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

FFBCH NEWS

December, 2014



**Wishing Everyone Health,
Happiness, Family,
Friends and Joy this
Christmas!**



LIKE us on Facebook!

FFBCH Website: www.ffbch.org



Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen

Invite you to our Christmas Social on
Thursday, December 18
Stumpknockers on the River

Social/Cocktail Hour On The Deck (Full Bar)
By The Withlacoochee River 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Dinner (Inside) 6:00 p.m.

Please RSVP to ffbch.org@gmail.com. No obligation!
We just want to be able to reserve enough room.
As Always, Non-Members are Welcome!

This will be strictly a social event! There will be no business meeting or speaker! We hope you take the time to join us for the social hour and get to know each other as we have lots of new members.



We will have a White Elephant Gift Exchange. This is meant to be fun! Bring something from your home or barn that you don't want any more - get it - "White Elephant".

PLEASE don't buy anything! Wrap your "gift" in Christmas gift paper. Everyone will draw a number to determine the order of picking a gift. If someone doesn't like the gift they picked, they can choose to take yours. Each gift can be "taken" up to two times. So make sure each member in your party brings a "gift".

Stumpknockers on the River, 13821 SW Hwy 200, Dunnellon, FL 34432 352-854-2288
The restaurant is located on the left IMMEDIATELY after you cross the bridge over the Withlacoochee River on Hwy 200 as you are heading toward Ocala. www.stumpknockersontheriver.com

Check out their menu! Gator Nuggets, Frog Legs, Conch Fritters, Pork Chops, Steaks & Chicken just to name a few! They probably have some of the best seafood in the area!

Please Come Join Us !



Important News!

FFBCH February 28 Meeting Cancelled!

Due to the scheduling of the Back Country Horsemen of Florida's first annual meeting, Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen has cancelled their annual meeting previously scheduled for February 28 at Tillis Hill. Our annual meeting and elections will be held in March with a date and time to be announced.

See Page 5 for details on the state meeting!

Hope to see you there!

January Meeting Information!

Mark Your Calendar!

**The January meeting is scheduled for Wednesday,
January 7 at Old World in Floral City.**

**We will discuss the March elections and the
by-laws revision during a brief business meeting.**

**Our speaker will be Diane Otten, Park Services
Specialist, Withlacoochee State Trail.**

**A work day has been planned for Tuesday,
January 13 starting at 8:30 am to trim the horse trail
adjacent to the Withlacoochee State Trail from Floral City to
Istachatta. Details, directions, etc will be out soon in a separate
email. If you are interested in helping out,
email ffbch.org@gmail.com or
contact Fred Fulcher at 352.341.2461.**

Hope to see you there!



FLORIDA TRAIL ASSOCIATION

Heads up! New colors mark hiking trail!

The National Scenic Trail portion of the trail is now marked with the familiar orange rectangles. The main “local” trail is marked with yellow rectangles and connector trails will remain light blue.

Horse trails are marked with the familiar blue band around the trees. The only exception is on the field trial trails which are bands of purple, green, red, yellow, pink, orange and gray.

**Please
Respect Other
User's Trails**

**Stay OFF
Hiking Trails**



You're Invited

Back Country Horsemen of Florida

Invites you to our

First Annual Meeting & Shindig

Saturday, February 7, 2015

Registration 3:00 PM

Dining 3:30 PM

Annual Meeting 5:00 PM

Live Auction and Door Prizes

Tillis Hill Dining Hall

Citrus Tract

Withlacoochee State Forest

POT LUCK DINNER

Bring a Dish to Share

BCHFL will provide

Meat, drinks, plates, utensils

Non-members are welcome

We encourage you to
participate



CAMPING & STALLS

To Reserve Campsites and Stalls

Contact Gary Macintosh

Phone: 352 793-7920

Email: GMacBCHFL@aol.com

Deadline for Reservations

January 7, 2014



Directions:

From Brooksville: West on US-98 N for 7.8 miles, Right on Citrus Way/CR-491 for 3.4 miles,

Right on West Stagecoach Trail/CR-480 for 1.8 miles,

Left on dirt road to Tillis Hills Campground

From Inverness: West on FL-44 for 1.4 miles, Left on Pleasant Grove Road/CR-581 for 9.6 miles,

Right on East Stage Coach Trail/CR-480 for 3.8 miles,

Right on dirt road to Tillis Hills Campground

November 2014 General Meeting
11/20/2014
Old World

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM

Guests and new members: Judy and Tommy Bills, Barb Bellamy, Gary Macintosh of BCHF, Sharon Day, and Del and Lynn Kreger.

Minutes of October: Motion to approve: Dianne MacDonald 2nd: Karen Rossman. Group approved

Treasurer's report by Gary Reynolds Motion to approve: Dave Van 2nd: Tom Allen. Group approved

New Board members: Calvin McDavid and Barbara Porch

Resale event: We had a good turnout. Tack vendors did well. Craft vendors, not so much.

Christmas meeting: We are still looking for a venue and it will be strictly a social gathering. No business.

The BCH Florida state meeting will be February 7 at Tillis Hill. The BOD decided to cancel our February 28 meeting since it was so close to the State meeting. We will reschedule for March and have our elections at that time.

We are looking into a possible Rails to Trails cleanup project. Fred and Gary and Becky and Barb are meeting with the Rails to Trails Ranger to check out the terrain from Floral City to Istachatta.

Tee Shirt design has been selected and that project is coming along.

50/50 drawing was won by Larry Fowler. (\$52.50)

Mike Kessler mentioned that they need help with the Greenway Cleanup.

Guest Speaker: Thurmon Tolbert – Lameness Expert – Specializing in Pressure Point Therapy and deep muscle massage. Thurmon began by describing how he begins his initial evaluation of the horse. Many problems start at the atlas and poll which will lead to rear end lameness. The topline is only as strong as the belly muscles. We can help our horses by asking them to engage their rear ends and by not letting them travel in a strung out manner. Thurmon answered many questions from the group.

Meeting adjourned at 8 PM



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 = \$20 and Family memberships = \$25. 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

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