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National Poetry Month

**Saturday
April 7, 2018
2:00 pm**

**Poet and Cowboy:
Doyle Rigdon**

"I am a sixth generation Floridian and a fifth generation cowhunter. I use the term "cowhunter" because, traditionally, that is what Florida cowboys were called. Although the term 'cowboy' is used today, we still commonly call cow work "cowhunting". I grew up listening to the stories my granddaddy and uncles told about cowhunting and breaking horses and it instilled in me the desire to follow in their footsteps.

I wrote my first poem at the age of 13, about how much better horses were than women, because they didn't give you any lip, and you could do more work with a horse. In high school I wrote poems trying to woo women, which although it usually didn't work, still got high praise.

I started writing cowboy poetry six years ago, and found I had the knack for it. I write cowboy poetry pretty much exclusively now."



Doyle has been all over the State of Florida entertaining with his poetry and stories of Florida's cattle country. Doyle was a featured cowboy poet at the 2010 National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, NV and was asked by Baxter Black to open Baxter's show in Elko that year. Doyle's poetry has been in print, online, and featured in two documentaries about Florida's unsung and long historied cattle culture.

Refreshments will be served