

# **DOUGLAS COUNTY FOX TROTTING HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION**

## ***DCFTHBA NEWS***

**President's Corner - By Frank Williams**

**August, 2008**

The June-July 2008 meeting of the DCFTHBA was held on Sunday, July 27, 2008 at the Ava Saddle Club. The meeting began at 2:00 PM, following the cleanup from the rain date horse show the night before. The minutes and the treasurer's report were presented at the meeting. The meeting was well attended with 40 in attendance. We appreciate all the work done by Kay Ritter and her show committee for another successful MFTHBA and SCHSA point show. The original show scheduled for June 28 was rained out and the show was held on the rain date of July 26. We did have rain during the show, but were able to complete all 19 events. The show was a success as a result of the DCFTHBA members, sponsors, participants, guests, spectators, judges, the Ava Saddle Club, and everyone who worked together to make the show a success.

The DCFTHBA will co-sponsor a youth horse show on Saturday, August 16, 2008 at the Ava Saddle Club. Mike Hamby and Stan Knox are the DCFTHBA representatives helping with the preparation youth show. We would appreciate the help of other DCFTHBA members the night of the show.

The August meeting will be held on Monday, August 25 at the Frank & Mary Williams farm. The evening will begin with a pot luck dinner at 6:00 PM and the meeting will start at 7:00 PM. The club will furnish the meat and drinks for the meal.

We will plan to see you on Monday, August 25, at the Williams' farm.

Belinda Gail, America's Western Sweetheart, and Curly Musgrave, Western Music Association Male Performer of the Year, Songwriter of the Year, Academy of Western Artists Male Performer of the Year, & Entertainer of the Year will perform in Ava, MO during September at the local theater. They will be hosted by the DCFTHBA and tickets will be available after the August meeting from the members.

Directions to the August meeting:

From Ava, go South on HWY # 5 for 5 miles to HWY A. Turn right, or west, on HWY A and go 1 mile to Farm Road 406. Turn right on FR 406 and go 1/2 mile to the second drive on the right. Turn into the driveway, cross the small creek, and make a sharp right to the house at the top of the hill.

The September meeting will be held at the Bucks & Spurs Ranch and will be hosted by Vice President Cecil Huff and Sonny Huff.

The election for the 2009 officers will be held in October at Dale & Leah Lawson's farm.

## Trail Report

Even though the temperatures are higher and the ride starts an hour sooner we still seem to make it with smiles and “Howdy’s”. There was one ride that we left the drive way with grey skies, wind and a rain drop or so the windshield. But perseverance pays off and the skies cleared (pretty much) and the rain held out (mostly) and the lightening stayed far to the West. I can’t tell you how many times in the past that the truck and trailer left the drive way under a lot worse circumstances than that and by the time we reached the trail head the sun was out and it always turned out to be a spectacular ride. But rest assured, it doesn’t hurt to maybe make a call or two or listen to the radio station just for peace of mind that you won’t be the only one setting on your horse and wondering why no one else showed up.

I must admit that there was one ride where only three of us showed up. We got soaked to the skin but we were laughing when we got back to the trailers. It was my first ride on Tia and we were only a couple hundred feet from the trailers when it started to rain. Dale stopped and looked back at Bob and myself. The signal was given to go on (we all had on rain gear) and it only rained harder the further we rode. The wind blew and puddles got bigger and the jokes got funnier. But it’s a ride I’ll never forget because of the fun we had. I still don’t mind riding in the rain.

Till we meet again,  
Nancy