



Trail Riders Of Today

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

March 2012

Founded 1980

Number 191

TROT ANNUAL MEETING AND SILENT AUCTION

Priscilla Huffman, Annual Dinner Coordinator

On Saturday, Feb 11, about 110 TROT and family members gathered at the Mt. Airy Fire Hall for our annual dinner and silent auction. Thanks to a tireless group of volunteers, the dinner was a great success. There's always lots of time to catch up on trail and horse news with other riders, and pick up some good bargains as well.



Ron MacNab reviewed highlights of the last year, which included TROT's representation on the Maryland Horse Council and the Maryland Horse Industry Board, as well as participation on Maryland's National Recreational Trails Grant selection committee. He announced that Pat Talbott is the President-elect for the coming year, to be voted in at the next meeting. A vote was taken at the dinner to approve three new board members: Barbara Sollner-Webb, Maria Schwartz, and Br. Roger Nelson.

The silent auction brought in over \$1,500 with many contributions of merchandise, used tack and other items. **Chris Ritcher** and her husband **Will Ritcher** did a top-notch job with the silent auction and Chris has agreed to coordinate the auction for next year. TROT logo clothing was also available for sale at the dinner.

Many other members helped make the dinner a successful event, including **Sim**

Shanks, Nancy Osgood (who created the beautiful centerpieces and gift baskets), **Janet MacNab, Dick Huffman, Barbara Sollner-Webb, Lisa Troutman, Margaret Scarff, Susan Railey, Maria Schwartz, Pat Merson, Ingrid Gentry, Pat Talbott, Susan Gray, Mike Caruso, Amy Kimble Pat Oliva, Kyle Jossi, and Gail Suter.** Gail is a brand new TROT member who called just after joining to volunteer with the dinner set-up, and she was a bundle of energy. Thanks, Gail, for supporting your new organization!

We welcome your suggestions on how we can make the annual dinner even better, so please send ideas to any board member or officer. Board contact information is available in the newsletter or our web site www.trot-md.org.



The theme of the March Newsletter is "Don't Ride on Wet Trails." See pleas from Amy Kimble, our Trail Coordinator, (p. 3), and Kyle Jossi (p. 9). If you know of areas where the trails are usable during the spring and wet weather, please email me at nlogood@verizon.net. So far, we know that riding is always good at the North Tract (see page 4), and on some trails in Schooley Mill Park in Howard County.

Inside This Issue:	Trail Clearing 3	C&O Canal Pride Days 2012 . . 7	Looking for Buddies/Share a Ride 10
Annual Dinner 1	Calvert Volunteer Days 3	Annual Dinner Photos . . 8,10,13	Who's Who 11
President's Message 2	Upcoming Rides 4,5	Horse Dreams 9	Welcome New Members . . . 11
Silent Auction 2	County Updates 6	Spring Riding – Getting Started	Ads 12,13
WSSC Trail News Update 3	Thank You 6	Annual Budget 7	The Back Page 14
	Annual Budget 7	Trail Guides 10	

President's Message

Ron MacNab, President

Many thanks to Pricilla Huffman and Christina Ritcher for organizing the Annual Dinner and Silent Auction. And of course, thanks to the many volunteers who helped them. TROT activities are a group effort. If you have not joined in before, make it a point this year to speak up and assist with an activity. It is a rewarding experience.

Each year, the Annual Dinner is a time for the election of several new directors and the retirement of others. This year, the membership elected Br. Roger Nelson, Maria Schwartz and Barbara Sollner-Webb to the Board of Directors. I have known them for many years, and couldn't be happier to have them on the Board. They are smart, active and fun to work with. We are very fortunate to add them to TROT's Board of Directors.

Bev Fox, Susan Grey and Priscilla Huffman retired from the Board this year but will remain active members. Their contributions to the TROT over the last few years are immeasurable. Bev moved to North Carolina last year but participated in Board meetings by conference call. Bev designed the cover of our brochure and our new license plate. Susan was our legal counsel, advocate, and organizer of numerous events. Priscilla Huffman was an outstanding president of TROT for five years and remained on the Board for another three years. Her leadership and organizational skills contributed to nearly every activity of TROT for past eight years. We will miss them at the Board meetings but fortunately will be keeping them as friends and riding partners.

I will be stepping down from president in March, but will remain on the Board and continue to be the Trails Coordinator for Montgomery County. I am honored and appreciative of having served as president of TROT and will continue to be an advocate for equestrian trails in Maryland.

I am very happy to say that Pat Talbott will be TROT's new president. She has been an active volunteer and Board member for many years. Pat is very organized and capable. TROT will flourish with her as president. Please join me in welcoming her.



Silent Auction

Christiane Ritcher, Silent Auction Coordinator

Thanks to the generosity of our members, the annual Silent Auction was a success – we made over \$1,500.00!

Thank you to all TROT members who searched their homes, their barns and their hearts for donations. Volunteers are essential to make this event come together. So, many, many thanks to Pat Oliva, Amy Kimble, Susan Railey, Gail Suter, Barb Sollner-Webb, Kyle Jossi, and my husband, Will Ritcher. I know I am missing many wonderful volunteers; I am no less grateful for their help. What a great experience this was and I am looking forward to repeating it next year.



Keeping up with the donations and bids.

I'm searchin' →



The following businesses generously donated merchandise and gift certificates to the Silent Auction. Please remember them when making your equine purchases.

Valley Vet
US Rider

Maryland Tack
The Turf Center

Elizabeth Voss, Dentist (ad page 13)
Patty Lynch, Farrier Services (ad page 13)

WSSC Trail News Update

Johnnie R. Hemphill, Jr., Chief of Staff, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

Mr. MacNab

I wanted to update you on the status of the effort to engage a consultant to provide input and advice on protecting the Rocky Gorge and Triadelphia watershed area. We recently issued a Task Order to EA Engineering, Science & Technology, Inc., for the Patuxent Watershed Protection Study. This is intended to be a broad-based review that will support the entire community's interest in protecting source water (Rocky Gorge and Triadelphia Reservoirs) and the surrounding property. As you know, we want to focus the engagement on how we can work toward a more robust watershed management and protection strategy, while considering the concerns of all the various stakeholders who have traditionally been granted limited access to the property.

The effort will include data assessment using materials provided by organizations that manage or regulate source water and watershed properties, including best management practices, water quality data, etc., as well as data provided by stakeholder groups like people who fish on the property, TROT, hunters, boaters and others. Elements of the project include GIS mapping, analysis of soil erosion potential and field visits/reconnaissance of the reservoir properties. Please rest assured that the consultants also plan to meet with stakeholder groups to understand their concerns as part of this process. WSSC sought a broad-based approach to this review, so the review will continue in phases, depending on the outcome of the consultant's initial work.

I hope this information is useful to you, and please feel free to share it with any interested parties.

Johnnie R. Hemphill, Jr.
Chief of Staff
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

Trail Clearing

Amy Kimble, TROT Trail Work Coordinator

I want you to think about the following when you enjoy the trails this year:

Should I be riding today in this location? Could I be damaging the trail for the future? Is it too wet?

Could I trim areas that are getting over grown without taking away from the pleasure of my ride or should I report that the trail needs work to AmyHkimble@aol.com? (In the Spring we trim a lot more aggressively in anticipation of a lot of growth. The trail should be at least 5 feet wide where you are impacted when mounted.)

VERY IMPORTANT - Record time spent working and / or report hours to Amy Kimble- the trail system uses these volunteer hours to financially support the parks to keep them open.

I will report areas that are boggy or need a chainsaw or that are eroding.

DO NOT MAKE RE-Routes - These need to be approved by park personnel.

It is easy to carry a small folding saw and clippers in a fanny pack, a small back pack or in your saddle bag. Then you are prepared to trim, along the trail.

TENTATIVE MOUNTED TRAIL CLEARING for the Spring of 2012

- 3/10 Saturday 10AM- Annapolis Rock Patuxent DNR
- 3/25 Sunday 2PM - Browns Church Rd./ Long Corner - Patuxent DNR
- 4/14 Saturday 10AM- Rt. 97 area Patuxent DNR
- 4/21 Sunday 2PM Earth Day -Catoctin Nat'l. Park/ Little Bennet
- 5/12 Saturday 9AM - Union Mills

Trail clearing will be done in small groups of 2 or 3 people. People familiar with the trail system will be asked to go out with someone who is not. This is excellent training for young horses and those that are not yet fit enough to go out on a 3 hour ride. We usually work for 1.5 - 2.5 hours.

Any questions please contact Amy Kimble- TROT Trail Work Coordinator AmyHkimble@aol.com 301-748-8310.

THANK YOU for Sharing my Passion!

Culvert Volunteer Days at Supplee, Kimberley Knox

Forwarded by Amy Kimble

“Keeping a River Running”

Join WSSC as we pull trash, branches and other debris out of culverts next to the Patuxent River. This is an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful serenity of the river-while making a difference to the Chesapeake Bay. Supplee Recreation Area, 16904 Supplee Lane, Laurel, MD.

Saturday, March 17 from 9 a.m. to Noon

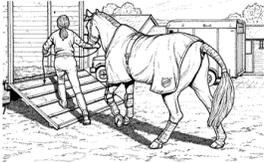
Saturday, April 7 from 9 a.m. to Noon

UPCOMING RIDES

Lisa Troutman , Trail Ride Coordinator

TROT needs you! Trail Ride Leaders needed for 2012. If there's a park you love to ride in and would like to show it to others, please consider leading a ride. No experience needed. Please contact Lisa Troutman at cat.home@verizon.net or 410-489-5101.

Please see the website for the most up-to-date information regarding the current trail ride schedule.



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.

- be TROT members (membership forms will be available at the ride for non-members).
 - provide a copy of a current negative coggins for each horse.
 - if needed, bring a snack for get together after the ride.
- Contact ride leader for details.**

March

Introduction to North Tract – Saturday March 31 (rain date April 1).

Ride Leader Barbara Sollner-Webb

We will have a TROT ride at the "North Tract" of "Patuxent Research Refuge" (part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, formerly known as the "Fort Meade Trails") in eastern Laurel, MD. This vast tract is part of America's only wildlife refuge devoted to research, established in 1936 by President Roosevelt, but it also offers wildlife-related activities including horseback riding, hiking, biking, etc. [These other users are generally very respectful of horses.]

We want to familiarize TROT riders with this great resource, because the trails and road shoulders are impressively sturdy (on old packed-stone base). This makes North Tract one of the few area venues you can safely ride when the ground is soaked, without causing trail damage. Thus, riding here after wet spells preserves "your" local trails.

Our ride will cover much of their almost 10 miles of rather scenic, hard-packed dirt/gravel woods trails. These are flat with no stream crossing, so good for out-of-shape and/or green horses, and are generally soft enough for tender bare-footed horses. [North Tract additionally has almost 10 miles of asphalt-covered road with wide, grassy shoulders that also are good for riding, even when the ground is wet.]

One group will be walk/trot with a limited number of controlled canter runs, and hopefully there will be another all-walk group. After the (~3 hr) ride, we can enjoy lunch (bring your own; we will provide sodas and desert) on the visitors' center outdoor seating.

Hope to see you on the ride.

To sign up for the ride (and learn the starting time!), call me at home (301-604-5619) or work (410-955-6278); or e-mail bsw@jhmi.edu

p.s., notes about North Tract:

- Enter from Rt. 198, 1 1/2 mile east of B-W Pkwy (1 mile west of the the Rt. 32 interchange), at the "Patuxent Research Refuge" sign. Proceed south to the visitors' center, to park. [The lot is normally plenty large, but with the hoped-for turn-out, it could be tight, so I will direct you (park close to each other, with overflow along an abutting road).]
- To use the trails, you need to register in the visitors' center (it is free). [They have bathrooms (also outdoor faucets, that in summer can be the best place to get horse water).]
- North Tract hours are 8am to 4pm daily. [But before going in hunting season call (301-776-3090), because some days are closed.]

May

Woodstock Park Sunday, May 20, 2012

Ride leaders Lisa Troutman and Andrea Caplan

Beautiful trails along grassy fields, in the woods, and some gravel roads. There are stream crossings and several wooden bridges. The ride will be 2 – 3 hours, at a medium pace (walk and trot). Bring water for your horse as there is no water at the trailer parking area. Please bring a lunch and chair for afterward. Ample parking on west side of Rt 28. Event will be canceled if we have significant rain 48 hours prior to the ride. In the saddle at 10 AM.

Contact: Andrea at: 301-346-5716 or email andrea@thebodypolitic.net or

Lisa at: 410-489-5101 or email cat.home@verizon.net

June

Liberty Reservoir – Saturday June 30,

Ride leader Mary Prowell

This ride will be a combination of a dirt fire road that goes around Liberty Reservoir and some woods trails that connect to it. The footing is mostly good although there are some rocks on the fire road and part of the woods trail is not well used. There will be a break for

lunch or snacks around noon. The pace will be walking and trotting with a possible canter depending on the size and abilities of the group. The Reservoir is a pretty place to ride with views of the water and through a mostly deciduous forest. There can be hikers, bike riders and sometimes motor bikes on the fire road so horses should be able to deal with those things. Plan to be out for 2 ½ to 3 hours. In the saddle at 10 AM. Location/parking: Park on Deer Park Rd.

Contact Mary Prowell at 301-829-7709 or email boprow@aol.com

August

Codorus State Park, Hanover, PA – Saturday August 18, 2012 (Make up date Saturday August 25, 2012)

Ride leader Nancy Harmon

Horseback Riding: 8+ miles of trails. Ranger Trail travels over rolling hills, through forests and fields, crosses streams and passes near Lake Marburg. There are many views of the lake, including Ranger Overlook which has benches and hitching posts. The ride will be about 2 hours, at a fast walk. Plenty of water. Mostly ride in the shade. Shoes not needed. Beautiful views of lake. Places where you can ride your horse in to cool off. Great parking, port-a-potty, picnic tables and near enough to water to take your horse in afterwards and sponge him down.

We will have a cook out when we return around 6:30 pm.

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/codorus.aspx>

Directions: If coming from Frederick or Montgomery Counties: Get yourself to Hanover, PA however is best for you. From PA 116, go through Hanover. Turn right onto PA 216 east and go three miles to the park. Cross 3 bridges and turn onto Sinsheim Road (only one way you can turn) immediately after the 3rd bridge. Follow signs for trailer parking. The 40-trailer parking lot is off of the Main Launch Day Use Area entrance road.

Ready to Ride at 4 pm

Contact Nancy Harmon Cell 301-639-4448
email: horsingAroundHoney@hotmail.com

October

Agricultural History Farm – tentative date: Saturday, October 6. In the saddle at 10 AM.

Ride leader Christiane Ritcher

Come and see the Agricultural History Park in the fall. It is a beautiful place to ride with its mowed grassy paths and forest trails. There will be creeks, woods, open fields and bridges. The pace will mostly be walking with a little trotting so you can relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery. There are streams in the park for your horse to drink from but no water at the parking lot so plan accordingly.

Your horse will not need shoes or boots. Bring your sandwich and chair. There will be hot cocoa, sodas, water, and pumpkin bread.

Location/parking: Agricultural History Farm, 18400 Muncaster Road, Derwood MD. Drive to the end of the long asphalt driveway where it dead ends at the parking lots around the Cooperative Extension building. Turn left onto the gravel road and park in the grassy area by the asphalt parking lot.

Contact: Chris at 240-393-1217 or email lapado2000@gmail.com

Upper Patuxent River State Park, Damascus. October 27-28, 2012, Saturday and Sunday. Ride Leader: Suzanne Anderson

October 27, Saturday

This ride will be a 2+ hour loop, at the walk with perhaps a jog, and returning to the trailers for lunch. Come in Halloween costume! Bring something to share, and we'll set up a table under the awning and can even boil water for tea, coffee, or cocoa.

October 28, Sunday

This ride will be about 4 hours long, moving briskly at gait/trot. Come in Halloween costume! Please bring a lunch you can pack on your saddle.

Both Days: The trails are hilly but not too rocky. There will be river crossings and, depending on the rainfall, mud or dust. Bring water for your horse as there is no water at the trailer parking site. These are joint rides with the Chesapeake Plantation Walking Horse (CPWH) club. On each day the pace will accommodate the least experienced rider. If you want a slow easy ride, please come Saturday. If you and your horse are eager to cover some ground, please come on Sunday. You must be a member of TROT or CPWH to participate.

Both Days: Ready to Ride (RTR) at 10:00 AM. That means IN the SADDLE. Please call or email Suzanne so she can provide further details, keep a head count, and take your phone #s in case of last minute changes.

Contact: Suzanne in the evenings at 301. 829.3881 or email trailsendfarm@verizon.net

November

Anacostia Park – Saturday November 24.

Ride leader John Angevine

This is a favorite TROT ride that closes out our ride season. Folks who have attended this ride say they are amazed with the spacious trails and beautiful scenes along the Anacostia River so close to downtown DC. The ride may encounter bikes, fishermen, some asphalt, as well as a scenic view of the historic Lincoln Cemetery. Ride leaders will provide water and granola bars.

In the saddle at: 10:00 am, Contact John at 301-937-0014

County Updates

Need volunteers

as contacts or coordinators for **Baltimore, Calvert, and Talbot Counties**. If you have an interest to act in this capacity, please contact any TROT Board Member.

Montgomery County

by Ron MacNab

Parks and Recreation are examining and revising their 2005 Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS). The revised plan will take into account progress in achieving 2005 plans and taking into account new needs and realities. The PROS plan is in draft phase and while under study. Listed below are some of the highlights of the study.

"Use of hard and natural surface trails is the County's most popular recreation activity according to the respondents of the 2010 *Vision 2030* Survey. Sixty-eight percent of the respondents reported using both types of trails, and nearly 75% considered them very important to their household. In addition, trails ranked highest on the survey as to overall importance of adding, expanding or improving facilities. **There are 60.7 (to be verified) miles of existing hard surface trails and 128.3 (to be verified) miles of natural surface trails in the County.** These figures include both major and minor trails, including connectors, and only

include trails owned and operated by M-NCPPC." Parks also plans to:

- Expand the distribution of multi-use trails
- Look to increase access to existing trails that are over ½ mile apart in high density areas
- Re-examine planned regional trails as part of the CWPTP Amendment
- Convert limited use trails to multi-use where appropriate
- Identify and fill gaps in regional trail system

Parks invited advocates representing hikers, bicyclists, mountain bikers, equestrians and open space groups to participate in a "Trails Work Group" to discuss trail plans, and obstacles to plans. We meet each month for three hours with Parks staff to discuss issues and share points of view. These meetings are extremely helpful to not only express our views to Parks staff but equally important to learn from them and other advocates in the group.

Howard County

Pat Oliva

There is no news on Benson Branch. I keep knocking on the door. Iron Bridge/Howard County Hunt has done a great job of opening up the trails in Patuxent State Park. I have heard a number of complaints about the trails in this park. Now that the hunt season is almost over it is our job to keep the trails open. The briars are getting green and stretching their branches across the trail. The wind is

blowing deadwood over the trails.

No one can make it passable but YOU. Stop and prune the briars and clear off the branches.

I hope some day it will be dry enough to ride the Western Regional Park trails. To get to the horse trailer parking lot - take Carrs Mill Road off of Route 97, and take the second park entrance (which will be on your right). Please don't use the first entrance, which leads to the ball fields and car parking areas.

St. Mary's County:

Kathy Glockner

The state purchased 700 acres from the Jesuits several years ago and have left the property relatively untouched except for several small gravel parking lots. The property is surrounded by water and a beautiful equestrian use area.

The state has received some grant funding but it appears the funding was given for projects that have not been planned. I understand that a formal public meeting is

forthcoming and will attend to express support for equestrian access. There has not been any objections thus far about equestrian access and I hope that we can mobilize volunteers to assist in maintaining trails. There are no trails on the property now and the wooded area needs them in order to traverse the property.

Link to article about the grants:

<http://www.somdnews.com/article/20111026/NEWS/710269684/1056/no-plan-yet-for-newtowne-neck-state-park-use&template=southernMaryland>

THANK YOU from Amy Kimble

I would like to THANK the TROT BOARD for voting to allow me to attend the Southeastern Equestrian Trail Conference on behalf of TROT. I will be happy to share the information I obtain from the conference. I would not be able to attend without the support of TROT so I am very grateful. Trails are my passion and I am very excited about this fantastic opportunity.

Sincerely,

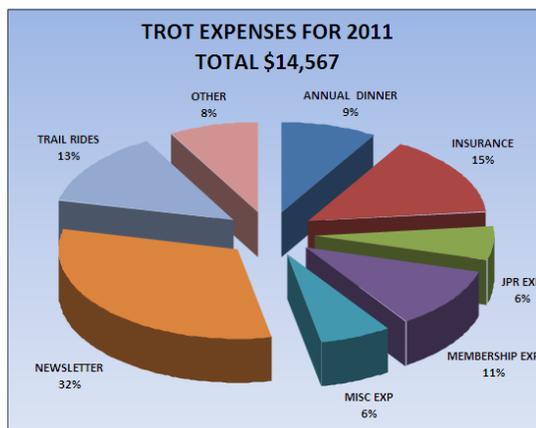
Amy Kimble- TROT Trail Work Coordinator

TROT Annual Budget

Susan Railey, TROT Treasurer

The 2011 accounting and the 2012 budget presented at the TROT Annual Meeting on February 11.

	2011 Actual	2012 Budget
INCOME		
Membership dues and donations (“2011 Actual” includes moneys received in 2011 but deposited on 1/3/12)	\$9810	\$8665
Judged pleasure ride	\$2285	\$2200
Silent auction	\$1911	\$1500
Other (clothing sales, interest income, ads)	\$837	\$875
Total Income	\$14,843	\$13,240
EXPENSES		
Membership dinner	\$1255	\$1250
Judged Pleasure Ride	\$892	\$1000
Membership expenses (includes periodic membership meetings, directory, etc.)	\$1635	\$2100
Newsletter	\$4605	\$5000
Insurance	\$2132	\$2132
Dues, donations (e.g., for trail improvements), conference fees, and related.	\$2509	\$2550
Miscellaneous administrative expenses (misc. postage, phone, sales tax, web site, etc.)	\$1537	\$1644
Total expenses	\$14,565	\$15,676
TOTAL ASSETS AT YEAR’S END (“2011 Actual” includes deposit made on 1/3/12 – see note above, under Income – Membership dues)	\$24,892	\$22,456



C&O Canal Pride Days 2012

Forwarded by Priscilla Huffman

C&O Canal Pride Days is the largest volunteer event in the park and is a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and show pride for our neighborhood national park while raising awareness of its ongoing stewardship needs.

Join us for the 5th annual C&O Canal Pride Days this spring! A wide variety of projects along the canal are scheduled to take place over three weekends:

Saturday, April 21: Celebrate Earth Day by helping us kick off Canal Pride Days 2012! Revitalize the campground at Marsden Tract or lay a new trail way and improve landscaping at the Great Falls Tavern.

Saturday, April 28: Build trails and revamp picnic and recreation areas at Big Slackwater near Dam #4.

Saturday, May 5: Spruce up Lockhouse 70 and the canal at Old Town just in time for the annual Battie-Mixon fishing rodeo.

Advanced registration is required through the Canal Pride Days website: <http://www.canaltrust.org/trust/canal-pride-days.php>. For more information on volunteering for Canal Pride Days, contact Becky Curtis at curtis@canaltrust.org or 301-745-8889.



And the number is . .



It is so hard to choose..



Look at what I won

Annual Dinner and Silent Auction



Thank you for helping to clear the trails and by the way here is the up and coming schedule.



One of all of the great items donated by members



Here is how we spend our our income and Yes! It is easy to buy TROT license plates.



Two of TROT's new Board Members - Maria Schwartz and Brother Roger Nelson



And some even listened to the speakers and cheered them on

Horse Dreams

Sybil TenEyck

Most horse-related dreams of a child are squashed by a parent that pulls the 'wallet' card. "We can't afford it" translates to "I'm afraid of horses and you'll get injured." Children get injured when they are drawn to horses without parental supervision, i.e., sneaking into the neighbor's field to steal a ride. Usually doesn't turn out well because Black Beauty never acted like that! A series of twelve lessons can be the defining moment for a child. Either satisfies the desire or sets them on a goal for the rest of their lives.

A child can be very proud of their accomplishments, but without approval from a parent, will feel like it's not good enough. Parents might go to their kid's lesson, but are on the phone, or waiting in the car. Others just drop them off to do other things.

I now have the pleasure to ride with multi-generational families and disabled Veterans because horses are the bridge, the unifying athlete that brings them all together, equally. Hilarity and memories ensue.

Life is full of 'what ifs' and it's harder to learn to ride after

50. Of course I now realize that so many times I could have gotten hurt or killed, but had an awesome mare that took special care of me. At the time I didn't know.

I took lessons as an adult for years, but still have the horrible habits developed as a child that had a pony and no guidance.

The 'over-50 generation' had lots of opportunities to 'see' horses every Saturday morning – 1/2 hour shows were cranked out for our consumption. Westerns were very popular, too. The following decades were mostly devoid of horse-themed entertainment and a whole generation not exposed to 'horse-fever' and their kids are even more removed from it.

I honestly feel it is my duty to be as friendly, outgoing and approachable while out on the trail with my little man. He is a real 'people-person,' too, and expects to have everybody pet him. I can't tell you how many admit this is the closest they have ever been to a horse. Some act like we are riding Tigers.

If we don't spark the interest in horses, who will? Who will save the Equines?

SPRING RIDING – GETTING STARTED

Kyle Jossi

For many of us, winter is a time to take a break from riding. Before hitting the trails in the spring, take a few minutes to think about some things that might not be of concern other times of the year.

Trails are easily damaged when wet and don't dry out as quickly as they do during warmer times of the year. Every consideration should be given to staying off wet trails. Otherwise you will ruin them for other riders. When trails are wet, I highly recommend North Track, near Ft. Meade. These trails are always rideable no matter what the weather has been.

Be alert for newly planted farmer's fields. Stay off of them or stay on the unplanted edges.

When trailering, be considerate and pick up all the manure that your horse leaves around the trailer. Last week we were at Schooly Mill and a mom who was there with her daughter's two ponies drove off, leaving an incredible amount of manure in the parking lot. It looks bad for all horse owners when someone does this.

Be careful of where you park your trailer. The ground is much softer this time of year and it's easy to get stuck.

Most of the trails don't get as much use over the winter and limbs or even trees may have come down. Put a pair of

clippers and a small hand saw in your trail pack. Clear trails as you go; it's much easier now before the spring growth comes in. If you find that a public trail is impassible, contact Amy Kimble, Trail Maintenance Coordinator at AmyHKimble@aol.com. Also be alert for new holes and ruts that have developed over the winter. If possible, mark them with branches or trail tape to alert other riders.

Although horses have the right of way over bikers and walkers, always remember to be considerate. If it's obvious that a biker or hiker doesn't know this, educate them diplomatically.

Check all your tack to be sure it hasn't dry rotted and that it still fits a horse that may have lost or gained weight over the winter.

Be aware of your horse's level of conditioning. The following comes from the June 2011 edition of Equus, "If your horse has been relatively inactive for more than eight weeks, his muscles and tendons aren't as strong or as flexible as they were last time you rode. Start off with trotting and add loping or cantering in the following week."

If you are trailering, be sure to bring water for your horses with you. Many public areas don't have their faucets turned on until the risk of frost is past. Your horse will be especially thirsty if it's a warm spring day and they still have a lot of their winter coat left.

Be sure you've sent in your TROT renewal so that you can participate in the scheduled TROT trail rides.

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.

Benson Branch Park Sandy Brewer
Email sandbrewer@aol.com

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

Croom, Md area, South of PG Equestrian Center
I am the trail historian for this area. I can keep you riding over different trails for 6 hours! People would leave from my farm in Croom & can ride to Patuxent River Park (Jug Bay), the Wildlife Sanctuary and Spice Creek Park. I am available Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon as a tour guide.
Carol CAAuletta@aol.com or (301) 579-2342

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 Greenway 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

Gunpowder State Park (Harford County)
Joyce Browning (410) 557-6165 / (443) 966-0249

Little Bennett Park
Jim and Maureen Henry (301) 371-4868.

Montgomery Agricultural History 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

West Friendship Park and the North Tract of Patuxent Wildlife Refuge Research Center near Ft Meade
Kathy Coviello, 732-768-3302.

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

LOOKING FOR RIDING BUDDIES and NEED A RIDE/SHARE A RIDE

This section of the Newsletter is for folks who are looking for riding partners – either for meeting up on the trail or for sharing a trailer ride. Linking up with other trail riders is fun – and economical! We want to provide a forum space for people looking for a traveling partner, so please write to the TROT Newsletter at nlosgood@verizon.net.

Looking for a horse to go on TROT rides. I would like to ride your horse (if you have an extra one) on a TROT trail ride. I rode for 20 years, but have not recently. I am in the Ellicott City/Catonsville area. I would be happy to share all expenses. Contact: Susan Doukas 443-842-0811 . email: sdoukashorse@yahoo.com 5/11

I really want this.

How much should I raise the bid?



Now that I have decided what I need in TROT ware, please help me find my size.

Annual Dinner and Silent Auction

Who's Who in TROT

<u>OFFICERS</u> <u>President</u> Pat Talbott (301) 704-3871 tallyhotazz@aol.com	<u>Vice President</u> TBD	<u>Secretary</u> Judy Thacher (301) 943-5298 jathacher@yahoo.com	<u>Treasurer</u> Susan Railey susanrailey@verizon.net
<u>BOARD MEMBERS</u> Vera Fontana (301) 633-8372 fontanavera@yahoo.com Kyle Jossi (301) 570-3860	Laury Lobel laurylobel@verizon.net Pat Merson (301) 898-3251 lilgrevhrs@aol.com	Br. Roger Nelson 240-372-9494 rogersds@comcast.net Pat Oliva 410-489-7380 patolivatigger@aol.com	Maria Schwartz 301-906-6089 mariaeschwartz@verizon.net Barbara Sollner-Webb 301-604-5619 bsw@jhmi.edu
<u>COMMITTEES</u> <u>Membership</u> Margaret Scarff mdanews@aol.com	<u>Newsletter</u> Nancy Osgood/Sim Shanks nlosgood@verizon.net <u>Trail Rides</u> Lisa Troutman cat.home@verizon.net	<u>Trail Maintenance</u> Amy Kimble AmvHKimble@aol.com <u>Mapping Project</u> Ron MacNab rmacnab@comcast.net	<u>Web Master</u> Harold Goldstein mdbiker@goldray.com
<u>COUNTY</u> ** = Coordinators * = Contacts <u>Anne Arundel</u> **Diane Ayers (410) 551-0832 dianeayers@verizon.net <u>Baltimore</u> Vacant <u>Calvert</u> Vacant <u>Carroll</u> **Anne Bennof (301) 829-0949 trotfour@aol.com <u>Cecil</u> **Jeanne Bond halevfonfarm1@hotmail.com	<u>Charles</u> **Dr. Kathy Blanche (240) 320-4385 jbservs@peoplepc.com <u>Fredrick</u> **Pat Merson (301) 898-3251 lilgrevhrs@aol.com <u>Harford</u> **Karen Penharlow (410) 236-9365 KlawPaws@aol.com <u>Howard</u> **Pat Oliva (410) 489-7380 patolivatigger@aol.com <u>Montgomery</u> **Ron MacNab (301) 622-4157 rmacnab@comcast.net	<u>Prince George's</u> **Lynn Gulley (410) 707-8094 equinedesigner@gmail.com <u>Fairland Regional Park</u> *Mary Angevine (301) 937-0014 <u>Broad Creek Hist. District</u> *Dave Turner (301) 292-6130 <u>St. Mary's</u> **Kathy Glockner (301) 475-1941 kglockner@md.metrocast.net <u>Talbot</u> Vacant	<u>Washington</u> **Susan Rechen (301) 298-4119 rechens@si.edu <u>Wicomico County</u> **Shawn McEntee (410) 749-2665 smc1159@verizon.net <u>Virginia</u> <u>Front Royal</u> *Karen Young (540) 635-5136 karen@friesianfields.com <u>Upper Shenandoah Valley area</u> *Karen Young (540) 635-5136 karen@friesianfields.com

Welcome New Members

Margaret Scarff, TROT Membership

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>County</u>					
Barbara	Zappia	Rising Sun	MD	Cecil					
Bonnie	Snodgrass	Indian Head	MD	Charles					
Gail	Suter	Mt Airy	MD	Frederick					
Betsy	Smith	Fallston	MD	Harford					
Janet	Free	Joppa	MD	Harford					
Laurel	Santamarina	Columbia	MD	Howard					
Jocelyn	Stevens	Columbia	MD	Howard					
Karen	Neff	Dayton	MD	Howard					
Margie	Shultz	Beallsville	MD	Montgomery					
Jennifer	Poole	Burtonsville	MD	Montgomery					
Marilyn E.	Hess	Olney	MD	Montgomery					
Kathy	Lipton	Silver Spring	MD	Montgomery					
Tara	Roberts	Greenbelt	MD	Prince George's					
Jill	Cotten	Laurel	MD	Prince George's					
Andy	Jackson	Locust Grove	VA	Orange					

CLASSIFIED ADS

To place an ad email: nlogood@verizon.net
TROT Members: One regular (100 word) ad FREE!

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

BOARDING , HORSE PROPERTY

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. Prefer retired, semi-retired, or non-showing horses.

Also several nice horses available for lease
Contact Debby at Debby.Poole@Juno.com or 301-641-9594



West Laurel Stable – Horse Boarding at its best!

We provide a friendly and relaxed environment for pleasure riding. You and your horse will feel very comfortable. Riders will enjoy the new 80 x 200 ft ring and access to the beautiful trails on the WSSC watershed (also known as the Rocky Gorge or Supplee trails). Your horse will enjoy the quiet landscape with rolling hills and nice pastures, and will receive excellent care by our dedicated staff. Come see our barn, conveniently located in West Laurel. Call John at 301-332-2688 to arrange a visit. \$425/per month stall board.



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.

Affordable Horse Boarding Available! 5 beautiful acres in Gaithersburg that include two pastures, a four stall stable barn with run-in shelters, tack room, hay loft, and water and electric. Property is nicely secluded with a natural spring and backs Seneca Creek State Park and riding trails. Full or partial board is available and pricing is negotiable. Location is off of Turkey Foot Rd in 20878 zip code. If interested call Steve at 703-887-1799. 11/11

For Rent: Two-bedroom house on horse farm in Potomac, Maryland. Cozy and private with lots of open space. Just renovated. \$1,500 per month. Horse Board an optional extra. 301-926-2191

HORSES - SALE, LEASE OR FREE

Horses for lease Several horses available for lease: 1) 15.2 H, paint geld. Uncomplicated, easy ride. Great trail horse. 2) 16.2H, grey TB mare. Well schooled, hunts, jumps, trail rides. Different lease options available. Call 301-943-9975 3/12

Horse For sale: PASO FINO MARE 13.1H 12 years old bay smooth has done over night camping. Trailers clips ties \$1500. Theone 443-472-2483. Westminster 3/12

FREE to good home. Personable Arab gelding, 17 yrs old. Pasture sound. UTD on all shots, worming, dental work, etc. Loves attention. Great companion animal. Contact Judy at 301-972-1905 or email

joanjake5@yahoo.com.

3/12

Two horses for Lease or Half-lease: (1) 17 hand Hanovarian gelding, gentle, for a somewhat experienced rider. He is ridden by my 12 and 15 year old daughters, non-spooky, very soft mouth, English or Western. (2) Dark bay Quarter horse gelding. Non-spooky - excellent for children or first time riders, soft mouth, can ride English or Western. For info call Carol at 240-447-5186 7/11

MISC. - TRAILERS, SADDLES, TACK, ETC.

For Sale: used RO-TO harrow. In good condition. Great for riding rings. needs teeth. \$500 or best offer. FMI, please call Margaret Scarff at 410-692-6921. 5/11

SERVICES

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Pat Talbott 301-704-3871.

5/11

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Patty Lynch (301) 693-3866
Email: ms.patty.lynych@gmail.com

**PA RANGERS 2012 SPRING
JUDGED PLEASURE RIDE**

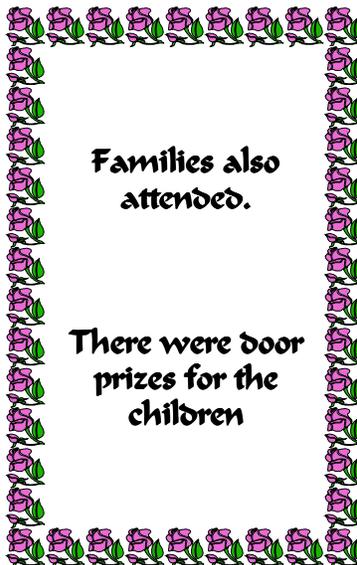
- Sunday April 15, 2012 at Codorus State Park Hanover, PA
- 6 miles 6 obstacle event

- Registration begins at 9am, first riders out at 10am
 - This is a rain or shine event
 - Cost is \$20 prior to April 1st or \$25 day of event
- For more information and registration contact Susan at 717-225-1730 or sfogarty@comcast.net



Mother and Daughter

Annual Dinner 2012



**Families also
attended.**

**There were door
prizes for the
children**



Wife and Husband



The Back Page

from the Newsletter Staff

It's Spring! After two terrible riding winters, we finally lucked out! Even the fair-weather folks (like us!) have been out riding all winter. So we all (horses and riders) should be fit and ready to go on some nice organized trail rides. Our trail ride coordinator, Lisa Troutman, has already lined up some of our favorite rides – the first one is this month! Lisa is still looking for people who can lead rides this year. Please consider volunteering to lead a ride through your favorite trails – it is a great way to meet other riding enthusiasts – and to really contribute a great service to TROT!

Thank you to our new members and to our renewing members! Many new folks heard about TROT at the Maryland Horse World Expo held in January. Some enthusiastic TROT members staffed our beautiful booth – and spread the word about our dedication to trail riding. We gained a number of new members – trail riders that share our determination to preserve equestrian trails throughout the state. Welcome! Please don't ever forget that our strength is in our numbers – and in our dedicated volunteers!



TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY
Margaret Scarff, TROT Membership
4406 Carico Lane White Hall, MD 21161

First Class

**Inside
This
Issue
page 1**