



THE TRAIL BLAZER

Uniting Horse People in Florida since 1984



Hello Fellow Trail Riders!

Welcome to all the returning and new members, I would like to introduce our new Board of Directors.

June Empfield	President	Pat Nicholls	Vice President
Marilee McGinnis	Treasurer/Membership	Nora Greenia	Secretary
Catherine York	Ad Hoc Board Member	Diana Ayres	Ad Hoc Board Member

We have put together a tentative event schedule. Please send your comments and suggestions for any adjustments. If you have never camped with your horse and would like some guidance, we have many members who are very experienced and would love to help you make that dream a reality.

As this years riding season is winding down, we reminisce at the wonderful times we have enjoyed together despite the Covid lockdown. Our first campout at **Black Horse Ranch** was a hot weekend and the refreshing pool saved the day! The **Alzheimers Ride for the Cure** went virtual. Thanks to the hard work of Catherine York and Ed Hancock whose leadership made it happen despite the barriers presented by Covid. Thanksgiving at the **Spirit of the Suwannee** was amazing and the always a crowd pleaser. Karen Ogburn has volunteered to host this campout again in 2021. My personal favorite was **Seminole Wind Ranch** in Eustis for Halloween. Vince and Ryan always make us feel so welcome and rooms inside their home are available for rent for guests without LQ's. Big thanks to Cathy and Brian Bovee for hosting an incredible weekend at their property complete with live music on **Flying Eagle Preserve**. I would like to send out another big thanks you to Eula Scott for hosting the St. Paddy weekend at **Lower Wekiva Fachtel**. Eula went overboard making this a fun event. She is quite the Girl Scout with her yummy recipes cooked over the campfire. It was a hallmark campout with three club president's in attendance_Karen Ogburn, Karen Kraushaar and myself!

If you didn't make it to the **Obstacle Play Day**, you missed a lot of fun. Greener Side Ranch in Beverly Hills hosted the day and everyone got to tryout and practice the many beautiful obstacles on the property. Next year we will make it a play day and challenge with prizes! It was great to see dedicated members come out for the Annual Membership Ride and Meeting at the Landbridge Trailhead. It was a beautiful day and we never get tired of the Greenway. We are so lucky to live and ride in this area. Everyone had a great ride and after a box lunch provided by the club elections were successfully held.

Most of all thank you for all the weekend and pickup rides that members generously led. A special thanks to the club members who make this a great club. I hope I haven't overlooked anyone, but I am grateful to all members who help make this club a success. A special thanks to all the past officers and board members who have kept this Ocala gem in existence.

I rode alone until I joined the club and made some wonderful new friends and reconnected with some old ones. This is important as new riders moving to our area need our assistance to navigate the trails. After all, they are friends we have not yet met.

To save money and to simplify communications, please join and follow our facebook page, Sun Country Trail Blazers Ocala. Our new email address is suncountrytrailblazersocala@gmail.com. Look for updates and newsletters like this one. Last but not least, enjoy your club discounts and support our local equestrian businesses.

See you on the Trail!

June Empfield



SCTB Officers 2021-2022

President June Empfield 954.263.3962 trailryder529@icloud.com

Vice President Patricia Nicholls 570.994.5612

Secretary Nora Greenia 352.840.3129 botanybay2354@gmail.com

Treasurer/Membership

Marilee McGinnis 561.723.3615 shadowfoxfarm@hotmail.com

Board of Directors

Catharine York 708.310.0282 cyork1022@gmail.com

Diana Ayres 352.572.4901 diana.ayers9@gmail.com

Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at the World Equestrian Center, 11:30 a.m. Members are welcome to join us. It is never too late to renew your membership to continue to receive the newsletter and participate in club activities.

Upcoming Rides & Events May-August

- May 13 Board of Directors Meeting, 11:30 a.m., World Equestrian Center
- June 10 Board of Directors Meeting, 11:30 a.m., World Equestrian Center
- June 5 Chalk Couture Workshop with Cathy Weeks @ Meadow Wood Farms Friendship Park 9-12. Contact Marilee at 561.723.3615 to reserve a spot.
- July 8 Board of Directors Meeting, 11:30 a.m., World Equestrian Center
- August 12 Board of Directors Meeting, 11:30 a.m., World Equestrian Center

Greenway Equestrian Trail Cleanup Dates



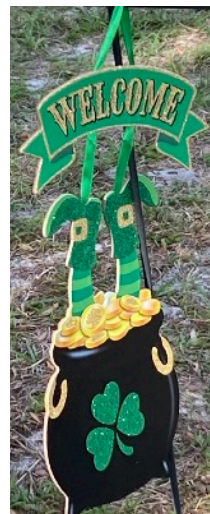
“Nicole’s Law” This law requires any child under the age of 16 years and riding an equine on any public lands, roads, or trails to wear a certified helmet.

St. Patrick's Day Campout

Sun Country Trail Blazers Ocala celebrated an early St. Patrick's Day at Lower Wekiva Fechtel the weekend of March 12-14th and what a celebration it was! Complete with a corn beef and cabbage dinner cooked over the open fire by trail boss Eula Scott and guest trail guide Cathy Weeks, everyone had a great campout . We had three generations of presidents in attendance, Karen Ogburn (and hubby, Pat), Karen "KK" Kraushaar and June Empfield. Mary and Dave Snoddy, new club members, joined us from Live Oak. Marilee McGinnis ended the weekend by cooking up a breakfast of green eggs and ham. Next time we need to bring the Blarney Stone!







First Annual Obstacle Play Day

Sun Country Trail Blazers Ocala held the club's first Obstacle Play Day on March 27, 2021 at Greener Side Ranch in Beverly Hills. Greener Side Ranch provided a great venue with a wide variety of obstacles that challenged riders and horses. Everyone had a great time and next year we plan to add a competition in the afternoon after everyone has had the opportunity to practice in the morning.





Mark Your Calendar

Rides & Events 2021-2022

June 5 *Chalk Couture Workshop* Meadow Wood Farms

July 17 * HorseHair Bracelet Workshop* Shangrila

September 25 Ride * Pruitt Trailhead

October 9* Alzheimer's Ride

November 6 * Barr Hammock

December 11* Xmas Party & Ride* Shangrila

January 15* Tidewater

February 12* Valentine's Day Ride* 25th Street Trailhead

March 12* Obstacle Play Day and Competition*

Greener Side Ranch

April 10* Annual Membership Meeting & Ride & Landbridge

Check facebook for pickup rides during the week and on weekends.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & ELECTIONS

April 10, 2021

Landbridge Trailhead

The annual membership meeting, preceded by a ride from the Landbridge Trailhead was held on April 10, 2021. As is traditional, elections of new officers were held for the 2021-2022 year.

The election results were:

June Empfield	President
Patricia Nicholls	Vice President
Marilee McGinnis	Treasurer/Membership
Nora Greenia	Secretary
Diana Ayres	Ad Hoc Board of Directors
Catherine York	Ad Hoc Board of Directors

Lunch was provided by the club. We look forward to an exciting year on the trails.



Proposed Camping Schedule 2021=2022

October 29-31* Halloween Ride & Campout * Black Horse Ranch

November 19-21 *Thanksgiving Ride & Campout* Spirit of the Suwannee (10% discount for SCTBO members)

December 30-January 2* New Years Ride & Campout * McCully's Farm

January 28-30* Ride & Campout *Flying Eagle

February 25-28* Ride & Campout *Colt Creek

March 26-28* Ride & Campout * Spotted Horse Ranch

SUN COUNTRY TRAIL BLAZERS

www.suncountrytrailblazers.com

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT AND RELEASE WAIVER 2021-2022

Membership Dues (April-April, Circle one) Single \$20 Family \$30 Guest \$10

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

EMERGENCY

CONTACT _____

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email

Address _____ @ _____

NAMES OF ALL MINOR PARTICIPANTS FOR WHOM I AM LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

THE Sun Country Trail Blazers (SCTB) AND ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS DOES NOT GUARANTEE YOUR SAFETY.

1. Voluntary Participation The undersigned agree, for myself and/or on behalf of my child, spouse, or legal ward, that we are voluntarily participating in activities sponsored by the Sun Country Trail Blazers. (hereinafter SCTB) and that I/we participate in these events at our own risk of injury or property damage as I/we may incur in relation to such activities.

2. Incident Cost Responsibility and Medical Insurance Disclosure I agree that I/we will be responsible for any and all costs incurred by us for injury or property damage I/we may incur and that I/we are covered by accident-medical insurance coverage now in force.

3. Personal Responsibility I agree that I am responsible for the negligent acts of my family members, other members of my household, and/or legal wards.

4. Personal Financial Losses I agree that I am responsible for my own financial loss in relation to the theft or damage to my tack, equipment, vehicles, trailers, and horses while participating in these events.

5. Protective Headgear Warning I agree that I am aware that SCTB recommends that I purchase and wear protective headgear which meets or exceeds the quality standards of the Certified ASTM Standard F1163 Equestrian Helmet, while riding, being, and working near horses. I understand that the wearing of such headgear while mounting, riding, dismounting, and otherwise being near horses may reduce severity of the wearer's head injuries and possibly prevent the wearer's death as the result of a fall from a horse or other occurrences. "Nicole's Law" requires any child under the age of 16 years and riding an equine on any public lands, roads, or trails to wear a certified helmet.

6. Liability Release I agree that I hereby, for myself, my family members, my heirs, administrators, personal; representatives, and assigns, do agree to hold harmless, release and discharge SCTB, its officers, directors, representatives, assigns, members, premises owners, affiliated organizations, insurers, and others acting on its behalf, from any and all claims demands, causes of actions, and legal liability, whether the same be known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, while participating in or attending any SCTB activity. I do further agree that I shall bring no claims, demands, legal actions and causes of action against SCTB. and/or its officers, directors, representatives, assigns, members, premises owners, affiliated organizations, insurer, or other acting on behalf of SCTB, as stated above in this clause for any economic or non-economic losses due to bodily injury, death, and/or property damage sustained by me and/or my minor child or legal ward in relation to the operations of SCTB including, but not limited to, riding, handling, or otherwise being near horses or other equine species.

7. Zero Liability Under Florida law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.

STATEMENT OF AWARENESS: The undersigned, being of legal age, have read and understand the foregoing agreement and release.

EACH LEGAL AGE PARTICIPANT, PARENT, OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE MINOR PARTICIPANTS LISTED ABOVE MUST SIGN BELOW:

Signature: _____ DATE _____

Signature: _____ DATE _____

Interested in helping on a committee? Trail Riding _____ Camping _____ Banquet _____

Alzheimer's Ride _____ Webpage _____ Officer _____ Other _____

Mail this application and check with self-addressed stamped envelope to:

SCTB P.O. Box 773034 Ocala FL 34477-3034

SCTB Discounts



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<p>TACK SHACK OF OCALA THE HORSE LOVERS CANDY STORE</p> <p>Dave & Marti Haught 481 SW 60th Ave Unit 100 • Ocala, Florida 34474 352.873.3599 T • 352.873.3306 F e-mail tackshackofocala@gmail.com www.tackshackofocala.com</p>	<p>TACK SHACK TOO WESTERN TACK AND APPAREL</p> <p>Dave & Marti Haught 481 SW 60th Ave Unit 100 • Ocala, Florida 34474 352.873.3599 Located right next door to Tack Shack of Ocala e-mail tackshackofocala@gmail.com www.tackshackofocala.com</p>
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