



trail tales



Loxahatchee Chapter, Florida Trail Association

Volume 25, Issue 1: Bi-monthly Publication

January/February 2015

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 Okeehetee 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!!



Southern Regional Gathering

By Paul Cummings



Participants take a break on the front porch of the main facility at the Corbett Wildlife Management Area.

The Southern Regional Gathering held November 7-9 offered a variety of activities to please all. The events were:

Friday afternoon: Participants walked on the Hungryland Boardwalk.

Friday evening: The film "Ocean Frontiers" was shown. The film depicted the many ways that people are helping to save the oceans and the creatures that live there.

Saturday morning: A python workshop was held.

Saturday afternoon: All of the land managers in South Florida held a panel presentation on trails, now and in the future. Then it was time for another hike.

Saturday evening: A presentation featuring the Ocean to Lake Hiking Trail was given.

Sunday morning: A light rain didn't keep a group of walkers from enjoying a hike into the Hungryland Slough.

Everyone had a great time! #

Chapter Meetings & Events

Monthly Meeting

January 5

TBA

February 2

TBA



Trail Maintenance Update

By Bea Rogers

November was the month for trail maintenance in DuPuis Management Area.

Joining me was the dedicated crew of Fred Davis, Scott Lunsford, Tony Rawson, Sally Davies, Rick Binder, Rick Byrnes, Bill Joyce, and Dean Drake. Staff from the DuPuis Management Area helped as well.

Thanks to their hard work, all the trails in DuPuis were mowed, blazed and made ready for hiking. Over the Thanksgiving holiday, maintenance on the Ocean to Lake Hiking Trail from the Corbett Wildlife Management Area boundary west to Loop 4 completed the job.

Sherry Cummings' Activities

GREEN CAY WETLANDS STROLL.

1/18 Look for birdlife as you walk the boardwalk. Bring binoculars. 7:00 a.m. Breakfast afterward. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure

WALK TO BLOWING ROCKS.

2/15 Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Lighthouse Restaurant in Jupiter for breakfast. Walk to Coral Cove at 8:00 a.m. then on to Blowing Rocks and back. Contact Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure

(from column 1)

Thanks also go to Bill Joyce who provided a second truck and to Dean Drake's driving skills through numerous water filled mudholes that allowed us to refuel the mowers midway across. We also clipped and blazed Loops 1 and 2.

Stand by for maintenance in Corbett Wildlife Management Area in January. Hunting season will be over and hopefully it will be dry. #

Attention Seasoned Backpackers

You have two opportunities for moderate to strenuous backpacking events in the months of January and February, one in DuPuis Management Area, and the other on the Ocean to Lake Hiking Trail.

See the monthly activity calendar for details.

Chapter Officers

Chair: Margaret Brabham, 561-588-3077, magbrab@yahoo.com

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

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Vice/Trails: Fred Davis, 561-585-6386, fdavis@msn.com

Treasurer: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906, cummingsps@att.net

Council Representative

Fred Davis, 561-585-6386, fdavis@msn.com

Committees

Membership: Mary Miller, 561-391-7942, mhm27@juno.com

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Trail Section Leaders

Jonathan Dickinson: Steve Meyers, 561-317-3631, hikeit44@hotmail.com

Corbett: Tony Rawson, 561-843-4668, tonrawson@yahoo.com

DuPuis: Bea Rogers, 561-968-4864, bznest22@bellsouth.net

Lake Okeechobee: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906, cummingsps@att.net

Ocean to Lake: Bea Rogers, 561-968-4864, bznest22@bellsouth.net

≡ Monthly Activity Calendar ≡

January/February

Date	Description
1/1	HICKORY HAMMOCK HOLIDAY HIKE. Start out on the right foot for the New Year. Bea Rogers will lead the holiday hike. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the hammock. Contact: 561-968-4864 for driving directions. Public/Leisure - Moderate.
1/3	JOHN PRINCE PARK WALK. Gather at the park for a 2-4 mile walk, your choice. Breakfast afterward at TooJays. 7:30 a.m. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.
1/4	HIKE IN JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK. Hike then eat lunch at the Dune Dog Café. Plenty of water is a must. Meet at the front gate at 8:00 a.m. Contact: Mary Miller, 561-391-7942. Public/Moderate
1/5	MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING. Social: 7:00 p.m. Program: 7:30 p.m. TBA. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
1/10	TRAIL MAINTENANCE. TBA. Contact: Fred Davis, 561-585-6386. Public/Leisure-Moderate
1/11	OXBOW TRAIL HIKE. Drive to Port St. Lucie and walk the Oxbow and another nearby trail. This is an all-day activity. Contact: Alan Collins 561-586-0486. Public/Leisure
1/17	OKEEHEELEE PARK WALK. This 3 rd Saturday walk in Okeeheelee is always an adventure. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward at Pete's Place. Contact: Daisy Palmer, 561-439-5780. Public/Leisure.
1/17-18	BACKPACKING IN DUPUIS MANAGEMENT AREA. We will backpack 7 miles into Loop 4 primitive campsite on Saturday. Then we will get up early on Sunday and hike out 7.5 miles to make the Sunday brunch at the Seminole Inn. Contact: Scott Lunsford, 561-441-1251. Public/Moderate-Strenuous.
1/24	HIKE IN APOXEE. Join Joe Rosenberg at 8:00 a.m. for an invigorating 9-mile hike in West Palm Beach's urban wilderness. Bring plenty of water. Contact: 561-859-1954. Public/Moderate
1/25	PONDHAWK NATURAL AREA WALK. For all south county hikers, this natural area is located in your neck of the woods - Boca Raton. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward. Contact: Alan Collins, 561-586-0486. Public/Leisure
2/2	MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING. Social: 7:00 p.m., Program: 7:30 p.m. TBA. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
2/7	JOHN PRINCE PARK WALK. Enjoy companionship as you stroll through this beautiful park. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward at TooJays. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
2/8	HIKE IN JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the front gate. Bring two full bottles of water. Lunch at the Dune Dog Café afterward. Contact: Mary Miller, 561-391-7942. Public/Moderate
2/14-19	2015 OCEAN TO LAKE HIKING TRAIL BACKPACKING EVENT. This annual six-day, 62-mile backpacking hike is a moderate to strenuous activity for experienced backpackers only. Contact Fred Davis for complete details, 561-585-6386.
2/21	OKEEHEELEE PARK WALK. Hike around 4 miles in the park that's the best-kept secret in Palm Beach County. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward. Contact: Daisy Palmer, 561-439-5780. Public/Leisure
2/22	WINDING WATERS HIKE. This trail is located in Dyer Park off Haverhill Rd. Join Alan Collins at 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward. Contact: 561-586-0486. Public/Leisure
12/28	HIKE IN APOXEE. Step off with Joe Rosenberg at 8:00 a.m. for the third annual *dam hike. This is a 13.7 mile Grassy Waters-PondCypress boundary hike. Plenty of water is a must. Contact: 561-859-1954. *Dam?? We walk to the dam; that's where the M-Canal enters the catchment area. Public/Moderate

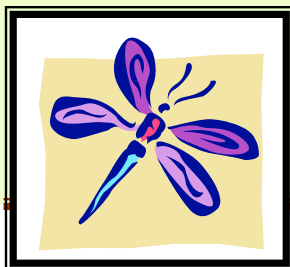
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Dave Cook's Wednesday Activity

2/11 NEW! Hike in the newly opened North Jupiter Flatwoods. Site facilities include nature trails, a boardwalk, a fishing pier, covered observation platforms, and educational kiosks. Meet in the parking area at Riverbend Park at 7:30 a.m. and carpool to this area just north of Indiantown Rd. Breakfast afterward. Contact Dave: 743-8642. Public/Leisure



*Use the talents you possess, for the woods would be
a very silent place if no birds sang except the best.*
- Henry van Dyke, poet (1852-1933)

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