



HAPPY HOOFERS

HOOPLA

Jan-Feb-Mar 2016 Volume 26, Issue 1

www.hoofers.floridatrail.org

The Happy Hoofers Chapter encompasses Broward + Hendry Counties
 Monthly Meetings
 Second Thursday of every month @ 7:00 P.M.
 Except June/July/August
 Fern Forest Nature Center
 201 Lyons Road South
 Coconut Creek, FL 33063



Inside this issue:

- Long Distance Hikers on FT 1
- HH Upcoming Activities 2 - 3
- Officers & Committee Chairs 3
- SC Foothills Trail March 2016 4
- Chairs Corner 5



Long Distance Hikers on the Florida Trail

Photos and Article by Lynn Thompson

The long distance hikers began their journey on the FNST January 7-9 at Oasis with a big send off from Jim Kern, FTA founder, to celebrate the 50th year for FTA. Thirty four hikers began at Oasis and the Happy Hoofers met 20 of them plus 3 boy scouts at mile marker 63 on January 9-11. They were amazed how much water El Niño has dumped on the trail. Normally this is our dry season, but this year nothing is dry. They waded through water for one 8 mile stretch with water from ankle to sometimes thigh deep with no place to set a pack down to rest. There were hikers from as far away as Finland, and they learned just because it is flat, does not mean it is easy. Thank you to Tom M, Nelly, Yoli, Mary H., Karen S., Patrick K., Dick W., and Mike T., for joining me in providing a bit of trail magic to the hikers, they were surprised and grateful. To get a sense of what it looked like, check out this video on You Tube: <http://youtu.be/gY2U4iGUVI>.



✧ 2016 Happy Hooper Activities ✧

- Saturday 1/9 Dayhike to Carpenter Camp - Limit 15 people
Dick Ward 954-523-8897 wrddick@aol.com
Robert Rockwell 954-242-6786 rockyhic@hotmail.com
- Thursday 1/14 Chapter Meeting Fern Forest Nature Ctr
7PM Sharp!
201 Lyons Rd, Coconut Creek FL 33063
Lynn Thompson 954-850-3668 mal2thom@bellsouth.net
- Saturday 1/16 Fern Forest Center Work Day - Fern Forest Nature Ctr
9AM-12noon
201 Lyons Rd, Coconut Creek FL 33063
Roland Burrows 954-731-8271
- Sat 1/16 -
Mon 1/18 Backpacking Dinner Island Ranch/OK Slough - 30 miles total
Come for 2 or 3 days - Limit 12 people
David Denham 305-667-8643 ddenham@consultant.com
Larry Alesi 561-445-9251 larrya1049@yahoo.com
- Sat 1/23 -
Sun 1/24 Ladies Overnight - Savanna - Limit 20 ladies
Kay Ferrara 954-609-4727 kayferrara@bellsouth.net
Kathy Bonvouloir 954-234-5657 threebons@aol.com
- Sat 2/6 -
Sun 2/7 Bluefield Ranch Preserve Overnight + Backpack
Mike Thompson 561-290-9984 lamathompson@hotmail.com
Lynn Thompson 954-850-3668 mal2thom@bellsouth.net
- Thur 2/13 Chapter Meeting Fern Forest Nature Ctr
7PM Sharp!
201 Lyons Rd, Coconut Creek FL 33063
Megandigeon 954-829-8494 megandigeon@gmail.com
- Fri 2/19 -
Mon 2/22 4 Days Across the Preserve Backpacking
44 Miles in 4 days - Limit 10 people
David Denham 305-667-8643 ddenham@consultant.com
Larry Alesi 561-445-9251 larrya1049@yahoo.com
- Sat 2/20 -
Sun 2/21 Starvation Slough Overnight Backpack - Limit 12 people
Mike Thompson 561-290-9984 lamathompson@hotmail.com
Lynn Thompson 954-850-3668 mal2thom@bellsouth.net
- Sat 2/27 -
Sun 2/28 Overnight Backpack to Jonathan Dickinson - Limit 8 people
Mike Thompson 561-290-9984 lamathompson@hotmail.com
Lynn Thompson 954-850-3668 mal2thom@bellsouth.net
- Fri 3/4 -
Sat 3/6 Backpacking Fisheating Creek Camp @Paradise Lake
on Day 1 + near Ingram Crossing on Day 2 - Limit 12 people
David Denham 305-667-8643 ddenham@consultant.com
Larry Alesi 561-445-9251 larrya1049@yahoo.com
- Sat 3/5 39th Annual Waterway CleanUp @ Deerfield Island
Kathy Bonvouloir 954-234-5657 threebons@aol.com
Lynn Thompson 954-850-3668 mal2thom@bellsouth.net
- Thur 3/10 Chapter Meeting Fern Forest Nature Ctr
7PM Sharp!
201 Lyons Rd, Coconut Creek FL 33063
Megandigeon 954-829-8494 megandigeon@gmail.com

- Sat 3/12
9am-12noon
Fern Forest Center Work Day Fern Forest Nature Ctr
201 Lyons Rd, Coconut Creek FL 33063
Roland Burrows 954-731-8271
- Sun 3/13
Day Hike from Gator Hook to Oasis Visitor Center - Hike through lime stone trail and old logging tram road - 7 miles round trip - Limit 15
Megan Digeon 954-829-8494 megandigeon@gmail.com
Esther Muram 954-658-8386 itailusa@gmail.com
- Sat 3/19 -
Sun 3/27
SC Foothills Trail Backpacking (75 miles in 6 days) - Limit 10 people
David Denham 305-667-8643 ddenham@consultant.com
Mike and Lynn Thompson 954-850-3668 mal2thom@bellsouth.net
- Sat 3/19 -
Sun 3/27
Long Pine Key: Bike, Hike, Nike - Limit 15
Esther Muram 954-658-8386 itailusa@gmail.com
Kathy Bonvouloir 954-234-5657 threebons@aol.com
- Sat 4/9 -
Sun 4/10
Short Key Paddle (one day or overnight) - Limit 15 tents
David Denham 305-667-8643 ddenham@consultant.com
CO-LEADER NEEDED!!
- Thur 4/14
7PM Sharp!
Chapter Meeting Fern Forest Nature Ctr
201 Lyons Rd, Coconut Creek FL 33063
Megan Digeon 954-829-8494 megandigeon@gmail.com
- Sun 4/17
Paddle + Snorkel at John Pennekamp State Park - Limit 12 people
Kathy Bonvouloir 954-234-5657 threebons@aol.com
Kay Ferrara 954-609-4727 kayferrara@bellsouth.net
- Sat 4/23
Looneyville Bridge to Bridge Hike Big Cypress Nat'l Preserve
Dick Ward 954-523-8897 wrdick@aol.com
Robert Rockwell 954-242-6786 rockyhic@hotmail.com

FOR ALL HH ACTIVITIES THROUGH MAY 2016 -- <http://hoofers.floridatrail.org/activites.htm>

Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs

Chapter Chair	Megan Digeon	954 829-8494	megandigeon@gmail.com
Vice Chair	Tom McDaniel	954 473-8533	gthomascdaniel@bellsouth.net
Secretary	vacant		
Treasurer	Esther Muram	954 658-8386	itailusa@gmail.com
Chapter Council Rep	Kay Ferrara	954 609-4727	KayFerrara@bellsouth.net
Activities	Lynn Thompson	954 850-3668	italusa@gmail.com
Trails	David Denham	305 667-8643	ddenham@consultant.com
Public Relations	Karen Smith	954 263-8109	ksmith623@bellsouth.net
Programs	Tom McDaniel	954 473-8533	gthomascdaniel@bellsouth.net
Membership	Mary Halferty	954 522-3265	mhalferty@outlook.com
Editor Hoopla	Elizabeth Brown	954 294-8838	libertb@aol.com
Website	Larry Alesi	954 445-9251	LarryA1049@yahoo.com
Volunteer Hours	Kathy Bonvouloir	954 234-5657	threebons@aol.com
Hospitality	vacant		
Historian	Robert Grosswald	305 948-2904	rgkayak@aol.com

Our Facebook Group is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/67137159048/>

South Carolina Foothills Trail

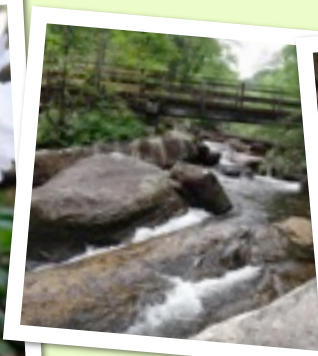
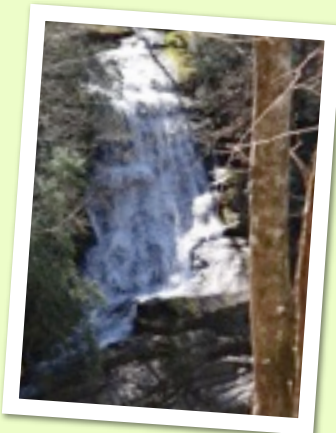
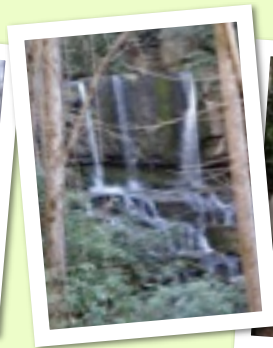
PLAN NOW FOR THIS WEEKLONG ADVENTURE MARCH 2016

**Join David Denham and Mike & Lynn Thompson for this
75-mile Backpacking trek.**

Trip is limited to 10 people, March 19-27, 2016

The **Foothills Trail** is a 75-mile National Recreation Trail in South and North Carolina, United States, for recreational hiking and backpacking. It extends from Table Rock State Park to Oconee State Park. It passes through the Andrew Pickens Ranger District of the Sumter National Forest, Ellicott Rock Wilderness, Whitewater Falls, and Lake Jocassee.

The U.S. Forest Service built the section of the Sumter National Forest starting in 1968. Duke Power Company built the middle portion of the trail as a recreational resource in conjunction with its Bad Creek pumped storage hydroelectric project. The trail is maintained by the Foothills Trail Conference.



Photos by Elizabeth Brown 4/1/15



Outgoing Chair's Corner January 2016

Happy New Year! We had a terrific 2015, the Holiday party was a lot of fun, and we are ready for more great adventures on the trail for 2016. Lots of great trips are on the schedule, check the webpage or our Facebook page and join us on a day or overnight trip.

Elections were held at the January meeting and we now have a new Chapter Chair, Megan Digeon. I'm looking forward to Megan's term and hoping she can bring some new insights and ideas to the chapter. Tom McDaniel remains as Vice Chair, Esther Muram remains as Treasurer, and we are still looking for a Secretary. In the interim, I will be taking the minutes. If you are interested in the job, please contact Megan. I will appreciate it especially because I am taking over the job of Activity Leader coordinator from Esther. I've got a lot to learn regarding posting new activities to the website etc. Robert Grosswald has volunteered to fill the Historian position, if you have pictures or anything that should be added to our history, please send it to Robert at: rgkayak@aol.com .

It has been a pleasure to serve as Chair the last two years, (again). We have a wonderful group of volunteers that really love our Chapter and our Trail, and I want to thank each one of you. The pride we have in our chapter and trail is reflected in the attendance at the meetings, and the disposition of the trail. It takes a lot of work by many hands to accomplish what we do. It makes me feel good to know so many people can enjoy the trail due to our efforts. When I started with the Happy Hoofers back in 1990, I didn't like to hike the same trail twice. Then I became invested in our trail, and I look forward to seeing it change and grow each and every season.

See you out there...

Lynn Thompson

Incoming Chair's Corner January 2016

I am honored to have been chosen as your new Chapter Chair. The Happy Hoofers is a strong, active chapter that has been fortunate to have some great leadership in the past, which is a tradition I am inspired to carry on. It should be effortless with such an experienced support team of officers!

Currently, I am also on the Board of Directors for the Florida Trail Association and working with the planning committee on our 50th Anniversary celebration that will take place this fall. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the exciting activities planned for this season.

Happy Trails!

Megan Digeon