

NO BARRIERS

A Publication of the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association



Special points of interest:

- SportsAbility 2006
- RAPAD Program
- New FDOA Members

SportsAbility Tallahassee 2006 Dates set

The dates are set for SportsAbility Tallahassee for April 21-22, 2006.

Just in case you haven't heard about SportsAbility....

SportsAbility is the premier event of the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association (FDOA). This two day event is about enhancing the lives of people with disabilities by promoting active living. SportsAbility provides first hand access to resources and demonstrations of activities designed to encourage participation regardless of age or ability level.

People that attend SportsAbility learn about the value of recreation and active leisure for everyone -

especially people with disabilities. People discover the latest in equipment, trends, and resources. This event provides an opportunity for people to network with people with disabilities, resource providers, and community organizations.

Friday's festivities will be held at Tallahassee Community College Lifetime Sports Complex which will include a resource expo AND indoor sports and leisure such as basketball, tennis, dancing and more.

Saturday's activities will be held at the Florida State University's Seminole



Reservation and will include the gamut of outdoor recreation activities, including sit-waterskiing, pontoon boat rides, kayaking, ATV rides, Seadoo rides, horseback riding, volleyball and fishing.

To stay updated with information, visit www.fdoa.org/sportsability.htm



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Partnership with Florida ARF

This Fall the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association has formed a partnership with Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities. One of the immediate outcomes of this partnership is that Florida ARF has donated office space to FDOA. This will allow us to have a established business location and use of a conference room for meetings. Both groups will explore additional ways that we can assist each other.

The Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities

(Florida ARF) is a public education institution and trade association founded in 1969 and incorporated in 1976 as a nonprofit corporation. The purpose of the association is to promote the ideals and goals of human service provider organizations that provide quality services to individuals with physical, mental, emotional, or social support needs.

The Association has broadened its membership base to encompass virtually every type of rehabilitation

organization. Members include United Cerebral Palsy affiliates, Easter Seal Societies, Associations for Retarded Citizens, Goodwill Industries, independent medical centers and many of the state's independent developmental, vocational, and psychosocial community rehabilitation centers.

If you would like more information, please contact David Jones at info@fdoa.org or at (850) 668-7323.



President's Report



David Jones
FDOA President

For the past three years, I have served as a board member for the National Parks and Recreation Association Therapeutic Recreation Section. The experience has proved valuable in providing FDOA with insights on national trends. It has also enabled me to give feedback on the importance of community based recreation and leisure organizations for people with disabilities.

During this experience, I have seen across the country that there is a crisis in the availability of therapeutic recreation

programs in the traditional healthcare setting. It is crucial that our community-based recreation providers take the lead in offering and advocating accessible inclusive recreation. Organizations like the FDOA have become valuable resources in filling this void. It is imperative that our government agencies and providers of disability services support the efforts of community-based groups; this is the way to enable people with disabilities to be included and live active, productive lives.

Remember, recreation benefits us all.

I am optimistic with the direction that the FDOA has taken with our new partnerships. We have several new exciting initiatives in the planning stages that we will share with you as they develop. Collaborative efforts between the disability community, government agencies, the business community, and recreation activity providers are showing positive results.



Help FDOA When You Shop On-line!!

Help improve the quality of life for personas with disabilities by shopping online!

To show our appreciation for all you do, we have joined efforts with Shop4Zero, an online mall that brings you more than

700 popular stores with the best prices on or off the internet. By going to www.fdoa.shop4zero.org for your shopping needs, we're able to offer you 3% cash back on all of the purchases you make. At the same time Shop4Zero will be contributing 2 1/4%

of your purchases to the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association at no additional cost to you!

There is no catch and no hidden fees. Membership registration is simple and free! It's our way of thanking you for your many contributions and we

hope that you enjoy your cash back, discount services, free shipping offers, coupons and more!

Start shopping today at www.fdoa.shop4zero.org and don't forget to save this in your favorites! Please share this with your family and friends!



FDOA's Wish List

As many of you know, FDOA operates with extremely low overhead. We have no full-time employees. To accomplish our goals, FDOA relies on its many

volunteers and sponsors. In-kind donations are also crucial to the operation of FDOA.

Currently, the needs of FDOA include:

- Graphic Artist willing to update marketing pieces
- Lobbyist willing to provide advice on an occasional basis

- Writer willing to assist with the newsletter

Please e-mail info@fdoa.org or call (850)668-7323 with any questions you may have.



New Florida Disabled Outdoors Association Members!!!!

Not-for-Profit Memberships

Community Center Intervention Inc.

Family Memberships

Charles Alden
Mike Andrews
Paul Watts / ElectroNet
Margaret Hardee
Tommy Lake

Dalton Lay
Betty Preece
Charles Wood
Robin Young

Individual Members

Gary Avery
Paul Clemons
Richard Gunnels
Margaret Hardee
Tommy Lake

The Americans with Disabilities Act celebrates 15 years

In July 2005, the ADA commemorated its 15th anniversary since it was signed into law.

While there are many things left unaccomplished by the original intent of this law, much progress has been made. The disabled parking, ramps, automatic doors, roll-in showers at hotels, and other provisions that are now taken for granted have not always been available.

Gordon Palmer, a quadriplegic for almost 30 years, has seen vast improvements in accessibility and other areas that improve quality

of life for people with disabilities due to this law. "I remember having to be lifted up steps at public establishments and having very limited seating areas. Whether it was going through kitchens to get into

restaurants or sitting in the aisle at movie theaters, there were often several barriers to going out in public. Prior to 1990 when curb cuts were rare, I usually had to drive my wheelchair in the road,"

stated Gordon Palmer.

Of course, the ADA has other provisions besides making places accessible. Some of the more significant provisions prohibit discrimination in employment and require employers to make reasonable accommodations. Another provision requires public transit and public carriers, like airlines and trains, to make accessibility accommodations. For further information regarding the ADA visit the Department of Justice's web site: <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm>.



FDOA Advisory Board at Rish Park in Cape San Blas
Gordon Palmer is 2nd from the right in front row.

Mobility Impaired Hunt Program – New Process in Evaluation

The mobility impaired quota hunts permits have now been issued the new Total Licensing System.

FDOA is seeking feedback to provide to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission on the success and satisfaction of their new system. If you have participated in this system, please e-mail your comments about this system to info@fdoa.org.

Permits are transferable to other mobility impaired hunters. We urge you to transfer any permit that can not be used to someone

that would appreciate the opportunity.

Remember that mobility impaired hunters may also participate in other general hunts.

You may also wish to inquire about your eligibility for an Alternative Mobility Permit (AMP). These are available as an accommodation for severely mobility impaired people on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). For more information, please contact your FWC

regional office.

This year's schedule is as follows:

BLACKWATER HUTTON UNIT
1/27/2006–1/29/2006
2/3/2006–2/5/2006

ECONFINA CREEK
11/25/2005 - 11/27/2005
1/13/2006 - 1/15/2006
1/20/2006 - 1/22/2006
1/27/2006 - 1/29/2006
2/1/2006 - 2/3/2006

HOLTON CREEK
10/14/2005 - 10/16/2005
10/28/2005 - 10/30/2005
11/4/2005 - 11/6/2005
12/16/2005 - 12/18/2005

RALPH E. SIMMONS
10/15/2005 -10/18/2005

SEMINOLE FOREST
10/21/2005 -10/23/2005

SUWANNEE RIDGE WEA
10/14/2005 - 10/16/2005
10/28/2005 - 10/30/2005
11/4/2005 - 11/6/2005
12/16/2005 - 12/18/2005

THREE LAKES
11/4/2005 - 11/6/2005



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How can YOU support the efforts of the
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association?

Become a member of the FDOA!

Your assistance is valued and truly appreciated!!
When you become a member of the FDOA, you
not only support the programs mentioned in this
newsletter, but you *ensure their
continued success and growth.*

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.FDOA.ORG

Membership Application

Yes, I want to ensure that FDOA's
programs continue! Please accept my
support at the following annual dues
membership level:

- \$20.00 Individual
- \$50.00 Family
- \$100.00 Not-for-Profit
- \$200.00 Business
- \$1,000.00 Patron
- \$2,500.00 Trustee
- Please accept my additional
donation of \$_____.

FDOA is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit
organization and gratefully
accepts donations and in-kind
gifts. All contributions are tax
deductible.

Name _____
Organization _____
Address 1 _____
Address 2 _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____
Work Phone _____
Cell Phone _____
E-mail _____

Please indicate any areas in
which you would be willing to
help.

- Marketing / Promotion
- Fund Raising
- Event Planning
- Finance / Accounting
- Computer Applications /
Web Development
- Musician
- On-site assistance at functions
- Other _____

Please mail your membership
application to:

FDOA
2213 Tallahassee Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32309