



# trail tales



## Loxahatchee Chapter, Florida Trail Association

Volume 29, Issue 5: Bi-monthly Publication

September/October 2019

### CHAPTER MEETINGS

First Monday of every month

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

**Sep. 2** - Ice Cream Social see article

**Oct. 7** - TBA

### **OKEEHEELEE NATURE CENTER**

*Located in Okeehelée 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**

### **Chapter Officers**

**Chair:** Roy Moore, 561-422-2189, shotgun.mgc@gmail.com

**Vice/Trails:** Fred Davis, 561-779-0273, fdavis6539@msn.com

**Secretary:** Ruth Scott, ruthfla@aol.com

**Treasurer:** Paul Cummings, 561-596-4423, cummingsps@att.net

**Council Rep.:** Bea Rogers, 561-644-0777, bznest22@gmail.com

**At Large:** Christopher Knight

### *Committees*

**Membership:** Mary Miller, 561-213-2189, mhm27@juno.com

**Newsletter/Website:** Shannon Moore, 561-422-2189, shanroy@bellsouth.net

**Public Relations:** John Fenner, 586-350-3235, johnwf001@yahoo.com

### *Trail Section Leaders*

**Jonathan Dickinson:** Jeff Andrews, 561-310-6950, jeff4sail@mac.com

**Corbett:** Rick Byrnes, 561-798-6566, r\_byrnes@bellsouth.net

**DuPuis:** Scott Lunsford, 561-441-1251, tblazer7579@comcast.net

**Lake Okeechobee:** Paul Cummings, 561-596-4423, cummingsps@att.net

**Hobe Sound & LOX Slough:** Bea Rogers, 561-644-0777

### Regional FTA Conference Update

As we announced in the last issue of "trail tales", the Loxahatchee Chapter is taking the lead on organizing the regional FTA conference this year. The conference will be held on the weekend of December 13th at the Tanah Keeta Scout camp In Jupiter. Paul Cummings is chairing the event.

Paul has been busy rounding up speakers and other program activities to keep everyone busy. We are happy to announce that our featured speaker for Saturday evening will be Judge Nelson Bailey, the renowned storyteller featuring Florida history.

WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP. You can help the chapter by planning to participate, by volunteering to help with the many tasks involved, and by helping find sponsors for the event. Ask at places that you shop or places that you work if they would be willing to be a sponsor. Gift certificates can be used in fun/fund raising at the conference. Gift baskets are also a welcome addition.

At the conference we will need volunteers to assist in the kitchen, dining room, registration, activities, etc.

If you are willing to help, contact Paul Cummings (561-596-4423).

### 2019 Big 'O' Cancelled

For those that have not heard, the Big 'O' is off for this year. Both of the Moores have stepped aside as leaders of the event. Stay tuned for next year.

### Ice Cream Social

Our September meeting will be held Sept. 2 at the Okeehelée Nature Center screened room. This is our traditional Ice Cream Social. The idea is to bring some ice cream and/or toppings or companion items to share. The chapter will provide bowls, utensils, napkins and bottled water. The ice cream social will start at 7:00 pm and we'll share trail stories while we're eating.

To get to the screened room turn on the side road to the Nature Center and just before the center take the lane on the right. There will be signs there to follow.

## Loxahatchee Trail Work Report

Most of the maintenance of the OTLH, including the loop trails in JDSP and Dupuis, is accomplished by the Loxahatchee Chapter from late September to May. This past year we worked 29 days and expended almost 900 man-hours of work. In addition to mowing, clipping and blazing almost 100 miles of trail, we also repaired or replaced 5 boardwalks and removed numerous blow-downs. Since May we have continued to work on the trail including a second visit to the Cypress Creek boardwalk, mowing from BZ Creek to Indiantown Road and some housekeeping around the Lainhart Cabin where we store our mowers and equipment.

Speaking of mowers we ran our 3 DR bush mowers for nearly 100 hours and it took a toll on them. At one point all three mowers were in the shop; however, Jeff Andrews had all three mowers working one day in JDSP.

As Trail Coordinator I am fortunate to have a cadre of very loyal and competent section leaders (Jeff Andrews, Scott Lunsford, Rick Byrnes and Bea Rogers) that do most of the planning. In addition there are about 25 volunteers that provide most of the 900 man-hours necessary to get the job done.

We are also very fortunate to have great cooperation from our public land management partners. All of us that work on the trail get our satisfaction from the increasing use of the trail by day-hikers, runners and backpackers.

We appreciate your gratitude, but are always interested in your feedback as to issues on the trail or suggestion for how we can improve it.

Happy Trails

Fred Davis  
Lox Chapter Trail Coordinator



## Okeehelie Nature Center Produce Wish List

As a help to the Nature Center, we've been asked to bring a FEW items to help stretch the Nature Center budget for feeding the "critters" when we attend our monthly meetings. Spoilage is a concern; so if you want to donate, keep that in mind. A piece or two of fruit, some greens or a couple of sweet potatoes, but not all, would be greatly appreciated. Here's a list of acceptable items that the "critters" can eat and enjoy.

### Fruits:

Apples  
Bananas  
Grapes  
Berries  
Mangos  
Melons  
Any non-citrus fruit is great.

### Greens:

Romaine  
Kale  
Collards  
Swiss Chard  
Dandelions  
Any greens are great except Iceberg Lettuce

### Vegetables:

Carrots  
Bell or Sweet peppers  
Tomatoes  
Sweet potatoes  
Green beans  
Squash  
Cucumber

## T-Shirt Sales

Our supply of Chapter T-Shirts has been replenished and they are now available on all sizes. They will be for sale at the Chapter meetings. \$20 each.

## Chapter Activities for September/October

### Sept.

9/2 MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING. Okeeheelee Park Nature Center, 7715 Forest Hill Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL. We will meet in the screen room. Ice Cream Social 7:00 p.m. See article p.1. Contact: Roy Moore, 561-307-7792.

9/7 JOHN PRINCE PARK, 2520 Lake Worth Rd, Lake Worth, FL. One hour hike - pick your pace. 7:15 a.m. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.

9/8 JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK, 16450 S.E. Federal Highway, Hobe Sound, FL. 7 to 12 miles. Meet at the front gate of the park at 8:00 a.m. Bring plenty of water. Contact: Mary Miller, 561-213-2189. Public/Moderate.

9/14 TRAIL MAINTENANCE. Work on the trails for fun and exercise. Details will be announced at the monthly chapter meeting. Contact: Scott Lunsford, (561) 441-1251. Public/Leisure-Moderate.

9/15 MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS EVERGLADES HABITAT, 3491 Flying Cow Ranch Road Wellington, FL 33414. Arrive before 8AM start. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.

9/21 OKEEHEELEE PARK SOUTH, 7500 Forest Hill Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL. Walk 4 miles. Meet at Okeeheelee south parking lot (turn S. off Forest Hill). 7:30 a.m. Contact: Bruce, 772-333-1837. Public/Leisure.

9/21: HIKE THE RAPHAEL SANCHEZ MEMORIAL TRAIL. 7:45am. 11.5 miles. Trailhead at the junction of Hwy 441 & Kanner Hwy (SR 76), Port Mayaca. Please bring a minimum of 2 liters of water, snacks, and bug spray is highly recommended. Check Meetup.com for updates/conditions. Contact Rita Black: 772-985-0579. Public/Strenuous

9/28 HIKE IN J. DICKINSON STATE PARK, 16450 S.E. Fed. Hwy, Hobe Sound, FL. 8 to 10 miles. Meet at the front gate at 8am, pay JD fee & sign-in. Bring two liters of water, snacks. Contact: Amy 561-289-5551, Public/Strenuous

9/29 SEACREST & HIGH RIDGE SCRUB NATURAL AREAS HIKE. 3400 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach, FL. Walk about an hour in these two areas. 7:30 am. Contact: Alan Collins, 561-586-0486. Public/Leisure.

### Oct.

10/5 JOHN PRINCE PARK, 2520 Lake Worth Rd, Lake Worth, FL. One hour hike - pick your pace. 7:15 a.m. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.

10/6 JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK, 16450 S.E. Federal Highway, Hobe Sound, FL. 7 to 12 miles. Meet at the front gate of the park at 8:00 a.m. Bring plenty of water. Contact: Mary Miller, 561-213-2189. Public/Moderate.

10/7 MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING, Okeeheelee Park Nature Center, 7715 Forest Hill Blvd, WPB, FL. Social: 7:00 p.m., Program at 7:30 p.m Topic to be announced. Contact: Roy Moore, 561-307-7792. Public/Leisure.

10/12 TRAIL MAINTENANCE. Work on the trails for fun and exercise. Details will be announced at the monthly chapter meeting. Contact: Scott Lunsford, (561) 441-1251. Public/Leisure-Moderate.

10/13 OKEEHEELEE PARK SOUTH, 7500 Forest Hill Blvd, WPB, FL. Take a leisurely stroll in the S.Okeeheelee nature area. We will meet at the South parking lot. Stroll starts at 7:30 am. Contact Paul Cummings 561-963-9906 Public/Leisure.

10/19 RIVERBEND PARK WALK, 9060 Indiantown Road, Jupiter, Fl. Meet at the main parking lot and Visitor Center. Arrive before start at 7:30 a.m. Contact: Bruce, 772-333-1837. Public/Leisure.

10/19: HIKE FROM RIVERBEND TO HOBE GROVE CANAL. 12 miles. Meet at the main parking lot 9060 W Indiantown Rd, Jupiter, FL 33478 at 7:45 am. Beautiful section of the OTLH trail. Please bring 2 liters of water, sun protection, and any snacks. Check Meetup.com for updates and trail conditions. Contact Rita Black: 772-985-0579 Public/Strenuous

10/20 WELLINGTON PEACEFUL WATERS PRESERVE, 11676 Pierson Road, Wellington, FL. Enjoy a walk in the preserve. Meet at the preserve at 7:30am. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-596-4423. Public/Leisure.

10/26 HIKE ON OTL - at Riverbend, 9060 Indiantown Road, Jupiter, Fl. Join Amy for 8 to 10 miles on the OTL. Meet at the front parking lot before 7:30 to begin at 7:45. Please bring at least 2 liters to drink and a snack. Contact Amy Saperstein - 561-289-5551. Public/Strenuous.

10/27 GRASSY WATERS HIKES, 8537 Northlake Blvd West Palm Beach, Florida 33412. Alan Collins will walk about an hour on two separate trails: Eagle Trail and Hog Hammock Trail off Northlake Blvd. 7:30 a.m. Contact: 561-586-0486. Public/Leisure.

**Loxahatchee Chapter  
Florida Trail Association  
9887 Cross Pine CT  
Lake Worth, FL 33467**

**NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
WEST PALM BEACH, FL  
PERMIT #1204**

**ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**



*For all FTA information: [www.floridatrail.org](http://www.floridatrail.org)  
Chapter Web site: <http://loxfltrail.org/>*

