



# trail tales



## Loxahatchee Chapter, Florida Trail Association

Volume 24, Issue 6: Bi-monthly Publication

November/December 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 Okeehelie 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!!**



### Special Beginners Backpacking Activity

By Scott Lunsford

All you beginner backpackers mark your calendar for **November 15-16** for an activity led by myself and Debra Lawrence. This is the perfect opportunity to get your feet wet (literally) and to try out your gear.

We will meet at Jonathan Dickinson State Park at 8:00 a.m. where we will leave our cars and be shuttled back to Riverbend Park to begin our trek. We will backpack in to Kitching Creek primitive campsite, about 8 miles.

The next morning we will have about a 3 mile walk out to our cars and then off to the Dune Dog for lunch! The trip is rated as a moderate activity. If you can't make the trip but might be available for shuttling, let me know. Contact Scott Lunsford at 561-441-1251, or [tblazer7579@comcast.net](mailto:tblazer7579@comcast.net). More details on the Meetup site, <http://www.meetup.com/Florida-Trail-Association-Loxahatchee-Chapter-PBCounty/> #

### The DuPuis Management Area Peace of Mind in Palm Beach County

By Roy Moore

During the last few weeks, Scott Lunsford, Zenon Toczek, and I have made trips to DuPuis to scout out routes for one day of the Big O Hike. While I've been there before to do some trail maintenance, there's nothing like just hiking in a quiet beautiful place with time to soak in lots of mother nature's best.

In the interior portion of DuPuis, one is far enough from the roads that no traffic noise can be heard. Even airplanes passing over are so high, there's no noise and one has to watch for them to be seen. What one does hear is the occasional hoot of an owl, rustling grass when turkeys make way, some rustling and occasional cracking of brush as deer and a few wild hogs are spooked.

*(continued on Page 2)*

## Chapter Meetings & Events

### Monthly Meeting

**November 3**

TBA

**December 1**

TBA

**Cookie Exchange, bring a dozen of your favorites**



(from page 1)

We saw a large owl that we startled in the same area both times we were there. The last time he flew just out of sight and must have landed as he gave us some strong hoots. We hiked past several areas where biologists are attempting to re-establish the red cockaded woodpecker. They've built some nests for them and protected trees the nests are in with metallic banding. There were quite a few nests but we didn't see any of these woodpeckers.

On both days, we did pass Boot Lake, a beautiful place that will be on

## Sherry Cummings' Activities

### WELLINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVE WALK.

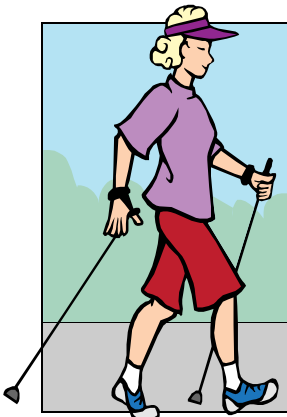
**11/16** Walk the boardwalk and climb the observation tower. 8:00 a.m. Breakfast before at the Original House of Pancakes on State Rd. 7, 7:00 a.m. Contact Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure

### WAKODAHATCHEE WETLANDS STROLL.

**12/14** Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the wetlands. Breakfast afterward at Flakowitz. Contact Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure

(from column 1)

our route the second day of the Big O. You can view some photographs and videos on the chapter's Facebook site or for a much better experience, join us on Monday of Thanksgiving week as we take a day off the dikes and explore the beautiful DuPuis Reserve. #



***A man wrapped up in himself makes a very small bundle.***

-Benjamin Franklin

## Chapter Officers

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

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

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

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

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

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

Public Relations: Warren Resen, 561-964-8415, w630@aol.com

## 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

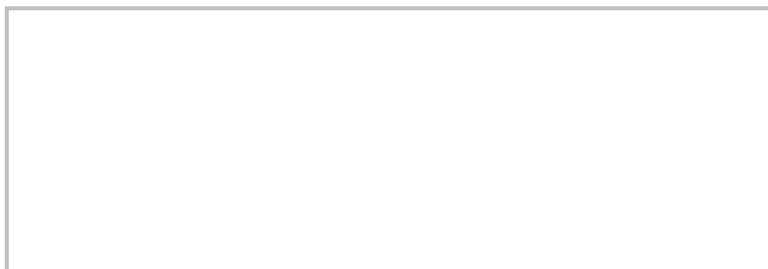
# ≡ Monthly Activity Calendar ≡

## November/December

Date	Description
11/1	<b>JOHN PRINCE PARK WALK.</b> Gather at the park for a group walk. Breakfast afterward if you choose. 7:30 a.m. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.
11/2	<b>HIKE IN JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK.</b> Hike then eat at the Dune Dog Café. Two full bottles of water are a must. Meet at the front gate at 8:00 a.m. Contact: Mary Miller, 561-391-7942. Public/Moderate
11/3	<b>MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING.</b> Social: 7:00 p.m. Program: 7:30 p.m. TBA. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
11/7-9	<b>SOUTHERN REGIONAL GATHERING.</b> To be held locally at the Corbett Wildlife Management Area Youth Camp. Contact: Paul Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure.
11/8	<b>TRAIL MAINTENANCE.</b> TBA. Contact: Fred Davis, 561-585-6386. Public/Leisure-Moderate
11/15	<b>OKEEHEELEE PARK WALK.</b> Join Daisy for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday walk in Okeehoelee Park – always a treat. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward at Pete’s Place. Contact: Daisy Palmer, 561-439-5780. Public/Leisure.
11/22	<b>HIKE IN APOXEE.</b> Join Joe Rosenberg at 8:00 a.m. for an invigorating 9-mile hike in West Palm Beach’s water catchment area. Bring plenty of water. Contact: 561-859-1954. Public/Moderate
11/23-11/28	<b>23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL BIG O RP HIKE.</b> Six-day hike near Lake Okeechobee starts at 9:00 a.m. at the Port Mayaca Lochs. Shorter first day wimp walk starts at 8:30 a.m. Contact: Scott Lunsford at 561-441-1251, <a href="mailto:tblazer7579@comcast.net">tblazer7579@comcast.net</a> or go to our Meetup site at <a href="http://www.meetup.com/Florida-Trail-Association-Loxahatchee-Chapter-PBCounty">http://www.meetup.com/Florida-Trail-Association-Loxahatchee-Chapter-PBCounty</a> . Public/Leisure-Moderate
11/23	<b>ROYAL PALM BEACH PINES NATURAL AREA WALK.</b> Enjoy the beautiful trail; there are six native Florida ecosystems in the area. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward. Contact: Alan Collins, 561-586-0486 or 954-681-2100. Public/Leisure
11/28-11/30	<b>TRAIL MAINTENANCE.</b> Work off Thanksgiving calories by doing trail maintenance in DuPuis Management Area. Contact Bea Rogers, 561-968-4864. Public/Leisure-Moderate
12/1	<b>MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING.</b> Social: 7:00 p.m. (cookie exchange), Program: 7:30 p.m. TBA. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Public/Leisure
12/6	<b>CHRISTMAS PARTY AT RIVERBEND PARK.</b> In the Cowpen Pavilion. Look for signs. Bring pot luck dish; turkey provided. Activities first; eat at 1:30 p.m. Contact: Sherry Cummings, 561-963-9906. Members/Leisure
12/7	<b>HIKE IN JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK.</b> Gather at the front gate at 8:00 a.m. Bring plenty of water. Lunch at the Dune Dog Café afterward. Contact: Mary Miller, 561-391-7942. Public/Moderate
12/13	<b>TRAIL MAINTENANCE.</b> TBA. Contact: Fred Davis, 561-585-6386. Public/Leisure-Moderate
12/20	<b>OKEEHEELEE PARK WALK.</b> 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
12/27	<b>HIKE IN APOXEE.</b> Join Joe Rosenberg at 8:00 a.m. for a challenging 9-mile hike to enjoy this beautiful, old Florida area. Plenty of water is a must. Contact: 561-859-1954. Public/Moderate
12/28	<b>GRASSY WATERS -EAGLE &amp; HOG HAMMOCK TRAILS HIKE.</b> Alan Collins will walk through restored and natural wetland communities off Northlake Blvd. 7:30 a.m. Breakfast afterward. Contact: Alan, 561-586-0486 or 954-681-2100. Public/Leisure

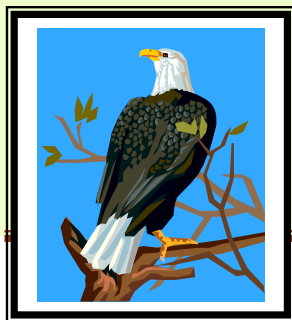
**Loxahatchee Chapter  
Florida Trail Association  
P.O. Box 19393  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-9393**

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



***Dave Cook's Wednesday Activities***

**11/12** Hike in Pine Jog Environmental Center, 6301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach. Breakfast first at Pete's Place on Forest Hill Blvd at 8:00 a.m. Hike at 9:00 a.m.  
Contact Dave: 743-8642.



**12/10** Explore four preserves in far western St. Lucie County. Meet at Riverbend Park at 7:30 a.m. to carpool. Breakfast first in Port St. Lucie. Late lunch in Okeechobee.  
Contact Dave: 743-8642

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