



Trottin 'Round'

California Fox Trotter Association

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2016

President's Message



Hello Fox Trotter enthusiasts,
Hope you are enjoying the lovely Winter weather that in some parts feels more like Spring.

The board is gearing up for the 2016 show season and our fantastic clinic in April. As you may know, we are dedicating the clinic in honor of Mickey Fournier. Mickey believed in sharing the beauty of the Fox Trotter and their gaits. She helped bridge knowledgeable folks with folks who wanted to learn. The rewarding experience of seeing people riding their horses in a foxtrot is magical. You can find information on the clinic in this newsletter, on our website and Facebook.

We will be having our shows at the Ridge Riders Arena in West Covina. We are also trying out a **new place** for our clinic which is Carlyle E. Linder Equestrian Park in Glendora. It is nestled at the foothills of the Angeles National Forest. ETI Corral 35 uses and maintains the park and have welcomed us as brethren.

We also have a trail ride coming up on April 24, 2016 at the Hidden Valley Preserve in Norco. Liz Levis is hosting the event and we would love for you to join us. The weather should be wonderful. Details can be found on our website and Facebook.

The board is here to help you and give you information regarding any events coming up. Please reach out to anyone of us. We love to hear from you. In the meantime, enjoy the lovely weather and nature's Springtime offerings.

Mitsy Marquez, CFTA President

CFTA CLINICS

The 3rd Saturday of each month join us at our CFTA Clinic, Norco, CA –
Contact: Rene Sharp (951) 687-2296
email: trottnaround@aol.com

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Email: irishhills2006@gmail.com



SPIRIT OF MICKEY FOX TROT SPRING FEST

Saturday April 16, 2016 Fox Trotter Horse Show
at Ridge Riders Arena in West Covina

Sponsored by:

The California Fox Trotter Association

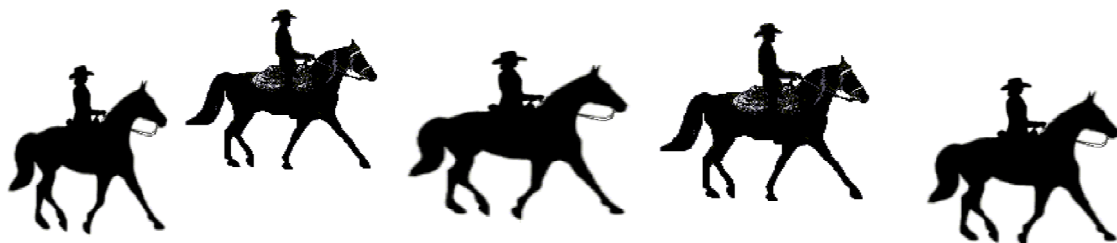
*Sunday April 17, 2016 Spirit of Mickey Fox Trotter Clinic
at Carlyle E. Linder Equestrian Park in Glendora*

Conducted by: Donnie Daugherty

World Famous Fox Trotter Trainer & Clinician

Sponsored by:

The Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association



Clinic space is limited, please reserve your spot soon

For More Info contact: Sandy at 909-585-7080 or
sandyroy00@hotmail.com

Show News

Some Noteworthy Happenings from 2015

Pam Ellison and her mare *King's Silver and Pearls* took home the top honor of CFTA Overall High Point Champion with 85 points. She accomplished this feat by showing in seven classes at all five shows and ended up being the Year End High Point Champion in six of those classes and reserve in the seventh class.

Linda Dunn and *Lee Majors* took the Reserve title by compiling 67 points, while only competing in three shows, but they did seven classes at each show. What is even more impressive, is she and Lee Majors won every class they entered at all three shows, except once in June where they placed fourth in the Open 4 Year old class.

The 2015 show season had two horses that competed in all five shows in model classes and they won under all five of our judges. C.F. Brown showed his stud colt *Shakin the Blues Bayou* and won the Weanlings, Yearlings and Two Year old Model class five times. Marc and Mickey Fournier's mare, *Nugget's Delta Dawn* won the Model Mares 3 Years and older class at every CFTA show in 2015. She also won the Grand Champion Model Class at CFTA's October Show and Celebration.

New for the 2016 Show Year

Volunteer needed CFTA needs an announcer for the June show. If you are interested please contact Sandy Grimes and we can get you set up with Katie Watts to practice at the April or May shows.

A few changes have been made to the class schedule for the 2016 show season.

CFTA is still offering all the same classes as last year and remember you need to compete in a class three times to be eligible for CFTA or MFTHBA points. Look for the exact lineup of classes in the April premium. The noticeable changes are a 10 minute break between the in hand trail and open trail pleasure classes and the novice horse class is now the first class after the lunch break. Also, English and Country Pleasure classes will be at the end of the day after a 15 minutes break following the 3 Gait class. This will alleviate competitors in English from having to change clothes and tack twice.

Finally, In Hand Trail is now open to any horse whether they are competing in the Open Trail Pleasure class or not.

3 Mistakes Even Experienced Horsemen Make

[Sarah Williams](#) | June 30, 2015

Taken from Horse Collaborative...

Maybe you have worked with and around horses for most of your life, or perhaps you have simply owned the same horse for years. You are comfortable in your knowledge; safe in your comfort zone with that sense of security that only comes from familiarity and experience. You let your guard down, just a little, and cut a few corners to make things easier or faster... This is when it happens, the almost inevitable accident or incident that, if you are lucky, bruises only your pride.

Don't feel bad, you're not alone. I have spoken to countless horse trainers and experienced riders, and this level of security and almost "invincible" attitude that comes with being too comfortable for too long is something that touches all of our lives at some point. It is easy to forget that even though our horses are such a pleasurable and amazing part of our lives, they also have the potential to seriously injure us. I have chosen three real life stories (names have been changed to protect the guilty, in this instance) that illustrate how forgetting the basics of good horsemanship can have serious consequences.

#1. Not Respecting The Back Legs

One of the first things that most of us learn as budding horsemen and horsewomen, is the proper way to respect our horse's back legs. Horses kick, that is just a simple fact, and one well placed kick, especially by a shod horse, can do serious damage.

Donna has owned horses for most of her life. Her current mount, a pretty bay Thoroughbred gelding, has been with her for ten years, since he was a two year old. Donna and her horse compete in Eventing and spend a lot of time out on the trails and beaches of the Central Coast, and anyone who knows the pair will quickly say that they have a unique bond. Last summer, Donna was at the barn enjoying another beautiful day in paradise. She was chatting with a friend while her horse stood in the cross ties; almost on autopilot, she was brushing, checking legs and picking feet. At one point, she was standing behind her horse, doing a quick braid of his tail, when a bird flew through the rafters of the barn, and without warning, he kicked out and caught Donna squarely in the knee.

Donna was rushed to the hospital. Her knee was broken and she required two surgeries over a six month period. Just this spring, almost a year from the time that the accident occurred, Donna sat on her horse for the first time. She admits to being somewhat afraid, despite all of her years of experience, which is a sharp contrast to the brazen confidence she felt before the accident.

#2. Proper Security

Most horses are pretty respectful of the gate or stall door. We lead them into their "houses", or into the arena for turn out, and everything goes as planned. Eventually, we begin believing that our horses wouldn't dare attempt an "escape" that requires them to go through us in order to get out. We leave stall doors and gates open or unlatched while we blanket, fill water buckets, fill feed bags, etc. On occasion, we may hold the arena gate closed with a foot while quickly unbuckling a halter... Whatever the shortcut, we have forgotten that, as a flight animal, a horse can feel the need to "flee" from something that he perceives as "scary" in a split second, and if we get in the way, we just might get run over.

Laura has shown horses on the NRHA circuit for over twenty years. Both of her horses are “hams”, and enjoy playing little games with each other and with Laura, but they are kind and sensible. At the last show of the season in 2013, Laura arrived to the showgrounds where she would be competing and was setting up her stalls and tack room. She put one horse into his stall and secured his gate before moving on to the second. She led him into the stall, slipped off his halter, and he immediately began munching hay from his hay bag. Laura realized that she hadn't put his water bucket into the stall and it was sitting about five feet away near her trailer. Without latching the stall door, she simply took the two steps and reached for the bucket, but before she knew what was happening, she was knocked flat on her stomach, and her typically lazy and easy going horse was running loose down the barn aisle.

Laura was able to corner her gelding, but only after he had led her, and several other exhibitors and trainers, on a merry chase around the showgrounds. At one point, he ran directly at a small girl who was trying to help catch him and knocked her to the ground. It was a freak incident, and aside from a few small scrapes on the gelding's lower legs, and Laura's bruised pride, things worked out...but it could have turned out much differently.

#3. Letting Go of the Reins

When you have been riding for years, certain little habits begin to surface. One that I see quite often is riders who mount and dismount their horses without keeping a firm hold on the reins. They are used to a horse that stands quietly, and it is such a common and comfortable maneuver that laying the reins over the neck and swinging up into the saddle, or down off of the saddle, isn't given a second thought.

Tom is a well known and highly respected trainer who specializes in Reining horses. He works with young horses, problem horses, and finished horses on a daily basis, and competes successfully on the NRHA circuit. Early into his career, Tom was getting ready to work one of his favorite finished horses, who had been in his barn for over five years. This is a horse that he would put almost anyone on, as she was about as close to perfect as a horse could be in terms of attitude and predictability. Tom threw the reins over the little mare's neck and quickly swung up into the saddle. Just as he was centering himself, a car backfired and the mare jumped straight into the air; the reins hit the ground, Tom caught her with his leg and she took about five canter strides before stepping on one of the reins and coming to a screeching halt. Tom was sent over the front of her neck and landed hard. A slight concussion and bruised tailbone put Tom out of the saddle for about a week. Worse, though, was that when the mare stepped on her reins, the bit sliced her mouth open and the wound required stitches. She healed, but it took months to get her comfortable in the bridle again.

These are just three stories out of hundreds that I have heard over the years, and I may have one or two of my own to add to the mix. These things can happen to all of us at any given time, no matter how much experience that we have or how well we know our horses. So, the next time that you're out at the barn, be mindful of your routine, and make sure that you haven't acquired any dangerous habits. The ultimate goal is to spend a happy lifetime in the saddle, and safety is always the first step.

Originally published at SLOHorseNews.net

Subject: New Mobile Alert Service from the MFTHBA

Today we launched a new mobile alert service for the MFTHBA. This service will allow interested parties to receive information via text message. We plan to share deadline reminders (i.e. stallion breeding reports, membership renewals, election nominations, hall of fame nominations, etc.), special (membership specials, registry discounts, etc.) and special news announcements. We also have two sub-groups for our two major shows where we will share entry deadlines (pre-enter, futurity payments, etc.), event information, reminders about special events when people are at the show and notification of changes to the show schedules (rain delays, changes in the trail ride schedule due to weather, etc.).

We are hopeful that this system along with our other information sharing systems (email blasts, website, social media, The Journal) will help us reach all those interested in getting information. I know lots of people that text that don't check their email very often. ☺ Please help us promote this new service. Our plan is to use it for the next month or so and then ask for feedback as to whether people like getting information this way. If they do, we will continue on with the service.

Instructions for opting in to receive the mobile alerts are below.

- **General MFTHBA Information:** Receive messages on registry deadline reminders, promotions and special announcements. Up to 1 message per week. To join, text MFTHBA to 41411.
- **World Show and Celebration:** Receive messages about show deadlines and special announcements. During the event, we will also share changes to show schedule (i.e. rain delay information, etc.). Throughout most of the year, subscribers can expect up to 2 messages each month. Messages will increase as the event gets closer. Subscribers should expect up to 3 messages per day during the event itself. Joining this group will automatically add you to the general MFTHBA information group. For mobile alerts on the World Show and Celebration, text MFTCELEBRATION to 41411.
- **Spring Show and Three Year Old Futurity:** Receive messages about show deadlines and special announcements. During the event, we will also share changes to show schedule (i.e. rain delay information, etc.) and reminders about scheduled events. Throughout most of the year, subscribers can expect up to 2 messages per month. Messages will increase as the event gets closer. Subscribers should expect up to 3 messages per day during the event itself. Joining this group will automatically add you to the general MFTHBA information group. For mobile alerts on the Spring Show and Three Year Old Futurity, text MFTFUTURITY to 41411.

Complete online story is here: <http://mfthba.com/mfthba-launches-mobile-alerts-communication-tool/>

Amber Wilson

MFTHBA Promotions Committee Chair

816-806-9374

Find out more at MFTHBA.com



California
Fox Trotter
Association



**California Fox Trotter Association T-Shirts are
Now Available**

The logo on the shirts is pictured above and we have medium thru X-large. You also have four colors to choose from: sapphire teal, light grey or pale pink. T-shirts are \$15 each and may be purchased at the October Show or by contacting Sandy Grimes by email:

sandyroy00@hotmail.com

**Check our New Website: californiafoxtrotter.com
For more upcoming events**

California Fox Trotter Association

☐ New Member
☐ Renewal

Membership Application

MFTHBA# _____

Name

Date

Address

Phone

City

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E-Mail

Please send me copies of: ☐ Newsletters ☐ Show Premiums

Can we send you these publications via e-mail (in PDF format)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

CFTA's activities rely on the help of numerous volunteers, please check if you can help with any of the following:

Word Processing or Desktop

Publishing:

- ☐ Secretary/Minutes
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Show Premium
- ☐ Flyers
- ☐ Other:

Help Prior or After Shows:

- ☐ Arrange for Awards
- ☐ Arrange for Judges
- ☐ Arrange for Arenas
- ☐ MFTHBA Points
- ☐ CFTA Points
- ☐ Design Trail Courses

Help At Shows:

- ☐ Entry Booth
- ☐ Ring Steward
- ☐ Announcer
- ☐ Hand Out Ribbons
- ☐ Gate Steward
- ☐ Set Up/Clean Up

Other Assistance:

- ☐ Accounting/Treasurer
- ☐ Publicity
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Hospitality
- ☐ Trail Rides
- ☐ Printing

Signature

Date

Membership Fees: Family - \$30, Individual - \$25, Youth - \$15
Please make check payable to CFTA and mail to P.O. Box 691, Norco, CA 92860

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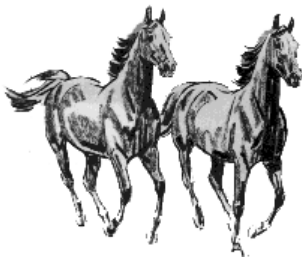
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We do gait work working to obtain the best gait for U and your horse to enjoy.

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Bay is a 14.3 hand 12 year old registered Missouri Fox Trotter mare Her basic training was done by her current owner/breeder. Her advanced training has been done by a professional trainer. Her gaits are excellent, great flat walk and a very good fox trot. She can be ridden out alone and is not disturbed by blowing plastic bags or other trail issues.

She would make a great trail horse and is show quality. She is sweet, smart, willing and loves attention. Currently she is near Palm Springs CA preparing for several horse shows which will give her even broader experience for her new owner! If you care about bloodlines, hers are impeccable, her sire is world grand champion Bronze Pride, her dams side is Zane's Boss Man. Show her or ride the trails on this beautiful bay mare with a smooth gaits!

Contact Alicia Morrison (602) 620-0288 Cell
email: stargaitranch@aol.com



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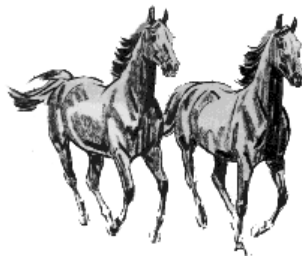
MEMBER PROFILE

MEMBERS WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH US ...
A MEMBER PROFILE ?

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED? A SPECIAL STORY ABOUT THAT SPECIAL HORSE.. OR A SPECIAL STORY THAT MADE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE OR SOMEONE ELSE'S LIFE ??? WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOUR FAVORITE PICTURES AND HEAR FROM YOU !!!

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER.... HELP US TO PUBLISH WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW!!!

**TIME TO RE-NEW OUR MEMBERSHIPS !!
DON'T MISS OUT ON OUR UPCOMING EVENTS BY
LETTING YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE !!**



Come see us on Facebook!



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