



trail tales



Loxahatchee Chapter, Florida Trail Association

Volume 26, Issue 5: Bi-monthly Publication

September/October 2016

CHAPTER MEETINGS

First Monday of every month

*Topics of interest to hikers,
outdoor enthusiasts and
naturists held at:*

OKEEHEELEE NATURE CENTER

Social 7:00 p.m.
Program 7:30 p.m.

*Located in Okeehlee Park on
Forest Hill Blvd. east of the
turnpike. Follow the main park
road for about a mile, turn left
at the Nature Center sign and
continue to the building.*

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Happy Hiking!!



Gearing Up for Hiking Season

Are you ready to do some more serious hiking/camping this fall? Well, the Loxahatchee Chapter is the place to get good, well-tested equipment. We have back packs, day packs, and fanny packs. And for your comfort and safety, we have air mattresses, sleeping pads, tents, rain gear, and hiking sticks, etc., etc., etc.

If you are interested in any of these camping/backpacking items, please call Paul Cummings at 561-963-9906.

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Thirty Three Miles for 33rd Birthday Fundraiser

By John Fenner

Brian Schoenberg ran 33 miles for his 33rd birthday on June 12 on a section of the Ocean to Lake Hiking Trail. Brian is a member of the trail running group, the Ultra Runners. About 40 people showed up at the event to either run or support the runners. When the event was over Brian had raised over \$400 in cash to donate to our chapter. Brian did this last year as well and donated about \$350.

Our Chapter is lucky to have dedicated members working to help us maintain the wilderness trails they use for recreation and adventure. Events like this are important in creating the kind of Florida we want to live in. If you have ideas and can hold an event for a fund raiser contact the chapter. Let's see if we can get something going!

I believe a leaf of grass is no less than the journey-work of the stars.

-Walt Whitman, poet (31 May 1819-1892)

Chapter Meetings & Events

Monthly Meeting

September 5

LABOR DAY ICE CREAM SOCIAL, 7:00 P.M.

Meet in the screen room in back of the nature center. A road sign will be posted. Bring your favorite ice cream.

October 3

Program to Be Announced.

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Hikers: Out to the Ol' Ballgame

By John Fenner

Loxahatchee Chapter trail members took an outing to an evening ball game in Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter on June 23rd . Nine members showed up for Dollar Night. Tickets, hot dogs, soda, popcorn, and nachos were all \$1 each.

The Hammerheads won the game coming from behind with three runs in the ninth inning, including a home run. We even caught a ball for Sally Davies' granddaughter, Mia Brown! A fun time was had by all.

Yamato Scrub Hike

By Alan Collins

On July 24th, 15 of us hiked four miles plus at Yamato Scrub. It was a lovely day and a good day for hiking. Several hikers made the following comments: Paul Cummings, "It was a beautiful day, good hike, good planning." Val Johnson said that all my hikes are wonderful. Thanks Val. Winnie Lo stated, it was fun. One man, whose name I didn't get, said that if it wasn't for these hikes he'd probably be sitting at home watching TV.

I got the impression that most liked the walk even though I couldn't talk to everybody. We had breakfast at TooJays afterward where we enjoyed the food and a lively discussion.

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Leave No Trace.

Chapter Officers

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≡ Monthly Activity Calendar ≡

September/October

Date	Description
9/3	JOHN PRINCE PARK WALK. Take a slow stroll or pick up speed as you choose your own hiking pace. One hour hike then it's off to breakfast at TooJays. 7:30 a.m. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.
9/4	HIKE IN JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK. Enjoy this very popular hike of 7 to 12 miles. Meet at the front gate of the park at 8:00 a.m. Bring plenty of water. Lunch afterward at the Dune Dog Café. Contact: Mary Miller, 561-213-2189. Public/Moderate.
9/5	MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING. Put on your bib and get ready for the Labor Day Ice Cream Social beginning promptly at 7:00 p.m. Meet in the screen room behind the nature center. Bring your favorite ice cream. Contact: Margaret Brabham, 561-324-3543. Public/Leisure.
9/10	TRAIL MAINTENANCE. Details to be announced at monthly chapter meeting.
9/17	OKEEHHEELER PARK WALK. Walk 4 miles then have breakfast afterward. Meet at Okeehheeler south parking lot (turn south off Forest Hill Blvd). 7:30 a.m. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
9/24	HIKE ON THE APOXEE WILDERNESS TRAIL. Joe Rosenberg will lead you on a semi-rigorous 9-mile hike in West Palm Beach's urban wilderness. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the trailhead. Plenty of water is a must. Contact: 561-859-1954. Public/Moderate.
9/25	SEACREST SCRUB AND HIGH RIDGE SCRUB NATURAL AREAS HIKE. Walk about an hour in these two scrub and scrubby flatwood areas in Boynton Beach. Then join fellow hikers for breakfast. 7:30 a.m. Contact: Alan Collins, 561-586-0486. Public/Leisure.
10/1	JOHN PRINCE PARK WALK. Enjoy your surroundings as you stroll in the park for about one hour before heading out for breakfast at TooJays. 7:30 a.m. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.
10/2	HIKE IN JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK. This is a fairly rigorous outing (around 7 to 12 miles). Meet at the front gate at JDSP at 8:00 a.m. Bring lots of water. Lunch at the Dune Dog Café afterward. Contact: Mary Miller, 561-213-2189. Public/Moderate.
10/3	MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING. Catch up with fellow hikers as you talk of your recent hiking adventures. Social: 7:00 p.m., Program at 7:30 p.m. Topic to be announced. Contact: Margaret Brabham, 561-324-3543. Public/Leisure.
10/8	TRAIL MAINTENANCE. Details to be announced at monthly chapter meeting.
10/15	OKEEHHEELER PARK WALK. Hike around 4 miles in this popular park. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the parking lot near the western entrance to the park. Breakfast afterward at Pete's Place. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.
10/22	HIKE ON THE APOXEE WILDERNESS TRAIL. You'll be walking through wet prairies and tropical hammocks in West Palm Beach's water catchment area. The 9-mile hike begins at 8:00 a.m. Plenty of water a must. Contact: Joe Rosenberg, 561-859-1954. Public/Moderate.
10/23	GRASSY WATERS HIKES. Alan Collins will walk about an hour on two separate trails: Eagle Trail and Hog Haven Trail off Northlake Blvd. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward. Contact: 561-586-0486. Public/Leisure.
10/29	EASY CLIP AND WALK. Join Paul Cummings for a little trail maintenance in Okeehheeler Park. Meet at the nature center at 7:30 a.m. Contact: 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.

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Activity Leader Alan Collins Turns 90.

If you've ever been on a hike in the natural areas, it is almost certain that Alan Collins was your leader. Alan not only leads the walks but has spent hours in scoping them out. Whenever a new natural area is opened, Alan runs a reconnaissance mission to the site to put together about an hour and a half walk suitable for Loxahatchee Chapter members and the public.



That's not all he does. He also fulfills the requirement that the chapter remains an eating club with a hiking disorder. He looks for restaurants within driving distance so that hikers can enjoy breakfast together afterward. And there's more. Alan always steps up to the plate to write about his adventures for Trail Tales.

CONGRATULATIONS ALAN AND THANKS!