



FLORIDA FOXTROTTER ASSOCIATION

May 2020
“HOT TO TROT”

Hello to all our members who are still self-isolating and practicing social distancing (which is so necessary to help control the spread of the COVID-19 virus). The 20219 FFTA officers and board members have been busy transitioning the work of the FFTA to a new set of 2020 FFTA officers and board. Ann Hays, who has worked tirelessly over the past years to keep records and to write the Hot to Trot Newsletter, is stepping back and handing the reins to our new FFTA Secretary, Jan McDougald. We thank you, Ann, for all you have done!

Since we are in a situation unlike any other any of us have ever experienced, we are having to forgo our physical gatherings to enjoy our horses together. With that in mind, I thought that you might enjoy reading and learning a bit about our gaited horses, especially the Missouri Fox Trotter. In this issue, we will briefly explore what is meant by a horse being “gaited.” Of course, everyone who has ever ridden “non-gaited” horses for any period of time, knows the difference in the feel when riding one or the other. However, what is it that makes a horse “gaited” and what is the brief history of “gaited” horses?

To this end, I am including in this newsletter a one-page discussion regarding “gaited horses.” The materials in this newsletter are a part of a packet of materials we used in the 2016/2017 FFTA clinics “Recognizing the Gaits and Judging Gaited Horses” held at Glover’s Stables. When we get the opportunity comes to be together again, we can use some time to help folks identify the gaits their own horses. We hope that each of you has sent your MEMBERSHIP FORM/MONEY Teresa Mikelson, our treasurer, your 2020 dues (\$15 per person/\$25 per couple). Additionally, we would appreciate your taking time to fill out the SURVEY and return it to me. We would love to hear your input so that we can arrange enjoyable and affordable activities for future FFTA events.

Happy Trails

Kathie Woodward

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2020 BOARD MEMBERS

President:	Kathie Woodward	386-747-9014	southernrhythm@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jackie Peterson	651-775-6884	jackie13501@gmail.com
Secretary:	Jan McDougald	704-677*6010	jmaviatrix@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Teresa Mikelson	904-501-2811	foxtrottert@gmail.com
Board	Nancy Chretien	315-730-3471	nachretien@yahoo.com
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Website: www.floridafoxtrotters.org

FLORIDA FOX TROTTER ASSOCIATION

The Florida Affiliate of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association

Membership Application/Renewal 2020

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 Teresa Mikelson
1133 Coral Farms Road
Florahome, FL 32140
foxtrottert@gmail.com

Revised: March 2020

Calendar of Events

December 5

**The Christmas Gathering
At the Suwannee Music Park
(see flyer attached)**



THE GATHERING 2020

**Join us for the last and final Gathering of the Florida
Foxtrotter Association.**

December 5, 2020

at

The Suwannee Music Park

386-364-1683

www.Musicliveshere.com

Call for reservations and let them know you are with FFTA and you'll get a discount. **Hope you can come whether you are bringing a horse or not.**

Fee's are:

Stalls: \$15.00 per night per horse

Paddocks: \$30.00 per night
(2 horse per paddock)

Full hook up \$30.00 .00 per night

Cabin – one bedroom - \$110.00 per night

Cabin – two bedroom - \$140.00 per night

Primitive camping and cabins available, call directly for price

Golf cart rental – \$35.00 per day must call directly to general store
386-364-4841

**Please RSVP by November 29th to Ann Hays (904-468-0081) or
Hays5671@yahoo.com. We will need a head count .**

WHAT IS A GAITED HORSE?

Gaited horses encompass a wide variety of breeds of horses whose gaits are all 4-beat gaits. The resulting comfortable ride results from all four feet hitting the ground at separate times and at least one foot being on the ground at any given time. This produces an efficient gait because there is little energy wasted fighting gravity and freefall. The result is less impact on the joints. This is one reason gaited horses seem to have extraordinary natural stamina. While these gaits are natural from birth (by genetics and resulting conformation), training these horses focuses on consistency and a specific style desired by a particular breed.

The gaits are defined as diagonal or lateral depending upon the footfall pattern. The gait is diagonal if the horse moves the front foot and then the rear foot on the opposite side, then the front foot and the rear foot on the other diagonal. The gait is lateral if the horse moves the front foot and then the rear foot on same side, then the front foot and the rear foot on the other side.

While we think of gaited horses as a recent phenomenon, in fact, there are references of gaited horses as far back as 6000 B.C. in Indo-Iranian and Celtic tribes. Historical references indicate that Celts, riding gaited horses, migrated to Europe around 2000 B.C. Later, in 1172 A.D. the Normans invaded Ireland bringing with them larger horses that were bred to the smaller horses of the Celts. This cross added size to the smaller Celtic horses and gave rise to larger gaited horses. During the Middle Ages in England, some people rode a small gaited horse called a Palfrey. These horses were referred to in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. Palfreys were "genteel" persons' horses. Only poor peasants rode "bone shakers," or hard trotting horses. Dating back to the late 1400's the Spanish brought the Spanish Barb and the Spanish Jennets to the New World. The American gaited horse can be traced back to the early 1600's. These horses, originally Galloway and Hobbies, were brought to America from Ireland and Scotland. Early settlers were drawn to the smooth ride of the gaited horse. Throughout the history of America, the gaited horse has played a role.

SOURCES

www.naturalamblinghorseregistry.net

www.mofoxtrot.com (information – "What Makes a Horse Gaited" by Rick Watson)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambling_gait

<http://www.horsefamilymagazine.com/the-history-of-the-gaited-horse/>

2020 Member Survey



Name: _____ Address _____
Phone mobile/text _____ Home _____ Email _____
Member 2020 FFTA? _____ 2020 MFTHBA? _____ (If so, what is your member #? _____)
How many horses do you have? _____ Number MFT? _____ What other breeds do you have? _____

Please read the survey and place a check by the areas that interest you? Also, if you can give us some comments or ideas about each area, we would love to hear them.

1. Describe what you enjoy doing most with your horse(s)?

2. Trail Riding: What would interest you at trail riding events?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organized rides with trail guides, planned meals, entertainment, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Day rides |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loosely organized rides, picnic lunches or pot luck dinners, campfires, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exploring the Florida's state parks/preserves | <input type="checkbox"/> National Trail Ride in Florida |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Combining rides with other riding clubs' events | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> What would you like to see at these events? | |

3. Clinics: What types of clinics might be of interest to you?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day long clinics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recognizing my horse's gaits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mini-clinics combined with other events | <input type="checkbox"/> History of the gaited horse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How do different gaited breeds move | <input type="checkbox"/> Shoeing gaited horses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Sessions in camp cooking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horse behavior | <input type="checkbox"/> Grooming horses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cattle sorting | <input type="checkbox"/> Training horses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bits/bridles/saddles for gaited horses | <input type="checkbox"/> Horse tricks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Florida history with the horse | <input type="checkbox"/> Judging gaited classes |

4. Shows/Competitions/Other: What types of activities might interest you?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Showing in traditional arena | <input type="checkbox"/> Dressage arena |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Combining MFT classes in other organized shows | <input type="checkbox"/> Fun shows |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback games | <input type="checkbox"/> Obstacle competitions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Formation (drill team) riding | <input type="checkbox"/> Parades |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Costume classes | <input type="checkbox"/> Team competitions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

5. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS: Feel free to write more on the back side of the sheet.