



trail tales



Loxahatchee Chapter, Florida Trail Association

Volume 24, Issue 4: Bi-monthly Publication

July/August 2014

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 Okechee 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!!



Enjoying Mother's Day Wildflower Walk

By Sherry Cummings

The day began auspiciously with overcast skies and a good breeze keeping the morning from starting out with scalding heat, which had been true on previous Mother's Day Walks. We had a group of about 15 who left the front gate parking lot and drove to the concession area, where the trail begins.

We spent about two hours looking at flowers large and small, as well as "fake flowers," as in the beautiful objects created by galls. Many took pictures of plants, flowers, tracks in the sand, and people.

We went as far as the lookout on Kitching Creek, where folks enjoyed the peacefulness of that location. We saw turkey oak in its farthest south location, hatpins and bogbuttons, minute native blueberries, pennyroyal, a mint you could use to make a tea infusion with, pink sundew which "eats" critters, sabatias, both white and wonderfully dark pink, day-flowers, saw palmetto, the flowers of which make wonderful honey, and gopher apple in bloom (it would make a great ground cover).

We also saw tarflower, which pioneers planted near their doors to trap insects with their sticky leaves, buttonbush, near the small creek running into Kitching Creek, St. John's wort, roseling and roserush, and many more. We did not see catesby's lily (or pine lily), my very favorite, but if we go back on another wildflower walk in the fall, we might!

After the walk, eleven of us enjoyed sitting on the covered deck at Schooner's eating mostly seafood and having good conversation!

Picture on Page 2

Pack it In/Pack it Out - Help us keep our trail systems and conservation areas clean.

Chapter Meetings & Events

Monthly Meeting

July 7

TBA

August 4

TBA

Thanks to Okeehlee Volunteers

By Marion Finck

FTA members volunteer at the Okeehlee Nature Center on the 2nd Saturday of each month from September through May. We primarily work at the welcome desk greeting visitors, answering questions, and ringing up sales. This allows our chapter to use the meeting room for our monthly meetings at no cost!! So much
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Trail Maintenance News

From Scott Lunsford: On May 10th twelve hard workers showed up for our 2nd Saturday trail maintenance. We did a much needed “clip and walk” in the section along the C-18 Canal heading west out of Riverbend Park. Jeff Fisher battled the poison ivy while we clipped. And a few worked on some signage and put in a couple of new posts. It was a warm but beautiful day and all seemed to enjoy the work!

Good news! The County was able to close the purchase of underlying public access rights along the C-18 section between Hungryland Slough and Corbett. The no trespass signs should be down!

The County has been conducting mechanical vegetation reduction in the Hungryland Slough Natural Area and the site was closed. Work was completed and the area should now be open.

From Bea Rogers: The Pantano trail along the C-18 west leg is still closed due to construction.

Chapter Officers

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

Vice/Programs: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906, cummingsps@att.net

Vice/Trails: Bea Rogers, 561-968-4864, bznest22@bellsouth.net

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

Council Representative

Fred Davis, 561-585-6386, fdavis6539@msn.com

Committees

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

Nature Center Vol.: Marion Finck, 561-967-1847, marionfinck@yahoo.com

Newsletter: Gail Irwin, 561-968-3887, Gskimskam@aol.com

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Trail Section Leaders

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

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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 ≡

July/August

Date	Description
7/5	JOHN PRINCE PARK WALK. Take this exercise walk in the park with breakfast afterward at TooJay's. 7:30 a.m. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
7/6	HIKE IN JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK. Bring plenty of water; meet at 8:00 a.m. at the JD gate. Lunch at Dune Dog's afterward. Contact: Mary Miller at 561-391-7942. Public/Moderate.
7/7	MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING. Social: 7:00 p.m. Program: 7:30 p.m. To be announced. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
7/12	TRAIL MAINTENANCE. Work in J. W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area. Meet at the south entrance at 6:00 a.m. for a "clip and walk" on the part of the Ocean to Lake Hiking Trail that is east of the main grade. This will include the "Hole in the Wall," a beautiful cypress swamp. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
7/19	OKEEHHEELER PARK STROLL. Join a lively group for fun and adventure in the park – a great way to exercise. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at Pete's Place afterward. Contact: Daisy Palmer, 561-439-5780. Public/Leisure
7/20	BLOWING ROCKS WALK. Meet at Coral Cove in Jupiter at 7:30 a.m. and walk to Blowing Rocks and the preserve. Breakfast afterward. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
7/26	HIKE IN APOXEE. Join Joe Rosenberg at 8:00 a.m. for a 9-mile hike to enjoy this beautiful area. Plenty of water is a must. Contact: 561-859-1954. Public/Moderate
7/27	SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY (SWA) HIKE. Roam through this 300-acre greenway trail system off Jog Road. Good chance for spotting wildlife. 7:30 a.m. Contact Alan Collins, 561-586-0486 or 954-681-2100. Public/Leisure
8/2	JOHN PRINCE PARK WALK. Enjoy your surroundings as you walk in this attractive park. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at TooJay's afterward. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
8/3	HIKE IN JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the gate for an invigorating hike. Bring plenty of water. Contact Mary Miller at 561-391-7942. Public/Moderate
8/4	MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING. Social: 7:00 p.m. Program: 7:30 p.m. To be announced. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
8/9	TRAIL MAINTENANCE. Work in J. W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area. Meet at the south entrance at 6:00 a.m. for a "clip and walk" on the eastern part of the trail. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
8/16	OKEEHHEELER PARK STROLL. Walk with your friends and socialize in the park that's the best kept secret in Palm Beach County. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at Pete's Place afterward. Contact: Daisy Palmer, 561-439-5780. Public/Leisure
8/23	HIKE IN APOXEE. Join Joe Rosenberg at 8:00 a.m. for a 9-mile hike to enjoy this beautiful area. Plenty of water is a must. Contact: 561-859-1954. Public/Moderate
8/24	YAMATO SCRUB HIKE. On the north side of Clint Moore Road, this natural area is the southernmost large scrub on the southeastern coast of Florida. 7:30 a.m. Contact: Alan Collins, 561-586-0486 or 954-681-2100. Public/Leisure

**Loxahatchee Chapter
Florida Trail Association
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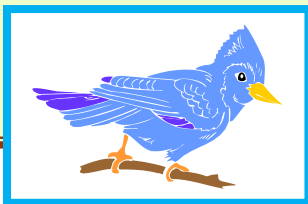
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deserved “Thank You” goes out to our volunteers Alan Collins, Pat and John Buchholz, Marion Finck; and a special thanks to Gail Irwin who has faithfully volunteered each and every month for the last four years.

During the summer months the nature center is open Tuesday through Friday 1:00 – 4:30 p.m., but the trails behind the center are open year round sunrise until sunset. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Marion Finck at 561-289-7011.



Have a fun summer!

**BRAND NEW! Loxahatchee Chapter Website at:
<http://loxfltrail.org>**