

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



JUNE 2023

100TH EQUESTRIAN ACCESS GRANTED

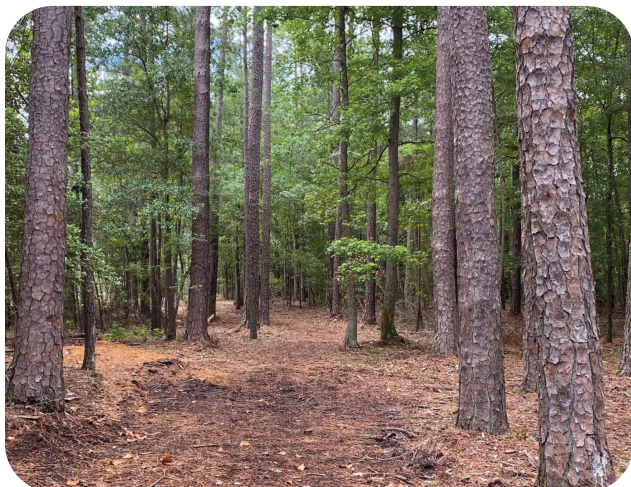
Some eighteen years ago, the board of directors of The Walthour-Moss Foundation looked to the future of Horse Country. They agreed that while the 4,000+ acres that made up the Foundation would always be the heart of the Sandhills equestrian community, the many formal and informal bridle paths and sandy dirt roads surrounding the Foundation lands were also defining elements of the area. The unique ability to ride or drive a carriage throughout Horse Country was special and worthy of preservation. A plan was initiated to protect neighborhood trails and lanes with the establishment of an equestrian easement program. The program gave property owners in Horse Country a way to protect and preserve the equestrian trails and paths on their land.

Since 2006, over one hundred property owners have acknowledged the Foundation's effort to protect the equestrian nature of Horse Country by placing permanent equestrian accessways on their properties. Each singular action has created a lasting network of bridle trails. The equestrian easements granted are permanent and pass with the land. The Walthour-Moss Foundation holds these easements as part of its mission of conservation and preservation. For generations to come, this effort will help ensure our Horse Country remains horse friendly.

Last fall, the 100th easement was granted to The Walthour-Moss Foundation by Diana Dodge and Nokomis Farm. This is indeed an important milestone. The Dodge easement, some 4,000 feet in length, connects Tremont Road to Old Mail Road and the historic Hunter Trials property given to The Walthour-Moss Foundation by Betty and Eldridge Johnson. Ms. Dodge, aware of how fragile equestrian access can be, wanted to ensure that her property would always remain accessible to equestrians.

In addition to protecting the bridle trails on private lands, an effort has also been made to place equestrian easements over private community roads so that equestrian use will always be allowed and will not be subject to potential changes of future road association rules.

Each easement granted to the Foundation has meaning and provides connection. Some provide a direct connection to Foundation land while others preserve historic neighborhood bridle trails. The easements granted range in size from seventy square feet to just over 5,000 feet in length and have become threads that tie our equestrian community together. It is possible to ride from Aiken Road in Vass to Fort Bragg Road in Southern Pines using only easements granted to the Foundation and Foundation land!



THE ACCESS GRANTED FROM DIANA DODGE CONNECTS
TREMONT ROAD TO OLD MAIL ROAD.

While 100 easements is a significant achievement, there is still much that can be done to further protect Horse Country into the future. Every existing trail, potential trail, and private road in Horse Country can and should become a part of this effort.

We are excited to share another way that members of our equestrian community can preserve and conserve Horse Country. Property owners can choose to place a subdivision restriction on their deed enforceable by The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Subdivision restrictions safeguard against smaller lot sizes and housing subdivisions. As the land and farms located in Horse Country are for horse farms, a subdivision restriction is unlikely to adversely affect the value of the farms for the current owners, and it is, therefore, a cost-free action that will help preserve our equestrian community in perpetuity.



Photo by Bobbie Mudge

EASEMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR LARRY BEST AND VOLUNTEER PUNKY MUDGE
PAUSE FOR A PHOTOGRAPH AFTER INSTALLING AN EASEMENT PLAQUE

Renaissance Equine Rescue and Welfare Foundation has stepped-up as the first land owner to grant a subdivision restriction to The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Originally, Renaissance had planned to relocate to the corner of Youngs Road and U.S. Highway 1 but is instead relocating operations to acreage on Youngs Road closer to Lakebay Road. It was important to Renaissance Equine Rescue and Welfare Foundation board members Tiara and Evan Hecht and their fellow board members to ensure that the acreage at the end of Youngs Road not be turned into a housing subdivision. Renaissance executed a subdivision restriction agreement, enforceable by the Foundation, to prohibit the subdivision of any portion of the 60 + acre tract into any lot of fewer than 10 acres and to prohibit any subdivision of its two other parcels on Youngs Road.

If you are interested in learning more about the Foundation equestrian access program and/or subdivision restriction program please reach out to Landon Russell at director@walthour-moss.org or call the Foundation office at 910-695-7811.

Together, we can continue to ensure our community remains horse friendly.

WMF ACCESS UPDATE

Equestrian accesses tie our community together and protect the equestrian nature of our community both now and for the future. Members of our community continue to protect and preserve access to The Walthour-Moss Foundation as well as historic neighborhood bridle trails by granting equestrian access easements. The following accesses have been granted to The Walthour-Moss Foundation over just the past three years:

2021

Architectural Committee of Rooty Branch Access The Architectural Committee of Rooty Branch granted an easement that connects Lakebay Road to the Schilling access.

Anderson and Stickler Access Dawn Anderson and Morgan Stickler granted an access that connects to the accesses granted by May and Denny Emerson and the access granted by Kim and Bryan Rosenberg.

Arrowwood Farm Access Arrowwood Farm granted an access that connects to the Cohen access and Deerpath Road.

Cohen Access Aggie and David Cohen granted an equestrian access along the edge of their property on Deerpath Road that connects to the easement granted by Arrowwood Farm.

Emerson Access May and Denny Emerson granted two accesses, that along with the Anderson Stickler access, connect Youngs Road to the Foundation via Tamarack Lane.

2022

Dodge Access Diana Dodge and Nokomis Farm granted an easement that connects Tremont Road to Old Mail Road and the Hunter Trials Course.

MacNair Access Bridget and Colin MacNair granted an access that connects Youngs Road to the Foundation at the end of Firelane 1 Extension

Schilling Access Kathy and Justin Schilling granted an access that connects the Architectural Committee of Rooty Branch access to Rooty Branch Road.

Sullivan Access Monica Sullivan granted an access along the side of her property to create an additional access trail in the North Country.

Thomas Access Cathy and Peter Thomas granted an access along the side of their property that connects Lakebay Road to the Van Camp access.

Van Camp Access Jim Van Camp granted an access that connects the Thomas access to Good Barn Road.

Williams Access Tim Williams granted an easement on three sides of his farm on Lakebay Road.

2023

Rosenberg Access Kim and Bryan Rosenberg granted an access that connects Moss Farm Lane to the Anderson Stickler access as well as to Youngs Road.

LAND MANAGEMENT AND STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

Following is an update on our land management and forest stewardship activities. 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 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. We are pleased with 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.

Prescribed Burning

To date in 2023, prescribed burns have been completed on approximately 420 acres of the Foundation. Prescribed burning is not only critical to certain native plants, like wiregrass, but reduces the fuel load on the ground and thus limits the danger of forest fires.

Bluebird Box Cleaning

Volunteers from the Bushwhacker Club met on Sunday, February 5, 2023 and cleaned over 100 bluebird boxes for the Spring nesting season. Volunteers noted that almost all the boxes had been used in the previous year.

Meadow Mowing

Sections of both Moor Meadow and Doubs Field were mowed in the winter of 2023. Regular mowing of shrubs and small trees helps maintain the meadow and keeps it from reverting to forest. The Hunter Trials Course and Lyell's Meadow are mowed on a schedule throughout spring and summer months and as needed during the fall.

RCW Monitoring

The Sandhills Ecological Institute annually monitors the red-cockaded woodpecker nests in the Foundation from early April through June. Nestlings (baby birds) are banded in the first 5-10 days after hatching.

May Street Fence Replacement

In February 2023, 3,600 feet of deteriorated fencing was replaced along the Foundation's May Street border. The original fencing had been installed approximately forty-five years ago.

Bridge and Gate Replacements

Two bridges in the main Foundation and two bridges in the North Country have been replaced in the past year. In the main Foundation there are new bridges at Bulldozer

Crossing and Arrowhead Crossing. In the North Country a new bridge was built on a crossing below Firestone Lake. In March, the gates at the Mailboxes and the gate at Firelane 1 Extension were replaced and the gate at Magnolia Hill was repaired.

Firelane and Trail Stabilization

Sections of the firelanes and trails have been stabilized by mixing wood chips with the existing sand. This project is part of an ongoing 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.

Jump Repair and Replacement

Jump repairs are completed on an ongoing basis. Currently, jumps are being rebuilt along Firelane 1 Extension.

Easements

Work was completed on several easements including the creation of a new 4,000 foot trail on the Dodge easement.

Lyells Meadow Shed Repair

The roofing on the Implement Shed at Lyell's Meadow was repaired in April 2023. Roofing nails had begun to loosen and were replaced to keep the panels of the roof secure.

Communication and Questions

We will continue to provide updates on our forest stewardship projects. Occasionally 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 projects are underway with details on location and as estimated time frame for completion. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you, as always, for your support and patience.

WMF TEXT ALERTS

We have created a database to send texts from The Walthour-Moss Foundation. The database will be used to send alerts for WMF happenings: prescribed burning, BWC volunteer days as well, as for our events and links to website.

To join our WMF text list, please text **wmf** to 910-335-8141. Please add the number to your contacts as WMF Text Alerts as you will not be able to call that line. The Walthour-Moss Foundation office line remains 910-695-7811.

HORSE COUNTRY HOEDOWN

The Horse Country Hoedown was, once again, a toe-tapping, boot-stomping, knee-slapping success! On Saturday, April 22, guests gathered at the Lyell's Meadow implement shed to celebrate and support The Walthour-Moss Foundation. The Hoedown, the Foundation's major annual fundraising event, netted over \$22,000 for Foundation operations.

Foundation Chairman Stephen Later welcomed guests to the celebration and thanked Lyell and Brian McMerty along with their family and the Erwin Bellamy McMerty Foundation for their generous gift of Lyell's Meadow. The last payment was made to Mile Away Farm Inc on March 15, 2023 making Lyell's Meadow forever a part of The Walthour-Moss Foundation.

A big Yee Haw and thank you to our Horse Country Hoedown Hosts who gave generously to underwrite the event: Jackie and Rick Allenbaugh, Arrowwood Farm, Betsy and Larry Best, Blue Moon Farm, Amy Bresky, Carrie and Bill Brown, Lin and John Burgess, Carol and Dan Butler, Cathy and David Carter, Marianne and Jeff Chulay, Aggie and David Cohen, Colt Run Farm, Rhonda and Alan Dretel, Anne Faircloth and Fred Dufour, Martha and Clay Dunnagan, Susan Gaines and Kate Gaines Frost, Shirley and John Gaither, Katharine Gansner, Linda Gibbs, Alice and Marshall Glass, Sharon and Jim Granito, Jean Rae and Hugh Hinton, James Creek Cider House, Kendyl and Eric Janis, Rod Lynch and Knowlbrook Farms Inc., Caroline Plummer and Stephen Later, Susan and Kris Lindamood, Bridget and Colin MacNair, Fred McCashin, Amy and John Miller, Parker and Ed Minchin, Norman and Babette Minery, Dick Moore, Cindy and Dominick Pagnotta, Jeanne Paine, Cindy and Dennis Paules, Mary and Brian Phillips, Kim and Bryan Rosenberg, , Irene and Mike Russell, Cameron and Lincoln Sadler, Ginny and Keith Thomasson, Leah and Runyon Tyler, Donna Verrilli, Kathy and Chris Virtue, Jane and John Wagstaff, Susan Howe Wain, and Amy and Don Warren,

Afternoon showers and a several inches of standing water did not dampen the spirits of those who came out to celebrate at The Walthour-Moss Foundation Horse Country Hoedown! A special thank you to Norman Minery and Dennis Paules for working diligently to keep everyone dry during the event.

Hors d'oeuvres included deviled eggs and shrimp cocktail on the patio overlooking Lyell's Meadow and a beautiful rainbow. Dinner included White Rabbit's delicious brisket , grilled pork, grilled vegetables, a green salad, and rolls. To quench their thirst, guests chose from ciders from James

Creek Cider House, Italian wines from Bacco Selections, and a selection of bourbon. White Rabbit's own Giff Fisher served up flaming Bananas Foster for dessert. Guests kicked up their heels to music provided by the Sand Band. The talented local beach band has played at the Hoedown for two years and expertly played timeless hits and fun dance tunes.

Thank you to our amazing Hoedown volunteers for making this Hoedown one to remember: Joan Baldwin, Ron Baldwin, David Carter, Meredith Eskridge, Susan Lindamood, Laura Lindamood, Nicole Lindamood, Norman Minery, Dennis Paules, Irene Russell, Cameron Sadler, and Susan Stallings.

Funds raised at the 2023 Horse Country Hoedown will be used to preserve the forest and maintain the trails for our community.



JULIA, CECI, BRIAN, LYELL AND THOMAS McMERTY

Photo by Diane McKay



LYELL AND BRIAN McMERTY'S GRANDDAUGHTER, CECI McMERTY, SPORTING DICK CAVEDO'S COWBOY HAT

Photo by Donna Verrilli

2023 HORSE COUNTRY HOEDOWN



DAVID AND AGGIE COHEN



DANNY AND SUSAN STALLINGS



LANCE AND DEBI TAYLOR



HUGH AND JEAN RAE HINTON



JOHN AND SHIRLEY GAITHER



STAN ESKRIDGE AND MEREDITH ESKRIDGE



HELEN KALEVAS, GERALD MOVELLE & TODD DICKINSON



TERRY AND CHARLIE COOK



DAVE AND MARCIE QUIST



SUSAN LINDAMOOD, CATHY CARTER AND LESLIE GRIEWE



BILL AND CARRIE BROWN



REBECCA ESTES AND GARY GOODWIN



BRITTANY AND RYAN PASCHAL



KAREN BARBOUR AND DAN SCHUBERT
KATHRYN AND JOCK TATE



FRED MCCASHIN AND MAREA MATTHEWS

100TH EQUESTRIAN ACCESS CELEBRATION



WADE AND CECI LINER



KEITH AND GINNY THOMASSON



LARRY BEST AND STEPHEN LATER



KATHY AND TOM PETZ



DIANA DODGE AND DOT GREENLEAF



DON WARREN, DICK MOORE, ANNE AND RICK THOMPSON



KAREN MCCOLLOM AND ELISA HARVEY



BOB AND BONNIE CAIE



JOHN WIEDMER, JULIE AND CHRIS PETRINI, MARK WHELAN



DICK MOORE, SUSAN AND DANNY STALLINGS



CAMERON SADLER AND MARCIA BRYANT



COLIN MACNAIR AND ANGIE TALLY



CLAUDETTE AND TIM TURK



EMILY SCHILLING AND KATHY SCHILLING



LAKEBAY NEIGHBORS

FUN DOG SHOW CANCELED

Due to the increased cases of both kennel cough and canine flu in the area, The Walthour-Moss Foundation Event Committee made the difficult decision to cancel the fun dog show that was scheduled for June 3, 2023.

We send our best to all of your fabulous canine friends and look forward to seeing you at the next WMF Fun Dog Show.



2022 WINNERS OF THE CUTEST DOG CLASS



2022 WINNERS OF THE BEST TRICK CLASS



2022 WINNERS OF THE SENIOR PUP CLASS

Photos by Diane McKay

WMF LAND USE POLICIES

**THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION (WMF)
is open daily year-round from dawn to dusk**

WMF LAND USE POLICIES

NO UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES (See note A)

NO SMOKING OR FIRES OF ANY KIND (See note B)

NO DOGS ALLOWED (See note C)

NO ALCOHOL OR PICNICKING (See note D)

NO FIREARMS (See note E)

NO FISHING, BOATING, OR SWIMMING (See note F)

NO LITTERING: PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT

**NO TRAILER CLEANING OR MANURE DUMPING
IN PARKING AREA** (See note G)

Notes:

A. Exception for WMF authorized vehicles being used for official WMF Business.

B. Exception for WMF contracted prescribed burns conducted by a duly licensed contractor.

C. As a place for equestrian purposes, WMF prioritizes safety, and dogs can create potentially dangerous situations for horses, riders, carriage drivers, and people on foot. Therefore, no dogs are allowed. (Exception for foxhounds owned by a Masters of Foxhounds Association of North America member hunt that are participating in or training for hunting events under the direct control of a qualified huntsman and staff).

D. No alcohol or picnicking allowed (Exception for WMF approved special events).

E. No firearms allowed. (Exception for WMF contracted security and other authorized personnel).

F. No water activities of any kind allowed. (Exception for WMF management of water resources).

G. No manure dumping or spreading on WMF Property.

**Thank you for your support and adherence
to these use policies.**



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.

WMF Event Schedule

October 1: Horse Country Celebration
and Luncheon Social

October 22: Trick and Treat Trail Ride

Fall 2023: 100 Miles for Moss Challenge

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.walthour-moss.org

director@walthour-moss.org or call 910-695-7811