



trail tails



Loxahatchee Chapter, Florida Trail Association

July/August 2023

CHAPTER MEETINGS

First Monday of every month
Social 7:00 p.m.; Program 7:30 p.m.

July 3 – TBA

August 7 – TBA

OKEEHEELEE NATURE CENTER

Located in Okeehheelee Park on Forest Hill Blvd. east of the turnpike. Follow the signs to the Nature Center.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Chapter Officers

Chair: Janet Miller, 561-385-8676,
millerjanets@gmail.com

V-Chair: Bill Evans, 561-352-5662
amazonbill64@gmail.com

Trails: Fred Davis, 561-779-0273,
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Secretary: Ruth Scott,
561-699-0154, ruthfla@aol.com

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

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

Activity Coord. Scott Lunsford
561-441-1251

tblazer7579@comcast.net

Committees

Membership: Mary Miller,
561-213-2189

millerm2727@gmail.com

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

Public Relations: position open

Newsletter: position open

Trail Section Leaders

Jonathan Dickinson: Amy Saperstein
561-289-5551

amyjean214@gmail.com

Corbett: Rick Byrnes, 561-358-7761,
r_byrnes@bellsouth.net

DuPuis: Janet Miller, 561-385-8676

Lake O: Scott Lunsford, 561-441-1251

Hobe Sound & LOX Slough:

Bea Rogers, 561-644-0777

FTA is more than just hiking!



eleven such long distance trails in the U.S.

The Florida Trail was envisioned by James Kern when hiking the Appalachian Trail in the 1960's. Upon returning to Florida, he founded the FTA as a volunteer organization to help create out own long-distance hiking trail. The first orange blaze was painted in 1966 at Clearwater Lake in Ocala National Forest. And in 1983 the FT was designated a National Scenic Trail. One of only

That didn't happen just by people coming together to enjoy hiking! The actual Mission of the FTA is to **build, maintain, protect and promote** the FNST and a network of hiking trails throughout Florida. Our vision is a protected network of hiking trails that highlight the unique natural, scenic, cultural, and historic places in Florida. Trails that are open to all and connect our population to opportunities for recreation and meaningful volunteer work.

So please consider becoming more involved in your Chapter! We always have need of more leadership and trail maintainers. We could especially use a Newsletter Editor; a Public Relations Chair; a Program Chair; and a Hospitality Chair. For more info, contact Scott, # on left.



Coming to the monthly meeting? Don't forget treats for the Park's critters!

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES FOR JULY & AUGUST

Date	Event	Location	Diff	Time	Leader or Contact	Notes
7/1	Hike	Cypress Creek NA OTLHT	Strenuous	7:00 a.m.	Jorge Hernandez 561-346-5129	Meet at Riverbend Park 9060 Indiantown for this 10 mile out and back to Rood Lake.
7/1	Walk	John Prince Park Congress Entrance	Leisure	7:15 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Keep up with Paul and walk 3 miles in an hour, or go at your own pace for a leisure walk.
7/2	Walk	Wakodahatchee and Green Cay	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	2 for 1 Bring binoculars to really enjoy the birds!
7/2	Hike	Jonathan Dickinson Hobe Sound	Strenuous	8:00 a.m.	Mary Miller 561-213-2189	Our most popular hike! Bring plenty to drink. Entry fee \$4 single or \$6 w/ passengers.
7/3	Chapter Meeting	Okeehetee Park Nature Center	Leisure	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Janet Miller 561-385-8676	Social and refreshments at 7; program and chapter business follow at 7:30.
7/8	Trail Maint.	Corbett	Leisure	6:00 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Early one to beat the heat! Meet at south gate before 6 to drive out to Tomatoe Field loop for clipping.
7/8	Hike	Hickory Hammock US 98 Lorida	Strenuous	7:30 a.m.	Jorge Hernandez 561-346-5129	A 9 miler out and back to the campground under some beautiful oaks and shade.
7/9	Walk	Wellington Env. Preserve	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Marjory Stoneman Douglas Everglades Habitat, a 365 acre rainwater storage area with trails.
7/15	Walk	Okeehetee Pk South	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Walk of 3 to 4 miles in this hidden gem of a park.
7/15	Hike	Loxahatchee Slough PBG	Moderate	4:00 p.m.	Jorge Hernandez 561-346-5129	This will be an out and back sunset hike on the OTLHT with an option to cut it shorter with Gloria.
7/16	Walk	Riverbend Park Jupiter	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	A 4 to 5 miler in the beautiful Riverbend Park. You'll probably see a deer!
7/22	Hike	Cypress Creek NA Jupiter	Moderate	4:00 p.m.	Jorge Hernandez 561-346-5129	A sunset 9 mile loop hike with an option to cut it shorter with Gloria.
7/22	Walk	Winding Waters NA WPB	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	About 4 miles in this quiet and peaceful 548 acre natural area.
7/23	Walk	Seacrest & Highridge NA's in Boynton Bch	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Join Paul and check out two scrub and scrubby flatwood natural areas.
7/29	Trail Maint.	Okeehetee Park Nature Center	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Easy clip & walk on nature trails. Our payback to Okeehetee for meeting room use.
7/29	Hike	Dupuis Canal Point	Strenuous	4:00 p.m.	Jorge Hernandez 561-346-5129	Meet at Governor's house and join an 11 mile sunset hike around loop 3.
7/30	Walk	Hypoluxo Scrub Lantana	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Join Paul on this stroll and climb the tower and see where the Barefoot Mailman lived.
8/5	Walk	John Prince Park Congress Entrance	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Keep up with Paul and walk 3 miles in an hour, or go at your own pace for a leisure walk.
8/6	Walk	Wakodahatchee and Green Cay	Leisure	6:30 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	2 for 1 Bring binoculars to really enjoy the birds!
8/6	Hike	Jonathan Dickinson Hobe Sound	Strenuous	8:00 a.m.	Mary Miller 561-213-2189	Our most popular hike! Bring plenty to drink. Entry fee \$4 single or \$6 w/ passengers.
8/7	Chapter Meeting	Okeehetee Park Nature Center	Leisure	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Janet Miller 561-385-8676	Social and refreshments at 7; program and chapter business follow at 7:30.
8/12	Trail Maint.	Corbett	Leisure	6:30 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Meet at the south gate. We will work west from the gate.
8/13	Walk	Peaceful Waters Sanctuary Wellington	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	30-acre man-made wetlands includes a 1500' elevated boardwalk
8/19	Walk	Riverbend Park Jupiter	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Meet at the main parking lot visitor center for this 4 to 5 mile shaded walk.
8/20	Walk	Okeehetee Pk South	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Walk 3 to 4 miles in this hidden gem of a park.
8/26	Walk	Grassy Waters Apoxee Trail WPB	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Paul Cummings 561-596-4423	Join Paul for a hike of about 5 miles in this wetland.
8/27	Walk	Frenchman's Forest PBG	Leisure	7:20 a.m.	Alan Collins 954-681-2100	A nice walk in shady pinelands. And a 500 foot boardwalk through a cypress swamp.

It is very likely that additional activities will be added after publication of this document. Please check our meetup site: Florida Trail Association-Loxahatchee Chapter-PBC

***** Please check Meetup or call Janet before just showing up at the 7/3 Chapter Meeting. The Center might be closed due to the holiday and if so there will be no meeting. They are uncertain at this time. *****

Over the last seven or eight years the trail runners have really become supportive of our chapter and the FTA in memberships, financial contributions and trail maintenance. For instance the annual Death at Dupuis race has raised \$2000+ each year in contributions in addition to new memberships. They run a 4 mile loop having to complete the loop in an hour. They keep going until only one runner is left due to drop outs or not completing the loop in an hour. The race usually lasts about 30 hours! As has the JW Corbett 50 Ultra Runners where you have options of 50 miles, 50 kilometers or 18 miles. This past April the winner ran the 50 miles in 6 hours 36 minutes! And Ocean 2 Lake Jeffrey Stephens and his annual 100K. They run the entire OTLHT with an 18 hour cut off. Well a new record was set June 3 with 11 hours and 29 minutes!

This year Leo and a single runner, Luis, set up a go fund me page and ran The Lollipop 240 (started by our own James “Jupiter Hikes” Hoher back in 2015) and raised over \$10,000.00!



Leo & Luis in center (photos by Janet Miller)

The Lollipop is our Ocean to Lake Hiking Trail combined with a run around Lake Okeechobee and a second run of the OTLHT back to the beach! Luis ran 240 miles in 4 days and 8.5 hours! WOW, on the run and the funds!!!

Don't think you have to go out into the wilds of Corbett or Dupuis to see some critters! Paul's May hike crew at Wellington Environmental Preserve had a special treat and shared the paved path with about a 9' gator! And we got to see a Purple Martin condo that we learned about from our great March program.



See a current list of activities at any time and these photos and many more on our Meetup Page.

[Florida Trail Association-Loxahatchee Chapter-PBC \(West Palm Beach, FL\) | Meetup](#)

Thanks to Chapter Leadership, Activity Leaders, Work Party Volunteers and Members and Public for making Loxahatchee Chapter the best!!!