

BIG SKY FOX TROTTER ASSOCIATION

FOX TROTTING NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 2

Let's Go Ridin'

- Check out the calendar there's lots to do this summer.
- Ty Heth has trailer loading advise in this issue
- Read about Gary Becker's close call
- Check out the stallion listings we have some great horses up here

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You will notice this issue has no pictures. I am leaving them out in order to be able to email the newsletter to everyone possible.

BSFTA to Hold Benefit Concert

BSFTA President Bob Womack announced March 26th that the BSFTA has joined the Children's Oncology Camp Foundation to raise funds for Camp Mak-A-Dream. Camp Mak-A-Dream is a medically supervised, cost-free Montana Experience for children with cancer located at Gold Creek, MT.

The BSFTA will hold a benefit concert in conjunction with the annual points show in July. The concert will be held July 12th and feature Ken Overcast, "The Montana Cowboy". Overcast has recorded 13 albums of music and poetry and published three books. Ken also has a radio show syndicated on 64 stations throughout the nation.

Bob also announced that the show and concert had obtained a presenting sponsor. Univar N.V., a world leading chemical distributor with over 200 distribution centers in the US, Canada, and Europe, with over 7900 employees.

Univar has contributed \$5000 to underwrite the costs of the concert. This assures the BSFTA that the concert will be a financial success. All profits from the concert will go to Camp Mak-A-Dream.

The 14th Annual BSFTA National Points Show and Concert presented by Univar N.V. will be held at the Sapphire Events Center in Corvallis, MT July 10-12.

Bob said that by holding this concert the BSFTA will be giving back to a community that has long supported our shows. He believes that this concert and the publicity surrounding it will raise awareness of the BSFTA and increase the willingness of companies and individuals to become involved in supporting the BSFTA in future events.

Camp Mak-A-Dream is a truly worthy cause for the BSFTA to support. Their website, campdream.org, will take you on a tour of the facility and introduce you to campers and staff and allow you to see what the camp does for these young people.

Camp Mak-A-Dream is the only camp in the US that has facilities to allow children who are being treated for cancer to participate in this type experience. Other camps are for children who have been in remission or cured. The camp has a oncology doctor and nursing staff on site at all times during the camp season. Children can receive medical care during their stay.

Tickets for the concert will go on sale to the public the first of May.

Check out the BSFTA website (bigskyfta.org) for links to Camp Mak-A-Dream, Ken Overcast, Univar N.V., and the Sapphire Events Center.

HELENA SHOW MAY 16-17

Jerry Christison, show chair for the BSFTA Spring Roundup Points Show has things well in hand. Jerry expects a great turnout and super competition for the 2nd annual spring show. The Spring Roundup Show started last year as a Ranch Horse and Versatility only show (the only one in the history of the MFTHBA) and will expand into performance classes this year with the addition of 4 classes for performance horses.

Jerry had to go to the hospital to have his

shoulder repaired after the twisting Bob Womack did to get the performance classes added.

The judge for the show will be James Johnson from Harrisonville, Missouri. James is a versatility expert.

The show is being held at Rae's Arena the site of last year's show. This is a great facility perfect for showcasing our great ranch and versatility horse. For more information on the show call Jerry at 406-227-5400.

EDITORIAL – WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON IN AVA?

Have you been following the soap opera surrounding the MFTHBA situation? If not, you are missing some real good stuff. BOD member John Deutsch and Vice President Sarah McCain have thrown in the towel and resigned their positions.

Both John and Sarah ran for office this last year on a platform of reform and financial responsibility. Unfortunately, it appears that the good old boys are still a power to be reckoned with. John told me that he was blocked from getting a budget and strategic plan put in place because of resistance from other BOD members. Sarah expressed the same feelings of inaction. Both felt that the lack of fiscal responsibility by the BOD and Officers placed them at personal risk and liability.

What the heck is going on? Think about this, John Deutsch claims (and his numbers are not being disputed) that the MFTHBA is about 90 days from insolvency. We don't even have a budget in place. The liquidity of the MFTHBA is in jeopardy. If this is true, how can the BOD and Officers watch as we go broke? They seem to have their collective heads in the sand expecting the problem to go away. It won't. But, hey, we've got

that pretty \$50k entrance to the HQ that was supposed to be paid for by donations, but came out of the treasury. The county was going to shut down the grounds because of the sewer problems that we could not afford to fix, but we have a nice gate.

And, Oh by the way, the BOD fired two long time employees to save money (good move) then Bob and Donna Nagel quit to pursue other opportunities. The office was down to one person and some volunteer help for two weeks. They had to close the doors of the office to get things done. Notice how long it took to get your membership card or transfers?

Why are we at this point? My personal opinion is that the people running the show for the last five years did not know what they were doing. They continued to spend money in the face of declining revenues and memberships. The treasurers reports have shown this trend for several years. But there was no strategic plan to guide the MFTHBA into the future. There is still no budget for 2008 (4/07). If you want to get the flavor of the drama get on the Yahoo group MFTHBA members only discussion group, it will be entertaining.

HORSE HEALTH—The Older Horse

Many of us are facing the problem of an older horse and its special requirements. If you have a horse that has been your friend and partner for a while you know that it is hard to watch as they age and begin to slow down.

But there are some things that can be done to help the older horse age more gracefully and make their life much more productive and fun for you.

Here is some information lifted from the "Older Horse" publication from the AAEP Educational Partners.

This issue we will focus on a total management plan.

You may think that turning you old-timer out to pasture is the kindest form of retirement. But horses are individuals. Some like to be idle and some want to be part of the action. Whatever you do don't abandon the horse. Proper nutrition, care, and exercise will help the horse thrive. Develop a total management plan for your senior citizen. Keep in mind the following guidelines:

Provide a safe, comfortable environment, free of hazards and with adequate shelter from the elements and biting bugs.

Arrange for routine dental care, at least once a year.

Observe your horse on a regular basis. Watch for changes in body condition, behavior, and attitude.

Feed a high quality diet, avoid dusty and moldy feeds.

Feed your older horse away from younger, more aggressive ones so that it won't have to compete for food.

For troubled chewers, wet the feed to soften it or add enough water to make a mash that the horse can drink.

Feed at more frequent intervals, as not to upset the digestive system; 2-3 times a day is best.

Provide plenty of fresh, clean, tepid water. Excessively cold water reduces consumption and can lead to colic.

Adjust and balance rations to maintain proper body conditions. A rule of thumb is to be able to feel the ribs, not see them.

Provide adequate, appropriate exercise to maintain muscle tone, flexibility, and mobility.

Be vigilant in controlling pests and parasites.

Manage pastures and facilities to reduce infestations

Provide regular hoof care.

Groom your horse frequently to promote circulation and skin health.

Be aware that older horses are prone to tumors. Look for any unusual lumps or growths from head to tail. Pay particular attention to grey horses.

HEY, HOW ABOUT A SCARED STIFF CLASS?

I was accosted at the last BSFTA meeting in Whitehall by a lady who was concerned that we did not have a class in our shows that was for people who were just starting out and “scared S__tless”, her words. She related that a friend had come to the Helena show last spring and not competed because she was afraid.

I told her we had “novice” classes for those just starting out and that was as low as it got. The lady was very adamant that novice wasn’t good enough.

So let’s think about this a little bit. If you are wanting to show, but have some hesitation about your skills or your horse’s skills and are afraid to jump in to the show, let me relieve you of that worry. We all started out right where you are. We all went to our first show and were nervous about how we would do and look to everyone else there.

I would suggest that you contact someone who has shown before and ask for their help. With few exceptions, most show people will be more than willing to give

you advice. Some will even volunteer to guide you through the process from getting the horse ready to getting home. I’m not the best, but you can call me.

You will find that at the show, competitors may seem distant, but that is to be expected, they have worked long and hard and they have their game face on. But, those same people the night before the show are real people who will help you out.

I can only relate to my own experience in the show ring (and it isn’t very pretty). My first time in a show of any kind was in the versatility arena at the Show and Celebration in Ava in 2005. I was pretty uptight because this is the top of the heap. But I was surprised at how many people were just glad I came and helped with anything I needed. I was also blessed to have Mary Auger along to keep me from choking and keep me on time.

So, to address the “scared stiff” class, you don’t need it. Sign up for the novice and jump on in, the water is fine. Let me know if anyone laughs at you, I’ll buy you a beer.

BSFTA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 12-13 Brandon Carpenter Gaited Horse Clinic Laurel MT Sara Bohnen 406-749-3297

April 12-13 BSFTA booth display at Horse Expo at Sapphire Events Center, Corvallis, MT volunteers needed call Annette Padgett 406-777-0577

May 9-10 BSFTA Spring Roundup Show Rae’s Arena Helena MT Jerry Christison 406-227-5400

May 23-25 PNWFTA Horse Show Moses Lake WA

June 5-7 Utah Grand show Farmington UT Val Strong 801-602-8254

June 11-14 MFTHBA Spring Show and 3 Yr Old Futurity Ava MO

June 19-20 MSFTA Points Show Lakewood CO Peggy Sandbak 303-475-6540

June 28 BSFTA meeting Missoula MT

July 10-12 BSFTA 14th Annual National Points Show and Concert presented by Univar NV Sapphire Events Center Corvallis MT Cathy Olson 208-745-7631

July 13 BSFTA Memorial Trail Ride Bitter Root Valley MT Thea Gervais 406-642-6546

July 16-18 Great Western Celebration Farmington, UT Val Strong 801-602-8254

August 2 BSFTA meeting and trail ride Bozeman MT Janis Barrett 406-586-4110

August 8-9 Big Horn Basin National Points Horse Show Powell WY Robynn Gabel 307-335-7984

August 16-17 BSFTA National Trail Ride Elkhorn Hot Springs Polaris MT Gail Hansen 406-683-2597

BSFTA DISPLAY AT HORSE EXPO

The BSFTA will have a display booth at the Sapphire Events Center Horse Expo in Corvallis, MT on April 12-13. BSFTA had a very well received booth at the expo last year.

This year, as we did last year, BSFTA will put on a demonstration of the versatility of the Missouri Fox Trotter.

Annette Padgett is once again ram-rodding the production. Annette is asking for volunteers willing to work the booth for a few hours each day. Volunteers are needed all through each day. Last year there were several peo-

ple who had to spend a great deal of time at the expo because we failed to get enough help to adequately staff the booth. Admission is free so it won't cost you to come on down and have some fun. Please call Annette at 406-777-0577 if you can help in any way.

Last year the expo drew pretty good crowds both days and to enhance the crowd this year the producers have decided to not charge admission for the public. There will be demonstrations of several breeds, clinicians, food, and a pretty good time.

BSFTA NATIONAL TRAIL RIDE BACK AT ELKHORN HOT SPRINGS

The BSFTA Fall Gather National Trail Ride will be back at the popular Elkhorn Hot Springs August 16-17.

Gail Hansen is the trail boss for the ride and promises us a great time again. Gail and her husband Craig have ridden the trails around Elkhorn for years and have some very good rides lined out for us.

The Fall Gather ride is an BSFTA tradition that was started by BSFTA Hall-of-Famers Pete and Penny Peterson long before dirt was brown. Some say Pete had help from Jim Bridger laying out the first ride.

Every year the ride draws people from all over the US.

Elkhorn Hot Springs is located up the Grasshopper Valley off MT 278 between Wisdom and Dillon. Elkhorn has

cabins, a dining room, swimming in hot springs, and some of the most beautiful scenery in Montana.

This ride is very friendly since people who do not have camping setups can rent a cabin and be part of the ride.

The Fall Gather was at Elkhorn once before and it was very well received. As usual, there will be a steak dinner and great fellowship the night of the 16th. Someone will try to talk Dr Dale Tracer into bringing his git fiddle and once again showing his great musical talent. And if we can talk Ed Auger into bringing his geetar we could have a real treat in store.

If you have not been on a Fall Gather ride you should make this years ride. There will fun had by all.

YEE-HAH ! THE POWELL SHOW IS BACK!!

Like the Phoenix, the Big Horn Basin Fox Trotter Association has risen from the ashes and the National Points Show in Powell Wyoming is back. Absent for a short time, some of the great people in the BHBFTA have decided to resurrect the club and the show in Powell.

Many people from the BSFTA looked forward to the Powell show for years. It was always a highlight of the year. The show is a event that is low key and has great competition. They always had great food at the Bar-B-Que and the fellowship is outstanding.

Gary Becker is President, Craig Dansie is Vice-President, and Richard Heny is Treasurer. These are familiar names to many BSFTA members. Gary has led the Fall Gather Ride several times for the BHBFTA, most recently at last year's ride in the Sunlight Basin.

The Show Chair this year will be Robyn Gabel. Robyn

saw a need to bring back the Powell show and, I hear, almost single-handedly got the show on the road, so to speak. Robyn showed all over the country last year and it is obvious that the show bug has bitten her big time. You remember Robyn was Elvis in the costume class.

It is great to see the BHBFTA back in the saddle. We can't wait to see what else they will come up with this year and next. Hopefully Gary and Tonya will do another ride. Or Craig will do one in the Big Horns as he did year before last.

If you need information about the show or the BHBFTA call Robyn Gable at 307-335-7984.

For years the BSFTA and BHBFTA have been closely linked. It would be a great gesture for many of the BSFTA members to join the BHBFTA to help bolster the treasury of a struggling sister club.

poetry

REINCARNATION

Wallace McRae

“What does reincarnation mean?”
 Bob Womack ast his friend.
 His pal replied “It happens when
 Yer life has reached its end.
 They comb yer hair and wash your neck
 And clean yer fingernails
 And lay you in a padded box
 Away from life’s travails.”

“Then the box and you goes in a hole
 That’s been dug in the ground.
 And reincarnation starts in when
 Yore planted ‘neath a mound.
 Them clods melt down, just like yer box
 And you who is inside,
 And then yore just beginning
 On yer transformation ride.”

“In a while the grass’ll grow
 Upon yer rendered mound
 Till someday on yer moldered grave
 A lonely flower is found
 And say a hoss should wander by
 And graze upon this flower
 That once wuz you, and now’s become
 Yer vegetative bower.”

“The posey that the hoss done ate
 Up, with his other feed,
 Makes bone and fat and muscle
 Essential to the steed.
 But some is left that he can’t use
 And so it passes through,
 And finally lays upon the ground
 This thing, that once was you.”

“Then say, by chance, I wanders by
 And sees this on the ground,
 And I ponders, and I wonders at,
 This object I have found.
 And I thinks of reincarnation,
 Of life, and death, and such,
 And I come away concludin, Bob,
 You ain’t changed all that much.”

New Members

Tammy Dove - Huson, MT

Sue Fanning - Rexford, MT

Ray Knotts - Kalispell, MT

Steven Kroon - Manhattan, MT

Welcome Back Friends

These members are coming back after some
time away

Roy Beall - Victor, MT A charter member
and active from 1995 through 1998

Gail Moore - Cody, WY a member from
1998—2001

Doris Guse - Clyde Park, MT a member from
1999-2006 and an annual show sponsor

AUGUST 2 Meet- ing and Trail Ride

The BSFTA meeting scheduled for Bozeman on
Aug 2 will include a trail ride.

Janis Barrett and Linda Henne are planning a
great ride Porcupine Drainage that will last
about 3 hours. There is another ride along the
Porcupine into Ramshorn Lake which will be
longer and will allow some excellent alpine lake
fishing.

HORSEMANSHIP WITH TY HETH

This column will address any problems members are having with their horsemanship. Send questions to the editor. This month's question:

When I lead my horse to the trailer, he refuses to load and backs up. Help!

Whether a spoiled horse or an insecure horse, patience and persistence are the main ingredients in loading an unwilling horse.

Being able to direct your horse's feet accurately with the halter and lead will insure you and your horse's safety, as well as give your horse confidence to allow you to lead him anywhere.

The most important thing about loading a horse is to get the horse to physically and mentally look into the trailer before asking him to load.

Let's start by getting the horse as close to the trailer as he will go. Apply and maintain slight forward pressure on the halter rope until the horse quits backing and takes a step forward. Immediately release the pressure and pet the horse. No matter how far away from the trailer he ends up before he goes forward, release the pressure, not before.

Repeat the process of asking the horse to move forward with the lead rope pressure and subsequent release until the horse is at the trailer. It is important that you allow the horse to get comfortable close to the trailer before attempting to load him. So when you get him up to the trailer let him stand there for a couple minutes and pet and praise him.

With forward pressure on the halter rope encourage the hind feet to step closer to the trailer. At this point the horse will try to evade forward movement.

He may look between you and the trailer, then try to push through that opening. Block that movement with the hand holding the lead rope (most likely the left) by

placing the open hand in front of the left eye without contact with the eye (the lead rope is still held in the gap between the thumb and forefinger).

On some pushy horses this will not be enough to discourage movement, so if necessary use the heel of the hand to bump the jaw below the eye. It is important to remember it is easier to discourage the horse early, when the look and thought occur, then to wait until the feet are committed to moving. The ears are a good indicator of where the horse's mind is directed.

Another evasion your horse will try is to turn away from the trailer to the right. Block this by directing the horse's head back to the trailer by allowing the horse to run into the right side of the halter, that is, as he turns away tighten up on the lead rope sharply as it tightens in your hand.

Don't worry about the horse's body being crooked or out of alignment with the trailer. Focus on getting the horse to look into the trailer and encourage forward movement from the hindquarters, the horse will align its own body in time.

Be consistent and persistent as this may take quite some time. Once the horse loads, back them out and load them several more times. I try to get the horse to load one foot at a time. I do not want the horse to jump his hind feet into the trailer.

It is our responsibility, as owners, to have our horses prepared to load, unload, and be hauled safely. If your horsemanship skills are inadequate, you need to seek professional instruction from a competent horseman to avoid injury to you or your horse.

Ty Heth is a professional horseman and clinician who has been starting colts and training horses for over 20 years. Ty has worked with quite a few BSFTA members horses. He can be reached at 406-642-9592

"When a horse is full of energy, I love to get on, and instead of thinking, 'I'm going to go lope this horse for 30 minutes until we get rid of this energy', I go ahead and channel that energy in a different way. I'll put him on a cow when he's fresh, and it's like he says 'You think you can get past me, cow, to get back to the rest of the herd? Well, come on and just try it!' He just loves it. And I love it, too, because I get to experience what he's feeling. I don't run the feeling out of him; I go ahead and enjoy it with him. There's a lot of satisfaction letting a horse be a horse.

Larry Mahan—World Champion Rodeo Cowboy

IN THE GAIT with Jane Zubia

This column addresses issues that members have with the gaits of their horse. This month's question is:

"How can I get my horse to canter?"

Most gaited horses seem to have wonderful, easy to ride canters that are a joy to experience. However, teaching a gaited horse to canter on demand can be difficult because some horses are hard-wired to only pace. Since the canter has similarities to the pace, a pacey horse just keeps on pacing faster and faster which makes them very challenging.

I remember one of my early experiences trying to get a gelding called Silver to canter. He was typical of many gaited horses because he could do numerous gaits and if he chose to, he could quickly change his gait from one thing to another. Being a loose traveling horse made him smooth to ride. But it also made it more demanding on him to stay collected. In the beginning of the canter work it was very hard for me to keep Silver collected and bunched for more than a couple of strides before he would lengthen his body and begin to pace. For that reason, I was always losing his canter. In my opinion, it seems to be easier for the tighter muscled horses to canter than the loose ones.

I am always searching for things that will make it easier for the horse to understand what I want with less stress to achieve what I'm after. I had access to a county dirt road that had soft footing along each side and was perfect to travel on. Two miles down the road there was a really nice incline of about 45 degrees up a long hill. I decided to see if the incline would help silver stay more collected. I didn't care which lead he took, I just wanted him to canter as far as he could. I was interested in giving him the idea that I wanted to canter. Later on I could be more specific about him picking one lead or the

other. If this worked I also intended to develop his muscle memory for the canter so in the future it would become natural for him to repeat. I was pleased with the results we achieved that first time.

Silver and I traveled on that county road plenty of times while he was in training. I would warm him up in the gaits on the way to the hill and then we would work on the canter when we arrive there. Eventually he was able to canter to the top of the hill. I would turn him around and let him walk back down to the bottom so he could catch his breath before I would ask him to canter up the side of the road again. Because of the incline it naturally forced Silver to collect and stay bunched without me doing much besides holding his nose close to the vertical and encouraging him to maintain a certain speed. He had to keep driving forward with his hindquarters which automatically forced him to stay bunched as opposed to level ground where it was much easier for him to lose his collection. Over time the canter got more comfortable for him and eventually he was able to do it on soft level ground for me.

Since my experience with Silver, when someone asks me how to get their gaited horse to canter, I tell them to try cantering up a hill. It is always my first choice whenever I have access to a hill. I tell riders if their horse can't canter up an easy hill find a steeper incline until they find the best grade that will encourage their horse to canter.

Jane Zubia is a professional gaited horse trainer and clinician who lives in Powell Wyoming. Jane has done lots of lessons and clinics for BSFTA members. Jane can be reached at 307-254-0666 or at janezubia.com

OLE NETTEBEREG SIGHTING

It is good to be newsletter editor because when I hear something interesting I can publish it for all to hear. Try this:

When Ole Netteberg walked into the diner he had a toad on his head

It surprised the waitress and this what she said:

"Where'd it come from, I just have to know?"

Said the Toad: "It started as a wart on my butt, about a week ago."

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mtgervais@hotmail.com

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Dixie, 2 yo Bay tobiano MFT
filly, probable HZ solid, fancy,
correct, also reg KSMH

Tobie, 2 yo black/white tobi-
ano, KSMH gelding small su-
per gaited out of 2x reg MFT

GOSS STABLES

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3 yr 15h chestnut gelding,
out of our Tana mare by
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of our Tana mare by
Southern Sunrise

7 yr Grey mare, 2005 WC
working cow horse and Res
WC in several ranch
classes, in foal to Southern
Sunrise for a May foal.

Mark or Donna Goss
406-961-3119
mrg1947m@netscape.net

OMNI MOUNTAIN CONT

Totem, 2 yo Choc w/white
mane and tail, RM geld-
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flappable disposition and
stunning color

Amos 2 yo black RM geld-
ing Big, stout, sweet dispo-
sition

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Catherine Hanson
406-961-3342

BSFTA MEMBER RANCH LISTINGS

Triple Tree Ranch and Kennels

Ole Netteberg
5491 Hwy 93 south
Whitefish, MT
406-862-3035 261-8757
trotter@digisys.net

Gaited T Ranch

Kristina Tracer
Fox Trotters and TWHs
126 Pistol Lane Victor MT
406-642-6464
foxtrotters@gaitedt.myrf.net

Froghorn Ranch

Lauren and CJ Johansson
PO Box 1572 Malta, MT 59538
406-654-3334
froghorn@froghorn.com

Bill and Harriett Free Fox Trotters

538 Fescue Slope
Florence MT 59833
406-273-9138
bhfree538@msn.com

Double Creek Foxtrotter

Eldo R Heinle
3090 S Alaska Rd
Bozeman, MT 59718
406-388-4206
2eldo@earthlink.net

Crooked Antler Ranch

Leslie, Jack and Duphus Womack
635 North Ave E Missoula, MT
59801 406-549-4344
jackwomack@hotmail.com

Narrow Gate Ranch

Louise Bates
HC 48 Box 1073
Roberts, MT 59070
406-445-2235

N Hanging P Foxtrotters

Penny and Neil (Pete) Peterson
133 Silver Spring Road
Sheridan, MT 59749
406-842-5117
nhangpmt@3rivers.net

Gervais Ranch Foxtrotters

Matthew and Thea Gervais
3162 Mittower Road
Victor MT 59875
406-642-6546
mtgervais@hotmail.com

Lazy JC Spotted Foxtrotters

Jerry Christison
5220 lake Helena Drive
Helena MT 59602
406-439-2443
LazyJC@mt.net thelazyjc.com

Diamond N Ranch

Don Brown
7287 West Fork Road
Darby MT 59829
406-349-2311

R&D Ranch

Ray and Dolly Watkins
103 W Fork Trout Creek Rd
Republic WA 99166
509-775-3484
dwwatkins@televar.com

Pitch Fork Seven Ranch

Gale Haddeland
Box 1467
New Town ND 58763
701-627-2480

These ranch listings are free to current BSFTA members, contact the editor or secretary to list your ranch

Hansen Ranches, Inc

Gail and Craig Hansen
878 Laknar Lane
Dillon MT 58725
406-683-2597
misty_hansen2003@yahoo.com

Mountain Gait Horses

Rod and Kristi Thompson
3474 E 200 N
Rigby, ID 83442
208-754-4493
modit@srv.net
mountaingait horses.com

Snoose's Roost

John and Leslie Pentland
PO Box 251
Charlo MT 59824
406-644-2608
johnpentland@msn.com

Bitterroot View Farm

Karen and Earl Philips
725 Mihara Lane
Corvallis MT 59828
406-961-0101
kphilips@montana.com

Dark Horse Ranch

Mariann Wheat
6515 Three Mile Ranch Road
Helena MT 59602
406-457-0605

CR Fox Trotters

Cathy and Randy Olson
111 N 4100 E
Rigby ID 83442
208-745-7631
crfoxtrotters.com

Top of the Mountain MFT Horse Ranch

Annette and Rick Padgett
5150 Hill Drive
Florence MT 59833
406-777-0577
Padgettboys4@msn.com

BSFTA MEMBER RANCH LISTINGS

Goss Stables

Donna and Mark Goss
642 North Birch Creek Road
Corvallis MT 59828
406-961-3119
mrg1947m@netscape.net

Aajker Creek Farm

W. Toney and Ellen Bishop
3100 Branding Iron Road
Bozeman MT 59715
406-586-9995
bishopapp@earthlink.net

Broken W Foxtrotters

Becky Clapsaddle
502B W Central Ave
Belgrade MT 59714
406-209-1975
baclapsaddle@brokenw.org

Pais Casa Ranch

Karyn Conner
PO Box 1143
Three Forks MT 59752

Double C Ranch

Colleen Long
237 Tin Cup Road
Darby MT 59829
406-821-0031
gaitedgold@accessmtwildblue.com

Flying N Stables

Suzanne Nebeker
51 North Baker Road
Salmon ID 83467
208-756-7168
moabnp@gmail.com

Camas Prairie

Foxtrotters
Jean Nemeth
840 MT Hwy 382
Plains MT 59859
406-741-2486

Dream Catcher Stable

Deanna Flaget Schumaker
PO Box 262
Clinton MT 58825
406-825-3312
dflaget@aol.com

Satin Gaits

Jane Zubia
333 S Jones #28
Powell WY 82435
307-254-0666

Omni Mountain Horses

Catherine and Gary Hanson
922 Willow Creek Road
Corvallis MT 59828
406-961-3342
mumma_cat@msn.com

T Diamond Ranch

Allan & Debra Currie
1210 Eden Road
Great Falls MT 59405
406-736-5550

Stilly River Foxtrotters

Donna and Bill Dahl
24115 47th Ave NE
Arlington WA 98223
360-572-4182
matteliza@msn.com

Member Stallion Listings

Jazz-Mi-Tazz (black) Frank's Dark Rawhide (black bay)

Stilly River Foxtrotters
Donna Dahl
360-572-4182 matteliza@msn.com
stillyriverfoxtrotters.com

Maple Hills Velvet Cream (cremello)

Froghorn Ranch
CJ and Lauren Johansson
PO Box 1572
Malta, MT 59838
406-654-3334 froghorn.com
froghorn@froghorn.com

GR Patriot's Climax (black)

Son of Outlaw's Patriot 5x WGC
Gervais Ranch Foxtrotters
Matt and Thea Gervais
406-642-6546
Mtgervais@hotmail.com

High Noon (cremello) Honkie Tonk Man (black) Mr Lexus (black tobiano)

Aajker Creek Farm
W Toney and Ellen Bishop
3100 Branding Iron Road
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-223-9477
bishopapp@earthlink.net

Cloud's Jubalation (champagne)

Rod and Kristi Thompson
Mountain Gait Horses
208-754-4493 modit@srv.net

The Pied Piper (black & white tobiano)

Lazy JC Spotted Foxtrotters
Jerry Christison
406-439-2443 LazyJC@mt.net

***Stallion listings are \$10/yr
for BSFTA members.
Contact the editor or the
secretary for information***

Member Stallion Listings

**CR Rocky's Golden Devil
(palomino)**

**CR Shadow of a Storm
(bucks skin)**

CR Fox Trotters
Randy and Cathy Olson
208-745-7631 colson10@msn.com
Crfoxtrotters.com

**Dynamite
(palomino)**

Double Creek Foxtrotters
Eldo R Heinle
406-388-4206
dbblfoxtrotters@earthlink.net

**Dundee's Champagne
Sparkler
(champagne gold)**

Broken W Fox Trotters
Becky Claplesaddle
406-451-8139
bw_foxtrotters@brokenw.org

**Sun Dust's Ozark Gold
(palomino) 2006 WGC
Open Ranch Horse**

**Cloud's Checkmate
(black)**

Flying N Stables
Suzanne Nebeker
208-756-7168 moab@gmail.com

Member News — March/April

Gary Becker

Gary Becker, a mainstay of the Big Horn Basin Fox Trotter Association for years, missed a great opportunity to be included with the names on the BSFTA Memorial Trail Ride this winter.

Gary and his wife, the lovely Tanya, were in Arizona riding with friends when Gary started to experience unexplainable pains.

Tanya and friends, Don and Laurie Smith from Tuscon, took Gary to the emergency room.

After some tests and some much appreciated oxygen, Gary was diagnosed with three arterial blockages. Now Gary doesn't play around because these three blockages were special.

Gary's three arteries were 99%, 90%, and 70% clogged up. Not a good thing said the docs.

So they wheeled Gary into a neat little room and fixed him up with three stints. Now, he's feeling lots better.

Gary said he the way he had been feeling for the last few months he knew something was up but just would not admit it. "Bull-headed" is the phrase he used. "Close to dying" would work there too. But he is on the road to recovery and should be back in the saddle as you read this.

Gary told the editor that he has never eaten so much fruits and vegetables in his life, but has entered up for the duration as a confirmed "good food eater".

Gary's follow-up treatment is in Billings MT. He will have a stress test there in May to evaluate the stints effectiveness.

We hope that Gary continues to improve. Mainly because he puts on a danged good trail ride and we would hate to lose the talent.

Gary says he and Tanya will be to both the BSFTA rides this year. It will be good to see Tanya again.

In reflecting on his ordeal, Gary said he had learned a life lesson and is passing it on to the rest of us—"Do not ignore your body's warning signs!"

You can contact Gary at gtbecker@tctwest.net. He would like to hear from all his BSFTA friends.

BIG SKY FOX TROTTER ASSOCIATION

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Corvallis, MT 59828

The Finest Horses and the Finest People

*We're on the web
at bigskyfta.org*

***CHECK OUT THE BSFTA SHOW AND CONCERT
INFORMATION INSIDE.***

***BE SURE TO GET YOUR AMATEUR CARDS
BEFORE THE SHOWS***

***GET THOSE HORSESS IN SHAPE IT'S TIME TO
RIDE!***

***AND DON'T FORGET TO TIGHTEN YOUR
CINCH***