



DECEMBER 4TH-6TH, 2026

NEWFOUNDLAND RESCUE OF FLORIDA



**33rd Annual Newfoundland Club of Florida &
Newfoundland Rescue of Florida
Celebration Weekend
December 4 – 6, 2026**

The Newfoundland Club of Florida (NEWFFLA) and Newfoundland Rescue of Florida (NRF), have planned a wonderful Newfie Weekend you will not want to miss! Join us in Ocala at the Greater Ocala Dog Club as we celebrate the Newfoundland breed and raise funds for the Newfoundland Rescue of Florida. All of the details and registration information are enclosed.

This year's activities will include:

- Membership Meeting and Pizza Party.
- Educational seminars
- Fun and Games for dogs and hoomans
- A special blessing and remembrance ceremony
- A Silent Auction.
- A relaxing dinner followed by a Fine Arts Auction that you don't want to miss.

Using the power of the 501(c)3 charity designation, we worked hard with our vendors to secure discounts and keep costs down. This year's main sources of income will be the Silent Auction, Fine Arts Auction and a very special T-shirt Quilt.

We recommend making your hotel reservations as soon as possible.

We look forward to seeing you and your Newfs at the Celebration!

GENERAL DETAILS

Location: All activities will take place at the Greater Ocala Dog Club, 10205 NW Gainesville Rd, Ocala, FL 34482. **Dogs are welcome at ALL events, including the dinner and auction.**

RV and Hotel Options: We have two great options for this year's event. The first keeps you on site, and the other is a standard hotel option just 20 minutes away.

RV Rental: - We have a great opportunity to rent campers from Jolly Rogers Recreational Rentals to stay right there on the property the entire time. You can also bring your own camper or RV and pay for hookups. Jolly Rogers Rentals also offers golf cart rentals, so you don't have to walk as many steps since the property is fairly large.

Rental Pricing – Jolly Rogers Recreation Rentals

- \$420 for Friday and Saturday nights
- Optional linens and towels are a \$50 charge, or bring your own.
- Pet fee is \$50/weekend
- Site fee (hookups) is \$55/flat fee (payable separately to the Greater Ocala Dog Club)

To reserve, call or text Drew Rogers at 352-871-5598. He will need to know how many people and dogs so he can plan the size in advance. A 20% deposit is required when making the reservation, with the balance due by the evening before arrival. They accept Zelle, Venmo, PayPal, or credit card.

To Bring Your Own Camper/RV

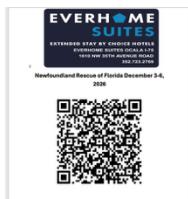
- Site fee (hookups) is \$55/flat fee (payable separately to the Greater Ocala Dog Club)
- Contact Sandy Miller in advance so she can direct you to the right person at GODC to reserve your spot.

Golf Cart Rental - A four-seater golf cart is available for rent on Friday and Saturday for \$120.

Hotel - We have secured the Everhome Suites Extended Stay By Choice Hotels at 1610 NW 35th Ave Rd., Ocala, FL 34475. The hotel is a 15-20 min drive from the Greater Ocala Dog Club. Pricing is \$99/per night for both Standard Double Queen Suites or Standard King Suites.

There is a flat pet fee of \$30/weekend. **There is no pet limit.** Just let them know you will have a pet. The hotel has an elevator so you won't need a first-floor booking. The grounds are great for the pups to have plenty of space, and the hotel is very pet-friendly. They can go anywhere with you.

When you call the hotel (352-723-2769), please let them know you are in the block for the Newfoundland Rescue of Florida so they can give you the correct rate. The deadline to reserve a room at this rate is November 1, 2026. If you need to cancel the reservation, notify the hotel at least 48 hours in advance to avoid being charged. The hotel will use a credit card to reserve your room. Please clean up after your pet, as always.



Link for reservations:

[Newfoundland Rescue of Florida-Everhome Suites, Ocala](#)

For everyone using the link to reserve your room, **please edit the dates to match your needs.**

Registration and Deadline: To help us collect the most accurate ordering information, please use one of the two online registration options: [Register and Pay Online](#) or [Register and Mail Check](#). You can also use these forms to order t-shirts, raffle tickets or make a donation. If, for any reason, you choose not to use the online options, print the registration forms at the back of this packet and mail them directly to Newfoundland Rescue of Florida, 5899 White Sands Road, Keystone Heights, FL 32656. We must receive registration by November 1, 2026. The Fun Weekend packet is also available on our [website](#).

Registration Fee: Unfortunately, we need to increase the registration fee this year to \$20 per person, with a maximum of \$80 for a family. We use donated gift cards as much as possible to purchase plates, cups, napkins, water, soda, etc., but we still have expenses such as the event fee, porta-potties, tables/chairs, banners, angels, rescue ribbons, welcome bags, and ice. Thank you for being so understanding.

All weekend attendees must register.

Hospitality Area: One section of the large pavilion will be available for you to pick up your welcome bags, get water for you and your dogs, purchase raffle tickets, socialize with fellow participants, or relax.

Silent Auction: To limit the volunteers needed in a hospitality room, we will have a Silent Auction this year. Each auction item will have a clipboard with a suggested opening bid and increments. Participants will write their bid on the next available line. The winner of the item will be the last bidder on each sheet. **Donated items can include (but are not limited to):** dog toys, dog treats (Non-perishable), bibs/drool towels, small gift baskets, household items (soap, candles, etc.), leashes, collars, grooming accessories, Newfie merchandise, gift cards (restaurants, pet stores, etc.), books and T-shirts—group small items into gift baskets worth \$30 or more. Please limit heavily used items.

Bring these items with you Friday night or Saturday morning. The auction will run from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm on Saturday only. If you can't attend but want to donate items, contact [Karen Ellis](#) at 941-504-3807.

Winners can pick up their items after 4:30 pm on Saturday.



T-shirts: This year's shirt, featured on the packet cover, will be printed on the front. We are offering two colors: Stone Blue and Pistachio. Please note that Pistachio does not come in 4XL or 5XL. To keep the same price as last year we elected to use Gildan 3000 instead of Gildan 5000. Shirt sizing charts are on the order forms.

Men's & Women's Shirts(XS-XL):	\$15.00
Men's & Women's Shirts (2XL – 5XL)	\$18.00
Youth Shirts (XS-XL)	\$12.00

You can order T-shirts without registering for the weekend. Use either the [Register and Pay Online](#) or [Register Online and Mail Check](#) options. Make sure to include the mailing fee when you order.

Breakfast: Since the hotel does not supply breakfast, we have asked our caterer, Von & The Girls, to be available from 8:00 – 9:00 am at the GODC. They will be serving:

Ultimate Breakfast Platter – 3-bacon, 2-sausages, 2-eggs, grits, hash browns & toast	\$12.00
Breakfast Sampler – 2-bacon or sausage, 1-egg & toast	\$ 7.50
Breakfast Sandwiches – Sausage/Egg/Cheese or Bacon/Egg/Cheese	\$ 5.00

The cost will be at your expense.

Lunch and Blessing of the Newfs: A picnic lunch of a sub, chips, a cookie, and a drink will be held on the lawn at Greater Ocala Dog Club. Lunch will be provided by Von & Girls food truck and must be reserved in advance. The box lunch includes an 8" sub with lettuce, onion, tomatoes, and cheese. Condiments (mayo and mustard) will be on the side. **We can accommodate special dietary needs in advance. Please email editor@newffla.com with your special requests.**

Immediately following lunch, we will have the Annual Blessing of the Newfs and Remembrance Ceremony. We are honored to have Pastor Art Wuertz at Joy Lutheran Church presiding over our Blessing of the Newfs. If you would like to have your Newf remembered by name, please complete that section of the registration form. Please bring a chair or blanket if you would like something to sit on, as none are provided.

Dinner and Fine Arts Auction: Our dinner and Fine Arts Auction will be held in the pavilion at Greater Ocala Dog Club. The menu will be:

Appetizers – Cheese, Crackers, Veggies, Fruit
Baked Chicken
Roast Beef
Mashed Potatoes
Mac & Cheese
Garden Salad
Green beans
Dinner rolls
Gravy on the side.

All dinners must be reserved in advance. **We can accommodate special dietary needs in advance. Please email editor@newffla.com with your special requests.**

Desserts: Share your favorite Holiday Sweets with all of us. This could be cookies, pastries, fudge, pies, cakes, candies...the sky's the limit. Don't forget to bring a copy of the recipe for people to take pictures of so they can make them for their family. Please sign up for either Friday or Saturday Night.

The fun begins when our favorite auctioneers, Lew and Jeff (they're back), call for an opening bid. We can accept cash, checks, and credit cards.

Please donate Auction items! Items can include: large gift baskets, Paintings/Artwork, Blankets, Clothing, Rare and/or Collectible Newfie Items, Dog Dryers, Dog Treat Baskets, Jewelry, Grooming Items, Ramps, and Special Wine or Spirits. Please bring these items and drop them off in the hospitality room. If you can't attend but still want to donate, please get in touch with Karen Ellis at 941-504-3807 to arrange a pick-up.

Gift Cards: We also need Costco, BJ's, Sam's, Hobby Lobby, and Amazon Gift Cards in advance of the event to purchase supplies for the gift baskets, rescue bows, and signs, as well as soda, water, and snacks for dogs and hooman. Please send the gift cards to Sandy at 5899 White Sands Road, Keystone Heights, FL 32656.

A 501(c)(3) donation receipt will be available upon request for donations of cash or personal property in the value of \$250 or more.



Raffle: This year Krystle Stamps is making a quilt from old parade t-shirts. Tickets are \$10 each or \$50 for 6 tickets. We will draw the winning ticket during our Fine Arts Auction on Saturday night. You do not need to be present to win. We will ship the item to the winner. Thank you, Krystle, for donating your time to making this collector's item.

(Pic is a teaser. The quilt is still in progress. Actual dimensions will be available soon.)

Sunday Morning: Please come back to GODC to help clean up beginning 8:00 am.

Newfs Only: This is a Newf only event.

Suggested Items to Bring – Chairs, blanket, your own water bowls for dogs, poop bags, drool towels, a crate, fan(s), and costumes for the contests. Your dog(s) DO NOT need to be in a crate. Only bring a crate if 1) your dog is comfortable in a crate and 2) you want to rest your dog during the day but still attend some events.

FUN DAY ACTIVITIES

Rescue Parade – Rescue dogs are why we come together every December. We have always honored them on Friday night with a special rescue ribbon, but why not also let them strut their stuff to kick off the Fun Day? Rescue dogs from all rescues (not just ours) are encouraged to join in on the fun. Make sure they are proudly wearing their ribbons.

Living Legends Parade – It's about time the legends get their time! What justifies a legend? Any dog 10 years or older. We will honor them Friday night with a special ribbon and encourage them to stroll along the parade route, if they care to. Honestly, they have earned the right to lie down and watch if they so choose.

Educational Seminars: There will be two – one hour educational sessions on Saturday. One in the morning from 9:30 – 10:30am and one in the afternoon from 1:30 – 2:30pm. The sessions are as follows:

Grooming – Jessica Chonko

Jessica and her mom, Kim, are Beach Bear Newfoundland breeders and have successfully bred and shown countless Champion and Grand Champion Newfoundlands, as well as very loved working and pet Newfoundlands.

The family got their first Newfoundland when Jessica was three years old. She has spent her life involved in the breed. She went to her first dog show at four years old, and started handling at age seven. At 12 years old, she surpassed her mom's ability to trim a Newfoundland and took over trimming their dogs. Jessica took every opportunity to observe and learn from anyone she could, and continues to pick up different tricks and techniques to make each dog look its best. She loves sharing the knowledge she has gathered over 30-plus years with Newfoundlands.

Show trims are not one-size-fits-all. A poorly trimmed dog can make a fantastic dog look like a poorly bred representation of the breed. Nothing makes her happier than watching how a proper trim brings out the beauty of a good dog.

What Jessica will cover:

- Grooming Tools & Equipment
- Bathing Basics
- Drying Techniques
- Line Combing & Dematting
- Products & Equipment Overview

Therapy – Jeff Arent and Bruce Meligan

Jeff Arent has been involved in Therapy Dog work for 14 years and, a year ago, became an ATD Tester Observer (TO). He has two of his Newfoundlands as therapy dogs: Gunther and now Breezy. Their visits have included Memory Care, Assisted Living, Hospital, Children, Special Needs Children, a Library reading program, Hospice, Homeless Veterans, and now Melbourne Airport. Bruce Meligan has three therapy dogs: Ransome with 5 years' experience, Maple, 2 years, and Dallas, recently certified.

Together they will focus on:

- What makes a dog a good candidate for therapy work and the difference between therapy dogs, service dogs, and emotional support dogs.
- Where therapy dogs are welcome and strategies and protocols for visiting with your dog. Key elements include: Following ATD rules (2-foot separation and no pup kisses), handling your dog safely, your dog's willingness to be social, and having the right gear and being properly groomed (for both dog and human.)

- The steps to become a certified Therapy Dog Team, a Moc evaluation, and the key focus to be successful using the guidelines on the Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD) website. <https://www.therapydogs.com/>
 - Finding a tester Observer in your area.
 - Completing a background check.
 - How to download the paperwork package for the TO.
 - Meeting with the TO.
 - How to submit your paperwork and fee to be certified and receive your insurance.

It is all about providing comfort and having fun. Your job is to keep your dog safe. Watch for tails and paws in danger, and watch out for food and medication on the floor. You must log your visits with ATD and go on one every three months to stay current, or you will be required to retest.

Trick Dog – Jennifer Arent

All of our dogs have a trick or two up their sleeves. Teach them a couple more, and they can earn a Trick Dog Novice title. Jennifer Arent has been training her own dogs for 20 years, from obedience to tricks and drafts to water. She has taken her hands-on knowledge to teaching others and administering Canine Good Citizen (CGC) and Trick Testing.

Teaching a dog a new trick takes practice and treats. That's it! Jennifer will review tricks on the AKC Trick Dog Novice test (link below) and help you teach your dog to crawl, paws up, jump, throw a small hoop, shake hands, and spin in a circle, to name just a few.

If your dog has already passed the CGC test, they only need to complete 5 tricks to obtain their Trick Dog Novice title. If they haven't passed CGC yet, they will need to perform ten tricks. Note: Your dog must be AKC- or PAL-registered to obtain a Trick Dog Novice title. https://images.akc.org/pdf/trick_dog_novice.pdf

Space is limited in the grooming and trick dog sessions, so that it will be first-come, first-served on the day of the event. If you don't make the morning session, there will be time in the afternoon session.

Fun and Games – Throughout the day, you and your dog can join individual and group games, or not. It's totally up to you and your dog.

An obstacle course will be available throughout the day. Easy obstacles such as jumps, short tunnel type obstacles, sit and down platforms, and figure 8 will test both dog and human agility. Then try the Rally course. At each stop throughout the course, a sign will tell you what to ask your dog to do. Examples: Sit, turn around, down... Of course, you can use as many treats as you want to get through the course.

The group games will include, musical Hulu loops, Egg and Spoon Race and Find the Treat. End your time with your dog by allowing them to make you an ornament.

Costume and Waggle Contest – We can't let the day go by without all our beautiful Newfies showing off their favorite costume and their Newfie waggle. You know the "Newfie swagger" that gets people's attention. The theme of the costume contest is, of course, "Fun in the Sun!" Let's see those surfer dudes, beach bums, and beach goddesses have fun showing off while earning admiration from everyone there. Prizes will be awarded in both the Costume and Waggle categories

Photo Opportunity – After the Costume and Waggle Contest take your dog to the open "Photo Booth" to create a cherished memory from the weekend.

Annual Membership Meeting Notice

The Newfoundland Club of Florida, Inc. invites you to attend our Annual Meeting.

Date: Friday, December 4, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Greater Ocala Dog Club
10205 NW Gainesville Rd
Ocala, FL 34482

The Newfoundland Club of Florida, Inc. invites you to attend our General Meeting on Friday, December 4, 2026, at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Greater Ocala Dog Club in Ocala.

Please join us for a Pizza Party beginning at 6:30 PM prior to the 7:00 PM General Membership meeting. The party is included in your registration fee. All members and guests are welcome to attend.

Tentative Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Acknowledgements
4. Treasurer's Report – NEWFFLA & NRF
5. Committee Report
 - a. Membership
 - b. Working Dog
 - c. Rescue
6. President's Report
7. Nominations for Board positions for the 2027-2029 term.
8. Fun Day Logistics – Sandy Miller
9. Open Discussion
10. Adjournment

Schedule

Friday, December 4, 2026

- 3:00 – 6:00 pm Registration
- 6:30 pm Pizza Party (Pavilion)
- 7:00 pm General Membership Meeting (Pavilion)

Saturday, December 5, 2026



— Benefiting —
NEWFOUNDLAND RESCUE OF FLORIDA

Three days of Newfie fun, friendship and making a difference! ♥

DECEMBER 4TH–6TH, 2026
NEWFOUNDLAND RESCUE OF FLORIDA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2026

Greater Ocala Dog Club

8:00 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast Hour	🐾
9:00 – 9:15 AM	Rescue Parade	🐾
9:15 – 9:30 AM	Living Legends Showcase	🐾
9:30 – 10:30 AM	Education Seminars & Creative Activity	🐾
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Newfie Fun & Games	🐾
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch, Blessing of the Animals & Rainbow Bridge Memorial	🐾
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Group Photo	🐾
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Educational Seminars & Creative Activity	🐾
2:30 – 3:00 PM	Costume Contest & Waggle Contest	🐾
3:00 – 4:00 PM	Newfie Fun & Games	🐾
4:00 PM	Break	🐾
6:30 PM	Dinner and Fine Arts Auction	🐾



Schedule subject to change. Additional activities and details to be announced. ♥

Thank you
TO OUR AMAZING SUPPORTERS!
We are excited to announce we have incredible companies supporting our event and the dogs!
Details coming soon. ♥

If you're interested in helping sponsor, please contact
President@newfoundlandrescuefl.org

Saturday, December 5, 2026

- 4:00 – 4:30pm Pay for Silent Auction Wins

Sunday, December 6, 2026

- 8:00 – 11:00 am Breakdown at GODC

Registration Form

Deadline is November 1, 2026

First Name		Last Name	
Street			
City		State	Zip
Phone:		Email:	
Guests included in Registration			
Name		Name	
Name		Name	
Name		Name	

Total for registration (\$20/each up to 4 people (max \$80.00) Registration does not include a t-shirt. _____

How many people will be attending the Friday Night Pizza Party? (free) _____

How many Newfs will you be bringing to the Fun Day? _____

List the names and ages of any rescued Newfs attending. We will be honoring them during our Annual Meeting on Friday night and allowing them to parade on Saturday morning.

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

List the names and ages of any Living Legend Newfs (age 10+) attending. We will be honoring them during our Annual Meeting on Friday night and if they're able, allowing them to parade on Saturday morning.

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| 1. | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

Has your dog earned any titles from December 1, 2025, to the present? If so, we want to honor you both at the Annual Meeting on Friday night. Please provide their Call Name, Registered Name, Owned by and Titles earned with dates. (Use back of page for additional titles.)

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| 1. | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

Name(s) of Newfs, who have crossed the "Rainbow Bridge" in the last 12 months, to be remembered at the Blessing. Please include the color of your Newf(s) and if you wish, a short statement to be read at the Blessing.

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

T- Shirt and Raffle Order Form

	Size			Color/Quantity		Total Quantity	Cost	Total
Adult Short Sleeve		Chest Size	Shirt Length	Stone Blue	Pistachio			
	XS	30 - 32"	27"				\$15.00	
	S	36 - 37"	28"				\$15.00	
	M	38 - 40"	29"				\$15.00	
	L	42 - 44"	30"				\$15.00	
	XL	46 - 48"	31"				\$15.00	
	2XL	50 - 52"	32"				\$18.00	
	3XL	54 - 56"	33"				\$18.00	
	4XL	58 - 60"	34"		N/A		\$18.00	
	5XL	62 - 64"	35"		N/A		\$18.00	
Youth								
	XS	21 - 22 1/4"	21"				\$12.00	
	S	23 3/4 - 27"	22 1/2"				\$12.00	
	M	27 1/2 - 28 1/2"	24"				\$12.00	
	L	30 1/2 - 32"	25"				\$12.00	
	XL	33 1/2 - 35"	26 1/2"				\$12.00	
Parade Shirt Quilt (If purchasing 5, you will get the 6 th free							\$10.00	
Postage (If you wish us to mail to you)						1-2 Items	\$12.90	
						3+ Items	\$15.00	
						Total		

Measure under the arm and around the fullest part of the chest with arms down, keeping tape horizontal.



Picnic Lunch on Saturday

This year, we will be getting box lunches from Von & The Girls caterers. Lunches will include an 8" sub, chips, and a cookie. Sandwiches will have lettuce, tomato, onions cheese, and condiments **are on the side**. Kid's lunches will include a 4" sub. We will have bottled water and soda available to drink. Please mark quantity next to sandwich. Please indicate any special dietary requirements (i.e. no tomato...)

Adult Lunches	Bread	Special Dietary Needs	Quantity	Cost	Total
Ham	White/Wheat			\$12.00	
Turkey	White/Wheat			\$12.00	
Roast Beef	White/Wheat			\$12.00	
Veggie	White/Wheat			\$12.00	
Kids Lunches					
Ham	White/Wheat			\$10.00	
Turkey	White/Wheat			\$10.00	
Roast Beef	White/Wheat			\$10.00	
Veggie	White/Wheat			\$10.00	
Total					

Dinner and Fine Arts Auction

The dinner and fine arts auction will be held at the Greater Ocala Dog Club. Appetizers will kick off the evening followed by a Down Home Meal (see menu under the General Information.) **Please advise if there are any special dietary needs such as No Dairy, No Meat, or Gluten Free.**

The auction will begin immediately following dinner. **Please join us, even if you don't wish to purchase dinner. The auction is the biggest fundraiser of the year for our rescue.**

	Quantity	Cost	Total
Dinner		\$25.00	
Special Dietary Needs:			

	Yes/No	For Friday Night	For Saturday Night
Are you bringing a dessert item to share?			

	Hotel	RV	Own RV	@ Home
What will be your accommodations				

	Grooming	Therapy	Trick
What educational seminar are you most interested in? (select 2)			

Volunteer Form

Please consider helping us throughout the weekend. All volunteer opportunities will take place at the Greater Ocala Dog Club.

Set-up (Friday Morning): Create welcome bags, set up tables in hospitality, set up obstacle and rally course, set up silent auction room.

Friday	9:00 am – until	
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Dinner Prep (Friday Evening): Fill coolers, set tables and chairs, pick up pizzas, and create charcuterie table.

Friday	5:30 – 6:30 pm	
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Registration

Friday	3:00 – 6:00 pm (Registration)	
Saturday	8:00 – 9:00 am (Registration)	

Dinner/Auction Setup

Saturday	4:30 – 5:30 pm	
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Event Tear Down and Clean-up - Tear down all the activities, help load cars and make sure we leave the facility the way we found it. The more the merrier.

Sunday	8:00 am – until	
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DEADLINE FOR ALL FORMS AND PAYMENT IS NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Preferred Registration Method

The two online registration options:

[Register and Pay Online](#)

[Register Online and Mail Check](#)

Optional Method

If you choose not to use the online methods, complete the registration forms in this packet and mail with a check payable to Newfoundland Rescue of Florida to Newfoundland Rescue of Florida, Inc., 5899 White Sands Road, Keystone Heights, FL 32656.

Please text Sandy Miller at (904) 813-5362 to let her know to be on the lookout for your registration.

	Total
Registration Total (\$20/pp Max \$80.00)	
Shirt /Raffle/Postage	
Lunch Total	
Dinner Total	
Donation to Rescue	
Grand Total	

Please confirm all your selections and addition before sending in the form.

For more information about the Celebration Weekend send an email to editor@newffla.com

Support our Sponsors:

