



# CAROLINA Marsh Tacky ASSOCIATION

www.marshacky.org

Volume 2, Issue 4

June 2010

## CMTA Annual Meeting

April 24, 2010



Hello all! Our 2010 Annual Meeting was held at Folly Moon Farms in Ridgeland, SC. Thank you to everyone that came out on a rainy Saturday to support the Marsh Tacky and thank you to the owners and staff of Folly Moon Farms for making us feel so welcome.

We had some special guests with us – Mr. James Mitchell from the Native Island Business and Community Affairs Association, Inc. The CMTA and the NIBCAA have joined forces to bring the Marsh Tacky races back to Hilton Head Island. We were also joined by David Lauderdale from the Hilton Head Island Packet newspaper. Mr. Lauderdale is joining us in our quest to make the Marsh Tacky the State Heritage Horse and has written several wonderful articles about the Marsh Tacky and our state horse efforts.

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## WE DID IT!

THE MARSH TACKY IS THE  
\*\*\*OFFICIAL STATE HERITAGE  
HORSE OF SOUTH CAROLINA!\*\*\*



After a long 5 years, the Marsh Tacky has become the official **State Heritage Horse of South Carolina!** The Governor's signature on June 11, 2010 gave formal recognition to an important part of South Carolina's living history. This horse forged the southern wilderness, survived while others perished, carried our ancestors through war, sustained countless families, and managed to hang on despite the invasion of tractors, automobiles, bridges, and urban sprawl.

Thank you to all who have supported this bill and to the members of our state legislature who recognized this hearty, spirited, little horse as an important part of our heritage.

Jackie McFadden  
CMTA State Horse Committee



Carolina Marsh Tacky Association

## MARSH TACKY REGISTRY UPDATE

Although the registry was completed in 2009, the work has been far from over with the task of staying up-to-date with new foals, trades, sales, deaths, gelding etc., all of which have to be recorded in the registry. As always, it is vital that owners notify the registry of changes with their horses so that the database is complete and accurate.

I am pleased to report that 2010 is a hallmark year for the Marsh Tacky as the population grew to just over 250 animals this spring. The following are basic statistics of the population as recorded in the registry.

- Total number of live animals – 252
- Total number of mares – 141
- Total number of stallions – 61
- Total number of geldings – 50
- Number of owners – 65
- Total number of horses recorded (live & dead) - 307

It should be noted that the number of stallions represents breeding horses *and* young stud colts that are slated to be gelded once old enough. I believe the number of breeding animals that will remain in-tact is close to half of the number of stallions reported. It is important that owners notify the registry when they have gelded an animal so that we have an accurate accounting of available breeding stallions.

There are a couple of projects in the works regarding the studbook. The first is to make the data available online for owners. CMTA is currently investigating the possibility of publishing the studbook in hard copy form as well.

A major ALBC program objective for 2010 is for Dr. Sponenberg to take the data from the studbook and analyze the population in order to come up with a suggested breeding strategy that will optimize and protect the genetic diversity within the population. The goal is to identify bloodlines within the population and use this information to make breeding recommendations that will help guide new owners in making breeding decisions with their horses.

The outlook for the breed continues to be bright. I would like to thank owners for communicating with me in a timely manner so the registry can be as accurate as possible at any given time. I look forward to hearing about foals this year as we head towards the 300 mark!

*Jeannette Beranger  
ALBC Research & Technical Programs Manager  
Registrar, Carolina Marsh Tacky Horse Registry*

## Name that Gait!

And the winning name of the Marsh Tacky gait is...



## Swamp Fox Trot

Congratulations to our contest winners: George Kahrs, Janson Cox, M.J. Goodwin, Jackie McFadden, and Jeannette Beranger all of whom submitted **Swamp Fox Trot!**

## CMTA ANNUAL MEETING (CONT.)



Mr. DP Lowther, President CMTA, started the meeting with general business. The CMTA let members know about the status of the stud book.

Mr. Jimmy Maner gave a report on promotions committee. He said the CMTA went to nine events in 2009 to promote the Marsh Tacky and the State Heritage Horse Bill. Thanks to all members and non-members that supported these events with their own time and money.

Jackie McFadden gave an update on the State Heritage Horse Bill. Jackie has been tirelessly working on the bill and I would like to personally thank her for all her hard work. The bill has gone further through the legislative process than previous bills.



I would like to thank everyone who supported the T-shirt and Koozie sales. Our newly designed logo and new T-shirts were a hit. Mr. DP Lowther provided a wonderful BBQ dinner with all the fixings'. If anyone went home hungry it was their own fault. Thanks again for the turnout and your support of this wonderful animal.

Susan Day, CMTA Secretary

## “MY LOVE OF HISTORY HAS MERGED WITH MY LOVE OF HORSES”

OBSERVATIONS OF A NEW MARSH TACKY OWNER  
BY M.J. GOODWIN

Horses captured my imagination when I was a little girl. I don't remember when I first learned about horses. But I know I have loved them for as long as I can remember. I begged my mother for a horse, or if not that, for riding lessons. She took me to a barn for those lessons when I was a child. I think I was about eight years old. I remember that I had seen horses on television and in books. But I had never been around an actual real life horse. Of course the day of my first lesson was filled with excitement and anticipation. I have a vivid memory of walking into the barn and being enveloped with that musty, hay-filled, extremely unique aroma that comes only from horses. To this very day, the smell of horses is associated in my mind with happiness. All I have to do after a rough day is go smell my horses and a sense of well being comes over me.

I did not own my own horse until I was 31 years old. I began my venture as a horse owner where I began my riding lessons, with Thoroughbreds and Arabians. Now, don't get me wrong, those are some fine horses. But they can't hold a candle to my new acquisition: the Carolina Marsh Tacky.



I found out about the Carolina Marsh Tacky quite by accident. I was reading a book about different horse breeds. I had moved from Thoroughbreds and Arabians to the realm of the American Paint Horse. While searching for information on my Paints, I found the Carolina Marsh Tacky. Being a lover of history, especially history of the American Revolution, and a life long South Carolinian, I was intrigued. I started looking for Tackies.

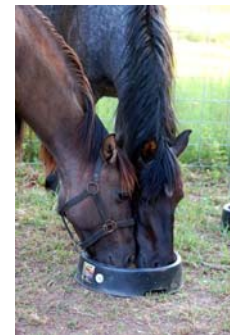
Tackies are critically endangered and number somewhere around 220. I became interested in helping preserve the breed. I made contact with and ultimately joined the

Carolina Marsh Tacky Association. Jackie McFadden, Jenifer Ravenel and David Grant were all very helpful to me. After several months of searching, as well as extensive lobbying to have the Carolina Marsh Tacky named the South Carolina State Heritage Horse, attending the Second Annual Marsh Tacky Run and doing a lot of networking, I was fortunate enough to find three Marsh Tackies to buy and bring to my farm.

I am astounded at the differences in these three horses and the other horses I have ridden and owned. Make no mistake: my Paints are smart; my Paints are beautiful. But these Tackies are special. The first Tacky, my stud colt, has solved a problem with flies by standing in a cedar tree. He allows the feathery branches, which are insect resistant, to hang all around his ears and head. I have never seen a horse do anything like that.



The brood mare, who is very heavy with her foal, had never really been handled. She was haltered, being led and tied in less than twenty-four hours of her arrival at my trainers' farm. She is now approachable and very sweet. The third horse, a gorgeous blue roan filly, is the most personable horse I have ever known. She immediately approaches people and is inquisitive about pockets, looking for treats. She doesn't like it if I walk away from her, she follows me. All three horses eat from one food pan.



They seem to genuinely like one another. There has not been any posturing or "bossing" like I see with my Paint herd. They have nibbled all the bushes and trees. They did not seem accustomed to grazing on grass. They are perfect. The highlight of my family's day is our time with our Tackies. We are looking forward to the foal's birth. We hope to continue to contribute to this marvelous breed's survival.

So, I could not be happier, my love of history has merged with my love of horses. The smell of happiness is all around the Goodwin farm.

# SECOND ANNUAL MARSH TACKY BEACH RACES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2010

BY JACKIE MCFADDEN



The Second Annual Marsh Tacky Beach Races brought more than 5000 spectators to Hilton Head Island's Coligny Beach on a brisk February morning. Spectators lined both sides of the track as 16 rare equines waited for their turn to race to the finish line. A few weeks before the race, it was discovered that the previous location on Mitchellville Beach was no longer safe due to sinkholes caused by shifts in the tidal mud flats, so a new location had to be found. Coligny Beach seemed to be the perfect spot but there was a problem. Town ordinances outlawed horses on beaches other than Mitchellville Beach. So, James Mitchell, president and CEO of the Native Island Business and Community Affairs Association, and Michael Marks, president and CEO of the Coastal Discovery Museum, requested that the Hilton Head Town Council change the law to allow Marsh Tackies to race on Coligny Beach. They agreed and the races took place at the new location.



The race was part of Hilton Head Island's Gullah Festival. Races were traditionally held each year among locals who would gather on the beach after the harvest to race their Marsh Tackies.

This year's race was run on a straight track with three major heats. The winners of the heats raced for the Marsh Tacky Cup. Winning the stallion race for the second year in a row was Marion Gohagan and Sabata.



Winning the mares' race was Janson Cox's 21-year-old Marsh Tacky, Molly, ridden by 19-year-old Brittany Stevens.



Blue Duck, owned and ridden by William Green took the gelding class for the second year in a row. The final race was won by Blue Duck, followed closely by Molly with Sabata not far behind. Congratulations to our winners! And thank you to Troy Smoak, Marion Gohagan, and the Gullah Festival coordinators for an excellent event!



## RECENT EVENTS

### Lowcountry Heritage Breeds Festival February 27, 2010

The Lowcountry Heritage Breeds Festival was held at Hilton Head's Coastal Discovery Museum Honey Horne Plantation. Among the rare breeds featured were Troy Smoak's Marsh Tacky, Nolle, and Lee McKenzie's American Mammoth Jackstock mule, Woody. 1,200 people attended the event.



Nolle and Woody

### Marsh Tacky History Day at Hobcaw Barony March 20, 2010

By Jodie Reeves

On Saturday March 10, 2010 Marsh Tackies returned to Hobcaw Barony. The association along with the Hobcaw Barony Preservation Foundation sponsored Marsh Tacky Day at Hobcaw Barony. This was an all day event celebrating the Marsh Tacky. Activities included a historic presentation of the Marsh Tacky, displays of the Marsh Tacky, a trail ride through the Barony on two different trails and a cookout.



Hobcaw Barony ([www.hobcawbarony.org](http://www.hobcawbarony.org)) is a 17,500-acre wildlife refuge that was the winter residence of Wall Street millionaire and presidential adviser Bernard Baruch. Mr. Bernard Baruch and his daughter, Belle, were fond admirers of the Marsh Tacky and rode them almost exclusively while hunting deer and quail. The Barony sits on the neck of the Waccamaw River. Native Americans called the land "hobcaw" meaning the land between the water.

After the presentation and trail ride, everyone returned to the stable area in front on Bellefield Plantation where they were treated to a wonderful hot dog cook out by Jodie Reeves and his posse; Ms Dan Lowther, Peggy McKenzie, and a stray puppy Jenifer Ravenel needed puppy sitting for.



There were thirty-five riders and about fifty people in attendance. This was truly a once in a lifetime experience to be able to learn the history of Hobcaw Barony in the presence of horses whose ancestors thrived there.



We would like to thank George Chastain, Brent Carey, Lee Brockington, and Dr. Gene Wood for a wonderful, educational experience. The best way to learn early South Carolina history and to fully appreciate the expanse of pristine Lowcountry wilderness is from the back of a horse.



# PHOTOS



**Ella and Duke**

CMTA member, David Dent's, 2- year-old granddaughter, Ella, and her pal Duke, show the gentle nature of Marsh Tacky horses.

## Marsh Tacky Beach Races



Jenifer Ravenel



Leighton and Wylie Bell



Lee McKenzie and DP Lowther



David Grant



Susan Day and Red Rocket!

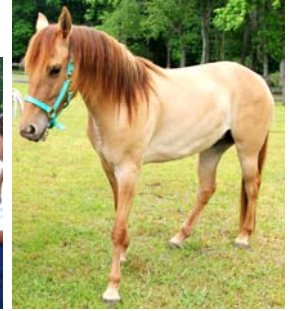


Lauren Simons

## Annual Meeting



Chef David Lowther



Beautiful Willow



In the Arena



James Mitchell and Ed Lowndes



Auction Winner



Brandon and Dusty Glaze try out Red Rocket and Tacky Blue



Thought of the Month:  
Feeling down? Saddle up. ~ Author Unknown

## Announcement Congratulations to Molly!



Janson Cox's Marsh Tacky, Molly, has become an honorary member of the **Catawba Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution!**

Molly was a visitor to the chapter's September meeting. She and her Ancestor's story warmed the hearts of all members present. After determining Molly's lineage, proved by DNA, knowing that she is over 18 years old, and she is of course female...The Chapter voted her in and gave her a Chapter number, SC Catawba Chapter DAR 01-2010. Carolyn Mendenhall presented Molly with a certificate and her very own DAR pin during Historic Brattonsville's Living History Day on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Molly, accompanied by owner Janson Cox and his family, and filly Mariah, was a big hit with young volunteers, many of whom took their first ride on a Marsh Tacky. What a way to start! - Jackie McFadden

### Place your ad here!

The CMTA will place your business card size advertisement in our newsletter. Please call 843-906-2274 or 843-860-5736 for more information.



## Contact Information

### **The Carolina Marsh Tacky Association (CMTA)**

P.O. Box 1447, Hollywood, SC 29449

Email: [marshtacky@gmail.com](mailto:marshtacky@gmail.com)

(843) 906-2274 or (843) 860-5736

Your CMTA board members are working hard to promote, preserve and educate the public on this wonderful breed. Please let any of us know if there is something you think the CMTA should do or if you would like to volunteer.

Visit our website: [www.marshtacky.org](http://www.marshtacky.org)

(Webmaster: Jackie McFadden)

## Information and Requests

**Website:** If you will be attending an event with your Marsh Tacky, please send the event information to Jackie McFadden. The most common question that we get through the website is, "Where can I see a Marsh Tacky?"

### **Newsletter items:**

We need descriptions of events, activities, and stories of Marsh Tackies for upcoming newsletters and a historical manuscript. Send to: Jackie McFadden, 1434 Alexander Road, Rock Hill, SC 29732, [marshtacky@gmail.com](mailto:marshtacky@gmail.com).

### **CMTA Membership:**

Renew your annual membership. The membership year begins with the Annual Meeting in the Spring. The renewal form can be found on the CMTA website.

### **Marsh Tacky Registry:**

Owners, remember to send Jeannette Beranger, P.O. Box 477, Pittsboro, NC 27312, updates on new births, sales, or deaths of your horses.

## Breeder Information

### **DP Lowther**

742 Glover Road, Ridgeland SC 29936  
843-726-1274

### **David Grant - Carolina Marsh Tacky Outdoors**

2637 Anderson Farm Road, Florence, SC 29501  
843-858-0181

<http://www.carolinamarshstacky.com>

### **Lee and Peggy McKenzie - Lowcountry Marsh Tackys**

7763 Old Jacksonboro Rd, Adams Run SC 29426  
843-889-3755

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### **Marion Gohagan - Gohagan's Guide Service**

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The Carolina Marsh Tacky Association is a non-profit organization established in 2007 to preserve and promote the Marsh Tacky horse of South Carolina.

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***Save a Piece of Living History! Become a member of the Carolina Marsh Tacky Association!***

**Visit us at: [www.marshtacky.org](http://www.marshtacky.org)**