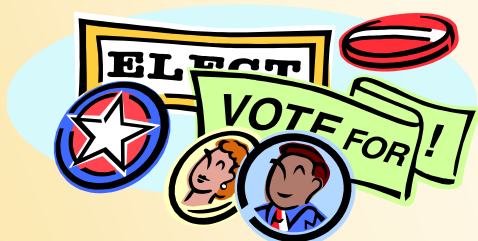


# GLOBAL FOXTROTTER PROMOTION GROUP NEWSLETTER

## 2008 ELECTION RESULTS

The results are in and we would like to congratulate the newly elected members of our MFTHBA BoD - Gene Donley, Sara McCain, Jim Wood, Julie Moore, and John Deutch. Regional Representation and the new By-Laws passed by a more than 70% margin. The election of these individuals and the passage of these proposals show that our membership is united behind change and the idea of a better managed organization. The platforms of each of these individuals stressed better promotion, better representation of all members, an interest in recruiting new members and keeping the current ones. These individuals bring new ideas and new strengths to our BoD and all have promised to diligently work toward the betterment of our association.

Please support each of these newly elected officials in whatever way you can. They are volunteering their time and energies for you.



## ASK THE VET

Hi all. I am Gabby Moore, DVM, a veterinarian with 37 years in practice and a former Mo. University veterinary college faculty member. I also guest lectured at Stephens College and William Woods University for the equine programs there. My husband Don and I breed, show and train our own foxtrotters and stand a stallion. We often times have horses for sale. I have been heavily involved in the quarter horse industry in the past as well as the paint horse, appaloosa horse and dressage aspects of the horse industry. I am currently on the BOD of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breeders Association and a member of the Missouri Farm Bureau equine advisory council. I will be contributing a monthly advice column to this newsletter. If anyone has a question they would like answered please email me at [horsemor@fidnet.com](mailto:horsemor@fidnet.com). I can answer general questions only. Please let me know where your interests lie, so we can give you good information.

**Gabby has agreed to answer our vet related questions in a Q&A format each month in our newsletter. We are very excited to have her contributions. Please email your questions to her so she can start submitting her answers and help make our newsletter a valued resource to all our members.**

# STALLION SHOWCASE

## DANNEY JOE'S GOLDEN SHADOW BY SHARON LESNER

Danney Joe's Golden Shadow was my dream horse. I met him about 11 years ago when I went to Missouri to look for my first foxtrotter. I fell for a little palomino, Shadow's Top Quest with a big blaze. RL Webb, Shadow's owner at the time, took me out into his pasture. He called to his horses and they all came around the truck. He had so many horses and why that little palomino caught my eye was beyond me. RL saddled him up and away we went, down the road with huge trucks flying by us and he just gaited up a storm, not bothered by anything. He was TWO. I was a Quarter Horse person so I wanted a gaited horse that looked like my Quarter Horse but I didn't want to bounce anymore. The gait was unbelievable. I was sold. I went into the barn to meet Shadow, Top Quest's father. He was a respectful, gentle stud horse and I could tell how much RL loved him.

RL decided to give up breeding so he sold Shadow to some people in Colorado. They never really promoted Shadow and eventually he ended up back in Missouri at the farm of Donnie Bracht. Donnie had Shadow for several years and bred him to some of his mares. Shadow produced a magnificent sooty palomino sabino colt that Donnie knew was going to be Shadow's replacement, so he notified me to let me know Shadow was for sale. That colt, Perfection's Coppertop B went on to be the 2007 World Grand Champion Yearling at the Missouri Foxtrotter Celebration. Shadow's granddaughter, Mayan Gold V, a filly was 2007 Reserve World Grand Champion Yearling. She is by 2006 World Grand Champion Danney's Golden Perfection V., a direct son of Shadow. As you can see, Shadow produces some top horses. The last two years have been good ones for his stellar reputation.

Producing top model horses is not Shadow's best quality. It is his good mind. We believe Shadow is one the top Missouri Foxtrotter studs, conformation wise. There is little to fault with him. We have owned or do own many of Shadow's direct get or grandbabies. The absolute best thing about these babies is their good minds and willingness.

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Because Shadow carries agouti and the sooty gene, as well as sabino, his babies are often very colorful or have a lot of chrome. Combine the color with the conformation; you can get a beautiful, good minded, colorful, baby with superb conformation. What more can you ask for?

Danney Joe's Golden Shadow is now standing at Trail Head Foxtrotters in Grandin, Missouri, owned by our partner's Wade and Pam Hamlett. For information on any Shadow bred horses or stud fees, please contact Sharon or Michael Lesner at 931 424 1347. AI will be available for spring breeding.

[www.serenityfarm.com](http://www.serenityfarm.com)



# MFTs and Natural Horsemanship are "No-Brainers" for Recovery

By Bonnie Martin, 2007

Less than a year after a delicate twenty-two hour, two-part surgery for a benign brain tumor on my brain stem, I went from barely being able to move even with the aid of a walker to being back with my Missouri Fox Trotters practicing Natural Horsemanship and coaching others.

Horses have been very important in my life, and a horse related incident even led to the diagnosis of my brain tumor. A young horse I was riding turned suddenly and I fell off, something that wouldn't have happened to me in the past. Casual mention of the incident at a routine doctor visit started the ball rolling for medical referrals, tests, and the diagnosis of a tumor that might have been growing slowly for years. The tumor was large and in a touchy spot, so I was referred to MD Anderson Cancer Hospital in Houston, TX, where they have done much more of that type of surgery.

When I awoke after the second day of surgery, I was really distressed to find how disabled I was. I couldn't see well, couldn't talk, swallow, or move, and the left side of my face was paralyzed. The doctors were calling the surgery a success, but I didn't think of it that way at that point! Lying in the hospital bed able to do nothing, time really dragged. It was only because of support offered by my family and the innumerable friends and church families all over who were offering prayers and good cheer that I kept going and came out of my pity party. This is where the horses kicked in to help out.

During the recovery period back at home, my husband Gregg wouldn't let me handle a horse for fear of my getting jerked or jarred, but he would put one in the round pen for me to play with while it was loose. It really put the things I had learned in natural horsemanship practice to the test because body language was the only aid I had available. That was some of the best and cheapest therapy I went through.

At first, I was too weak to stand and had to play from a sitting position. That soon progressed to standing with my walker, and eventually on my own. The horses wanted to understand what I was asking and kept searching for the answers until they got it.

Horses can be such a source of comfort as well as great teachers. If dealt with respectfully, and with understanding of their psychology, horses want to please and will try their hearts out for you. Unfortunately, there is still too much of the old way of handling going on that doesn't recognize that, and those poor horses are either like robots or even dangerous.

The extra time on the ground playing with different horses was fun and useful as well as therapeutic. It's neat to be able to communicate with your horse without even a lead line on it and have the horse respond willingly and without fear. Several of the young horses progressed to the point where they would side pass at liberty and stop when asked to stop, back at whatever speed was requested, and turn figure eights around barrels without any more control than paying attention to body language.

Patience is one of the things I learned to work on after surgery, and it is important for all aspects of life. Instead of trying to make something happen with horses, set it up and let it happen. It may seem like it's taking forever, but the results will come and you won't have to keep dealing with the same issues over and over. The same philosophy works for life in general. Get yourself prepared as best you can, and let God do the rest. Don't try to force the issue. Fox trotters are great for this kind of work because they are so intelligent, willing to please, and kind hearted, but the same applies to other breeds too. All horses are much more observant than humans and if we can be clear and consistent in our communication, they will follow our slightest cues.

Two families of wonderful home-schooled young people have come into my life this last year. They have been a blessing keeping me busy sharing what I've learned about horses and in return helping me with the chores and training. I've been doing Natural Horsemanship for several years now, but when I was ready and needed them is when the students came to me. One young man has been able to help start the young horses and he has found that the ground work really made the saddle training move along fast. He was amazed that within just a few rides, he had them putting their feet forward, back, up and down wherever he wanted and that they would respond to gait transitions up and down and turn right and left with him not even touching the reins, just using his body for subtle cues.

I have progressed to the point that I began riding again early this spring, at first only on my well-experienced gelding due to my balance issues, but now on several different horses that have been started using natural horsemanship communication.

I urge everyone who is experiencing something that doesn't seem quite right about their body to bring it up to a doctor instead of waiting, and to work on developing patience and look for the good in life that will come even after something bad. I also encourage everyone to investigate more about learning to communicate with horses in such a way that a partnership rather than a dictatorship is formed between human and animal. There are many wonderful books, DVDs, and clinicians out there for guidance.



# MEET JERRI & BOB FROHNAUER

In my mind, Jerri Frohnauer is synonymous with promotion. She and Bob live in Chesnee, South Carolina and their farm is always open to people wanting to learn more about the foxtrotter breed. We first met them when our daughter was asked to present a report to her 4H Horse Project Group on foxtrotters. They knew we owned a few but nobody in our area knew anything about the breed. Chelsea tried to research the breed on the internet, but she wasn't able to find as much material as she wanted to make her presentation a success. The Frohnauer farm was within a day trip drive for us, so we contacted them to see if we could come learn more about the breed. We were immediately invited to come for a visit. Upon our arrival, Jerri and Bob warmly greeted us and then sat down with Chelsea at a table filled with information and materials she could hand out to her group members. Once Chelsea got her information, Bob took out one of their horses and demonstrated the different gaits to us. It was a great day and Chelsea's presentation was a success thanks to the time they took out of their day to promote the breed to not only us, but the 30 or so families in our area who heard Chelsea's presentation.

Jerri is also the President of the Southeastern Foxtrotter Association, an affiliate of the MFTHBA. Jerri and Bob spend countless hours working with people in the southeastern area of the country through SEFTA. They continuously volunteer their time and resources to educate people about the breed. They organize trail rides, meet and greet parties, youth functions, seminars on various topics, and shows for those close enough to participate in the events. And the crowning jewel is the SC Fall Classic that has been managed and produced by Jerri and Bob annually for the past seven years.

Jerri and Bob are dedicated to the young people showing an interest in the breed. They make themselves available for the youth and often organize trips for them to various locations to teach them about horse ownership, training, gaits, showing, and various other topics. She started a youth show clothing exchange so interested youth can show in style even if they do not own their own show outfits. Bob is always there with riding pointers for the youth (and adults too for that matter) at the shows and at his farm.

When Jerri heard about our promotion group, she immediately joined us to help support our efforts to promote the breed. Both SEFTA and Southern Comfort Farm have been there for the group with whatever support was needed. And that sums them up for me – they are always ready to step in and help an individual or a group in whatever way they can to educate, promote, and bring the breed into the spotlight.

The Global Foxtrotter Promotion Group is lucky to have members like Jerri and Bob who are so dedicated to the breed and to their friends and colleagues. If you haven't had the pleasure of meeting them yet, be sure to introduce yourselves when you see them out promoting the horses, organizing events, helping out with the youth, or any of the other many things they accomplish throughout the year.