

FLORIDA CRACKER CATTLE ASSOCIATION

2019 NEWSLETTER (SEPTEMBER, 2019)

Greetings! The Annual Florida Cracker Cattle Association GATHERIN' and SALE will be held on OCTOBER 4-5, 2019 at the Withlacoochee State Forest Training Center near Brooksville, Florida.

> This will be our 32nd Annual Gatherin' <

We are looking forward to another great Gatherin' and Sale. You can help by letting others know about these events! We will begin with a FCCA Board of Directors Meeting at 3:00 on Friday afternoon. The Membership Dinner is at 5:15 pm. The Friday evening program will include the Association's Annual Business Meeting, election of officers and review of FCCA activities. Special guest speaker will be the renown geneticist Dr. Phil Sponenberg. Don't forget to bring some exciting "Cracker Stuff" to contribute to the Friday evening auction. The Horse and Cattle Sale on Saturday will be our 30th Annual FCCA Sale of these "living links" to Florida's rich agricultural heritage. Information is posted on the FCCA website FloridaCrackerCattle.org.

Producers wishing to consign Cracker Cattle or Cracker Horses to the sale should contact Stephen Monroe immediately. See additional details on the following pages. We have had strong demand for these cattle at the past few sales. It is every consignor's responsibility to recruit potential buyers and bring them to the sale. Developing our markets should be a priority for all.

The FCCA Scholarship represents an opportunity to help some student be successful - the application is on our website! Please participate in the Florida Ranch Rodeo Finals & Cowboy Heritage Festival on September 27-28, 2019 in Kissimmee. We will help host the Cow Culture Stage there to share our culture. FCCA members need to be there to help promote Cracker Cattle and Cracker Horses. Learn more at www.floridacattlemen.org and plan on attending.

The Florida Cracker Horse Association always has a lot of good stuff going on to promote Florida's Heritage Horse Breed. Contact James Levy, FCHA Executive Director at 850-575-6522 or check their web page at www.floridacrackerhorses.com.

HELP! If you can help with registration, sale ring, sale clerks, signs, logistics etc. we ask that you please jump in and help! This is your Gatherin' so please get involved. We look forward to another great Cracker Gatherin'. . . let us hear from you! We want to plan for you and we need your involvement to make this event successful. Please RSVP - don't assume that we know your plans - call or e-mail Stephen at 850-410-0944, 850-510-5419 or Stephen.Monroe@FreshFromFlorida.com.

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Forest Service are our hosts at the Withlacoochee Training Center and P.K. Ranch. We enjoy these facilities and we appreciate Commissioner Nicole "Nikki" Fried's support in the preservation of Florida's Cracker Cattle and Cracker Horses.

Our Best Regards,

Ralph

Ralph Wright,
President

Stephen

Stephen Monroe,
Executive Director

FLORIDA CRACKER CATTLE ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 4 - 5, 2019

MEETING DETAILS

Contacts:

Ralph Wright ~ President
Stephen Monroe ~ Executive Director
Burgess Duane ~ Secretary

Telephone: 386-961-9112
Telephone: 850-510-5419
Telephone: 772-485-9965

RSVP:

You must RSVP so that we can prepare meals, lodging, etc. **Registration (pay on site) is \$35.00 per adult and \$10.00 per child (12 and under) and includes meals Friday evening through Saturday at noon. Lodging at the Withlacoochee Training Center is an additional \$30.00 per person.** Note that lodging for children 16 and under is complimentary of FCCA. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE TICKETS SOLD FOR THE FRIDAY EVENING MEAL. Lodging is dormitory style but we manage to accommodate most requests. Please contact us so that we can prepare for you. PLEASE CALL STEPHEN to let him know your plans. Don't assume that we know what your plans are – call. Many enjoy the camaraderie of stayin' in the forest. There are hotels in the area for the "city-slickers."

Consignments to the Sale:

Producers wishing to consign Cracker Cattle or Cracker Horses to the sale should contact Stephen immediately. The sale catalog deadline is September 23, 2019. All stock must be registered or eligible for registration if weanlings. Registration paperwork must be presented to sale staff before cattle are unloaded! Horses must have current proof of a negative "Coggins" test. Consignments should be top quality representatives of the breed and in good condition. We will only accept a limited number of bulls. The Association reserves the right to screen all consignments. Animals that are in poor body condition or extremely small, relative to their age, will not be accepted. Seller commission is 10% of gross sale. The No-Sale fee is \$20.00. Full (10%) commission is mandatory on any animals that are sold outside of the sales ring.

Dues:

The FCCA Secretary reports that many of us need to pay our annual membership dues. Please settle up with Burgess Duane. Dues are \$25.00 per year unless you are a lifetime member. Only paid members are eligible to vote on association matters.

NO DOGS ALLOWED at either location:

Most agricultural folks are aware but I must add this to the newsletter: The FCCA events are not the place for dogs. For many reasons, we absolutely cannot allow dogs at the Gatherin' or at the Sale Site. This will be enforced 100%, with the only exception being permitted service dogs.

Locations:

Friday - Withlacoochee Forest Training Center: The Center is located at 24059 Childs Road, Brooksville, Florida 34461. This is North of Brooksville off of US 41 about 1.5 miles north of the intersection of US 41 and SR 476.

Saturday – P. K. Ranch Sale Site: Located at 8132 Croom Rital Road, Brooksville, Florida at P. K. Ranch. Directions: Go East 1 mile from Interstate 75 on Hwy 50, then 2 miles north on Croom Rital Road. The P. K. Ranch entrance is on the East side of the road and will be marked.

FLORIDA CRACKER CATTLE ASSOCIATION
2019 GATHERIN' & SALE
AGENDA

FRIDAY, October 4, 2019 at the Withlacoochee Training Center

- 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Receiving of Sale Cattle (at PK Ranch)
- 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Set up Auditorium for Registration
- 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. FCCA Board of Directors Meeting - (Training Building)
- 5:15 - 6:30 p.m. Supper - (Dining Hall)
- 7:00 - 7:10 p.m. FCCA Gatherin' & Opening Remarks - (Training Building)
- 7:10 - 8:15 p.m. Dr. Phil Sponenberg on Genetics and DNA Studies
DNA study with Florida Cracker Cattle and other breeds from around the world
- 8:15 - 8:45 p.m. FCCA General Session & Business Meeting
- 8:45 p.m. until Auction of "Cracker Stuff"
- Even Later Gatherin' Around the Campfire

SATURDAY, October 5, 2019

- 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.** Breakfast at Withlacoochee Training Center Dining Hall
(All personal belongings must be out of dorm rooms by 8:30 a.m.)

Move to P. K. Ranch

- 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Viewing of the Horses and Cattle for Sale
- 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Registration of buyers and membership sign-up
- 11:15 a.m. Welcome and Opening Ceremony
- 11:30 – 11:45 a.m. SALE of Cracker Horses
- 12:00 noon Lunch at P. K. Ranch Sale Site
- 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. SALE of Cracker Cattle
- Immediately Following the Sale Settling with Sale Clerk
Sellers and Buyers Exchange Registration Paperwork prior to Load-Out of Sale Stock

The Association recognizes the significant contributions to the preservation of Florida Cracker Cattle and Florida Cracker Horses by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in hosting these annual events each year. We appreciate the support of Commissioner Nicole "Nikki" Fried and her capable staff in the preservation of Florida's heritage breed livestock.