



“Tourism Buzz!”

(From The Clay County Tourism Bug)

(Sponsored by Ash Tisdelle VW)



**By: Eve Szymanski: Director of Tourism & Film Development Division
Clay County Chamber of Commerce**

September, 2005

The **Southern Monster Truck Showdown** happens September 16th through the 18th, so it could be happening right now, depending on when you read this! In any case, it is imminent at the Clay County Fairgrounds. This is the first time they have been to Clay County! We have tickets at the Chamber Office. For more info, go to www.southernmonstertruckshowdown.com.



Gun Slinger is just one of the big guys from the Southern Monster Truck Showdown!



Ms. Jean Wilson of the Northeast FL Scots won the Aug. Bug Out Prize!

We have a winner! Ms. Jean Wilson of the North Florida Scottish Games & Festival had seen the Bug at the August meeting at Cracker Barrel. We held the drawing for the first \$100 US Savings Bond at the Mercury Moon After Hours Event on August 16th! **The Great Clay County Bug Out** promotion is sponsored by our friends at **Bug Out Services, Inc.** Keep your eye out for our Clay County Tourism Bug sponsored by **Ash Tisdelle VW**. Fax 264-0070 or email: eszymanski@claychamber.com with the date, place & time you saw it, in order to get your name in the hat!

Enter Your Events! For our Clay County Tourism Partners and Planners, You can now submit your events directly to our website. Please go to www.claychamber.com and click on Community Events on the left hand sidebar column. That will take you to the calendar page. Then go to the upper right side and click on “Submit an Event”. It will then be read and approved and downloaded directly to the community calendar for the chamber and tourism. Call or email me if you have any questions or problems 904-394-7401 or eszymanski@claychamber.com

Summertime always brings out our equestrian partners (and visitors). The Clay County Fairgrounds will be hosting many clinics and shows from **North Florida Dressage**, and the **North Florida Hunters & Jumpers (NFHJA)**. You can still catch the rodeo action of the **Kenny Williams Memorial Roping** event coming up in the Cattleman’s Arena at the Fairgrounds.



Here we are sneaking the CC Tourism Bug into the Hunter Jumper Event. Some people will do anything for a great parking space! (How did we DO that!)



From Jumpers to Dressage, the horse shows at the Clay County Equestrian Center will entertain kids of any age.

The New First Coast Ham Jam is back in Clay County and looking better than ever! It is Florida's Official Bar B Q Cooking Contest and has a wonderful new home at Reynolds Park Yacht Center on the St. Johns River on November 3rd thru the 6th. The RPYC will be perfect for a carnival along the river and a special fenced in entertainment area for Lorrie Morgan and Tracy Lawrence, just two of the headliners for entertainment! There's ample parking and easy access to the event on Highway 16. The New First Coast Ham Jam is brought to us by Ham Jam Charities, Inc, a 501c3 organization. This year's charitable recipient will be the Dean Jones Family. Get ready for some country cookin' & fun!



A Carnival on the River is coming to the New Ham Jam at Reynolds Park Yacht Center (RPYC) in Green Cove Springs, Nov 3-6.



Live Entertainment like Lorrie Morgan & Tracy Lawrence will be at the New Ham Jam.

And you thought we were just big trucks & BarB Q! Not so! There are also several cultural events coming up in Clay County. Get out your PDA's and calendars so you don't miss the programs at the **Orange Park Community Theatre** starting on September 9th with "Monky Business" go to www.opct.org for the whole line up. And don't miss the start of the **Thrasher Horne Center of the Arts** on October 8th. The 2005-06 season holds a wonderful line up of Broadway to Gospel. Go to www.thcenter.org for more. We have the complete list with prices and seating at the Chamber. It goes something like this: **I Love You, You're Perfect, Juice Newton. The All-American Boys Chorus with Patsy Cline and Thumbelina will spend An Evening of Dance at the Little Moon Theatre. The Harlem Gospel Choir will Sing, Sing, Sing to Babes in Toyland. Thoroughly Modern Millie, Willy Wonka and Marcus Roberts are going to the Hubbard Street Dance. And the prices are the best literal "bang" for the buck you've ever seen! You're gonna love this place!**



CC Tourism attends Florida Motorcoach Appointment Show

The Florida Motorcoach Association held its Annual Appointment Show in Clearwater Florida on August 30th through September 1. Shown here is Eve Szymanski, Director of Tourism & Film Development for the Clay County Chamber of Commerce talking to Kat Feder with the American Coach Lines. Eve is finding out about Kat's bus groups that would be interested in coming to Clay County. Kat is learning about some of their wonderful events and attractions like the Orange Park Kennel Club, the Northeast Florida Scottish Highland Games or the famous, Clay County Agricultural Fair. Each supplier spends some quality time with each bus group organization, moving from table to table around the room. Then the entire group attends educational sessions, learning more about tour groups. Both suppliers and buyers felt it was time well spent.

See the calendar below for days and times. Go to www.claytourism.com, www.claychamber.org or call 394-7401 or email eszymanski@claychamber.com for more information.

August-September Calendar of Events:

9/16-18	Southern Monster Truck Showdown	CCFG
9/17	Dixie Plantation All Breed Hrse Shw	CCFG
9/23-25	Kenny Williams Memorial Roping	CCFG
9/9-10/1	Monky Business	OPCT (OP Comm. Thtre)
10/1	Clay Cnty Humane Society Bark in the Park	CCFG
10/1-2	1st Cst Hntr Jmpr Fall Harvest Horse Show	CCFG
10/8	Little Moon Theatre	THCA
10/7-9	N FL Hunter Jmpr Horse Show	CCFG
10/7-9	Revenge of the Invisible Man	OPCT
10/14-16	St. Catherine's Annual Bazaar	Orange Park
10/15-16	Town of Orange Park Fall Festival	Orange Park
10/18	Middleburg Community Block Party	Middleburg
10/21	I Love You, You're Perfect	THCA
10/21-23	FL Sun Cats Show	CCFG
10/29	N. FL Dressage Assn. Horse Show	CCFG
10/26-29	Florida Georgia Game	Alltel Stadium
10/28	Prescription: Murder	OPCT
10/29	N. FL Dressage Assn. Fall Series	CCFG
10/29	Soulfood Festival & Parade of Pride	GCS Vera Francis Hall Park
11/3-6	New First Coast Ham Jam	RPYC (Reynlds Park Yacht Cntr)

www.claytourism.com (Calendar of Events) for more!

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