



The Walthour-Moss Foundation
 Post Office Box 978
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Foundation News

A PUBLICATION OF THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION



VOLUME SIX *THE MISSION OF THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION* "TO PRESERVE OPEN LAND, TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND TO OFFER A PLACE FOR EQUESTRIAN PURPOSES" JUNE 2010

WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION WINS BREYER EQUESTRIAN LAND PRESERVATION GRANT

ARLENE J. NEWMAN, JUST ABOUT HORSES MAGAZINE

A network of bridle paths that seems to endlessly meander through fields, woodlands and farms is at the heart of the Southern Pines area of North Carolina. For more than 30 years, The Walthour-Moss Foundation has been preserving this equestrian way of life and now, through the Equestrian Land Conservation Resource (ELCR), Breyer is recognizing the diligent and far sighted work of this foundation with a \$10,000 grant.

Landon Russell, the foundation's executive director, said the grant will help pay for the foundation's current project, which includes acquiring easements on property adjacent to the foundation's land.

Since it was begun by W.O. "Pappy" Moss and his wife Virginia Walthour Moss, the foundation has grown from the initial Walthour Moss bequest of 1,739 acres to 4,052 acres from donations and acquisitions. The property is considered the core of the Southern Pines equestrian community which includes riders and carriage drivers. The focus on horses and all things equestrian traces its roots back to the Moore County Hounds, founded in 1914.

Russell explained that the foundation recognizes the importance of keeping access to this network of trails. "As a part of its long range planning effort in 2007 the Foundation came to understand clearly that equestrian access throughout the community known as "Horse Country" was vital to the long term health of the equestrian community in Southern Pines. If historic bridle trails were lost, the



GRANT PRESENTATION (L-R) KENTUCKY'S FIRST LADY JANE BESHEAR, LIBBIE JOHNSON, ELCR BOARD OF DIRECTORS, BREYER'S KATHLEEN FALLON AND LANDON RUSSELL OF THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION

THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT 501 (C)(3) CORPORATION

The *Foundation News* is available by email. To be added to the email list please send a message to director@walthour-moss.org.

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Photo by Peggy Magness

character and use of the lands could quickly follow,” she said.

The Southern Pines area, like so many others across the country, found itself facing development issues that could affect the character of its “horse country.” “In the more recent twenty years, the number of farms has grown and the average size of farms has decreased, many traditional bridle trails have been lost. This is a by product in some instances of the increase in the value of the land being purchased and in some instances a lack of understanding the history,” Russell said.

“Although The Walthour-Moss Foundation’s efforts had been and continues to be the preservation of land for protecting the longleaf pine ecosystem and providing a place for equestrian use, without trails and lanes connecting various parts of the countryside and providing access to the Foundation much of the uniqueness of our Horse Country would be lost,” she added.

Russell said the grant will help the foundation continue its work in two ways. The grant will help fund its mission in Southern Pines. Also, being Breyer’s beneficiary gives the foundation recognition.

“As we continue the effort to protect bridle trails throughout the community the validation provided by the Breyer grant will assist greatly in communicating to our residents the importance of this mission. In addition the grant from Breyers will assist in the substantial costs associated with protecting easements and allow the



Photo by Caroline Young

PROTECTING ACCESS NOW AND FOR THE FUTURE: RIDERS ENJOYING A TRAIL PROTECTED BY AN EQUESTRIAN EASEMENT.

foundation to more aggressively pursue this effort,” she said.

Russell said she and her board were inspired to apply for the grant after reading about the work of the Highland Equestrian Conservancy (HEC) in Michigan, the 2008 grant recipient.

“I heard about the grant from one of our committee members and was inspired to apply after reading about the previous winner’s effort to preserve their own equestrian community. We had been successfully working with our own community to secure equestrian access easements for over a year and it seemed like a perfect fit,” she said.

2010 is the third year Breyer is supporting the efforts of the ELCR through its grant. In 2008, the HEC won the grant to purchase a tract of land that connects a road in neighboring Rose Township to Highland Oaks Park, a popular park for local trail riders.

The ELCR got underway about 12 years ago, as a result of a US Pony Club strategic planning meeting set to look at the issues that pose the greatest threat to the club’s mission of teaching children about horses.

“By far, the biggest issue everyone agreed was loss of land. But loss of land was not within the Pony Club mission and so, the ELCR was born,” said Deb Balliet, ELCR executive director.

The organization’s broadest goals are to both educate--get people to understand the magnitude of the land loss issue confronting horsemen, and then teach them how to take grassroots action to preserve the remaining open space.

“It’s not enough to be aware. You have to take action and be advocates in understanding and conveying appreciation of the value of the horse,” Balliet said.

The ELCR, which is the only national organization that advances conservation of land for horse related activities, has made strides in accomplishing its goals. Their offices are housed at the Kentucky Horse Park, which also houses offices for the key organizations involved in governing horse sport, including the United States Equestrian Federation, which is helping gain attention of the movers and shakers in the horse world.

Breyer Animal Creations has continued its support of the ELCR through Stephanie Macejko, Vice President Marketing and Product Development. “When I learned about the mission of the ELCR, I thought it



Breyer Model Horse No. 1428

THE 2009 ELCR BREYER MODEL: A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THE BREYER BENEFIT MODEL ARE USED TO SUPPORT THE ELCR GRANT.

had a lot of merit,” said Macejko, who trail rides frequently. “Loss of land use for equestrian activities is a really important issue for everyone who loves horses,” she said. “We are partnering with the ELCR so that all people can enjoy a connection with horses, animals and nature,” she added. With the ELCR being named the 2010 beneficiary of Breyer’s Benefit Model Program, a percentage of the sale of the new Breyer ELCR horse will help another local equestrian group conserve open land, just as Breyer helped The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Breyer has again pledged to donate a minimum of \$10,000.

“We are so grateful to Breyer for picking up on the issue and doing something about it. It’s terrific,” Balliet said. She is hoping that the models will raise awareness of the problem along with the funds to help.

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TWENTY-SEVEN AND COUNTING! WMF ACCESS UPDATE

The community response to the Foundation's equestrian access program continues to be tremendous. We are pleased to announce that the following six equestrian accesses have been generously granted to the Foundation bringing our total number of accesses to twenty-seven.

Carter Access Nina and David Carter provided an access on Moss Farm Lane to help link access from the North Country to the Main Foundation.

Mortenson Access Sherry and Tom Mortenson provided an access along a trail on their property that connects to the Teeter and Rigney access and to the Schwartzberg access.

Silverman and Whalen Access Pamela Silverman and Mark Whalen's access runs along the south edge of their property and connects to Cross Country Lane.



Photo by Landon Russell

THE SILVERMAN AND WHALEN ACCESS PROVIDES A CONNECTION TO CROSS COUNTRY LANE.

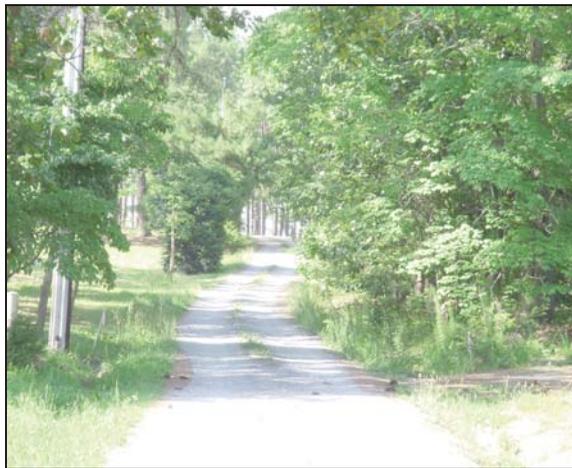


Photo by Landon Russell

THE TEETER AND RIGNEY ACCESS INCLUDES THIS SECTION OF MERRY WAY AND ALSO CONNECTS TO THE MORTENSON AND SCHWARTZBERG ACCESSSES.

Teeter and Rigney Access Tiffany Teeter and Jim Rigney's access connects to the Mortenson access and also includes most of Merry Way up to Youngs Road.

BO'S WAY

In addition to the easement given by Mott and Bo Carter and their family, the following two accesses complete Bo's Way. Together, these three accesses provide a continuous trail from Old Dewbury Lane out to Youngs Road.

Moore Access Andrea and Dick Moore's access runs along the southern edge of their farm and connects Young's Road to the Schwartzberg access.

Schwartzberg Access Neil Schwartzberg's access provides the middle section of Bo's Way and connects the Carter family access to the Moore access.



FOUNDATION WELCOMES FOUR NEW DIRECTORS

We are pleased to welcome Jim Granito, Cameron Sadler, Katie Walsh and Caroline Young as directors of The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Additionally we wish to thank our outgoing directors: Bo Carter, Effie Ellis, Rosa Ronalter and Mike Russell for their dedication and service to the Foundation.

JIM GRANITO Jim and his wife Sharon moved to Southern Pines in 1997. Both enjoy driving and Jim has been active in the Carriage Association of America for thirty years.



Photo by Pat Smith

Jim has assisted with the construction and maintenance of trails at Weymouth Woods, serves as co-chair of the Land Management Committee at the Carolina Horse Park and as the head of Roads and Trails for the Foundation's Land Management Committee.

When Jim isn't working on trails, he enjoys driving his four-in hand of Friesians with Sharon and their dog Lily.



Photo by Erin Kirkland

CAMERON SADLER Born in Savannah, Cameron first visited Southern Pines and hunted with the Moore County Hounds at the age of six. Now a permanent resident of the Sandhills, she and her husband Lincoln share a farm on Sheldon Road.

Cameron is currently the Vice President of Retail Sales at Kraft for the Charlotte Region. Her enthusiasm for hunting, hounds and horses continues to gain momentum. She is now in her fifth year as Joint Master (MFH) for the Moore County Hounds and has hunted

with more than fifty packs around the world! In addition to horses and hounds, Cameron also enjoys gardening, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

KATIE WALSH Katie first came to North Carolina for graduate school at UNC- Chapel Hill where she studied botany.



After spending 27 years in the northeast where she worked as a fundraiser for non-profit organizations, Katie returned to North Carolina with her dogs and horses to enjoy the temperate weather and rural lifestyle of Southern Pines.

Katie is currently a broker for Hagan and Hagan, and enjoys gardening, riding and identifying local flora in the WMF. She and her husband Dick together have three married children, four grandchildren, three dogs and two horses.



Photo by Erika Grace

CAROLINE YOUNG Originally from Greenville, SC, Caroline has lived in the Sandhills for the past seventeen years. She serves on several volunteer boards in the community as well as on the board of her family's business, the Alice Manufacturing Company.

Caroline is an avid photographer and donates much of her photography to charitable organizations.

Caroline and her husband Wade share their farm on Lake Bay Road with several horses, three rescue dogs, four cats and a flock of chickens.



WHAT'S IN BLOOM?

Have you ever ridden on a trail through the Foundation, seen a beautiful wild flower and wondered what it might be? Now, we just might have an answer for you.

For more than a year, Katie Walsh has diligently catalogued and photographed over one hundred species of plant and trees on the Foundation land. Each photograph, along with a detailed description has been uploaded to Foundation website. Please see logon to our website at walthour-moss.org and click on "What's Blooming" to identify a plant and to see a complete list of Katie's work.

A special thank you to Katie Walsh for her time, energy and dedication to this project, to Dominick Pagnotta for his web master skills and to Caroline Young for assisting with the catalogue photography.



Photo by Katie Walsh

IPOMOEA PANDURATA OTHERWISE KNOWN AS BIG ROOT MORNING GLORY BLOOMS FROM MAY TO JULY AND CAN BE FOUND NEAR SWEETHEART LAKE IN THE FOUNDATION.



2010 Fall Benefit Rides

Sunday, October 24
4th Annual Ride for the Horse
To benefit the U.S. Equine Rescue League Moor Meadow

Sunday, November 7
18th Annual Hunter Pace
To benefit the Moore County Hounds Hobby Field



Photo by Katie Walsh

LUPINUS DIFFUSUS, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS OAK RIDGE LUPINE, BLOOMS FROM MARCH TO MAY AND FRUITS IN JUNE AND JULY AND CAN BE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE FOUNDATION.

**BREAKING NEWS!
 WMF RECEIVES GRANT FROM
 NORTH CAROLINA HORSE COUNCIL**



We are pleased to announce that the Foundation's application for a 2010 Trails and Community Grant to build an information kiosk at Magnolia Hill was awarded the maximum grant of \$1,500 from the North Carolina Horse Council.

Construction of the information kiosk at Magnolia Hill is scheduled to begin in July. The kiosk will be built in similar fashion to the existing structure located at Equestrian Road. If you are interested in volunteering for this project please contact the Foundation office at 910-695-7811



Photo by Deborah Wilson

AND THEY'RE OFF IN A FURRY SCURRY! ON MAY 15, 2010, OVER 125 PARTICIPANTS, MANY WITH CANINE FRIENDS, RAN THROUGH THE FOUNDATION IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPANION ANIMAL CLINIC OF THE SANDHILLS.

Mark Your Calendar!
THE BUSHWHACKER CLUB
Fall Work Days
 ~~~~~  
**Sunday, September 19**  
**Sunday, September 26**  
**Sunday, October 3**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!  
 FALL CLEAN UP DAYS SCHEDULED**

The 2010 fall meetings of the Bushwhacker Club will be held the last two Sundays in September and the first Sunday in October. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up to come out for a half-day or two and help us clear the trails of any debris left by summer storms.

Bushwhackers should plan to bring gloves, hedge trimmers, shears, chainsaws, gators, and a touch of good humor. Coffee and donuts will be provided in the morning and lunch in the afternoon.

If you would like to volunteer for one, two or all three dates please contact Landon Russell by telephone at 910-695-7811 or email [director@walthour-moss.org](mailto:director@walthour-moss.org). Additional reminders will be sent over the summer.

Thank you for volunteering!

