



FLORIDA FOXTROTTER ASSOCIATION
September 2020
“HOT TO TROT”



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Everyone-

As I am writing this letter, the rain is pouring and the temperatures feel as if we live in the jungles of South America. Vines, bamboo, weeds, and everything that loves water and heat is growing. Guess since we have been more isolated with the Pandemic flourishing all around us, we are more cognizant about the flora and fauna here at home. All of us at our farm – 14 horses and the two of us – are hoping for some cooler, dryer weather for soon-to-come autumn and the end of hurricane season. We long for some nice trail rides and picnics.

So, instead, we are about to take the annual trek to Ava, MO, to the Show and Celebration. Taking two mares that we have taken twice before but had to come back to FL because of hurricanes before we could show them. Think we can be safe there with our living quarters trailer and using the stalls we own. It won't be the same, though. Even when folks want to gather for the annual membership dinner, breakfasts at crowded cafes, and barn parties – we will have to say “no,” thanks to COVID-19. (Lots of folks in MO are still in “mask denial.”) Still there is something magic about being at the “big” show and being a part of the competition – even though we know we are “out-gunned” without the experience of showing all summer and having the luxury of a trainer helping us. We have a close friend in Missouri who trains his own horses (and is very, very good at it) who thinks he has a mare that may win a garland. Will be cheering for him! Being in the heart of the Ozarks and seeing all the Fox Trotting horses there is exciting. We are hoping that FFTA can soon be able to have some kind of FFTA activity. We are just waiting for a safe time to have it and in a format that will not put anyone at risk of contracting the Covid-19 virus. If anyone has some ideas that meets these criteria, please pass it on. We welcome any ideas.

Kathie

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
Board:	Marty Ratliff	727-946-7411	martyratliff@knology.net
Board:	Dana Proeger	352-279-1286	dproeger@tampabay.rr.com
Website:			www.floridafoxtrotters.org



**The Home of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association (MFTHBA)
Located in Ava, Missouri**

HORSE HORSE TRACKS



History of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horses

Article from the North Central Chapter of the MFTHBA Website
Arkansas

Website: arfoxtrotters.com/history.htm

The breed of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse is some 150 years old. The early settlers and pioneers originally developed the breed in the Ozark Mountains, a plateau covering southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. The Ozarks are famous for their rough and rocky country. The need for a horse being able to travel long distances in a smooth manner was imminent.

1821 the first settlers crossed the Mississippi river to settle in the Ozarks. Most of them came from Tennessee, Kentucky, or Virginia and brought their horses with them. The typical gait of the Fox Trotter provides a high degree of surefootedness and therefore the settlers started breeding those horses with the “broken walk” (now described as a broken trot).

The name given most specific for this breed is the foxtrot. All horses of this breed have a natural, genetic ability to perform a broken 4-beat gait. Foxtrot has no high action and therefore is very safe. Thanks to this gait the rider hardly feels any movements, making a very long ride a pleasure.

The horses walk in front and trot in hind. This extremely safe gait prevents movements for the rider and quick fatigue for the horse. Other gaits are a fast flat walk and a very comfortable canter. Thanks to these qualities the Fox Trotter quickly became the favorite horse in the Ozarks. Everyone traveling long distances including ranchers, farmers, doctors, sheriffs and tax persons preferred a Foxtrotter. Only automobiles were able to slowly replace the Fox Trotter.

Fox Trotters have always been and still are bred to be used in the cattle business. Quickly they got their nickname: “The Cowboy’s Cadillac”. Despite the increasing availability of cars and trucks the Fox Trotter is still the most desired for hard ranch work.

To better coordinate the breed, in 1948 the MFTHBA (Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breeder’s Association) was founded. Today, more than 97,000 Fox Trotters are registered in Ava, MO. Since its start in 1959, The Show and Celebration takes place every year in Ava, during the week of Labor Day. The first European Championship took place in 1996, and has been repeated since then in a biannual mode.

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In 1982, the stud book was closed, allowing only horses from registered parents to be entered. In 1992, the European Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Association (EMFTHA) was formed as the Fox Trotter association for Europe and an affiliate of the MFTHBA. The first European Championship Show for the breed took place in 1996, and in 2010 the EMFTHA and the Free University of Berlin began working together to start a European stud book for the breed. The Fox Trotter became the official state horse of Missouri in 2002. In 2006, a new registry, the Foundation Foxtrotter Heritage Association (FFHA), was formed with a goal of preserving and promoting the original heritage type of Fox Trotter that was seen in the first 20 years of the MFTHBA registry, in large part through reducing the amount of Tennessee Walking Horse blood. The Tennessee Walker did not figure prominently in original Missouri Fox Trotter pedigrees, and so the FFHA, by restricting the amount of Walker blood, is attempting to develop horses that more closely resemble the original Fox Trotter type.

Trail and pleasure riders as well as the Park and Forest Rangers all over the United States have discovered the advantages of the Fox Trotter. You will find no better way of traveling than on the back of a Fox Trotter.

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

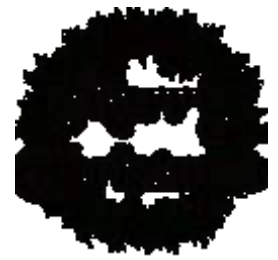
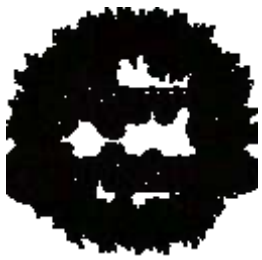


CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DEC 5, 2020 - *FFTA Christmas 2020 (previously named The Christmas Gathering And The Gathering 2020)

*** See Flyer – next page***

*The FFTA Board will be communicating with the FFTA Christmas 2020 committee to determine possible measures to reduce exposure to the COVID-19 virus. With all the current stressors occurring in our country and the world the Christmas party would be a welcome diversion with the caveat that the health and welfare of our members is of primary importance. Due to age a large percent of our members are considered to face significant risk of developing severe illness if they contract the COVID-19 virus. The Board will have many considerations as they determine whether FFTA Christmas 2020 will continue to be sanctioned by the FFTA. A letter with that decision will be sent to members within a couple of weeks. Please bear with us during this time.



*FFTA Christmas 2020

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 .**

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