

Suncoast Trail Riders of Florida

P.O. Box 15001, Brooksville, FL 34604

MARCH 1, 2008



President: Jim Smithberger (352) 232-5981

Vice President: Dana Proeger (352) 754-9265

Secretary: Liz Russell (727) 234-5193 (bonafide47@msn.com)

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Treasurer: John Vanderkam (813) 995-0603

and Nicole Marino (352) 585-0009

**RE M I N D E R : MARCH CLUB RIDE/MEETING
AT SERENOVA WILL BE ON SATURDAY,
MARCH 8**

CLUB NEWS

Our February 10th Club Ride at Serenova was full of heart-felt fun as approximately 35 riders hit the trail in search of red Valentine hearts hanging in the trees. For every \$1 donated, the rider could “pick” two hearts which placed them in a drawing for prizes. We had seven winners: Jackie Artuso, Barbara Blaire, Michelle Campbell, Sandy Devasher, Diago Machado, Dana Proeger, and Nancy Snead. Everyone had a great time! Sue and her horse, Buster, even dressed up as special Valentines for the event! A special thank you to the club members, Dana, Nicole and Sue, who did all the pre- and post-ride heart work! Ya'll did good!

President Jim Smithberger was out of town, so Dana Proeger, our V.P., called the meeting to order . Liz Russell read the minutes and John Vanderkam gave the treasurer's report. Both reports were accepted as read. John also had copies of the

Recreational Guide provided by Southwest Florida Water Management District available to all club members.

Dana, as V.P., is responsible for providing leadership to all the club committees/jobs. She reviewed the various committees and the volunteers who head them up. Trail Boss - John Holzward, Food – Margaret Johnson, Charities - Margaret Johnson, T-Shirt Sales and 50/50 – Dan Russell, Camping and Ride Permits - Larry Cooper . She also reminded us of the need for a Club Historian to keep the scrapbooks updated. We still need volunteers for this important job, as well as help for the other committees. Please volunteer to help in just one way, and all the work will get done!

The club members were reminded once again that the newsletter would be coming out via e-mail, so please keep the secretary updated with current email addresses. We will continue to send hard copies to those who do not have email.

We discussed the upcoming rides for February and March, so be sure to read the section about Future rides and Activities. Carol Beasley won the 50/50, and the meeting was adjourned. We enjoyed a great Pot Luck lunch with a special Valentine cake dessert.

The optional Club Ride at Tillis Hills on February 23 was rained out. Four optimistic riders made the drive up to the trail head, but with little break in the weather, all headed home without saddling up that day.

At our board meeting on February 21, the Treasurer reported 54 memberships at this time. Remember a membership can and usually is more than one person, so we do have a pretty large club. There are still several members who have not renewed their dues and have not received a newsletter since the January issue. Please remind your friends to get their dues paid.

We also need to remind people to **sign** their membership form and if more than one adult is included on the form, **all** adults need to sign as well. A parent signature will cover any minor children. This is a liability hold harmless release form and it is necessary for all members to have one on file. We may contact you if we need a signature from you. We also need an emergency contact person on your membership form. These forms are with us at every club sponsored ride in case of an emergency. If you have a particular medical condition that emergency responders should know about, please indicate it on your application. All guests must sign a form at each club ride.

The next board meeting will be held Thursday, March 13, at 7:00 pm, at John Vanderkam's home.



WELCOME NEW RIDERS AND HORSES!

Les Aron and daughter Marissa of Odessa,
Michael and Holley Moore, Jessie, Katie, and Melissa of Valrico



FUTURE RIDES & ACTIVITIES



Saturday, March 8: Note that this is a Saturday Ride/Meeting, due to so many club members attending the Steeplechase on Sunday, March 9.

Club Ride and Meeting at SERENOVA located off SR52, just west of the Suncoast Parkway, at the corner of Hays Rd. in Hudson. There is a light at the intersection and the park is located on the south side of the road. Go through the gate and follow the road back to the campground area. Arrive at 9:00 am; ride out at 9:30 am. Please bring a chair, a covered dish to share and your own beverages.

Sunday, March 9: Don't forget! Daylight Savings Time change at 2:00am. and Little Everglades Steeplechase in Dade City.

Friday – Sunday, March 14 – 16: Withlacoochee Trail Ride at McCulley Farm in Jasper, FL. Several of our members are attending this event. Ask Dana for more information or Google McCulley Farm in Jasper, FL.

Saturday, March 22: Optional Club Ride - **JB Starkey Wilderness Trail** east of New Port Richey – Francine Alvarez will be Trail Boss. Bring your own lunch and drinks. Arrive at 9:00am; ride out at 9:30am. **Directions to trail head from SR52:** head west on SR52, past Serenova to Moon Lake Road (CR587), go south on Moon Lake Road 6.8 miles, turn left on DeCubellis Road, go 0.3 miles, then turn left on Wilderness Rd. into the park. **Directions to trail head from SR54:** head west on SR54 to Little Road (CR1), go north on Little Road 2.2 miles, turn right on River Crossing Blvd. and go 1.3.miles, turn left on Starkey Blvd. for 0.3 miles, then turn right on Wilderness Road into the park.

Sunday, April 13: **Club Ride and Meeting at SERENOVA** The club will provide a ham for lunch. You bring the side dishes. More details next month.

Sunday, April 19: **Camping and FULL MOON ride at SERENOVA.** John Holzwart will be the trail boss



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember that each rider must carry proof of a current negative Coggins test for your horse. Although we are rarely asked to show one, as responsible horse owners, we should be prepared.

See Dan to purchase your club T-shirts. We need to place an order for tank tops...we have none left. So let him know what you want and we will get an order together. T-Shirts sell for \$12 and tank tops are \$15. A variety of colors are available.

Each guest riding with Suncoast trail riders needs to sign in with the trail boss before the ride leaves the trail head. It is important that we have emergency information and a signed Hold Harmless Release Form. These forms will be available at every club sponsored event.

To reach our club website, google Tim Trotts FLA.horse.com and click on Club Page, then find our club name. Our website is in the process of being updated this month.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Please contact the secretary each month to add or continue running your classified ads. Phone or email information.

FOR SALE: Large, free standing Feed/Hay Rack. \$125 obo. Call Dana at 352-279-1286

WANTED: Two horse bumper pull trailer in good condition. Call Jim at 352-567-6607

SERVICE: Custom Freeze Branding available to club members at a 20% discount. \$50 Call Jose at 305-898-4089 (day) or 352-726-4242 (night)

FOR SALE: 18" Wintec Isabel saddle (a popular dressage saddle) Used only 4 times. Has MDC jointed stirrups that cost \$175. All gullets and measuring tools for the CARE system are included. Dark brown Avian stirrup leathers and a 22" girth. All for \$850. Call Laura at 727-856-1347

FOR LEASE: Fifteen year old mustang mare, Sierra. She's a good trail horse. A good home is a must. For information contact Laura at 727-856-1347

FOR SALE: Kieffer Dressage Saddle. Black. Includes leathers, irons. \$750. Also includes pad that normally costs \$125. Listed by Lorie. 813-205-8622

FOR SALE: 7 year old gelding, 15 hands, liver chestnut with white blaze. This kind, quiet, gated trail horse is for timid riders and is dependable on mountains and creeks. \$2500 firm. Call Gloria at 540-219-1622.

FOR SALE: 3 horse aluminum slant load goose neck trailer by WW Trailers, mfg. In 1999. Sleeping quarters sleeps 2 comfortably w/AC/heat (unit almost new); 3 saddle racks, tack hooks and storage cabinet. The inside has been insulated and has a small awning. Nice padded dividers and an escape door. This trailer is a one owner rig and has been well maintained. Asking price is \$10K firm. Call Missy at 727-856-8095 for more details.

COWBOY WISDOM

“This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody would do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.” Anonymous