



Indiana Fox Trotter Association February/March 2020 Newsletter Issue 10, Volume 1



GREETINGS INDIANA FOX TROTTERS By Cheryl Gramling

My name is Cheryl Gramling and you have elected me as your 2020 president. I would like to share a few things about me to help you get to know me. I am married and live on my husband's family farm in northern Indiana. We have 2 horses and 2 pony mules, 2 dogs, several cat's and of course the duck and geese. Oh yeah...on my husband's side of the farm there are several steam locomotives but that is a story for another time. I have had horses most of my adult life including Quarter horses, a breeding stock paint, a Spotted Saddle Horse and a Missouri Fox Trotter (MFT). When I am not at work as a nurse in the ICU or running our storage unit business with my brother, I am spending time with my animals.

Misty "Cloud's Mystical Wizard H" is my MFT that I bought from John Heldt in 2016. After meeting John and falling in love with Misty my horse world has not been the same. I have met some amazing people and have been on some incredible horse rides with the IFTA.

This year as president I will support our group at the Hoosier Horse Fair by participating in the horse breed demonstration. I am also looking forward to leading the group at meetings and getting to know our members. I am open for suggestions and new ideas that will help our association to grow in membership, encourage our current members to stay active, and any ideas that will help the processes within the IFTA.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve you as IFTA president, and share in the joy of owning a Missouri Fox Trotter.

Cheryl Gramling

FAREWELL FROM THE PRESIDENT By John Heldt

The year 2020 is here, and it's time to move forward. It's also time for me to step aside and let someone else take the IFT to new ground. I have had the president's office for quite some time now. During this time period I have had some great support from past officers and the general membership. We have done some great things together as a team. We have started some new things and ended some old things.

One of the new things is the fundraising tack auction. This has been a huge success. We have raised a large amount of money over the last 3 years doing this. Thank you to our former vice president for suggesting and developing this. It is on the schedule again this year at the Hoosier Horse Camp on May 30, 2020.

Another big change this past year was the new location and venue for the Hoosier Horse Fair. This was a major change for everyone, and the IFT embraced and supported it. For us, it was a huge success. I am looking forward to it again in 2020.

Our clinics have been very successful in past years. We did cancel the 2019 clinic due to low interest and the weather. It was so hot during the scheduled weekend that it was the right thing to do. We have had some great clinicians with the best being Pat AuBuchon at our 2018 clinic. Clinics are all about learning. The learning at these clinics is for both you and your horse. I am already looking forward to our 2020 clinic on April 18 and 19.

Our trail rides have been great!! We have ridden at most of the parks and campgrounds in Indiana. We added the Waterloo ride in Michigan last year to our schedule. We have that ride scheduled again this year. Most rides have been very well attended. They all share the 3 Fs (Fun, Fellowship and Food). Oh, and great trail rides as well!!!

Now let's talk about the future. What is in store for the IFT? We have a new president, vice president and secretary and several new members. We also have new opportunities to move the IFT forward and to new ground. In 2020 we have the Hoosier Horse Fair, the clinic, the fundraising auction and several trail rides scheduled. In addition, we have discussed the possibility of hosting a national trail ride in the future. Is there some way to get some youth involved in our breed and the IFT? How about some way to grow our membership? What other ideas do you have for the future?

Embrace and support your new IFT officers, get involved and promote the Indiana Fox Trotters and the Missouri Fox Trotting breed.

MISSOURI FOX TROTTERS ARE THE BEST!!

John Heldt

2019 CLUB OFFICERS

For more information about our club please feel free to contact any of our officers.

Cheryl Gramling – President cagramling@gmail.com 260-316-4485	Kathy Shafer - Vice President showmethpaints@yahoo.com 574-453-7107
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Carol Heingartner – Treasurer hiny52@embarqmail.com 260-318-5112	Rita Shrader - Secretary rita.shader@yahoo.com
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North Directors: Eric Shafer, Joanne Hadaway
Central Directors: Jill Uselton, Terri Tucker
South Directors: Vicki Hagerman, Linda Ramsey
Additional Director: John Heldt

NEWS & ARTICLES

We would love to hear what you've been doing with your Fox Trotter rides, shows, and just hanging out and having fun. Please send articles and pictures to saevans4212@yahoo.com

TRAIL RIDES 2020

This is a list of our trail rides for this year, we also need to start planning for 2021 and need members to host rides and plan events at new places we haven't been

Tippecanoe - May 15-17, 2020

Brenda Horvath hosting

Hoosier Horse Camp - May 29-31, 2020

John Heldt hosting

Ask for IFTA sites when

making reservations.

Midwest Trail Ride - June 19-21, 2020

John Heldt hosting

Ask for IFTA sites when

making reservations.

Farmlane at Waterloo, MI - July 10-12, 2020

Cheryl Gramling and

Carol Heingartner hosting

Brown County - Sept. 11-13, 2020

Kathy and Eric Shafer hosting

O'Bannon Woods - October 2-4, 2020

John Heldt hosting

Salamonie Lost Bridge - Oct. 17-18, 2020

Any member wishing to host a ride, please contact a club officer with information about the ride and it will be posted here.

Don't forget any member who hosts a ride should submit an article and pictures or designate someone to submit this information within 2 weeks of the ride. We all have social media and post on our Facebook page, but keep in mind that is a closed group. We need to generate newsletters to post to our website for everyone to see what the club is doing. FaceBook posts fade away over time but our newsletters will be preserved on our website for all to see and read, and serve as historical documents for the club. More information may lead to more interest in the club and more members. Remember we are a group dedicated to promoting the Fox Trotting Breed.

IFTA JANUARY MINUTES

By Kathy Shafer

Meeting held at Rosebud Ranch, Brookston, Indiana, Jan. 25. Call to order at 11:20. In Attendance; Sandy Fox, Shirley Evans, Ginger Dierdorf, Carol Rush, Brenda Horvath, Eric Shafer, John Heldt, Pam Seifert, Carol Heingartner, Jill Uselton and Kathy Shafer.

Meeting minutes from December were read and approved.

Treasurer report: Balance \$4289.06. Our website on GoDaddy was renewed. There was an error on their accounting and they charged us twice so they will be refunding us \$175.00. Donations were clarified for our treasurer, \$100 will be donated to the following organizations: Image of Hope, ITRA Trail fund, MFT National rescue, Therapeion therapeutic riding, Riding for Hope.

Election Of Officers: Ballots were counted and the results for 2020 are as follows;

President: Cheryl Gramling

Vice Pres.: Kathy Shafer

Secretary: Rita Shrader

Treasurer: Carol Heingartner

North Directors: Eric Shafer, Joanne Hadaway

Central Directors: Jill Uselton, Terri Tucker

South Directors: Vicki Hagerman, Linda Ramsey

Additional Director: John Heldt

Membership: Several members renewed

2020 Hoosier Horse fair:

No Stallion this year. Demo horses will be John Heldt's palomino gelding and Cheryl Gramling's horse. For the booth decorations John contacted the seamstress on making more valances and will see that the curtains are washed and pressed. Set up went well last year so wanting the same location. We have enough license plates and tiles to sell. Carol will see what T-shirts we have. Ginger will bring in the bubble wrap. Set up will be Thursday. Shirley will get the HHF edition newsletter out and will need all articles by April 10. Also, will be doing a February newsletter. Any articles need to be sent to her.

Fund Raisers:

Our tack auction will be May 30 at Hoosier Horse camp. Please donate any unused tack.

2020 Clinic:

Clinician will be Mike Meizler. April 18-19 at Rosebud Ranch. Mike will be conducting the clinic on Saturday and on Sunday we will have an obstacle course. The clinic will be limited to 12-15 riders. Flyers will be made and posted.

2020 Trail Rides:

Tippecanoe State park: May 15-17 Brenda Horvath to host
Hoosier Horse Camp: May 29-31 John to host ask for IFTA sites when reserving

Midwest trail ride: June 19-21 John to host ask for IFTA sites
Farmlane at Waterloo Michigan: July 10-12 Cheryl and Carol to host

Brown County: Sept. 11-13 Kathy and Eric Shafer to host

O' Bannon Woods: October 2-4 John Heldt to host

Salamonie Lost Bridge: Oct. 17-18

New Business: Sharon updating website and Facebook

Next meeting: March 21, 11:00 am Rosebud Ranch

Meeting adjourned 12:30 and everyone enjoyed pizza and social time.

MARCH CLUB MEETING

By Shirley Evans

The next club meeting will be Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 11:00am at Rosebud Ranch located at 50 West 1050 South Brookston, IN 47923. Club will supply sub sandwiches and members are asked to bring side dishes and desserts. Please sign up on our Facebook Page what you will bring to ensure a nice variety. Look for my post and add to it.

RUSTY

By Carla Tribble

Rusty came up on a Facebook feed from Karen Schuster, administrator of Missouri Fox Trotter Rescue. I hadn't received anything from her in a while due to Facebook making animal sales and rescue nearly impossible to do. And even though I had donated money in the past so they could pull horses, I wasn't looking for a horse at all. But there he was. The moment I saw him I knew that he was the one I had been waiting on for years. I felt very strongly that God was giving me my chance, and a chance to save a wonderful horse. I could hear Him say "THAT'S YOUR HORSE!"

I paid Lone Star Kill Pen for him that very day and as my heart was pounding in my chest, I had to figure out quarantine, vet care, and transport. I had never done that before. Karen was very helpful and recommended Glue Factory Renegades for quarantine, so I contacted them. Lawrence picked him up the next morning for me.



Rusty was sick from the kill pen and loaded himself on the trailer. I guess he thought an uncertain future was better than the horrible path he was on. He was treated for his respiratory infection and finally beat it. I had his guttural pouches flushed to check on him and help prevent him from bringing anything home. Lawrence took great care of him in quarantine and sent me

many updates. After many setbacks on transport, and ending up being extremely disappointed with how Rusty (and I) were treated by a transport subcontractor, he finally made it home. He was thin and dehydrated from a very long trip and I could tell his back really hurt. His muscle was gone. The trailer was too big for the driveway, so he had to be unloaded out on the road in the dark and I was so worried about the long walk back to the barn with a horse that had been through some really bad stuff. But the moment he met me he rested his chin on my arm and wiggled it, like he was asking if everything was finally okay. My heart knew that it had been right all along, and that he really was the one God sent to me. So, we walked back to the barn, trusting each other from the very first.

Rusty has now gained his weight back and we will be working on his muscle tone when I am sure his back has recovered and I can start riding. We have spent many hours together, working on desensitization and just being together. He is the kindest, gentlest soul. When I am near him, I feel an indescribable peace. From the very beginning he let me do anything I needed to do to help him, like he truly understood that he was safe with me. He now enjoys life so much and is getting along very well with my other two horses. It's very interesting to me that I just recently found a list I had made long ago of my dream horse's traits. And Rusty has every single one.

Rusty is registered and I was able to contact the wife of one of his breeders. She is so happy that I have him and like any good breeder, was quite saddened to realize where he had been. He was from two multi world grand champions and was carefully planned and loved. Like me, she was unable to understand how a horse this wonderful could end up in that situation. I was able to discover that his recent owner (who I don't know the name of) sold him to a trader, who then took him to an auction. A kill buyer bought him there and he ended up at Lone Star Kill, and then Karen found out about him.

I am a teacher, and Rusty has become our class mascot for Honors Biology. My freshmen have been very interested in and incredibly supportive of the whole process. They have definitely been our cheering section. I am presenting a lesson in class this week called "The Science of Rusty", which uses many fields of science to explain horse care, behavior, and health. Rusty is of course the main character with many video clips.

I wouldn't trade Rusty for the world and would encourage others to keep an open mind about kill pen horses. I was able to figure the whole process out and make it work even though I had never done it before. When God tells you "THAT'S YOUR HORSE" please listen. And in saving a life, you may just change your own.

Please email me at ctribe7@gmail.com if you have any questions or have any interest in seeing the presentation. Some of you may be in a situation where something similar could be used to help educate people, or help horses like Rusty.





**INDIANA FOX TROTTER ASSOCIATION
2020 ALL-GAITED HORSE CLINIC
APRIL 18-19, 2020**



Rosebud Ranch
50 West 1050 South
Brookston, IN 47923

Featuring Mike and Joy Meizler of Rafter M Stables.

Mike and Joy are versatility trainers and compete at Ava in the versatility arena. Mike trains horses while Joy trains people. Joy has ridden, shown and raised gaited horses her entire life. Mike is a professional horse trainer with more than 30 years experience training colts. Second day will be an obstacle course conducted by IFTA members.



IFTA Members: \$125 for both days or \$75 for one day
Non-Members: \$150 for both days or \$85 for one day
Auditing: \$35 for both days or \$25 for one day



Camping:

Electric \$20 day

Non-Electric \$10 day

Payment due upon arrival and payable directly to Rosebud Ranch.

Stall rental:

\$25 nightly (bedding included)

(8 electric sites and non-electric sites)

Deadline for registration is April 6, 2020. Participation is limited to 14 horses. Current Coggins and vaccine record are required for all horses and health papers are required for out-of-state horses and will be checked upon arrival.

<p>Send this form, the completed liability form, and your check made payable to IFTA to: Carol Heingartner 1592 S. Old State Road 3 Avilla, IN 46710</p>	<p>For more information contact: John Heldt at jpheldt81@comcast.net (812) 583-4646</p>
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We will be collecting money for a pizza party on Saturday evening.

Cut on dotted line and return bottom portion with your payment to address listed above.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY! #####

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____ IFTA Member? Yes _____ No _____

IFTA or MFTHBA Members:
Two days: \$125.00 _____
One day: \$75.00 _____

Non-Members:
Two days: \$150.00 _____
One day: \$85.00 _____

Auditing:
Two days: \$35.00 _____ One day: \$25.00 _____ TOTAL PAYMENT _____

Special thanks to MFTHBA, Ava, Missouri for sponsoring this clinic.



**ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND COMPLETE RELEASE FORM FOR
INDIANA FOX TROTTER ASSOCIATION
APRIL 18-19, 2020 ALL-GAITED HORSE CLINIC**

**WARNING: UNDER INDIANA LAW (IN1995 AVT NO. 1551) AN EQUINE
PROFESSIONAL IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY INJURY TO, OR DEATH OF A
PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISK
OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES.**

NAME _____
(PLEASE PRINT)

I recognize that The Indiana Fox Trotters Association Inc. which includes its officers, board members and member associates (hereafter referred to as "the IFTA") is the sponsor for many events at various locations throughout each year. I also realize that this release is intended to blanket cover all of these events regardless of location. I fully accept that the IFTA is in no way responsible for my safety when I am participating in one of these events, regardless of where it is held.

I FURTHER RECOGNIZE AND ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING:

1. That training, competition, work or any activity involving livestock are participation sports. I am fully aware of the risks and hazards involved in, or arising from, my use of or presence upon the facilities and premises and use of livestock or any other animal. I HEREBY ASSUME ANY AND ALL RISKS INVOLVED IN, OR ARISING FROM, MY USE OF OR PRESENCE UPON ANY OF THE FACILITIES USED BY THE IFTA, including, without limitation, the risks of bodily injury resulting from a collision between myself and another person, dog bite or any injury from any animal, or the negligent or deliberate act of another person.
2. TO RELEASE THE IFTA, including its board members, officers, associate members and all of their successors, assigns, affiliates, heirs, executors, and administrators, agents and assigns from, and AGREE NOT TO SUE ANY OR ALL OF THEM on account of or in connection with any claims, causes of action, injuries, damages, and expenses arising out of students/clients/participants use of the IFTA equipment, including, but not limited to, those claims for bodily injury, whether or not caused by the negligence or other fault of the IFTA, or of any dogs, cats, horses, cattle or other equipment supplied by the IFTA.
3. THIS RELEASE shall be binding upon my heirs, administrators, executors, assigns and legal representative.
4. TO WAIVE the protection afforded by the statute or law in any jurisdiction whose purpose, substance and /or effect is to provide that a general release shall not extend to claims, material or otherwise, which the person giving the release does not know or suspect to exist at the time of executing the release.
5. TO PAY for any damage to facilities or equipment, or to pay veterinary bills for injured or, if necessary, replacement animal of same kind and quality, of which value will be determined at the time.
6. IF I IGNORE THIS AGREEMENT AND FILE SUIT, I WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ATTORNEY FEES AND COURT COSTS INCURRED BY THE IFTA.
7. I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE INDIANA EQUINE LAW.
8. I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS AGREEMENT, AND UNDERSTAND THAT BY MAKING AND SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT I SURRENDER VALUABLE RIGHTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, MY RIGHT TO SUE.

DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____
If under the age of 18 must be signed by parent or legal guardian.