

Foundation News

A PUBLICATION OF THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION



TO PRESERVE OPEN LAND, TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND TO OFFER A PLACE FOR EQUESTRIAN PURPOSES

VOLUME 13, APRIL 2017

THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION EQUESTRIAN EASEMENT AND ACCESS PROGRAM: 10.2 MILES AND COUNTING

Thank you WMF easement and access donors!

2007	Mile Away Farm, Inc.
2008	Marcia and Don Bryant Dick Cavedo Effie and Nick Ellis Kendyl and Eric Janis Elizabeth O'Donnell Cameron Sadler Camilla Vance and William Holmes Anne and Dick Webb
2009	Veronese Atkins Lin and John Burgess Leslie Baldwin Bo and Mott Carter, Judy Carter, Caroline Yawars, and Lee Carter Maryann and Brad Charles May and Denny Emerson Amy Newton, Jan Van Fossen and Gary Lergner Lori and Richard Rader Lynna and Doug Spence Claudette and Pat Ward Ellen Chaney John Williams Deborah and John Wilson
2010	Nina Carter David Carter Andrea and Dick Moore Sherry and Tom Mortenson Neil Schwartzberg Pamela Silverman and Mark Whalen Tiffany Teeter and James Rigney
2011	Joan and John Addison Marcia and Don Bryant Hunting Hills Road Association Donna and Dick Verrilli Lefreda Williams
2012	Joan Bowden Susie and Bob Cook Dottie Greenleaf Leslie and Greg Griewe Roisin O'Rahilly Tracy and Peter Theran
2013	The DelGuercio Family Ginnie W. Moss, LLC Ticon Properties LLC
2014	Carol and Dan Butler Danila Devins Deer Path Properties Homeowners Julie and Chris Petrini Ticon Properties LLC
2015	Bonnie and Bob Caie Rebecca and Richard DeRose Marcie and Dave Quist Wendy and Steve Preble Leila Cluff-Ryan and Sean Ryan Kathryn and Ralph Saunders Anne and Dick Webb
2016	Jackie and Rick Allenbaugh Maureen and Paul Grippa Anne and Rick Thompson
2017	Lin and John Burgess

Our local equestrian community has a long history of sharing trails and granting fellow equestrians access across farms and between paddocks. In 2006, the board of directors of The Walthour-Moss Foundation made it a priority to reach out to landowners in an effort to not only secure deeded equestrian access to The Walthour-Moss Foundation but also to protect local historic bridle trails. This priority continues today.

For Larry Best, former board member and current chair of the Foundation's Easement Committee, equestrian access is a vital part of what makes our equestrian community special. "Nearly 30 years ago when my wife Betsy and I moved to the area, riding in the Foundation was, as it still is today, amazing. Then our neighbor, Marty O'Rourke, took us on what he called the 'real estate ride.' We rode through the neighborhood and through other farms. We thought we might be trespassing but he told us that was the way Mr. and Mrs. Moss wanted it to be and that was how it was. Neighbors sharing trails with neighbors."

"A few years passed and we lost a trail here and a trail there. I had a bit of a eureka moment when I realized that if we did not find a way to permanently preserve bridle trails and create permanent access trails to the Foundation, we could indeed lose the magic of our local Horse Country. The creation of equestrian easements held by The Walthour-Moss Foundation became the vehicle to make certain this defining element of our Horse Country was preserved," said Best. He continued, "Each time we record a new trail easement or easement over a road, we make certain our unique equestrian community will continue to flourish."

The community response to the request for deeded equestrian easements has been absolutely tremendous. Over the past eleven years, sixty-four accesses have been granted to The Walthour-Moss Foundation, which cover approximately 10.8 linear miles of bridle trails, dirt roads, and paddock lanes. The majority are equestrian access easements and a number are donations of real property. Mr. Best is currently working with ten landowners to secure equestrian access over an additional 2.1 miles of trails.

Whether your land abuts The Walthour-Moss Foundation or you live in a surrounding neighborhood, the creation of equestrian access ensures access to the Foundation is protected now and for future generations. If you or your neighbors would consider granting an access easement for pedestrian and equestrian use only, please contact Landon Russell, Executive Director of The Walthour-Moss Foundation, on 910-695-7811.

WMF EASEMENT AND ACCESS, 2007-2017

- 64 easements and accesses granted
- 10.8 miles of trail deeded or under easement
- Largest easement, 100 feet x 3/4 mile
- Smallest easement, 70 square feet
- WMF easements provide equestrian and pedestrian connectivity between Aiken Road, Furr Road, Lakebay Road, Youngs Road, Sheldon Road, Connecticut Avenue, and Fort Bragg Road

THE PROCESS OF GRANTING AN EQUESTRIAN EASEMENT

We are often asked about the process of granting an equestrian easement to The Walthour-Moss Foundation (WMF). As this project is so very important to our equestrian community, we aim to make it as easy as possible for each landowner.

There is no cost to the landowner to grant an equestrian easement to WMF. WMF bears the cost of the easement survey as well as recording fees. The legal work is donated by attorney and WMF board chairman Stephen Later.

One thing to note: rather than granting an equestrian easement, some landowners have opted to donate a strip of land, as granting the land is tax-deductible and may better serve the interest of the landowner. Granting an access easement is not tax-deductible.

Once a landowner has decided to grant an equestrian access, the following occurs:

1. WMF representative meets with the landowner to discuss the location of the equestrian easement, walk the trail, and review the map.
2. WMF makes arrangements with the surveyor and an on-site survey is performed if needed (some surveys can be completed using existing maps).
3. The surveyor prepares a map for the landowner and WMF to review. The landowner reviews the map and adjustments are made if needed.
5. Once the map is approved by the landowner, the easement document is prepared for the landowner and WMF to sign. Signatures on the paperwork must be notarized.
6. The signed easement document is recorded with the Moore County Register of Deeds.
7. A plaque recognizing the donor is installed on the equestrian access.



EASEMENT RECOGNITION PLAQUE INSTALLED ON WILLIAMS EASEMENT

Photo by Landon Russell

BUSHWHACKER CLUB BLUEBIRD BOX CLEANING

For the past six years, volunteer members of The Walthour-Moss Foundation Bushwhacker Club have met in early February to clean and repair the Foundation's bluebird boxes. On Sunday, February 12, fifteen enthusiastic volunteers turned out to remove previous nesting debris from nest boxes, trim branches growing around the boxes and rub plain soap on the inside roof of each box to deter wasps from building nests. Almost all of the Foundation nest boxes are used each spring, primarily by the Eastern Bluebird, and also by Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, and Brown-headed Nuthatches.

Thank you to the following Bushwhacker Club volunteers who turned out to complete this important project:

Tannetta van Vlissingen
and Mike Bissict
Susan Campbell
Linda Gibbs
Wendy Good
Karleen Hubley

Kate and Brian Jones
Kerry Kaylor
Lindsay Michaels
Page and Landon Nesser
Ann Robinson
Priscilla and John Sabol

BUSHWHACKER CLUB LONGLEAF PINE PLANTING

On Sunday, February 12, in the span of three hours, twenty-six members of The Walthour-Moss Foundation Bushwhacker Club planted 1,000 longleaf pine seedlings. The seedlings were planted in a recently burned area that had previously been thinned of slash pine. The slash pine was removed from that section of the North Country in an effort to convert the area back to longleaf pine forest.

Many thanks to our forester Terry Sharpe for leading the seedling planting day and to Yvonne Gnriss for the wonderful photographs. Thank you to Giff Fisher for driving round trip to Rowland, North Carolina to pick up the trees. Last, but certainly not least, thank you to the following Bushwhacker Club volunteers who turned out to plant the 1,000 seedlings:

Summer Compton
Margaret Coombe
Fran Cornatzer
Wendy Good
Karleen Hubley
John Huganir
Kerry Kaylor
Bill Logan
Maggie Maier
and Terry Sharpe
Lindsay Michaels

Page and Landon Nesser
Yvonne Gnriss
and Doug Park
Madyson Park-Gnriss
McKenzie Park-Gnriss
Paeton Park-Gnriss
Dennis Paules
Priscilla and John Sabol
Cameron and Lincoln Sadler
Martha and Russ Simmons
Pamela Wagner

BLUEBIRD BOX CLEANING AND LONGLEAF PINE PLANTING VOLUNTEER DAYS



LAND MANAGEMENT AND STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

Following is an update on our forest stewardship activities for 2017. With the help of our forester Terry Sharpe, we continue to implement our long-term forest stewardship and management plan. The plan covers a wide range of forest stewardship activities including some that take place annually, like prescribed burning, oak removal and bluebird box maintenance, as well as some long range projects that will take place over a span of fifty years at an interval of every eight to ten years. Many of these forest stewardship activities are not new to the Foundation, but some have not been seen in awhile. We are proud of what we have accomplished since implementing the plan in 2014, and we continue to be excited about our forest stewardship plan as it provides for the long range preservation of our longleaf pine forest.

2017 Prescribed Burning Update

The 2017 prescribed burn plan calls for burning on approximately 1,100 acres. To date, burns have been completed on approximately 900 acres, and we hope to have the remainder completed by the end of year. Prescribed burning is not only a natural part of the longleaf pine ecosystem and thus critical to certain native plants, like wiregrass, it reduces the fuel load on the ground and thus limits the danger of forest fires.

2017 Loblolly and Slash Pine Plantation Conversion Update

The area along Furr Road where loblolly and slash pine were removed in 2016 will be treated with herbicide over the summer to slow regrowth. In the fall, the entire ten acre area on Furr Road will be replanted with longleaf pine seedlings.



PRESCRIBED BURN, MARCH 2017

Photo by Landon Russell

2017 Firelane and Trail Stabilization

Sections of the firelanes and trails have been stabilized by mixing wood chips with the existing sand. This project is ongoing in an effort to stabilize the sand, alleviate washouts, and create better footing. It also helps us conserve Foundation funds by minimizing the work needed on these trails.

2017 RCW Cavity Installation

Four nest cavities were created on the Foundation near Moor Meadow last fall for the federally-endangered Red Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW). This fall we plan to work with wildlife specialists again to identify trees near Firestone Lake that will be provisioned with nests for RCWs. RCWs have been spotted foraging in the North Country in recent months. We will keep you posted on occupancy of both clusters as they will be the first in the Foundation's North Country.

Communication and Questions

We will continue to update you on our forest stewardship projects via the Foundation News, email, Facebook and Twitter. Some of the projects will involve heavy machinery, and those walking, riding or driving in the Foundation should take care to avoid those areas while the machinery is in use. We will send out notices when each project gets underway with details on location and as estimated time frame for completion. Thank you, as always, for your support and patience.

BLUEBIRD BOX MONITORS NEEDED

It is that time of year! Our local Eastern Bluebirds and other cavity nesters, who are drawn to the almost one hundred nest boxes on The Walthour-Moss Foundation, are gearing up. Periodic checks last season revealed that almost every nest box had at least one nest between April and August. In addition to Eastern Bluebirds, Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, Brown-headed and White-breasted Nuthatches all may use this housing. Eastern Bluebirds will raise up to three families during the course of each nesting season.

Monitoring the nest boxes helps us to know how our boxes are being used, whether some should be moved, and also if there are issues with predators such as the Southern Flying Squirrel or Black Rat Snake. Detective work is sometimes necessary to determine who is occupying a particular box. Experiencing the development of baby birds is a fun family activity and terrific excitement for kids of all ages! If you would like to volunteer to monitor nest boxes, please contact Landon Russell, Executive Director of The Walthour-Moss Foundation, at 910-695-7811.



SPRING TRAIL RIDE AND CARRIAGE DRIVE

Saturday, May 20, 2017

**TWO SEPARATELY MARKED TRAILS
ONE FOR RIDERS, ONE FOR CARRIAGES**

**OPEN START, LYELL'S MEADOW
225 MILE AWAY LANE, SOUTHERN PINES, NC**

Trail ride and carriage drive 8:00 am - 11:30 am

Lunch 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

\$25 per person. Entry fee includes lunch.

Choice of hamburger or hot dog, chips, drink and dessert

Proceeds Benefit WMF Trail Repair Fund

Entries accepted through May 20th

Entries received before May 5th will receive a WMF bandana

Entries accepted by mail, phone, and online. Please see entry information on reverse

Ride and drive will be held rain or shine

For more information please contact Landon Russell at 910-695-7811

The Walthour-Moss Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

✂ WMF SPRING TRAIL RIDE AND CARRIAGE DRIVE

Please indicate your preference: ☐ Trail Ride ☐ Carriage Drive

Participant Name 1: _____ 2: _____

Participant Name 3: _____ 4: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

___ My Check, payable to WMF is enclosed for \$ _____ ___ Charge my credit card \$ _____

Card no: _____ Exp: _____ CVV: _____ Signature: _____

*Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from
the State Solicitation Licensing Section at (919)807-2214. The license is not an endorsement by the State.*



SPRING TRAIL RIDE AND CARRIAGE DRIVE

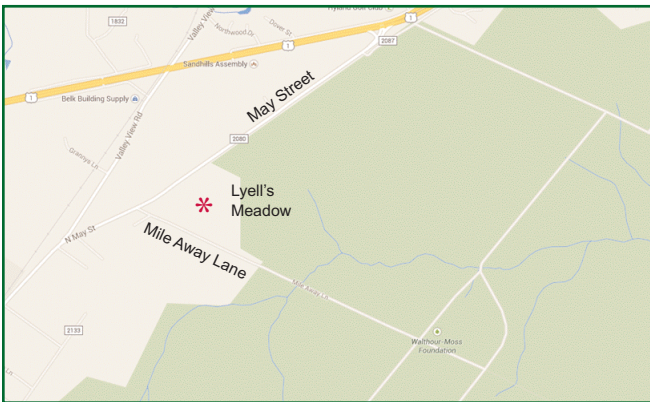


TO SUPPORT THE TRAIL REPAIR FUND OF THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION

Saturday, May 20 from 8:00 am - 11:30 am

Please join us and enjoy a spring ride or carriage drive through the trails of The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Two separately marked trails, one for riders and one for carriages, will be open from 8:00 am until 11:30 am. The entry fee is \$25 per person and includes lunch. Lunch will be served from 11:30 am until 12:30 pm and includes choice of hot dog or hamburger as well as chips, drink and dessert.

Sign up by May 5th and receive a complimentary WMF bandana!



Directions: From US Highway 1: Take the May Street exit towards Southern Pines. Drive 2 miles on May Street to Mile Away Lane. Turn left on Mile Away Lane and follow signs to parking at Lyell's Meadow.

Event Information

- ENTRY fee is \$25 per person and includes lunch.
- TWO separate trails will be marked. One for riders and one for carriage drivers.
- ENTRIES received on or before May 5 receive WMF bandana.
- LUNCH served from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm and includes choice of hotdog or hamburger, chips, drink and dessert.
- TO enter, please return entry form or call 910-695-7811. To enter online, please visit: www.walthour-moss.org.
- OPEN start. Sign in at welcome table and ride or drive when you are ready.
- ON SITE water available.
- SIGNED WMF release and COPY of current negative Coggins are required to participate.
- ENTRIES will be accepted through the day of the event.

THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION
POST OFFICE BOX 1794
SOUTHERN PINES, NC 28388



SPRING TRAIL RIDE AND DRIVE

MAY 20, 2017



WMF 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 29, 2017

HORSE COUNTRY HOEDOWN

Yee Haw and Giddy-Up! Boots and jeans are welcome at the Horse Country Hoedown on Saturday, April 29 from 5:30 pm until 9:30 pm.

Hope y'all will join us for a toe tapping, boot stomping, knee slapping, horse loving good time in support of The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Tickets are \$100 per person, \$200 per couple, or \$500 per host ticket. For tickets, please visit our website at www.walthour-moss.org, call 910-695-7811 or email director@walthour-moss.org.

MAY 7, 2017

BIRD WALK WITH SUSAN CAMPBELL

Please join us on Sunday, May 7 at 8:00 am for a bird walk with local ornithologist Susan Campbell. Be sure to wear sturdy walking shoes and bring binoculars. Space will be limited to 15 "birders."

To sign up, please email Landon Russell at director@walthour-moss.org or call 910-695-7811.

MAY 16, 2017

ANNUAL MEETING

The Walthour-Moss Foundation annual meeting will be held at Lyell's Meadow on Tuesday, May 16 at 5:00 pm. The community is invited to join us for an update on the Foundation's current activities.

MAY 20, 2017

SPRING TRAIL RIDE AND CARRIAGE DRIVE

On Saturday, May 20, enjoy a spring ride or carriage drive on the trails of The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Two separately marked trails, one for riders and one for carriage drivers, will start and end at Lyell's Meadow. Trails open from 8:00 am until 11:30 am. \$25 per person entry fee includes lunch. Lunch will be served from 11:30 am until 12:30 pm and includes choice of hot dog or hamburger as well as chips, drink, and dessert. Sign up by May 5th and receive a complimentary WMF bandana. Proceeds benefit the WMF Trail Repair Fund.

JUNE 10, 2017

WMF FUN DOG SHOW

On Saturday, June 10, please join us at Lyell's Meadow for our fun dog show. Classes to include Cutest, Best Trick, Best Coiffed, Junior Handler, Look Alike, Best Rescue, Father and Dog, and Best in Show! \$5 per class.

Online entries accepted from June 1 through June 8th. Entries will also be accepted on the day of the show starting at 8:30 am. The fun dog show starts at 9:00 am.

OCTOBER 1, 2017

HORSE COUNTRY SOCIAL

Come one, come all, and join us for the sixth annual Horse Country Social on Sunday, October 1 from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm at Lyell's Meadow. Tickets available for purchase by mail, phone and online starting August 1. Ticket price: \$35 per adult and \$15 per child.

OCTOBER 22, 2017

TRICK AND TREAT TRAIL RIDE

The Trick-and-Treat Trail Ride through The Walthour-Moss Foundation will be held on Sunday, October 22. A marked trail decorated in Halloween style will be open to riders from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Carriages are welcome from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Gallop like a ghoul, trot along like Ichabod Crane, or walk and wander. There will be no time limit. Costumes are optional. Prizes for costumes will be awarded throughout the day. Funds raised are tax-deductible and will be used for The Walthour-Moss Foundation trail repair. Plan to bring a picnic lunch or purchase food at our on-site concession stand.

DECEMBER 2017

PRESERVE OUR FOREST GOLF TOURNAMENT

Attention Golfers! The sixth annual Preserve Our Forest Golf Tournament will be scheduled for early December 2017. Please stay tuned for further details.



The Walthour-Moss Foundation
Post Office Box 1794
Southern Pines, NC 28388

The Walthour-Moss Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

For more information, please contact Landon Russell at **910-695-7811**
or via email at **director@walthour-moss.org** or logon to our website at
www.walthour-moss.org.

HORSE COUNTRY HOEDOWN

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TOE-TAPPING, BOOT-STOMPING,
KNEE-SLAPPING, HORSE-LOVING GOOD TIME!**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017
5:30 PM UNTIL 9:30 PM
LYELL'S MEADOW SHED**

**\$100 PER PERSON OR \$200 PER COUPLE
HOST TICKETS \$500**

**For tickets, please call
Landon Russell at 910-695-7811,
email director@walthour-moss.org,
or visit www.walthour-moss.org.**

Proceeds benefit The Walthour-Moss Foundation.

