



Florida Sport Horse Club Newsletter

July 2018

<https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>

floridasporthorseclub@gmail.com



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

Calendar of Club Rides and Events:

NOTE: we'll have a smaller ride schedule until September, when the heat and bugs diminish. Email or message members for any pickup rides!

Officers:

President:

Mike Charron
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VP for Trails:

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Treasurer:

Susan Buchanon
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- **Saturday, July 21 8:30am:** Club ride at Tenoroc. Barbara Lassiter, trail boss
- **Saturday, August 4, 5:00pm:** Annual club barbeque at the Lassiters'.
- **Saturday, August 25, 8:30am:** Club ride at Tenoroc. Barbara Lassiter, trail boss
- **Saturday, September 8, 9:00am:** Club ride at Lake Louisa. Barbara Lassiter & Susan Buchanon, trail bosses
- **Monday, September 17, 6:00pm:** Club dinner with monthly meeting, **Golden Corral**, 4532 S Florida Ave., Lakeland.

Please RSVP Barbara Lassiter (or designated trail boss) for club rides! If nobody responds by the Thursday night before the ride, it will be cancelled.

- email Barbara 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.

For 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 Kathy Smehyl!** She is a long-time horsewoman, and currently has a halflinger named Pye.

Our annual **August BBQ membership meeting** will be Saturday, August 4 at 5pm at Barbara and Steve Lassiter's home. **Please extend the invitation to any interested horse people!** Members are asked to bring a dish to share AND a **3-minute story to share about a memorable horse experience.** We do ask that you **RSVP** so that we know how much food to prepare.

August kicks off our new club year, as well, with **dues** for the upcoming year; please remember that if you want another year of Horse & Pony, it must be paid by the September meeting. The membership form is attached as the last page of this newsletter.

Our **2018-2019 officer elections** will be held at our August barbeque. Mike, Barbara, Susan and Janet have agreed to serve for another year if desired by the membership. If **YOU** are interested in running for one of our 4 positions, please contact President Mike Charron.

One of the 4 **prints by Hermann Trappman** has been sold, with 3 to go. The prints can be bought by club members at half the estimated value; Barbara Charron will bring them to the August BBQ so people can see them in person.

We had a bit of a discussion at Monday's meeting about what to do when we have a number of "fast" riders as well as "slow" riders on our club rides. It's understandable that people have different preferences about speed, and there are certainly ways of accommodating everybody if we all follow trail etiquette and communicate well with others on the ride. We want everybody to enjoy themselves! Points for us all to keep in mind include:

- The main group must always ride to the best abilities and comfort levels of the least experienced horse or rider. Safety is our main concern.
- It is dangerous for people to pass or leave the group at speed. Other horses in the group may panic, spook or attempt to follow.
- Questions or concerns about speed, length of ride etc. should be brought to the trail boss **BEFORE** the ride begins. Those wishing to move off faster should probably be ready to ride earlier than the main group, as the trail boss may ask them to leave 15 minutes earlier than the slower group.
- If riders decide to break away from the group after the ride has begun, they should notify others in the group. Please, never **LEAVE** the group at speed! If they are in the front, they should ask the main group to stop and wait until they have moved a reasonable distance away at a walk before picking up the speed. If they are in the rear, they should stop and wait for the main group to move away before peeling off and going faster.

When people start riding out more in cooler weather, how about hanging around after the club rides for lunch and socializing? It's a great way to keep up on our friends, as well as introducing ourselves to those guests who may join us. We may even try doing a potluck kind of thing once a quarter! Stay tuned.....

The club has received a letter from the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission asking for our input on the Herky Huffman/Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area. None of us has ever ridden here, as it is almost to Melbourne. But the Commission is only allowing one representative per user group (hiker, hunter, cycling, horse, etc.), and

so far we've not found a horse person from another group able to step up and represent our interests. Janet Schneider has consented to attend the meeting and will report back to us. You can read more about Bull Creek at <http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/lead/herky-huffmanbull-creek/>.

President Mike Charron has continued to follow up on trying to get water at the Marshall Hampton trail head. He's learned that an extension of the Polk Parkway MAY run directly through the existing parking area; routes are being debated at the state and county level now. Until the route is determined, it would be foolish to sink a well. This project is on hold until plans are finalized.

Marshall Hampton's Panther Point Trail has been closed at the bridge due to alligator nests until further notice. Gaye Sharp tells us that it will probably remain closed until mid-September unless raccoons manage to steal all the eggs.

Lower Green Swamp's pine planting was on a very steamy July 14th. A BIG shout-out of thanks go to Mike Charron, Frank & Penny Pak, Charlie & Judy Clonger, Karen Turbeville, Barbara Lassiter, Mary Futch, Janet Schneider, and Triple B member Fran Kerns. Of the 21 volunteers, 10 were horse people.



Penny Pak watches Fran Kerns (Triple B) and Mike Charron plant a tree



Mary Futch



Frank Pak & Janet Schneider



Karen Turbeville & Barbara Lassiter





Tips & Activities by Members:



Donna Fellers has started her treatments, which will last for a few months. So far she's feeling pretty good.

Congratulations to **Karen Turbeville**, who has a new Tennessee Walker named Gunner.

Betsy McHugh has moved to Texas. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

Sympathies go out to **Barbara Charron**, who recently lost her thoroughbred Rosebud.

Congratulations go to **Donna Coquyt** and her new grandbaby Kaylin Marie!



Cindy Jones and **Louise Short** had an enjoyable time at the recent Spring Lane/Hope Equine clinic.

Kathy Smehyl's vet clinic, Steele Equine (<http://www.steele-equine.com/>) in Zolfo Springs, is putting in a hydrotherapy pool.

Laura Branch had fun recently taking her horses to the north end of the fishing pier at the Skyway Bridge in St. Pete. Ellen Ann probably enjoyed it more, as Laura towed her on a float behind the horse!

There was a bit of a discussion about using **diatomaceous earth** to control flies. Donna Coquyt has had great success with it by sprinkling a quarter cup on her horse's feed each day. Tractor Supply carries 25-pound bags for \$9.

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 <https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>. Happy Trails, where we hope to see you soon!



Florida Sport Horse Club, Inc
Membership New/Renewal Form
 20__ to 20__



Please complete the form and return it with your check, payable to the Florida Sport Horse Club,
by September 30. Welcome to our club!

Name(s) _____ **Single** **\$15.00**
 _____ **Family** **\$25.00**

Joining before September 30? Add a 1-year subscription to Horse & Pony for an extra \$10. Yes _____

Total paid: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Birthday: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Emergency contact name & phone: _____

For and in consideration of the activities, services and fees paid, Participant hereby does forever and finally release, remise, acquit, satisfy and forever discharge the Florida Sport Horse Club, Inc. (FSHC) of and from all manner of action and actions, cause and causes of action, suit, debts, dues, sums of money, bonds, billings, contracts executions, claims and demands whatsoever, in law or in equity, which may arise for or against the FSHC for the activities of the Association. This document is meant to be a full and complete release from any and all liability that may arise from participating in the activities of the FSHC. The Participant gives this release freely and voluntarily.

 Signed (include legal guardian if under 19 years of age) Date

 Other Family Member(s) Date

Please submit this form and your membership fee to:

Susan Buchanon
9210 Evans Road
Polk City, FL 33868
starlabuchanon@yahoo.com

**The newsletter is sent electronically and is posted on the club's web page each month. If you do not have access to email or Internet, please contact the Club Secretary so it can be snail-mailed to you.