



FLORIDA CRACKER TRAIL ASSOCIATION 29th Annual Cross State Ride

Keeping History Alive "Every Step of the Way"

110 Miles from Bradenton to Fort Pierce

February 20th-27th, 2016



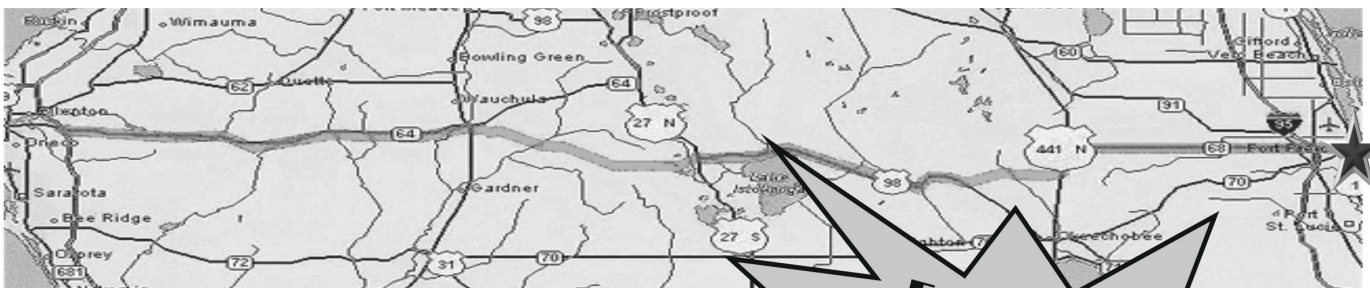
Saturday, February 27th



200 N. Indian River Dr.
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Cobbs-landing.com

Be here at Cobb's Landing
to welcome Riders and
Horses after they finish a
week long journey across
the great state of Florida.



**Food & Drinks
Specials**

Live Music

11-3pm

Blue Cypress

Bluegrass band





2016 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Roland Skipper

Roland Skipper comes from the days of Florida Cracker past. The days when all a man needed was a good horse, a good dog and a cow whip; the days of free range cattle before the first barbed wire fences went up; and the days of driving cattle across the state in order to get them on the rail and to market are all things he remembers. A fifth generation Floridian, Roland comes from a long line of cattlemen.

Born in Crewsville, FL, in August of 1930 to Dink and Velva (Bryan)

Skipper, Roland was the youngest of five boys with one younger sister. His earliest learning of the 'Cowboy Way' began while helping his father on the Skipper home place, which many know today as Highland's Hammock State Park.

At the tender age of 15, Roland got his first paying cowboying job for Mr. Doyle Schumacher, the Highland's County Sherriff of the time, making \$5 a week. During this time the cattle industry in Florida was experiencing a terrible plague...the dreaded screw worm. Skipper's job was to rope and doctor calves every day, which he did for years. It was then that he began to develop his eye for cattle and put his talent with a rope to good use. Roland met a girl named Carolyn Polk and several years later, in 1951, they were married.

In 1950, the Korean War began and, shortly thereafter, Roland was drafted into the Army where he served as a cook in Germany. After the War, he returned home to Carolyn and began working for Ben Hill Griffin Sr. The story goes that he sold his stud horse, Laddie, to a man from LaBelle, FL. The gentleman liked the horse and recommended Roland to Mr. Ogden Phipps, owner of Matlache Plantation in Ft. Myers, FL. Roland was then hired to manage the cattle and the horse operation there on the ranch. He and Carolyn welcomed their two daughters and son into the world during the 12 years that they were on Matlache. When Mr. Phipps decided to sell the ranch to the expanding city of Cape Coral, Roland moved his family back to Hardee County.

Back in Hardee County, Roland began building his own cow/calf operation and citrus groves. Over the years he built Skipper Cattle and Citrus into a successful family operation. He also began working for Gerald Darroh Cattle Company as an order buyer, later becoming a silent partner in the business with Willard Durrance. In 1994, when Mr. Darroh passed away, Roland and Willard formed what is now D & S Cattle Co., Inc. At 85 years of age, Roland can still be found buying cattle at livestock markets around the state. When asked about retirement, his response is "People who retire have one foot on a banana peel and one foot in the grave." Roland is one of the last of a dying breed in this industry and he is proud to witness his children and grandchildren carrying on the family tradition of agriculture. "Rolo", as he is affectionately called, jokes that "they broke the mold when they made me" and we can all attest to that. He is definitely one of a kind.

Written by Summer Ann Dunaway and Jocelyn Skipper Hamilton

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Hello to Everyone!

Thank you for your interest in joining the Florida Cracker Trail Association (FCTA) and the FCTA's Annual Cross State Ride. The FCTA is a non-profit organization of volunteers dedicated to the mission of "Keeping History Alive", by educating through demonstration, the Old Florida Cracker Pioneer ways of agriculture, animal husbandry, and respect for the land as well as the hardships and joys of life on the original frontier.

The Annual Cross State Ride serves to preserve the importance of the role of the State of Florida in the introduction of horses and cattle by the Spanish Explorers into the New World and the birth and continuance of the cattle and horse industries by its future settlers and their descendants and to support related causes. We are excited that in 2016, the Annual Cross State Ride will be our 29th Anniversary!

We will begin in Manatee County on Saturday, February 20, and commence with a parade through Ft. Pierce, Florida on Saturday, February 27, with camping on the beach! We will complete approximately 110 miles when we have finished the ride. Each day we will cover approximately 20 miles, some days less, some days more! The ride is as much "on road" as "off road". We are escorted by county law enforcement as we ride through 5 counties and through private cattle ranches, Florida State parks, and South Florida Water Management areas. As we move across the State, we will camp in a different location each night. We break for lunch around noon each day and have a bus company that will transport rig drivers from the lunch stop each day back to the previous night's camp to retrieve the rigs and drive them to the night camp. The bus will then transport the rig driver back to the lunch stop to finish the afternoon ride. Horse water and port-o-lets are provided by the FCTA and are available throughout the ride, in camp, at lunch, and at water breaks.

The FCTA has chosen Pat's Bar-B-Que of Lake Placid as our Caterer this year. Mr. and Mrs. Pat Myers have done an excellent job on past rides and they make every effort to be prompt, professional, courteous, and provide great food! Morning and evening meals will be hot and freshly prepared. Lunch on the trail will be served as a box lunch for "on the go". Morning and afternoon snacks and beverages will be provided during water breaks.

In addition, we publish a Commemorative Ride Program Book in which you can place an advertisement or picture of you or your family or business. We also have raffles and games that support our Scholarship Funds. We have entertainment in camp each evening and children's games planned each day.

The Annual Cross State Ride is strictly limited to members of the FCTA. The Membership Form and all other forms can be found on our website: www.crackertrail.org. Join or renew your FCTA membership today to be "in the loop" to receive up-to-the-minute information on the Ride.

Let's make history!

Lynn Carlson, President

Welcome to the 29th Annual Cross State Ride with the Florida Cracker Trail Association.

We are honored that you have joined us this year to celebrate Florida heritage. If you are a returning rider, then the history and comradery have obviously grabbed ahold of your heart. If this is your first ride with us, be ready to surrender to the call next year!

I am honored to be the Trail Boss this year. One of my passions is riding horses and not much makes me happier than being able to share that passion with others. Please introduce yourself to me and let me know if there is anything I can do to help you during the ride. I look forward to serving you to the best of my ability and more with the help of my Assistant Trail Boss, Robert Wolfe.



Since you are reading this letter I know you have a ride book. Please be sure to read your ride book and refer to it often for important information. It can answer the majority of your questions plus it's full of interesting tid bits and awesome ads from our sponsors. The book will also tell you who your Outriders and Wranglers are. These outstanding volunteers are here to help me ensure that the ride goes smoothly and that every rider and every horse stays safe. To avoid unnecessary and unpleasant confrontation, please familiarize yourself with the ride rules. They are designed for everyone's comfort and safety. Violation of these rules could result in your removal from the ride without refund. Once again, refer to your ride book for loads of information like camp locations, meal schedules, youth activities, special entertainment, daily mileage and much, much more. Still need answers? The lead wagon with Marilyn and her mule, Clyde, will be pleased to offer assistance. They will be easy to locate in camp so be sure to look them up. You will be glad you did.

I encourage you to be good stewards of the land that we are privileged to camp on. Please be respectful and clean up after yourselves before leaving. Some landowners have special rules or requests while we stay on their property. Be sure to listen for these kind of announcements and instructions on the bus or at our daily riders meetings in the mornings. For example, there will be absolutely no alcohol or whip cracking allowed on the Bar Crescent S Ranch. (Saturday night, all day Sunday)

Finally, please keep in mind that this ride is a historical celebration. There will be occasional off road riding but the majority of the ride will be roadside. There will also be frequent whip cracking while on the ride, especially when spectators are present. If your horse is not confident around such noise please contact an Outrider to assist you until your horse can be desensitized.

Keeping history alive!

Suzanne Park

Trail Boss

Night Camp Locations and Directions

There will be FCTA signs posted at camp entrance turns and roads. When you arrive in camp, please go directly to registration and Coggin's check-in. All riders, horses and non-riders, and campers must be an FCTA member and registered while in camp.

Friday night, 2-15-14

Kibler Ranch, East Manatee County

From the West; Approximately 15.5 miles east from I-75 on SR 64 from Bradenton to camp on left. From the East; approximately 27.6 miles west of US 17 on SR 64 from Zolfo Springs to camp on right.

Saturday night, 2-16-14 and Sunday night, 2-17-14

Bar Crescent S Ranch, West Hardee County

North from SR 64 on Sidney Roberts Road, then 1.5 miles to camp entrance on left. To Sidney Roberts Road: From the West; approximately 29.2 miles east from I-75 on SR 64 from Bradenton to Sidney Roberts Road on left. From the East; approximately 14.0 miles west of US 17 and SR 64 in Zolfo Springs to Sidney Roberts Road on right.

Monday night, 2-18-14

Parker Place, Zolfo Springs

Just on the west side of the Peace River on the north side of SR 64 off Florida Avenue. From the West; approximately 43.2 miles east from I-75 on SR 64 from Bradenton to camp on left. From the East; approximately 0.5 miles west of US 17 and SR 64 in Zolfo Springs to camp on right.

Tuesday night, 2-19-14

Kahn Ranch, East Hardee County

North from SR 66 on South Hammock Road, then approximately 0.5 miles to camp entrance on left. To South Hammock Road: From the West; approximately 14.7 miles east from US 17 on SR 66 from Zolfo Springs to South Hammock Road on left. From the East; approximately 10.2 miles west of US 27 and SR 66/US 98 near Sebring to South Hammock Road on right.

Wednesday night, 2-20-14

Hickory Hammock, Highlands County, Florida

On the north side of US 98, approximately 7.7 miles west of Kissimmee River. Look for signs for Equestrian Center entrance, not hiking or day area.

Thursday night, 2-21-14

Bass Ranch, West Okeechobee County, Basinger

North on CR 700a from US 98 then approximately .5 miles to camp entrance on left. To CR 700a: From the West; approximately 27.1 miles east from US 27 on US 98/SR 66 near Sebring to CR 700a on left. From the East; take SR 68 west from US 441 approximately 10.6 miles to US 98 then turn right, continuing west on US 98 for approximately 1.5 miles to CR 700a on right. From the East; take US 98 west from US 441, approximately 14.2 miles to CR 700a on right.

Friday night, 2-22-14

Adams Ranch West, East Okeechobee County

On the north side of CR 68. From the West; approximately 5 miles east from US 441 on CR 68 near Ft. Drum to camp on left. From the East, approximately 14.5 miles west on CR 68 (Orange Avenue) from I-75 near Ft. Pierce to camp on right.

Please see Fort Pierce Terminus Page for Parade Directions and Beach Camping Information.

FCTA Ride Rules & Regulations

These Official Rules were developed over time for the safety of all participants, landowners, and animals and apply to the Annual Cross State Ride and any FCTA camp-out, ride or function.

All participants do acknowledge and agree that each and every aspect of their participation is by Florida law, an equine activity, and the FCTA, their agents, licensees, landlords, invitees, landowners, and permittees are all individually and cumulatively deemed Equine Activity Sponsors and not subject to liability under the Florida Statute.

All participants must comply with the Laws of the State of Florida and FCTA Official Rules.

The designated Trail Boss and Outriders are here to assist you and your animals. Give them your utmost respect and attention. Be courteous and respectful of your fellow riders. All participants are under the direction of the Trail Boss. The Trail Boss will enforce these rules singularly and exclusively in line with his/her responsibility for the overall safety of all participants. Any deviation in behavior from the Trail Boss' authority will be grounds for immediate expulsion from any camp-out, ride (including the Annual Cross-State Ride) or function. If you have a concern or a problem while in camp or on the trail, notify the Trail Boss, an Outrider or Board Member.

WARNING: Under Florida Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities. (Florida Statutes 773.01-773.05)

WARNING: In reference to helmets, the Association will NOT be held liable per "Nicole's Law" as an "Agricultural Practice or Pursuit, Historical Reenactment, or Parade" (Chapter 2009-105, House Bill #169, Section 4(c), Section 6(a)).

Every participant (rider or camper) must be a valid FCTA member to participate in the Annual Cross State Ride.

The Annual Cross State Ride is open to advanced riders and trained horses. All horses in camp or on the ride must be able to handle traffic, noise, bridges, water, parades, whip cracking, etc. Do not plan to condition or train your horse on this ride.

THE OFFICIAL RIDE RULES OF THE ANNUAL CROSS STATE RIDE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED ON THE RIDE. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER

THE START OF THE RIDE, EVEN IF YOU CANNOT COMPLETE THE RIDE OR IF YOU OR YOUR HORSE IS REMOVED FROM THE RIDE.

No whip cracking after dark unless in designated areas. Designated areas to be picked daily and will be announced.

There will be a Mandatory Riders' Meeting on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM before ride-out.

Registration is an absolute MUST if you plan to ride on ANY DAY.

All persons in camp or on the Cross State Annual Ride must be registered and must sign a Contract for Liability Release and Indemnification. This includes all riders, campers, guests, ride staff and entertainers. It is the responsibility of the participants to maintain their event identification with them at all times.

Any riders or campers under the age of 18 must be accompanied and supervised by their natural parent or legal guardian AT ALL TIMES, in camp or on the Ride. The natural parent or legal guardian MUST become a member prior to the start of the Annual Ride and MUST provide a notarized Contract for Release naming the responsible accompanying adult.

A record of negative test for equine infectious anemia (COGGINS) conducted within 12 months is required. This 12-month period must be good through the entire ride. An agricultural inspector will be present at all camp locations to inspect your animals.

All riders MUST stay behind wagons, unless otherwise designated by the Trail Boss. Only riders assisting the wagons are allowed alongside the teams.

When riding along the roads, the grass right-of-way is the designated trail. Do not ride on the pavement unless obstacles dictate or as directed by the Trail Boss. Do not cross to the other side of the road unless supervised by the Trail Boss or Outrider.

The FCTA provides water for horses in camp and on the trail. Do NOT crowd wagons at watering sites.

FCTA Ride Rules & Regulations

These Official Rules were developed over time for the safety of all participants, landowners, and animals and apply to the Annual Cross State Ride and any FCTA camp-out, ride or function.

Wagon horses are to drink first. For safety, stay mounted when watering your horse. Do not mount, dismount, or tie your horse to the horse wagons, pick-up wagon, port-o-potty wagon, water wagon or logo wagon. The FCTA does not provide water for human consumption or bathing or showering purposes.

Glass containers are prohibited on the trail. Do NOT dispose of your garbage on the trail, in campsite or at the water breaks. Dispose of trash in the appropriate receptacles. Do not take your trash to the caterer. There will be dumpsters provided along the trail at designated night camps.

Consumption of alcohol during ride hours is prohibited. Refrain from excessive use of alcohol at camp. Public intoxication will NOT be tolerated.

No unnecessary running past other riders.

Refrain from riding close to pasture fences, where livestock is kept, especially loose horses. NO running through pastures or land on the way into campsites where there are or might be pastured cattle or horses. DO NOT CHASE LANDOWNER'S LIVESTOCK.

Stay off people's lawn and out of citrus groves. Do not pick fruit or vegetation along the trail.

If you or your horse has a problem, notify the Trail Boss or an Outrider. Drop to the rear if you need to load on the pick-up wagon. Horses showing undue stress will be pulled from the ride. The pick-up trailer is for the relief of the distressed animals and riders only, and it must be made available for true emergencies and distress situations.

All horses must have bridles, reins and saddles while on the trail. THERE WILL BE NO: Double riding, Halter-only riding, Ponying of un-ridden horses, Bareback riding on the trail, Stallions allowed,

All riders must act and dress appropriately for riding. NO: Alcoholic beverages while on the trail, Sneakers, sandals or bare feet, Wearing of bathing suits or inappropriate apparel (shorts, flip flops, etc.), Wearing of clothing with inappropriate or offensive language

No dumping of holding tanks (grey or black) in camp or anywhere on the trail. Find and use legal dump stations.

Horses known to kick, or horses that begin kicking on the trail, must wear red tail ribbons at all times.

Quiet time is designated as 10:00 PM to 5:00 AM. No unnecessary loudness or activity during this time. No generators running during quiet time, except in vicinity of cook wagons. While in camp, be courteous to your neighbors and fellow campers.

All pets must be confined to the owner's camp site. No pets allowed on the trail, lunch or water breaks or in food areas. Be a responsible pet owner. In camp, dogs must be kept on a leash.

No equine that stands less than forty-two inches (42") at the withers will be allowed to participate in the Annual Cross State Ride.

The Bus is for RIG DRIVERS ONLY. All others (spouses, children, etc.) must wait at the lunch stop.

At each day's lunch site, a bus awaits the rig drivers to transport them back to their rigs

Drivers are served first and must board the bus immediately

Rigs must be packed and ready to move prior to ride out in morning

Rigs are moved to that night's camp site

Upon arrival at night camp, do not setup or build camp

Drivers board the bus immediately to be returned to the lunch site

All others (spouses, children, etc.) must wait at the lunch site

If not riding in the afternoon, notify the bus driver and/or other riders, so departure is not delayed by waiting on non-riders

Daily Events & Schedule

Friday

Meet and Greet; an opportunity to see old friends and make a few new ones.

Saturday - approximately 16 miles of riding

Mandatory rider meeting 9 am. Kids Meeting with Chelsey Knutowicz. There is absolutely no cracking of whips per the landowner.

Sunday

Judge Nelson after dinner

Monday - approximately 20 miles of riding

Whip cracking allowed in designated areas. Quiet night in camp.

Tuesday - approximately 21 miles of riding

Authentic Western Wear Day-- no tee shirts, Karaoke Night!

Wednesday - approximately 24 miles of riding

Be patriotic, it's red, white, and blue day so be sure to show your colors! In the evening there is a cow whip popping contest by the Cook Shack-- open to all ages.

Thursday - approximately 20 miles of riding

Authentic Wear Day, kids need to finish essays and turn into Chelsey Knutowicz, Doyle Rigdon (Cowboy Poet) joins us this evening!

Friday - approximately 22 miles of riding

Rider awards and saddle drawing, dance the night away with DJ Jon

Saturday

Parade through downtown Ft. Pierce, beach ride, waterfront camping, pubcrawl through Ft. Pierce

Meals

Breakfast – 6 AM to 7 AM

Lunch on the Trail

Dinner – 6 PM to 7 PM

Ride Registration

Available at the Logo Wagon

Friday: 2:00-6:30pm

Saturday: 8:00-9:00am, 4:30-5:30pm

Sunday: 8:30-9:30am, 4:30-5:30pm

Monday: 5:30-6:30pm

Tuesday: 5:30-6:30pm

Wednesday: 5:30-6:30pm

Thursday: Bass Ranch 7:30-8:00am,
5:30-6:30pm

Kid's Schedule for the Week

Saturday (20th): Kids Meeting

Be sure to join us after supper by Duck's Cabin to see all the great things we have planned this year to do during our ride! Please make sure to wear your helmets this year, anyone under the age of 16!

Sunday: Game Day

Last year's games were awesome and we all had lots of fun! This year is going to be even better, hope you can make it to our Game Day in the afternoon, we have some exciting new games this year.

Monday: Historical Costume Day

During the ride today be sure to fix you and your horse up in your favorite historical character costume to win a prize. You've all had a long ride today clean yourselves up, take a rest, and maybe a swim!

Tuesday: Where's Bessie and Craft Day

Everyone loves to play Where's Bessie during the ride. For those of you that are new, ask around on the trail "Where's Bessie," in hopes of finding our little cows to win a prize for who found the most Bessies. After the ride for some fun bring your creativity to the cook shack (Pat's Barbecue) to make exciting memories! Be sure to sign up for the Whip Cracking Contest at the Logo Wagon or during the craft fun!

Wednesday: Scavenger Hunt and Whip Cracking Contest

Be Patriotic! It is Red, White & Blue Day so wear your colors for the parade across SR 27, at about noon. During the ride today, pick a partner and find a person that matches all of the items on the list! You can get your list from Chelsey at breakfast or before we head out. Make sure you keep your findings a secret to get ahead of the game!! The winners will get a prize. After supper is our Cow Whip Cracking Contest by the Cook Shack, open to all ages. Sign up before hand at the Logo Wagon or find Chelsey Knutowicz!

Thursday: Essay/Art Pieces and Obstacle Day

Authentic Historic Wear Day. Be sure to finish your essays or art piece for the little ones on Cracker History. Turn them into the Logo Wagon or Chelsey before the next day! Before dinner join us for our Obstacle Day to have fun seeing if you can make it through!

Friday: Rider and Essay or Art Piece Awards.

Enjoy the dance!

Saturday (27th): Parade Today:

Dress your best, clean up them dirty boots and wear your best hat. Today is the day you show you lasted through the hard trail the Cracker Cowboys rode!

Thanks! Chelsey Knutowicz, Abby Hamsher, Isabella Park, & Makayla Harrison



WE GIVE HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR MILITARY FOR THEIR SERVICE

MARILYN AND CLYDE THE MULE

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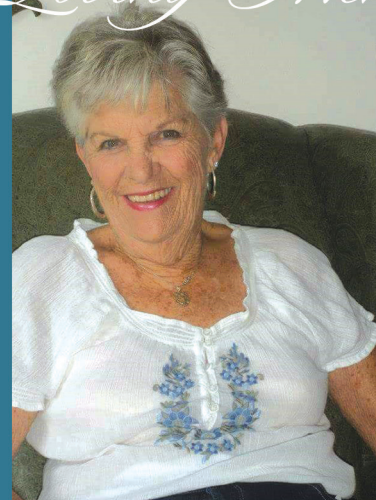
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In Loving Memory



“Dot” Masengale

Sister-in-Law and Dear Friend

Dot, lost the battle with cancer, July 10, 2015.
She was a great support to her husband, Les
Masengale, who for many years has driven the
pick-up wagon for the Florida Cracker Trail ride.

We miss you so much.

George Masengale, Velma Gillett, and
Dorothy White



Florida Cracker Trail Highlights & History

When the riders of the Florida Cracker Trail Association step off to reenact an early cattle drive, they are near a special memorial, thanks to the efforts of the City of Bradenton. The city-owned park is called Manatee Village Historical Park. It's not only a landmark of the early Florida Pioneer life, but it also depicts the setting for the earliest settlement in Manatee County through its displays and buildings. County officials lease the land to the City to merely a dollar a year.

Manatee County

This park is truly a community project; the paths and courtyard are made of hand laid bricks donated by the City of Palmetto and bricks for the walk were donated by the City of Bradenton. The Gazebo was a gift from the Eaton foundation and the lighting in the park once stood at the city pier. On the land sits the city's first Court House built in 1860. The land designated Court House Square was where the first settlement in Manatee was started and remained the county seat until 1866 when a new seat was established in Desoto County.



The first Court House was moved to its present location on December 4th and 5th, 1975 and was completely restored as a Bicentennial project. The Stephens House also located in the park was built in 1912 and is a style known as "Cracker Gothic." The last building of note contained in the park is the historic church. Started in 1877, and finally completed in 1889 after the yellow fever epidemic brought about the deaths of Pastor JR Crowder and most of the congregation.

In one of the cattle pastures on a ranch or residence east of the park, riders gather for a week long ride and begin their trek across the State of Florida, much like early cattle barons and other cattlemen did, to reach sea-side ports where cows could be sold and then shipped to places such as Cuba and South America.

The first significant crossing of water the riders encounter along the route known as State Road 64 comes as the picturesque Manatee River. Further east, the riders will be crossing the historic Peace River and later, Charlie Creek, all while following what was once an early wagon trail.

Hardee County

As they near the junction of State Road 17 at Zolfo Springs, there is another museum and landmark which heralds the pioneer cattlemen and women as well as remarks upon the Seminole War, Revolutionary War, and the War Between the States. The Pioneer Park Museum houses artifacts and photos to these historical events. There is also an early homestead and other buildings relating to the history of Hardee County. Visitors are more than welcome to camp here, use the picnic facilities, and visit a zoo.



Another “must see” in Hardee County is the “Cracker Trail” Post Office in Ona, it was named thus by the USPS in the early 1990’s when building was first completed.

Highlands County

Entering Highlands County, the riders often stop at the Cracker Trail Elementary school. It is named for the Association’s efforts to preserve the area’s history. This county is also home of the former Hendricks Field of WWII, now known as the Sebring International Raceway. Also included in the county are Avon Park and Lake Placid—the city of Lake Placid has received many awards and recognition for the historic murals painted along the walls of businesses. Riders cross the busiest high-way, U.S. 27, around noon escorted by local law enforcement for safety. One of the highlights of Highlands County is the crossing of Arbuckle Creek, midway through the county. This site is the birthplace of famed Seminole Chief Billy Bowlegs during a hunting trip to Lake Istokpoga. During his later years, Chief Bowlegs returned here to die.



The Florida area is next and features a passing a school building that was first constructed in 1926 and later worked on during the 1930’s after the school was damaged by a hurricane. It is now owned by the South Florida Community College Foundation and they are used for holding classes for people living in the area. The riders typically camp overnight at one of the historic ranches in the area.

The next notable point on the ride is the turn into Hickory Hammock. The facility and trails here were prepared for public use through a cooperative agreement between the South Florida Water Management District and the Florida Cracker Trail Association. As riders pass through Hickory Hammock they will traverse along the relatively newly restored marsh lands of the Kissimmee River. The Kissimmee River Project was funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management, and several other state and federal agencies. In the

first phase of the project, twenty-two miles of back-filled canals were dug in the 1960's for flood protection. This project begins just a few miles south of Lake Kissimmee and ends just south of the State Road 98 crossing. This restoration project has held much attention and is a front runner for ideas for many other restoration projects including the Everglades.

Before the crossing of State Road 98 and the Kissimmee River, the riders stop briefly at the historic Pearce homestead believed to have been one of the earliest cattle ranches located along the river. This homestead was once a landing for a ferry to cross the river and hosted a small supply stop for settlers and steam boats. The late Edna Pearce taught in a school here located on the Pearce homestead that was built by her father, the late John Pearce.

Water stops and meal breaks are routine along the trail ride and many bridges are crossed but the crossing of the Kissimmee River Bridge with horses, mules, and wagon is truly something to see. Once across the bridge, riders enter Okeechobee County and head towards another landmark—the Bass Family Ranch. They will camp for the night and more likely than not, enjoy an evening of poetry presented by one of their own talented members. Bass Ranch encompasses much of Basinger. There you can find the origins of an old trail that heads north to the St. Cloud area named the Peavine Trail, much of this trail passes through is now known as the Kissimmee Prairie State Preserves.

Okeechobee County



As the trail continues on State Road 98 and then turns east on CR 68, it passes through one of the last remaining strands of Blue Cypress trees in the area—Chandler Slough. This strand is named after the family that settled there many generations ago. The ride continues on along CR68 and then turns north again on State Road 441. This section of the route is flanked by countless dairies making this area one of the largest producers of milk in Florida. Okeechobee County is also home to the Livestock Auction, which has an average 1,600 head of cattle sold per day. The market is open Monday and Tuesday of every week and is the largest market of feeder cattle east of the Mississippi River.

Saint Lucie County

Making its final turn east, the route continues along State Road 68 into Saint Lucie County. The riders will stay one final night at the ranch owned by the Alto "Bud" Adams Family. Here there they will celebrate with a ceremony and dance. The following morning they will trailer into the Fort Pierce area for their final appearance, parading through the restored downtown area to the Port area. Riders will stop at a gazebo in the park area just a mile north of the site of Fort Pierce, built in 1867, on the Military Trail that passed north and south on this coast of Florida from St. Augustine to the Keys.

The streets will be lined with spectators, whips will be cracking and horses will be prancing as the Florida Cracker Trail Riders, nearly 100 strong not including horses, mules and wagons, will parade on horseback through downtown Ft. Pierce on Saturday, February 21st at approximately 10:30 AM. The parade celebrates the end of the annual 110 mile trail ride commemorating Florida's settlers and their rugged cattle raising heritage. The parade begins on North Indian River Dr. and Seaway Drive and travels south to Orange Ave. The parade turns east on



Orange Ave. and will wind its way through the Farmer's Market. It will then turn east to Indian River Drive and eventually end at Cobb's Landing, located at the traffic roundabout on North Indian River Drive. Frozen drinks for the riders and troughs for the horses will be waiting for you. Ft. Pierce's historic P.P. Cobb Store, built in 1882 and located just adjacent to the parade's end, figured prominently in the historic cross-Florida cattle drive. It served as a trading post for almost the entire territory along the coast from Eau Gallie on the north, to Jupiter on the south; Okeechobee, Fort Drum and Basinger to the west. Each day, as the cattle massed west of town, Cobb's store ran five wagons and a crew of 25 men, day and night, taking supplies out to the cattlemen and their herds as they prepared for the month long journey. Since the coastal settlements could be reached via the Indian River by sailboat and by cart and wagon along the Flatwoods trail, the mail was handled through Cobb's Store. Cobb did a thriving business in hides, fur and fish. His slogan was "Everything to Eat, Wear and Use".

Following the Cracker Trail Riders Parade, riders are encouraged to meet the public at Cobb's Landing while they partake of some much-needed refreshments after the long dusty trip. The public is wildly enthusiastic to learn about the cross state ride, the Cracker Trail Association and to get to pet the horses and perhaps even get their child's picture taken aboard a horse or mule. A special area will be designated for whip popping. This last stop is a wonderful opportunity for ride participants to act as ambassadors for the Cracker Trail Association as well as to sell souvenirs from the Logo Wagon.

Fort Pierce offers ride participants an opportunity to camp along the Intra-Coastal Waterway at Harbor Pointe Park or along the Atlantic Ocean at Frederick Douglas Park. You may also choose to day ride along the ocean at Frederick Douglas Park and camp at Harbor Point Park, which tends to be less windy and have less no-see-ums. Fort Pierce welcomes the Cracker Trail Riders and their good-natured shenanigans with open arms. In addition to a nationally famous farmer's market with an amazing assortment of locally grown and prepared foods and a large arts and crafts market place, Fort Pierce offers a wide variety of open-air dining and imbibing establishments which are horse friendly or at least horse tolerant. Admission to the A.E. Backus Museum is free to Cracker Trail Riders.

Welcome to Ft. Pierce, where the historic Florida Cracker Trail begins and ends.

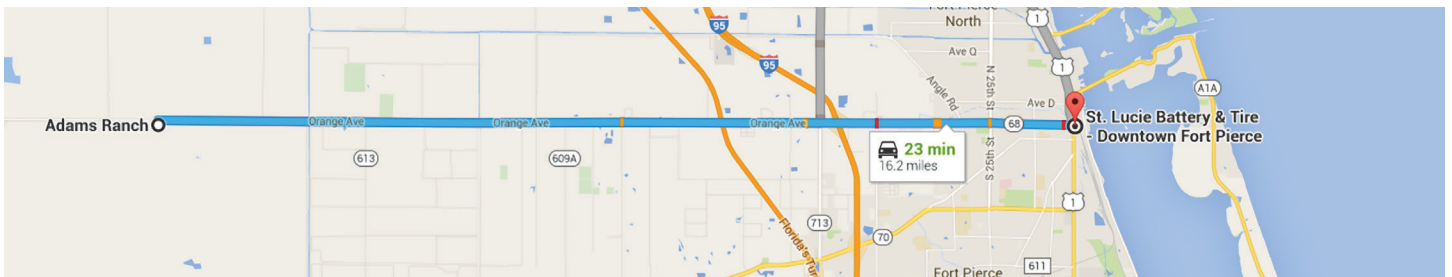
Ft. Pierce Terminus Parade Directions & Beach Camping

After departing Adams ranch, continue east on SR68/Orange into downtown Ft. Pierce. Go south on US1 to Boston Avenue and take a left into the parking lot.

The parade begins west of US 1 on Orange Ave, continues on to the Marina, thru the Farmers' Market and ends at the traffic circle by Cobb's Landing.

Due to construction at Harbor Point, camping is not available. Beach camping is allowed at Frederick Douglas Beach. This is an excellent opportunity to ride on the Atlantic beach. Overnight parking is not advised at the parade parking area.

Directions from Adams Ranch



Directions to parking and parade route



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Florida Cracker Trail Museum
Florida Agricultural Museum
Florida Cracker Horse Association
Florida Cracker Cattle Association
A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery, Inc.

We also fund two college scholarships each year.
Information about our scholarship program can
be found at our website www.crackertrail.org.

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Kahn Ranch - Marvin Kahn
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Highlands County Sheriff's Office
Okeechobee County
Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office
St. Lucie County B.O.C.C.
St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office
St. Lucie County Parks & Recreation Dept.
City of Ft. Pierce
City of Fort Pierce Police Department Florida Department of Transportation
Southwest Florida Water Management District
Tree Locators - Okeechobee Veg-King of Florida, Inc.
A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery, Inc.



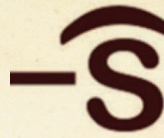
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Diane Kinney
PARTNER & CREATIVE DIRECTOR

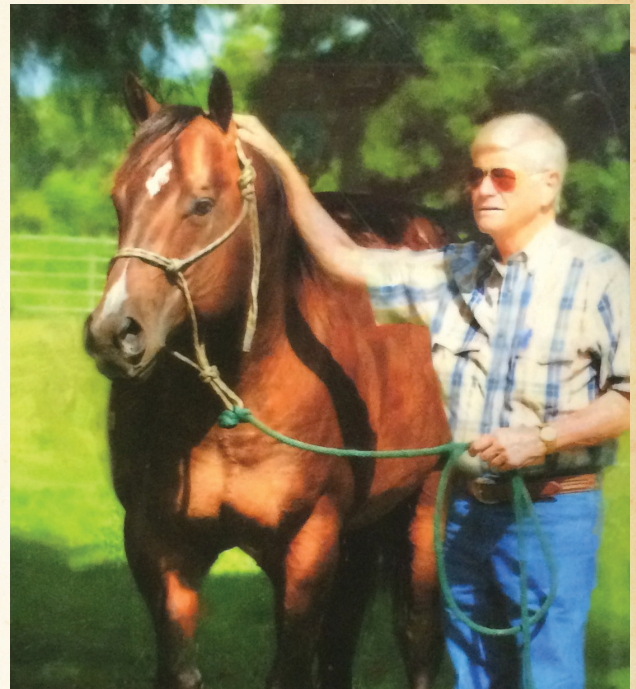
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Bar Crescent S Ranch



Dun Commander John

Deals a Deal Joe



CERTIFICATE
AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION
OF REGISTRATION

<p>DUN COMMANDER JOHN April 18, 2009 Buckskin Stallion 5355139</p> <p>0130675 DUN COMMANDER JOHN # 5355139 DNA TYPE QH413062</p> <p>BREEDER DONNER STEVE AND SARAH BURL, ALABAMA</p> <p>CURRENT OWNER SMITH DONALD E WAUCHULA, FLORIDA</p> <p>STATE/COUNTRY FOALED ALABAMA</p> <p>DATE ACQUIRED OCTOBER 8, 2009</p>	<p>COMMANDER KING (1958) 0201505</p> <p>MERRY KING (1955) 0264743</p> <p>GAY BAR KING (1948) 0190502</p> <p>MISS HOLLY LU (1974) 1033864</p> <p>SONNY VISTA BAR (1962) 1822844</p> <p>KATELAND BAR LYNX (1965) 3380075</p> <p>SABLE LYNX (1986) 2528008</p>	<p>SONNY DEE BAR (1965) 0302338</p> <p>MILAGRO DOLL (1976) 1256117</p> <p>ABE LYNX (1978) 1507614</p> <p>TABANA LOUISE (1966) 0443173</p>
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This is to certify the above named and described horse has been registered with the American Quarter Horse Association. This certificate is valid as long as the horse is properly registered with the name of the horse bearing without further verification by AQHA. Ownership of this certificate is retained by AQHA, and no other sale or transfer is valid until the certificate is properly transferred to the new owner. For complete information, contact any other official member AQHA office, and pending instructions of the member. (April 18, 2009)

Don Treadway
Executive Vice President

AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

Certificate of Registration
AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION
Amarillo, Texas 79168

NAME DEALS A DEAL JOE	SEX STALLION	REGISTRATION NUMBER 4326065	STATE/COUNTRY FOALED FLORIDA
BAY	BREEDER SMITH DONALD E	FOALED MARCH 11, 2002	BY TRANSPORTED SEMEN
OWNER SMITH DONALD E	ADHA ID NUMBER 0130675	WAUCHULA CITY WAUCHULA	STATE/COUNTRY FLORIDA
DNA TYPE QH432600	EASY SIX 1201847	0842934	
SNIP DEALS A DEAL	3156242	MISS ASSURED 0306859	
	DASH LIKE LIGHTNING 2841100	DASH FOR CASH 1228058	
	HAIDAS LITTLE REP 8900798	1064488	
	DOCS DARK SAMANAH 2129577	1089924	
	DOCS DARK ROSE	0646770	
		PEPPY SAN BADGER 1643650	
		DOC'S HAIDA 2129577	
		DOCS SUGS BRUDDER 1179473	
		KING'S ROSEANN 0415986	

MARKINGS
STAR, STRIP AND SNIP, RIGHT FORE HALF PASTER WHITE, DARK SPOTS ON RIGHT FORE CORONET, NO OTHER MARKINGS.

PARENTAGE VERIFIED

This is to certify that the above named and described horse has been registered in the Stud Book of the American Quarter Horse Association.

Stud and filly weanlings from these two studs can be seen by appointment at our breeding facility on Dansby Road in Wauchula, Florida.
Please call Tiffany Brown with Bar Crescent S Ranch at 863-781-5842.
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