Web address: www.sftrdade.org

SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS, INC.

P.O. Box 924946 Princeton, Florida 33092 (305) 4-HORSES (446-7737)

VOLUME XLI ISSUE V JANUARY 2019

A NOT-FOR-PROFIT, ALL VOLUNTEER, EQUESTRIAN ORGANIZATION

HAPPY NEW YEAR

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE TRAIL RIDERS

Jan 1 - Tue. - *New Year's Day!* - Black Eye Pea Contest & Ride, TB:Mike & Deda Maldonado

Jan 4-6—Fri.-Sun. - Camping – Shangri-la TB: Augie Saavedra

Jan 7 - Mon. - General Meeting at Latin Mix Rest. Speaker: TBA

Jan 11 - 13 Fri -Sun.-Camping – Lake X, *(not SFTR)*

Jan 17 - Thu. - Books & Broncs Kid's Day at the Rodeo Grounds. TB:Bonny George, Jr.

Jan 17 –20 Thu.-Sun. - PM - Funnel Cakes-booth at the Rodeo grounds TB:Wayne & Carrie Hershberger

Jan 19 - Sat. - Homestead Rodeo Parade TB:Lisa Morgan

Feb 2 - Sat. - SFTR Autism Ride TB:Sylvia Cruz - Alvarez

See more inside...

OFFICERS

ALL AREA CODES ARE 305 UNLESS STATED

President
Mike Maldonado 331-7599
mike@watv.net

Vice President
Augie Saavedra 582-1557

Treasurer
Julie Gonzalez 786-261-9020

Secretary
Jessica Winer 331-4642

Board of Directors
Bonny George Jr. 233-1897
Eddie Garcia 812-0881
Heidi Stibitz 794-1257
Sylvia Cruz-Alvarez 479-6640
Ginger Krenz 773-9013

Alternates
Carrie Hershberger 206-0317
Wayne Hershberger 206-1698

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Camping
Augie Saavedra 582-1557

Emergency Management
Amanda Andujar 907-321-4886

Funnel Cakes
Carrie Hershberger 206-0317
Wayne Hershberger 206-1698

Historian
Mike Maldonado 331-7599
Deda Maldonado

Hurricane Stalls
Debi Catarineau-Priest 274-7484

Membership
Andrea Sante 216-2461
Volunteer Needed

Merchandise
Deborah Brunson 505-7103
Volunteer Needed

Newsletter
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Mike Maldonado
Carol Hakenson 773-8227

Parades
Lisa Morgan 786-271-4933

Programs
Ben Kroner 245-2403

Public Relations
Manny Alvarez
Sylvia Cruz-Alvarez

Sunshine
Anna Kleinholz 786-286-0643

INFORMATION HOTLINE **446-7737**
David Ruiz **305-4-HORSES**
SFSPCA: Laurie Waggoner 825-8826

HORSE CHARITIES

The SFTR donates to these charities once a year. These charities are badly in need of donations. Please try to send what you can to help them. Thanks from the SFTR.

South Fla. SPCA
www.helpthehorses.com
P.O. Box 924088
Homestead, Fl. 33092

Horse Protection Association of Florida
www.HPAF.org
20690 NW 130 Ave.
Micanopy, Fl. 32667

F.R.I.E.N.D.S.
www.eiahorses.org
1840 NE 65 Ct.
Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. 33308

TRAIL MANNERS

Good manners is the grease that helps people get along with each other, avoiding friction.

- **16 & UNDER MUST WEAR A HELMET.**
- Be aware of the effect **your** actions have on others, their horses and their property.
- Do not upset your co-riders' horses.
- Ride at a quiet, controlled pace.
- **NEVER PASS OTHERS AT A GALLOP.**
- Keep a safe distance… don't crowd others.
- STAY WITH A DISMOUNTED RIDER
- Respect the property of others. (ie: lawns, farm fields, crops, groves, livestock, etc.)
  - Leave gates as you found them: Open gates should remain open. Closed gates should remain closed.
- **DO NOT PASS THE TRAIL BOSS or drop behind the drag rider.**
- Stay with the trail boss on the same side of the road. Do not split the road.
- Clean up after your horse. Pick up manure or spread it depending on where you are. Do not clean your trailers out when you unload.
- **NO PROFANITY AT ANY SFTR EVENTS.**

REMEMBER! If you mind your manners others won't mind when you and your horse return to ride.

2019

Dates and Places

Call the Hot-line for any cancellations
(305) 4-HORSES 446-7737

2019

Guest Passes are available for local trail rides. Each pass is $5.00 One pass per person per trailride is required for non-members. This pass is not available for any beach rides, Team Penning or Parades. **All area codes are (305) unless otherwise stated. TB=Trail Boss**

Jan 1	**Tuesday** - *New Year's Day!* - **Black Eye Pea Contest & Ride**, **TB:Mike & Deda Maldonado** 305-331-7599 at Rockin'M Ranch 25700 SW 212 Av Arrive at noon, ride out at 1pm, eat after the ride. Black Eye Pea recipe contest. Make your best Black Eye Peas recipe to win and share or side dish to share. Bring chairs.
Jan 4-6	**Friday to Sunday -** Camping – **Shangri-la, TB: Augie Saavedra** 305-582-1557.
Jan 7	**Monday - General Meeting** at Latin Mix Rest. 11368 SW 184 St. 7:00pm dinner, 8:00pm meeting. Speaker: TBA.
Jan 11 - 13	**Friday - Sunday—Camping – Lake X,** *(not SFTR)*
Jan 14	**Monday - SFTR Board Meeting**, **hosted by Sonny & Bonny George, Jr's** 305-233-1897 at 16990 SW 170th Ave., dinner 7pm, meeting 8pm.
Jan 17	**Thursday - Books & Broncs Kid's Day** at the Rodeo Grounds, **TB:Bonny George, Jr.** 305-233-1897
Jan 17	**Thursday - PM - Funnel Cakes**- Set up booth at the Rodeo grounds,. **TB:Wayne & Carrie Hershberger** 305-206 -0317.
Jan 18	**Friday - PM- Funnel Cakes! TB:Wayne & Carrie Hershberger** 305-206-0317.
Jan 19	**Saturday - Homestead Rodeo Parade, TB:Lisa Morgan;** 786-271-4933 Arr. 8am, starts 10am.
Jan 19	**Saturday - PM- Funnel Cakes! TB:Wayne & Carrie Hershberger** 305-206-0317.
Jan 20	**Sunday - Funnel Cakes! TB:Wayne & Carrie Hershberger** 305-206-0317.
Jan 25-27	**Friday-Sunday - Fla. Cattle Drive Reunion Ride**,Palm Coast,Manny Alvarez (*not SFTR*)
Feb 2	**Saturday - SFTR Autism Ride** -Riders Register 9am, ride out @ 10! Non-Riders come for lunch & fun @ noon New location: Rancho Victoria 24949 SW 229 Ave Homestead, Florida 33031 **Requested Donation of $35 for riders** *Proceeds benefit Whispering Manes Therapeutic Riding Center* Assisting children w/ autism through horse assisted therapy. BBQ lunch, raffles & entertainment by the Folkloric RANCHO VICTORIA Family w/ their beautiful dancing horses! **TB:Sylvia Cruz - Alvarez**
Feb 4	**Monday - General Meeting** at Latin Mix Rest. 11368 SW 184 St. 7:00pm dinner, 8:00pm meeting. Speaker: TBA.
Feb 9	**Saturday - SFTR Yard and Tack Sale Robbie's cow pasture 22490 SW 177 Ave. TB:Sonni Peles 305-938-0572. Start time 8am till 2pm. Vendors welcome, SFTR members $5.00 a space, non members $10.00 a space.**
Feb 11	**Monday - SFTR Board Meeting hosts Mike and Deda's Rockin' M Ranch, 25700 SW 212 Ave 7pm dinner 8pm meeting.**
Feb 23	**Saturday - Visual Snow Syndrome Awareness Ride Rockin' M Ranch 25700 sw 212 Av. TB:Mike and Deda Maldonado (Deda seems to have this syndrome).**
March 2	**Saturday - St. Jude's Ride Robbie's cow pasture TB:Manny Alvarez .**
March 4	**Monday - General Meeting , Latin Mix Rest.dinner 7:pm meeting 8:pm**
March 9	**Saturday - Glades to Bay Redland 100 Ride (first day) TB Augie Saavedra**
March 10	**Sunday - Glades to Bay Redland 100 Ride (second day) TB Augie Saavedra**
March 11	**Monday - SFTR Board meeting TBA**
March 16	**Saturday - Virginia Key Beach Ride TB: Mike Maldonado** 305-331-7599 . **Also Seminole Cattle Drive.** ***(not a SFTR)***

Visit our website for more: - Rides & Events - 2018 Tentative Calendar - Save the Date

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mike & Zeus

Hello Trail Riders,

The start of a new year and the end of a very busy one. The South Florida Trail Riders as most of you know is a diverse group of people that share an interest in trail riding their horses and working together to maintain open spaces for that purpose.

We are from every walk of life and our riding and horses are just as varied. Drafts, quarter horses, thoroughbreds, paso finos and many other breeds (see our parade of breeds in March at the fair). Some of us are cowboys and cowgirls in western gear, while some jump, ride dressage and ride English. Others show pasos and drive carts and carriages. The way we trail ride differs too. Long rides blazing new trails attracts the more adventurous and short relaxing rides are for those with less time to give their horse and themselves the exercise needed to endure but we all enjoy getting together to chat and ride with our friends.

Also we have different reasons joining the club, hurricane stalls, beach rides, camping trips, parades but mostly just to have friends to ride with and learn from them new places to ride.

Trail Bossing a ride means to show a group of us your favorite trail and the club helps promote the ride and even helps with the cost of refreshments. This year I would love to see many new trail bosses holding the ride you want to share. Your trail, your speed, your length and with your choice of food and fun. In the past I have enjoyed theme rides like Halloween, an ice cream or shake ride, St. Patrick's Day, Valentine's Day, Poker Rides and many others. Let's do some of those again. If you need a hand to get started just ask any of our board members or any long time member and I'm sure you will get all the help you need.

Let's all have a healthy, and very Happy New Year of riding.

I will ..... C'ya on the trail,

Mike Maldonado
President

Mike Maldonado

Guess which horse is next…

About five years ago I bought (yes the only horse I paid for) Zeus. I admit I was stupified by his looks. From his pictures and encouraged by my desire to ride a big strong draft that could carry my weight for long rides and for several consecutive days. Well I did ride him .... twice, people saw me on the trail, really. However I came to find out that he had cataracts in one eye and saw blurry shadows that must have been very scary because on our first trailering to a parade practice with many horses, people and distracting sights and noises, he bucked me off..... twice. I still love his looks and have kept the hope of someday riding him again so here he is five years later, his mane and tail going white and looking more majestic than ever, he has managed to have me feeding and caring for him without a single ride since then. Every time I think of trying again my wife is afraid for my safety and I must admit that at my age so am I. Still he is beautiful and so sweet on the ground that I can't bring myself to send him away. Ok, I'm dumb, so what I love him.

Mike— mike@watv.net

SUNSHINE REPORT

Hello SFTR family.

Amanda Amador's daughter, Adrianna Rue, is recovering well from a horrendous foot infection that had her hospitalized a week.

Tony & Natalie Kardol celebrated their 18th anniversary; Danny & Alicia Medina toasted their 6th anniversary; and Niriam & Jose Lauzurique celebrated their 21st anniversary.

Diane Patenaude has a new pup, Sully, and Jillian Penabella & family have rescued a huge 9 mo. old Great Pyranesse pup – Josie will be employed as their Livestock Guardian. Locally, Judy Arcia has a new Great Dane pup, Harley, who sports lots of spots and very kind eyes.

Ginger & Mark Krenz are again grandparents as they welcomed little Abigail Webb into their family. See you next month, & please keep those sunshine notes coming: annakrides@gmail.com or via text to my cell, (786) 286-0643.

Happy trails & great rides!

~Anna Kleinholz

We have 231 family and single members that have joined or renewed for the year. Thank you very much!

Welcome New Members

MEMBER CARDS TAKE 6-8 WEEKS TO PROCESS.

Patricia and Megan Acosta
Miami, FL 33196

Howard Goldstein
Pompano, FL 33062

Laura and John Miacali
Miami, FL 33157

Patty and Rebeka Romero
Coral Gables, FL 33146

NEWSLETTER

The DEADLINE for all articles & ad copy is:

Send to:
sftr@watv.net

PRICES FOR ADS ON OUR NEWSLETTER

Camera Ready Material
-Business Card size $60.00 per year
-Full page Ad $80.00 per issue
-1/2 Page Ad $40.00 per issue
-1/4 Page Ad $30.00 per issue

DISCOUNTS ARE OFFERED TO SFTR MEMBERS BY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES.

Always ask Proprietor for amount of discount & availability.

Robbie's Feed and Supply	22390 SW 177th Ave. (Krome) Miami	247-1256
Silver Palm Feed	15585 SW 232 St. Miami, Fl.	245-0048
Sunset Feed & Supply	7650 S.W. 117 Ave. Kendall	271-0341
Sunset Country	16300 S.W. 296 St. Homestead	245-2935
The VetteSmith Inc. Body shop	10750 SW 188 Street. Miami	252-1256

“Nicole's Law”

Effective October 1st, 2009

This law requires any child under the age of 16 years and riding a equine on any public lands, roads, or trails to wear a certified helmet

Business Card Ads
$60 per year
This card could be yours!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Alexis Benitez
Alyssa Gonzalez
Andrea Caballero
Angel Gonzalez
Ardra Orr
Barbara Maines
Bill Guzman
Bonny George Jr.
Bradley Swigert
Carol Weng
Ciro J. Fonseca
Debby Fries Furton
Dianne Peles
Dick Miller
Ernesto Hernandez
Fred Cox
Gerardo J. Diaz
Glenn Hutton
Gloria Gilpin
Heather (Chris) Septer
Ignacio Borbolla
Iva Hegg
Jana Sheeder
Javier Dominguez
Jeniffer Ricard
Jennifer Barnes
Jorge Fernandez
Jorge Cepero
Josh Bennett
Joyce Lopez Gonzalez
Julie Ormazabal
Lauren McKnight
Laurie Suits
Lorelei Loudis
Lourdes Herrera
Margie Chavez
Monica Leyva
Nicole Donate
Rafael Weng
Rebecca Koch
Rigoberto San Juan
Rosa Saez
Shariann Lorenzo
Skylar Grimm
Stephanie Raynor
Susan Boyd
Susan Soderbergh
Sylvia Cruz-Alvarez
Thiago Emilio B. Matthay
Todd Evans
Tonya Alvarez
Tori Skinner
Zerryn Snow

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Miami, FL 33142

SFTR MEMBERS
FUNNEL CAKE CITY VOLUNTEERS

Wayne and I trust you all had a blessed Christmas. We would love to wish you a happy and safe new year in 2019. THANK YOU for your willingness to be there for your club to make this a successful fundraiser.

WE NEED YOU!!
PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!
"So far only 5 people have responded to the 2 Email blasts that have been sent to the membership.
!!Please Step up and join the Fun!!"

Here are a few things to make the booth safe and efficient. Come join the fun. We eat almost as many as we sell ;-0

Wear safe clothes - a trail rider T shirt and a pair of long pants are the outfit of choice. (If you don't have a SFTR shirt, then borrow /buy one or wear a horsey shirt just so it doesn't have a lot of writing on it.)

We always sell Funnel cakes **before the show starts** so get there as close to the target time as possible. if you need more time that is fine we are just glad for the help. This is a volunteer effort.

January 18TH - 6:00 until around ? – Friday - pink night - Tough enough to wear pink for breast Cancer awareness

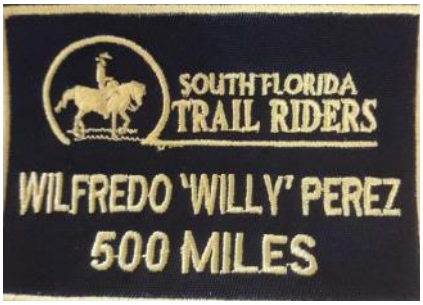
January 19TH - 12:30 until around 5- Saturday - Yellow and black day. Your SFTR club colors

January 20st - 12:30 until around 5 - Sunday - a trail rider T-shirt and long pants. A be 'real comfy' day, any color.

We still need more volunteers !!.

Carrie Hershberger call 305-206-0317 or by email- chersh0317@aol.com

KEEPING TRACK OF YOUR RIDING MILES



Many of you probably don't realize how many miles you ride your horse every year. Over the years the SFTR has had three programs aimed at encouraging riding through what we used to call the Frequent Riding Miles. Miles were only recognized at official SFTR activities and the winner would be the person with the most miles. Later we evolved to the Redland 100 program. Again, only miles ridden at club activities were recognized and the 100 miles had to be ridden within a time limit.

In April 2016, Augie Saavedra introduced a new program whose goal was 500 miles per rider. However, there was no time limit, and the club would recognize miles ridden on your own as well as miles ridden in organized rides. This meant that you were not competing against other riders, you earned your 500 miles at your own pace and it did not matter if you took a year or 10 years to log your first 500 miles. Once you log the 500 miles, you will be presented with the coveted 500 mile patch to be worn with distinction and pride.

Augie named this new program after our beloved Willy Perez. Willy was a long time member who was popular and well liked by many members. He also had a reputation for liking long rides, being a great trail buddy, and generous in supporting all the SFTR community service projects. Willy is no longer with us but his memory is part of our club's fiber. To this day his family continues to support the SFTR and each year they are one of the main contributors to our Annual Christmas Toy Drive. So let's get you started on your way to the Wilfredo "Willy" Perez 500 Mile Award.

1. This is based on the honor system. Write down the number of miles each time you ride. If you have the older model horses that do not come with an odometer, you can use a) GPS or b) monitor the time. A quarter horse, or any similarly gaited breed will cover 3 miles per hour at a flat walk. If you ride a gaited horse such as a Paso Fino, Tennessee Walker, etc. Give yourself 5 miles per hour. For example, if you rode your quarter horse for 3 hours at a walk you have logged 9 miles (3x3). You do not have to keep us informed on a regular basis. Just let us know when you reach the 500 miles. To make things even easier, we will recognize all the miles you have ridden starting April 1, 2016.

2. Remember that you are not competing against anyone. You are simply login miles. Your patch is guaranteed at 500 miles no matter how long it takes you reach that milestone .

If you have any questions contact Augie Saavedra. He will be happy to help you

~Manny Alvarez

HORSES, LITTLE HANDS AND BIG SMILES

A small army of SFTR, Rodeo Assn, Posse & community friends stood in a line, each equine with two handlers for safety...as over a hundred first graders assembled before them for their Books & Broncs First Touch experience. As the eager child approached the horse, one could see levels of anticipation, wonder, anxiety, and awe – and with the guidance of the volunteers, each student was given a chance to touch a real horse for the first time. Each horse willingly let the little hands feel the warmth of a soft muzzle, stroke a flowing mane and pet a muscular neck. Each child was given ample pony-petting time, and encouraged to talk to & thank their equine, & then when smiling gleefully was directed to get their book, *Let's Rodeo,* written by Taylor Pearce. And so even the most apprehensive youngsters walked away from the ponies with a big smile & an event that would be forever etched in their memory.

We wish to thank Dawn Pearce Cucchiara for organizing this amazing annual activity. As we said goodbye to the Redondo Elem students, we were cheered and thanked by waving little arms and a sea of smiles. Dawn would then take the students to the library for the first group reading of their book, as we loaded up the horses and moved on to Avocado Elem. Over a hundred more first graders thrilled to their first encounter with our horses, and their little faces beamed as the volunteers engaged the youngsters in conversation, information about the horse, and guided their experience. We could not provide this deeply enriching activity for so many children if it was not for the generosity of new friends, SFTR, Rodeo & Posse members who brought their horses to these schools and stood to help each child enjoy the magical moments with our four-legged friends.

The follow-up to this first encounter will be on Thurs. Jan. 17, 2019 as we will host all these hundreds of children again at the Kid's Day at the Rodeo. We will need almost twenty horses and forty volunteers to have student hands-on grooming, reading stations, trailer & tractor activities, roping & farrier venues, cowboy history & equine anatomy and arena events to amaze the youngsters. Those who attended the schools are asked to return for this special event, 8:30am to about noon. But we will need many more volunteers to manage the stations throughout the Rodeo grounds. Please, if you can spare a few hours to share your time, talents and perhaps even your horses with these students, please contact Dawn Pearce Cucchiara (305-345-2357) or Bonny George, Jr. (305-233-1897). Again, a million thanks to our volunteers for the time, energy and dedication to the SFTR Books & Broncs community literacy project – and we hope to see you in Jan!

~Bonny George, Jr.

The First Ride of the 2018
Carlos Cardenas Memorial 20 Mile Ride Series

20 October 2018. This SFTR 20 mile ride launches the second year of the Carlos Cardenas Memorial Ride series. The group started with 14 riders. Augie began by reminding us why we are riding 20 miles on a warm day- yes we know it's because we're crazy horsemen who love to ride-even when it's hot-we're all a little wacky like that, and Carlos Cardenas was no exception-he'd ride rain or shine. However we are also riding trails that take some mileage to get to- and we want to use those trailheads and trails- because if we don't use it we loose it, the county will take it away.

Yes the grass was very tall and wet at the 136 street trailhead, and Augie assured me that Now that the county has seen us use the trailhead they will come and mow the grass.

Several riders who wanted to complete only 10 miles towards their Redland 100 also participated and took a different turn at 5 miles, heading back to the trailhead.

We traversed the everglades restoration projects pathways allowing the horses many opportunities to drink the fresh cool water. Most of them just played. Our numbers were dwindling, some riders had detoured to go to a local rodeo in the neighborhood, and others horses had tired and they detoured to a destination unknown to me.

About halfway into the ride Luis, Augie, Bill and Rafael kept talking about a river crossing from the past year that not all the horses would cross. I figured it was a shallow stream of some sort and that some horses just detest getting their feet wet. I was wrong. It was a river of grass, it was beautiful, and clear, and flowing.

Our two brave lead horses entered and pushed forward, then one ducked behind the other and all the horses crossed single file. I was happy to be on a tall horse-the water went only up to the middle of my saddle, and no matter how high I lifted my feet behind me those boots were getting submerged. The riders on the short horses have a different story- those horses were swimming -those riders were WET! It was a Blast! Everyone was hootin and hollerin and giving high fives.

And let me tell you those cell phone cases are great-many of our phones got wet-but they all survived. The guys told me I'm now a member of the boys club, which I think is the elite group of river crossing experts- but Sylvia and Hannah did it last year so it's definitely inclusive of the girls too. What a lucky girl I am to have a horse that would do the crossing for me and with me.

So we're back to riding along a canal bank and Augie stops and rides his horse into someones back yard, I'm puzzled….turns out it was Martha and Rick's home and ranch. And Sylvia and Eddie were waiting for us there with their horses. The swimming pool was inviting but I knew if I got in I would never want to get out. We dismounted, drained the water from our boots, and enjoyed some refreshments thank you to Martha and Rick. And Sylvia officially inducted me into the boys club! What an honor!

Back on the trail we head towards Sonia's horse friendly eatery. Once again enjoying many refreshments and friendships together.

Now thats a nice ride. So many laughs and stories to share.

So come and join us on the next ride…you never know what we'll find…

-Renee Reynolds

SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS

SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS

AUTISM RIDE

Saturday, February 2, 2019

Riders Register 9 AM & Ride out @ 10!

Non-Riders come for lunch & fun @ noon

New location:

Rancho Victoria

24949 SW 229 Ave

Homestead, Florida 33031

****Requested Donation of $35 for riders****

Proceeds benefit Whispering Manes Therapeutic Riding Center

Assisting children w/ autism through horse assisted therapy

BBQ lunch, raffles & entertainment by the Folkloric RANCHO VICTORIA Family w/ their beautiful dancing horses!

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Save The Date

JAN 18, 19, 20
Funnel Cake

JAN 25-27
Reunion Ride '19
Fla Ag Museum, Palm Coast

FEB 2
Autism Ride

FEB 9
SFTR Yard & Tack Sale

MAR 2
St. Jude Saddle-Up ride. redland-trail@aol.com

MAR 9, 10
Glades to the Bay Ride

MAR 16
Virginia Key Beach Ride

MAR 24
Youth Fair-Parade of Breeds

APR 27
Virginia Key Beach Ride

MAY 18
Annual Banquet

CITY OF HOMESTEAD'S TREE LIGHTING PARADE

This year, Santa and Mrs. Claus were brought into town by our biggest group of South Dade "reindeer" yet! We had 13 beautiful horses attending, including 4 miniatures, and our ground crew of elves totaled 30! Thank you to everyone who came and represented the SFTR with such festive cheer!

Everyone arrived at the meeting spot with plenty of time to get horses groomed, decked out in their reindeer gear and don their own elf attire. We had a last minute notification from the parade coordinator, but everyone was very understanding and was able to arrange themselves to accommodate... that being said, we got to follow a high school marching band in the parade!

The parade itself went very smoothly and everyone that came to watch loved our reindeer! David Ruiz and Carol Tirado held the club banner, leading our horses, and keeping a good distance between us and the band! After the parade, we held a short meet and greet for the kids attending. It's such a wonderful thing to see a child's eyes light up when they get to touch a horse for the first time!

Homestead Main Street, the event producers, also let us setup a toy collection box next to Mr. and Mrs. Claus' chairs. We collected about 10 toys at the event this year! Thank you to Dougie at Thunder Country (100.3FM) for announcing the toy drive collection point on the radio for the event.

I hope everyone had as good of a time as I did and that they can spread the word for next year!
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

~Megan Barnes

AROUND THE PADDOCK…
As We Close Out 2018

In the school scene, FFA/SFTR Volunteers Nicole Donate took a 3rd in Extemporaneous Speaking, Gaby Dean won a 1st in Public Speaking, and Gaby & Jason Lauzurique on a team took a 5th in Parlimentary Procedure – all at a recent FFA Sub-Distr. Competition. Also, Gaby's FFA pup, Ava, passed her AKC Good Canine Citizen test at Varela; and multi-talented Alani Lopez recently performed in a Christmas piano recital. At the collegiate level, Manny & Tonya Alvarez let us know their son Alan received his Masters in Bus. Admin. from FIU; and Celine d'Arbellas graduated FIU with her Bachelors, also in Bus. Admin. Trey Pearce graduated FIU as a Civil Engineer, and already has a job with Archer Western Constr. Co. Of special note, Laura Micali's son, Jonathan, just received a nomination to the US Naval Academy from Congresswoman Ileana Ross-Leitenen. Great achievements by all to round out the year!

In equine sports, Celine d'Arbellas rode Jesus to 1st in low schooling jumps at the Plantation Heritage Horse Show, while Charla Liford was spotted at the 53 annual Belle Meade Hunt Spectacular – running with the fox & hounds! Meanwhile, Rachel Shearing's pup Jery won another jumping & obedience event and is motivating other local adoptable rescue pups to follow his lead. On the show circuit, there is the Winter in Miami Arabian Regional Horse Show at Tropical Par, coming Jan 9-11, 2019.

Anyone interested in clinics, there is a Nancy Slater Level 1 workshop in Lake Wales, Jan 18-20, 2019; and a Ty Evans Horsemanship clinic Feb 14-16, 2019 in Brooksville. The Fla. Peacemakers Cowboy Mounted Shooting Assoc. has a general clinic Sat. Jan 12, 2019, & offering a special invite to newbies who would like to learn the sport. Timer Powers Park, 14100 SW Citrus Blvd; Indiantown, see Fb for more info.

Have clinic, show, or other activities to share – let's hear from you! News helps others enjoy your sports & passions, helps us train & enjoy our horses more, & makes Life richer.

~Bonny George, Jr.

CAMPING DATES
2019

Jan. 4 – 7th (Confirmed)	**Shangri-la**	Water, tie-outs, must reserve a site. Beautiful trails. TB: Augie Saavedra Costs: Reserve America to reserve your site. RSVP ASAP
Jan. 17 – 21st (Confirmed)	**Lake X**	Primitive, shower house, no trees, you need portable corrals. Guided rides and lunch included in price.
Feb. 16 – 23rd	**Cracker Trail Ride**	Move trailer each day before or after ride.
March 23 – 24th (Confirmed)	Layover at Southeastern Arena. Unadilla, Ga.	Water, stalls, electric Costs: $25 per stall, $15 per trailer
March 24 – 31st Split days between camps. (Confirmed)	**Jake & Bull Mountain** – near Dahlonega, Ga	Saddle Horse Ridge in Monticello, Ga. Oconee National Forest
April 4th – 7th (Confirmed)	**Alafia River State Park** Lithia, Fl.	Electric, water, bathrooms, picket lines or stalls. Costs: Reserve America $22 night plus $7 for taxes
April 19 – 21st	**St. Sebastian Preserve** Fellsmere, Fl.	(60 days out to reserve, I will confirm in February) Needs a TB.

When you reserve, email Andrea your campsite number at pasocorto@aol.com
All of the camping trips above will have a Saturday night covered dish.
Any costs are subject to changes.

Reserve America (800) 326-3521 www.reserveamerica.com

WHY WE PARADE...

I did not take many photos of the Jr. Orange Bowl parade, as we had a professional photographer in our group. I look forward to seeing his photos. But I did take a few photos as we headed back to our staging area. I was enjoying riding on the back of the pickup truck and resting my feet after walking and standing so long. The audience can not imagine the time, effort, and commitment it takes for a group to show in a parade.

It's not just a group of people waving to you with plastered smiles. We have been preparing our horses and waiting two to three hours before you see us pass you by. We worry about staining our uniforms and if it will be visible. We collect waiver forms & maintain sign in sheets to see who is walking and who rides. There is craziness to be had tacking horses and setting up flags. Later, when it's all said & done, there is cleanup and packing up and driving home. For those with horses, it's getting those horses home, showered, & fed. And of course... we socialize and enjoy ourselves in the meantime.

But why do we do it? I can tell you what drives me to be a parade team member for twenty years on and off... watching people get excited about seeing us. I saw & heard children jumping out of their seats in excitement over the horses. I saw elderly people's face light up. I saw disabled people perk up. I love talking to the crowd as we pass. Informing them, wishing them a happy evening, complimenting them, etc.

On a side note: this parade I wore the new uniform for the first time. It felt weird not having the fringe after more then a decade, but it was comfortable and a good update. I welcome the change. At the end of the day, what matters is the happiness people experience when they see the horses, what the club represents, and how we help the community.

Good job to everyone in this year's Jr. Orange Bowl parade! And thank you to all who helped set up, clean up, drive, scoop poop, ride, cook, you name it. I lost count of how many people we made smile today.

~ Michelle McDaniel

SFSPCA Horse of the Month "Paris"

Pony • Mare • Black/White • 11.3hh
est. YOB 2014

RESCUE/BACKSTORY: We rescued Paris with another pony and an older Paint gelding on Friday, September 14, found stray about as far west as you can go in SW Miami-Dade.

If you are interested in adopting Paris, please first complete and submit the adoption application (link below). Once your application is received, we will get in touch with you about next steps. Our staff is always busy picking up new rescues, tending to sick or injured horses, and even testifying in cruelty cases, so it may take up to a few days to respond. Your patience is appreciated!

Contact Laurie at Laurie@helpthehorses.com for adoption info. Donations can be made at www.helpthehorses.com

Updatel on Horse of Last Month, "*JULIE*" HAS NOT BEEN ADOPTED!

PARADE TEAM NEWS

The Jr Orange Bowl parade was a lot of fun and we had a great turnout. Our smiley-face breast collar decoration for the parade's theme was a hit!!! Thank you to Jessica for making the design and to Carrie for laminating them. We had a good number of riders and club members walking this year. Thank you to the FFA'ers and the juniors that were out with us – your help is greatly appreciated and your enthusiasm encourages all of us to enjoy the events! It was also good to see new parade people there supporting the club and greatly boosting the Parade Team. Thank you all so much. A special thank you to Wayne and Carrie Hershberger for providing the food. It was delicious!!!! A big shout out to Emely Ponce's father, Juan Carlos, who took many pictures and videos. I will be getting these soon and will share them with everyone.

Our next parade and last official one for this season, is the Homestead Rodeo Parade, on Sat. Jan. 19. I hope you all will attend and we welcome anyone who wants to join to ride, lead-line, walk, roll, or drive a buggy to parade with us. Remember this is an open parade, and ALL SFTR members are welcomed and encouraged to join in the event! Parade Team members will be in full uniform, with gloves & parade tack; and all regular club members please wear a long sleeved white shirt, black pants, boots, hat/helmet. Juniors are especially welcome, and if 18-under & mounted, must wear a helmet to participate. Full authentic cowboy attire & tack is also acceptable. We will need every flag-carrying Parade Team member for this special local event, and so we may plan & have ample refreshments, please RSVP to Bonny George, Jr. asap (305-233-1897). The Rodeo Parade through Historic Downtown Homestead begins at 11 am, we ask that everyone to arrive & sign-in by 9:00 am. Parking is across the street from the VFW, same place we go for the Veteran's parade & the Freedom Walk - 601 NE 2nd Rd., Homestead.

I hope to see you all there!!

~Lisa Morgan
786-271-4933
01lisamorgan@gmail.com

SFTR CHRISTMAS PARTY
Good Food and Great Friends

I want to start by wishing everyone a healthy and happy 2019. Our Christmas party was a huge success, with over 50 members joining in the celebration. The weather was perfect after an afternoon of lots of rain, which came early and left well before the party. Thank you to everyone for bringing the great variety of side dishes, spiral ham, meatballs, lots of desserts; and a special thanks to Eddie G, for the amazing turkey. After dinner we had people who sat around the fire pit sharing stories and laughs, while others enjoyed the line dancing. I want to special thank Eddie and Sylvia for all the help in setting up with me, without them it would have been impossible.

~ Jessica Winer

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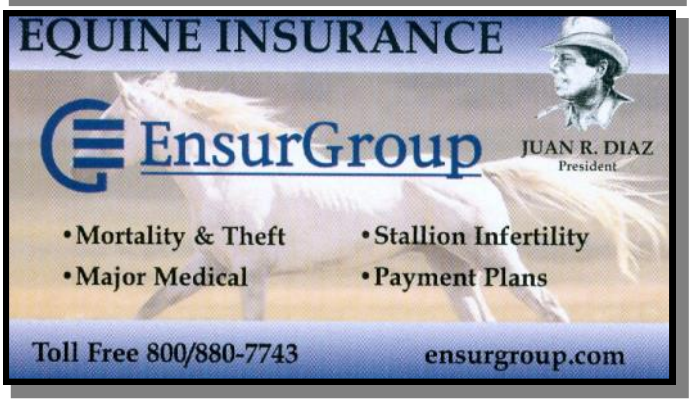
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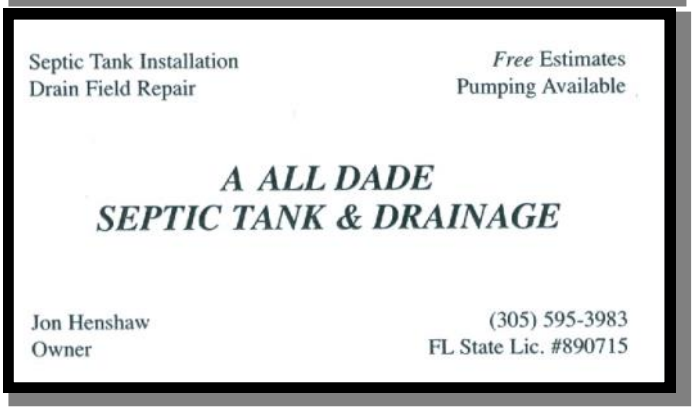
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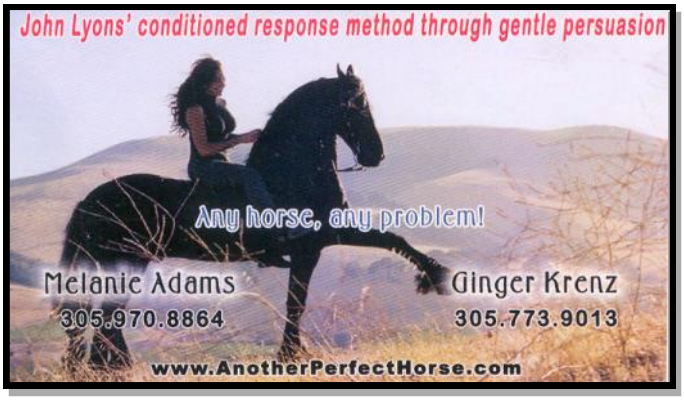

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FOR SALE: Before the Tack sale, I have too much stuff to carry around **Saddles, pads, tons of gear English, Western and Paso saddles and pads**. Prices from $20 to $400 Call me and come by Mike 305-331-7599

In between newsletters you can follow all SFTR activities in our Facebook Page. "South Florida Trail Riders"

FOR SALE: Emu Eggs - Emerald green outside & light blue shell inside, a great holiday/birthday gift, great for cooking (1 egg=10 chicken eggs) & only available while it's cool. $8 e. or 2-$15. Bonny 305-233-1897

FOR SALE: Seafood - fresh fish, shrimp, lobster and stone crabs. Cheaper than Publix and local seafood markets. Call Nick Andris at 305-510-0646 or email info@SoFloSeafood.com. We deliver to you.

ICYMI: (In case you missed it) Reunion Ride Jan 25-28, 2019 greatfloridacattledrive.com

SERVICE: Saddle repair - Buy and sell. Sonni - 305-938-0572.

FOR RENT- Looking to rent some pasture space in Horse Country (Kendall). Barbara at 305-216-8801.

FOR SALE: Approx 15 YO, 15 h Sound Quarter/ Arab Trails Stands Energetic John Lyons method trained. No previous injuries Up to date on everything Contact me for more info and videos Nory 7867178365

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- □ SINGLE MEMBERSHIP ($30.00 PER YEAR)
  (Applicant Must Be 18 Years Of Age)
- □ DUAL MEMBERSHIP ($20.00 PER YEAR)
  Must be a full paying member of Broward SFTR

Membership runs from Sept. 1st through Aug. 31st of each year.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME (1)_____ DOB _____ NAME (3) _____ DOB _____

NAME (2)_____ DOB _____ NAME (4) _____ DOB _____

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ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING ON A COMMITTEE? □ YES □ NO

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL? □ YES

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DATE _____ SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT_____

Applicant must be 18 years of age or older.
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PLEASE MAIL TO: SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS, INC.
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