



*The McCurdy Plantation
Horse Registry
and Association*

A Legacy of the Old South

Newsletter Spring 2007

<http://www.mccurdyhorses.com>

Spring Ride

Sat., March 31, 2007

Lowndes Academy, Lowndesboro, AL

**We will be leaving the school at 9:30am and
2:30pm sharp!**

**Returning to the school around 1:00pm.
Lunch can be purchased
from LA Booster Club**

Association meeting immediately following.

**Afternoon ride will leave at 2:30pm
and return to the school around 4:30-
5:00pm**

**Overnight accommodations available at the
Southern Sportsman's' Hunting Lodge
334-872-9740**



*All riders must pay \$10.00 fee to ride morning and
afternoon, if you ride only the morning or
afternoon ride, you will still pay \$10.00, present
current negative Coggins and obtain a name tag to
ride.*

***No alcoholic beverages
permitted during the ride.***

*We want owners of McCurdy-registered horses
to bring as many as possible to exhibit them, and
for owners of prospective candidates for
registration to bring those for evaluation.*

Ride is open to any breed.

*Ribbons in the horse's manes designates they are
for sale. Yellow ribbons designates a McCurdy
Horse for sale.*

*For more information: Ed McCurdy 334-872-
5412, Teddy Pouncey 334-875-8313
OR visit our web site
www.mccurdyhorses.com*



Rev. Dr. John Richard McDuffie



The Reverend Dr. John Richard McDuffie, 73, of Aiken, died December 24, 2006. He was called to the ministry at the age of sixteen and had served as a Baptist minister in many churches in North Carolina and South Carolina.

He was a graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., and received his Doctorate from Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, FL.

Since his retirement in 1995, he had served as interim pastor in several area churches. He was a founding member of the South Carolina Equestrian Ministries and was still serving as a consultant. Currently, he was serving as Equestrian Minister as consultant for the South Carolina Baptist Association. He was on the Board of Directors of the McCurdy Plantation Horse Association. He was an outdoorsman and loved all of God’s creations. He moved to Aiken in 1991 and was a member of Cedar Creek Church. He is survived by his loving wife, Lynette Suggs McDuffie, and beloved children Sonya (Charles) Scott of Knoxville, TN, Renee McDuffie Holland of Aiken, and Rev. Dr. John Richard (Debbie) McDuffie Jr. of Smithville, NC and grandchildren.



This newsletter is a tribute to our dear friend and founding McCurdy Director Rev. Dr. John Richard McDuffie, Sr. of Aiken, S.C. who passed away December 24, 2006. Richard lived a full and bountiful life as an avid horseman, pastor, family man and friend. His presence among us will be greatly missed, but his legacy lives on. Cards can be sent to the family c/o Mrs. Lynette McDuffie 1179 Shaws Fork Rd. Aiken, SC 29805

Zechariah 1:8-10

During the night I had a vision—and there before me was a man riding a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in a ravine. Behind him were red, brown and white horses.

I asked, “What are these, my lord?” The angel who was talking with me answered, “I will show you what they are.”

Then the man standing among the myrtle trees explained, “They are the ones the LORD has sent to go throughout the earth.”

And they reported to the angel of the LORD, who was standing among the myrtle trees, “We have gone throughout the earth and found the whole world at rest and in peace.”



From the McCurdy Association Office

Total registrations 460
Assoc. Members 220

Reminder to register Spring foals
Many registrations and transfers are delayed because forms are not completed correctly and/or pictures are not provided. Please make sure you have properly completed your paperwork and provided all requested information.

Ed McCurdy-Registrar
1020 Houston Park, Selma,
Alabama 36701
Phone evenings: (334) 872-5412
Email: emccurdy@charter.net



OCTOBER 7, 2006 FALL RIDE

The Fall Ride was one of the best ever. The Southern Sportsman Hunting Lodge was filled to the brim with avid McCurdy enthusiasts as well as numerous other trailriding friends who always make the Fall ride. We had about 160 riders for the morning ride which took us on a beautiful



scenic tour through Lowndes County woodland trails, open pastures and prime hunting country. As usual, a delicious lunch was served at the Lodge after our 2 hour ride. Many guests and riders stayed over on Friday and Saturday nights and enjoyed lots of fellowship and fun!! Riders came from all across the southeast. Coming from South Carolina and all the way from Texas. Pictures taken by Colleen Cates & Ed McCurdy



I purchased my chestnut roan from Mr. McDuffy in October of 2003. I am quite a novice to horses and have been learning as I go. Callie is the best trail horse ever! She is fearless and steady, a spook reaction from her is nothing more than a hop and a lowering of the head, ears back and a very vocal, "Hmmm"- after that we charge right on down the trail.

Anyhow... we just competed in our first endurance race. She did beautifully! I trailered her for 4 hours away from home (a first for both of us), she then spent the night in an unfamiliar stall with unfamiliar horses. At sunrise we hit the trail with 46 others. This was a trial/learn about the sport event for me, so I delayed our start by 10 minutes to avoid some of the chaos. I then lost another 10 minutes due to my poor map reading skills. We completed the 25 miles with 15 minutes to spare and did NOT come in last! We placed 36 out of 47. I learned a lot! Even though I now know we were undertrained, my Miss Callie McCurdy was amazing! She is quite competitive and I had to hold her back for the first 14 miles. She did not show signs of wear until the last 5 miles. Endurance races are dominated by Arabians, but the 11 we beat were indeed Arabians! (tee hee hee) I had dozens of folks inquire about her breed and ask questions about her! (not a one had heard of a McCurdy) After the race when she did so well and people saw how quickly her heart rate recovered, I had 2 offers to buy her. I directed both folks to the McCurdy web site. So there is my long tale. Go McCurdys! Thanks, Jean Ali





How We Got To Where We're At...

My Dad, J. Richard McDuffie, Sr., passed away rather unexpectedly on December 24, 2006, leaving us heartbroken- but also with a wonderful legacy, several top-notch McCurdy horses, and a dream.

My earliest memories of Daddy include horses. I can vividly remember sitting in front of him on the saddle at about 4 years old as we rode through the pinewoods and pocosins of eastern North Carolina, enjoying the beauty of God's creation. Dad wasn't very interested in going fast or in cowboying- he wanted a pleasure horse that was sensible, calm, not prone to "blow up" in a stressful situation and, of course, provided a smooth and enjoyable ride. Dad had owned a McCurdy horse as early as the late 1950's, and by the mid-1960's we possessed a pasture full of great horses upon which we rode countless miles in those great years. All of those horses were Alabama-bred McCurdys, "imported" to North Carolina by a horse broker from Bladenboro, NC who brought hundreds of them here in those years. I clearly remember going to that barn with Daddy on multiple occasions to see the latest group of Alabama horses. Though most of them were unbroke, and some were even wild, they trained easily, were naturally gaited, and were head and shoulders above anything in this part of the world.

Dad's work as a pastor took us to the resort town of Carolina Beach, NC in 1972; we had no pasture or barn there, and we were forced to pare down our herd. My uncle became the custodian of the beautiful sorrel stud, "Doctor McCurdy" that Dad had ridden throughout the sixties. I was a teenager and, for the time, was more interested in teenage pursuits than in horses. From Carolina Beach, Mom and Dad moved again to suburban Columbia, SC... but both Dad and I always looked forward to getting back to places in the country where we could keep horses again.

Dad and Mom realized their piece of that dream in the early 90's when they bought their farm near Aiken, SC. They named it "Dunrovin Plantation" for two reasons- first, Dad reasoned that it was where he would retire (he was "done rovin'") and second, it fit with our family's Scottish name and heritage. Once the farm was in place, only one thing remained- to search for some McCurdy horses, if there were any left. Keep in mind that, at this time, there was no McCurdy Plantation Horse Association, no Registry- nothing! Our original, simple plan was to find a suitable old-line McCurdy mare to breed to Doctor McCurdy, who was nearing 30 years old by this time. We dared not hope for more, given our doubts about the survival of the old line in Alabama. But we had clearly underestimated the Alabama folks!

Through his lifetime of dog breeding and hunting, my Dad has friends all over the world. Through one of his Alabama contacts, he heard about Roy Rogers of Greenville, Alabama, who was purported to know something about the McCurdys. We were delighted to meet Roy, and to discover that he not only had some of the McCurdy stock, but knew the whereabouts of other horses! We bought a mare and foal from Roy, then through Roy, we met Grey Till, Ron Mann, Ed McCurdy, Lewis McCurdy, Colleen Cates and many others. What a thrill it was, after all these years, to meet other people who knew about these horses, and even some of the McCurdy family... and, moreover, to discover what fine folks they are!

I was very involved with Dad in the early days of the registry and the Association. I personally wrote some of the early printed material and came up with the drawing of the gaiting horse that is still used on the MPHA homepage today. However, due to job responsibilities, raising three little girls, and distance (I had moved to North Carolina, 250 miles away from Mom and Dad) I found myself unable to continue that level of involvement over the ensuing years. I learned to be content with an occasional trail ride with Dad in the beautiful Hitchcock Woods of Aiken, and with the stories he and Mom brought back from their frequent trips to Alabama.

With Dad's passing, I realized that I had also reached a fork in life's road. For the past few years, I had been counting on him to keep the horses- he did all the work, and I could ride whenever I wanted. Now what was to happen? Would his vision come to an end? Would the horses just be sold off and go to the four corners of the earth? I just couldn't accept that. With the support of my mother and my wife Debbie, we have decided to "go for it"! For now, our plans are modest, but we intend to raise one or two foals a year here on our farm in eastern N.C. and to make Doctor Coppertone available to those who want to breed to a first-class McCurdy foundation stallion. Most of all, we just want to continue to be involved with good horse people and to have the pleasure of riding these great horses!

I'm sure it would make my Daddy proud and happy to know that his dream lives on. He did love those horses, didn't he?



Murphy's Law of Horses Enjoy!

If you do a thorough check of your trailer before hauling, your truck will break down.

There is no such thing as a sterile barn cat.

No one ever notices how you ride until you fall off.

The least useful horse in your barn will eat the most, require shoes every four weeks and need the vet at least once a month.

A horse's misbehavior will be in direct proportion to the number of people who are watching.

Tack you hate never wears out; blankets you hate cannot be destroyed; horses you hate cannot be sold and will outlive you.

Clipper blades will become dull only when the horse is half finished.

Clipper motors will quit only when you have the horse's head left to trim.

If you're wondering if you left the water on in the barn, you did.

If you're wondering if you latched the pasture gate, you didn't.

IF YOU'RE WINNING, QUIT.



Visit our web site!! Many opportunities are available to the membership, such as:

- Advertise your farm/stable/ranch on the [Breeder's page listing](#) as providing a breeding stallion, offspring for sale, training, etc. Just \$50.00 per year.
- Advertise your [horse for sale](#) at \$15.00 for 3 months or with a photo of your horse at \$20.00 for 3 months.
- Get trail ride information, coverage, and photos.
- Links back and forth from your personal farm/ranch web site to the McCurdy web site.

If you would like to talk to Paula Sue about a web site opportunity or if you have any information for the newsletter, contact her at: Paula Sue Swope, Prairie Creek Ranch, 11691 CR 1200, Malakoff, TX 75148, 903-489-0294, or paulasue@swopes.org

Annual Dues for the McCurdy Plantation Horse Association are \$15.00 per year. Please send in your dues now if you want to continue to receive the newsletter!

McCurdy Caps and Jackets with the McCurdy Logo are available through Roy Rogers 334-382-2853.



For Sale: 4 year old saddle broke dapple gray McCurdy/TWH registered stallion, excellent breeding prospect or luxury trail riding gelding, \$5000. Will be at Spring Ride. Roy Rogers, 334-382-2853