



Florida Sport Horse Club Newsletter

January 2019

<https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>

floridasporthorseclub@gmail.com



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:

NOTE: Email or message members for any pickup rides!

- **Saturday, January 26, 9:00am:** Club ride at Gator Creek (Hall Road entrance). Trail boss Barbara Lassiter
- **Saturday, February 2, 9:30am:** Club ride at Catfish Creek. Trail Bosses Barbara & Mike Charron
- **Saturday, February 9, 9:30am:** Family Fun ride @ Colt Creek State Park—**some people are volunteering, others are riding.**
- **Saturday, February 16, 9:00am:** Club ride at Marshall Hampton, Thornhill Road. Trail Boss Barbara Lassiter
- **Monday, February 18, 6:00pm:** Club dinner with monthly meeting, **Golden Corral**, 4532 S Florida Ave., Lakeland.
- **Sunday, March 3, 1:30-3pm:** Pony rides at Colt Creek

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 863-698-4512
- 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 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

We welcomed 4 guests at the January 21st meeting!

- **Ronica and Bryan Neely, with daughter Alexis**, were invited by Melody Cazort. They have 2 quarter horses, a Welsh pony, and a mini. Alexis is into trail riding and ranch work. Ronica and Bryan got the 2nd Quarter Horse so they could keep her company on the trail. **They have also joined the club!**
- **Jessica Nodzak**, from Polk City, has a Drum horse (mixture of Shire and Gypsy), a Frisian, a paint and a mini.

We look forward to having these folks join us on the trail!

Colt Creek State Park's 2nd **Family Fun Ride** is fast approaching on Saturday, February 9th, and our club has again been asked to help. The horse representative on the Friends' Board is our own **Karen Turbeville**, who is a very strong advocate for us; our active support of park events not only promotes our club but also the value of horse people in our community. Here's what we're doing:

- We've mapped out 2 routes, 1 long and 1 short, for riders
- We've made trail markers which we will place the Friday before the ride
- We've promoted the event on our Facebook page, to help with advertising
- We've made a map showing the 2 routes, plus all directions, that will be given to participants that day
- We've made the "Hold Harmless" forms that will be used that day
- And, of course, we have a number of volunteers who are helping with registration and parking that day. THANKS to our volunteers (**Karen & Sammie Turbeville, Barbara and Steve Lassiter, Mary Lou Waugh, Frank Pak, Ronica Neely, & Janet Schneider**) AND everyone else who is riding in the event.



ALL HANDS ON DECK! We will be giving pony rides again at the annual "Get to Know Colt Creek" event on Sunday, March 3rd from 1:30 to 3pm. We'll be in the same place we were last year, between the Middle Lakes parking area and the Great Blue Heron pavilion. **LOTS of help will be needed**, as usual:

- 2 people at registration
- 2 people to fit helmets
- At least 2 people at the mounting blocks
- At least 2 (and preferably) 3 people per horse; a leader, a walker—and with some riders, 2 walkers are needed. Extra "floaters" to give walkers a break once in a while
- Somebody to drive a truck between the parking area and the pony ride area, to ferry supplies and people back and forth
- Somebody stationed in the Middle Lakes area with a walkie-talkie who can tell us at the pony rides when the truck is needed back in the parking area to load up supplies

ALSO NEEDED:

- Horses! Must be extremely calm, and used to crowds and activities
- Helmets
- A couple of mounting blocks—the taller the better (Janet S. has a 4-step she will bring)

PLEASE help that day! Call or email Karen Turbeville or Janet Schneider and let us know that you are coming, with or without a horse or equipment.

The Friends of Colt Creek will be providing a hot dog lunch to all comers. You may want to come early to eat and listen to music.

The proposed camping trip has been pushed back to the weekend of March 29-31. Mike is investigating places...email him if you're interested.

Mike Charron talked again with the manager of the **Hilochee Wildlife Management Area**. That person is willing to consider expanding the parking area on the Old Polk City Road for horse trailers. Anyone riding there would have to carefully consider the hunting schedule, but the club used to ride fairly frequently out there in cooler weather. We'll keep you updated on progress.

Mike Charron, Karen Turbeville and Janet Schneider represented the horse community at the January 9th meeting of **the Crooked Lake Wildlife and Environmental Area Management Advisory Group** to update its 10-year plan.



Crooked Lake is on U.S. 98 between Ft Meade and Frostproof, and has truly lovely riding. It has the added benefit of being a prohibited hunting area. There are only 6 miles of marked trails, but more are available with all the fire lanes. Club recommendations included substituting shell for rocks on roads, better trail markers, linking trails with adjacent conservation lands to expand mileage, and using a sign-in sheet to track usage of the property. **There will be a public meeting for the revised plan on Thursday, February 21, at 7pm at the Polk County Administration Building (330 Church St, Room 431, Bartow FL).** A big turnout of horse people would be great.

Lower Green Swamp, is hosting its first **Moonlight Ride** on Saturday, March 16 at 6:30. Registration is required, and limited to 30 riders. You can find more information at <https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/calendar/03-parksandrec/2019/celm/20190316-lower-green-swamp-guided-moonlight-trail-ride>.

Little Manatee River State Park frequently has moonlight rides; few of us are willing to trailer that far at night. But we've been told that Wolfe's "Born to Ride" (941-812-1980) can rent horses to you for an evening of fun.

We are looking for educational topics for upcoming meetings. What interests you? Do you have any ideas for speakers? If so, please tell Mike Charron.

Last year Judy Cloninger and Janet Schneider took part in a **mounted Easter egg hunt** at Lake X. They had a blast, and are going back this year on Saturday, March 23rd. It's a 3 to 3.5 hour ride, and will be a full day's activity by the time we figure travel time, ride, lunch and awards. It would be great to have a FSHC team! If you are interested, please read the email already sent out to club members or contact Judy or Janet.

I suppose you can tell it's prime riding season when the injuries ramp up. **Barbara Charron** is recovering from a broken kneecap; **Kathy Smehyl** has tendon injuries that will keep her in a cast for 6 weeks; Mike met **Kathy Grinstead**, suffering from health issues, at the hospital the day after Christmas; and **Janet Schneider** has been hobbling around with a broken toe and badly bruised foot. Good times for horse owners.

New riders have joined us on a number of recent rides. If you see unfamiliar faces as we prepare to ride out, please introduce yourself and invite them to club activities. People are welcome to ride with us a few times before they decide whether they want to become a member. Of course, anyone showing up regularly should be encouraged to officially join the club.

You are invited to bring a lunch to club rides. Let the horses relax for a few minutes before loading up and heading home; you can catch up with your riding buddies as well as learn more about guests who may join us. We may even try doing a potluck kind of thing once a quarter!

The Friends of Colt Creek are having their annual public meeting on Thursday, January 31 from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Federal Bar at 124 S. Tennessee Ave., Lakeland. Our club is a corporate member; you are invited to attend a short ½ hour meeting and stay for the socializing after. Horse people, show up in force!



Tips & Activities by Members:



Congratulations to **Louise Short**, who took 1st place in Adult Novice & **Mary Futch**, who took 2nd place in Senior Adult Advanced at the January 19th's Lake Louisa Obstacle Challenge.

If you need an animal sitter while you're away, give **Susie Jacobs** a call at 863-325-6007. She'll take care of your horses, dogs, cats and more.

We were glad to see **Myra Bell** at the January meeting. She hasn't been given the OK yet from her doctor to resume riding, but we know it's coming!

We've had a lot of really great rides lately. It may be tough to get up early enough to make the ride times, but this is prime weather for us. Please take advantage of it before the heat catches us again. We'll see you on the trails!



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 <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.