



ffbch.org

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

FFBCH NEWS

September, 2014



MARK YOUR CALENDARS !!

**The September meeting is scheduled for Thursday,
September 25 at Olive Garden!**

2151 E Gulf To Lake Hwy, Inverness, FL 34453 344-0943

For menu preview: <http://www.olivegarden.com/menu-listing/dinner>

Make sure you view Inverness, FL Olive Garden.

Dinner 5:30-7:00 business meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Y'all Venire!!!! Italian for Y'all Come !!

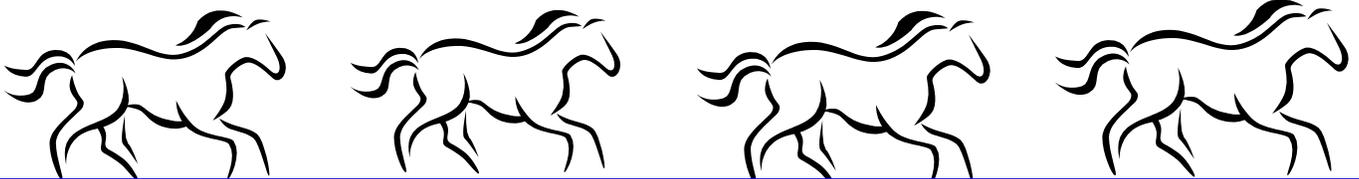
***Non-Members are WELCOME!*
*Please come and join us!***

LIKE us on Facebook!



FFBCH Website: www.ffbch.org

The new website is up and operational. Make sure you check it out! We will be adding more and more information, pictures of events and workdays, maps and links for trails throughout Florida and more so keep checking back!



Mark Your Calendars!

**The Second FFBCH Resale Event is scheduled for
Saturday, November 15!**

We need both vendors and volunteers! Got tack, clothes, crafts, jewelry, specialty foods or items you no longer use?

What a great opportunity to make a little money and sell it.
Sale spaces are still at a very reasonable \$10 for a 10x10 space.
Bring your own table(s).

You can pre-register now! No obligation, save time and shorten lines the day of the sale. Get added to the email list for updates and other information.

Want to be absolutely guaranteed a space? Have a location preference?
We will accept a non-refundable prepayment to hold your space!
Contact: Sally McDavid at 352.628.2973 (before 8 pm please!)

The sale will be held **INSIDE** the beautiful Crystal River Mall - just like last time!

!!! Fully Air Conditioned & Heated !!!
!!! No Weather Woes !!!

No need to worry about the weather - Rain or Shine - Hot or Cold—It is all **INSIDE!**

ATTENTION!!!

Beginning either in October or November, we will try to have speakers at our meetings. We'd like to have people who can speak on topics the majority of us would be interested in and are looking for suggestions.

In the past we have had: Dr. Stacy Strickland, University of Florida, Extension Services speak about pastures; David Hunnicutt of Farm Bureau and horse/farm owners special insurance needs; Colleen Werner, FFS, plant identification; and others. Want to hear from some of them again?

Send an email to ffbch.org@gmail.com with your suggestions - either by topic or speaker.

Many of us are Medicare age - is anyone interested in having someone speak about supplements and other plans? We have a local manufacturer of horse trailers in the Williston area - would you like to hear a representative speak about the things to look for when purchasing a horse trailer - new or used - comfort vs safety?

We need your input!

The business cards are in! If you haven't received a supply, please contact Sally McDavid. These are a great tool to give to people we meet both on the trail and around town. It's an easy way to introduce yourself and FFBCH with complete contact information—no muss-no fuss!

 <p>Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen www.ffbch.org</p>	<p>Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen, Inc. P. O. Box 2213 Inverness, FL 34451-2213 (352) 628-2973 ffbch.org@gmail.com</p>	<p>Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen, Inc. P. O. Box 2213 Inverness, FL www.ffbch.org or ffbch.org@gmail.com 352.628.2973</p>
<p><i>Working for you and future generations to establish, preserve and maintain our horse trails by working with local land managers to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational equestrian use.</i></p>	<p>Member Name: <input type="text"/></p>	<p><i>Join today! Help us continue to trim, sign and provide maps for the Citrus Tract of the Withlacoochee State Forest aka Tillis Hill and maintain Bear Head Hammock/Two Mile Prairie. Even if you aren't able to work on the trails, your membership is important—please, show your support. See our website for membership application and check out our newsletters for details of who we are and what we do.</i></p>
<p>Please See Reverse</p>		<p>Please See Reverse</p>

August 2014 General Meeting
8/28/14
Olive Garden

Meeting called to order at 7:13 PM

Guests and new members: Muriel Johnstone, Katie Blue, Loretta Pasiewicz, Diane MacDonald, Terry Cormier.

New members: Jim and Roberta Basilius, Dianne MacDonald, Jan Stark, Trica Maeder, Barbara Busler, Barbara Pierson, Barbara Taylor and Debbie Sosa.

Motion to approve July Meeting minutes by Mary Lee Allen, 2nd by Calvin McDavid, group approved.

Gary Reynolds gave treasurer's report. Motion to approve by Janice Reynolds, 2nd by Kathy Irwin, group approved.

The Rural King event went well. We had a good turnout for the first event. A big thank you to all who went out and posted flyers and visited other venues to obtain vendors. Social media helped with advertising the event as well. We could not post flyers at the entrance of Rural King for this one. Maybe due to their Grand Opening. We'll see for the next one. It may be a different story.

Horse and Pony Advertising Manager states that they will publish 3 or 4 articles a year for those groups who purchase advertising all year long. The group decided that it is not worth the expense at this point in time. Connie Cordill suggested bumper stickers might be an effective adv tool.

Sally McDavid asked for a volunteer to run the 50/50 tickets at each meeting. Janice Reynolds volunteered to do that.

Sally McDavid sent an e-mail and letter to Millie at the Crystal River Mall. We're looking at Nov 15 as another resale event.

Sally McDavid is on the Advisory group for the 10 Year Management Plan for the Withlacoochee State Forest in the five county area. There were 6 or 7 horse people attending the meeting. It's a generic 10 year plan. A question regarding allowing dogs at the Tillis Hill Campground was brought up by Fred Fulcher and there were a couple of written inquiries on this issue as well. This is a topic that can be handled at the operational level. Sally anticipates there will be consideration and discussion on the matter. There are pros and cons for dogs in camp grounds. The main problem is leaving dogs unattended and people not picking up after them. It will be discussed. Hopefully we will be seeing more law enforcement in the forest.

Website: The final transfer will occur in 3 or 4 days. GoDaddy.com. Links for potential advertisers. Go to FFBCH.org to preview what is done so far.

Andy and Dorothy Michel noticed that while in NC, the BCH people up there were wearing T-shirts with BCH info on them. This might be a good thing for us to do as well. Angie Rushton, Mary Lee Allen and Terry Cormier volunteered to look into T-shirt design and acquisition. Also, check to see if the printer will allow us to furnish our own shirts if we can find some for a good price.

Tom Allen thanked Sally McDavid for all her hard work and long hours on putting the Resale event together.

Bill Bishop stated that he liked having the meeting at Olive Garden and group agreed that we wanted to come back here.

50/50 drawing was won by Muriel Johnstone \$34,

Meeting adjourned 7:45PM



Over the last month, several hard working members have been replacing signs, scouting and clearing the trails. Gary Reynolds, Janice Reynolds, Fred Fulcher, Becky Fulcher, Cal McDavid, Sally McDavid and Tom Allen have worked hard to get the trails in shape for riding season.



You can help with this effort by reporting any trail problems to Fred Fulcher at 352.341.2461 or rafulche@aol.com. If you'd like to help out on some of these mini work days, contact Fred.



**Yee Haw!!! Riding season is just around the corner!
Let's not forget.....**

**Please
Respect Other
User's Trails**

**Stay OFF
Hiking Trails**



Thought some of you might be interested in the article below.



Man could face charges of eating gopher tortoises

By Buster Thompson
Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at 9:12 pm

LECANTO — A Citrus County man will be facing charges by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and state attorney after a FWC officer caught him red-handed with 11 live gopher tortoises that he was planning to eat.

After responding to a report of dead gopher tortoises on Aug. 8, FWC Officer Thomas Reid spotted empty shells next to tire track imprints.

Reid later set up a trail camera to see if he could catch the suspect disposing the shells later that night.

On his return the next day, Reid discovered a container with 11 live gopher tortoises inside. Reid hid and awaited the return of the person who could possibly be returning to retrieve his container that afternoon.

Reid then spotted a truck making its way to his location.

As the driver exited his vehicle, Reid questioned him after identifying himself.

The man told Reid he had previously eaten 15 tortoises and was planning to eat the 11 found by the FWC officer that day.

The man was cited by Reid for his actions against the threatened species.

The FWC later released the 11 tortoises.

FWC staff is now working with state attorney's office to file appropriate felony charges against the man for killing a threatened species.

According to the FWC, injuring or possessing a gopher tortoise can result in a second-degree misdemeanor with a \$500 fine or 60 days in jail.

If you want to report any harm to wild animals, call the 24/7 FWC Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-3922.



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

Florida Forest Service
Emergency Phone:
352-797-4100

FFBCH Website: www.ffbch.org
email: ffbch.org@gmail.com