



Trail Riders Of Today

Dedicated to maintaining and expanding sustainable trails for equestrian use.

www.trot-md.org

Get your friends to join - the higher TROT's membership, the more effective is its lobbying for trails!

July, 2017

Founded 1980

Number 222

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Message from Newsletter Editor	1
October Obstacle Training Ride	1
Great Offer - FREE Horse Clinic	1-2
TROT's NEW Website	2
Trail Riding Etiquette	2
Trail Work	3
Upcoming TROT Trail Rides	3-5
Past TROT Trail Rides	5-6
Best of America TV Show Update	7
TROT Hot Tricks	7
Go Green on your Newsletter	7
Riding Your Green Horse	8
County Reports	8
Information Needed, Please!	8
Board Meeting Summaries	9
Trail Guides	9
A Beautiful Solution	10
Classified Ads	10
Up-To-Date TROT Info	11
Welcome, New Members	11
Who's Who In TROT	11
Special Thanks	11

[Articles without attribution are from the Newsletter Editor]

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Gale Monahan

I hope everyone is enjoying getting out on their horses. We have had a few stretches of nice weather. I also want to remind folks that our horses also suffer in the heat. So when we ride in hot weather, try to ride early as it is not as hot; and we need to take more and longer rest breaks. I know first hand how a horse suffers if overheated. Make sure you have water at your trailer to sponge down your horse as well as for him to drink.

When on rides with others, please be sure to ride in a group that is going at the pace you wish to ride. If you are given permission to canter ahead, please do not canter back towards the group. It is safer for the entire group if you walk slowly back or just wait for the group to catch up. Many horses do not take kindly to horses charging at them.

Our new website is progressing nicely. We have a new webmaster who will be doing what Harold Goldstein did for us for many years. I want to thank Harold for his years of volunteering and for how well he did it. Our new webmaster is Susan Montgomery. She comes with some very impressive credentials including over 20 years of IT experience.

Everyone, mark your calendars for October 21 – TROT's trail obstacle ride at Schooley Mill Park in Howard County. It will be a day of fun. Since it is in October, there will be a prize for the best horse and rider costume. We will have someone at each obstacle to help any horse and rider through safely. Come join us and bring a friend. More below.

Barbara Sollner-Webb, our newsletter editor and trail ride coordinator has been overseas on a family emergency for several weeks. I am surprised that she has the energy and tenacity for putting together this newsletter. I believe we all need to thank her for her incredible dedication to TROT.

MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Thank you, Gale, for those very supportive words. I want to greatly thank Sim Shanks for most kindly offering to email out the newsletter when it had seemed near impossible from here, until we just found a work-around.

UPCOMING COACHED "OBSTACLE TRAINING RIDE"

from Deneen Martin

As reported in the last newsletter, TROT will hold a non-judged Obstacle Training Ride at Schooley Mill Park on Saturday, October 21, 2017 (rain date Saturday, October 28). There will be coaches to help you with the obstacles, as needed. Follow the Schooley Mill trails through spooky pre-Halloween. There will also be an award for the best costumed horse and rider, with your picture in the TROT newsletter. This obstacle event will be free for TROT members. If you bring a guest to the event, they pay a \$25 entry fee that includes a year membership to TROT – or they can just join TROT for \$20.

Volunteers are always needed and very appreciated. Contact Deneen Martin at [<deneenmartin7@gmail.com>](mailto:deneenmartin7@gmail.com) or 301-467-5335. More information to come in the September TROT newsletter.

FREE CLINIC: LAME OR SOUND, CHOPPY OR SMOOTH – IT'S ALL IN THE RIDING! (well, almost all) – Saturday, August 26

from Susan Gray

As also reported in the last newsletter, White Wine and Clarrett Farm (home of TROT members Susan Gray and Mike Caruso) is offering a FREE evening clinic on the importance of riding correctly to keep our horses sound, happy, well-moving and responsive. A second but equally important focus is the use of progressive and varied exercises to develop the horse's physical ability to move comfortably and well while carrying a rider. [This is not a TROT-sponsored event.] *[continued on next page]*

This clinic will be given by Kendle Buffington, a former eventer, classically trained in dressage, from Nottingham, PA. She has a real knack for identifying and explaining in plain English what the horse and rider need to do to move in greater harmony and how the rider should communicate this to the horse. These skills are the foundation for all horse disciplines and make for much more pleasurable and controlled trail riding. Just ask Mike Caruso, who has been working with Kendle for a couple of years and has seen such amazing transformations in their horses that he and Susan have asked Kendle to give a clinic for fellow riders.

One of the demonstrations will be using Avalon, a Hanoverian with exquisite pedigree who was given to them by a fancy-dancy breeding farm because they said he was unsound to sell. After trail riding him for two years, throughout which he appeared sound, they donated him to MNCPPC as a police horse – but he was returned as unsound on all four legs. Working with Kendle has demonstrated that Avalon is perfectly sound, not only for trail riding but also for jumping and dressage, if ridden correctly. But if ridden incorrectly, he can appear lame. The second demonstration will be using a sweet fat pony who, if not balanced correctly, takes tiny, choppy strides and spooks a lot, but if ridden well (balanced and not too far forward) has long, beautiful strides and is very much less inclined to spook.



This event will be on **Saturday, August 26** at Susan and Mike's indoor arena in Highland, MD. The plan is a potluck dinner at 5 PM followed by the clinic from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Please RSVP to Susan at [<susan@campsusan.com>](mailto:susan@campsusan.com) for specifics, to reserve your spot, and to learn the location. **[Thanks so much for this kind offer, Kendle, Susan and Mike!]**

GO VISIT TROT'S NEW WEBSITE (yes, it still is [<www.TROT-MD.com>](http://www.TROT-MD.com))

The TROT board profusely thanks Harold Goldstein for his excellent work as our webmaster over many years, and he now deserves a vacation from this work. And we most appreciatively welcome Susan Montgomery who is taking over as TROT's website guru. In conjunction with Mythic Landing Enterprises, a WordPress website has now been developed and will be online very soon (maybe even before you read this newsletter). We hope you feel it looks more modern (it certainly will be easier to manipulate than the older-style HTML website). This new website will retain features that TROT members have expressed a liking for over the years, including containing information about TROT, listing the upcoming TROT rides (which should be kept up-to-date between newsletter editions), a library of maps and information on various trail riding venues (please contribute mapping data for your favorite venue if it is not already covered), and an archive of past TROT newsletters (with articles still searchable by keywords). So do go and check out the new TROT website. Your feedback will be appreciated.

TRAIL ETIQUETTE (several folks have requested rerunning this info from May 2013 newsletter)

Etiquette for Horse Riders *from Ron MacNab*

DO:

Do be friendly and considerate of others at all times.
Do ride only where you have specific permission from the land owner.
Do be sure the public trails you plan to ride permit horseback riding.
Do stay on the designated trail.
Do remove all manure and debris from the parking lot ASAP and certainly before you leave the parking lot.
Do greet and be courteous of others you meet along the trail.
Do walk slowly when passing others you meet on the trail.
Do carry a small hand clipper to trim branches/vines blocking the trail.
Do obey all park signs and regulations.
Do enjoy your horse and surroundings. It is a great privilege.

DON'T:

Don't ride when the ground is wet.
Don't create new trails or modify existing trails.

GROUP RIDES (in addition to the above):

Don't pass the ride leader.
Don't pass a horse suddenly without notifying the rider.
Don't leave the ride without telling the ride leader.
Don't be bossy or a grump.
Do bring a current Coggins test report to the ride.
Do keep a 5-10 foot distance from the horse in front..
Do alert others to hazards on the trail, e.g., holes/limbs.
Do show patience with your horse and the other riders.
If your horse kicks, tie a red ribbon to his tail and stay at the back of the line.

"Ms. Trail Manners"

from Kathy Coviello

While riding in a group, should you wish to increase the pace or change to a faster gait, it is polite to secure the consensus of all in the group. While you and your mount may feel comfortable going faster, such activity may unintentionally cause other horse/rider pairs to lose control, bolt, buck or otherwise misbehave.

One place where such instances often occur is where you are climbing a hill and your mount breaks into a trot or canter in order to more easily scale the hill. You should make every effort to keep your horse at a walk going up the hill, and should your mount spring into a trot or canter, call out (such as "heads up") to alert other riders that you are coming up quickly and unexpectedly behind them. This gives them a chance to take hold of their horses and prepare for any possible shenanigans that may ensue. The above explains some helpful trail manners to which everyone should aspire and which helps assure that everyone has a safe and enjoyable ride.

Note: While many riders know and observe such etiquette, many more do not, so this is meant as a helpful tip.

TRAIL WORK

Trail Work Challenge (it is for only two hours this year, so hardly challenging!)

information from Amy Kimble, TROT's Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator

Amy has challenged each TROT member to do **at least** two hours of trail work in 2017. Please report your trail work hours to her by text (301-748-8310) or email (<Amyhkimble@aol.com>) so that she can include your hours in the total she reports to the parks officials, which helps get increased funding for the parks. See article on this effort in the last TROT newsletter.

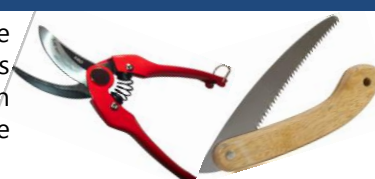
Many TROT members have reported their trail work hours to Amy. So far in 2017 they total 166 hours of volunteer trail work (through June 30). The following people have reported the listed number of hours since the last newsletter : Carolyn Rhodes 27.5, Deneen Martin - 36, Amy Kimble - 8.5, Andrea Steed - 8, Lynda Rogers - 6.5, Priscilla Huffman - 4, Donna O'Brien - 4, John O'Brien - 4, Ann Perry - 3.5, Dan Benz - 3.5, Patti Mathes - 3.5, Laury Lobel - 3, Donna Stillwell - 3, Nancy Osgood - 3, Sandra Flohr - 2, Linda Gasch - 1.5, Margaret Pursell - 1.5. Congratulations and big thanks to all of you!

To all: please do YOUR two trail work hours – and ideally many more hours -- and report them to Amy (contact info above).

Work on "your" trails

information from Amy Kimble, TROT's Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator

Please work on YOUR favorite trail, by clipping protruding branches and invasive undergrowth, moving fallen branches that obstruct the trail and even hand sawing fallen limbs that are too big to move. Go by yourself or ask a group of riding buddies to join, and do it on foot or when out riding your horse. If the work is part of a trail ride, estimate how much of the time you were working and/or were riding between sites that needed clipping.



As said, please report your trail work hours, also the date, location, and your name, to Amy Kimble, by texting (to 301-748-8310) or e-mailing (to amyhkimble@aol.com), as these hours benefit local parks' budgets.

Work at Seneca Creek and Patuxent River State Parks

from Ranger Erick Ledbetter

Please contact Ranger Erik Ledbetter (at <Erik.Ledbetter@maryland.gov>, 301-924-2127 [o] or 443-534-5837 [c]) to learn their trail work schedule, and then join them.

UPCOMING TROT TRAIL RIDES



Horses and riders ready for an earlier Rocky Gorge TROT ride, before splitting up into all-walk, walk-trot, and walk-trot-canter riding groups

TROT's trail rides are a fun and safe way to learn new trails, meet new riding buddies, and -- probably most important for TROT's mission -- help illustrate to riders the value of preserving trails. What better way to get acquainted with various trail systems in the area than on a TROT ride? To participate in a ride, please **contact the designated ride leader to sign up and learn the specifics of the ride, including the start time and meeting location**. Then if bad weather causes a ride to be postponed, the ride leader can notify you. All ride participants **must wear a helmet**, have a current negative Coggins for the horse, and be TROT members. Membership forms are at <<http://www.trot-md.org>> and at the rides; there are also \$5 one-day memberships to encourage non-TROT riders to join. For updated trail ride listings, please check the TROT and MarylandTrailRiders Yahoo list-serves (see page 11 to join).

Everyone is encouraged to announce our TROT rides widely and invite others to join, but to protect our ride program, please include all the above requirements and do not publicly announce any start time, so everyone coming must check with the ride leader.

Upcoming July Rides

Thursday, July 13 – Schooley Mill in Howard County – Debbie Wagner (<dwagner0602@gmail.com>)

Rain date Thursday, July 20. This venue is a favorite for riding, with great mounting blocks and very nice trails that are perfect for green horses. This will be a walk-only ride but you are welcome to break away to do trotting loops and then rejoin the group. And bring a lunch to eat together with the group after the ride.

[ride listings continue on next page]

p. 3

Saturday, July 15 – Catoctin Mountain, Thurmont, MD - Johnna Wheeler (<johnna@ikeptmypromise-book.com>, 301-293-3207) Come ride on top of Catoctin Mountain in the Frederick County Watershed. It is beautiful here, but some of the trails are rocky, so shoes or Easyboots are recommended. We will begin riding from the intersection of Tower Road and Gambrill Park Road. Pack a snack to enjoy during this 2-hour, all-walk ride. I look forward to enjoying your fellowship. By the way, it's cooler up here on the mountain during the hot days of summer. [Write-up from Johnna Wheeler.]

Thursday, July 27 – Annapolis Rock, in Upper Patuxent - Debbie Wagner (<dwagner0602@gmail.com>)

This venue is a favorite for riding. It is cooler here in the summer than you might expect because it is all in the shade and has the river for additional cooling. It will be a walk-only ride, but folks who want to go faster can ride away and then re-join the group. Bring a chair and your lunch to follow the ride. Drinks and dessert will be provided. [Write up from Debbie Wagner,]

[The ride earlier announced for Friday, July 28 at the NCR (North Central Railroad)/Torrey Brown trail, Freeland, MD unfortunately had to be cancelled due to medical issues in the families of both intended ride leaders preventing them from attending this event.]

August Rides

Sunday, August 6 - Morgan Run, Carroll County, MD - Leah Mack (<1ecofarmer@gmail.com>) A great venue!

We will ride 1.5-2 hours, followed by a potluck lunch. It will be walk/trot but if we have walk-only riders and someone able to lead, we can break up. Email me ahead if you want walk only and/or could lead that group. Almost all the trails are soft and grassy; we will try to avoid the few rocky places. Plan to bring water for your horse and for the potluck.

Thursday, August 10 – Little Bennett, Montgomery County, MD - Debbie Wagner (<dwagner0602@gmail.com>)

Another great ride. Rain date August 17. Bring a chair and your lunch to follow the ride. Drinks & dessert will be provided.

Saturday, August 26 – FREE clinic on perfecting riding skills – see page 1-2.

Thursday, August 31 – location to be determined - Laury Lobel (<Laurylobel@verizon.net>)

It will be a walk-only ride, but folks who want to go faster can ride away and then re-join the group. Bring a chair and your lunch to follow the ride. Drinks & dessert will be provided. More information to come.

September Rides

Sunday, September 10 – Potomac Riverside Stables, Poolsville, MD – Dana Grabiner (<grabine1@aol.com>)

This is a return of a favorite TROT ride. It will offer both all-walk and walk/trot/canter groups, going through lovely fields, out to the C&O canal and then back for a delicious luncheon.

Wednesday, September 13 – Gunpowder Falls State Park, Bunker Hill - Priscilla Huffman (301-646-4422, call or text, or <priscillahuffman@verizon.net>) Rain date Wednesday, September 20. This will be a walk-only ride,

mostly in the woods with some hills. There are places on this trail that are close to the edge of a stream as well as some steps built for erosion control, both uphill and downhill, so this is not a good ride for a green trail horse. There is a large paved parking lot at the end of Bunker Hill Road that can accommodate up to six trailers, so sign up early. The ride will be 1 ½ - 2 hours. Bring lunch and a chair if you wish to stay to eat. [Write-up from Priscilla Huffman.]

Thursday, September 14 – location to be determined – Debbie Wagner (<dwagner0602@gmail.com>)

Rain date Thursday, September 21. More information to come.

Saturday, September 16 – Catoctin, Thurmont, MD – Johnna Wheeler (<johnna@ikeptmypromise-book.com>, 301-293-3207) Come ride on top of Catoctin Mountain in the Frederick County Watershed. It is beautiful here, but some of the trails are rocky. See write-up for July 15 ride.

Saturday, September 23 – Fairland Park, near Burtonsville. MD - Barbara Sollner-Webb (<bsw@jhmi.edu>, 301-604-5619) and Debby Poole Rain date Saturday, September 30. We will again be riding these lovely trails with an all-walk and a faster group. See write-up for April 29 ride.

Thursday, September 28 – location to be determined - Laury Lobel (<Laurylobel@verizon.net>)

It will be a walk-only ride, but folks who want to go faster can ride away and then re-join the group. Bring a chair and your lunch to follow the ride. Drinks & dessert will be provided. More information to come.

October Rides

Sunday, October 1 – Riverbend Park, Great Falls, VA – Cecile Neuvens (<Cecile.neuvenus@gmail.com> or 703 622 3845) Come discover or re-discover trails just south of the Potomac River, in Virginia. The ride will start from the trailer parking lot of Riverbend Park and will take us along the Potomac Heritage trail, the Bootlegger and Carriage trails, and others in and between Riverbend Park and Great Falls National Park. Expect some hills, gravel, and some patches of rocks as well as hikers, picnic parties and mountain bikers. But first and foremost, expect some great views of the Potomac river and nice shade. Shoes or boots are recommended but horses with strong barefoot hooves should be fine. Considering the terrain, the ride will be mostly at a walk with some trotting here and there. The ride will cross a couple of streams but bring water for your horses for after the ride. Bring chairs and snacks for after the ride. The number of trailers that the parking can accommodate is limited, so sign up early and trailer pool as much as possible.

[ride listings continue on next page]

[Editor's note: If you have not ridden here, it is GORGEOUS; we are very fortunate to have this ride added!]

Saturday, October 7 - Greenwell State Park, St. Mary's County, MD - Kathy Glockner

([<kglockner@md.metrocast.net>](mailto:kglockner@md.metrocast.net)) **St. Mary's County TROT coordinator** Come enjoy scenic waterfront trails at Greenwell State Park. Greenwell is a 596-acre state park along the Patuxent River, managed in partnership with The Greenwell Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing outdoor accessible recreation. A key feature of the Foundation is their equestrian program dedicated to people with disabilities, returning veterans, and children. There are ten miles of trails along agriculture fields and in the woods, an easy level ride, with few slopes or hills, excellent for barefoot horses. There is one road crossing to reach a wooded trail. Riders can walk only or break off into faster groups. Trail maps will be provided. After the ride will be a get-together, so bring your own lunch and a chair. Bottled water will be provided. Learn more about the park and see their trail map at [<http://dnr2.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/parkmaps/greenwellmap.aspx>](http://dnr2.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/parkmaps/greenwellmap.aspx). Greenwell State Park is at 25420 Rosedale Manor Lane, Hollywood, MD. Once inside, take the first left and follow to the end to park on a grassy area. Bathrooms and water are available. There is a \$3 park fee payable at the entrance in an honor box, to support the Greenwell Foundation's park programs. [Write-up from Kathy Glockner.]

Thursday, October 12 - location to be determined - Debbie Wagner ([<dwagner0602@gmail.com>](mailto:dwagner0602@gmail.com))

Rain date Thursday, October 19. More information to come.

Saturday, October 14 - Little Bennett - Susan Ferrara ([<sferrara3663@hotmail.com>](mailto:sferrara3663@hotmail.com))

Rain date Sunday, October 15. This is a favorite riding venue. More information to come.

Saturday, October 21 - Patapsco Park: McKeldin Park to Woodstock Inn, Carroll County, MD -

Carolann Sharpe (410 908 5599 or [<blackandwhitecookie@yahoo.com>](mailto:blackandwhitecookie@yahoo.com)) Rain date Saturday, October 29. Our ride begins at McKeldin Park, which welcomes horse trailers to park by the basketball courts. The ride is all-walk, 1.5 hours to the Woodstock Inn restaurant along the Patapsco River and 1.5 hours to ride back. There are two water crossings. Depending on water levels, it can be swift moving water but still a very easy crossing. We tie up across from a train track.

Saturday, October 21 - Obstacle Training Ride, Schooley Mill Park, Howard County, MD - see page 1

[Apologies for two events on one day; this one was scheduled after the Woodstock Inn ride had already been announced.]

Thursday, October 26 - location to be determined - Laury Lobel ([<Laurylobel@verizon.net>](mailto:Laurylobel@verizon.net))

It will be a walk-only ride, but folks who want to go faster can ride away and then re-join the group. Bring a chair and your lunch to follow the ride. Drinks & dessert will be provided. More information to come.

Friday, October 27 - Rosaryville Halloween ride, Upper Marlboro, MD - Laura Colicchio (301-856-7540 or

[<lavenderlady19@verizon.net>](mailto:lavenderlady19@verizon.net)) We will ride at the beautiful 982-acre Rosaryville State Park, southwest of Upper Marlboro in Prince George's County. The timing is scheduled so that we should be riding through spectacular fall foliage. And come in a costume! The terrain can be hilly but shoes aren't necessary except for very tender-footed horses. We will be riding from Laura's house that abuts the park (not from the main park parking area). And after the ride Laura will host a delicious Bar-B-Q, so please bring something for the luncheon.

November Rides

Thursday, November 2 - WSSC's Rocky Gorge in Laurel, MD - Barbara Sollner-Webb ([<bsw@jhmi.edu>](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu), 301-

604-5619), co-leader: Terry Ledley - for whom the "Terry Ledley Trail" is named. Come ride along WSSC's beautiful Rocky Gorge Reservoir, celebrating TROT's efforts to reopen this trail a few years ago. This ride starts in West Laurel about five minutes from the Rt. 198 exit off I-95. It offers magnificent views of the reservoir, with a good chance of seeing heron and maybe an eagle. Despite the name, the footing is fine for barefoot horses, with plenty of easy stream crossings to water the horses. Terry will lead a walk-only group and Barbara a walk-trot (maybe a bit of canter) group. After the ~2 ½ hour ride, there will be a potluck lunch at Barbara's house, where your potluck contribution will have already been ferried. [See articles on this venue in the May, 2016 and September, 2014 newsletters.]

Thursday, November 9 - location to be determined - Debbie Wagner ([<dwagner0602@gmail.com>](mailto:dwagner0602@gmail.com))

Rain date Tuesday, November 16. More information to come.

Saturday, November 18 - Anacostia Park Ride, College Park, MD - John Angevine (301-937-0014)

A favorite TROT ride to close TROT's organized trail riding season. This is a fantastic ride with many special views, including the Lincoln Cemetery and Bladensburg Waterfront. We will travel along the Anacostia River on a very nice path, traversing over and under bridges and roads, passing playgrounds and outdoor workout equipment. A great ride to give green horses experience with hikers, bikers, dogs, and strollers.

PAST TRAIL RIDES SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

We had ten TROT trail rides scheduled since the last newsletter, but unfortunately Mother Nature's rainstorms and wet ground caused five to be cancelled -- Kathy Glockner's planned ride at Greenwell State Park on Thursday, May 18, now rescheduled for Saturday, October 7; Barbara Sollner-Webb's and Terry Ledley's planned ride at the Rocky Gorge on Saturday, May 20 and its rain date on May 27, now rescheduled for Thursday, November 2; Laury Lobel's planned ride at Annapolis Rock on Thursday, May 25; and Priscilla Huffman's planned ride at Bunker Hill on Wednesday, June 7, now rescheduled for Wednesday, September 13. However, TROT members were able to enjoy five rides, reported on the next page.

Blue Mash ride

from Debbie Wagner, ride leader

Finally, a planned TROT ride that wasn't rained out! Laury Lobel, Nancy Osgood, Linda Gasch, Margaret Purcell, and Debbie Wagner enjoyed the second-Thursday ride on June 8 at Blue Mash. This is the venue just across Rt. 108 from the Ag Farm in Montgomery County. It has nearly flat terrain, great footing and is mostly shady. It was a beautiful riding day. We enjoyed seeing which plants were flowering or fruiting and the occasional deer. As we walked around a pond, we came upon two boys fishing, one of whom cast his line just as our horses were passing -- a reminder to us that we need to loudly state our presence and expectations of behavior!



*[photo from
Debbie Wagner]*

Ag Farm ride

from Deneen Martin, ride leader

On June 10, 2017 at the Montgomery County Ag Farm Park there was a joint ride with TROT and Saddle Pals. Saddle Pals had to change venue on short notice, and there were a total of 19 riders with a few Huzzies on Hooves in attendance. We broke into three small groups and had about a two hour ride, meeting afterward for lunch and good conversation. It was a very enjoyable event and there were riders from as far as Annapolis and Severn. Thank you all that came and made it a great time.



*[photo provided
by Deneen Martin]*

Woodstock ride

from Janet Buck, ride leader

What a great day for the nine riders at the Woodstock Equestrian Park in Dickerson, MD on June 24th. The park site is within the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve and features 872 acres of farmland and 16 miles of equestrian trails. Although the forecast called for potential rain, the day turned out to be beautiful -- perfect for a morning ride. We split into two groups to accommodate those with a preference for walking and those looking for a faster pace. Both groups circled fields of wheat and corn, and escaped the sun by riding through a few sections of woods, and eventually rode past the old Seneca Stone Barn. We then enjoyed a short social time post-ride with vegetables and dip, fruit, and other snacks. Although I didn't see it with my own eyes, it was rumored that a few riders enjoyed an early snack of mulberries out on the trail!



*[ride co-leader
Marcella Morgese]*

*[photo
from Janet]*

Ag Farm ride from Laury Lobel, ride leader

On a bright sunny day with low humidity, on June 29, eight TROT members enjoyed a last Thursday of the month ride at the Agricultural Farm Park. We rode for two hours in the best riding venue in Montgomery County (in my opinion). The woods were cool, and a slight breeze prevailed to keep the bugs away. It was a glorious ride through beautifully maintained trails. After the ride, we sat in the shade with the horses grazing around us to enjoy our lunch and chat. It was a good time, and a lovely way to spend the day!

Nancy Osgood, Linda Gasch, Margaret Purcell, Debby Wagner, Flo Arnold & Laury Lobel (not shown: Kim Thrasher & Deneen Martin)



[photo from Laury Lobel]

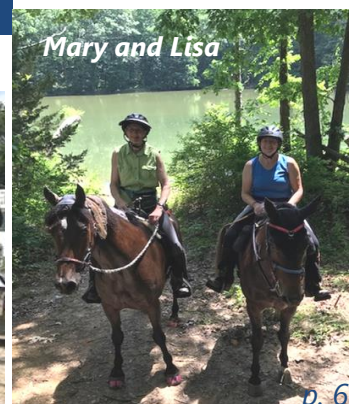
Liberty ride

from Mary Prowell, ride leader

In spite of a very warm weather forecast and threat of thunderstorms, three of us met at 9:30 on Saturday, July 1 for a ride at Liberty Reservoir. Lisa Troutman and Mary Prowell on their Morgans (Tommy and Cal) and Yancy Carey (on her TB Little Man) found the overcast skies and breeze kept the temperature down to a comfortable level. The reservoir is always a good place to ride with views of the water from the fire road and some trails through the woods. All three horses liked to go, so we did a fair amount of trotting with some really nice canters thrown in on some long mostly level stretches. All in all we rode nine miles in 2 1/2 hours. This is really a very pretty place to ride with mostly good footing. We all had a fun time.



[photos from Mary Prowell]



Mary and Lisa

UPDATE ON TRAIL RIDE FOR THE *BEST OF AMERICA BY HORSEBACK* TV SHOW

info from Ross Peddicord, Executive Director of the Maryland Horse Industry Board

At the last TROT Annual Dinner, an intriguing idea was presented to the membership, and then the past few newsletters have run articles on it – a possible trail ride to be filmed for the *Best of America by Horseback* television show. This effort is being spearheaded by Ross Peddicord, Executive Director of the Maryland Horse Industry Board. It was hoped that this event would happen this fall. However, Ross just informed me of their decision to hold this event at Fair Hill, and their scheduling issues require that this event be postponed until 2018. Do stay tuned for more information, as it becomes available.

Associated Clarification

from Carolann Sharp

In the May newsletter, I was quoted as stating the LOMH would have to change their Invitational Weekend event to the prior weekend to accommodate the possibility of taking part in the TV production. I did not suggest that. I had stated that the weekend of October 6-8 is already a paid event for the League of Maryland Horsemen. With this being said, if the weekend of Sept 30th is now the focus, then I would be willing to address the board to provide a host location for the event.

TROT HOT TRICKS

from Dana Grabiner

(Adapted from www.equisearch.com: "50 Trail Ride Tips and Tricks," by Juli Thorson of *Horse & Rider* magazine.)

Try these when you just *have* to ride when it's 90°F or warmer. If you don't have all the items, you can get them at a dollar store. If you have similar tips to share, email the newsletter editor so we can publish them in the next issue.

1. **Soak a bandanna in cold water** and tie it loosely around your neck. The back of your neck acts as a sort of thermostat and the cooled fabric helps it regulate your body temperature.
2. **Carry a battery-operated personal fan.** Of course, acclimate your horse to the whirring sound before you use the unit from the saddle.
3. **Tie a thick bathing sponge to a cord or string** long enough to reach the ground from the saddle. At water crossings, drop the sponge to soak it. Pull it up and squeeze water – making sure not to swallow it – onto the back of your neck, your wrists, or the front of your shirt and even on the horse's neck or croup. Again, before you ride, acclimate your horse to feeling dribbling water while he or she is under saddle.
4. **Block the sun.** Wear sunblock (15 SPF minimum) on all exposed skin, such as the back and sides of your neck, your ears, lips, and forearms. While a T-shirt or tank top might be your usual summer wear, consider covering your skin with a light, loose, long-sleeved shirt – like a beach cover-up or something like that shown in the photo at the right – rather than expose your skin to sunbake.
5. **Drink cold water at regular intervals.** It'll hydrate you and keep your body's core from overheating.
6. **Bring a water-misting bottle** and spray yourself from the saddle. Even in humidity, a light spray will refresh you. Before you ride, acclimate your horse to the "Prsst!" sound of the spritz.
7. A bare head is a sun-cooked one, so **cover your head** with a beach hat or ball cap while you catch your horse, groom, and tack up. (You'll wear a helmet while you ride, of course. Consider a summer style with extra ventilation.



[from Dana Grabiner]

Comment from your newsletter editor: *To this valuable list of ideas, Gale added some more useful ideas in her President's Message. To me the above list seems somewhat egocentric, because six and a half of the seven listed ideas are to help keep the rider comfortable, while only half of one of these ideas is to help keep the horse comfortable -- which seems unfair to the horse, who is doing all the hard work of trail rides. Rather, the first four items on my hot weather riding "to do" list are to:*

1. *Thoroughly wet down the horse's chest, neck and rump before mounting.*
2. *Bring along on the ride a BIG bottle of water to keep re-wetting the horse's neck and chest every so often during the ride (on most sensible horses you can do this safely from the saddle).*
3. *If the horse has not completely shed out the winter coat, a good shaving is invaluable.*
4. *Also, I always ride in shorts and sandals in hot weather, even though this is not normally considered approved riding attire.*

This is just my 2 cents of how to best deter the effect of the heat, but I find they make an enormous difference in how my lceys and I tolerate riding on hot days!

GO GREEN ON YOUR TROT NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

Are you a TROT member who receives the newsletter by U.S. mail, with pictures only in black and white? Maybe you'd prefer to receive the e-mailed version that has full-color pictures, arrives several days earlier, and saves TROT printing and mailing costs? If so, please contact membership chair Jim Carter at <trotmembership@yahoo.com> to change TROT's records.

Try these tips to make your youngster's first few trail rides a good experience. Share more good ideas about introducing a green horse to trail riding, and we'll publish them!

- 1. Pair a green horse with a veteran trail horse**, preferably one who's proved to be compatible. Your "baby" will feel more secure having a buddy on the trail, especially if you need to negotiate unfamiliar obstacles such as streams and bridges. (And if you're the one with the experienced horse, check in frequently with the other rider to make sure he or she is still OK with your speed and route.)
- 2. Avoid extended conversations with the other rider(s)** so you can focus on your youngster. Green horses need confident guidance in new situations such as the first few times on a trail, and you'll be able to provide it more effectively when you aren't distracted. If your riding buddy knows anything about green horses, he or she won't mind the lack of chat. (How many of us have landed on the ground when we weren't tuning in carefully enough to our green mounts?)
- 3. Keep your initial outings from being marathons.** Don't make your youngster's first few trail rides so long that he or she (or you!) ends up physically or mentally exhausted. Keep the rides moderately short, especially if your "baby" feels insecure about leaving the barnyard and tends to rush on the way home. Build your green horse's physical and mental endurance gradually and make trails rides enjoyable for both of you.

COUNTY/AREA COORDINATOR REPORTS

Baltimore County

from Priscilla Huffman, Baltimore County Coordinator

Ride in Gunpowder Falls State Park

Our June 7 Bunker Hill ride had to be cancelled due to wet trails. We are rescheduling for Wednesday, September 13th. Weekdays are best for parking at the large Bunker Hill parking lot, as it tends to get crowded on the weekends. Please contact Priscilla Huffman at 301-646-4422 or <priscillahuffman@verizon.net> for details on the ride.

Practice your trail app!

We have some interest in a ride where you can practice using your trail app. One of the easiest is appropriately named EASYTRAILS. If you already have Easytrails downloaded, but still are unsure of how to use the features, join us for a morning ride in late July. We are coordinating a date that is convenient to several people who are interested. If you haven't downloaded a trail app yet, learn more at <www.easytrailsgps.com>. Our goal for the ride would be to create a map, and learn how to rename and save it. Contact Priscilla Huffman at 301-646-4422 if you are interested in joining this ride.

Watch the Volunteer Mounted Patrol at the State Fair

On Sunday, August 27th, the Gunpowder VMP group will take part in the State Fair parade at Timonium fairgrounds. Come see old firetrucks, marching bands and other mounted groups. The parade begins at 6 PM.

MY **MARYLAND**
STATE FAIR
unFAIRgettable

GRAND PARADE CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2017

AT 6 P.M.

PARADE INCLUDES MARCHING BANDS, WALKING AND
PERFORMING GROUPS, FLOATS, VEHICLES AND NOVELTY UNITS
AND HORSE GROUPS



Anne Arundel County

from Jacquie Cowan, Anne Arundel County Coordinator

Here are updates on our efforts on some Anne Arundel County riding venues:

Bacon Ridge ... there has been no progress to report from the county committee, but I am doing my best to keep them from forgetting about horses --- we have not had representation for the last several years, so I have ground to make up.

Rockhold Farm Project ... also no progress to report as the leader of this project has had her own family / health challenges and this is an awful time of year to be in that area due to nasty bug monsters.

Please respond to a survey (<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07eeann7yjj44aeamp/_tmp/questions>) from Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks and advocate for more equestrian opportunities. They are looking for feedback on their facilities, services and programs. When I filled out this survey, I wrote "more equestrian opportunities" everywhere I could.

PLEASE, WE WANT & NEED YOUR INFORMATION, NEWS AND PHOTOS FOR THE NEWSLETTER! Please send them to the newsletter editor, at <bsw@jhmi.edu>

Summary of May 3, 2017 TROT Board meeting – held at the home of Gale Monahan.

Participants: Gale Monahan (President), Deneen Martin (Vice President), Dana Grabiner (BD – via teleconference), Terry Ledley (BD), Laury Lobel (BD), Barbara Sollner-Webb (BD), Debbie Wagner.

Treasurer's report was accepted; review of April Board meeting minutes deferred until June.

To date, TROT has 325 members.

Planning is underway for a obstacle training ride at Schooley Mill Park on October 21; rain date October 28.

2018 annual meeting and dinner will be at the Howard County Fairgrounds; volunteers are needed to organize the dinner.

Best of America on Horseback - a TV series planned for Fair Hill Park; Carolann Sharpe, of the League of Maryland Horsemen, is the contact for the event.

County Coordinator Reports – Please see County Reports section of the newsletter.

Summary of June 7, 2017 TROT Board meeting – held at the home of Barbara Sollner-Webb & Denis Webb.

Participants: Gale Monahan (President), Jean McKay (Secretary), Janet Whelan (Treasurer – via teleconference), Dana Grabiner (BD – via teleconference), Terry Ledley (BD), Laury Lobel (BD), Leah Mack (BD – via teleconference), Susan Montgomery, Debbie Wagner, Denis Webb (and Chester).

Treasurer's report was accepted; May Board meeting minutes approved with edits.

As of June 5, TROT has 393 members.

The Board discussed the first draft of the new website; changes/edits were sent to Mythic Landing Enterprises. It is anticipated that the website will be available in mid-July.

Susan Montgomery, of Sykesville, is the co-County Coordinator for Howard County, along with Pat Oliva.

Clarified that the clinic offered by TROT member Susan Gray (information published in the May newsletter) is not a TROT-sponsored event.

County Coordinator Reports – Please see County Reports section of the newsletter.

TRAIL GUIDES

The following volunteers are willing to show TROT members their favorite trails on an individual basis. Please just contact them to arrange a personally guided trail ride. And if you would be willing to occasionally show another trail to others, please contact Barbara Sollner-Webb (<bsw@jhmi.edu>, 301-604-5619) to join this list of generous volunteers.

Agricultural History Farm Park ("Ag Farm") (Montgomery County, MD) Deneen Martin 301) 253-2955

Annapolis Rock (Montgomery County side, MD) Deneen Martin 301-253-2955

Benson Branch Park (between Folly Quarter Road and Tridelphia Road, Ellicott City, MD) Sandy Brewer sandbrewer@aol.com

Catoctin Mountain Park (Thurmont, MD) Marilyn Miller 301-898-7274

Cedarville Park (Upper Marlboro, MD) Rebecca King family1one@msn.com or 240-346-7942

Codorus Park (Hanover, PA) Ivy Smink smink.ivy@gmail.com 410-875-5691

Doncaster State Forest (Charles County, MD) Rebecca King family1one@msn.com or 240-346-7942

Fairland Park (Burtonsville, MD) Barbara Sollner-Webb bsw@jhmi.edu or 301-604-5619

Frederick County Watershed, Catoctin Mountain between Gambrill State Park and Cunningham Falls State Park.

(Thurmont, MD) Weekend afternoons. Johnna Wheeler 301-293-1500 or johnna@ikeptmypromise-book.com

Greenwell Park (St. Mary's County, MD) Rebecca King family1one@msn.com or 240-346-7942

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

Liberty Reservoir (off Deer Park Road, Baltimore County, MD) Ivy Smink 410-875-5691 or smink.ivy@gmail.com

Little Bennett (Clarksburg, MD) Jim and Maureen Henry 301-676-5298; also Marilyn Miller 301-898-7274

Morgan Run (Carroll County, MD) Sue Donaldson swdonaldson@comcast.net; Ivy Smink 410-875-5691, smink.ivy@gmail.com

North Tract of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge (Laurel, MD) Barbara Sollner-Webb bsw@jhmi.edu or 301-604-5619

Patuxent River State Park (Montgomery County side, MD) Laury Lobel 301-774-9595 or laurylobel@verizon.net

Patuxent River State Park Allison Abernathy 703-603-0052

Patapsco State Park/McKeldin (Carroll, Baltimore and Howard counties MD) Carolann Sharp mathgoddess@verizon.net

Rachel Carson Conservation Park (Brookeville, MD) Laury Lobel 301-774-9595 or laurylobel@verizon.net

Rock Creek Park (Montgomery County, MD and into DC) Laury Lobel 301-774-9595 or laurylobel@verizon.net

Rocky Gorge Reservoir (Prince George's and Montgomery County) Barbara Sollner-Webb bsw@jhmi.edu or 301-604-5619

Rosaryville Park (Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, MD) Laura Colicchio 301-856-7540; lavenderlady19@verizon.net

Tridelphia Reservoir (Montgomery County) Barbara Sollner-Webb bsw@jhmi.edu or 301-604-5619

Union Mills/Kowomu Trail (Carroll County, MD) Ivy Smink 410-875-5691 or smink.ivy@gmail.com

Woodstock Equestrian Park (Beallsville, MD) Karen Kraushaar 301-208-0767 or kraushaar@verizon.net



BEAUTIFUL SOLUTION TO A CHALLENGING PROBLEM

from Kathy Lipton

The area along my very long driveway was difficult to mow. The terrain changes from flat to a foot below the driveway. Jack Price, from *Habitat Enhancers*, suggested planting wildflowers. While I hired *Habitat Enhancers* to do the work this spring, it seems like a fairly easy DIY project. Instructions are available on a number of websites, such as <americanmeadows.com> and <wildflowerfarm.com>.

The mix of wildflowers will bloom from spring until fall and will reseed. I enjoy watching the garden change every day with new and different flowers. The best things about the wildflower garden are that it is maintenance free, attracts pollinators and is truly beautiful.

CLASSIFIED ADS

To Place An Ad

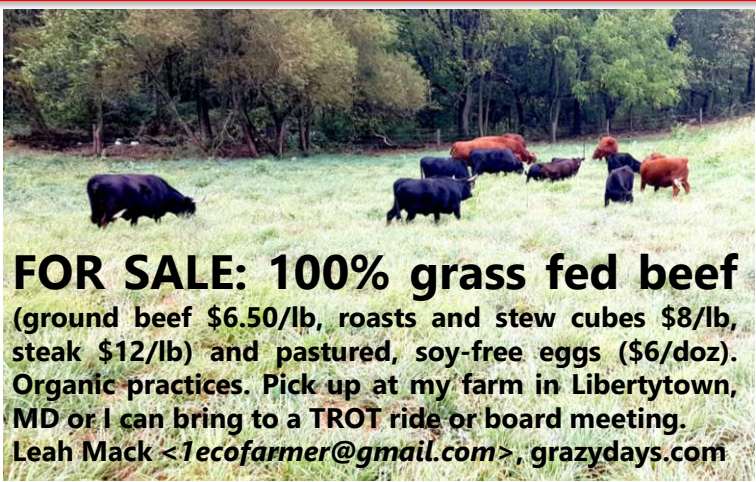
To place a newsletter ad, email the newsletter editor at <bsw@jhmi.edu>.

TROT Members can place one 100-word or business card-size ad in each issue of the newsletter **FOR FREE!** What a great deal! It will run in one issue unless you notify the editor by the 15th of the month before the next newsletter that you want it to run again. If TROT members want to run a larger ad, they get that \$6 off its rate (listed below).

Ad rates for non-members and larger ads:

100 words	\$6.00 (each additional word - \$0.10)
Business Card	\$6.00
1/4 page ad	\$25
1/2 page ad	\$40
Full page ad	\$75

Great Organically-Raised Farm Products from Leah Mack

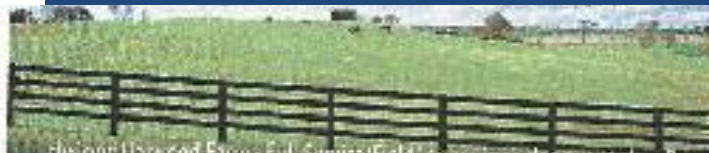


FOR SALE: 100% grass fed beef
(ground beef \$6.50/lb, roasts and stew cubes \$8/lb, steak \$12/lb) and pastured, soy-free eggs (\$6/doz). Organic practices. Pick up at my farm in Libertytown, MD or I can bring to a TROT ride or board meeting.
Leah Mack <1ecofarmer@gmail.com>, grazydays.com

Cat Neutering from Liuda Galinaitis

Low-cost cat spay/neuter clinic every other Sunday at Eldersburg Vet Hospital and every Friday in Marriottsville. Loaner traps are also available. Free barn cats available as well. Call 443-255-448 or email <ruth@metroferals.org> for more information or reservations.

Horse Boarding, Woodbine, MD



At Historic Harwood Farm -- Full Service Field Board. \$405 per month, which Includes quality hay and grain as needed, administration of routine meds, excellent care. The farm backs up to Patuxent State Park for miles of trail riding. There is a 100x200 outdoor arena, as well as automatic waterers, large paddocks, run-ins, wash stall (with hot and cold water), tack rooms, trailer parking, etc. Contact: Maxine, at 410-353-1236



Ride for the Reserve
FALL FARM BIKE TOUR
10th annual

Start/finish; Poolesville Golf Course

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
MONTGOMERY COUNTRYSIDE
ALLIANCE

Greetings! You are Invited! Join us October 8, 2017 for this 10th annual fall tradition. Gorgeous Ag Reserve views on routes from 10-75 miles, farm stops and a gourmet picnic with live music and cider tasting at Kingsbury's Orchard. New this year is a 10 mile loop suitable for families and novice riders - along with discounts for younger riders.

This event does sell out and there is early bird pricing - so hop to it! All proceeds from the ride benefit Montgomery Countryside Alliance's work to protect working farms on metro's edge.

Contact Ellen (at <ellen@mocoalliance.org> or 248-683-9678) to learn more.

Looking for a Horse from Donna Dunn

I'm currently looking for a trail ready horse, draft/draft cross, 15-16 HH, stocky for plus size person. Please contact me at <dunnd40@verizon.net>.

Gaited Lessons with Jacquie Cowan

Find Your Pleasure Gait with Jacquie Cowan, specializing in softly gaited horses for trail and show. I also help build your confidence and trail skills. Contact Jacquie at <jacquiecowan@comcast.net> or 410-923-6157. p. 10

UP-TO-DATE INFO ON TROT ACTIVITIES

TROT Website: www.trot-md.org

TROT Newsletter (current as well as older issues are at):

www.trot-md.org/newsletters.php

Barbara Sollner-Webb, Newsletter Coordinator

(bsw@jhmi.edu), 301-604-5619)

Maryland Trail Riders Yahoo group (and info to join):

<https://groups.yahoo.com/group/MarylandTrailRiders/info>

TROT Yahoo group (and info to join):

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/TROT-Members/info>

Facebook page -- TROT Trail Riders of Today

www.facebook.com/groups/127953560568829/

NEW MEMBERS

info from Jim Carter

Debra Anderson	Highland, MD
Dawn Anuszkiewicz	Sykesville, MD
Christine Bevilard	Mt. Airy, MD
Peggy Crusan	Charles Town, WV
Suzanne Dobson	Mottingham, MD
Jennifer Dieudonne	Spencerville, MD
Cassie Durand	Halethorpe, MD
Lawrence Fox	Columbia MD
Bianca Paterakis	Sparks, MD
Barbara Sullivan	Woodbine, MD

Welcome! We hope you enjoy TROT and help in TROT's mission of preserving sustainable trails!

WHO'S WHO IN TROT

POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE
President	Gale Monahan	gale.email2@gmail.com	(301) 854-3852
Vice President	Deneen Martin	deneenmartin7@msn.com	(301) 467-5335
Secretary	Jean McKay	40carrots@comcast.net	(301) 482-0681
Treasurer	Janet Whelan	janetwhelan@yahoo.com	(410) 790-1044
Additional Board members	Dana Grabiner	grabiner1@aol.com	(202) 412-7548
	Terry Ledley	terryledley@aol.com	(301) 520-3100
	Laury Lobel	laurylobel@verizon.net	
	Leah Mack	1ecofarmer@gmail.com	
	Pat Oliva	patolivatigger@aol.com	(410) 489-7380
	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	(301) 604-5619
Membership Chair	Jim Carter	trotmembership@yahoo.com	
Newsletter; mapping	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	(301) 604-5619
Trail Rides	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	(301) 604-5619
Adopt A Trail	Amy Kimble	amyhkimble@aol.com	(301) 748-8310
Web Master	Susan Montgomery	shadowsrider@yahoo.com	(410) 445-3138

COUNTY AND AREA COORDINATORS

Anne Arundel	Jacquie Cowan	jacquiecowan@comcast.net	(410) 215-4979/(410) 923-6157
Baltimore	Priscilla Huffman	priscillahuffman@verizon.net	(301) 646-4422
Cecil	Jeanne Bond	halcyonfarm@gmail.com	
Frederick	Pat Merson	lilgreyhrs@aol.com	(301) 898-3251
Harford	Dianna O'Neil	b.oneil1@verizon.net	(410) 215-0491
Howard	[volunteers wanted]		
Laurel/Burtonsville	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	(301) 604-5619
Montgomery	Ron MacNab	rmacnab@verizon.net	(301) 622-4157
Prince George's	Judie Artman	artmanju@yahoo.com	
St. Mary's	Kathy Glockner	kglockner@md.metrocast.net	(301) 475-194
Talbot	Joyce Bell	wbell2@washcoll.edu	(410) 820-6002

*Please volunteer as
TROT coordinator from
your county or area!*

SPECIAL THANKS!!!

from Barbara Sollner-Webb, newsletter editor

Big thanks to the swell folks who contributed great articles and other information to the newsletter! Readers so appreciate the contributions by TROT members! And a special thanks to those who made the kind offers cited above!

And ENORMOUS appreciation for most helpfully proof-reading the draft text goes to Susan Gray, Terry Ledley, Denis Webb and Judy Thacher. Also thanks to Priscilla Huffman, Kathy Lipton, Gale Monahan and Laury Lobel for your edits. You guys are wonderful!



**TRAIL RIDERS OF
TODAY**

TROT Membership
PO Box 506
Highland, MD 20777

Inside this issue:

- A Free Clinic Demonstrating the Importance of Riding Technique
- Upcoming Obstacle Training Ride
- TROT's NEW Website
- Trail Riding Etiquette
- Trail Work
- Upcoming TROT Trail Rides
- Recent TROT Trail Rides
- Maryland Trail Ride On TV Postponed to 2018
- TROT Hot Tricks
- Riding Your Green Horse
- A Wildflower Solution
- County Coordinator Reports
- Board Meeting Reports
- Contact Information for TROT and Trail Guides
- Useful Classified Ads
- And More