

Suncoast Trail Riders of Florida

P.O. Box 15005

Brooksville, FL 34604

www.suncoasttrailriders.org

February 2010

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Secretary: Traci McCracken (813)765-1720 traci35@verizon.net

Treasurer and Trail Boss: John Holzwart (352) 442-2737 ridinjohn@msn.com

HAPPY FEBRUARY

CLUB NEWS

The club MET on the usual second Sunday of the month at Seranova on January 9, 2010 with NINE riderless members in 30 degree weather around a campfire. WOW, was it cold! A big applause to those nine members who showed up without their horses for the meeting, food and cheer. We ate CHILLI! Thank goodness for the hot Chilli from a member and the campfire provided.

We ask for your continued support and want to see YOU for our Valentine's Day ride Sunday, February 14, 2010, with prizes and fun and I guarantee, warmer weather. Camping is a possibility the Saturday before. Please bring your Valentine and horse and self to the ride. This will be a very special beloved occasion YOU WILL NOT FORGET!

Attention Renewal Members 58!: Approximately half of you have submitted your dues. Please submit your dues to keep the Club going STRONG! 2010 STROFF Membership Fees are due. (\$15 Single, \$20 Family.) Renewal members just need to check off "Renewal", "Family/Single", sign and write SAME INFO if no changes from last year on the Application. Mail your Application to the P.O. Box or see Board member for application at next meeting!

FIVE WONDERFUL Members, SWFMD's contact, Kim DeVary and her family, and a few Hikers helped with the improvements at Seranova with SWFMD on January 30th before the raindrops came. You are to be commended and deserve the GOLD star for the work and assisting in re-marking the trails. What a difference!

The 2010 Hunt Dates are posted on the Suncoast Trail Riders of Florida's Club Page. Look for **Hunt Dates** on our Club Page on www.Flahorse.com and on www.suncoasttrailriders.org. Please don't ride at the those properties on those days. Or contact a Board Member if you need further information.

PAST RECENT RIDES:

Just a few words on past rides: the New Years ride was rainy, the trail boss and one guest rode at Twin Ponds. The Moonlight ride on Jan 30th also had only 2 riders, the trail boss and president of the club, no moon but was light enough to see our way to the lake and back. There were also some horse campers, not from our club and lots of Boy scouts. It did not rain that evening.

NEWS:

The Club has paid 2010 dues for us to be members of the BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF AMERICA. This Club is a major advocate for public land use by trail riders. They have a website: www.backcountryhorse.com if you want to read more about their endeavors. Florida Chapter's website is www.ffbch.org (See below if you want to ride with this Club for their Trail Pace: February 27, 2010 at Croom.)

Our last Board meeting was moved to the Waffle House just east of the Vet's on SR 52, due to renovations at the Flying J. Pending renovations, our next

STROFF board meeting will be at the Flying J Truck Stop (corner of SR52 and I75N) “Denny’s” Tuesday, February 16, 2010, at 7:00pm. Otherwise, meet at the Waffle House. Any interested club members are welcome to attend.

WELCOME NEW RIDERS AND HORSES

WELCOME MARK NEWBY !

FUTURE RIDES AND ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2010: Dade City, Farm Festival, Quilt Show & Draft Horse Pull at: Pioneer Museum, 15602, Pioneer Museum Rd., Dade City, FL 33523 (352) 567-0262.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2010 : **VALENTINE’S DAY RIDE AT SERENOVA Club Ride /Meeting** Bring your equine and/or human sweetheart! Serenova is located off SR52, just west of the Suncoast Parkway, at the corner of Hays Road in Hudson. There is a light at the intersection and the park is located on the south side of the road. Look for the club banner. Go through the gate and follow the road back to the campground area. Be sure to close the gate ! Plan to arrive by 9:00 am; ride out at 9:30 am. Please bring a covered dish to share and your own drinks and chairs. Camping is available the night before the ride. Contact Trail Boss, John Holzwart (352) 442-2737 for more information.

SATURDAY, February 27: Optional Club Ride this month will be held at the Cypress Creek Well Field off Ehren CutOff Road, Water Treatment Plant; From Route 41, Continue west on Ehren Cut Off approx. 7 miles to Cypress Creek Well Field, 10 Cent Rd. , just after Ehren Cemetary Road. FROM Rte. 52, west of I-75, turn South and continue approx. 5 miles and turn Left into Cypress Creek Well Field (sign), 10 Cent Rd., Continue to curve and park on Left. Meet at 9:00 A.M., Ride at 9:30 A.M. For more information, Contact Trail Boss, John Holzwart (352) 442-2737 or the President, Francine Alvarez, who know these trails well!

OR....

SATURDAY, February 27: [Optional Club Ride](#) Optional Ride: Saturday, February 27, 2010: A trail pace at Croom Rd. and FR 7 with Back Country Horsemen, Florida Chapter. Please contact John H., for further information if interested. www.ffbch.org or call (352) 796-9272; limited to 50 registrants. Smith Prairie Trailhead on Croom Rd, Croom Tract of the Withlacoochee State Forest, Brooksville, FL, Trail distance is between 8 and 10 miles. Start time: First riders out at 8:30 AM, \$25/person; \$15/16 yrs & younger.

SATURDAY, March 13, 2010: [Optional Club Ride](#). If any riders would like to be in the Dade City Parade please contact [Carol & Mike Cruz](#) (Click) or ask a Board Member for further information.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2010 Saturday, March 27, Not club sponsored. Altoona Obstacle Challenge, Rocking Horse Stables, Altoona, FL. Fun to participate and Fun to watch. There are approx. 15 obstacles around an Eventing Course. Contact Valorie 352-483-2840. Camping is also available. \$35 event; \$20/stall; \$10/camping; hookups (call). No portable fences allowed. (Some members are staying at Fiddlers Green, with cabins, stalls and hookups, 1 mile away. Contact Secretary for more information!).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VERY IMPORTANT – Effective October 1, 2009...In Florida, it is now required that all riders under the age of 16 must wear a helmet when riding on any public roads or trails.

Please remember that each rider must carry proof of a current negative Coggins test for your horse with you on the trails. Although we are rarely asked to show one, as responsible horse owners, we should be prepared.

Each **guest** riding with Suncoast Trail Riders must sign in with the trail boss before the ride leaves the trail head. We MUST have emergency information and a signed

Hold Harmless Release Form. These forms are available at every club sponsored event from one of the officers.

Our newsletter and 2010 membership application can be printed from our website.
www.suncoasttrailriders.org

See Dan Russell to purchase club T-shirts. A variety of sizes and colors are available. If you have any questions, please contact him at (727)389-0714.

If you are interested in purchasing a Suncoast Trail Riders ball cap, please check with Jorge Labrada. He has a source for some nice looking caps at a reasonable price (\$7-\$8). Contact him at (863)430-2445.

REMEMBER: In case of a public forecast of extreme weather conditions in our area, club meetings and rides will be canceled for safety reasons. If in doubt, contact the Trail Boss for the final word.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Please contact the club secretary each month to add or continue running your classified ads. Please phone or email the information.

BEDDING,BOARDING,TIFTON HAY SQUARES Located just off Bellamy Brothers Blvd. 2 minutes to SR52. **Boarding** ...on 21 acres improved pastures with 12x16 stalls, unlimited turn out, full, paddock style, temporary and vacation boarding. **Bedding**...pure kiln dried pine bedding in 50lb bags, \$6 single or Best Price \$5.50 per bag for full pallet (25), cash price. **Tifton Hay squares** \$6. **Tractor Work**, brushhog, seed or fertilizer spreading, pasture dragging, light bucket and boxblade work Please contact our club member, Dawn, at (813) 760-3543.

ALL BREED PET SITTING "Loving & Gentle Pet Care" – Your pet's needs met in the comfort of their own home while you're away! Daily / Weekly care available. Contact our club member, Donna Parker, at (727) 863-3157.

HORSESHOE ART by Ridin'John – Paper towel holders, TP holders, clocks, wine bottle holders and special orders welcome too! These would make great gifts! Call 352-442-2737 or email: ridin'john@msn.com

HAPPY TRAILS ! RIDE SAFE!