



Orange Blossom Special 15th Annual International Star Party

February 25 to March 1, 2008

The Orange Blossom Special Annual International Star Party 2009 (OBS), hosted by the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club, Inc. (SPAC, Inc.), will be held at the Withlacoochee River County Park in Dade City, Florida (northeast of Tampa). The many amenities include darker skies, 30 acre activity field for camping and viewing (however there is limited electricity and water hookups), restrooms near picnic/playground areas (port-o-lets and portable showers will be on the activity field), room to roam, 1.7 mile paved multi purpose trail, 13 miles of hiking trails, 40' observation tower, 3 wooden boardwalks, 2 playground areas for the kids, and river access for canoeing and kayaking (bring your own boat). Fishing is permitted by boat or along the riverbank. Persons 16 years of age and older must have a valid Florida fishing license. The agenda for the star party along with deep sky and solar observing includes lectures, mirror lab demonstrations, our popular telescope tour, a group hike in the park trail, Hee-Haw Hayride, Orbiting Music Jam Session, food cooked on site, great door prizes, a telescope raffle, and much more.

All attendees must be pre-registered (**no walk-ins**) whether they plan for one day or the full event. The \$50.00 per person Registration Fee is all-inclusive for the 4 days (except meals and drinks). Like last year there is a spouse discount if both attends this star party (spouse price will be \$30.00 – 1 discount per family). The star party will begin on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 11:00 AM and will end Sunday, March 1, 2009 at noon. You need to register by January 17, 2009. If not, late fees will be applied for registrations received between January 18, 2009 and February 7, 2009. **Registrations will not be accepted after a February 7, 2009 postmark.** A confirmation card will be emailed to you. If there is no email address then it will be snail mailed. Your Camping Packet is to be picked up at the registration tent upon your arrival to the OBS. Items included in the pack are: OBS Agenda, park information and rules, a map of the campgrounds showing your assigned site, your name badge and your vehicle ID tag. There will be no refunds after January 17, 2009. Any refunds will have a \$10.00 service charge.

We will make every effort possible to honor special requests of preferred campsites. Those requests must be made early. There is unlimited space for dry camping. Although there is electric (20 & 30 amp) and water available on the field, hookups will be on a first come basis. The water hookups are very limited so all RV'ers should come prepared for dry camping, and bring along a "Y" splitter to share the water hookup. We believe we can accommodate all requests for electric, although some will require using 20amp service. You should bring a 30/50 to 20amp adapter for this purpose. The 20 amp connections should use some good common sense on the power usage to eliminate the "breaker popper" syndrome. There is no dump station on site but if necessary, for a fee, arrangements can be made for a pump-out.

The map with directions to Withlacoochee River County Park is on the other side of this information sheet as well as the menu and our club websites. This page is for you to keep for your reference. The registration and release form **must be filled out completely**. Please type or print legibly that information & sign the release form. Mail both forms and your check to us at the address below. A membership form is also attached for a new or renewal membership, however you do not need to be a club member to attend the OBS.

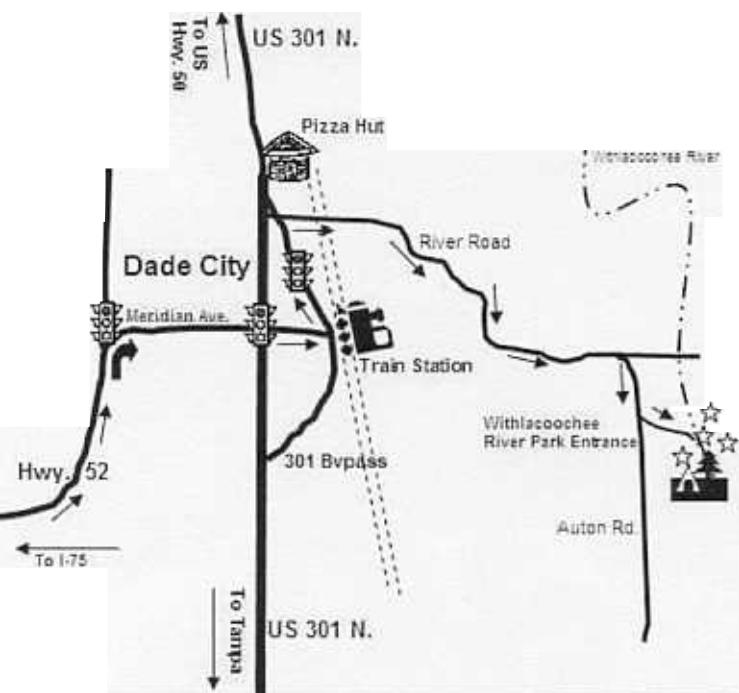
For more information contact OBS Star Party Chairpersons:

Dennis & Ellen Farr
19309 Eastbrook
Odessa, FL 33556

Phone: (813) 792-0721

Email: dnefarr@msn.com

Map to Withlacoochee River County Park, Direction info, Club Websites, & Menu



For directions to the Withlacoochee River County Park from where you live, go to Rand McNally Maps or MapQuest on the Web at:

<http://www.randmcnally.com>

<http://www.mapquest.com>

For more information about the Orange Blossom Special Star Party or the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club, check these web sites out:

www.StPeteAstronomyClub.org

www.telescopelab.com

<http://home1.gte.net/hoffmanc/index.html>

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Ms. O's Grill-On-Wheels Menu

BREAKFAST

You will need to bring your own breakfast food.

There will be free coffee at breakfast and at night, however if you want coffee during the day it may be purchased at the Grill-On-Wheels.

LUNCH

- Indian Taco - \$5.00
- Walking Taco - \$5.00
- 100% Buffalo Burger - \$4.00
- add cheese - \$0.50
- Cheeseburger - \$3.00
- Hamburger - \$2.50
- Chili Chez Dog - \$2.50
- Fry Dog - \$2.50
- Hot Dog \$1.00
- Fruit Filled Fry Bread - \$4.00
- Fry Bread \$3.00
- Garden Salad - \$ 3.50
- Chili Cheese Fry - \$3.00
- Cheese Fry - \$ 2.50
- French Fry - \$ 2.00
- Nachos & Cheese - \$2.50
- Pickle - \$0.75
- Chips - \$0.50
- Drinks - \$1.00 each
(Soda, water, coffee, hot chocolate, tea, lemonade)
- Sports Drink - \$2.00 each
- Cup with Ice \$1.00

(sales tax included)

DATE

Thursday
2/26/09

Friday
2/27/09

Saturday
2/28/09

SUPPER

- Pulled Bar-B-Que Beef or Pork
 - Baked Beans
 - Cole Slaw
 - Applesauce
 - Iced Tea or Soda
- \$6.00

- Spaghetti & Meatballs
 - Tossed Salad
 - Garlic Bread
 - Mixed Fruit
 - Iced Tea or Soda
- \$6.00

- Open Face Beef
 - Mashed Potatoes
 - Gravy Topping
 - Corn
 - Pudding
 - Iced Tea or Soda
- \$6.00

SUNDAY, March 1, 2009: Time to head for home. Have a safe trip home! See you next year! ☺