

# Newsletter

AIRBOAT ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA

January

Winter Issue



**2022 – 2023**

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## PRESIDENT'S DESK



Greetings AAOF Members,

I want to start by wishing everyone a HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season. I've been absent from the Newsletters for a while (my computer took unapproved leave). Well, I'm back to update the 2022 year.

Our annual Corn Beef & Cabbage / Airboat Poker Run was a smashing hit again. The Southern Stampede band was awesome, as always. A special thanks goes out to the King Leprechaun, Paul Bailey, and his kitchen staff for a well-received platter of Corn Beef and Cabbage. To the T-shirt booth, Getty, Anne, and crew. To Judi and Jane at the poker run sign in table, Carter and his band of buccaneers who manned the stops in the Everglades. And finally, our two 50/50 gals, Logan, and Karina. Awesome job folks, you all made the difference needed for a successful event.

Our annual BBQ was as always, a great success. Our featured band this year was Downbeat Disciples. Great job on the best BBQ Ribs in the Everglades done by Todd, his cooking crew, and the all-volunteer kitchen help. Judi and Jane worked the raffle table, and we gave away a lot of nice, donated prizes. Again Getty, Anne and crew slammed it at the T-shirt booth. And this year we had a trusted non-member, Stefanie Fariss, sell the 50/50 tickets. As always, all the volunteers make our events as successful as they are.

At Unity Weekend in Okeechobee hosted by the FAA and the Okeechobee Airboat club. We as always had a great time at the Okeechobee KOA RV resort. We need to get more folks involved. We still had more AAOF attendees than the other out of town associations.

Our Fish Fry / Poker Run was a great success. Our new cooking crew led by Adam Hill and Herold Wayne Otto did an awesome job, everyone was pleased. Again, Judi and Jane at the poker run sign in table, Carter, and his band of buccaneers at all the stops in the Everglades did a great job. Getty, Anne, and crew did a great job at the T-shirt booth. And again, our 50/50 gals, Logan and Karena slammed ticket sells. Wed drew for the Shotgun Raffle and the winner was Matthew Ginn with the Miami Radio Club. As always, our events are only successful because of all our volunteers.

We also got invited to attend So. Florida Heritage Fest at Fruit & Spice Park. Thanks goes out to Gary and Mark for providing Airboats for display and thank you again to Getty, Anne, and Judi for helping with the T-shirt booth. Sold some T-shirts and did a lot of outreaches about AAOF and the Gladesmen Culture.

We hosted Palmetto Bay Boy Scout Troop 711 for a weekend. They arrived 7 PM Friday and battled the mosquitos while setting up camp. I've never seen 14 tents setup so fast. Charlie, Mary, Karla, Paul, and Hubert made breakfast for the scouts. 72 eggs, 12lbs. of bacon 3 lbs. of sausage for the gravy over 64 biscuits, these boys know how to eat. Thanks to Coopertown we were able to take our guest Scouts on an airboat ride and introduce them to the Everglades. Saturday night the Scouts held a Flag Retirement ceremony. Very well-done Scout Troop 711. Sunday AM, pack up, cleanup and gone by noon.

We just had the roofs replaced on the Clubhouse and the caretaker's house. Next is the tenting for termites and then repaint everything. On that note, our quarterly and pre-event workdays have been a great success. In spite of the high water, we are looking pretty good. As always, the more help the less to do. Please remember any special skills or equipment always helps.

786-972-4705



Calling for the following –

- Vendors
- Soda / Water Booth
- Poker Run Stops
- Poker Table
- Boat Ramp
- Grease Pole
- AAOF T-Shirt Booth
- 50/50 Raffle
- Trash Pick-up, hourly
- Tear Down
- Saturday evening kitchen clean-up

Location: Airboat Association of Florida  
 25400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Date: March 11, 2023  
 Time: Poker Run – 9 am to 2 pm



Airboat Association of Florida is planning for our Annual Corn Beef & Cabbage and our Annual BBQ. Calling on ALL members to help put on event. We need you to make it happen because you make the difference.



Looking for the following help -

- Vendors
- Soda / Water Booth
- Boat Ramp
- Grease Pole
- AAOF T-Shirt Booth
- 50/50 Raffle
- Trash Pick-up, hourly
- Tear Down
- Saturday evening kitchen Clean-up

Location: Airboat Association of Florida  
 25400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Date: April 22, 2023  
 Time: Food Severed – 12pm to 4pm

**Make sure to have Cash, have some fun, and be safe!**





Why Do I Need To Fill Out a Backcountry Permit?

Backcountry permits are a safety measure for visitors, and a useful way of monitoring visitor use within the Preserve. Permits are required for every hiker, biker, off-road vehicle, or watercraft entering the backcountry. This applies to both day use and overnight activities.

Permits are free and can be printed at home and filled out. The permits take only a few minutes to complete.

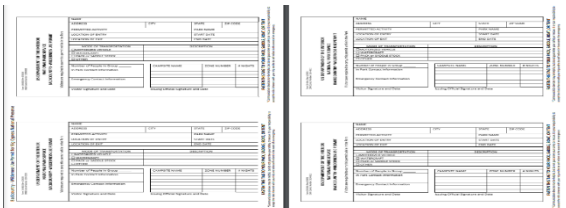
When printing from home and filling out the permit, here's what you do-

- Open the backcountry permit file.
• Print out both pages so you have four copies. Cut the pages apart, separating each permit.
• Fill out all the necessary boxes so that each permit is identical.
• Distribute copies as follows: One copy permit box at access point; One copy on dashboard of vehicle; Two copies in plastic bag with you as you travel in backcountry.



Things to Remember

- The printed permit is not waterproof! Make sure you put the permit in a plastic bag when taking it into the backcountry with you.
• This permit is specific to Big Cypress, so don't use it at Everglades National Park.
• If filling out a permit from an access point or visitor center, review and print instructions by clicking here. It will make the process easier and provide better information on backcountry use to the National Park Service.



ORV permit guidelines



ORV Permit Renewal

Big Cypress National Preserve
ATTN: ORV Office
33100 Tamiami Trail East
Ochopee, FL 34141

Dear ORV Permit Coordinator,
I certify that your records will show that my vehicle(s) was inspected and that I have taken the ORV Operator's class.

I am requesting that you mail my Off-Road Vehicle Permit(s) for the following vehicle(s):

Vehicle type, inspection #, and current permit #
Vehicle #1:
Vehicle #2:
Vehicle #3:

I have provided a credit card number for \$100.00 per vehicle.
Please mail my permit to the following address:

Name:
Street or Box #:
City: State: Zip Code:
Phone Number:

I understand that this ORV permit is non-refundable and is valid from date of purchase through January 31, 2023. I agree to abide by all National Park Service and Florida laws, regulations, and the conditions of this permit. Violations may result in non-refundable permit suspension or revocation. I understand that this permit is non-transferable and that I am responsible for the vehicle and anyone who uses it whenever it is being operated inside Big Cypress National Preserve.

Printed Name:
Signature: Date:
Amount:
Credit Card: MC/VI/AX/DC # Expiration Date:
Signature: Date:

For Credit Card Authorization- Request cannot be processed without a signature.
Mail to Big Cypress National Preserve at the address shown above.

REV 3/9/2022

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

It's a 3-step process to obtain an off-road vehicle permit for use of an ATV, UTV, airboat, swamp buggy or street-legal 4x4 along designated ORV trails in Big Cypress National Preserve: 1) an operator permit (free), 2) an inspection sticker (free), and 3) an annual vehicle permit (fees apply) are required. Motorcycles and other two-wheeled motorized vehicles are not permitted in the national preserve backcountry.

If you need to renew the ORV permit on a previously inspected vehicle that has not undergone any major changes, print the ORV Permit Renewal form and mail it to:

Big Cypress National Preserve
ATTN: ORV Office
33100 Tamiami Trail East
Ochopee, FL 34141



Please note: Renewals and new ORV permit requests are now issued on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays from 9:00am -1:30pm at the Nathaniel P. Reed Visitor Center (33000 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141). Permits will be issued on a first-come first-served basis. This permitting procedure will continue until further notice. Contact the Off-Road Vehicle Permitting Office at 239-695-1117 with questions.

Above information can be found -
https://www.nps.gov/bicy/index.htm



*MARK YOUR CALENDARS!*

**January –**

- **74<sup>th</sup> Annual Homestead Championship Rodeo -**
  - January 27, 28, & 29 2023
- **AAOF General Meeting –**
  - January 26, 2023

**February –**

- **Valentine’s Day**
  - February 14<sup>th</sup>
- **Everglades Seafood Festival**
  - February 17, 18, & 19, 2023
- **Wild Hog BBQ**
  - February 25, 2023
- **AAOF General Meeting –**
  - February 23, 2023

**March –**

- **Workday**
  - March 4, 2023
- **Corn Beef & Cabbage**
  - March 11, 2023
- **Daylight Saving Time – Forward**
  - March 12, 2023 @2:00am
- **Broward Annual Airboat Show and Festival**
  - March 25 & 26, 2023
- **AAOF General Meeting –**
  - **March 30, 2022**

(Dates are subject to change, visit organizations website for details.)

Airboat Association of Florida  
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