



ffbch.org

**Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen, Inc.**  
*Preserving our equine cultural heritage on public lands for today and tomorrow.*

# FFBCH NEWS

October 2017

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS !!**  
**The October meeting is scheduled for**  
***Thursday*, October 26, 2017.**



**Dinner 5:30-6:30**  
**Business meeting at 6:30 p.m**

**The Old World**  
**8370 S Florida Ave**  
**Floral City, 34436**  
**352-344-4443**

**Mark Lewis, Recreation/Volunteer Coordinator,**  
**Florida Forest Service will be our speaker.**

***Non-Members are WELCOME!***



LIKE us on Facebook!

FFBCH Website: [www.ffbch.org](http://www.ffbch.org)



## Trail Maintenance and Updates



### Trail Updates

We now have Eagle Ridge, El Dorado, Turkey Oak and the orange trail adopted - Thank You Jerry Hardy, Janet Day, Charlie Moore & Barb Bellamy. We are still looking for homes for the others. We have people who are available to do tree removal as needed, but dead fall, trash and minor trimming is always needed. Grab a friend or two or three and adopt a trail!

**Please report downed trees, any trail signs missing or damaged, brown FR signs missing or damaged or any other issues to Fred Fulcher 352.341.2461 or Sally McDavid 352.628.2973.**



### Other Trail News !!!



#### SUV Trail Update - Mistaken Identity!

The SUV Trail that ran along the section of the Turkey Oak/Thunder Road loop that started at FR15 all the way to FR13 has finally been corrected. The trail should have been from FR13 (just north of FR16) up to FR14 as is now reflected on the Special Use Vehicle Permit Map 2017-2018. The red rings have been removed from this section. Should any hunter that has not obtained and updated map question your use during hunting season, refer him to: [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com) for updated map information.

This is great news and we appreciate forestry working with FWC to correct this situation!

#### **Florida Greenways & Trails System 5-Year Plan Update - 2018-2022 Public Open House Workshops**

For those of you who love the Greenway, please check out the link below for public workshops. This is your chance to provide input for this great trail system! There are a variety of dates in a variety of places to provide access for all.

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/FGTS%20Public%20Meeting%20announcement%20final.pdf>

**Meetings are scheduled as follows!**

**October 26, 2017**

**Old World, Floral City**

**November 19, 2017**

**Tillis Hill Picnic**

**December 13, 2017**

**Stumpknockers on the River**

**Speakers As Follows:**

**October:**

**Mark Lewis**

Recreation/Volunteer Coordinator

Florida Forest Service

**November:**

Linda Boles of “Find-M’Friends”

See Below & Chronicle Article on Page 5

**December:**

No Speaker - Annual Christmas Party.

**Linda Boles of “Find-M’Friends” ([www.findmfriends.org](http://www.findmfriends.org)) will be the speaker at our November 19 picnic at Tillis Hill. She will also give us a peek at how these wonderful dogs work with live demonstration. These scent discriminating bloodhounds and their organization work to help find people who are missing or lost.**

**Check out their facebook page: Find-M' Friends, Inc.**

## After scare, missing girl doing well. Rescuers scoured miles of woods for an hour and a half to find Lainey Bramlett.

Citrus County Chronicle

By Buster Thompson January 19, 2017

Quick-acting volunteers, first responders and two of the county's best noses were breathing a sigh of relief Sunday after an hours-long effort to find a missing Floral City girl ended with her safe return to her mother's arms. Lainey Bramlett, 3, was riding a battery powered ride-on toy car along a pathway on her family's 11-acre property off East New Hope Court around noon Saturday while her mother, Malerie Bramlett, kept an attentive ear on her daughter from a nearby picnic table.

After a few moments, Bramlett noticed she could no longer hear the vehicle's whir. She got up to check on her daughter, but all she found was the child's four-wheeler. "I immediately started looking for her and calling for her, and she wouldn't answer," she said Sunday.

It's not uncommon for Lainey to wander off, Bramlett said — what was unusual was that Lainey wasn't responding to her mother's calls. Malerie's thoughts quickly turned to the dense woods and other rough terrain around the property, she said, and the dangers they might hold for Lainey. "That's what really worried me," Bramlett said. "I expected her to be right where she always was."

Bramlett called her husband, Lane Kersey, a firefighter with Citrus County Sheriff's Office's Fire Rescue division. The couple asked for help from their neighbors, who mounted horses and ATVs to search for the girl. Kersey's fellow off-duty firefighters also aided in the search. "We started our own little search party," Bramlett said. "I don't really think I was thinking much at all, I was just acting."

Sheriff's deputies, firefighters, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff, Florida Department of Law Enforcement agents, Nature Coast EMS technicians and other volunteers quickly joined the growing search party — **as did Linda Boles and her bloodhound, Winnie. Boles is co-founder of Find-M' Friends, a nonprofit group that educates people on the benefits of using bloodhounds to find lost people. She and Winnie frequently assist the sheriff's office with missing-persons cases.** "It was starting to get a little chaotic," Boles said about the massive search effort. "The sheriff's office was trying to get everyone in motion." Winnie was given an article bearing Lainey's scent, and her nose went to work trying to track Lainey's scent through the underbrush. "It was a bit challenging, but Win worked, worked and worked," Boles said.

K-9 Deputy Justin Williams backed up Boles during the search. Soon, searchers stumbled on Lainey's jacket — hope that she was not far away. Boles and Williams' canines tracked the girl's scent for an hour and a half — and nearly a mile — until Winnie slammed to a halt. There, curled up face-down in thick brush, was Lainey.

"She put her nose right on that baby," Boles said about her canine partner. "We didn't even know what we were looking at." Lainey's first words to her rescuers: "I'm looking for my mommy."

"It was just heart-wrenching and overwhelming joy," Boles said. "I really think she had given up. ... She had hunkered down to rest, and I think it was just by the grace of God that things happened the way it did."

Williams picked up Lainey and wrapped her in a blanket before handing her over to her mom. Bramlett said her daughter is doing well and is back to her normal self, and she cannot thank her neighbors and first responders enough for finding her daughter.

"So many people came out for her," she said. "They all took a lot of initiative to help us find her."

Contact Chronicle reporter Buster Thompson at 352-564-2916 or [bthompson@chronicleonline.com](mailto:bthompson@chronicleonline.com).

September 2017 FFBCH  
General Meeting  
9/21/2017  
Sonny's BBQ

Meeting called to order @ 6:30 PM

We had a good turnout for this meeting. 23 people.

A motion to approve the June meeting minutes was made by Dorothy Michele and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Ramey and group approved.

Gary Reynolds gave the Treasurer's Report. Motion to approve by Fred Fulcher and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Fowler and group approved.

There is a lot of dead fall in the forest since hurricane Irma. There is a big tree down on 8. Jerry and Mavis Hardy have a big tractor to help with the removal of trees on the West side of the forest. Anyone who wants to help volunteer to clear the trails, please do so. Our first concern is trails that are blocked by trees. If you can step over or go around it's not as bad as total blockage. Also, trash is of little concern at this point. Call Sally, Gary or Fred if you see areas that need some work.

Becky Fulcher announced that Connie Cordill needs to board her QH until she can find a home find a home for him. Doug Ramey said they could take him. Dianne McDonald also expressed interest.

Lillian Baner announced that the Triple M Ranch next door to her is for sale and she could answer any questions about the property.

Guest speaker: Frank Peters, Floral City Heritage Museum Director  
Topic: The History of transportation on the Withlacoochee River.

Frank announced that they have a new exhibit in the museum. It is called "Another day, Another Dollar".

They try to change the main exhibit once a year. The exhibit is open Fri and Sat from 10-2. Frank gave an interesting talk about transportation on the river using small utilitarian steam boats to transport commerce up and down the river to the rail roads. Eventually the railroads expanded and made the steam boats obsolete due to their greater efficiency. Then river ferries were utilized for horse drawn vehicles to cross. Use of the ferries ended in the 1930's.

50/50 won by Sue Jamison \$41

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM



Want to help? Can't find the time to work on the trails? Can't always make the meetings? That doesn't matter! You can show your support by joining Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen (FFBCH). Individual memberships = \$25 and Family memberships = \$30. Or, make a donation!

Every member of a local chapter is automatically a member of the Back Country Horsemen of Florida AND Back Country Horsemen of America. Not in the Citrus County area? Then join Back Country Horsemen of Florida as an at-large member until a local chapter is developed in your area. Don't forget Nature Coast Back Country Horsemen serving Hernando, west Sumter and northeast Pasco Counties.

There are many issues facing equestrians today. Help us to preserve the trails we have. Add your voice to those of more than 15,000 of your fellow American horsemen and women. **You only have to look at the Croom and the Citrus Tract of the Withlacoochee Forest as an example of what can be accomplished when we work together and with our land managers!**



**Current Officers and Directors**

**President—Sally McDavid**  
**Vice President—Fred Fulcher**  
**Secretary—Becky Fulcher**  
**Treasurer—Gary Reynolds**  
**Janet Day - Director**  
**Tom Allen—Director**  
**Barb Porch—Director**  
**Cal McDavid—Director**

**Florida Forest Service**  
**Emergency Phone:**  
**352-797-4100**

**FFBCH Website: [www.ffbch.org](http://www.ffbch.org)**  
**email: [ffbch.org@gmail.com](mailto:ffbch.org@gmail.com)**