



FLORIDA FOXTROTTER ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2019
“HOT TO TROT”

FFTA MEMBERS, elections for the Board will be coming up within the next few months. Please consider running for an Officer or a Board member. If you are interested in a position, please contact Pam Harrell 352-843-5315 or Ann Hays 904-468-0081 asap. Ballots will go out in November newsletter. Please don't let this Association dissolve!

2018 BOARD MEMBERS

President:	Pam Harrell	352-843-5315	littmarlin@aol.com
Vice President	Linda Balyeat	352-422-4876	lindabalyeat@gmail.com
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!

Charles Cloninger
Steve Nave
Ed Cooksey

September 3
September 10
September 20

2019 Calendar of Events

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

- Sept 14** **Illuminations Horse Association Horse Show**
 At Debbie Glovers – this is a planned series of 4 shows
 Show Manager: Lexi Frederburg 727-858-5386
 Illuminationhorseassociation@yahoo.com
- October 26** **Halloween Event - Black Horse Ranch (see below for more information)**
- December 14** **Christmas event at the Suwannee**
 Hosted by Ann Hays, Judy Mruz and Nancy Chretien

 Contact at Suwannee for stall and camping reservations
 – Carol Walker 386-364-2962
 Cell 386-365-0070
- January 17** **Carl Balyeat Memorial ride**

Come on Y'all and celebrate Fall

That's right. Even though Hurricane Dorian is bearing down on us as I write this, we have something to look forward to- The Arrival of Fall and the beginning of camp and ride season. The FFTA is planning its first ride of the season, traditionally the "Halloween Ride Weekend" for October 25 - 27. The ride will take place at Black Horse Resort Ranch, SE Highway 42, Umatilla, FL 32784. Our host, JoAnn Cosgrove, is looking forward to having us stay with her that weekend. She has given us a special price because, to quote JoAnn, " I so enjoy having people here." The cost is \$25 a night for a 30 AMP hook up including electric, water, and sewer. 50 Amp hookup is just a few dollars more. Horses are \$15 a night for paddocks, and a bit more for stalls. Day riders are welcome to join us for free. (You can't beat that.) JoAnn has hosted this event in the past at her Fiddler's Green Location and she hosted the Gathering last March at Black Horse Ranch. We got positive feedback about the facility and the trails last spring. She has showers and a laundry available as well as a covered patio for dining and a lovely air-conditioned lounge with restrooms. She also has accommodations for riders who don't have living quarters. Reserve those early.

We plan to have some of our traditional events this year, as well as some new ones. Dust off your recipe boxes and find your favorite dessert that contains Apples or Pumpkin. Get your crock pots ready to help supply a belly filling dinner on Saturday night. Get your horses used to "creepy, scary things" in preparation for some fun and games, Halloween Style.

We will have a group trail ride Saturday morning, followed by a competition and costume contest in the afternoon, or take another trail ride. Participation is optional, but cheering and laughing are mandatory. Crock-pot and Chili dinner Saturday night with Apple or Pumpkin dessert competition.

You are very welcome to come on Friday and stay as long as you like to get in more riding and relaxing. I'm sure there will be people to ride with on Friday and Sunday.

The OZ Scavenger hunt (another group) will take place Saturday morning from 8 until about 10. They are a local group. If you prefer to try a scavenger hunt you are welcome to join them or you can ride out with the FFTA and friends.

We are still in need of a trail guide. I will check to see if any of JoAnn's regular seasonal campers will be there by then. They know the trails well and every winter they make more trails. (You do NOT want me as your trail guide. I get lost in a parking lot.)

SAVE THE DATE- OCTOBER 25,26,27. FFTA Fall/Halloween Ride. Black Horse Ranch Resort, Umatilla, FL

Contact JoAnn Cosgrove, for reservations. You can make them online at

www.Blackhorseresortranch.com email Blackhorseresort@gmail.com or 352-434-1204

JoAnn is a consummate hostess. She has outstanding accommodations for campers, horses, and for hosting dinners and special events. I look forward to seeing Y'All there. Nancy Chretien

More details will be included in the October FFTA newsletter. Now you can go back to eating your hurricane snacks.

Seeking Volunteers for Therapeutic Riding Program

Submitted by Nancy Chretien

Last month I wrote an article about a very special woman and her Therapeutic Riding Programs, Stirrups 'n Strides and Stirrups 'n Stripes. The Executive Director of this 501c3 group, Betty Gray, was very appreciative of my spreading the word about this amazing organization, but she asked me to share the credit with some of her dedicated staff members who people can contact if they would like to volunteer with the program in any way.

Stirrups 'n Strides is mainly housed on the farm in Citra, FL. The Volunteer Coordinator for the program at the farm is Karolina Wigall. You can contact her at 352-397-1521. The Program Director for the facility is Gail McDaniel. Her number is 941-809-3908.

Stirrups 'n Strides also includes a riding program for children with developmental challenges at the Hillcrest School located in Ocala. Diane Mathieson is the Program Director for the school program. The school program operates 5 days a week during the school year. They are also in need of volunteers to help the riders. Diane can be reached at 352-512-3692.

One further correction. Betty's husband's name is Wayne not Wade. (I really need new hearing aids.) He should not be overlooked as he is a vital part of the team supplying building skills, mechanical skills, grounds keeping skills, and a host of others wherever and whenever needed. This truly is a family operation and labor of love.

To find out more on Stirrups 'n Strides check out their website on www.stirrupsnstrides.com. It is truly worth the time to read it. To see what is currently happening at the facility like them on Facebook at Stirrups n Strides Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc.

Volunteers are always needed. You can give as much time as you can spare. It doesn't have to be a huge commitment. Some riders need 3 volunteers in order to participate. If you live in the area of Citra or Ocala please get more information and consider giving some of your time. They can also always use donations of money and equipment. Any amount helps.

As Kathy says, " It takes an army to make this program run." If you are interested please think about joining the Army. Thank you.

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**

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.

FOR SALE



Sugar



Billy

Sugar is the black horse and Billy is the sorrel. Sugar is 12 years old and we are asking \$6,500 for her because of her breeding. She is very sweet and friendly. Both horses are barefoot easy keepers. Shots and coggins are up to date and both are sound. Neither one bites, cribs, kicks. Billy is 16 years old and he is very smooth, we are asking \$3,800 for him because of his age. They both load into the trailer very well and stand quiet for the farrier. We have only used them for trail riding, but they are both athletic and could be trained for any discipline a new owner would like. Neal E Young, 969 Deming Dr, Winter Haven, FL 33880 Home: (863) 294-2742 Cell: (863) 651-5842

I hope you help give these lovely horses a new forever home.

Thank you