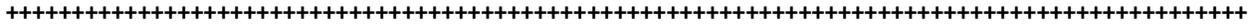




# Florida Sport Horse Club Newsletter

2077 W. Lake Hamilton Drive, Winter Haven 33881

## March 2017



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

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### Calendar of Club Rides and Events:

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

- **Saturday, March 25, 9:30am:** Joint ride with Triple B at Green Swamp West; Karen Turbeville, trail boss (please CALL to let her know you're coming)
- **Sunday, April 2, 1:30-3:00pm:** "Get to Know Colt Creek" pony rides
- **Saturday, April 8, 9:00am:** Club ride at Tenoroc; Barbara Lassiter, Trail Boss
- **Monday, April 10, 6:30pm:** Club dinner at Ovation Bistro
- **Saturday, April 15, 9:30am:** Club ride at the Hampton Tract, Rock Ridge Road. The Charrons, trail bosses
- **Monday, April 17, 7:00pm:** Monthly meeting, St. John's Methodist Church, Winter Haven, Room 206

**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](mailto: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

The "Get to Know Colt Creek" event is coming fast on Sunday, April 2, 2017. Last year we had 9 horses for over 600 attendees, and gave rides to at least 115 "kids." More people are expected this year--we have just a few horses lined up, and need more! **We have 7 horses committed at the moment:** Jerre's La Bamba and Tony, Ellie's Percy, Melody's Shiloh, Marsha's Tommy and Smokey, and Kathy Smehyl's Hippy.

**We need LOTS of help on the ground,** to get forms signed, direct kids to helmets and horses, leading and mounting. The park will be providing a free lunch, so come early (food service begins at 12:15) to eat before the rides begin. We'll need a head count of helpers, so **please let us know NOW** if you plan to come. Here are some tips for you:

- Upon entering the Park, tell the ranger you are a volunteer for the pony rides; s/he should not charge the entrance fee.
- The 'pony' rides will be at the same location as last year, and will be from 1:30pm-3pm.
- Trailers are to park in the same place as last year (past the pavilion & service barn.) You may stop near the horse event if you need to unload steps, water bucket, pitch fork, etc. **Only** unload horses at the trailer parking location, due to manure issues. Leave your horses **AT YOUR TRAILERS** until you are ready to **STAY** with them. Please do not leave your horses unattended unless you or another trusted club member is available.
- The Park is furnishing a small canopy that will be over the registration table. Bring your own chair, and an umbrella if you'll need shade!
- Judy is bringing helmets and Janet is bring one large mounting block, although at least one more would be helpful.
- We will be walking in the sun so **remember hats, sun screen, and plenty of drinks.**

Our NEXT club dine-around dinner will be 6:30pm **Monday, April 10** at **Ovation Bistro, 42605 US Hwy 27, Davenport.** You can see a menu at <http://ovationbistro.com/menu>. Please let Janet Schneider know if you're coming by Friday, April 7, so we can get a big enough table.

**WELCOME** to new members **Marsha Smith** and **Nora Dickey!** Marsha has already been on a few trail rides with us and brought her horse to the "Day Without Disabilities." Nora is a former member who has re-joined the club.



*L to R: Adam Spaulding, Scott Spaulding, Janet Schneider, Mike Charron*

One **picnic table** has been placed at the **Lake Louisa State Park** equestrian day parking area on March 18.

Many thanks to all of **you** for donating the funds; to Mike Charron for leading the efforts; and to Karen Turbeville for contacting Park Manager Scott Spaulding to get the ball rolling. Scott and his son Adam came to remove the old, sagging table and help us assemble the new one. When Mike asked Scott to trim a low-hanging limb, Scott obliged within 4 hours! By the time we came back from our ride, Scott had it down and hauled away. We had a very nice lunch on the new table and were privileged to meet Mike's father, who drove up to eat with us.

**Colt Creek State Park** Manager Scott Duncan has expressed an interest in the **second picnic table** for the new Equestrian Day Parking area, which will be adjacent to the Equestrian Campground. Members voted to place the table there, since it is a favorite riding area and there are no tables available in the area now. Karen Turbeville will follow up with Scott for us.

Alan Parker, locally renowned horseman and auctioneer, passed away on March 25.



Members were privileged to give pony rides at the Bunch Ranch March 4th for the **3rd annual "Day Without Disabilities."** THANKS go to



Kathy Grinstead and Dennis Dudley, Ellie Crowder, Melody Cazort, Marsha Smith, and Janet DelCastillo for bringing horses. Walkers and helpers included Mike Charron, Kathy's 4-H club kids, Judy & Charlie Cloninger, Barbara Lassiter, Marsha's cousin Karen, Richard Jones, and Janet Schneider. Pictures are posted on Facebook.

A lot of members have been riding the new **Panther Point trail at the Marshall Hampton Reserve**. The new trail gives almost 14 full miles to the Reserve, if you choose to ride all trails in one go. It's beautiful—but you do have to watch for alligators on the path! **REMINDER:** you need a FREE SPECIAL PERMIT to access the equestrian trailer parking. Call (863) 534-7377, and have the date of your Coggins and your driver's license number handy. Also remember there is a trick to the combination lock—the numbers do not line up in the middle, but on the very small line on the left and up one click from the center.

Several members visited **Herrmann's Royal Lipizzan Stallions'** training session on **Saturday, March 11**. We enjoyed a very fine hour and a half show, and stopped at Smokin' Joe's Barbeque for an excellent lunch on the way home.

A joint **work party** of Triple B Riders and Florida Sport Horse Club members was held at **Green Swamp West** on February 21<sup>st</sup>. People mowed trails, replaced damaged trail signs, and trimmed some pretty massive limbs in both the Ashley and Compressco campgrounds. FSHC provided a hot dog lunch, augmented by potato salad by Kim of SWFWMD and other offerings from Triple B members.

Another joint **work party** was held on March 8<sup>th</sup> at the **Hampton Tract**. The screened pavillion had

been vandalized on numerous occasions, and SWFWMD made the decision to take the building down to the ground and replace it with a more durable (no screens) structure. Volunteers also trimmed trees and did general clean-up of the campground.

The club received a very nice thank you note from the **Crop & Carrot 4H club** for coming out to talk about the joys of trail riding.

**Mane Circle** has published its 2017 show schedule for March 25, April 29, May 20, and October 21. A number of our folks ride there; last year **Ellie Crowder** won a massive belt buckle! More information is available at <http://manecircle.strikingly.com/>.

**Donna Fellers** recommends **Brown's Saddle Shop** at 3549 Hwy 27, Haines City, for saddle work. Phone number is 863-662-1186; email is [cj4091@yahoo.com](mailto:cj4091@yahoo.com).

Karen Turbeville says many people have recommended "**Mr. D's Mobile RV Service**" for horse trailer repairs of all kinds. Chris Schulz ((813-373-8137) will come to your house and is reasonable in cost.

Brandon Equine Medical Center is having another **free horse wellness seminar** on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds. RSVPs are required; more info is at [www.brandonequine.com](http://www.brandonequine.com).

After talking about the loss of Dennis's horse (see below) at the last meeting, the conversation moved to how difficult it can be to take care of the horse after it's gone. Donna C. said a septic tank company came to dig a hole for them; our newcomer, Astrid, had Ritchie's Truck Repair ([http://www.ritchestruckrepair.com/ritchey\\_s\\_truck\\_repair.html](http://www.ritchestruckrepair.com/ritchey_s_truck_repair.html)) dig a hole. A couple of members mentioned Dennis Ford (863-682-2569), who can pick up the horse and bury it on his property.



## Tips & Activities by Members:



It's been a month of losses for our members:

- Our sympathies go out to **Dennis Dudley** who lost Joker, his Tennessee Walker/draft. Joker had to be euthanized last week--as far as they can guess, another horse kicked him and shattered his shoulder; bone shards severed the main nerve that controls the use of the front leg rendering it useless. **Dennis is now in need of a new horse**, at least 15 hands, smooth gaited, and safe on trails. He doesn't have much to spend because of numerous vet bills since Thanksgiving, but would give a horse a great home and lots of attention. If you know of something that might work, please contact Kathy at [luckiladi23@gmail.com](mailto:luckiladi23@gmail.com) or call her at 863-205-1494.
- Sympathies also go to **Mary Futch**, who lost her mare "Nosy" to heaves last week. Mary had raised this horse from a baby.
- And Judy Cloninger lost her 25-year-old "Tucker," who's been her friend for the past 20 years.

Congratulations go to **Barbara Charron**, who has a new beautiful baby colt. See his pictures on Facebook.

**Susie Jacobs** took a tumble from one of Janet Del Castillo's horses and broke her collarbone. Heal quickly, Susie!

**Richard Jones** has his horse "Chief" up for sale for \$3000. Chief is a 12-year-old Spotted Saddle Horse, suitable for an experienced rider. Call Richard if you are interested.



**Donna Coquyt** still has a nice thoroughbred for sale.

**Judy Cloninger** has a Foxtrotter for sale.

A visitor (and soon to be member) to our meeting, **Astrid Evans**, needs a BIG 2-horse bumper pull trailer to haul her 16.3 thoroughbred. If you know of one, please let Janet Schneider know and she'll forward the information.

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](mailto: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!