.com. Follow us on Facebook, and visit us online at Facebook <http://www.flahorse.com/fshc/>. Happy Trails, where we hope to see you soon!