



FLORIDA FOXTROTTER ASSOCIATION

April 2019
“HOT TO TROT”



Happy Easter



The FFTA Welcomes new and returning members

We would like to Welcome some new members to our group.

Judy Bell- Florahome, FL

David Ditchfield, Hernando, FL

Jerry and Selena Ferg, Keystone Heights, FL

Katherine (Darlington) Knotts, James Knotts, Stephanie Knotts, Weeki
Watchee, FL

Bobbye McGarry, Ocala, FL

Cheryl Pearson, Ocala, FL

If you know any of these members, please contact them and welcome them to join you for an upcoming FFTA event. If you live near any of these members, please contact them and introduce yourselves and also welcome them to the club or to get together on your own. We can always use more riding buddies, horse loving buddies, and friends to share food and laughs with around a camper, a cabin, or a campfire.

We look forward to meeting you in person and sharing the trails and rings with you.

Nancy Chretien- Membership Chair

Note:

Please excuse the lack of updates and corrections to the membership roster. I am new to this job and my technical skills do not come close to those of Ann Hays. I am working on it and hope to have it corrected by early April. If you have been left off the roster or need to have some information corrected on your entry please contact me, Nancy Chretien nachretien@yahoo.com and I will seriously try to fix it. (Notice I did not promise yet. Maybe in 6 more months. Thank you.)

2018 BOARD MEMBERS

President:	Pam Harrell	352-843-5315	littmarlin@aol.com
Vice President	Linda Balyeat	352-422-4876	no email
Secretary:	Peggy Litt	352-817-2862	littmarlin@aol.com
Treasurer:	Nancy Chretien	315-730-3471	nachretien@yahoo.com
Board:	Marty Ratliff	727-946-7411	martyratliff@knology.net
Board:	Sue Touchston	727-326-2283	suemarie3@msn.com
Board:	Tammy Heaton	813-436-3030	littlezoo44@yahoo.com

Website: www.floridafoxtrotters.org



Wishing you a Happy Birthday!

Cheryl Pearson	April 4
Linda Balyeat	April 5
Janet Margerison	April 20
Joan Fitzgibbons	April 25
Peggy Litt	April 27

The FFTA is batting 100%

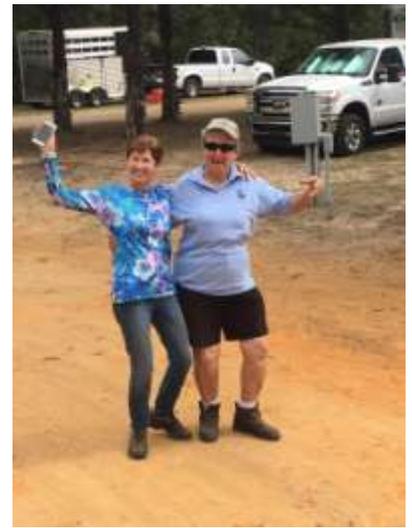
Submitted by Nancy Chretien



Spring is here and the baseball season has begun. The MLB has nothing on the FFTA when it comes to 100% participation and performance. The annual Parade of Nations Parade of Breeds was held in Ocala, on March 7. Jim and Kathie Woodward, once again, graciously represented the FFTA by presenting their Missouri Fox Trotting Horses to perfection. It was a beautiful day to see beautiful horses of many breeds from North and Central Florida being displayed for the enjoyment of the general public, and horse lovers in the area. Ocala officials are working hard to promote Ocala as the Horse Capital of the Nation. This was the third year the CEP has presented this parade honoring Horses and Horse performance athletes. Jim and Kathie have represented our Fox Trotter club for all 3 years, thus keeping our 100% participation average. The organizers know us by face and name and know they can count on the Missouri Fox trotting horse being represented every year. This event is still evolving and changing so some procedural "glitches" do occur. In spite of some delays Kathie wrote, "Lots of fun and a great time to see so many horses in our part of the state". I hope the CEP of Ocala continues to present this annual event. I know the Missouri Fox Trotting horse will continue to be there prancing along with the ribbons in their manes dancing in the breeze. They are always eye-catching. I would like to thank Jim and Kathie for their dedication, time and work. I would also like to thank all the members who attended the parade in support of our beloved horses and the FFTA. Jim and Kathie's friends from Michigan took these photos and reported that they really enjoyed the event.



The Gathering By Pam Harrell



On March 16th, 2019 we held our Annual FFTA Gathering at the Black Horse Resort Ranch in Umatilla. About 25 of us attended and fun was had by all as usual. Ross held the used tack auction which raised the club \$243.00 and there were 3 more memberships taken for an increase to the account of \$291. (\$3 extra dollars were donated by a couple of members). Linda Balyeat was in charge of this dinner which was catered by Gio's Deli and the food was wonderful and plentiful! We enjoyed home made lasagna, ziti, meatballs, rolls, antipasto and many desserts. Great choice Linda and thank you for all the work it takes to put a club dinner on like this!



FLORIDA FOX TROTTER ASSOCIATION

The Florida Affiliate of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association

Membership Application/Renewal 2019

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
c/o Nancy Chretien
2113 Jasper Way
The Villages, FL 32162**

Revised: December 2018

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.
