



Web address: [www.sftrdade.org](http://www.sftrdade.org)

**SOUTH FLORIDA  
TRAIL RIDERS, INC.**

**HAPPY  
FATHERS DAY**

P.O. Box 924946

Princeton, Florida 33092

(305) 4-HORSES (446-7737)

VOLUME XLIV

ISSUE V

JUNE 2021

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



## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE TRAIL RIDERS

All activities under social distancing & wear a mask protocols.

**Mon 7- SFTR General Meeting, Zoom,  
Guest speaker will be Coral Rodriguez -  
Esperanza Equine Connections- riding &  
training.**

**Sat 19- The Esperanza Ride;  
Coral Rodriguez.**

**Sun 20- *Father's Day!***

**Mon 21- SFTR Happy Hour, Zoom,  
[sftrmiamidade.org](http://sftrmiamidade.org).**

**Sun 4- July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade, Key Biscayne,  
TB:Lisa Morgan.**

**Sat 10- Jr. Trail Blazers Ride, TB:Michelle  
McDaniel**

See more inside...

## OFFICERS

### ALL AREA CODES ARE 305 UNLESS STATED

#### President

Mike Maldonado 331-7599

#### Vice President

Patricia Perez 954-707-3331

#### Treasurer

Sharon Quinn Dixon 322-5153

#### Secretary

TBA

#### Board of Directors

Barbara Ruiz-Gonzalez 216-8802

Bonny Geoge Jr. 233-1897

Eddy Caballero 786-251-1199

Luis Valdeon 786-443-2147

Renee Reynolds 338-8192

#### Alternates

Belinda Hebert 786-298-7044

Holly Thommes 338-4192

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

#### Camping

Renee Reynolds 338-8192

#### Emergency Management

Belinda Hebert 786-298-7044

#### Funnel Cakes

Jessica Winer 331-4642

Patricia Perez 954-707-3331.

#### Historian

Mike & Deda Maldonado 331-7599

#### Hurricane Stalls

Debi Catarineau-Priest 775-1820

#### Membership

Andrea Sante & Bill Guzman 216-2461

#### Merchandise

Deborah Brunson 505-7103

Bonny George, Jr 233-1897

#### Newsletter

Deda & Mike Maldonado [sftr@watv.net](mailto:sftr@watv.net) 331-7599

Bonny George, Jr. & Carol Hakanson

#### Parades

Lisa Morgan 786-271-4933

#### Programs

Ben Kroner 245-2403

#### Public Relations

Manny Alvarez & Megan Barnes-Rego 304-0680

#### Sunshine

Open

#### Junior Members Activities

Bonny George, Jr 233-1897

#### INFORMATION HOTLINE

David Ruiz

SFSPCA: Laurie Waggoner

446-7737

305-4-HORSES

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](http://www.helpthehorses.com)

P.O. Box 924088

Homestead, Fl. 33092

#### Horse Protection Association of Florida

[www.HPAF.org](http://www.HPAF.org)

20690 NW 130 Ave.

Micanopy, Fl. 32667

#### F.R.I.E.N.D.S.

[www.eiahorses.org](http://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.

- **18 & 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.



# 2021

## Dates and Places

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

# 2021



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

### **June 2021 All activities under social distancing & WEAR a mask protocols.**

Mon 7- SFTR General Meeting, Zoom, [sftrmiamidade.org](http://sftrmiamidade.org), 7pm. Guest speaker will be Coral Rodriguez - Esperanza Equine Connections- riding & training.

Mon 14-SFTR Board Meeting, Bonny & Sonny George, Jr's home; 7pm. Please bring your chair/food/drink/mask & agenda.

Sat 19- The Esperanza Ride; Coral Rodriguez, 786-449-6298. Arr 9am, ride 10am.

Sun 20- *Father's Day!*

Mon 21- SFTR Happy Hour, Zoom, [sftrmiamidade.org](http://sftrmiamidade.org) , 7pm.

### **July 2021 All activities under social distancing & WEAR a mask protocols.**

Sun 4- July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade, Key Biscayne, Lisa Morgan, 786-271-4933

Mon 5- SFTR General Meeting, on Zoom, [sftrmiamidade.org](http://sftrmiamidade.org), 7pm. Guest speaker will be Ra Schooley - Composting manure into soil, & fly control.

Sat 10- Jr. Trail Blazers Ride, TB:Michelle McDaniel 305-562-0961; Indian Hammocks Park, Arr. 9am- ride 10am.

Mon 12- SFTR Board Meeting- TBA, 7pm.

Sat 17- Wolf Lake Ride, TB:Bonny George, Jr. & Helve Longoria; 305-233-1897 south of Griffin Rd. on 5400 SW 76 Ave. Davie, Fl. Arr. 9am, leave 1pm.

Mon 19- SFTR Happy Hour, Zoom [sftrmiamidade.org](http://sftrmiamidade.org) , 7pm.

Sat 24- Day of the American Cowboy Ride, TB:Mike & Deda Maldonado, 305-331-7599 Fruit and Spice Park 187 Ave. and SW 248<sup>th</sup> Street Arr. 9am, ride 10am.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Trail Riders,

We have a new 2021-2022 Board of Directors, some returning & some new. It's always good to have different members involved in the workings of our club. Now that Covid seems to be winding down, we will be able to get back to more social interactions. I am looking forward to more local rides held by more of our members.

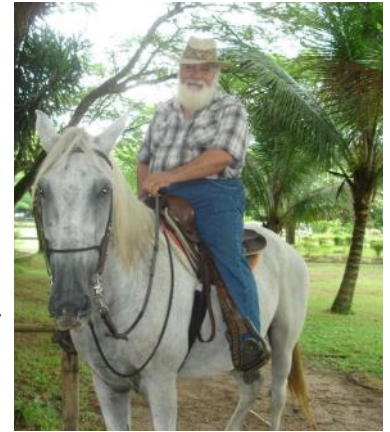
We missed two SFTR banquets, 2020 & 2021. Trail Boss & committee shirts were handed out. Some recognition awards were given at a mini banquet type meeting at Fruit & Spice Park after a recent Saturday afternoon ride.

Augie thanked the current Board for the great job they did, especially in the year of Covid. He awarded Member of the Year to Renee Reynolds, for the fantastic year of camping that she planned. Being her first year as camping coordinator it was an amazing task. I know she will do the same this year. Augie also recognized Board members that were new this past year & they received a plaque to remember their first year: Barbara Ruiz-Gonzalez, Sharon Dixon, Eddy Ruiz, & Renee Reynolds. He also presented the Galloper Award plaques to members who gave service to the club, above & beyond, for 2020-2021: Colby Stroud & Helve Longoria.

Because the Covid lock-down took place practically at the end of our working year 2019-2020 in which I had been President, I would like to remind you of my selections for that missed banquet. Jessica Winer was Vice President, co-chair for the funnel cakes booth, rode with the Parade Team, & stepped up at every event - I named her Member of the Year. My choices for Galloper Award were: Dennys Cabrera, a good, helpful friend to all, & a great father; and for giving help at so many events to all SFTR members - Colby Stroud (now recognized two years in a row!) Pictures & details will appear in our July newsletter, dedicated to our virtual banquet & our new Board. Well, we are off to the start of a new SFTR year, hopefully with much less pandemic and lots of great rides & events.

C'yall on the trails,

Mike Maldonado  
President  
South Florida Trail Riders



Mike & Arrojado



We had a short but very nice ride last Saturday at Fruit and Spice Park, the weather was perfect and everyone seemed to enjoy it. there were 10 riders and 2 Ground support, and many more joined us for lunch and the meeting after.

~Mike Maldonado

We have 266 family and single members that have joined or renewed for the year.

# Welcome New Members

WE WILL E-MAIL YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD IN 3 TO 4 WEEKS.



Dee Dawson and Crystal Schnebly  
Homestead, Fl. 33033

Lynn Zuccaro  
Grant, Fl. 32949

## NEWSLETTER

The **DEADLINE** for all articles & classifieds is:



Submit your information here:

[sftmiamidade.org/newsletter](http://sftmiamidade.org/newsletter)

## 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.

|                                      |                                   |          |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Robbie's Feed and Supply</b>      | 22390 SW 177th Ave. (Krome) Miami | 247-1256 |
| <b>Sunset Feed &amp; Supply</b>      | 7650 S.W. 117 Ave. Kendall        | 271-0341 |
| <b>Sunset Country</b>                | 16300 S.W. 296 St. Homestead      | 245-2935 |
| <b>The VetteSmith Inc. Body shop</b> | 10750 SW 188 Street. Miami        | 252-1256 |



## SUNSHINE REPORT



Sandra Font-Falcone was out riding Melodico when his small hoof went through the tiny hole in a well cover. She face planted & was banged-up, but recovered... horse was ok. Recently she fell while running on slippery cement, chasing Golden Boy-her arms & hands will be healing next. Hang in there Sandra, the lazy days of summer are coming! Ray Edge is well, but her horse had tooth extraction surgery, and we hope he's well now too. We are sending Deborah Brunson positive thoughts as her BF, Esteban, undergoes cancer surgery & chemo. A shout out of support also for our friend Richard Dunmoyer, as he goes through surgery & convalescence.

Good news... Susanne Coffman is back to riding, following a leg injury; and has been busy hatching tiny umbrella cockatoos for fun. Carol Hakanson had twisted her left knee at Fechtel in March, and we hope it is healing well by now. Andrea Frank-

lin had a horse-warming party for her new Rocky Mountain mare, Camille - she sure is a beauty! And a big bark welcome to Celine d'Arbellas's new King Cavalier pup, Theodore James - aka Teddy.

Socially...Danny & Alicia Medina partied for their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Barbara Ruiz-Gonzalez & Angel celebrated their 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; and Olga & Mitch Horn's son, Charles, dropped a knee to ask Tiffany Sarcos to be his bride. A huge Yes!!! But sadly we say farewell to Heidi Stibitz & James Barrett, as they've moved to McAlpin, Fla. Both have found career advancements; and Heidi will be a large animal Vet Tech. Awesome!! Thank you both for the many good rides, soccer games, laughter, & parades - you will be missed!

~Your Newsletter Staff

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Alicia Garrido  
Amber Prida  
Amy Latham  
Andrea Pearson  
Ariel Remos  
Art Hebert  
Arturo Monsante  
Becky Mayes-Blair  
Carol Hakanson  
Carrie Hershberger  
Christopher Rego  
Dana Proeger  
Daniela Galtes  
David Masel  
David Hames

Diane M. Dorick  
Edward Caballero  
Elsy Altuve  
Emma Brower  
Fernando Laguardia  
Gilda Noboa  
Gonzalo Peschiera  
Jack Tierney  
James Barrett  
Janelis Egozcue  
Janice Milligan MD  
Jenny Garcia  
Jorge Pernas  
Julie Bustamante  
Junee Warner

Kelly Coleman  
Lisa Morgan  
Lorie Gurliaccio  
Lynn Vina  
Marcia Marzucco  
Phylis McGrath  
R. Norberto Hernandez  
Ricardo Lopez  
Robert C. Owens  
Sheila Schlafly  
Sophia Petri  
Susan Clubb  
Tom McKechnie  
Toni Hope Meltzer  
Vivian P. Alvarez

Yaney Lluesma  
Yvonne C. Fonseca



### “Nicole's Law”

Effective October 1st, 2009

This law requires any **child under the age of 18 years** and riding a equine on any public lands, roads, or trails **to wear a certified helmet**

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## AROUND THE PADDOCK WITH SFTR INVOLVED IN EQUINE SPORTS

Before it gets too hot, many of our members have been excelling in various equine sports, both locally & up state. Celine d'Arbellas & Sam Torcise have been attending jump shows – kuddos for Sam clearing 1.1m! Sharon Perrin's Pinot went to his first jumping show at the Palm Beach Equest. Center in Wellington – an A rated show in which he did very well. Joanna Jacobs (JJ) had a clean barrel 17.369 run to take 9<sup>th</sup> in 3D Open & 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2D Adults; and Lynn Vina was kicking it at Lady Lake, winning her class in the AQHA Ranch Cutting event on Maddie, with a 74! Alex Egozcue took 2<sup>nd</sup> place & went home with a saddle, a Rattler Rope, & buckle in recent Joe Beaver Roping events; and daughter Janelis won the Championship in the PeeWee Div. in the Whipping Wild Championships. The Posse competed in team qualifier competitions in Alachua Co., and took 4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> place honors! Congratulations to juniors Sophia Stamatyades & Sarah Rotella!

In the job scene...one of our Varela FFA students who was on our SFTR Parade Team, Ameenah Aljabry, is also a Vet Tech... at the Doral Animal Hosp. - congratulations! Also parading with us for several years, I'm sure you'll remember Nicole Donate...who has won the National FFA Degree! This is the highest FFA honor that can be earned. Wonderful how these ladies who had been part of the SFTR are rising to such great heights! And we have a new nurse in our SFTR family...Tatiana

Calas is an RN at Baptist! Congratulations on your new position and thank you for your service at this tough time.

Recently, Andrea Franklin & others went to the 2021 Reg. 12 Champ. Horse Show at the World Equest. Center in Ocala. Lipizzans, Arabs, Andalusians, Friesians, etc ,definitely a show we might all put on our calendar for next spring! Remember, the Last Chance Paso Fino Show is this August, at Tropical Park – we hope to see some of our SFTR compete there so we may cheer them on!

Rolling instead of riding? Seems Robyn Anderson is taking up in-line street skating, while hubby Curtis peddles along on his bike. Good for them! – but isn't seeing the sights less strenuous on a horse?

We are easing into June, our summer will heat up, and with that our hurricane season. Check out the hurricane prep hints in the Emergency Management article, and contact Debi Catarineau-Priest if you want a stall (info in this newsletter). We will still ride through the summer, so if someone would like to host a local ride (or Tree Tops?), please give me a call/email/Facebook PM. We're open to moonlight rides, late afternoon/early evening rides, or sporting events & clinics. Stay well and enjoy the outdoors, especially on horseback! ~Bonny George, Jr.

~Bonny George, Jr.

## *Future Events*

### **Calling All Cowboys, Cowgirls, and Cowpokes**

For years now we have been holding a ride to celebrate the National Day of the American Cowboy. It is that time again, on **Saturday, July 24th**. We'll meet at the Fruit & Spice Park at 24801 SW 187th Ave, at 9:00 AM, and ride at 10:00 AM. Deda will not have her Cowboy Quilt Exhibit this year, you know... the virus.

We will judge our best cowboy, cowgirl and cowpoke ( Jr). The Cowboy Attire competition will be judged at 9:30 AM, ride out at 10:00 AM. We will maintain social distance and wear our masks (maybe we can rob a bank or stagecoach on the way). To celebrate the NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY - Wear your best duds!!

No repeat winners, so you all have a chance! Then we will ride out for a short ride (it's hot in July).

Remember to wear your mask (or bandana covering the nose & mouth), bring your own personal water/soda/food/snacks, as there will be no sharing at this point in time. Some of us may want to have lunch after the ride at the Mango Cafe – it's open. Let's make a good show and dress in our cowboy best! No shorts, sneakers or caps. It is a celebration in honor of COWBOYS. Call 305-331-7599 for more information.

*~ Mike Maldonado*

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### **SFTR General Meeting Highlights & Up-Coming Speakers**

We were indeed fortunate to have had Beth Moran (Nat. Dir. of Equine Trail Sports) speak at our May General meeting. The ETS are nationwide obstacle events, with on-site & year end earned for awards can be earned. Anyone can participate in riding or in-hand challenges, or host an ETS. With something for everyone, it's a safe way to experience the thrill of trail competitions.

On board for our **Mon., June 5** SFTR General meeting will be **Coral Rodriguez**, owner of Esperanza Equine Connections – a new riding venue near Homestead. As a SFTR member, Coral will let us know what her facility provides, services available, & the programs she offers for kids & adults - just in time for summer fun for all. Coral is also involved with the Paso Fino shows! Come to Coral's ride, out of her facility, on Sat., June 9!

For our Mon. July 5 Gen. Meeting we hope to have SFTR, Capt. Ra Schooley, speak about composting as a viable option for horse owners for manure management. Discussion will include building boxes, the process, usable soil gained & fly control benefits.

To participate in our **Mon. June 5 General Meeting** and hear about Coral Rodriguez' venue, go to the club web page: [sftmiamidade.org](http://sftmiamidade.org) at approx. 6:45pm to sign-in on Zoom. Mike & Deda will assist you in signing-in & you can use your computer, laptop or cell phone. The meeting will start at 7pm with club news, & then Coral will explain what her Esperanza Ranch has to offer & answer any questions you may have. See you there!

*~Your Board*

## Calling All Juniors to Ride at Indian Hammocks!

Michelle McDaniel will Trail Boss a ride especially for all our SFTR junior members... whether they ride or not. On **Sat., July 10** we will meet at Indian Hammocks Park in Kendall, at 9am. Ride starts at 10am. The park is well shaded & fenced, and the trail is easy for solo riders, juniors riding as their parent walks & lead lines their horse, or for the very tiny who may join us as they are pushed in a stroller. The pace will be slow & safe, to accommodate the walkers, but will offer the older juniors a chance to be real

trail Blazers as well! All SFTR members are welcome to come ride, & your junior rider would probably be thrilled to have you ride along also! If you don't ride...come walk with your club friends; and if your horse doesn't ride, lead line him down the trail for exercise too.

All juniors 18-under must wear a helmet, and due to Covid, please wear a mask & stay socially distant until the Park staff indicates otherwise. Wear your SFTR T-shirt & come ride a shady trail with us!

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## Swim Your Horse at Wolf Lake

Each year the Dade SFTR and our sister club in Broward have a combined event, at Wolf Lake in Davie. Those who have come for the day of swimming their horse in the lake, riding the hills & shaded trails, know that summer just doesn't get much better. I have enlisted Helve Longoria as my co-TB this year for the south, and Tina West has graciously volunteered as the TB for the Broward group.

Mark your calendar for our new date.. **.Sat. July 17;** arrive about 9am, ride & enjoy. There is plenty of space for us all this year - Tina has reserved the big pavilion with the tables/benches for us to sit socially distant. Due to Covid restrictions, please wear your mask as you off-load/tack-up, or until we are directed otherwise on site by the Park

staff. Directions: 5400 SW 76th Ave Davie. Krome north to Griffin Rd, go east. As you cross University Drive, be in the right lane. You'll soon see a right turn, Anapu...turn right and proceed approx a mile. You'll see the park on your left. Try to trailer-pool to save gas & parking space. If you approach from the east/I-95/Turnpike, exit on Griffin going west. Go to University & make a U-turn. Follow the rest of the directions. Again, apologies for no salads or sodas, due to Covid, so bring your own water, snacks, lunch, chair & stay to about 1pm; then please police your trailer area before leaving. So gather your water togs and tack, & juniors 18-under must wear a helmet. This ride has always been special – don't miss it!

*~Bonny George, Jr.*

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## Come to the Esperanza Ride

Coral Rodriguez will Trail Boss a short ride from her ranch, near 200 St., on Sat. June 19. Arrive at 9am, for a 10am ride out, into the west Redlands area. It is a new trail for most of us, so wear your SFTR T-shirt & bring the family to ride and enjoy! Juniors 18-under must wear a helmet.

Still dealing with Covid protocols so please wear your mask, and bring your own water/

snacks/lunch for the ride & after. An email will be sent to all members before the ride, with the exact address & directions. Coral will also be our guest speaker at the Mon, June 7 SFTR General Meeting – so we can hear more details about the ride then also. Mark your calendar for a nice summer ride, tell your SFTR riding buddies and let's head out before it gets too hot. See you there!

## A PIG RULED THE CANAL GREEN-WAY!

Twelve riders (including 1 junior) gathered on a clear morning to celebrate an early Mother's Day with good friends. We welcomed a new member, Melissa Sandness, and headed out onto the trail. We crossed the railroad trestle, when out of nowhere a pig ran toward our group. Holly T's horse first shied sideways, and then decided backing up could work...but his spooking rapidly put his hinds right up to the canal edge before he stopped. Renee's horse also reacted, so Renee decided to get off & lead him past the situation. Melissa's arena horse,

new to the trail & riding in our group, never reacted – seems he is used to pigs at their barn!

It was a awesome ride, but most importantly, with good friends helping me: like Colby S. and Mike M. - fantastic as always. Honoring our mom's with a Happy Mother's Day ride was the idea for the day, and everybody had a great lunch too! That's what it's all about... friends being together. God bless & thank you all for making my Trail Bossing this event a success.

*~Luis Valdeon*





## CLICK TO START TEACHING YOUR EQUINE A NEW SKILL

On Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, we had a good turnout for my second Clicker clinic: 9 participants, Sonny as ground support, 2 visitors (Karen B. & Mark K.) & a junior (Kayla A.). The first demonstration of techniques was at my place last month, & this clinic was hosted at Bonny & Sonny George, Jr's farm. Most everyone from the first clinic showed up, with their horses, to give it a try. Everyone had their horses Targeting by the end of our session ... having their equine touch their nose to a "target" object (like a tennis ball on the end of a short stick). This task continues in stages, until the horse

learns to pick up the target object, or follow the target as he learns to perform other maneuvers. We had a lot of fun, & it was great to see everyone putting their new found knowledge to work, and the horses really enjoyed it!

I can't wait to see all the neat things everyone is going to teach their horses in the future. I had a lot of fun teaching everyone!

*~Rachel Shearing*





## AND SO OUR JOURNEY BEGAN...

First stop: McCulley's Farm in north Fla., where we rode high atop the banks of the sleepy Withlacoochee River, reuniting with great friends who've moved up-state & to Ga.: Andrea Sante, Diane Patenaude, Denise & Chad Kanke, Nancy Krause & Nancy's Georgia riding buddy (who's now ours too), Debbie Crowe. Our Central Fla. members joined us: Wayne & Carrie Hershberger, and Ray & Susan Gonzalez. Emerging from our southern Everglades were myself, Renee Reynolds, & Luis Valdeon caravanning; while Augie Saavedra, and Barbie & Angel Gonzalez went a day or two earlier from Miami.

We enjoyed two nights of campfire stories at Wayne's campfire & dined on great pot luck meals coordinated by Carrie. The trails could've been marked better, but were doable. The horses lodged comfortably under roof cover & in pipe rail stalls. We lodged comfortably with electric hook-up to our trailers. Augie doesn't use electric hook-up, but I believe he lodged comfortably as well. Minimal cell service, but a bathhouse was available to all! You should ask Luis about a funny story involving trailer plumbing pipes, it's only funny when he tells it. Ya had to have been there! Actually Luis is very good at fixing things, he repaired Ray's trailer wheel too.

The next leg of the trip saw Barbie & Angel, Luis, Augie, Ray & Susan and I move on to Whetstone Horse Camp, in the Francis Marion & Sumter Natl. Forest, near Mountain Rest in S.C. - along the banks of the wild & scenic Chattooga River. We rode the Rocky Gap trail system, but were unable to cross the river at any of the three fords into Georgia, to ride the Willis Knob trail system, due to high water. Which means we have to go back on another trip, to complete the experience and ride with Weyman & Diane Cochran. They are local to the area & know where the hazards in the three water crossings are located. We met Weyman & Diane thru Nancy Krause. I told Weyman if he gets us across the Chattooga, we'd get him across our Everglades river of grass, in the So. Fla. Water Management Dist. - Augie you're on deck for that one. My motto. . . Cross the Chattooga or Bust!

We rode mountain trails with switchbacks zigzagging up & down the side of the mountains that were very strenuous for our horses - some handled it better than others. We crossed many beautiful streams & played in a waterfall. The horses enjoyed the fresh, cool, clean water & my mare actually enjoyed slurping it as it came over some stones. We found beautiful lunch spots with hitching posts to tie the horses, along the well marked trails. Barbie spoiled us with Cuban espresso coffee with sugar. She's up for Sainthood! Andres Prida, a new member who many know from the Cattle Drive,

met up with us there, and he & Luis went for a short ride before we left on the 4th day.

Whetstone campground has some scattered water spigots (you have to hold the handle down at the faucet to keep the water flowing) - kinda tricky until you learn to jury rig it with a wire. The horse hitching posts at most of the sites would be very mucky if it was wet, & there would be no opportunity for your horse to lie down while tied. Some areas had tie out posts (in the muck), but at least the tie out gives the horse the opportunity to lie down. Meanwhile, the camp host was very kind to let us utilize our own containment systems, as long as we didn't muck up the rest of our individual campsites. Each campsite had a nice hard packed shell driveway for the rigs, no electric. It was cold the first night & I put on my furnace because I like it a bit warmer. I think everyone else was comfortable without a heater. No cell service until you rode to the top of the mountain, and then you would hear everyone's cell phones going ding-ding, & everybody making calls to their families.

On to The Big South Fork Natl. Rec. Area on the Cumberland River, and the Bandy Creek Stables & Campground in Tenn.! With me were Augie, Luis, Andres, and Ray & Susan. Driving from Va. to join us were old friends & past SFTR Pres., Jeff & Isabel Ditzel. Even my husband, Brian, flew in & stayed one night with us, after a day touring around & seeing the sights, he left that evening in a rental car to N.C. to play with our granddaughter.

The So. Fork campground had hard-pack for each rig, electric & water spigots (manually held or use some wire to hold open). Better cell service here, than the other campgrounds. The horses were a 5 min. walk away, in nice wooden barns with rubber mats & shavings. They worked their butts off, so they deserved those comforts! At Bandy Creek we had access to so many trails we couldn't fit them all in our schedule. Our horses climbed up & down many of those trails. At first I thought the rocks in the trails would be a nuisance, but I soon realized that the horses do well on the rocks - the smaller rocks gave them traction. There were also easier trails.

We finally forded a river! At Station Camp, Big So. Fork, we crossed the Cumberland River. Andres & his horse were the champions for the cause! They found the way! The trails were very well marked, but I discovered Andres is also very good with maps & directions. We saw all the beautiful scenic outlooks, Luis & Andres made sure of that. I made sure we saw all the river crossings. We didn't get to do them all, but we saw them. Susan & Ray were our wonder-

ful campfire hosts, thank-you to them both. Ray was our newest fire-tender, and it was nice to relax by the fire each evening.

Time to go home. We had beautiful weather the whole time...until the last day. So Luis, Andres & I packed up and headed home...thru Atlanta...in a rain-storm! Luis' trailer had tail light issues, so once again

Luis & his toolbox were busy. It was a long drive, so we stayed at Andres' place in No. Fla. for a beautiful overnight spot on our way home. Next year we'll factor in one riding day for the trip home.

All in all it was Great Friends, Great Horses, and Great Riding!!

*~Renee Reynolds*



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## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

**FOR SALE:** Poolguard pool alarm, Mod. PGRM-2. Was \$200, used only a few months- \$50. Bonny 305-233-1897.

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

**FOR SALE:** Two almost new 5' x 5' galvanized chain link gates. Made to fit a 10' opening. Asking \$250. OBO. Debi 305-775-1820.

**FOR SALE:** 15" roping saddle, \$400 call or text Mike 305-331-7599.

**FOR SALE:** Beautiful Amish made surrey with a fringe on top. Three shafts, Cobb, pony and double mini, includes a pony harness \$1500 call or text Mike 305-331-7599.

## SFSPCA Horse of the Month "Mio and Sachi"



**Paint • Geldings • 25 & 27 years old**

Mio and Sachi have been together for most of their lives and we would love to find them a home where they could stay together.

Contact Laurie at  
[Laurie@helpthehorses.com](mailto:Laurie@helpthehorses.com) for adoption info.  
Donations can be made at [www.helpthehorses.com](http://www.helpthehorses.com)

Broadcast  
last month's horse,  
was not adopted.



**Please remember to  
send your classified  
ad before the 15<sup>th</sup>  
day of each month.**

Submit your  
information here:

<http://sftmiamidade.org/newsletter>

## PARADE TEAM NEWS

Great News!!!! The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, on Key Biscayne, is ON !

This is the first formal parade for 2021, and may spell the restart for our Parade Team. Now is the time to check your Parade Team uniform: shirt, pants, hat & glitter band, bandana & slide, black or dark boots. Helmets are permitted, and required for all juniors 18-under; please use a black helmet cover. No gloves for this parade. Check your of-



ficial Parade Team horse tack: pad, breast collar, bridle & reins. We will loan a red-white-blue bow for the horses/buggies, and a patriotic bandana for everyone's uniform (bring your slide!). We are always looking for new members who would like to join the Parade Team – just call us and we will be happy to help you parade with us on the 4<sup>th</sup>! If you need any parade items, please **call** Lisa 786-271-4933 or Bonny 305-233-1897 **asap!** We have new uniforms & parts, and new/used tack for sale.

The parade route on Key Biscayne is narrow, with crowds on both sides of the road... and it is televised! For safety reasons, this is not usually a parade for first-time horses. However, if you would like to walk your equine in-hand, or walk & lead-line a junior rider, or have your equine checked out ahead of time, call us immediately so we may evaluate the individual equine for safe participation. No riding double or ponying. Due to lingering Covid issues, please bring your own water, snacks, lunch for after the parade, etc. We do not know the restrictions, so please bring & wear your mask until we are advised otherwise on site.

We will meet at our normal parking area at the tennis courts across from Crandon Beach at 9am, and must be lined up by 10am to start. I will be sending emails with more information as I receive notices, driving directions, extra decorations permitted, etc. Please RSVP **now**, so we may plan trailer ride sharing, flags & banner carrying, a Poop-Scoop volunteer, safety side walkers and a safety truck & driver. Let's show the community that the SFTR is still here and thriving! Come parade on the 4<sup>th</sup>!

~Lisa Morgan

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS, INC.**

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



TELEPHONE # 4-HORSES  
(446-7737)

- NEW MEMBERSHIP
- RENEWAL
- ADDRESS CHANGE / FILE UPDATE
- FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (\$35.00 PER YEAR)
- 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 \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (CELL) \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ DO YOU WANT YOUR PHONE NUMBER PUBLISHED?  Y  N

NAME & DATE OF BIRTH OF ALL FAMILY MEMBERS 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_ 5) \_\_\_\_\_

HORSE INTERESTS:  TRAIL RIDING,  PARADES,  CAMPING,  SHOWS,  BREEDING

REFERRED BY? \_\_\_\_\_ HOW MANY HORSES DO YOU HAVE? \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU HAVE A TRAILER?  YES  NO, IF YES, WHAT IS THE TRAILER CAPACITY? \_\_\_\_\_

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HELP TRANSPORT OTHERS?  YES  NO

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING ON A COMMITTEE?  YES  NO

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?  YES

Warning: Under Florida Law, An Equine Activity Sponsor or Equine Professional Is Not Liable For An Injury To, Or The Death Of, A Participant in Equine Activities Resulting From The Inherent Risks of Equine Activities. (Florida Statutes 773.01 - 773.05). I will abide to club safety rules and give consideration to my fellow club members.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant must be 18 years of age or older.  
All listed names above must reside at the same address.

PLEASE MAIL TO: SOUTH FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS, INC.  
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P.O. Box 924946  
Princeton, Florida 33092

\*\*\*\*\*

PAYMENT TENDERED:  CASH  CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNTS \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



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Day! 