TRAIL RIDERS OF **TODAY**



www.trot-md.org

March 2008 Number 167

Who's Who in TROT

OFFICERS

President

Priscilla Huffman (301) 646-4422

Vice President

Marilynn Miller (301) 898-7274

Secretary

Susan Gray susan@campsusan.com (240) 426-1655

Treasurer

Deneen Martin (301) 253-2955

BOARD MEMBERS

Sandy Boyd ridersandyboyd@aol.com

Kyle Jossi (301) 570-3860

Ron MacNab, rmacnab@comcast.net

Pat Merson (301) 898-3251

Pat Talbott Ptalbott

@insuranceservices.com

Tomi' Finkle Tomi.Finkle @associates.dhs.gov

Pat Oliva (410) 489-7380

Jeanne Bond (410) 275-1858

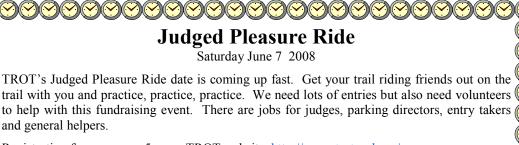
COMMITTEES

Membership

Jeanne Bond TrotMembership@hotmail.com 410-275-1858

Newsletter

Nancy Osgood Sim Shanks nlosgood@verizon.net



Registration form on page 5 or on TROT website http://www.trot-md.org/

Contact Marilynn Miller at (301) 898-7274 or marilynnmiller@comcast.net to volunteer. Thank you!



SILENT AUCTION REPORT

Kyle Jossi

This year's Silent Auction was the most successful yet! Our total profit was \$1265! A combination of the great turn-out at the Annual Dinner and generous donations from local merchants as well as our members were the factors that helped us do so well.

The following merchants donated items to the auction – please thank them and mention TROT next time you deal with them.

- U.S. Rider
- Turf Center/Southern States Spencerville Maryland
- Amy Parsons, Sommer Saddles, www.knotjustropes.com
- Outback Leather, Laurel, Maryland
- **Dover Saddlery**
- Joel Nupp, Friendship Equine Dental Services, LLC
- **Maryland Tack**

Making this auction happen was the combined effort of many people. Amy Kimble worked tirelessly (Silent Auction Continued on page 9)

2008 TROT Officers Elected.

At the March 2008 Meeting of the TROT Board, the following Officers were elected:

President: Priscilla Huffman Vice President: Marilynn Miller

Secretary: Susan Gray Treasurer: Deneen Martin.

The new TROT Officers, Board Members, and others present at the meeting noted appreciation for the long and excellent service to TROT by the outgoing Treasurer, Kathy Dobson.

They will serve with the returning board members: Sandy Boyd

Jeanne Bond

Ron MacNab

In addition, at the TROT Annual Meeting in Feb-

ruary, the following additional TROT Board

Tomi' Finkle

Pat Talbott

Kyle Jossi Pat Merson Pat Oliva

Members were elected by acclamation:

1

Trail Rides

Pat Talbott 301-628-4130

Search and Rescue

Tomi` Finkle Team Commander officers@trotsar.org

Mapping Project

Ron McNab

rmacnab@comcast.net
Web Master

Harold Goldstein mdbiker@goldray.com

COUNTY

** = Coordinators

* = Contacts

Anne Arundal

*Kirsten Enzinger (410) 867-0798

Baltimore

*Linda Eminzer (410) 661-0176

Carroll

**Anne Bennof (301) 829-0949

Cecil

**Jeanne Bond HalcyonFarm @gmail.com

Charles

**Tomi' Finkle Tomi.Finkle @associates.dhs.gov

Fredrick

**Pat Merson (301) 898-3251

Howard

**Pat Oliva (410) 489-7380

Montgomery

**Ron MacNab (301) 622-4157

Prince George's Fairland Regional Park

*Mary Angevine (301) 937-0014

Broad Creek Hist. District

*Dave Turner (301) 292-6130

Croom

*Carol Auletta (301) 888-1323

Washington

**Susan Rechen (301) 946-3593

President's Message

Thanks to overwhelming support from our TROT members, our 2008 annual dinner held on Saturday, February 23 was a HUGE success! The expected attendance of 60 - 70 quickly grew to over 100. By the time everyone had signed in, we had 142 attendees. Registration moved to the top of a large container and Anne Bennof's table top displays for TROT logo shirts moved to the floor (she still sold \$255 worth of shirts!) as we grabbed every available table.

The food was exceptional, Deneen Martin as our MC for the evening was her usual irrepressible self, and the energy level was high. Deneen also made the beautiful table centerpieces which were our door prizes. Susan Gray and Barbara Webb put together a very informative slide presentation, highlighting four special trail areas.

The silent auction was again a success this year, bringing in a little over \$1,200 in proceeds. Our thanks to Kyle Jossi for coordinating the auction.

We asked members for feedback on TROT priorities, and we have compiled the results of that survey. By a two-thirds majority, the highest priority identified was working with local governments to preserve trails and give input on trail issues. The priority receiving the second highest number of votes, but well behind the first, was trail maintenance, including trail clearing and creating new trails. We will be working on both of these priorities in the coming year through our county coordinators.

Our annual dinner committee included Susan Gray (Chair), Kyle Jossi (Silent Auction), Deneen Martin, Barbara Webb and Janet MacNab. Many other volunteers showed up at 3:00 on Saturday afternoon to help get the room set up.

If our annual dinner is any indication, we are expecting lots of member involvement this year in TROT's activities. Be checking our web site and newsletters for announcements of public meetings, trail maintenance days, and upcoming trail rides. Make this <u>your</u> year to get involved!

Priscilla Huffman President

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Jeanne Bond

Our Membership is growing! Thanks to all who have renewed their membership – and many people have donated extra funds through sustaining membership or special donations. Thanks to everyone. Your membership is IMPORTANT, especially when we represent you in our efforts to preserve bridle trails. As of March 1, we have a total of 621 members including family members.

County Updates

Frederick County

Pat Merson

I would like to thank Susan Gray for taking her personal time to come to Frederick County and to go to Winchester Hall and walk me through a process I just seemed to be stuck with. We talked to Mr. Jim Google who gave us a lot of information on who to contact. My feet have come unstuck finally and I hope to get them through some doors. Again, thank you, Susan

Gray!

Editors note: We note that the push for Sunday hunting in Frederick County has started up again. Please keep an eye open for opportunities to voice your opinion about keeping your Sunday riding free from hunter's guns.

Updates continued on page 3

Carroll County

Anne Bennof

I have listed some items from the Carrol County Equestrian Council Calendar of Events. It sure would be great for some TROT members to show up and help with trail maintenance.

March 16, 2008 • Sunday • 9:00am - Noon **Trail Workday** with **Janet Breeding** Call Janet at 410-795-4262 or gbarb@qis.net.

April 19, 2008 • Saturday • 9:00am **Workday at Gillis Falls** Contact Peggy Miller 410-549-1608

April 27, 2008 • Sunday • 11:00am **Trail Ride at Gillis Falls** Contact April Stull 410-781-6347 cell 410-984-2848

Registration required. Fee \$15 lunch provided..

May 13, 2008 • Tuesday • 10:00am **Trail Ride at Union Mills** Contact Jean McCormac (410) 346-6216. Registration required. Fee \$10

June 7, 2008 • Saturday • 9:00am - 12:00pm Work Day on Horseback at Morgan Run with Carolyn Garber 410-549-514

For more information on trial rides, shows, trail maintenance please go to www.carrollcountyequestriancouncil.org/ index.htm

Howard County

Pat Oliva

Wow! You all knocked us off our feet. What a wonderful turnout at the dinner. Thanks

The Western Park is starting to clear away for the horse trailer parking but ???? the trails. Mr. Arthur asked me to let convicts work on the trail. Maybe it will speed things up.

I need your help. The eastern part of the county is not a place I ride often. If you need help with anything or find out something is changing please let me know. I need your eyes and ears.

The committee for the horse park held a meeting this month.

It was mainly to feel out the communities about their concerns. I asked that they allow parking and trails in an area that would remain open. Most of the park would be locked when not in use.

PLEASE- If you did not notify our Maryland Senators about your support of Senate bill 2238. DO SO!!! It is critical to keep public lands open to horses. If we do not support this bill many areas will be closed to horses. See the last Newsletter for details. The bill has been in committee since Nov. But when it hits the floor it will be too late, Thanks, Pat

Montgomery County

Ron MacNab

Montgomery County Planners will hold a meeting on **ICC Bike Route**, Wednesday, March 19, 7 pm. to 9 pm. Spencerville Local Park Activity Building, 5701 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905

Montgomery County planners are studying how to create the 18-mile cross-county hiker-biker trail envisioned to run parallel with the <u>Intercounty Connector</u> (ICC). To help determine the route, planners are seeking public input. View <u>directions</u> to Spencerville Recreation Building or contact <u>Katherine Holt</u> at 301-495-4549.

A second meeting on the ICC Bikeway has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 2, 7 pm. to 9 pm. at the Shady Grove Maintenance Yard, 16641 Crabbs Branch Way, Rockville.

Georgia Avenue Underpass Update

Thanks to Deneen Martin, Laury Lobel and Lee Moser for joining me in attending the MNCPPC meeting seeking community suggestions for improvements along Georgia Avenue. MNCPPC has noted our suggestion of a Georgia Avenue underpass linking Rachael Carson Park and Hawlings River Park. Although there are no immediate plans, I am reasonably confident that in time there will be an underpass, that is consistent with the Rachael Carson Greenway plans.

Trail Maintenance

If you have a trail that requires maintenance and are willing to help, please let me know. We can schedule a trail maintenance day and contact other riders.

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. For any additional questions about TROT rides, please contact Pat Talbott @ (301) 628-4130 or Ptalbott@insuranceservices.com.

Saturday April 5th – Montgomery Agricultural Farm Park, Montgomery County, led by Deneen Martin. If you've never ridden at the Ag Park, you're in for a treat. Potluck planned for after the ride. Contact Deneen at 301 253 2955 - deneenmartin7@msn.com

Saturday April 19th – Paint Branch Trails, Montgomery County, led by Mary Prowell. This ride will be moderately paced; you must be able to trot and canter. Paint Branch trails are some of the orinal TROT trails. Potluck lunch planned for after the ride. Contact Mary at 301 829 7709 or

boprow@aol.com

Saturday May 10th Rocky Gorge Water Shed, PG County, led by Terry Ledley, Barb and Dennis Webb. Terry Ledley will lead a walking ride; Barb and Dennis will lead a moderately paced ridge. A potluck is planned at the Webb's. Contact Terry Ledley 301 76 2661

Saturday May 17th Ride the Trail To A Cure Benefit Ride. Sponsored by the Red Hat Riders: www.the-red-devils.org

Saturday May 24th C & O Canal and surrounding park area led by Anna Slaysman. This trail ride is a favorite TROT tradition and has something for everyone! 3 ride leaders so you can choose your own pace. Riders will meet at Anna's farm in Dickerson, MD. A potluck is planned for after the ride. Contact Anna Slaysman at 301 972 8187.

Saturday June 7th, TROT Judged Trail Ride. Marilynn Miller, Ride manager. Open to public. See entry form p5.

Saturday June 14th TBA
Saturday June 28th TBA

Saturday July 12th Catoctin Mountain Park. - Marilynn Miller

Saturday July 26th TBA

Monday September 1 Little Bennett - Maureen & Jim Henry, Marilyn Miller

Please check the web site for updates. 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.





Raffle Time

Annual Dinner

Buy your TROT T-shirt now



TROT Judged Pleasure Ride

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Date: June 7, 2008

The Time: Registration opens at 10:00

AM,

Closes at noon

The Place: Agricultural History Farm Park

18400 Muncaster Rd

Derwood, MD 20855

The Fee: \$27 per horse / rider **Post entry**

\$32

The Rules: Hard Hats required .. and ..

Current negative Coggins test

required

What is a "Judged" Pleasure Ride?

TROT's Judged Pleasure Ride is approximately 10 miles. Each rider may proceed at his / her own pace;

there is no time limit. The trail is well flagged with surveyor's tape, and safety riders with radios patrol the course until all riders have returned.

Along the trail are set 10 - 12 stations, each announced by a paper plate sign with the station's number. At each station is a patient and kind volunteer who is spending his / her entire day sitting at that spot watching you ride by. (Please thank them on your way through!) Each station is designed to provide some type of trail obstacle one might conceivably encounter on a pleasure ride anywhere in Maryland.

How the rider and horse negotiate the obstacle is judged. In the past, obstacles have included a wooden bridge to walk across, a bag of trash to throw in a trash can, and a lawn ornament cow standing beside the trail.

Each judge has been instructed on some general points to look for, as well as particular actions either good or bad specific to that obstacle.

For a good score (7-9 points), a judge would look for the horse that willingly waits its turn at the waiting place (a paper plate sign announcing the next obstacle), proceeds through the obstacle or chore with attention to its job (ears pricked, looking where its feet are going), and whose rider is cheerful, confident, and patient with his/her mount and proceeds through the obstacle or chore with forethought and safety.

The Prizes: Oldest horse, Oldest rider, and Youngest rider; Champion and Reserve Champion according to highest scores, $1st - 6^{th}$ place ribbons for each class (see Entry Form for Class List). Also, this will be the 7th year for the Irving Abb Memorial Trophy to the Ride's Champion.

Bring: Water for you and your horse and a picnic

lunch.

Questions? Call Ride Manager Marilynn Miller. Wet trails? Call for cancellation information

Phone 301-898-7274

Directions to Agriculture History Farm Park

From Frederick I-70 towards Baltimore, take exit 68 MD27 to Damascus (6.3 miles), turn left on Main St. which turns into SR108. Follow SR108 for 10.1 miles, turn right on Muncaster Rd to park entrance on right (2.2 miles).

From Baltimore I-70 towards Frederick, take South SR97 11.4 miles, turn right on Brookeville Rd for 2.8 miles, bear right on SR108 for 0.2 miles, turn left on Muncaster Rd to park entrance on right (2.2 miles).

From I-270 take east Shady Grove Rd 3.6 miles, turn right on Muncaster Mill Rd for 0.3 miles, turn left on Muncaster Rd to park entrance on left (1.3 miles).

Looking forward to seeing you there!



| TROT Judged Pleasure Ride | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Please send: | | | | | |
| Entry form (1 for each horse/rider entered) Entry fee of \$27 (make check payable to TROT) Copy of each horse's negative Coggins test to: Marilynn Miller 9327 A Gravel Hill Road Woodsboro, MD 21798 | Please circle the TWO classes you wish to enter, one for the rider and one for the horse (next page). For the rider: Circle one class 1. Junior (riders under 18) | | | | |
| Name | Judged Pleasure Ride) 3. Open (adults) | | | | |
| Phone (| Horse class on reverse page (circle one) | | | | |
| | | | | | |

For the Horse, Circle One

- A. Quarter Horses
- **B**. Arabians and Half Arabians
- C. Thoroughbreds, Appaloosas & other Registered Horses
- **D**. Ponies of all breeds
- E. Gaited Breeds (Tennessee Walker, Missouri Fox, Trotter, Rocky Mountain, Paso, Saddlebreds)
- **F**. Grade (no particular breed)
- **G**. Novice (Horse has never placed in a Judged Pleasure Ride)

I understand that horseback riding is inherently a dangerous sport, and I agree by my signature that I will not hold Trial Riders of Today, its representatives, or the Maryland Department of Natural Resources State Parks & Forests liable for any injury or damage I or my horse or equipment may incur while participating in this competition. I also agree to abide by the rules of competition as provided by the ride management. I agree to wear a Hard Hat while mounted, as required by ride management.

| Signature | | |
|--------------------------|------|--|
| Date | | |
| Guardian of Junior Rider | | |
| Date | | |

TROT Treasurer's Report

Kathy Dobson

December 2007 TROT Treasurer's Report

December 2007 Expenses: \$465.12

Renewal Mailings: \$282.51 Membership Materials: \$119.82 Postage for Treasurer: \$41.00

Verizon Bill (TROT Information Line): \$21.79

December 2007 **Income**: \$2,436.56

Memberships: \$2,405.00 Shirt Sales: \$20.00

Interest from Time Deposit: \$8.35 Interest from Savings: \$3.21 January 2008 TROT Treasurer's Report

January 2008 Expenses: \$1,655.32

Gasch Printing - December 2007 Newsletter: \$1,005.10 Ho. Co. Fair Assn. - Hall Rental for Annual Dinner: \$370.00

Horse World Expo - Booth and Badges: \$130.00 J. Bond - Membership Expenses: \$129.08 Verizon Bill - TROT Information Line: \$21.14

January 2008 Income: \$2,976.84

Memberships: \$2,965.00

Interest from Time Deposit; \$8.37 Interest from Savings: \$3.47

Bank Balances as of February 1, 2008:

Checking Acct.: \$3,667.25 Savings Acct.: \$17,496.65

Time Deposit (Mapping Fund): \$6,841.10

2007 FINANCIAL REPORT

2007 TROT Expenses: \$9,602.45

Gasch Printing - Newsletters & Other Mailings: \$2,712.65

TROT Shirts: \$1,992.30 Liability Insurance: \$1,510.00 Newsletter Design Upgrades: \$530.00 Conference & Meeting expenses: \$495.14

Banquet Expenses: \$429.86 Banquet hall Rental: \$300.00

Judged Pleasure Ride expenses: \$328.94 Renewal Mailing Expenses: \$282.51 Verizon (TROT Information line): \$262.39

Membership Expenses: \$229.25 Trail Ride Expenses: \$203.26

Horse World Expo Expenses: \$ 130.00 MD Horse Council Dues: \$100.00 2006 MD Sales Tax: \$55.15 Stamps for Treasurer: \$41.00

2007 TROT Income: \$13,483,84

Memberships: \$8,915.00 Judged Pleasure Ride: \$1,879.00 Charitable Donations: \$936.50 Silent Auction: \$891.00 TROT Shirt Sales: \$578.00 Time deposit interest: \$125.48 Directory Ads: \$124.00 Savings interest: \$34.86

Bank Balances as of January 1, 2008:

Checking Acct.: \$3,477.57 Savings Acct.: \$16,413.18

Time deposit (Mapping Fund): \$6,832.73

Trail Mapping

Ron MacNab

We need help in identifying trails. In particular we want to know about Riding trails that are part of a greenway master plan. (There are 16 greenways outside the beltway.)

http://dnrweb.dnr.state.md.us/download/greenways/atlas/
mo_greenway.pdf

http://www.dnr.state.md.us/greenways/counties/montgomery.html

- Riding trails that link greenways or equestrian parks.
- Riding trails that lead to greenways or equestrian parks.
- Legally recorded equestrian easements.

Please email or call me with your suggestions. I will work with a committee to prioritize them. If you are not sure, contact me anyway; I am looking for excuses to go riding.

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

For Sale: BLM CON BRIO. Handsome, sweet, 3 ½ year old gelding, 14.1 hands, warm-blood cross. Competed BN, 5th at first event. Potential BN, N, & T-level top winner. Great gaits, dressage talent, excellent jumper. Hunted in 3rd (walking) field with MHC, low over fences at MD hunter paces, loves trail riding. Loads, clips, ties, no shoes, easy keeper. Wears a miracle collar. Has had perfect care since 4 months old. To horse-lover with turn out only. \$4,000 (443) 871-9224 or Diane531@verizon.net

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: <u>www.patrail.com</u> (Special not available via website.)



Quick link to Sommer Saddles USA, LLC www.SommerSaddlesUSA.com



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.

For Sale: BLM SILVER CHALLIS. Very flashy 3 ½ year old mare, 15.2 hands, black roan/grey, Appaloosa/mustang cross, brave, fabulous personality, green but unusually quiet, very good on trails, sound, barefoot, no vices, trailers/ties/stands, easy keeper. Named after her home town in Challis, Idaho, she has had had perfect care since she was 5 months old. \$2,500 to horse-lover home with turn out only. 443-871-9224 or Diane531@verizon.net

For Sale: 2003 Sundowner Valulite BP/DR/Ramp:

Maintained regularly (wheels/electric/etc.) Window installed between horse area and DR for more air flow. Air Vents over each stall. Windows in front wall of DR also for better air flow. Insulated. Stays cool even in hot sun. Escape doors on each side. Loading lights, lights over each stall, lights in and out of DR. I pull with 1500 Dodge Ram easily. Great great Trailer. Price: \$11,500. Email for

pics. <u>gmemail@verizon.net</u> or call my cell 301-775-0079. Gale Monahan

For Sale: Sandy Brewer Trailer. 1998 Featherlite Aluminum Horse Trailer - Quality construction, clean, excellent condition. Features: * White skin exterior * Insulated, lined dressing room * Walls and roof in horse area lined, insulated * New Air Conditioner - 2006 * New Tires - 2007 * 11 Feet in horse area allows extra room to carry hay/sawdust * 4 Foot tack room * 4 Foot dressing room with two electrical receptacles, clothes rod, hooks, and queen size bed. * Solid partition lined both sides for dressing room * Solid partition lined both sides in tack room * Electrical Hook Up * 18 Foot Awning * Roof Vent in tack area * Screen Door, dresser, and boot box in Dressing Room * Ramp * Two speed landing gear * 48 inches rubber on walls in horse area * Battery Box \$15,000 Call or email for pictures and information, Sandy (410) 531-1250 Sandbrewer@aol.com

HELP WANTED - PROJECT ASSISTANT: The Humane Society of the United States in Gaithersburg seeks an Equine Project Assistant to serve as primary contact for Equine Protection Dept.; manage all correspondence (calls, letters, e-mails), develop/maintain materials & resources on equine protection issues; assist with other dept projects/ programs. Knowledge of MSOffice, excellent communication & org skills w/client service background. Knowledge/ experience w/horses preferred & college degree desired. Low-mid 30K + award winning benefits. Send letter/resume Attn: 4344-40 to HRJobs@humanesociety.org or fax 301-548-7701.

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

Montgomery Agricultural Farm Park and Annapolis Rock

Deneen Martin 301-253-2955

Patuxent State Park off Howard Chapel Road

Allison Abernathy 301-493-5590

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 nearly every day 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

(Silent Auction Continued from page 1)

to contact local merchants for donations. Carolyn Rhodes and Pat Oliva checked in the donations and even worked through dinner to get last minute donations onto the tables. Deneen Martin helped with set up and very eagerly took everyone's money at the end. She was assisted in this effort by Priscilla Huffman and Ron MacNab. Dick Huffman, Marilyn Miller, Susan Gray and Mike Caruso served as general gophers. And Mike Gafney helped me keep my sanity and tied up many of the loose ends. I know I've forgotten to mention someone, and I'll feel terrible when I remember who it is. Thank you to everyone who generously donated their personal possessions and talents to the auction.

We're already looking ahead to next year's auction. (Yes, we know we need more space.) If you have any suggestions, please email me (note new email address) bossyjossi@verizon.net.



Annual dinner

Setting Up

<----

Dining

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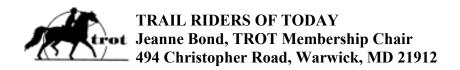


The Back Page

- from the Newsletter Staff

Welcome to the March TROT Newsletter. I think I can speak for all riders - Happy (finally!) Spring! You will read in this Newsletter about our fantastic Annual Meeting - Potluck Dinner - Silent Auction. What a great turnout, what great food, and what great fellowship! Thankyou to everyone who came - and brought such a delightful and delicious and plentiful banquet feast! It was great to hear from the TROT Officers, County Coordinators and others about the progress we are making in building a powerful membership, and engaging in our trail preservation activities. Please read the President's Message on Page 2. There is a report of the survey on TROT Mission Priorities. One of the top priorities expressed by those completing the survey was "Trail Maintenance." Since most of the established trails are in Parks (State and County), there is a need to coordinate any trail maintenance with appropriate government officials. These officials have indicated a strong willingness to be partners with TROT in establishing and maintaining trails. Because we want to make 2008 the Year of the Trails, we are looking for an individual that would act as the TROT contact for trail maintenance activities. If you came to the Annual Meeting (or even if you didn't) and are looking for a more active role in TROT, please consider this new position. Contact Priscilla Huffman, or one of the other Officers or Board Members if you have an interest – or if you have questions.

Now, I have to go ... all of a sudden it is Spring riding weather and the trails are calling!



Inside This Issue page 9

The annual meeting on February 23 was a success – no matter how you want to measure. Please see the President's message, as well as the Silent Auction Report. Also, check out the TROT website for photos of the evening