

Trail Riders Of Today

<http://www.trot-md.org/>

March 2009

Number 173



Judged Pleasure Ride Saturday June 6 2009

TROT's Judged Pleasure Ride date is coming up fast. Get your trail riding friends out on the trail with you and practice, practice, practice. We need lots of entries but also need volunteers to help with this fundraising event. There are jobs for judges, parking directors, entry takers and general helpers.

Registration form on page 9,10 or on TROT website <http://www.trot-md.org/>

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

SILENT AUCTION REPORT

Kyle Jossi

A loud cheer went up at the end of the Annual Dinner/Silent Auction on February 28 when the cashiers announced that we had made \$1,800 on the auction! In fact, we counted a second time to be sure there was no mistake. I have no doubt that this success is due to the incredible team work of everyone involved. This was truly an example of the phrase, "the whole was greater than the sum of the parts." We are fortunate to have some very generous vendors who donated services and items for the auction, members who contribute tack and horse supplies that they could have sold on EBay, and of course all of you who bid on those items and wrote generous checks at the end of the evening.

I would like to recognize several folks who show up every year to help with setting up the auction. They keep their cool as auction items pour in at the last minute and need to be catalogued and placed on the tables. My grateful thanks to Amy Kimble, Pat Oliva, Marilyn Miller, Deneen Martin, Carolyn Rhodes, Mike Gafney, and Sim Shanks. Art and Judy Thacher and Barb and Denis Webb helped at the end of the auction. Special thanks to Janet MacNab for all your planning and hard work that made the dinner a perfect

compliment to the Silent Auction. I have no doubt that I've forgotten someone, please accept my thanks and apologies.

Despite the sagging economy, vendors and equine professionals came through with some very generous donations.

They include –

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| SmartPac, | Bartley Trailers, |
| Dover Saddlery, | Woodland Tack Shop/ |
| Patty Lynch (Barefoot | AnyTime Tack, |
| Trimming), | Kenny Kitts ABC Horse |
| Maryland Tack, Redde- | Training, |
| meade Farm, | U.S. Rider Insurance, |
| Southern States/Spencerville | Amy Parsons Performance |
| Turf Center, | Tack, |
| Goshen Hounds, | Janet Young - Equine Cra- |
| Valley Vet Catalog Sales, | niosacral Body Treatment. |

Please keep the generosity of these businesses in mind when making your equine purchases.

If you have any comments about the Silent Auction or would like to help out with the 2010 event, I would love to hear from you! (Phone (301) 570-3860, or bossyjossi@verizon.net)

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President's Message

Priscilla Huffman
Outgoing President

Transitions are usually fraught with a mixture of anticipation and regret, and the transition of the TROT leadership position holds both for me. Over the past five years we have grown the TROT organization both in our outreach, by increasing our membership and the range of our county coordinators, and our representation to officials with the number of hearings attended, testimonies presented, and community planning sessions attended in various areas of the state.

This time has also seen our increased affiliation with the hiking and biking community, through our projects with Mid-Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts (MORE), the Equestrian Partners in Conservation (EPIC), and the Maryland Horse Council. We are also developing a more structured relationship with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

TROT continues to be the primary group in the local states

area recognized as a voice for the equestrian community. Our reputation is strong, our participation has been active, and our group is sought out for opinions on local community issues regarding trail use and development. This recognition is a result of the many members who have attended meetings and trail maintenance projects, and especially our devoted county coordinators and board members.

I would like to thank our outgoing officers for their dedication: Marilyn Miller as Vice-President, Susan Gray as Secretary, and Deneen Martin as Treasurer. We have equally strong officers coming in for 2009: Ron MacNab, President, Tomi` Finkle, Vice-President, Suzanne Anderson, Secretary, and Susan Railey, Treasurer.

We have more challenges ahead, and a vibrant community of trail riders. Your volunteer hours will ensure that these challenges are met.

Best wishes and happy trails.

Ron MacNab
Incoming President

I really enjoyed meeting so many new people at our Annual Dinner and Silent Auction. This event seems to be growing each year. We had one hundred and fifty-six people come to the event at our new location in the Fireman's Activity Hall at the Mount Airy Fair Grounds. It was fortunate that we moved to this larger facility that offered more seating and display area for the auction.

Kyle Jossi once again did a spectacular job managing the Silent Auction. I am always amazed at what she is able to accomplish. It seemed like we had many more big ticket items, a large variety of quality items to choose from and lots of new products. In all, she and her team collected \$1,800 making this our most successful auction to-date.

Janet MacNab managed the Annual Dinner and it went like clockwork. I can't say enough good things about Janet and her work. (*In fairness and in full disclosure, she is my wonderful wife.*) Her organization skills and attention to detail resulted in a fabulous occasion that all seemed to thoroughly enjoy.

Special recognition should be given to:

- Sim Shanks who figured the table layout for maximum effectiveness and for handling the Audio,
- Deneen Martin who created the bouquets and glass etchings that decorated our tables,
- Jeanne Bond who managed the sign-in table and collected memberships,
- The many volunteers who helped with setup and clean up. It could not be done without you.

Of course the most important contribution to the dinner was your attendance. It is, you, the members of TROT, who came to the event, shared your company, conversation and cheerfully reached out to meet people, that made the event so successful.

This is my first newsletter as President. It is an honor to be working with you and the Board. My thanks go to Priscilla Huffman, who served so successfully as President for the last five years. It is through her hard work and dedication that I, and many of you, became so actively involved with TROT. I will do my best to continue her good work. Fortunately Priscilla will remain on the Board providing her thoughts and guidance.

2009 TROT Officers Elected.

At the March 10, 2009 Meeting of the TROT Board, the following Officers were elected:

President: Ron MacNab
Vice President: Tomi` Finkle
Secretary: Suzanne Anderson
Treasurer: Susan Railey.

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 President - Priscilla Huffman; Vice President - Marilyn Miller; Secretary - Susan Gray; Treasurer - Deneen Martin.

County Updates

Currently there are no named contacts or coordinators for **Baltimore, Calvert, Prince George's, St. Mary's, and Talbot Counties**. If you have an interest to act in this capacity, please contact Ron MacNab, TROT President, macnab@comcast.net

Carol County

Anne Bennof

The Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks, Equestrian Council, maintains a calendar of events on their website (<http://carrollcountyequestriancouncil.org>). There are many events of interest to TROT members. Please consider volunteering for one of the **trail-clearing events!** Many TROT members use these trails, so it would be great for us to show up to help with the "dirty work!" Check out the website for more events (fundraisers and organized trail rides) than the highlights listed here.

March 21 - 22, 2009 • Sat 9:00am - 6:00pm • Sun 10:00am - 5:00pm **Carroll County Horse Fair and EXPO** Shipley Arena, Carroll County Ag Center, Westminster, MD Event sponsored by 4-H Therapeutic Riding Program of Carroll County. Admission \$5.00 per person over the age of 8. FMI: Roxanne Bowman 443-621-0274 or [Email carrollhorseexpos@gmail.com](mailto:carrollhorseexpos@gmail.com).

April 7, 2009 • Tuesday • 7:30pm - 9:00pm **General Meeting** at Carroll County Office Building, 225 N. Center Street, Room 003-004 Lower Level, Westminster MD

April 18, 2009 • Saturday • 9:00am - Noon Trail Work Day at Equestrian Center/Gillis Falls Bring your own tools to clear trails. For more information contact Peggy Miller 410-549-1608.

May 5, 2009 • Tuesday • 7:30pm - 9:00pm **General Meeting/Presentation** at Carroll County Office Building, 225 N. Center Street, Room 003-004 Lower Level, Westminster, MD. Presentation by Lisa Gorsuch/Middlefield Farm. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with the Paso Fino.

May 31, 2009 • Sunday **CCWC Show at Carroll County Equestrian Center** FMI: Tammy Naill-Waddell Cell 301-748-9701

June 2, 2009 • Tuesday • 7:30pm - 9:00pm **General Meeting** at Carroll County Office Building, 225 N. Center Street, Room 003-004 Lower Level, Westminster, MD.

June 6, 2009 • Saturday • 9:00am - Noon Celebrate National Trails Day - Trail Work Day at Morgan Run NEA Ben Rose Lane, Sykesville. Bring your own tools to clear trails. FMI: Carolyn Garber 410-549-5141 or [Email cagarber@live.com](mailto:cagarber@live.com)

October 4, 2009 • Sunday • 9:00am - Noon Trail Work Day at Morgan Run NEA, Ben Rose Lane, Sykesville Bring your own tools to clear trails. FMI: Carolyn Garber 410-549-5141 or [Email cagarber@live.com](mailto:cagarber@live.com)

November 15, 2009 • Sunday • 9:00am - Noon Piney Run Trail Work Day For more information contact Darlene Welsh 410-526-7530 or [email manuremadam@aol.com](mailto:manuremadam@aol.com)

Charles County

Tomi` Finkle

I would like to share a secret place to ride on Sunday mornings. Located in western-central Charles County, Maryland, is the Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area (WMA). This WMA is primarily known for its hunting and public shooting range. This WMA also holds a little known secret that is a great place to go horseback riding during the spring and summer on Sunday mornings. While horseback riding is not an advertised attraction of this DNR property, it is permitted during non-hunting season and is especially a wonderful place to ride on Sunday mornings.

You may ask why only on Sunday mornings? 1) There is no Sunday hunting on Park Lands and (except for a short turkey season) there is no upland game in season to hunt in the spring and summer, and 2) The public shooting range does not open until 1:00pm. If you get there early and have your horses loaded back on the trailer before the shooting starts, you will likely have the 1700 plus acres to yourself. I rode Myrtle Grove on Sunday February 8, 2009, and except for one downed tree (which had an easy work around) the trails were in great condition. The following Internet link will take you to a nice map of the State WMA property

(I suggest you print a copy of the map and have it with you the first time riding there)

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southern/myrtlemap.html>

Some DNR Facts about Myrtle Grove WMA:

The property contains hardwood forests, wildlife plantings, natural and man-made wetlands and early succession habitats. This 1,723-acre tract is located in the forested bottomlands of Mattawoman Creek and was once home to the Piscataway Indians. Myrtle Grove WMA is dominated by mature upland and bottomland forests consisting of oaks, hickories, maples, sycamores, poplars, beech, and several other tree species. The mature riparian forest along the Mattawoman is home to the barred owl, a species particularly fond of this type of habitat. The barred owl's call, which sounds like "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all!" can be heard in the early evenings as the birds' call back and forth to each other. Mature hardwoods, green-tree reservoirs, lakes, ponds, streams, and early succession habitats surround many of the trails and support a rich variety of wildlife species.

(Charles County continued on page 4)

(Charles County continued from page 3)

Directions:

Myrtle Grove WMA is located in Charles County about 5 miles west of LaPlata on MD 225. Take U.S. Rt. 301 south to MD Rt.225, about 5 miles south of Waldorf. Go west on

MD 225 to Myrtle Grove WMA on right. From the Capital beltway take Indian Head Hwy MD Rt.210 south for about 22 miles then go east on MD Rt. 225 about 6 miles to Myrtle Grove WMA on left. For additional information contact the Myrtle Grove Work Center at (301) 743-5161

Howard County

Pat Oliva

Everything that I described in the January newsletter concerning Benson Branch Park has been submitted to the Parks and Recreation Board in January by senior park planner Clara Gouin. Now we practice patience and protocol with firm reminders.

The equine parking lot is complete at the Western Regional

Park but the maintenance building is trying for the record of the slowest building ever constructed. I am still waiting for the go ahead to get the trail construction started

I need help from anyone who rides in Savage Park. It has been over 15 years since I rode in the park and I no longer know the trails. If anyone is willing to ride with me to show me the trails I would appreciate it. Please e-mail me at patolivatigger@aol.com.

Montgomery County 2008 Highlights

Ron MacNab

Merger of Parks and Recreation

You should be aware that the Montgomery County Council's committee on "Planning, Housing and Economic Development" (PHED) is considering the merger of MNCPPC Parks Department with the Montgomery County Department of Recreation. The merger could take one of several scenarios, but the least desirable is the transfer of MNCPPC Parks to the Montgomery County Government. Unfortunately several council members seem to favor this approach. Work sessions will be taking place over the next several months. If approved by the Council, the matter would then be taken up by the Maryland State Legislature.

I strongly believe that our parks and trails should remain within the MNCPPC. My reasons are as follows:

Under the protection of MNCPPC, and in concert with MNCPPC planners, our parks have had long term security and planned growth. If the park system is transferred to the County Government, it would no longer be shielded from vicissitudes of a politically active government. With a budget deficit exceeding \$500 million dollars, the county could do very little to improve our parks and trails. MNCPPC has just two priorities, parks and planning. The County government has many high priorities competing for time space and money. Parks in the overall scheme of things will be a low priority compared to schools, roads, and a score of responsibilities placed in the County's trust. Parks do not compete well against such priorities. Park land could be sold to pay for budget deficits or used for various public projects such as commuter parking, bus depots, schools and public housing. All are worthy projects, but when we lose park land it is gone forever. It is all too tempting for Council members to take undeveloped land and utilize it for higher density purposes.

I encourage you to write the Council asking that Parks not be transferred out of the MNCPPC.

Montgomery County Council

Phil Andrews, President 240-777-7906

councilmember.andrews@montgomerycountymd.gov

Roger Berliner, Vice president 240-777-7828

councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov

Marc Elrich 240-777-7966

councilmember.elrich@montgomerycountymd.gov

Valerie Ervin 240-777-7960

councilmember.ervin@montgomerycountymd.gov

Nancy Floreen 240-777-7959

councilmember.floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov

Mike Knapp 240-777-7955

councilmember.knapp@montgomerycountymd.gov

George Leventhal 240-777-7811

councilmember.leventhal@montgomerycountymd.gov

Duchy Trachtenberg 240-777-7964

councilmember.trachtenberg@montgomerycountymd.gov

(editors Note: TROT members Ron MacNab and Allison Abernathy stood up and spoke eloquently for protection of our parks, at a public meeting with Councilman Knapp on March 11. Thanks to all TROT members who attended!)

Seneca Creek State Park

The managers of Seneca Creek State Park (Kim Lloyd, Dave Powell) are working to present a proposal to the Department of Natural Resources to add ten miles to the trail system. It is doubtful the DNR will be able to fund the project. So they must rely on user organizations to volunteer labor and funds to complete and maintain the trails.

TROT members, Karen Kraushaar and Naomi Manders have agreed to co-lead this effort. Please join me in thanking Karen and Naomi for taking on this responsibility. Most importantly, show them your support by volunteering a few hours of your time.

Riders to the Rescue

Tomi` Finkle, Team Commander

Braving 20 degree temperatures the TROTSAR Mounted Team Inc. hosted Land Navigation (compass course) training exercise at the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship (BRCES) on December 14th. This event was also attend by several members of the Top of Virginia Search & Rescue Team from Winchester VA. On February 14th 2009, Mounted Team Members attended training at the Howard County Public Safety Academy to receive First Aid and CPR re-certification. Currently three (3) members of the team are attending the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, Ground Search & Rescue (GSAR) college host by the Frog Level Volunteer Fire Department near Doswell VA.

The Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology Directorate will be paying tribute to 17 of their employees who are volunteer first responders, during an S&T

Conference held near Seattle, Washington, Feb. 23-27, 2009. TROTSAR Mounted Team Commander Tomi` Finkle will be one of the DHS S&T featured employees in attendance at the Conference. Tomi` and her SAR Horse Magnum will appear on several posters at the S&T conference.

Beginning in March of 2009, the Mounted Team will begin a communications fund drive to replace its entire cache of 24 hand-held VHF radios. Due to upcoming changes in the law, the Federal Communications Commission has implemented a program called Public Safety Narrow Banding, which will make the current team radios illegal to use after 2012. Current project estimated costs to replace each radio/charger/micriphone/battery is \$400 dollars per unit.

See the TROTSAR photo, page 11.

www.trotsar.org

The Trot Search and Rescue Mounted Team Inc. is a 501(C) 3 tax exempt non-profit organization

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 wear hard hats and be TROT members.
- Membership forms will be available at the ride for non-members. Current negative coggins must be provided for each horse. Bring snack for get together after the ride.

For any additional questions about TROT rides, please contact Pat Talbott @ day (301) 628-4130 evenings and weekends (301) 943-7562 or ptalbott@insuranceservices.com.

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.

Sat April 18 Liberty Reservoir

Leader Mary Prowell, (301) 829-7709 or boprow@aol.com

Sat May 2 C & O Canal

Leader Anna Slaysman, (301) 972-8187

Sat May 9 Breezy Loop Boyds

Leader Ron MacNab, (301) 622-4157 or rmacnab@comcast.net

Sat May 16 Rocky Gorge Water Shed, PG County

Leaders Terry Ledley and Barb & Denis Webb, (301) 776-2661

Sat June 6 TROT Judged Trail Ride

Montgomery Agricultural Farm Park,
Contact Marilyn Miller (301) 898-7274

Sun June 14 Blockhouse Point Farm Loop

Leader Naomi Manders
(301) 279-7994 or naomimanders0@gmail.com

Sat June 27 Sugarloaf Mountain Turner Farm

Leader Judy Brodbeck,
(301) 972-1905 or joanjakes5@yahoo.com

Sat July 11 Catoctin Mountain Park

Marilynn Miller (301) 898-7274

Sat July 18 Union Mills

Kowomu Trail Leader Ivy Smink,
(410) 875-5691 or ivysmink@qis.net

Sat August 15 Piney Run Carroll County

Leader Melinda Bennett, (410) 875-0481

Sat August 22 Patapsco State Park

Leader Elizabeth Baran, (410) 442-5002

Sat August 29 Gillis Falls Park

Leader Anne Bennof, (301) 829-0949

Sat September 12 Dry Seneca Creek, Poolesville

Leader Naomi Manders,
(301) 279-7994 or naomimanders0@gmail.com

Sat October 31 Little Bennett Halloween Ride

Leader Maureen & Jim Henry, (301) 371-4868

Sat November 7 Upper Patauxent River State Park

Leader Suzanne Anderson,
(301) 829-3881 evenings or trailsendfarm@verizon.net

Sat November 14 Anacostia Park

Leader John Angevine, (301) 937-0014

WANTED! Suggestions of other places to ride and volunteers to be ride leaders. Please contact me.

TRAIL CLEARING AND MAINTENANCE - COME ONE - COME ALL!!!

Amy Kimble, Chairman, Trail Maintenance Committee

Now is the time to show your support for one of TROT's primary missions - trail clearing and maintenance. I am asking for volunteers to join me in our efforts to establish new trails and maintain our existing trails. Right now I am trying to gather a list of people who I can contact when opportunities arise. If you have an interest please drop me an email or phone me and include the following information:

- Your name.
- Contact information (email and/or phone number).
- Whether you want to participate on mounted and/or foot projects.
- Availability (e.g., days of the week, weekends only, etc.) and frequency (e.g., once or twice a month).

Also, see the article below from Ben Sugar, Montgomery County Trails Volunteer Coordinator, and see the Carroll County Coordinator report (page 3) listing other trail projects.

Hi Everybody,

I hope you all have had a wonderful winter and were able to go out and play in the snow on occasion, either here or further afield. Now that the buds are starting to show up on the trees, it means it's time for me to let you all know about our upcoming trail work schedule, because we need your help, as always! Our season kicked off with a small cleanup on the Seneca Creek Greenway Trail and continues with projects all over, scheduled into early May already.

To view the full schedule or to sign up, please visit the Trail Volunteering link on www.montgomeryparks.org, and follow the instructions to sign-up online. In the meantime,

Barn Fire Claims Numerous Animals

Fox News, Thursday, 12 Mar 2009, 12:04 AM EDT

http://www.myfoxdc.com/dpp/news/031109_barn_fire_claims_numerous_animals

LEESBURG, Va. - Fire in a barn Wednesday morning at a Loudoun County fox hunting club killed three horses and 17 dogs.

More than 50 fox hounds that were in the barn survived the fire. Six had to be hospitalized. Five others that were burned will be cared for at the club.

BARN FIRES: SAD BUT PREVENTABLE

Laurie Loveman, (First Appeared in APPALOOSA WORLD, November, 1984)

Most barn fires are preventable, yet most barn fires begin because of our own apathy regarding fire prevention. We hang up a "no smoking" sign and figure we've done all we

- Which counties you could work in.

Please send it to AmyHKimble@aol.com or call 301-748-8310.

This does not obligate you to participate! But I will contact the group about the upcoming trail projects, and you can let me know if you are available and wish to participate.

Projects in the works:

- April 4, 2009. Currently we are trying to schedule a work day, working with a number of other groups in the DNR property between Rt. 27 and east - exact locations to be supplied later.
- A WSSC project between Browns Bridge and Kruhm Road will be coming up.
- Seneca Creek State Park - we hope to establish some new trails. We will be working with DNR, Friends of Seneca, MORE, EPIC, Road Runners and several others.

More to come!

here's a snapshot of where folks will be working in next couple weeks:

3/21: Upper Rock Creek Trail
3/28: Wheaton Regional Park
3/29: Cabin John Regional Park
4/4: Muddy Branch Greenway Trail

Please write or call if you have any questions. See you soon!

Ben Sugar, Trails Volunteer Coordinator
Volunteer Services Office
Montgomery Parks - MNCPPC
(301) 650-4395, Cell: (240) 372-9488

Loudoun County fire officials say it appears the fire was an accident. The property's caretaker Kevin Palmer who runs Fairfax Hunt Club says he was told by investigators the fire started in an old refrigerator in the barn.

Dozens of the Palmer's friends and neighbors came by to see for themselves what happened. Kevin and daughter Tabitha Palmer say they tried to save the horses and all of the dogs but the heat and flames were just too intense.

At mid-day, they buried the horses and hounds in a wooded area behind the barn. The property is called Red Hill Farm. It's on Stone School Lane just outside Leesburg.

can to protect our horses and barns. And some of us pay dearly for our neglect of basic fire safety practices.

See article on Web: <http://www.firesafetyinbarns.com/barnfiresarticle.html>

See number of reported fires in January 2009: http://www.firesafetyinbarns.com/loss-pdfs/animals_lost_by_fire_01_2009.pdf

Membership Report

Jeanne Bond, Membership Chairman

10 March 2009	2009	2008
Memberships Total	351	411
• Lifetime	8	8
• New	18	66
• Renewals	325	337
Membership Types		
• Sustaining	16	12
• Contributing	30	31
• Regular	305	368
Members Total	575	688

Additions Since Last Report Cycle					
2009 Memberships					
	Lifetime	New	Renewal	Total	Members
<i>As of</i>					
January 13	8	4	244	256	396
February 3		7	24	31	57
March 10		7	57	64	122
2009 Total	8	18	325	351	575

TROT would like to welcome our new members for 2009:	Brenda Klaunberg	Carroll County
Linda Davis and family	Karen Penharlow and family	Harford County
Andrew Diaz	Karen Pyles	Anne Arundel County
Cynthia DiCarlo and family	Susie Searles	Montgomery County
Russell Glass and family	Susan Shook and family	Montgomery County
Dawn Gleason and family	Melanie Sumpter and family	Washington County
Kathy Glockner and family	Jean Swartz and family	Carroll County
DeEtte Gorrie and family	Adair Toddes and family	Adams County, PA
Jayne Johnson	Holly Trevino	Howard County
Lynn Kendrick	Elizabeth Winters, Paradise Stables	LC Frederick County

Contributing Members	Lisa Stevens	Denis & Barbara Sollner-Webb
Gregory Auger	Sugarloaf Riding Club	Richard Werner and family
Diane Ayers and family	Jane Toal	Members Contributing Additional
Joyce Bell and family	TROT SAR	Donations
Ann Bennett and family	Lisa Troutman and family	Dawn Anuszkiewicz-Lundgren and family
Angelo Bizzarro and family	Marcella Wozniak and family	Vicki Bazan
Barb Carr and family	Sustaining Members	Chris Bird
Jean Clarren	Dawn Anuszkiewicz-Lundgren and family	Richard Cohen
Richard Cohen	Alec Adams and family	Jean Cooper and family
Christiane Ferland	Lorin Bleecker and family	Dawn Gleason and family
Annalisa Givens	Central Maryland Saddle Club	Brenda Harrison
Prudence Heaney	Ben Daughtry and family	Melaney Hochheiser and family
Karen Koback	Thomas Gutierrez	George Lyons and family
Cynthia LaCivita	Jackie Kruhm and family	Brother Roger Nelson
Anne Ledbetter and family	Frances Ligler	Nancy Osgood & Sim Shanks
Janet Leitzel	Ronnie Martin and family	Susan Rechen
Fran Levy	Potomac Horse Center	Elisa Sharpe
Mary Long	Rhonda Rollins	Donna Taylor and family
Ron & Janet MacNab	Tara Santmire and family	Donna Thompson
Penny March and family	Daryl Stewart	Camp Waredaca
Maryellen Niemeyer and family	Barbara Wasserman and family	Suzi Young and family
Mary Prowell		
Susan Railey		

We have members from our neighboring states for which a coordinator would be an asset.

DC/VA 11 memberships
 PA 6 memberships
 WV 2 memberships

Annual Meeting February 28, 2009:

Total attendees: 156
Memberships represented: 104
Renewals: 17 memberships, 35 members
New: 3 memberships, 4 members



Setting up



Signing in



Issuing the raffle tickets



Spell Bound



Friendly conversation



Receiving an award



President's Reward



Award Hat



Last minute bids



I think I will bid



I won the bid



TROT wear



Raffle Winner



The chorus line

Annual Meeting Photos contributed by: Linda Davis, Dick Huffman and Sim Shanks



TROT Judged Pleasure Ride

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Date: June 6, 2009
 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.

(continued next page.)

Cut along line



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: Marilyn Miller
 9327 A Gravel Hill Road
 Woodsboro, MD 21798

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (_____) _____ - _____

Email _____

Rider's Age _____ Horse's Age _____

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)
2. Novice (adults who have never placed in a Judged Pleasure Ride)
3. Open (adults)

Horse class on reverse page (**circle one**)

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 – 6th 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 Marilyn 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!

————— Cut along line —————

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 FoxTrotter, 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 _____



TROTSAR Mounted Team members attendees at February 14th 2009 First Aid Training were (pictured Left to Right) Pete Fields, Laurie Platt, Rick Solomon, Tomi` Finkle, Michele, McGuinness, Juanita Hayes, Tim Black and Larry Raskin. Not pictured were Steve Pelham and Linda Davis (the photographer).

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)!

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR TROT MEMBERSHIP!

Nancy Osgood, editor

I think that everyone understands the importance of a robust and active membership in TROT. Numbers matter! Please be confident that you are important in our efforts to preserve bridle trails and equestrian easements. And, also please be confident that the TROT Board is vigilant in the way it spends its funds – which is why we have been able to maintain our low annual dues. A special thanks to our **Contributing Members** and **Sustaining Members**, and those who have made additional contributions. You have chosen to make a bigger financial commitment to TROT, and your extra contribution is greatly appreciated. Please see the list of these special members on page 7

COMPELLING TESTIMONY FOR WOODSTOCK EQUESTRIAN PARK

Nancy Osgood, Editor

Last issue of the TROT Newsletter (Number 172) included a report of Pat Oliva's testimony at the Howard County Recreation and Parks Advisory Board to save equestrian access to Benson Branch Park. Appearances such as this really impact the future of trail riding throughout Maryland. We are printing below (with permission) the testimony of Jenny Searles at the March 3, Montgomery County Council Meeting, where the funding for Woodstock Equestrian Park was on the agenda. We think everyone should be inspired by Jenny's presentation – if a 10-year old can make such a strong appeal for our riding future – we all can!

“Good after noon. My name is Jenny Searles. I am 10 years old... I am here today representing the Montgomery County Horse ~n ~around 4-H club.

The families in my club and I want you to vote in favor of funding phase two of Woodstock Equestrian Park.

I have ridden my pony, Cherokee, at Woodstock many times with my family and friends from my club. It is a beautiful and safe place to ride. There are bridges in Woodstock that are good practice for a horse to go over. I have seen owls, hawks, foxes, deer, and lots of beaver ponds, but no beavers yet.

Over the last 5 years, my 4-H Club has held our annual trail ride fundraiser for St. Jude's Children's Hospital at Woodstock Equestrian Park. In those trail rides, we have raised \$9797.00 for this charity. Other club members and I often go to the park on the weekends or on days off of school and ride in groups of 4 or 5.

One of the parents in my club told me that when she was my age, she was safe crossing roads and riding along them to get to trails. But now, with traffic and population, she would never allow her daughter to explore like she used to. At Woodstock, she can allow her daughter to explore the woods freely with her friends.

She and other people in my club feel that the new, as well as the current, facilities at Woodstock will be used even more as development in the county continues and traffic increases.

With the proposed show rings and cross country course at Woodstock, my club leaders and members look forward to holding clinics and drill team practices, among other things, at the facility. It is difficult for us to find places to do events such as these because riding facilities are very expensive to rent, and we have difficulty finding places with sufficient parking for all of us to bring our horses.

I hope that you will consider all that I have said and vote in favor of the Phase II funding for Woodstock Equestrian Park.

Thank you.”

Who's Who in TROT

OFFICERS

President

Ron MacNab
(301) 622-4157
rmacnab@comcast.net

Vice President

Tomí Finkle
tomi.finkle@TROTSAR.org

Secretary

Suzanne Anderson
trailsendfarm@verizon.net

Treasurer

Susan Railey
susanrailey@verizon.net

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeanne Bond
(410) 275-1858

Kyle Jossi
(301) 570-3860

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

Priscilla Huffman
(301) 646-4422

Deneen Martin
(301) 253-2955

Pat Merson
(301) 898-3251

Marilynn Miller
(301) 898-7274

Pat Oliva
(410) 489-7380

Pat Talbott
Ptal-bott@insuranceservices.com

COMMITTEES

Membership

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

Newsletter

Nancy Osgood
Sim Shanks
nlosgood@verizon.net

Trail Rides

Pat Talbott
301-628-4130

Search and Rescue

Tomí Finkle
Team Commander
tomi.finkle@TROTSAR.org

Mapping Project

Ron MacNab

rmacnab@comcast.net

Web Master

Harold Goldstein
mdbiker@goldray.com

COUNTY

** = Coordinators

* = Contacts

Anne Arundel

**Diane Ayers
(410) 551-0832
dianeayers@verizon.net

Baltimore

No Coordinator

Carroll

**Anne Bennof
(301) 829-0949
trotfour@aol.com

Cecil

**Jeanne Bond
HalcyonFarm@gmail.com

Charles

**Tomí Finkle
tomi.finkle@TROTSAR.org

Fredrick

**Pat Merson
(301) 898-3251
lilgreyhrs@aol.com

Harford

**Karen Penharlow

(410) 236-9365
KlawPaws@aol.com

Howard

**Pat Oliva
(410) 489-7380
patolivatigger@aol.com

Montgomery

**Ron MacNab
(301) 622-4157
rmacnab@comcast.net

Prince George's

No Coordinator

Fairland Regional Park

*Mary Angevine
(301) 937-0014

Broad Creek Hist. District

*Dave Turner
(301) 292-6130

St. Mary's

No Coordinator

Talbot

No Coordinator

Washington

**Susan Rechen
(301) 298-4119
rechens@si.edu

Wicomico County

**Shawn McEntee
(410) 749-2665
smc1159@verizon.net

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: NaomiManders0@gmail.com

Breezy Loop Boyds, MD an easy hour and 15 minutes.

Naomi Manders e-mail: NaomiManders0@gmail.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! 10 miles round trip

Naomi Manders e-mail: NaomiManders0@gmail.com

Gunpowder State Park at Sweet Air (Harford County)

Karen Penharlow, (410) 236-9365 or KlawPaws@aol.com

Little Bennett Park

Jim and Maureen Henry (301)-371-4868.

Montgomery Agricultural Farm Park and Annapolis

Rock Deneen Martin (301) 253-2955

Patuxent River State Park, Rachel Carson and

Rock Creek Park, Laury Lobel

(301) 774-9595 or laurylobel@verizon.net

Patapsco State Park off Marriotsville Road

Elizabeth Baran

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

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

Sugarloaf Mt. Vicki Bazan (301) 831-8715

Sugarloaf Mt. Janine Borofka (301) 874-0770

Union Mills/Kowomu Trail

Also Liberty Reservoir trails [off Deer Park Road] and Morgan Run Trails.

Ivy Smink (410) 875-5691 or ivysmink@qis.net

Woodstock Equestrian Park in Beallsville, MD

Karen Kraushaar (301) 208-0767 or kraushaar@verizon.net

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

Nancy Osgood at nlosgood@verizon.net

CLASSIFIED ADS

To place an ad

email: nlogood@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

Come buy your next Truck from your Local Equestrian Sales Specialist and Fellow Trot Member, Ashley Adams at Keene Dodge Chrysler Jeep! We specialize in Trucks! Also, we service and perform body work on Horse Trailers. Ask me about the Rebates available to USEF, NTRA, and Farm Bureau Members! We are centrally located in Jarrettsville, MD. Call me at (800)394-7127 or (443)506-2263 or e-mail me at aadams@keenedodge.com. www.keenedodge.com

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 web-site.)

Horse Trailer for Sale: Gore Aluminum over a steel frame. Very good condition. Gooseneck, 2 horse, thoroughbred size. New electric and lights. Good floor. Damascus, MD. Looks nice. Call Mary 301-391-6683.

Pony For Sale: Ginger - Will follow along nicely on trail rides. 13'2 mare, very pretty bay. Very child safe but outgrown. Easy to care for and a great baby-sitter. A good home is a must. Damascus, MD. Call Mary 301-391-6683.

Beautiful Tennessee Walker Gelding: Safe, Sane, Fun, Companion Horse or Pet Free to Good Home takes pergolide once a day at a cost of less than \$30 per month. Call Donna Moore at 410-489-6506



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.**

Performance Tack LLC

Saddles and Tack for the Competitive Rider

Authorized Sommer Saddle Dealer



www.PerformanceTack.com

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www.PerformanceTack.com

Gooseneck Coupler Lock for Sale: To protect your unattended trailer. Blaylock Model TL-50. Heavy duty aluminum with 3/4" steel locking pin. See www.blaylockind.com for picture. New, in original box. Cost new \$39. Will sell for \$25. Call Jeanne 410-275-1858 (home) or 301-520-5350 (cell).

Black TWH for sale: 16.1 hand gelding, 11 years old. Natural gait, great on trails. Will go thru anything, will lead or follow. Not spooky. Great feet, easy keeper. Loves people. Has been on camping rides, stands well on pickett line. Easy to trailer. Papers out of Midnight Sun and Carbon Copy. \$4,500.00/neg. Call for more info, Elizabeth 410-245-8942

Saddle for sale: County Despri saddle. 17 W. Black. Very versatile saddle, three saddles in one. Can be adjusted for forward seat, all purpose and dressage. Very comfortable. Great condition. \$1500. Call Lisa at 301-253-9243.

Belle Cote Farm: Field board available for adults on a private farm in Burtonsville, MD. Lighted outdoor arena and direct access to WSSC trails. \$300/mo. with a multiple horse discount. Prefer retired, semi-retired, or non-showing horses. Contact Jennifer at (301) 641-8903 or email at bcfarmgirl@hotmail.com

Bank Barn on 3 acres for rent: 5 stalls (one foaling stall), water and electric, concrete wash area under barn overhang, huge double loft upstairs for hay and straw, 2 tackrooms with saddle racks, dry lot off stalls, 2 grass paddocks all board fenced, trails on farm, riding ring and round pen available, owner on premises, rubbermaid water trough, trailer parking available. All this for \$175/horse, self care only, price negotiable (would prefer one boarder with several horses). Email reply to Dustyfarm@aim.com or call Lynda 410-963-3448

“Master Electrician” Licensed and Insured
John A. Spigler
Old Mill Electric
Mount Airy, MD 21771
240-793-3330 or Home (301)703-4167

Tonneau Cover for Sale: For 8-ft bed pickup. All hardware included. Very good condition. Will sell for \$40. Call Jeanne 410-275-1858 (home) or 301-520-5350 (cell).

Horse trailer for sale: 2004 Shoop Extra Wide Deluxe. 2 horse, bumper pull, no dressing room, steel, mats. Excellent condition. Located at Patapsco Horse Center. \$3,000. I'm selling to buy a larger trailer. Call Brenda, 301-982-0104.

Horse trailer for sale: 1998 2H bumper pull with dressing room. Straight load, 2 escape doors, walk through to dressing room. Aluminum with steel frame. Serviced yearly. Good condition, new tires. \$4000. Call Lisa at 301-253-9243.

HORSES AVAILABLE. Due to a personal situation, we have several horses that are free – placed only to great homes. **Razzi – purebred Arab**, early 20's, 14.1 h, bright bay, jumps/hacks/basic dressage, adult-proof & kid-proof. **Letta Moon – purebred Arab**, early 20's, 13.1 h, white grey, chestnut freckles, rides/hacks, adult-proof & kid-proof, longes like a dream, very pretty with classic Arab head. **Cloudy Moon – off-track TB mare**, mid-teens, 16 h., fleabitten gray w/dk. legs, sound, very kind, great trail horse prospect for intermediate (or advanced) rider. **Secret Moon – off-track TB mare**, 5 yrs, about 15 h, rose gray w/dk. legs, easy-keeper, very steady & kind & loves attention, great trail horse for anybody. Contact: Mare Gale at foxingale@webtv.net.

Treeless English Saddle for Sale: Ansur Classic. Beautiful leather (black); very well made. Purchased in 2007; used about 10 times. Like new condition. Saddle has microchip registered with TackTrac, Inc. Paid \$2195 for saddle and \$425 for “deluxe stabilization system” (knee/thigh rolls – never used). Will sell both for \$1200. Call Jeanne 410-275-1858 (home) or 301-520-5350 (cell).

Two horse trailer for lease to riders if needed with dressing room. They would have to sign a contract covering any damages. I also would pick riders up wanting to **share a ride** to a trail, if it wasn't too far out of the way. I'd like to meet some new riding buddies.
Wanda Haddaway, haddawayw@ninds.nih.gov

Young TB who is great on trails, and would love to trailer pool to some of the far-flung places around. I live on the north side of Sugarloaf Mountain and would be happy to guide someone around. Generally I ride during the week days, with some weekends.
Janine Borofka quietrockfarm@yahoo.com 301-874-0770

Pony for Sale: Captain Small - Ideal first pony for younger child. White with black spots POA/Mini cross gelding, 10.1 hands, 11 years old, very cute. Experienced on lead line including small jumps. Drives very nicely. Likes to work and easy to handle with good ground manners. Asking \$1500, including easy-entry two wheel wooden cart in fine condition. Asking \$1500, including cart and harness, to good home. Pictures available. Contact us at 301-972-7838 or vandijim@aol.com

Registered Appaloosa gelding for sale: 4 yo, 15+H, light bay roan, few spots, snowcap blanket, black socks, no vices, excellent ground manners, trailers well, stands for trim/shoeing, loves people, greenbroke with 30-days training, been lightly trail ridden, UTD on shots, teeth & new coggins. Bought from Wyoming Appaloosa Ranch last year, have no time to work him. Cost over \$2500 – sell at \$1000 or best offer. Sire is leopard App Indian Shuffler, this guy may gait too. Contact Brenda at gsense-ney@comcast.net or 301-253-4182 evenings.



Annual Membership Application

_____ New Membership

_____ Membership Renewal for Year 2009

Name of Applicant (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Spouse/Sig Other _____ Other family members _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Ride In _____

Home Phone _____ Cell/Alternate Phone _____

E-mail _____

Annual membership rates for January 1 – December 31:

One year membership	\$20.00 per year	<input type="checkbox"/> Single	<input type="checkbox"/> Family
Contributing member	\$30.00 per year	<input type="checkbox"/> Single	<input type="checkbox"/> Family
Sustaining member	\$50.00 per year	<input type="checkbox"/> Single	<input type="checkbox"/> Family
Additional contributions	\$ _____	<i>(tax deductible)</i>	

Number of membership cards required _____

Membership is for the calendar year. All individuals included in a family TROT membership must be members of the same family living at the same address. Additional contributions are welcome and help to preserve the trails you ride on. TROT is a tax exempt, nonprofit organization and contributions are tax deductible.

Please make checks payable to Trail Riders of Today and send this form and your check to:

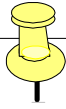
Jeanne Bond, TROT Membership Chair
494 Christopher Road, Warwick, MD 21912

Phone: 410-275-1858 (home) 301-520-5350 (cell)
Email: TrotMembers@hotmail.com

VOLUNTEER

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please check any areas where you would be willing to assist.

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearings | <input type="checkbox"/> County Coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> Directory | <input type="checkbox"/> Ride Leader |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Booth / Shows | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Mapping | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SAR | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Clearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Judged Pleasure Ride |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | |



The Back Page

from the Newsletter Staff

Ahhh Spring! This issue of the Newsletter has what everyone has been waiting all winter for – the list of UPCOMING TRAIL RIDES. Turn right now to page 5 to see the list – and start marking your calendars. A huge THANK-YOU to Pat Talbott for taking on the task of trail ride coordinator for another year. Pat did such a great job last year – we had a nice slate of rides and there was a great turnout for the rides. So, now that Pat has done all the work – all you need to do is show up and ride! For anyone that has not participated in one of the TROT rides, this is the year to just do it! They are a lot of fun. But you also get to explore trails that you might not be familiar with and to connect with other TROT members. Be sure to sign up early and to coordinate with the ride leader. And don't forget – all riders must be TROT members (but you can join at the trail ride), and you must bring a negative Coggins with you to the ride.

See you there!



TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY

Jeanne Bond, TROT Membership Chair

494 Christopher Road, Warwick, MD 21912

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