



MISSOURI FOX TROTTER
CLUB OF CANADA

www.mftcc.ca

Presents

Fox Trotter Press

*A quarterly newsletter presenting the news, events and highlights of the
Missouri Fox Trotter Club of Canada (MFTCC)*

Summer, 2007

President's Two Cents

Welcome to our FIRST edition of our newsletter. It's been exciting and challenging getting our club "off the ground" but it's now fox trotting along very nicely I think! ☺

We put together a terrific executive, who are enthusiastic, dynamic and combine talents and experience with the breed. When I thought about starting a club back in November of 2006, I envisioned a club that would help more people become aware of this wonderful, smooth gaited breed.

Our short and long term goals include promotion and representation first at local, then eventually national events. We want to showcase the versatility, wonderful temperament and the amazing foxtrot gait of these horses. There are likely less than 200 of these horses in Canada right now, we plan to change that...one horse or two at a time! I have a modest goal of wanting to put AT LEAST one Fox Trotter in every arena and trail ride across our great country!

I hope you will join us in spreading the word. I know we can't help but ride with a smile and share our enjoyment of the breed with EVERYONE we meet! *Barb Fenwick*

Our cast & crew

Our executive was scooped up from Alberta to Ontario! Please feel free to call, email or write the executive with your questions, comments or interesting stories about your involvement with Fox Trotters. We look forward to printing YOUR story here in the future!

Barb Fenwick – President Carberry, Manitoba 204-466-2776 –
bfenwick@xplornet.com

Barb Plant – Vice-President – Wilkesport, Ontario 519-864-1950 –mplant@xcelco.on.ca

Manette Logan – Secretary – Langdon, Alberta 403-926-5367 – manette@shaw.ca

Board members

Jean Bogner, Nancy Maurer, Perry Miller – Saskatchewan

Ron Jackson – Alberta, Naomi Siegel - Ontario

Club meeting news

If you have access to the internet, you can read the latest meeting minutes there on our website. **If you have received this by mail, please let us know if you have an email address or access to a computer where you can read this newsletter on the website.**

THE JOURNAL article – We had an article printed in the March edition of the official news magazine - THE JOURNAL, of the MFTHBA (Missouri Fox Trotter Horse Breeders Assoc.). It tells about how the club got started and the people across Canada that I spoke to while researching Canadian Fox Trotter owners.

Club progress report

Our club membership is slowly growing. At this writing we are over 20 members, comprised of Canadian and a few US members as well. We are holding monthly executive meeting over MSN on the Internet. Although it is using instant messaging, not voice meetings, it seems to be working out quite well. Through these meetings we have established our vision statement and bylaws, which are posted on the website as well.

Through our efforts already, we have been getting inquiries from across Canada from people with MFT and those wanting to get into the breed. That's exciting!

CLUB WEBSITE - www.mftcc.ca

Our secretary, Manette Logan has done a wonderful job of designing and getting our website up and running. This really gives us great visibility and a venue to express and expand our interests for the club and MFT owners. Please let us know if you have ideas/news for the website or your MFT pictures you can mail or email Manette. It's always nice to "meet" new people through their pictures on the site. Also, we have a section for "new arrivals" so send us your MFT foal pictures! Email the news about the site to friends and family and perfect strangers! ☺

The club membership form is also on our website. Membership is 15.00 single, 20.00 for family. Club memberships are renewable Dec 31st each year. We would love to have YOU as part of our Canadian group of MFT enthusiasts...no matter where you live on this planet!

Never fear though, we know that for some folks the WWW is not all "it". Any time you need a paper copy of any of our documents (no access to computers), just call our executive, we will be happy to mail them to you.

Membership Spotlight

The spotlight for this initial edition should shine brightly on one of the breeds founding enthusiasts and breeders - Ron Jackson. He, to our knowledge has the largest herd, numbering over 20. Ron became infatuated with this breed over 20 years ago. He operates Timber Ridge Ranch, a picturesque spread of 1600 acres against a backdrop of the Rocky Mountains west of Calgary, Alberta. Over the years he has promoted the Fox Trotter by presenting demonstrations at the Calgary Stampede. He stopped breeding his 3 stallions two years ago. He finds his business schedule keeps him too busy to manage a large herd now. He looks forward to keeping a few good ranch horses to manage his cattle ranch and "just riding" in his spare time. He is certainly supportive of our efforts to market and promote these horses in Canada. Ron is a member of our board of Directors. With his relatively long time experience in Canada with Fox Trotters, he is a valuable resource for our club.

The spotlight shines eastward now to Grenfell, Saskatchewan where we will find board member **Nancy Maurer**. Nancy bought her Fox Trotter mare Nell sight unseen through Barb F. when she picked her out during her trip in 2004 to Missouri. She was not disappointed in this sweet natured

and pretty sorrel spotted mare. Nell is a good representative of the breed, being versatile enough to work with cattle and be a trail riding horse. Nancy also each bought yearling fillies last spring from the folks where she got her other mare. Nancy took the trip with me to breeder Jane Brun's - Calico Creek Farm in Minnesota last spring, to have her mare bred. She bred her mare to Jane's spotted stallion Calico Kid. She got a nice b/w spotted colt this spring that she is really happy with.

What's on the horizon for the club

Our executive has formed committees to begin formulating plans for promotion and events for our horses and members. Nancy Maurer is Promotion Committee chairperson. Barb Plant of Ontario will be assisting her in the Eastern division. Perry Miller will head up Events Planning. I (Barb Fenwick) will help Perry in his efforts.

You can contact either of these committee chairpersons with your input/comments.

Perry – 306-352-0808 westwinds@sasktel.net

Nancy – 306-697-3121 nmaurer@xplornet.com

GAITED CLINIC – Saskatchewan in 2008

We have tentative plans to present a gaited clinic in Saskatchewan (near Regina) in spring or early summer 2008. It will be a two day clinic with perhaps a 3rd day of fun show or trail ride. We will keep you posted on dates and more information in the coming months. The clinician will be Liz Graves (www.lizgraves.com) from Minnesota, who has presented gaited clinics at my ranch over the last several years here in Manitoba. I guarantee you won't want to miss this opportunity. Liz is dynamic, unendingly informative and makes a clinic a positive, fun experience for all.

Fox Trotting Foal Call

Barb Fenwick - Foxie & Lightning's Fancy Free – spotted buckskin filly – foaled April 20th

Sire – Rex's White Lightning, Dam – Kasie's Little Foxie

Nancy Maurer - spotted b/w colt

Barb P – see below

Sale Horses

Bobbie Jo-she is a Grey 14 year old mare - please see mftcc.ca website for picture and details.

News from our members

Barb Plant writes...Our mare Kristy Sunrise went off to the Kanawake Reserve south of Montreal. Paddy likes his new MFT. He has many of the usual 'new to gaited' questions. She will be a fine ambassador for the breed. Mark calls her a "seed horse". Little by little we are expanding the numbers of horses here but we have serious competition and opposition from promoters of other breeds. False information and misconceptions about the breed are common.

Our new arrivals this spring are; 1.) Black Creek's Brody, born March 28th-black colt, 2.) Spider Silk, born April 18th –she started out looking bay but she has shed out all of the red hairs and is now black with white hairs throughout her coat so I'm pretty sure she is a Grey but she may be a roan. Either way she is homozygous for the black gene and may have agouti as well. She is a puzzle for sure. 3.) Balachandra, born May 26th-gold champagne stud colt.

Well, we are all happy to be on our Fox Trotters enjoying the summer I am sure. Happy Fox Trotting 'til next time!

The autumn issue will be out in mid October.