

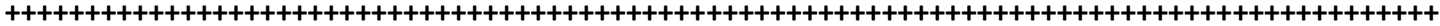


# Florida Sport Horse Club Newsletter

## April 2024

<https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>

[floridasporthorseclub@gmail.com](mailto: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

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

- **Saturday, April 20, 9:00am-3:00pm:** Desensitization Clinic with George Cardoso
- **Saturday, April 27, 8:30am:** Club ride at Alafia River State Park. 14326 South County Road 39 (NOT the Preserve!). Trail bosses Cheryl & Jeff Kreitman
- **Saturday, May 4, 8:30am:** Club ride at Marshall Hampton Reserve, Thornhill Road (**permit needed**). Trail bosses Cheryl & Jeff Kreitman
- **Saturday, May 11, 8:30am:** Club ride at Hilochee Main Unit (Riddick Grove Road entrance off Hwy 27, 3.2 miles north of 474). Trail bosses Cheryl & Jeff Kreitman
- **Tuesday, May 14 11:15 am:** Club dine-around at Ling's Buffet, 4320 S. Florida Ave., Lakeland
- **Saturday, May 18, 8:30am:** Club ride at Tenoroc. Trail bosses Cheryl & Jeff Kreitman
- **Monday, May 20, 6:00pm:** Club dinner & business meeting at the north Lakeland Golden Corral
- **Saturday, May 25, 8:30am:** Club ride at Lower Green Swamp. Trail bosses Cheryl & Jeff Kreitman
- **Saturday, November 9, 9:00am:** Colt Creek Poker Ride

Check the **"Upcoming Events"** section of our web page at <https://floridasporthorseclub.com/>; You can also use the **"Events"** section of the Club's Facebook page (depending on your device, click on "About" and scroll down to events OR click on "More," then on "Events" from the drop-down menu).

# News

## WELCOME to new member Traci Sibly!

We're looking forward to the **Desensitization Clinic** with George Cardoso this Saturday, April 20, from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Kreitmans' home in Polk City. There will not be a club ride this day for obvious reasons.

The next **Dine-Around** will be on **Tuesday, May 14** at Ling's Buffet, 4320 S. Florida Ave. RSVPs to Carla Hart by Friday, May 10, please. **If you have a restaurant suggestion** for Carla, let her know!



The **29<sup>th</sup> Annual Tenoroc Youth Fishing Derby** on Saturday, April 6 was a great day! This year the event attracted 142 kids and their families. FWC estimated a total of 430 people including kids, adults, exhibitors, staff, and volunteers came out to the event. We thank Rae Gayer, Karen and Sammie Turbeville, Cathy Botts, and Janet Schneider for representing the club.

We haven't ridden at **Hilochee WMA, Main Unit**, for a long time, but Cheryl and Jeff are arranging for a permit to get us through the gate on Riddick Grove Road off US 27. You must RSVP to the Kreitmans before the ride to get the gate code.

The entrance to the **Marshall Hampton Reserve** has now been moved about a quarter mile south of the original driveway. The equestrian parking is separated from the hikers; the gate lock could well be installed back on the gate, so **if you don't have your free pass call Polk Parks at 863-534-7377** to request your special equestrian permits for Gator Creek and Marshall Hampton. There is a porta-potty and "our" picnic table there; we will no longer be able to ride all the way around the Osprey Loop, and the Acorn Loop is gone.

**Tillis Hill Campground** is located on the Withlacoochee State Forest - Citrus Tract in Inverness, Florida. The campground is not a "designated equestrian campground" though it has equestrian facilities including 36 stalls, turnout paddock, wash racks and 80+ miles of designated horse trails. The campground has a NO PETS policy that has been in place for years but is currently under review by the Forest Service leadership team. Allowing pets would probably increase equestrian usage of the campground. In 2023 the stalls had less than 5% occupancy. The Forest Service is sending the **visitor opinion survey** (see link below) to previous visitors, which will include very few equestrians, based on the stable's occupancy numbers. <https://forms.office.com/g/bmPvrZzbaJ>. **PLEASE NOTE:** the questions are skewed badly against dogs and do not offer ways to qualify your answers.

**It pays to shop around.** The Lake Wales Tractor Supply is in an extreme competition with Rural King and offering very low prices on many items. Other Tractor Supplies must MEET Rural King prices as well as the Lake Wales Tractor Supply prices, often at very deep discounts.

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

**Pony rides at Colt Creek** were again mentioned at the April business meeting as a possibility in the fall. Melody Cazort has 5 horses lined up; members were asked if they are interested in participating, since it takes a lot of people to work the event (3 per horse, at least 2—preferably 4—on the mounting blocks, 2 on registration, 2 for helmets). The subject will be revisited later in the year.

If you're interested in ordering a **club shirt**, contact Ann Marie Connor at [nascaramc@yahoo.com](mailto:nascaramc@yahoo.com). She has information on styles, colors and prices. We must have at least 6 shirts requested before we can place an order.

The **weekday pickup rides** aren't always advertised, so if YOU want to ride during the week please email Janet. She can pass the message along to the club with your desired ride place, day and time.

**Kathy and Cowboy Everly are still looking for a pony** to add to their stables. If you know of one or two kind ponies who would be good with supervised children, please contact the Everlys. They would provide an outstanding home.

**Horse and Pony News** is Florida's only equine newspaper. The club has another article (How do You Practice Trail Safety?) in the April edition; read the current issue online at <https://www.horseandponynews.com/>.

**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:



**Mike Charron's** wonderful dad made it past his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, but has passed into a better world. We sympathize with the Charron family.

**Lori Shank** is looking for a gaited trail horse.

**Louise Short** has started feeding **Nupafeed® Magnesium For Horses** to Mama, and says it's made a huge positive difference in the horse's attitude.

The **Kreitmans** have returned from another Florida Cracker Horse Association gathering. Cheryl talked a bit about the Beverly Zicheck Preserve in Ocala and the land around the old Desert Inn on Hwy 60.



## 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/>.

**Barn Cleaning, Barn Sitting & Equine Exercising:** Lend-a-Hand Barn Services is a local small business offering cobweb removal, stall refreshing, dusting & more. Equine services include drop-in feeding & stall mucking, and walking/lunging horses. Check us out on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/lahbarnservices/>

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!

## How Do YOU Practice Trail Safety?

**By the Florida Sport Horse Club**

It's easy to find all kinds of advice and tips on trail safety, and people interpret it to meet their individual needs.

Safety actually starts when you decide to ride—checking your trailer and equipment each and every time. Finding a flat tire, a partially attached hitch or even an open trailer door as you're pulling out can be an unpleasant surprise. Ensuring someone knows where you're going and when you plan to return is important as well.

Here are some of our club's suggestions for reducing the riding risks that may not have been covered in other article:

1. As well as telling someone where you're going, ensure s/he has the address and phone number of your destination. Have a list of your riding areas (<https://floridasporthorseclub.files.wordpress.com/2022/02/central-florida-equestrian-areas-addresses-phones-2022.pdf>), with addresses and phone numbers, available to that person. Keep those numbers in your phone; if you have an emergency on the trail, you'll be able to call for help quickly.

2. Riding with others is always safest. But when you can't find anyone with whom to ride and go out by yourself, pick a place that's staffed. State and county parks, for example, are better than SWFWMD areas that are more remote with help far away.

3. Place emergency information in an accessible location in your trailer. If you don't return, first responders or area staff will be able to find your name, medical and vet contacts, and "In Case of Emergency (ICE) contacts, telling them who they're looking for. A form is available at <https://floridasporthorseclub.files.wordpress.com/2016/12/to-emergency-responders-equine-form.pdf>.

4. Carry a paper map as well as using a GPS/cell phone app to track your progress. Beware of some apps that drain your battery power on longer rides, leaving your phone dead—or rely on cell towers rather than satellites, leaving you stranded in remote areas. Handheld GPS devices that use satellite signals can be more reliable.



5. If you're worried about "involuntary dismounts" and disappearing horses, you can purchase a satellite-based GPS tracker that can be attached to your horse. If you do become separated, its location can be pulled up on a map. Some trackers also have a panic button which will send a message to your designated contact.

6. Never carry your phone or keys on the saddle! If your horse leaves, so do your safety tools. Place bright tags/labels on anything you carry—saddles, crops, bags, phones, etc. We have found unidentified bell boots, car keys, phones, crops, knives, and more along the trails and struggled to find the owners.

7. Carry some basics on the saddle for emergencies—cattle bags work well. A rain slicker can serve as a pillow or blanket; a knife and hoof pick are essential; gauze and vet wrap can stabilize broken bones as well as cover wounds. A lead or rope is important if you end up on foot or come across a loose horse—which has happened to us more often than we'd like. Place an ID tag on your saddle; carry your Coggins and (again) emergency information in a waterproof bag. If your horse becomes lost, the finders will be able to notify you immediately.

8. Carry personal ID in your pocket or pouch—photocopies of a driver's license and medical insurance work well. Should you become separated from your horse or are injured, it will help the first responders assist you faster.

9. Wear bright colors. You'll be more easily seen both by those using the trails as well as emergency staff.

And most importantly, maintain your riding skills. The more secure you are in the saddle, the safer you'll be!





**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.