



Who's Who in TROT

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Newsletter

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TROT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

We have added a membership meeting to our TROT calendar and hope you can join your fellow trail riders. Members and non-members are welcome, so bring your friends!

DATE: Tuesday, September 23

TIME: 6:30 – 7:00 Networking and light dinner provided by TROT
7:00 – 7:15 TROT update
7:15 - 8:30 Scott Purdum, Advantage Horsemanship

Program: Advantage Horsemanship™ is a unique training program that teaches willingness, respect, and communication between horse and rider. **Scott Purdum**, the creator of Advantage Horsemanship™, has worked with all breeds and helps riders of any discipline become a better partner with their horse. His goal is to assist others when they have problems and to expand their horsemanship knowledge.

His website: <http://www.scottpurdum.net/>

PLACE: Damascus Library, 9701 Main Street, Damascus, MD 20872

RSVP: Valerie Helfrich valeriehelfrich@hotmail.com or call (410)-848-6095 if you are planning to attend the meeting.

(TROT Meeting continued on page 2)

Trail Rides

FROM CALLITHEA FARM June 14

Naomi Manders (Ride Leader)
nmanders@aol.com

This was the nicest and most organized ride I've attended in a long time! Trailers started showing up at 9AM and all were in the saddle by 9:30 so we left a bit earlier than 10:00. One rider from Frederick had vehicle problems but we were able to reach her and move on. I beg forgiveness at not remembering everyone's name from that day--I've sent the Ride List on to TROT Ride Coordinator.

The weather started off cloudy and kept the heat down. Blockhouse Point trails were in excellent condition due to a major clean-up the day before by the Potomac Bridle & Hiking Trails Association, the local trail maintenance club. PBHTA wanted to make sure TROT had an

enjoyable experience! The woods were green and quiet but the towpath was very busy as expected on a Saturday---we had previously discussed the sensitivity of this multi-use path and agreed to ride single-file whenever passing bikes or pedestrians (this was most of the time between the 2 locks).

The 11 TROT riders were model ambassadors for equestrians and we at Callithea Farm appreciate the extra effort to be polite. The Farm Loop gets a lot of use and we depend on it staying open to horses.

Upon our return (sun was out but good breeze) we had a yummy tailgate in the gazebo on the high point of the farm. It was very comfortable with shaded seating and we had a great discus-

(Callithea Continued on page 2)

Trail Rides
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President's message

The TROT Board and TROT members have been very busy this summer (see the County Coordinator Reports). I would like to highlight three significant accomplishments since our last newsletter.

Maryland Department of Natural Resources conference – TROT received an invitation to participate in DNR's "Future Search" conference for two days in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. This session brought together DNR employees and partners in a creative strategic planning session focused on issues and challenges to ensure a sustainable future for Maryland's natural resources. Pat Oliva capably represented TROT at this planning session and her report can be found on Page 3.

TROT Mounted Search and Rescue Team receives non-profit status – Tomi Finkle, TROT SAR Captain, reported that the IRS has officially granted non-profit status to the Search and Rescue team. This team was started in 1992 as a community service unit of TROT. There are formal memorandums of understanding in place with Maryland and Virginia, and TROT SAR is also listed in the national Emergency Management Assistance Compact. Learn more about TROT SAR on Page 7 of this issue and on www.trot-md.org.

Maryland Horse Industry Board invitation for nominees – TROT has received a request from Rob Burk, Executive Director of the MHIB, for three nominations to represent Trails and Recreational Riding on the board. The position, appointed by the Governor, will keep the MHIB members informed about issues impacting trail and recreational riders. Three TROT members have submitted their applications: Tomi Finkle, Leroy Mattingly, and Ron MacNab. The final selection is made by the Governor, and while a candidate from another organization could be selected, we are hoping for an appointment from TROT.

All three of these recent events highlight the exposure that TROT has in the equestrian community, and the perceived value of our members' input. Thanks to everyone who has made these milestones possible.

Priscilla Huffman
President

(TROT Meeting continued from page 1)

Directions: Damascus Library, 9701 Main Street, Damascus, MD 20872

From Rockville area: Take 270 north past Germantown to the Damascus exit, Route 27. Follow Route 27 about six miles into Damascus. Go through the stoplight near Damascus Elementary, bearing right at the second stoplight at Lewis Drive. Continue past the third stoplight at intersection of Route 27 and Route 108, following Route 108. Continue one block to the fourth stoplight at the intersection of Routes 108 and 124. The library will be on your left, just past this intersection. The library is between the Damascus

Centre Shopping Center and the Day Care Center.

From Olney area: Take Route 108 north to Damascus. Library is on right hand side of Route 108, just past the Day Care Center and before the intersection of Route 108 and 124, at 9701 Main St.

From Frederick & Carroll Counties From Interstate 70/Route 40 at Mount Airy, take Route 27 six miles south to the intersection of Route 108. Turn left onto Route 108 at the traffic light and go one block to the intersection of Route 108 (Main Street) and Route 124. The library will be on the left between the Damascus Centre Shopping Center and the Day Care Center.

(Callithea continued from page 1)

Callithea Farm is now a County Park facility so we invite you to return soon---weekdays are very quiet on the towpath. Ron MacNab has GPS'd the Farm Loop and will share the map

with you, I'm sure. There are also many excellent trails close by---McKee Beshers, Dry Seneca, Potomac Horse Center/Muddy Branch, etc. where guides can be arranged for you.

Thanks for a great day! Naomi Manders
(Ride Leader) nmanders@aol.com

Pictures on pages 8 and 11.

County Updates

Currently there are no named contacts or coordinators for **Anne Arundel** and **Baltimore** Counties. If you have an interest to act in this capacity, please contact Priscilla Huffman, Trot President.

Charles County

T'mi Finkle

On June 28th Cedarville State Forest had its grand opening for a campground section devoted to Horse Camping. The opening was event included the "Leave No Trace" program that was presented by Maryland Park Service Rangers and a Horse Camping Clinic facilitated by T'mi Finkle. In addition to being the keynote speaker for the Horse Camping Clinic, T'mi also served as the representative for both TROT and the TROTSAR Mounted Team. Her experiences with both organizations has taken T'mi to 18 of Maryland 23 counties, which includes horse camping in all neighboring states. [Editor's note: Bob Cantin, on behalf of the DNR, wrote a letter of appreciation for T'mi's participation.]

Howard County

Pat Oliva

I have just received an aerial photo of Benson Branch Park. There are a few areas where the boundary is on a road and I will be researching areas suitable for trailer parking. If anybody has an idea I would welcome it. The parking area for the horses in Western Regional is still under construction and I am "patiently" waiting the Parks final OK on the trails.

DNR Future Search Conference

June 10-11 I attended a conference in West Virginia at the National Conservation Training Center. It was sponsored by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and focused the DNR on "what we need to do differently to achieve healthy natural resources in the future"

Montgomery County

Ron MacNab

Public Hearing on Germantown Master Plan Draft

Monday, July 28, 2008 at 7:30 at Globe Hall on Montgomery College-Germantown campus. The Public Hearing Draft of the Germantown Master Plan is now available for public comment. The draft plan creates a vision for mixed use communities served by the existing MARC commuter rail and the future Corridor Cities Transitway. New zoning tools and design guidelines will help new development and redevelopment in Germantown be walkable, sustainable, and linked to the history and cultural facilities of the community.

Ag Farm Trail Detour on Tree Farm Trail

Trail users visiting the Agricultural History Farm Park trails should use caution when using the Tree Farm Trail. A temporary detour has been established due to construction work along Airpark Road and is clearly marked. For more information, call the Park Manager at (301)-948-5053.

Upper Rock Creek Corridor Plan

The county Planning Board is proposing ways to fill in the

Cedarville State Forest extends into both Charles and Prince George's County and is located east of US 301 (just north of Waldorf, MD). Horse camping is permitted within the Special Events Camping Loop, at a cost of \$20 per night. There is a central bathhouse (with potable water available) for the 16 campsites, and equestrians must bring their own horse containment systems. There area approximately 17 miles of well marked trails within the Forest and the MD Department of Natural Resources sells trail maps of the Forest a nominal cost. (See the DNR website for details). There is also an exceptional trailer parking area at Cedarville State Forest for Day use trail riding.

Tracking/mapping of the trails at Cedarville State Forest will be one of the upcoming TROT mapping projects.

It was a diverse group. TROT, MORE, the president of the AP and a number of businessmen, boaters and fishermen and hunters represented the civic interest and a large number of DNR management personnel formed the main group. It was not a working group to address problems. It was run by a private professional and through a maze of situations we all got to meet and discuss our concerns and hopes for the future.

There is promise in these meetings. Groups of people working in five specific areas have signed up to meet in the future. I am a member of group 3. The groups are: 1-Growth, 2-Public Awareness, 3- Green Infrastructure, 4- Habitat Restoration, 5-Workforce.. In all there is a hope of partnership between interest groups and the DNR.

These groups are planned to continue.

gaps in a trail system that, when completed, would create a continuous 30-mile hiking, biking and equestrian path from Rock Creek Regional Park in Derwood north to the Patuxent River. A public hearing on the plan is scheduled for early September. Lynn Coleman, Director of Park Planning said staff hopes the plan will be adopted by October.

The Plan

1. Almost doubles the length of trails now available in the corridor. In addition to providing a linear connection from Rock Creek Regional Park to the Patuxent River, the Plan proposes a xx mile loop trail that will be open to hikers, equestrians and mountain bikes.
2. Endorses the extension of a hard surface trail from Rock Creek Regional Park to Olney.
3. Proposes a new alternative to link the Rock Creek hiker-biker trail to the Lake Frank trail network.
4. Proposes a location for a mountain bike challenge course at George Carson Farm Special Park.
5. Identifies mill sites for potential future interpretation.

(Mont. Co. continued on page 4)

(Mont. Co. continued from page 3)

GPS Maps

Five recently mapped Montgomery County Parks are posted on the TROT website at <http://www.trot-md.org/parks.php>. Please review these pages and let me know if this informa-

tion meets your needs and how the maps or web presentation could be improved. I have other parks ready to be posted, but I want your feedback first. Email me at rmacnab@comcast.net.

St Mary's County

LeRoy Mattingly

Come play in our backyard this summer as Greenwell offers summer horse camp. Camp Greenwell, Horse Camp, runs from 9am - 4pm. Before and after care is available.

Horse Camp

Greenwell's Horse Camp is one of Southern Maryland's most popular camps. Ride horses and learn all about care and feeding of our equine friends. Horse Camp is for children ages 7 - 13.

Five one-week sessions are available throughout the summer beginning June 16, with only three left.

Specialty Camp 3 (Horse camp): June 30 - July 3 (four-day week)

Specialty Camp 5 (Horse camp): July 14 - 18

Specialty Camp 6 (Horse camp): July 21 - 25

Cost: Greenwell Members: \$175.00 (\$150.00 for Specialty Camp 3); Non-Members: \$195.00 (\$170.00 for Specialty Camp 3).

Scholarships 2008

Thanks to generous grants from the Smiles for Life Campaign and the Bubel-Aiken Foundation, the Greenwell

Foundation is able to offer a limited number of scholarships for Therapeutic Horseback Riding, Camp Greenwell, and Horseback Riding Camp. These scholarships are available to children under the age of 18 who have a disability and do not have other funding sources for these programs. There are no specific criteria for the type or severity of the child's disability. Scholarships will be evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Keep in mind that Greenwell also offers a therapeutic riding program designed for individuals with developmental, physical, or emotional challenges. The TRP is based on the principles and methods of the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA).

The Greenwell State Park Trails

The trails are found in good condition as of this reporting. Plenty of relaxation trail riding activity is underway with most riders bringing along a tailgate snack to enjoy after riding or during a break. The Park is located on the beautiful Patuxent River, in Hollywood Maryland. Some are even taking the opportunity to enroll in Kayak lessons, during their visit. So, come on out and enjoy one of our most beautiful Parks in the State. Looking forward to seeing you there !

Need a ride/Share a ride!

Do you have a two or three horse trailer, but don't like traveling alone? Do you have a horse, but no trailer? TROT organizes some great trail rides throughout Maryland. It would be a shame to miss those fun times because you don't like to travel alone or because you don't have a trailer. We want to provide a forum space for people looking for a traveling partner, so please write to the TROT Newsletter at nlogood@verizon.net. You just might find someone who

lives around the corner from you who would love to share a ride (and with gas prices the way they are, someone who might be willing to share expenses)!

Needs a ride:

Is there anyone out near Union Bridge/Frederick that could pick me and my daughter up for a trail ride? Contact Allison Zerr at AZerr@jzerr.com

Mark your calendars:

Scot Hansen is coming to the Washington DC area to present his Self-Defense for Trail Riders Clinic, on October 4th and 5th 2008. The TROTSAR Search & Rescue Mounted Team Inc. is hosting this event. Scot is a nationally known equine practitioner and has developed the clinic for trail riders who wanted to know how they could use their horse to defend against a human predator on the trail. Each clinic is an individual three-hour session that teaches riders how to recognize predator behavior, how to avoid an attack, how to stay safely in the saddle if you're approached or assaulted, and how to teach your horse how to help you escape safely. Each individual clinic is limited to only 10 riders per session and each rider will be able to select a clinic time that best fits into their schedule, at a cost of \$100 dollars per clinic. There will also be 12 slots available for those who wish to audit (without a horse) at the cost of \$25.00 dollars per clinic. Email Officers@trotsar.org for clinic information and/or to request online registration packet or visit the TROTSAR web site: <http://trot-md.org/sar.htm>

TROT JUDGED PLEASURE RIDE – A GREAT SUCCESS!

Marilynn Miller

The good news – no rain! The bad news – held in the middle of the longest hot spell in June in 50 years!

Riders came early to take advantage of the cooler morning. We had a total of 52 horses and the temperature did not hit 95 degrees until all the riders had returned from the trail. The results are on page 4 and complete results on our website at www.trot-org. Also on the website – a link to all the photographs taken at the event by Linda Davis.

There are many members who contributed to the success of this event. Deneen Martin was our liaison with the Agricultural Farm Park management. She got the maintenance person to mow much of the trail, and she worked on laying out the trail and deciding on the obstacles. Friday evening I found Priscilla Huffman, Ron and Janet MacNab, Susan

Gray and Mike Caruso, and Susan and John Railey cutting trees and clearing trails. Pat Oliva was also on horseback working on last minute maintenance of the trail.

Pat, Ron, and Priscilla also judged on Saturday, and Janet helped with registration. Anne Bennof was in charge of registration, and Janet Drazek manned her computer. Other judges included Angela Jones, Judy Brodbeck, Debbie Fountain, Janet Leitzel, Nancy Harmon, Susanna Coffey, Pat Talbott, Kyle Jossi, and Lori Cusick (who also provided a canopy). Mary Prowell could not come but also sent a canopy. The canopies provided welcome shade for the office area. Thanks also for Linda Davis for all great photographs. Sandy Boyd rode drag behind the other riders – to make sure all the participants made it back safely. Elizabeth Baran competed, and then helped take down trail markers. As you can see it takes a large cast of volunteers for this event – but we all certainly had a good time. If you have not helped out before, consider volunteering for the next Judged Pleasure Ride in June of 2009!

Riders to the Rescue

T'mi Finkle

On April 26th and 27th, 2008, Team Commander, Tomi Finkle represented the TROTSAR Mounted Team during the annual Virginia Search and Rescue Conference that was held in Appomattox Virginia. TROTSAR is one of only two credentialed Mounted Search Teams in the Commonwealth of Virginia and holds an official memorandum of understanding with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management for response to incidents of lost or missing persons.

On May 10, 2008, 12 members of the TROTSAR Mounted



Search and Rescue Team presented at the annual Damascus Preparedness Day Fair in Montgomery County Maryland. The Search Team provided hourly outdoor mounted search and rescue demonstrations and staffed a public information booth indoors. During the Fair, a public ceremony was held for [two] team members

Steve Pelham (Trot-22) and Laurie Hanahan (Trot-28) who were promoted from Trainees to Operational Members. Linda (Trot-102) took dozens of pictures during this public safety event.



On Monday May 12, 2008 at the request of the Maryland Nature Resource Police two (2) members of the TROTSAR Mounted Team responded to Wicomico County for a search of a critical missing person. Over 50 trained searchers from several Search Teams braved heavy rain and winds in attempts to find the missing person. A Salisbury man reported missing since Saturday May 10th was found in Seaford. The Wicomico County Sheriff's Office said 44-year-old Harvey William Harris Jr. was found unharmed around 8 p.m.

Monday by the Seaford Police Department at a Seaford home.

Ride Safe.



Results of the very successful Judged Pleasure Ride 7 June 2008

Photographs are available for purchase. The proceeds benefit TROTSAR. Go to <http://www.trot-md.org/> JPR Results Available or <http://qhdal.smugmug.com/TROT%20JPR%202008>

Champion & Reserve Champion are horses, not riders, so the champion and reserve champion are excluded from the horse classes, but not from the rider classes.

Oldest Horse		
#	Rider Name	Horse Age
#53	Kimberly Coombe	26

Oldest Rider		
#	Rider Name	Rider Age
#41	Shirley Hovermale	73

Youngest Rider		
#	Rider Name	Rider Age
#52	Sammi Gowan	11

Junior Rider			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#46	Alexis Thorner	90.5
2	#53	Kimberly Coombe	90
3	#51	Heather Gleason	83
4	#61	Mandy Montgomery	79
5	#23	Julia Eckstine	79
6	#31	Allison Creekmore	75

Novice Rider			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#12	Michelle Beachley	95.5
2	#58	Maggie Brodnick	92
3	#11	Corwin Duncan	89
4	#47	Stephen Thorner	87
5	#54	Kaja Farnsworth	84
6	#48	Gina Doney	83

Open Rider			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#49	Jacquie Cowan	97.5
2	#36	Amy Grimm	95
3	#43	Suzi Young	92
4	#3	Kimberly Hicks	92
5	#60	Susan Montgomery	89
6	#21	Donna Miller	88

Quarter Horses			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#21	Donna Miller	88
2	#41	Shirley Hovermale	81.5
3	#4	Linda Johns	78
4	#24	Jessi Smith	77
5	#27	Tracy Knott	58
6	#26	Lindy Cogan	39

Champion & Reserve Champion			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
	#49	Jacquie Cowan	97.5
	#12	Michelle Beachley	95.5

Arabians & Half Arabians			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#25	Rosemary W. Marton	85
2	#8	Valerie Freese	77.5
3	#56	Frances Ligler	77
4	#1	Elizabeth Baran	76
5	#55	Janelle Straszheim	67

Thoroughbreds, Appaloosas & Other Reg. Breeds			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#3	Kimberly Hicks	92
2	#40	Barbara Dixon	87.5
3	#37	Kevin Yungk	86
4	#7	Amy K. Kimble	82
5	#10	Naomi Manders	82
6	#23	Julia Eckstine	79

Ponies			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#46	Alexis Thorner	90.5
2	#14	Elisa Harvey	68
3	#52	Sammi Gowan	66

Gaited Breeds			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#43	Suzi Young	92
2	#60	Susan Montgomery	89
3	#57	Jean Cooper	75

Grade (no particular breed)			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#36	Amy Grimm	95
2	#53	Kimberly Coombe	90
3	#47	Stephen Thorner	87
4	#9	Debbie Moore	74

Novice Horses			
Rank	#	Rider Name	Score
1	#58	Maggie Brodnick	92
2	#11	Corwin Duncan	89
3	#54	Kaja Farnsworth	84
4	#48	Gina Doney	83
5	#51	Heather Gleason	83
6	#29	Kyrie Garretson	80

TROTSAR Mounted Team

T'mi Finkle, Team Commander

I am extremely proud to announce the Mounted Team has received official notification from the IRS that advised non-profit status for the TROTSAR Mounted Search & Rescue Team Inc. has been approved! The IRS advised the Mounted Team is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 C-3, and that contributions to the Team are deductible and the Team is also qualified to receive bequests, devises, transfers or gifts. The effective date is retroactive to Feb. 15, 2008, which was the date that the State of Maryland approved the Team's (state) tax exempt status and approved the Team's Article's of Incorporation. The TROTSAR Mounted Search & Rescue Team Inc. is currently classified as a public charity and will remain so for the advanced ruling period until Dec 31, 2012.

I would like to thank all those team members and supporters who helped make this historic milestone in our team's history come to a reality. I also would like to thank the current and past officers of Trail Riders of Today (TROT), for supporting us through our transition years (from June 2004 to present). The officers and members of the TROTSAR

Mounted Search & Rescue Team Inc. look forward to an ongoing and productive working relationship with our former parent organization. Please know that the Team will maintain its connection with TROT through (annual) Contributing Membership status.

As most of you know the Search Team began in 1992 as a community service unit of TROT and was organized by Anne Bennof (former TROT President) and Suzanne Anderson (former TROT newsletter editor). Sadly both of these outstanding ladies have honorably retired from the team, but it should be known that they set the cornerstone that has lead to national recognition of the TROTSAR Mounted Team. The team now has formal memorandums of understanding in place with the States of Maryland and Virginia for incident response of lost and missing persons, and is also listed in the national Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) as a (non-government) first responder mounted search and rescue resource.

Regards and ride safe.

St. Mary's County Coordinator Bio

LeRoy Mattingly

Hello Folks my name is LeRoy Mattingly and I am a new member of TROT. When submitting my application I was not aware that I was the only member from my County. About a week later, I received a call from Priscilla about my interest and availability in taking on the responsibility of being the County Coordinator for St. Mary's County. After about a 15-minute conversation with her, I said sure I will do it. So, here is a little bit of information about me to the membership.

I have lived in St. Mary's County all of my 47 years. I have been riding for about 35, both English and Western. However, I must say that my preferred is English and yes I do wear those tights with tall boots! Oh but wait, for those of you who may not approve, I also wear that cowboy hat, boots, and the big belt buckle! I have trained, shown, trail ridden, played arena polo, fox chased, and have scooped plenty of poop. I am also a member of the Southern Maryland Trail Riders, the De La Brooke Foxhounds, and a Volunteer Mounted Patrol Ranger at Greenwell State Park for the Maryland Park Service. I enjoy all riding disciplines, have passion and adore the horse, and all that they are about.

I work at the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Maryland. I have been there for a quarter of a century, wow, must be ancient! Started there as a firefighter and now work as a

manager in the Air Operations Department. My former wife showed in the Hunter and Jumper ring, my daughter rode all of her life, now is a second grade school teacher, and conducts riding lessons for children. My son rode growing up, decided he would trade in the horse for the four-wheeler, and now works as a salesman.

You can find me riding my horse, riding my iron horse (Harley), or hanging out with the foxhounds. I also enjoy civil war (cavalry) re-enactments, mountain biking, the beach, scuba, and sailing.

I'm looking forward to meeting each of you at some point in our love affair with the horse.

Have a great ride.



Understanding and Working with the TROT Map Pages

Ron MacNab

You will find that the new TROT map pages offer several maps of the same park, and some files that cannot be read by your web browser. This article will attempt to explain the many new options you now have to view your parks. I will be using Agriculture History Farm Park as an example. You can follow along by viewing the page at <http://www.trot-md.org/trails/agfarm.php>.

Under “Maps and GPS data” are listed five different options.

Parks Map --- This map was created by Maryland National Capital Park and Planning (MNCPPC) and comes from their website. The map is in a pdf format and can be viewed by your web browser or downloaded to your PC for future viewing. To download the file to your PC, click on the save icon on the top left of your screen. (It looks like a floppy disk.) The file will be saved to the location you specify as a pdf file and can be read by Adobe Reader. The map can also be printed by clicking on the printer icon on the top left of your screen.

The MNCPPC map shows only the trails that are officially sanctioned and maintained by the park. It does not show “people’s choice trails” which are trails on public land created by patrons but are not maintained by the county. For example, in this map it does not show the trail leading from Agriculture History Farm Park to Blue Mash. People’s choice trails need to be continually clipped on our rides to keep them open.

Aerial Map – The aerial map is a satellite picture of the park with an overlay of the recorded trail system. The trails are recorded using a gps unit and then transferred onto the satellite picture. The map can be printed from your browser or saved as a jpg image. To zoom in for a closer look, simply save the map as a jpg file and view it using picture/image viewing software.

I find it best to print the aerial map and carry it during the ride. It provides an overview of the general area, helps you identify what you are seeing, and helps if you become momentarily disoriented. *Even legendary Daniel Boone admits to have been momentarily disoriented for three days. J*

Topo and/or Terrain Map – These are jpg image files showing the contour of the land with the trail system overlaid. Topo maps show the terrain using contour lines. Terrain maps show terrain using three dimensional imaging. Since these are picture files, they can be printed, saved and zoomed just like the aerial maps.

GPX file – GPX files are gps exchange files. Nearly all brands of gps units and map software recognize the gpx format. A gpx file is a text file (.txt) of longitude and latitude data points recorded by a gps unit. The file allows others to

upload the data points to their gps and follow the trail. How this is done depends on the brand of gps you own. I will explain it for Garmin products, but other brands should work similarly.

Click on the gpx link on the TROT web page. An ugly page of thousands of numbers and letters will appear.

Copy the information by holding down your Control Button marked CTRL on your keyboard while pressing the letter A. Everything on the page has been selected and will appear blue. Right click on your mouse to copy the information.

Open Notepad which is found under programs/accessories in your start menu. Right click your mouse to paste the data into Notepad. Save the file, giving it a name, and remembering where you are saving it.

Open the MapSource program that came with your Garmin. Or if you have another brand, open their software program.

Click on File/Open and then find the file you just saved. Highlight the file and click open.

Save the file in MapSource.

To upload the data to your gps, plug the gps in to your PC, click on Transfer/Send to Device. Within seconds the trail will be on your gps.

KMZ file -- I have saved the easiest and best for last. A KMZ file enables you to view the trail on Google Earth and save it for future reference. You must have Google Earth installed on your computer. This is a free program that will provide you with hours of amusement. The program works best using a high speed Internet connection.

To install the software, go to earth.google.com and follow the instructions. This is a one-time procedure, you will not have to do it again.

Once Google Earth is installed, click on the “KMZ file” link. If you are using the FireFox browser, Google Earth will open immediately and zoom in on the trail.

If you are using Internet Explorer or if your browser does not recognize the KMZ format, save the file by typing in the name with a .kmz extension. Open Google Earth then retrieve the file by clicking on File/Open and selecting the file.

If you have a problem working with any of these files, please give me a call at (301)-622-4157 and I will try to help you over the phone.

Maureen and her Icies setting off from Callithea.



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http://www.gazette.net/stories/062508/olnew212756_32374.shtml

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Plans made to fill in trail gaps from Derwood to the Patuxent River

Connections will give hikers, bikers and riders a 30-mile path

by Melissa J. Brachfeld | Staff Writer

The county Planning Board is proposing ways to fill in the gaps in a trail system that, when completed, would create a continuous 30-mile hiking, biking and equestrian path from Rock Creek Regional Park in Derwood north to the Patuxent River.

The recommendations are contained in the staff draft of the Upper Rock Creek Trail Corridor Plan, which was presented to the Montgomery County Planning Board Thursday.

The plan's highlights include tripling the length of natural surface trails now available in the Upper Rock Creek Trail Corridor, endorsing the extension of a hard surface trail from Rock Creek Regional Park to Olney, proposing a new alternative to link the Rock Creek hiker-biker trail to the Lake Frank trail network, creating a mountain bike challenge course at George Carson Farm Special Park in Gaithersburg and adding signs about historic mill sites along the way

At the end of the briefing, Planning Board Chairman Royce Hanson said he was "delighted" to see the trails connected.

"We've got a lot of miles, but a lot of gaps," he said.

Park and Trail Planning Supervisor Lyn Coleman said the Upper Rock Creek Trail Corridor extends northeast from Rock Creek Regional Park near Norbeck Road to Rachel Carson Conservation Park in Brookeville and continues to the Patuxent River. The main objective of the plan is to fill

in gaps in the existing public trail system, she said.

The completed trail would link to Rock Creek Regional and the Agricultural History Farm parks in Derwood with the Blue Mash Trail system in Laytonsville, the North Branch Trail in Olney, the Oakley Cabin Trail and Rachel Carson Conservation Park in Brookeville and the Patuxent River State Park, which is north of Brookeville.

Along the way, trail users would have access to historic Brookeville, the Olney Boys and Girls Club ball fields and the Rockville Bicycle Beltway or Millennium Trail, according to the staff report.

A mountain bike challenge course at George Carson Farm Special Park is also being recommended as a destination along the trail. A mountain bike challenge course is a natural bike trail with obstacles such as fallen logs or rocks. If approved, it would be the county's first. The state runs a course at Seneca Creek State Park.

Access to the park could become an issue, Coleman told the Planning Board, because the main access to the George Carson Farm Special Park is along Barcellona Drive, which is a residential street. Staff recommended looking into creating a new entrance to the park from Fieldcrest Road.

Building an entrance from Fieldcrest Road to the mountain bike course should be a high priority, Hanson said.

A public hearing on the plan is scheduled for early September.

Coleman said staff hopes the plan will be adopted by October.

To learn more

For more information about the Upper Rock Creek Trail Corridor Plan, call Lyn Coleman at 301-650-4391 or e-mail lyn.coleman@mncppc-mc.org.

Visit MontgomeryTrail.org to view maps, schedules and comments.

2008 MNIE Fundraiser

The Maryland Network For Injured Equestrians (MNIE) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to assisting equestrians with severe head or spinal injuries.

Their Annual Benefit Dinner will be held on
Saturday, October 11th 6 p.m. at
Our Lady of Grace Church
Middletown and York Roads, Parkton, MD

Buffet Dinner · Beer · Wine · Soft Drinks
Live Band "Release" · Silent & Live Auction
50/50 Raffle Drawing

Auction Items Now Being Accepted

For More Information and Tickets Visit www.MNIE.net
or Call 410-823-5579



Left: Family fun at Woodstock Park



Right . Relaxing after the Woodstock Ride

TROT Membership Report

Jeanne Bond

New Members - 2008

Please welcome the members who are new (or returning after an absence) to TROT in 2008. We are glad to have you among us, sharing in our goal of preserving equestrian bridle trails

Anne Arundel County, MD
Valerie Smith
Deborah Westlund and family

Pam Dellen
Debra K. Sollitto
Stephanie Torres

Maria Schwartz and family
Camp Waredaca

Baltimore County, MD
Linda Brill and family
Lisa Mantakos
Lewis A. Scharff

Harford County, MD
Deborah J. Appel and family

Prince George's County, MD
Mary Dorr
Annalisa Givens and family

Calvert County, MD
Selena Daughtrey-Anderson

Howard County, MD
Joe Carta
Barbara Chamberlain
Ruth Dennison-Tedesco and family
Susan Montgomery
Stacy Taylor and family
Diane Tolson and family
Suzi Young and family

St. Mary's County, MD
LeRoy Mattingly

Carroll County, MD
Sarah Brophy and family
Lori Cusick and family
Val Gadiyak
Autumn Hill
Melaney Hochheiser
Marcella Wozniak

Montgomery County, MD
Ann Adams and family
Andrea Caplan and family
Traci Donatelli and family
Kathy Griffen and family
Vera Fontana
Nancy Kassner
Pat Merrick
Vlasta Miksch and family
Joy O'Toole and family
Frederick J. Pearce, and family
Potomac Horse Center

Washington County, MD
Charlie Jones and family
Pam Mickel and family
Winnie Pryor and family
Mary Reifel and family

Cecil County, MD
Rachel Gray and family
Jeanne Starr and family
Erin McCardell and family

Fairfax County, VA
Joyce Miller and family

Fauquier County, VA
Amy Parsons and family

Frederick County, MD
Patricia Becker and family
Holly Hamilton

Spotsylvania County, VA
Jennifer Thomas Alcott and family

Berkeley County, WV
Sarah Moore and family

TROT Board Meeting Highlights (June and July)

June 3, 2008.

- ◇ Eighteen TROT board and regular members attended the meeting, others participated by conference call-in.
- ◇ Many new volunteers are helping with the Judged Pleasure Ride this year.
- ◇ TROT Search and Rescue clinics (October 5 and 6) were discussed.
- ◇ The mapping project was discussed.
- ◇ The new TROT directory was sent to all members – a major milestone for this year.
- ◇ County coordinators reported. A new equestrian trail is being constructed in a new subdivision near Schooley Mill Park – a major victory for Pat Oliva and TROT.

July 1, 2008.

- ◇ Seven board and regular members attended, and seven participated by conference call-in.
- ◇ Treasurer's report, ride reports, and County Coordinator Reports were given.
- ◇ Pat Talbott reported that there had been a good turnout on the trail rides so far.
- ◇ There are 5 maps on the TROT website, and feedback is requested regarding their usability.
- ◇ Janet MacNab has contracted with the Mt. Airy Fire Department for the Annual Dinner Meeting, which will be on February 28, 2009.
- ◇ The fall membership meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, September 23. There will be a speaker and light refreshments will be served.

CLASSIFIED ADS

To place an ad
email: nlosgood@verizon.net

TROT Members: Regular (100 word) ad FREE!

Non-member rates:

- Classified ads - \$6.00 for first 100 words
\$0.10 for each additional word
- Business Card - \$6.00
- 1/4 page ad - \$25
- 1/2 page ad - \$40
- full page ad - \$75
- Insert (all copies delivered to our printer) - \$50

WANTED: 15.2h+ gelding, under 13-years for a trail horse/fieldhunter over small fences. Ideal: Morgan/Arab type horse. MUST be sound/good feet. Green ok but under saddle to be ridden this spring/summer. Needs to be a seriously not expensive. Yes, I've looked at rescue. Or would like to lease a horse that is sound and about that size until I find what I want. I am at Paternal Gift, go to <http://www.acuityglobal.com/pgf/> to see it. The barn is barn #2 in the pictures. Joan 301-559-3345 leave message

SPECIAL: for TROT members. **Great gift idea!**
SAVE OVER \$10 on book purchases! Price include shipping!

PA HORSE TRAIL & HORSE CAMPING GUIDE BOOKS by Carolyn B. Cook

- Ride Pennsylvania Horse Trails-Part I, the Eastern Half of PA (central PA to eastern PA): \$15 per book
- Ride Pennsylvania Horse Trails-Part II, the Western Half of PA (central PA to western PA): \$15 per book

Specify Part I, or Part II, or set (\$30), and send check to: Hit The Trail Publications, LLC, P.O. Box 970, Cherryville, PA 18035.

FMI: see: www.patrail.com (Special not available via website.)



Allison and Scout getting ready to go at the TROT Cal-lithea Ride.



Potomac Riverside Stables

Poolesville, MD (www.potomacriversidestables.com)

(301) 972-8187

"Trail Riding Heaven" A top quality boarding & training facility also offering several well trained school horses for lease. Instruction and training for horses and riders, from beginner to advanced. Several instructors to choose from. Your instructor is also welcome. The stable is located on 400 beautiful acres adjoining the C&O Canal with 100s of miles of National Park trails. Personal quality individual care, large indoor arena, 3 outdoor arenas, large stalls, many other features for your horse's comfort: mats, fans, fly spray system, hot showers, unlimited free choice premium hay made on the farm. Your horse is given whatever he needs, *no limits*. We have several vacancies and very reasonable rates. **Full quality care and self care.**

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(540) 760-3315 www.SommerSaddlesUSA.com

Quick link to Sommer Saddles USA, LLC

www.SommerSaddlesUSA.com

For Sale: Terri McNutt Wonderful Trail Horse Dusty is 6 yrs. old gelding Halfliiger 14.3 hand . Very quiet to work around and to ride. Good manners and cute personality. Large stocky body. Sound mind and body. Beautiful palomino with white tail and mane. \$3400.00 obo 410-836-1753

FREE TO GOOD HOME - 25yo. palamino TWH gelding. Great pasture buddy and may be able to do light trail riding. Perfect for leading kids around the pasture. I sold Harley last summer but he sustained a stifle injury and the vet isn'tsure if he'll ever be able to do more than very light trail riding. His current owner can't keep him. Harley has perfect manners and is an easy keeper. 301-570-3860

The Goshen Hounds Hunt Club has invited TROT members to participate in their "Gallop through the Grapes" event. There will be a guided trail ride at the Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard, with winery tour, wine tasting, and four-course French cuisine dinner to follow. Tickets are \$60 per person. RSVP by July 25th to Debby Lynn (301) 253-2241 or debbylynn@lynncable.com.
<http://www.nm-mvh.com/Misc/08GrapesGallopFlyer.pdf>

UPCOMING RIDES

Pat Talbott, Trail ride coordinator

Contact the ride leader to reserve a space on the ride and for information about start time and directions. All ride participants must be TROT members; membership forms will be available at the ride for non-members. Negative coggins must be provided for each horse. Participants are asked to bring their own plates, silverware and drinks to potlucks unless otherwise indicated. Please check the web site for updates: www.trot-md.org/calendar.php. For any additional questions about TROT rides, please contact Pat Talbott @ (301) 628-4130 or Ptalbott@insuranceservices.com.

Saturday July 26

McKeldin @ Patapsco Valley State Park. Contact Elizabeth Baran, Home: (410) - 442-5006 or Cell: (410) - 245-8942.

Saturday August 9

Carroll County Equestrian Center. Mostly walk, some hills and rocky. Bring a bag lunch. Contact: Anne Bennof (301) - 829-0949.

Saturday August 23

Piney Run (Carroll County near Eldersberg). Ready to ride at 9 am. Mostly walk and trot, maybe some canter. Pot luck - to be determined. Contact MelindaBennett (410) - 875-0481.

Monday September 1

Little Bennett. We've got exciting plans for Labor Day! We are planning to have several different groups to allow for varied riding speeds. Maureen and Jim Henry & Marilynn Miller will host a Breakfast ride. We really want to make this Labor Day ride a cherished TROT tradition! Breakfast pot luck starts at 9:00 am, ready to ride at 10:30 am. Please contact Maureen at (301) - 371-4868 to sign up for the ride.

Saturday September 13

Rocky Gorge Water Shed, PG County. Terry Ledley will lead a walking ride; Barbara & Denis Webb will lead a moderately paced ride. Potluck planned at the Webb's. Contact: Terry Ledley (301) - 776-2661.

Sunday September 28

Sandy Spring Underground Railroad. Jean Cooper will be the narrator. Bring a bag lunch for after the ride. Contact: Sandy Boyd (301) - 774-0495.

Please check the web site for updates: www.trot-md.org/calendar.php. I am working on rides for the rest of the year. I am hoping to schedule 2 rides a month. I need more members to volunteer to be ride leaders. Most leaders volunteer year after year because they have so much fun! It's a great opportunity to meet other TROT members and maybe find a new trail buddy.

EMSA (Equestrian Medical Safety Association)

Debbie Stanitski, M.D., President

EMSA (Equestrian Medical Safety Association) is a non-profit, 501c(3) organization whose interest is in equestrian-related safety issues. The organization underwent a name change in early 2007 from the AMEA/SRF (American Medical Equestrian Association/ Safe Riders Foundation).

The AMEA and the SRF were both founded by eventers and officially joined to form the AMEA/SRF. The name was changed to be hopefully less cumbersome and to not exclude non-Americans. The mission of the organization is education, research, and as a non-monetary resource for those who have sustained equine injuries.

Our board of directors includes M.D.s, Ph.D.s, an EMT, a veterinarian, a helmet expert and head of an ASTM committee, an accountant, an insurance experts and several individuals with many years of experience organizing equestrian competitions. Our official address is: 369 Montezuma Avenue, #342; Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501. Our website is: www.emsaonline.us and, among other items, has our toll-free number, a link to our new safety video and our newsletter

(published 3x/year) archive.

Our newsletter Medical Editor (Dr. Bixby-Hammett) has many years of experience and is responsible for founding the AMEA. She is currently completing two articles on horse-related Emergency Room visits. These statistics are available through NEISS (National Electronic Injury Surveillance System).

Though founded by those in eventing, as an organization we are attempting to appeal to all equine disciplines. We are striving to be inclusive, not exclusive. Prior work includes a current short safety video, an older and longer video dealing with many safety issues (horse, barn, trailer); concussion work and a new concussion committee led by Dr. Pat Maykuth (Atlanta, Georgia), her work on heat in horses (initially sparked by the then upcoming Atlanta Olympics and now again important) and a helmet-fit poster (can be seen on the website).

EMSA hopes to involve all of you!

Trail Guides

The following volunteers are willing to show TROT members their favorite trails on an individual basis. Contact them to arrange a personal guided trail ride.

Blockhouse Point (Farm Loop on Canal at Violettes Lock)

Naomi Manders e-mail: Nmanders@aol.com

Cactoctin Mountain Park and Little Bennett

Marilynn Miller 301-898-7274

EPIC Trail at Dry Seneca Creek, Poolesville

This is mostly private with a sanctioned public route - exceptionally good footing, easy trail, good for exercising in winter. THIS IS NOT THE Great Seneca Greeway Trail that goes to Patuxent!

Naomi Manders e-mail: Nmanders@aol.com

Little Bennett Park

Jim and Maureen Henry (Maureen is available during the week when school is out - through mid-August). (301)-371-4868.

Montgomery Agricultural Farm Park and Annapolis Rock

Deneen Martin 301-253-2955

Patuxent State Park, Rachel Carson and Rock Creek Park

Laury Lobel

laurylobel@verizon.net or 301-774-9595

Patapsco State Park off Marriotsville Road

Elizabeth Baran

She is available during the week and would love to show other TROT members the trails.

H: 410-442-5006 C: 410-245-8942

Woodstock Equestrian Park in Beallsville, MD

Karen Kraushaar

kraushaar@verizon.net or 301-208-0767

If you would like to volunteer to show other TROT members your favorite trails contact:

Nancy Osgood at nlosgood@verizon.net

TROT Treasurer's Report May 1, 2008 to June 19, 2008

Deneen Martin

Accounts:

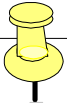
Balance 6/19/08	\$3,244.32
Time Deposit	\$6,869.08
Savings	\$20,193.33
Deposits/Memberships	\$364.00
Deposit from Judged Ride	\$1,878.00

Expenses:

Gasch Printing 5/6/08	\$704.28
Judged Ride	\$161.30
Maryland Horse Council	\$100.00
Postage/reimbursements	\$147.30
Insurance	\$1,444.00

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The Back Page

- from the Newsletter Staff

Wow! What a great turnout and a great time at the Judged Pleasure Ride! **Congratulations to Champion Jacquie Cowan and Reserve Champion Michelle Beachley!** Be sure to read about it and see the photos taken by Linda Davis. View the albums at <http://qhdal.smugmug.com/TROT%20JPR%202008>. Linda has graciously offered the proceeds from the sale of JPR photos to support TROT's Search and Rescue Team. What a great gift from Linda. Linda's photos are remarkable – how does she get those perfect shots!!

Now! Save the Date! A fall Membership Meeting is planned for Tuesday evening, September 23 at the Damascus Library (see details inside). This will be an opportunity to connect with some TROT members in a new setting – without waiting for the Annual Meeting in February. (Oh, you might as well save that date, too – February 28, 2009 in an exciting new place – the Mt. Airy Fire Department – more space, easy access, and centrally located for all our members!).

HAPPY TRAILS!



TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY

Jeanne Bond, TROT Membership Chair

494 Christopher Road, Warwick, MD 21912

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