



# Florida Sport Horse Club Newsletter

## February 2023

<https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>

[floridasporthorseclub@gmail.com](mailto:floridasporthorseclub@gmail.com)



### Calendar of Club Rides and Events

**Rides begin promptly at the specified time.  
Please be mounted and ready!**

- **February 25, 9:00am:** Club ride at Lake Louisa State Park. Trail boss Del Jones
- **Saturday, March 4, 9:00am:** Club ride at Tenoroc. Trail boss Del Jones
- **March 9-15:** Green Swamp West campout. Coordinator Karen Turbeville
- **Saturday, March 11, 9:00am:** Club ride at Marshall Hampton. Trail boss Del Jones
- **Tuesday, February 14, 11:15am:** Club Dine-Around at The Wooden Spoon, 6960 S Florida Ave., Lakeland
- **Saturday, March 18, 9:00am:** Club ride, potluck and business meeting at Colt Creek
- **Saturday, March 25, 9:00am:** Club ride at Hampton Tract
- **Saturday, March 25, 10-12pm and 1-3pm:** Day Without Disabilities
- **Saturday, March 25, 11:30-3pm:** Colt Creek's Tunes by the Lake
- **Saturday, April 1, 8am-1:00pm:** Tenoroc's annual Kids' Fishing Derby

**Do you have suggestions for riding in other areas? Please contact Trail Boss Del Jones.**

**Take time after each ride to relax—bring your lunch or snacks and share some quality time with club members.** Those wanting to ride other days—please contact Karen Turbeville, or email club members directly. Many riders have been joining in on the various weekday rides.

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.

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

### Officers:

#### President:

Mike Charron  
[mike@rps-fl.com](mailto:mike@rps-fl.com)  
863-670-4727

#### VP for Trails:

Del Jones  
[deljones314@gmail.com](mailto:deljones314@gmail.com)  
863-221-6312

#### Treasurer:

Susan Buchanon  
[starlabuchanon@yahoo.com](mailto:starlabuchanon@yahoo.com)  
863-984-1000

#### Secretary/Newsletter Editor:

Janet Schneider  
[Jm\\_schneider@msn.com](mailto:Jm_schneider@msn.com)  
863-944-6788

#### Committees/Ancillaries:

Club Shirts: AnnMarie Connor

<https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>

[floridasporthorseclub@gmail.com](mailto:floridasporthorseclub@gmail.com)



Find us on  
**Facebook**

# News

**WELCOME** to our newest member, **Janet McDonald!** We hope to meet her soon.

As our Saturday rides gain more participation, it's even more important that the **club's trail etiquette guidelines** be followed. We want the rides to go smoothly, safely and happily for everyone! A "refresher" copy is attached.

Kathy Grinstead is looking for volunteers to help with the Bunch Ranch "**Day without Disabilities**" on Saturday, March 25. She's bringing 5 horses; she'd like more, as well as people to serve as walkers. Hours are 10am to noon, and 1pm to 3pm. Contact Kathy directly if you can help.

Colt Creek will be hosting a "**Tunes by the Lake**" on Saturday, March 25 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Our very own member Robin Berning is the Friends of Colt Creek's newest Board member, and has asked the club to assist her in cooking hot dogs for sale that day as a fundraiser for the Friends. If you can come around 11:30 to noon that day to help, please contact Robin directly.

The club will be doing a **pony meet-and-greet at Tenoroc's Annual Kids' Fishing Derby** on Saturday, April 1. We already have our horses, thanks to Melody Cazort and June Jansen, but need 2-3 other people to help. Please let Janet Schneider know if you are available.

Twelve people indicated interest in a **club obstacle day**, so Susan Buchanon is going to inquire about dates. She knows some people may only be able to come if there is nearby camping facilities. M&M in Webster charges a flat \$225, which would be split between however members come that day. There is also Staley Stables in Wimauma which is relatively close to Little Manatee and Alafia State Parks and charges \$25 per rider. Interested? Please let Susan know.

Sarah, who works with Kathy Grinstead, runs the **Special Olympics Equestrian team** and is looking for Coaches and Volunteers at Rockin' W Ranch and Pine Creek Ranch. If anyone is interested, please call or email Sarah Frederick, 863-207-8947; sarah.parent.advocate@gmail.com.

**Hope Equine Rescue** in Winter Haven needs volunteers in a variety of jobs. Most important of those is just grooming the 50+ horses they have on site. Cheryl and Jeff Kreitman recently signed up and find it very satisfying to help others. Please consider signing up to help—it's only 3 hours per week.

The club received a very nice thank you note from **Hope Equine** for its stall sponsorship. "Our" stall will have a plaque mounted on the door to recognize the club's contribution.

The Triple B Riders have invited us to join them at their fundraising **camping trip to Doe Lake** (near Umatilla) Thursday, April 13 till Tuesday, April 18. Cost is \$100 for members, \$110 for nonmembers. More information on Doe Lake can be found at <https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/234599>. Triple B uses its funds for a variety of worthy causes, like donating to Hope Equine and the University of Florida Vet schools when it supported horses injured in the hurricanes.

Karen Turbeville is planning another **campout at Green Swamp West** from March 9 to the 15<sup>th</sup>. If interested, let her know.

**Want a club shirt? We now must have an order of 6 shirts or more to place it.** Email AnnMarie Connor at [nascaramc@yahoo.com](mailto:nascaramc@yahoo.com).



We had 17 people at the February dine-around at Beef O’Brady’s in Lakeland. The next **club Dine-Around** will be at the Wooden Spoon, 6960 S Florida Ave (light at S Florida/Shepherd Road, in the shopping plaza on the east side of the road) Lakeland, on Tuesday, March 14. **RSVP to Carla by Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.**



Since Facebook changed to Meta, it’s tougher to find the “events” portion of the page. Where you’ll go to find events depends on your device, but here are the 2 ways we’ve found that work:

1. Click on **“About,”** then scroll down. The events will be **below** Bio, Details, Description, Page Transparency and Reviews.
2. Click on **“More,”** then **“events.”**

**Do you follow our Facebook page or web page?** All our events, news, and tips are listed. You can even review our club!

The **weekday pickup rides** are still going strong. They aren’t always advertised, so if YOU want to ride during the week please contact Karen Turbeville.

There’s a nice write-up of the club’s participation in the 2023 “Water, Wings and Wild Things” in the February Horse and Pony News (page 13).

### Florida Sport Horse Club at the 2023 Water, Wings & Wild Things Event

*Club President Mike Chamon and Blue talk to the kids.*

It’s always a pleasure to share our love of horses with others, and Polk County’s “Water, Wings & Wild Things” event for the 2500 second graders in the county was a real extravaganza for the Florida Sport Horse Club.

More than 50 exhibits graced the Circle B Bar grounds on January 12 to introduce kids to natural resources, environmental issues, and outdoor activities. State parks, fishing organizations, museums, conservation and wildlife groups, and private groups like our horse club were represented.

The kids were able to meet and pet 3 of the members’ horses—a mini, a quarter horse and a thoroughbred. There was also a table of equipment and tools—saddles, brushes, horseshoes, hoof picks and the like—that the kids could examine. Members fielded what seemed like hundreds of questions, and many kids told us that they’d never been that close to a horse before.

Our club is grateful to be able to give back to our community through events like this. We recently funded new mounting blocks at Lower Green Swamp, one of our favorite riding areas. Our Saturday rides are going strong, and there are usually member pickup rides during the week. We also have a monthly dine-around where we meet at local restaurants for lunch and conversation.

We welcome guests on our rides and at meetings, so that they can get a feel for our group before joining. Please check us out on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/FloridaSportHorseClub>) and the web (<https://floridasporthorseclub.com>).

**Florida Sport Horse Club**  
Based in Polk County  
Dedicated to Trail Riding & the preservation of central Florida riding areas  
<https://floridasporthorseclub.com>  
[FloridaSportHorseClub@gmail.com](mailto:FloridaSportHorseClub@gmail.com)  
Like Us on Facebook!

**If you see unfamiliar faces** at our rides and events, please introduce yourself and invite them to club activities. People are welcome to join us a few times before they decide to become a member. **And remember—guests must sign a hold harmless that the trail bosses will provide. Please escort the guests to the trail boss of the day!**



## Tips & Activities by Members:

---



We grieve with **Barbara Lassiter** for the loss of her beloved Petey. Petey had been her stalwart companion for 24 years.

**Ellie Crowder** is (at the moment) out of the hospital but still having a very challenging time. She asked us to convey her thanks for all you've done for her; please keep up the prayers and her place in your hearts. Cards sent to her home make a HUGE difference in helping her feel loved and supported.

**David Albizu's** hip surgery has been postponed for a second time. That's a demoralizing thing in itself, so please send good thoughts his way.



## Classifieds:



**Erik Lundquist** of Leaning Tree Ranch is available for **horse training** as well as **riding and driving lessons**. Your place or his. 6140 Ike Smith Road, Plant City. 352-457-4110.

**Safe Horses for Parties, Weddings, Community outreach**, pictures and/or therapy. Reasonable rates; call Marianne Mozelle, 863-255-7300.

**Hand-crafted soaps from advanced certified soap maker Jane Gavin:** essential oil soaps, and others. She now makes a Farriers' soap, inspired by Wayne Elkins and Dani Horton. She also has an all-natural citronella soap that is excellent for horses. Check out her web site at <https://www.soapforthesoul.com/>.

Join the club! Meet some great people who love their horses. 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 Trail Etiquette Guidelines

Trail etiquette is mostly common sense and safety precautions, but sometimes it helps to have a reminder of some commonly accepted practices. These guidelines are meant to be flexible tips to help club members have a good time while remaining as safe as possible on the trail.

1. **Be on time.** Be saddled, mounted and ready to ride at the appointed time.
2. **Stay behind the Trail Boss unless given permission to pass.**
3. **Do not leave the group without notifying other riders.**
4. **Don't pass, come up behind, or run toward others at a high speed.** If the horses in the group are surprised or become frightened, they might spook and someone could get hurt.
5. **Don't make loud noises on the trail.** Many trail riders are looking for quiet time with nature. Be considerate and don't yell unless there is a problem.
6. **Leave gates as you found them.** Many trail areas double as cow pastures, so always leave the gates open or closed as you found them.
7. **If you carry a crop, make sure it stays close to your side and does not wave out to other horses.**
8. **Ride at the ability level and speed of the least experienced rider or horse.** Do not ride too quickly or take trails that are too challenging for their comfort level and experience.
9. **Speak up** if the group is moving too quickly or slowly—others may feel the same way, and the group could be split to accommodate the needs of all.
10. **Keep at least one to two horse lengths between you and the horse in front of you.** This will allow you to view the trail ahead and prevent your horse from being kicked.
11. **If your horse is a known kicker, tie a red ribbon in its tail.** Never assume that all riders know what the red ribbon means; if a rider moves too close, let him or her know immediately that your horse may kick.
12. **Be watchful for trail hazards and relay them to those following you.** Be specific when describing the hazard, such as: "Deep hole on the left side of the trail; stay to the right," or "Watch out, there's a low hanging limb ahead. Duck!"
13. Many trails are also enjoyed by those who hike, bike or ride ATVs. As a general rule, **all users should yield to horses.** Be prepared for any reaction your horse may have to others. Always speak to those you meet in the hope that they will return the greeting and your horse will recognize them as human. It is not discourteous to ask those you encounter to yield; however, it may be in everyone's best interest if you move off the trail to allow them to pass if they choose not to.
14. **When watering horses** from a creek or other watering source, take turns and do not ride off until every horse has had an opportunity to drink. A thirsty horse will not drink if he is left behind.
15. **If someone needs to dismount** during the ride, everyone should stop and wait for the rider to remount before resuming the ride.
16. **Remember that you may not be able to always ride in your favorite position in the line.** It's good for a horse to learn to ride in front or in back of others. Be flexible and make room for other riders in the line.
17. **Be a good Samaritan.** If you encounter someone having trouble on the trail, offer to stop and help. Remember, it could be you needing assistance next time.
18. **Be environmentally friendly.** Carry out what you carry in. Do not ride off trail or cut across switchbacks unless it's approved by the riding area management.
19. **Be responsible with your horse's manure.** Pick it up! Leave it in the bushes or take it home with you, not in the parking lot where others will step in it. Keep your horse moving on the trail so no big piles are left on the path.



**Florida Sport Horse Club, Inc**  
**Membership New/Renewal Form**  
**August through July, 20\_\_ to 20\_\_**



Please complete the form and return it with your check, **payable to the Florida Sport Horse Club**,  
 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:

**Florida Sport Horse Club**  
**c/o 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.