

That time of year is upon again. Soon we will be attending the Annual Show and Celebration and shortly after will be voting in new Board of Director positions. **I am now asking for your vote for Region #9 position.**

Currently my wife and I are steadily involved with MFTHBA, and other affiliates that support the Missouri Foxtrot breed. We routinely bring several horses to National shows as well as many local shows. We support and sponsor shows, trail rides, learning programs, and charities that involve our breed. We have a very successful breeding program that not only produces top quality Show horses but Top quality pleasure horses as well. We have “on-site” training facilities and also support several trainers in our breed. We have committed ourselves to the success of the MFTHBA and feel that I would help benefit in helping guide it. I am impressed with where the last year has been improved on regarding the association. I do feel we are at a point that things can improve even more with the proper management and direction of the governing body. **For this reason I ask for your vote.**

My wife and our entire family have been in the Animal Health industry for over 30 years and have a keen sense of how this industry, as well as all animal interests in the country has evolved. It is a “different time”, but one that can be made better. All businesses must evolve in order to grow and also just to maintain interest these days. In order for the MFTHBA to evolve it will take cooperation among its members with a common thread in mind. This consisting of the continued love, work, appreciation, admiration, and the willingness to promote this great breed of horse. It has always been said “it is about the horse.”

Among other reasons and concerns that affected my decision to run for Region #9 Representative, is the growth of the

Registry and its association with its members. I believe there are several things that can be done to grow the “numbers” as well as welcoming more horse owners and making them feel more “involved”. With support of National Sponsors as well as recognition and validation from National entities will help improve all involved. This can be done, but will take patience and hard work and cooperation. I do not believe that I alone can “change” or can “influence” this breed and its association. It is also not my intension to “change” it. I do however believe that there are certain things within how the association is operated and the relationship with its members that can be more properly handled. The MFTHBA should be the foundation and the leading source for encouragement as well as guidance for our wonderful breed. I have noticed that this has not been the case necessarily within all facets of the breed. With hard work and



determination this can be achieved. **This is why I ask for your vote.**

I have ran, managed, owned and currently own couple of businesses that employ several people throughout my adult life. These businesses have had a history of “reaching out” and encouraging sponsors as well as a partnership in order to cross promote. A “true” business approach to the association, I believe, is needed. We have a great breed of horse and a great organization of people throughout the breed. The horse industry as a whole has suffered in the past 7 years and now is the opportunity to “buckle up” and try to create an even stronger association. This can be done with the people that own and love their Missouri Foxtrotter and supporting and having a great relationship with its governing association. Our owners are a varied group, with different interest for what they want from them and all should be welcomed and appreciated. This is known as “the most versatile” horse breed, after all. **This is why I ask for your vote.**

My wife and I, Jennijoe Stables, have invested in this breed and will continue to support it because of the people involved as well as the “lifestyle” that it encourages. We want this organization to become stronger, bigger, more people aware of it, and respected for decisions it makes and the guidance it promotes for the horse and their owners. I believe that decisions can be made and new opportunities created that can help achieve this. We have a good organization and could once again be great for all facets of the breed. Inclusion by all MFT owners should be a driving force as well as continuing to promote and value our breed. **This is why I ask for your vote...**

Sincerely and appreciative for your consideration for Region #9 Board Representative,

Joe Stewart