

**Where you and your
horse can have fun!**



Florida Horse Park Obstacle Challenge had 88 entries!!!

April 27th Obstacle Challenge, Florida Horse Park Results

Wow!!!! What a turnout! Thanks to everyone who turned out at the Florida Horse Park to make this event such a success. From the competitors to the judges to all the folks that pitched in to help where we needed it.....THANK YOU!!!!

Congratulations to all the winners!

Youth

1. Dana Fleming on Destiny
2. Shawn Charles on Splash
3. Emily Cook on Scarlet
4. Shelby Ratliff on One Tuff Cowgirl
5. Mikayla Moore on Miss Face It

Novice Div A

1. Jeff Claxton on Ginger
2. Suzy Forbes on Tiny
3. Faye Wilkinson on Blue
4. Beverly Hartley on Emerald
5. Lucille Betts on Nomad
6. Cindy Ryan on Donovan

Novice Div B

1. Robin Coleman on Harley
2. Pam Harrell on Junior
3. Joyce Tyson on LaRoan Scooter
4. Francine Alvarez on El Bailador
5. Glenda Bradley on Bimbo
6. John Tyson on Phat Daddy

EXCA Nationals Hosted By SOCA – Shelbyville, TN

Have you made your stall reservations and entries for the Extreme Cowboy Race Nationals? Deadline is May 15th. Don't be left out! There are buckles, prize money, trophies and other great prizes up for grabs. Come compete with the best in the industry and earn triple points toward qualifying for the World Finals.

Details and entry forms are on the attached flyer. Hope to see everyone there!

Non Pro Div A

1. Jody Simonton on Sage Quixote
2. Renee Stafford on Coot
3. Kim Pundai on Lex
4. Jami Robinson on Texas Geniune Jet
5. Kim Roberts on Skyrocket
6. Dakota Rose Hodges on Sonny's Busy Lady

Non Pro Div B

1. Vicky DeCaro on Roxie Rose
2. Phala Wriston on Winn Blue Pardner
3. Gloria Kibbey on Chipper
4. Jimmy Risely on Star
5. Vickie Oliva on Peppy's Foolish Fancy
6. Debbie Storey on Smokey

Pro/Posse

1. Rebecca Adams on Generator's Tall Paul
2. Sandra Vann on Spirit
3. Cathy Rotola on Derringer
4. Connie Lloyd on Chance
5. Sharon Tosspon on Ferrari
6. Traci Woodard on Montana Nicajack





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May 2013 Newsletter



SOCA Will be hosting the EXCA National Championships in Shelbyville, TN on May 24th and 25th!!

New Extreme Cowboy Race Event in Mississippi

SOCA is hosting an Extreme Cowboy Race at a new venue on June 22, 2013. The Pontotoc Agri Center will be the site of the new event.

All racers make your plans to attend! Vaudry Edge and his group of volunteers are working hard to build obstacles, obtain sponsorship and put together a great race.

Details and entry forms are on the attached flyer. Hope to see everyone there!

**Special THANKS to Tina Halsteter and Sneak E
Treats for your generous donation!!**

Thanks to our SOCA judges!!

We're proud that they took training, use their experience and provide the best judging possible. It is a thankless job, but we appreciate all of the competitors that thank our judges and volunteers....this means more than we can say!

**Dates, details and previous months
newsletters can be found on the SOCA
website at
www.southernobstaclechallenges.com**

2013 Events

- 1/19-20/13 – RO Ranch in Mayo, FL – Obstacle Challenge & Extreme Cowboy Race.
- 3/2/13 – Obstacle Challenge – Colt Creek State Park, Lakeland, FL
- 3/23/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race - Green River Farm, Gaffney, SC
- 4/27/13 – Obstacle Challenge – Florida Horse Park, Ocala, FL
- 5/25/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race National Championships – Celebration Grounds, Shelbyville, TN (Flyer attached)
- 6/22/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race – Pontotoc County Agri-Center, Pontotoc, MS (Flyer attached)
- 9/7/13 – Obstacle Challenge – Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL
- 9/28/13 – Extreme Cowboy Race SE Regional Championships - Green River Farm, Gaffney, SC (Flyer on website)
- 11/16/13 – Obstacle Challenge Championships – Rocking Horse Stables, Altoona, FL

**Trophy Halters will be given at SOCA events
this year – Make sure you compete & win one!**





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*DON'T FORGET TO THANK THE
DIFFICULT HORSES THAT MADE
YOUR LIFE HELL, WITHOUT THEM
YOU WOULDN'T BE AS GOOD OF A
RIDER AS YOU ARE TODAY.*

hereisthechallengegirls.blogspot.com



**Are you in the running for a buckle?
Highpoint Results (top 10 in each division)
Through 4/28/13 are as follows:**

Obstacle Challenges

YOUTH DIVISION			
1	Dana Fleming	Destiny	408.0
2	Mikayla Moore	Miss Face It (Mocha)	288.5
3	Shelby Ratliff	One Tuff Cowgirl	228.0
4	Stephanie Walters	Mister Kandelight & Roses	222.0
5	Shelby Ratliff	Generator's Tall Paul	127.0
6	Shawn Charles	Splash	113.0
7	Emily Cook	Scarlet	104.0

NOVICE DIVISION			
1	Joyce Tyson	Loroan Scooter	390.0
2	John Tyson	Phat Daddy	351.0
3	Robin Coleman	Harley	286.0
4	Beverly Hartely	Emerald	257.0
5	Carolyn Caccavale	Nugget	248.5
6	Francine Alvarez	El Bailador 222	225.0
7	Suzan Hunt	Badland's Dena	215.0
8	Bret Lambdin	Tug	213.0
9	Leah Greenleaf	Hailey Comet	200.0
10	Connie Bogue	Midnight	190.0

NON PRO DIVISION			
1	Phala Wriston	Winn Blue Pardner	402.0
2	Jami Robinson	Texas Genuine Jet	392.0
3	Vicky DeCaro	Roxie Rose	389.5
4	Dakota Rose Hodges	Sonny's Busy Lady	372.0
5	Christina Crumley	Sadie	315.0
6	Sherry Diamond	Atlas	257.0
7	Vickie Oliva	Peppy's Foolish Fancy	253.5
8	Tirina Miller	Wrangler	248.0
9	Beth Moran	Talon	244.0
10	Debbie Howell	Dakota	243.0

PRO/POSSE DIVISION			
1	Connie Lloyd	Chance	399.5
2	Cathy Ulm	Spirit	329.5
3	Rebecca Adams	Generator's Tall Paul	286.0
4	Sandra Vann	Spirit	263.0
5	Rebecca Adams	A Texas State of Mind	242.0
6	Sharon Carty	Kitty's Fantasy	235.0
7	Cathy Rotola	Cannon Ball	149.0
8	Lisa Wood	Caesar	131.0
9	Cathy Rotola	Derringer	124.5
10	Nancy Denmark	Spice	122.0

Extreme Cowboy Races

YOUTH			
1	Shelby Ratliff	Y	Generator's Tall Paul 394.810
2	Eliza Green	Y	Lightnin' 199.240
3	Cullen Green	Y	Tater 191.880
4	Natalie Rogers	Y	Tucker 172.040
5	Dana Fleming	Y	Destiny 170.230
6	Elizabeth Roten	Y	Allie 167.530

YOUNG GUNS			
1	Bennett Green	YG	Chloe 103.033
2	Bennett Green	YG	Dash 70.850

NON PRO			
1	Tracy Pinson	NP	Texan At The Ritz 445.600
2	Michael Lindsey	NP	Ace 429.440
3	Rick Peniston	NP	Jake 411.090
4	Dennis Tipton	NP	Goodbar's Sonny (Zippy) 393.250
5	Dennis Robinson	NP	Threat's Dark Reflection 370.820
6	Dakota Rose Hodges	NP	Sonny's Busy Lady 344.020
7	Michael Lindsey	NP	Thru 208.490
8	Leanne Hale	NP	Slick 206.190
9	Vaudry Edge	NP	Thru 205.450
10	Kelsie Graham	NP	Flower 204.250

RIDE SMART			
1	Rick Peniston	RS	Jake 406.450
2	Dennis Tipton	RS	Goodbar's Sonny (Zippy) 393.800
3	Dennis Robinson	RS	Threat's Dark Reflection 382.230
4	Joe Holloway	RS	Solanos Moonlite Run 366.320
5	Vicky DeCaro	RS	Roxie Rose 359.300
6	Vaudry Edge	RS	Thru 198.360
7	John Hodges	RS	Red Bob 174.860
8	John Hodges	RS	Bud 166.480
9	Arnie Kilil	RS	Chief 144.600

NOVICE			
1	Michael Lindsey	N	Ace 376.710
2	Lisa Steinbach	N	Texan At The Ritz 331.410
3	Joe Holloway	N	Solanos Moonlite Run 316.600
4	Dakota Rose Hodges	N	Sonny's Busy Lady 304.120
5	Vicky DeCaro	N	Roxie Rose 299.450
6	Rebecca Adams	N	Generator's Tall Paul 166.450
7	John Hodges	N	Red Bob 159.800
8	Cynthia Rogers	N	Q-Tip 153.380
9	Robin Jones	N	Nickelback 152.020
10	Allison Steinbach	N	Skywatch Stopwatch 149.200

PRO			
1	John Roberts	P	Silk 225.880
2	Cody Brown	P	Chic 212.570
3	Cody Brown	P	Red 208.500
4	John Roberts	P	Buffy 204.320
5	Laura Green	P	Chloe 200.010

GREEN HORSE			
1	Tracy Pinson	GH	One Tuff Cowgirl 312.420
2	John Roberts	GH	TT 174.550
3	Elizabeth Roten	GH	Pearl 119.200

It's not too late to get in on the action – Keep in mind that there are two triple point races and the November Obstacle Challenge is double points.

Southern Obstacle Challenge Association

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OBSTACLE CHALLENGE AT THE FLORIDA HORSE PARK, OCALA, FL 4/27/13 Photos of the obstacles by Jr. Adams - Thanks!

Obstacle Challenge Photos



Winners From Each Division

Youth



Novice Div A

Novice Div B



Non-Pro Div A

Non-Pro Div B



Pro/Posse



SOCA Member Spotlight Meet your fellow SOCA Members

This month for the “Meet the Member” story, we thought it would be a great idea to introduce you to our “Paso Fino” Group members. We are a diverse group of friends that initially met through the Paso Fino Horse Show Circuit. We get together outside the show ring for trail/beach rides, camping and have traveled as far as Myrtle Beach S.C. for the Annual American Heart Fund Association’s Annual Beach Ride. A couple of years ago we visited Darby Oaks for a play day and the rest is history! When you see us out riding with huge smiles on our faces you might think we are smoking weed, but that’s not it! We are sitting on the back of one of the smoothest riding horses on the planet that has so much heart that we are bursting with joy!

Francine Alvarez: Married with 2 Jack Russels and a bunny. One horse, a Paso Fino, El Bailador 222. I do medical billing for a Medical Equipment company and have for over 20 years now. My one horse needs to do it all. I knew when I got him I wanted to show and we have all the way to the National Level where he has won Blue ribbons in the Costume class. This is the class I especially like doing, I like dress up and so does he! We trail ride every weekend and have done parades, expositions, cow penning and speed events also. We show in Paso Fino shows, all gaited and all breed shows. In all breed shows I am required to show him in Western classes and he still wins! I have recently done the obstacles and really like it. My ultimate goal would be to do the obstacles in the side saddle that I use for the costumes! He is truly my partner.



Lorie Childers: I went back to school for a Computer Information Systems degree and figured that once finished, the perfect reward would be to get that horse I had always wanted. Well, graduation came and years went by. And constantly, it was in the back of my mind that a ‘certain someone’ still owed myself a horse! After 9/11, I committed to finding one. I found my Paso Fino in January of 2002; he was three and I was a beginner. A stupid mix and I knew it but did it anyway! I liked that he was short, and he took off in the sweetest canter as soon as I got on him. But the sweetness turned into - oh, who knows - me not knowing anything I guess. He bucked me off, he reared; it was a terrible mix and I am so grateful that neither of us got hurt. I quickly found someone to give me lessons two times a week, I was so desperate. I immersed myself into anything ‘John Lyons’. Eleven years later, my wonderful obstacle horse is Octavio FF, now 14. I call him my ‘horse soul mate’. We have had lots of fun experiences together - SOCA competition, drill team, sheriff posse, parades, showing, exhibitions, and our first love - trail riding. My other horse - Tornado del Madrigal - is a Colombian Trote y Galope (a Paso Fino/Lusitano cross). We have been together four years and have experienced many of the same things. He and I are now focused on refining and adding to our liberty routine. Though he and Octavio are the exact opposite in EVERY way (including the side of the neck their mane falls!), I love both of them just the same!



Please send your information for the Member Spotlight!
Email to: southernobstaclechallenges@gmail.com



SOCA Member Spotlight

Meet your fellow SOCA Members!

Karen Holgate: When I retired as Legislative Director of a non-profit in Sacramento, I had two paints that I had just started riding. Then my husband and I fell in love with paso finos. That was it; we were hooked. We bought some pasos, which looked pretty small next to our 16.3 hand paints, and moved to Ocala for the wonderful trails and beautiful horse country. We now have eleven pasos and one the paints –my big girl Tia. Our newest baby is Halle, a very active kitty who loves watching the antics of the colts.

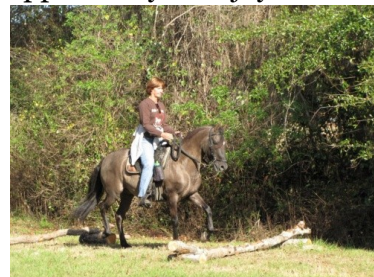


As a fairly new rider, I'm so sorry about all the years I missed riding and frustrated about all the things I don't know. However, I love riding Florida's trails and since I've started doing obstacles, my horses have taught me so much about what they need and want from me.

I've always heard about being partners with your horse but didn't understand that until one day on the obstacle course with Blessing. She had been resisting an obstacle but then there was that "aha" moment. I have no idea what she did. She didn't move; she didn't twitch, or turn, or anything else I can explain but I knew she had decided she was going to go through that scary thing. Now I know the thrill of having that special "partnership" with my horse and have had that wonderful experience many times since.

Whether someone enjoys competing in the show ring, trail riding, barrel racing, obstacles, or any of the other numerous activities with horses, we can all agree – there is nothing more exciting than having those special moments with our horses. I just thank God that I now have the opportunity to enjoy these beautiful creatures!

Katreena Haley: I have ridden horses all my life but it wasn't until ten years ago that I discovered the smooth ride of the Paso Fino horse. It was an instant attraction and my first purchase soon led to a 2nd and a 3rd, then it became obvious that boarding with a trainer wasn't going to sufficiently satisfy my desire to be around them every day. So in 2007, I moved from the North Georgia area to west Marion County to be near the Paso Fino capital of North America! Little did I know how much work it would require converting 38 raw acres to a working farm?



Thankfully, I now have a 12 stall barn and a horse for each stall! Ha Ha... "**Rancho PasoLuna**" is home to a herd of 7 paso's and 5 Trote & Galope horses. (The T&G's are related to the Paso Fino's, originated in Columbia SA, and are diagonally gaited so they trot and canter.)

I absolutely love participating in obstacle challenges. For me it blends the fun of trail riding and being in the forest with the competitiveness of the show environment. I'm enjoying it so much that my arena now includes a mini obstacle course scattered around the typical paso fino "sounding board". My horses all enjoy the mental challenge of each obstacle, quickly learning how to please mom and earn a treat!

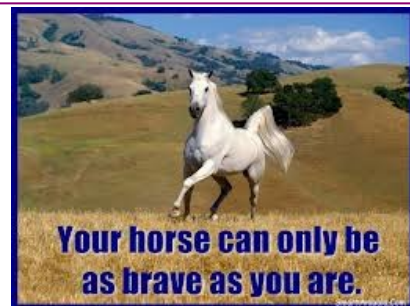
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2013 Buckle Series

In 2013, buckles will be awarded for the high point obstacle challenge winners in the following divisions: Novice, Youth, Non Pro, and Pro/Posse.

Points from each of the 2013 SOCA Obstacle Challenges will be totaled, with double points at the obstacle challenge championship in November. The horse/rider team with the most points will be awarded the buckle.

Regional Championship buckles for the Extreme Cowboy Races will be determined by points accumulated at SOCA events only. The horse/rider teams accumulating the most points at each SOCA EXCA race, with the triple points at the regional championship race on 9/28/13, will be awarded the high point buckle in the following divisions: Pro, Non-Pro, Ride Smart, Novice, Youth, and Non-Pro.

Purpose of SOCA

OBSTACLE CHALLENGES

- Divisions for all levels of horses and riders
- Open to all breeds
- Payback in all classes, prizes, and ribbons
- Ten to fifteen obstacles
- Some events will be in arenas – others will be on the trail

EXTREME COWBOY RACES

- Sanctioned Extreme Cowboy Races with divisions for: Pro, Non-Pro, Novice, Ride Smart, Youth, Young Guns, & Green Horse
- Open to all breeds
- Payback, prizes, and ribbons

CLINICS/SCHOOLING DAYS

- Learn to negotiate obstacles
- Schooling days will allow you to practice obstacles with the help of others, and without the pressure of competition.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!!!

SOCA would like to thank our corporate sponsors

**Rick & Jane Peniston - Stellar Marine - Walker Pond Farm – Gator Horse Trailers
Darby Oaks Stables - Linda & Jerry Harrington/Trailhead Ranch – Great Getaways Travel**

SOCA would like to thank our buckle, division and ribbon sponsors:

**Janie & Wayne Van De Walker - Bernie Duncan – L & M Awards
Tony & Claudia Gilstrap - Electric Supply - John Steele – Rocking T Ranch
Jim & Tami Karr - Ocoee Animal Hospital - Animal Clinic of Windermere**

Great Getaways
770.503.4433
Mariette Tipton Travel Specialist
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**Can we add you to the list!?!?
Check the SOCA website
for sponsorships information.**

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