



## FLORIDA FOXTROTTER ASSOCIATION

**May 2018**  
**“HOT TO TROT”**

**Our Website is getting an update!** Anne Zimmer is updating and improving our website. It will be ready soon and will include our newsletters, photo gallery, detail on upcoming events, recaps of prior events, a classified section and easy links to informational sight.

## **FFTA MEMBERSHIP!**

Don't forget to renew your membership and if you have a friend, or friends, who like to trail ride, eat, and celebrate friendship please give them a membership form and ask them to join, or buy them a membership as a gift to get them introduced to this wonderful group. They don't even have to ride or own a gaited horse. We are an equal opportunity horse loving group. You can contact Nancy Chretien, Membership Chair, at [nachretien@yahoo.com](mailto:nachretien@yahoo.com) for more information. Member ship form is attached.

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### **2018 BOARD MEMBERS**

<b>President:</b>	Rebecca Morse	352-516-5685	<a href="mailto:imofsunnyblessedfarm@gmail.com">imofsunnyblessedfarm@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice President:</b>	Steve Nave	352-267-5120	<a href="mailto:steve.nave@thevillages.com">steve.nave@thevillages.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ann Hays	904-468-0081	<a href="mailto:hays5671@yahoo.com">hays5671@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Nancy Chretien	315-730-3471	<a href="mailto:nachretien@yahoo.com">nachretien@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Board</b>	Kathie Woodward	386-747-9014	<a href="mailto:southernrhythm@yahoo.com">southernrhythm@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Board:</b>	Marty Ratliff	727-946-7411	<a href="mailto:martyratliff@knology.net">martyratliff@knology.net</a>
<b>Board:</b>	Linda Balyeat	352-422-4876	no email

**Website:** [www.floridafoxtrotters.org](http://www.floridafoxtrotters.org)

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# CLASSIFIED

Ross Harper Training and Farrier Service!

Specializing in Missouri Foxtrotters but can handle all breeds. Now taking new clients 352-843-3427

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In Search of:

I'm looking for a SAFE, stocky, sturdy, NON spooky, smooth gaited, experienced trail horse, not over 15hh, in or near Florida. I prefer a MFT Gelding, around 10-14 yrs old, but will consider SSH or TWH. I'm trying to keep it under \$3,000. If you know of one, please email me at [foxtrottertm@gmail.com](mailto:foxtrottertm@gmail.com) or call/text to 904-501-2811. Thank you, Teresa Mikelson.



## WISHING YOU A HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kathie Woodward	May 8
Vicki Rabenou	May 22
Michael Colucci	May 26



Have you entered into the 2018 competition for the Carl Balyeat Trail Trotter Award? See the attached flyer for the Second Annual presentation! Sign up sheet for logging your 2018 miles is in this newsletter.

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# FLORIDA FOX TROTTER ASSOCIATION

The Florida Affiliate of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association

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## Membership Application/Renewal 2018

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Other Family Members Wishing to Join \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Other Family Members Wishing to Join \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Other Family Members Wishing to Join \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*NOTE: The newsletter is sent via email. Initial here if you prefer a hard copy \_\_\_\_\_.\*\*\*\*\*

Your specific interests: Clinics \_\_\_\_\_ Shows \_\_\_\_\_ Trail Riding \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Member of MFTHBA? Name \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ membership # \_\_\_\_\_

DUES: \_\_\_\_\_ Single Membership: \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership: \$25.00

Please make your checks payable to the Florida Fox Trotter Association. Thank you.

### Hold Harmless Release

For and in consideration of the activities, services and fees paid, Participant hereby does forever and finally release, remise, acquit, satisfy and forever discharge the Florida Fox Trotter Association (FFTA) of and from all manner of action and actions, cause and causes of action, suit, debts, dues, sums of money, bonds, billings, contracts, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, in law or in equity, which may arise for or against the FFTA for the activities of the Association. This document is meant to be a full and complete release from any and all liability that may arise from participating in the activities of the FFTA. This release is given freely and voluntarily by the Participant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed (include legal guardian under 18 years of age)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Other Family Member(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please submit this form and your membership fee to:

Florida Fox Trotter Association  
95260 Barabaras Place  
Fernandina Bch, FL 32034

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**Recap of:**

**Formation and Defensive Riding Clinic held April 14<sup>th</sup> at Suncoasts Equine Inc.**



Nine riders participated Saturday morning, April 14<sup>th</sup> in Formation riding at Suncoast Equine Inc instructed by Mark Newby and his assistant AJ. It was a fun way to ride with others learning coordination and synchronization, plus it improved our relationship with our horse. We were sloppy looking at first, but by the end of the session we had those sharp precision movements down pat!

Second part of the day was learning to defend ourselves if we are out on the trail by ourselves and come across a possible attacker. Of course, the first good rule is to never ride alone. But if you do ride alone and come across someone who makes you feel uneasy, Mark and AJ taught us ways to defend ourselves. Not only should you be aware of the type of equipment you use, but movements you can do with your horse and legs to avoid danger. If you run an attacker over with the horse, make sure the action is necessary and reasonable.



Mark Newby our Instructor



Suzy Owen using her horse to scare away a possible attacker



Suzy Owen and possible attacker AJ.



It was nice to step inside A/C for a bit of classroom information



A Little Obstacle training

**If you would like to host a trail ride, please see the guidelines enclosed.**

**Trail Ride Guidelines**

Host: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Ride \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Ride \_\_\_\_\_

Directions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check in time \_\_\_\_\_ Check in place \_\_\_\_\_

(check in place must check coggins and provide hold harmless form)

Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Ride out Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Return time: \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch time \_\_\_\_\_ Supplied \_\_\_\_\_ Bring your own \_\_\_\_\_

Place of lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Other activity \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_

## Group Trail Riding Manners



Are you a first time trail rider? Are you riding an inexperienced horse on the trail? Is the group riding out on a chilly morning? Does your horse sometime have an attitude toward other horses? Has your horse not been ridden often because you just have time to ride it now and again? Is your horse a high energy horse that is sometimes difficult to control? Not everyone has a “perfect horse” that has hundreds of miles of trail riding under its belt. What happens when we all get together to have a group trail ride? Our first and foremost desire is for everyone to have a safe ride. Here are a few suggestions to have every ride be a good experience. These suggestions may seem like basic logic, but they are quite important.

1. Make sure each trail ride includes a trail boss (who leads and who knows the trails), a drag rider (who brings up the rear), and that all riders have a map of the trails. No one passes the trail boss and no one is allowed behind the drag rider for safety reasons.
2. Don't assume that everyone is an experienced rider and that every horse is an experienced horse.
3. Ride your horse for several days prior to the trail ride so that you know how to handle the horse. Every time you ride your horse, have some form of groundwork that you do with it – 5 - 15 minutes. That will help the horse get rid of its excessive energy before you get on him. That will help the horse focus on its job and get rid of the silly behavior that often is experienced in the first 15 minutes of the ride.
4. The group should begin the ride at a slow speed and should not leave until EVERYONE is on his/her horse and is ready to go. Whenever a group takes off at a fast speed, the horses all get excited and it could be a recipe for disaster.
5. The group should be very aware of any problems any rider is having with a horse. Everyone needs to stop until that horse and rider are comfortable with continuing.
6. Do not ride too close to other horses. (Any horse that kicks should wear a red ribbon in its tail so that others are warned of this behavior.)
7. If necessary, divide the trail group into several smaller groups. Those who want to go fast and those who are okay with going slowly and “smelling the roses along the way.”

8. Group needs to help those who are inexperienced on the trails. (For example, if a horse is reluctant to cross water, take the time to help them do it.) If the group needs to slow down, do it. Remember, safety is the first priority.
9. Although some riders do not like to wear helmets, it is the best practice for safe riding.

There are certainly other suggestions, but these are some to help us all enjoy a safe trail ride.

## **2018-2019** **Calendar of Events**

FFTA website <http://floridafoxtrotters.org/schedules.html>

### **Don't forget to carry your Coggins with you on the trails**

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|-------------------|---|
| <b>August 3-5</b> | <b>Straddle and Paddle at Suwannee Music Park, Live Oak<br/>Hosted by Rebecca Morse and Steve Nave<br/>See attached Flyer</b>   |
| <b>October 12</b> | <b>Halloween Campout at Spotted Dance Ranch in Brooksville<br/>Hosted by Rebecca Morse and Steve Nave<br/>Gateway to the Groom Horse Trails!<br/><a href="http://Spotteddanceranch.com">http://Spotteddanceranch.com</a><br/>If you want to reserve early, tell them you are with the FFTA.<br/>(dogs are welcome but must be on a leash at all times,<br/>they are very strict about this)<br/>More details in the next newsletter</b> |
| <b>November 3</b> | <b>Alafia Ride – hosted by Leslie Emery</b>   |
| <b>December</b>   | <b>Christmas Campout at Suwannee</b>  |

Send your pictures, articles or ads for our newsletter or website to  
Ann Hays (904-468-0081) [hays5671@yahoo.com](mailto:hays5671@yahoo.com)  
Zimmer (321-720-0841) [tzimmer@bellsouth.net](mailto:tzimmer@bellsouth.net) Website: [www.floridafoxtrotters.org](http://www.floridafoxtrotters.org)