



ON THE RANCH NEWSLETTER – JUNE 30, 2017

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News You Can Use



JULY 4TH - MASTER ASSOCIATION OFFICE CLOSED

The Master Association office will be closed **Tuesday, July 4th**, in honor of Independence Day and will reopen on Wednesday, July 5th at 8:00 am. On Palmer Ranch, smaller US flags have been set out to celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence on the Fourth of July in 1776. Have a safe and sunny Fourth of July!

Happenings at Oscar Scherer State Park

Oscar Scherer State Park is located at 1843 South Tamiami Trail, Osprey. For more information, please contact the Ranger Station (941) 483-5956.

GUIDED SCRUB JAY WALK

This walk begins at the Nature Center on **Sunday, July 2nd at 8:30am** and includes an informative walk through an ancient dune system. This unique habitat is home to the threatened Florida scrub-jay and a variety of plants and other animals. Participants should wear comfortable footwear for walking in soft sand. Cameras and binoculars are suggested. Space is limited to 15 people. There is no cost to participate other than normal park entrance fees for day-use visitors.

GUIDED PADDLE OR WALK

Learn about the life in South Creek, or take a leisurely stroll through one or more of the park's seven natural communities. South Creek is a tidal water, therefore the water may sometimes be too shallow for a paddle; a guided walk will be an alternate option. Either way, be prepared to explore a slice of the "Real Florida." Bring your camera and binoculars for wildlife viewing. Registration is between **8:00am and 8:45am on Wednesday, July 5th** at the Ranger Station on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the paddle. Canoe/kayak rentals apply to both day-use visitors and campers at \$10.00 plus tax per hour. Folks are welcome to bring their own paddling gear instead of renting. Program is free with paid park entrance for those providing their own paddling equipment. If the program features a walk instead of a paddle, program is free with paid park entrance.

Did You Know?

How can I get nominated for election to the Board of Trustees?

Nominations for election of Trustees to the Board by the Residential Members, Commercial-Industrial Members, and Recreational Members shall be made by Nominating Committees for each such class of Membership. Each Nominating Committee shall consist of a chairperson, who shall be a member of the Board and belong to such Residential, Commercial-Industrial, or Recreational class of Membership; and two (2) or more Members of the Master Association who belong to such class of Membership.



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Birding on Palmer Ranch

This week's photo is of a Tri-Colored Heron seen visiting the grounds of *The Glenridge on Palmer Ranch*.

The tri-colored heron (*Egretta tricolor*), formerly known in North America as the Louisiana heron, is a small heron. It is a resident breeder from the gulf states of the United States and northern Mexico, south through Central America and the Caribbean to central Brazil and Peru. There is some post-breeding dispersal to well north of the nesting range. Tri-colored heron's breeding habitat is sub-tropical swamps. It nests in colonies, often with other herons, usually on platforms of sticks in trees or shrubs. In each clutch, 3–7 eggs are typically laid.

We would like to encourage you to send in your photos of birds seen on Palmer Ranch to feature in future newsletters. If you've pictures you'd like to share, please email your photos to Carrie at carrie@palmerranch.net. Please include your name, species and location of where the photo was taken.



Photo credit: Fred Brisky

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