

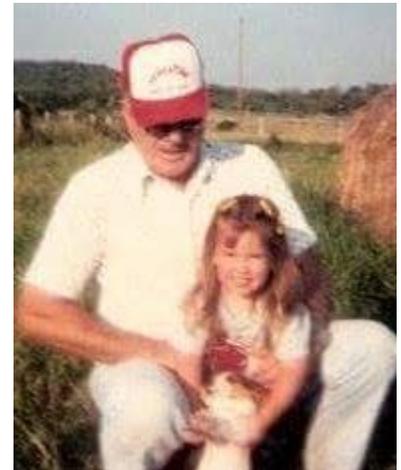


It's funny how I've read hundreds of these throughout the past thirty plus years and now I can't figure out a creative way to introduce myself. It's so much easier to write about someone else but to talk about yourself not so much; especially when it's people you've practically grown up with. So with those who know me please bear with me and those who don't it is nice to meet you! My name is Mitzi Nichols I'm a third generation fox trotter enthusiast. I breed, raise, train, show, trail ride, promote and do about anything you can think of with Missouri Fox Trotters. Missouri Fox Trotters have been a family tradition and are truly a family thing in my life.

I started riding in a bucket seat on the back of a Shetland pony and once I got to where I could walk and trot him around my grandpa in a chair at the gaits as directed, then the search for a fox trotter began. With both my parents and my grandma being school teachers at that time, it was a huge thing to skip a day of kindergarten to go look at a buckskin mare with my grandpa. From that day on it was over.

I started showing at the age of six and am still going thirty some years later. I reluctantly joined the world of boards and associations in the early 2000's by a strong push from Florine and Rex Barham. Probably more so Florine but she was extremely determined and reminded me how the young people would need to become involved in the breed to keep it going. Fifteen plus years later, many experiences and many different faces later I'm still enjoying being a part of the Mid America Fox Trotting Horse Association board. Serving for many years as a director and then currently as President. In 2007 I became a member of the National Association of Breeders and have been actively involved since. In 2017 I was asked to be on the show committee with the MFTHBA and be show chairman for the 2017 Three Year Futurity and 2017 Show and Celebration. I returned as chairman of the show committee this year with a great group on the show committee for the 2018 shows. I am looking forward to being a part of the 60th Anniversary Show and Celebration or Jubilee as what I knew it to be from my grandparents.

I'm looking forward to hopefully reincorporating the history and tradition back into the breed. The foundation of what the breed and our wonderful horse has evolved from and help move into today's world. There are many challenges that technology and the changing ways of the world impose upon our breed, however we can't forget the foundation and history of the breed along the way. We must be financially smart and thrifty, but yet look to expand and move our association forward. Help bring new members and old members back into the breed along the way. I believe we all need to be open and available for the members and their concerns or ideas. I feel there are many areas where our regions can help to continue to expand and grow the association. I'm looking forward to accepting these challenges, with the support of the members, and to see growth within our association.



I would appreciate your support and vote in the upcoming election. It would be a great honor to represent the members of this association and to do what I can to help our breed and wonderful horse. I don't know if grandpa knew or meant for his enjoyment and love of fox trotters to turn into what it did, but thirty plus years later here I am serving on two boards, twenty five fox trotters, three stallions and every extra hour is spent with something horse related running thru my mind. I'm thankful for the memories of those afternoon naps of going thru old Celebration and Mid America books and Journals with them, the stories from fellow members, the fox hunts, the elk hunts, trips to Germany, all the wonderful people I've met, the many memories and opportunities that I've had thanks to the horses. I'm looking forward to many more and to giving back to the association. Grandpa served on the board and I'd be more than glad to follow in those shoes with the members support.

Thank you for your support,

Mitzi Nichols

