



HOOFBEATS

Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

BETH ANN BRETOI

I live near Eagle Island State Park and board my Tennessee Walker mare at Lauren Zimmerman's place in Middleton.

I bought my first horse at 13 years old, with babysitting money. Rebel was a 3/4 QH & 1/4 Morgan and a MN state fair blue ribbon winner in barrels. Rebel was 16 years old when I got him from our babysitter (who went off to college) and we cleaned up in our circuit in barrels! I loved all the ribbons I had pinned up in my bedroom! THAT was FUN!



What's the craziest thing that has happened while riding? I worked with a mustang in my late teens. I thought I had him pretty well behaved so I started riding him bareback. BIG MISTAKE!! On one of our jaunts around the farm, he decided that he wanted to RUN, full speed. He did not respond to ANYthing and all I could do was hang on. After a mile he decided it was time to head back to the stable. He slowed, turned and went back to the barn at full speed! He stopped at the gate and seemed very proud of himself. Needless to say, I never rode him bareback again. I think I could hear my personal horse, Rebel, chuckling to himself about what a GOOD horse he had always been for me. I appreciated what a BOMB PROOF he was a lot more after that wild ride.

I am looking forward to learning more about gaited horses as I was always around quarter horses. I would love to participate in group rides, try drill, and do some camping too.

Club website:

Membership forms, previous newsletters, articles of interest and lots of photos, plus a fuller calendar are all on our website:

www.gaitedhorseclub.com

Facebook:

PUBLIC group page: Search for "Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club" or click www.facebook.com/groups/636027703108388/ and ask to join. Club members, and non-members can post. This is a nationwide page.

We also have a PRIVATE page for members only; [contact me to be added.](#)

Lifeflight Insurance:

Group sign up is done in May/June to get a group discount of \$10 off the typical \$70/year cost. www.lifeflight.org

CINDY CHURCH

I was born and raised in Eastern OR and always had ponies/horses in my life.

What's the craziest thing that has happened while riding? My dad built a 3-seat wagon that we painted yellow and black. One day while we were practicing with the ponies and wagon, the ponies spooked and we had a runaway through the back streets of Baker City. Dad tried to apply the wagon brakes, but they slipped off. He said out loud, "I guess I didn't design those correctly." As we raced through the streets, we came to a 4-way stop sign. Fortunately, the driver's car at the intersection stopped for us. We finally stopped when the ponies ran back to their pasture, and the wagon caught in a ditch. Dad worked on the brakes, and our subsequent trips were uneventful. We would dress as pioneers and drive the ponies and wagon in our local parades.



Now that I'm supposedly an adult, after some career changes and earning my MA Education, I'm a technical writer, working full-time from home for a tech company. Hubby Victor and I live in Caldwell (almost Sunnyslope) on 5 acres that are a combination of pasture, vineyard, winery, garden, and native landscape. My mom lives with us and ensures we obey her curfew. We have two cats, two dogs, two cows, and our two gaited horses.

Remy is an 11 year old curly mustang/Missouri Foxtrotter, and Victor's horse, Cap, is a 7-year old TWH. Remy is very smart and opens the paddock and dutch doors. He'll also turn and put his butt in my face and farts. I know he's doing that on purpose. Remy and I took the 3-day Steve Rother clinic, and we came home with a revitalized relationship. Thanks to the course, I'm slowly working the naughty out of him, and we finally have mutual respect for each other...maybe. He does still fart in my face. And he's getting better when he goes to Idaho Equine. Everyone there knows him. I don't know if that's a good thing or a naughty horse thing.



When I'm not working, riding, feeding, quilting, gardening, weeding, sleeping...I volunteer as a court appointed special advocate (CASA). I'm a member of the *Idaho Native Plant Society*, *Owyhee Gardeners*, *Friends of the Owyhee*, *Southern Comfort Gaited Horse Club* (the cool group), and I'm a Deer Flat Master Naturalist. I'm so ready to do some club rides and clinics.

Next Meeting is March 13th at Carla Kirkpatrick's house:

12189 Fieldstone Place, Middleton 6 pm for potluck, 7 pm for meeting
