

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!

September, 2017

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[Photos and articles without attribution are from the Newsletter Editor]

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Gale Monahan

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE, <www.TROT-MD.ORG>! Go check it out and please give us feedback; we would love to hear your thoughts. **However, your help is needed to complete the trails portion of the website.** Any input from you on the trails you ride would be a huge help. Please see the request from our webmaster on page 2.

Time does fly. Here we are, and it is almost fall -- some absolutely beautiful riding weather. Just be careful: the ground bees are swarming (see page 8).

Mark your calendars for October 21 (rain date Oct. 28). As announced in the last two newsletters, TROT is organizing a coached obstacle training event at Schooley Mill Park. It is non-judged except for the best costumed horse and rider combination. Bring a friend! Free for TROT members. If you can't ride, volunteer, as we can use volunteers -- contact Deneen Martin (see article below).

We are starting to look for volunteers for our booth at the Horse World Expo, January 19-21, 2018 in Timonium. If you wish to volunteer a couple of hours, please let me know.

Most importantly, TROT is YOUR organization. Come to a board meeting to hear and see what goes on and voice your thoughts and concerns. Meetings are open to all TROT members. Next meeting will be October 4th at my home (6595 Castlebay Ct, Highland, MD; 301-854-3852). Pot luck at 6 PM and meeting at 7 PM. You can also call in; just contact the secretary (Jean McKay at <40carrots@comcast.net>) for how to call in.

TROT-SPONSORED COACHED OBSTACLE TRAINING EVENT

from Gale Monahan

Schooley Mill Park, Saturday, October 21, 2017 (rain date: October 28, 2017).

Free for TROT Members; \$25 for Non-Members (includes one year membership).

Prize for the best horse and rider Halloween costume.

For further information or to volunteer your help -- we do need volunteers -- please contact Deneen Martin at <Deneenmartin7@gmail.com> or 301-476-5335.

TROT TREASURER NEEDED – PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

from Gale Monahan

Due to unforeseen personal circumstances, our treasurer needed to step away from the position. We are looking for a new treasurer. Please volunteer, especially if you are someone with accounting experience and ideally are familiar with Excel. Please contact Gale Monahan at 301-854-3852 or <gale.email2@gmail.com>.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY TROT COORDINATOR NEEDED!

from Ron MacNab

TROT is seeking a coordinator for Montgomery County. **The job does not require much time, but it does require a passionate interest in the welfare of trail riding in Montgomery County.**

Duties of the coordinator: be the voice of the county's equestrian community by staying in touch with county members and knowing the trail systems. At times, you need to rouse TROT members to confront important issues that will affect them and speak at public hearings to provide the trail rider's point of view. Also very important is to maintain TROT's strong relationship with M-NCPPC and Maryland State Parks, with whom we have participated in trails planning, and serve as a contact for Montgomery County equestrian issues. This coordination also helps assure that there is notification about ...

[continued on next page]

Continued from page 1 – MONTGOMERY COUNTY TROT COORDINATOR NEEDED!

public hearings that may affect an established trail or proposed developments where trails could be incorporated. Since there are many interest groups demanding time and attention from our public park officials, it is important the equestrian trail riders' interests be included in their considerations. But also please feel free to develop this position of Montgomery County TROT coordinator however you feel is best.

If you are interested in or have questions about the Montgomery County Coordinator position, please contact Gale Monahan at 301-854-3852, or Ron MacNab at 301-622-4157.

FREDERICK COUNTY TROT COORDINATOR or CO-COORDINATOR NEEDED!

Pat Merson has kindly been serving as Frederick County TROT Coordinator but is not riding now, so would love for someone else from Frederick to step up and either take over the position or work at it along with her. Please contact Gale Monahan at 301-854-3852 or gale.email2@gmail.com.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH, RON AND PAT!

For many years, Ron MacNab and Pat Merson have been marvelous TROT Coordinators for Montgomery County and Frederick County, respectively. We are most appreciative of all their great help to the equestrian community and to TROT! Thanks a million!

READ GREAT ARTICLE ABOUT TROT IN THE MONOCACY MONOCLE

Gale Monahan, TROT's President, was recently interviewed for an inspiring article about TROT that appeared in the Monocacy Monocle (Aug 25, 0217, Vol XIII, number 12). Read it in its entirety on the TROT website (www.trot-md.org).

A MOST INFORMATIVE CLINIC ON HORSES AND RIDING

As announced in the last two TROT newsletters, White Wine and Clarrett Farm, home of TROT members Susan Gray and Mike Caruso, generously offered a free clinic on the importance of riding correctly to keep our horses sound, happy, well-moving and responsive, and exercises to develop the horse's physical ability. It was entitled "Lame of Sound, Choppy or Smooth – It's ALL In the Riding! (well, at least almost all!)" and was generously given by Kendle Buffington, a former eventer, classically trained in dressage, from Nottingham, PA. It was attended by about 20 riders, mainly TROT members, and I suspect that all felt Kendle's and Mike's demonstrations and Kendle's insightful descriptions and hand-outs were most informative. Also, the potluck before the event, for which Susan and Mike provided the main course, was delicious and a delightful social. Thank you so much, Kendle, Susan and Mike, for all this!



Some of the group enjoying the dinner before the clinic



Kendle on Avalon and some of the clinic attendees

TRAIL INFO NEEDED, PLEASE!

from Susan Montgomery, TROT's new website guru

The website needs your help! We are putting together an interactive trails map, and for this we need information about the trails that only people who ride them would know, such as where to park the trailer, trails to avoid, is there water, and so forth. Please send information to shadowsrider6749@yahoo.com, specifically providing the: (1) Park name, (2) Park website, (3) Map (a JPG or PDF of your ride's GPS path you recorded overlaid on a satellite or topo map, your GPX file, a URL of the park's official trail map, or whatever), (4) Trail location (Exact address, for GPS), (5) Trail length, (6) County (or counties), (7) Trail surface(s), (8) Trail description, (9) Parking and Trail access, (10) Seasonal restrictions, (11) Reviews and Tips, (12) Amenities, (13) Photos would also be wonderful, too! Thanks so much!

SAD NEWS – PASSING OF JANE TOAL

information from John Angevine

John Angevine kindly forwarded the sad news of the passing of a long-time great equestrian and delightful TROT member, Jane Toal. I remember Jane telling how as a teen she used to gallop down the one-lane (for both directions) dirt road, Rt 198, here in West Laurel. Read her obituary at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/jane-toal-obituary?pid=1000000186398079&view=questbook>. It includes:

"Jane Nicolet Toal, 96... died peacefully... Jane was an active member of Trail Riders of Today (TROT), a trail riding association sponsoring recreational horseback riding and the volunteerism necessary to support the sport..." [boldface added for emphasis]

Jane was also very active with the Girl Scouts. At right is a striking photo from a 1939 Washington Post article of Jane (first row, third from left) and others receiving the "Golden Eaglet" scouting honor.



MORE SAD NEWS -- LOSING ANNE MOE

information from Susan Gray

We unfortunately are also reporting losing another long-time horse enthusiast (especially Connemaras) and a wonderfully engaging TROT member, Anne Moe. Read her obituary at <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/obituaries/bs-md-ob-anne-moe-20170922-story.html>. It includes that "She was a 1967 founding member of the Central Maryland Saddle Club" -- one of TROT's sister horse organizations. We will miss you, Anne!

MORE SAD NEWS -- OF A BELOVED HORSE

Great condolences to Ron MacNab, our excellent past TROT President and long-time Montgomery County Coordinator, on losing his beloved steed, Sergeant Pepper. Many of us fondly remember riding with Ron and Sergeant Pepper -- well, "with" is a stretch, because Sergeant Pepper moved so fast that they were usually way out in front. With Ron recovering from his medical treatment, Sergeant Pepper was now getting Ron back into the saddle and enjoying riding again. Most unfortunately, Sergeant Pepper very recently suffered colic and had to be put down. Condolences, Ron!



TRAIL WORK

Trail Work Challenge (only two hours, so hardly challenging!)

To encourage riders to pursue TROT's mission of maintaining sustainable trails, Amy Kimble, TROT's Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator, has challenged each TROT member to do at least two hours of trail work this riding season. This really is not a lot, for your breaking branches and clipping vines while you ride counts as time doing trail work! And please report your hours to Amy (by texting to 301-748-8310 or emailing to Amyhkimble@aol.com) so she can include your hours in the total she reports to the parks officials; these hours help to get increased funding for the parks.

Group Trail Work Efforts

Hopefully many groups of riders go out to do trail work and I just don't know about it -- please do send me info and photos!

Priscilla Huffman, TROT's past President and current Baltimore Area coordinator, has been publicizing the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy's trail maintenance and invasive species workshops that teach trail users, including riders, to identify problematic invasives and how to best remove them, at various venues near and north of Baltimore. Please contact Priscilla (at priscillahuffman@verizon.net) or 301-646-4422 to hear the latest plans and join in. Unfortunately, her scheduled trail work session on August 19 at Graham Equestrian Center had to be cancelled due to rain the previous evening that left the trails too wet and streams too high to permit the work to proceed that day. However, Priscilla has announced another of these useful workshops on invasive species removal, at Bunker Hill on Saturday, September 30th (hopefully you get this newsletter in time).

For work parties at Seneca Creek and Patuxent River State Parks, please contact Ranger Erik Ledbetter (at Erik.Ledbetter@maryland.gov, 301-924-2127 [o] or 443-534-5837 [c]), who frequently organizes group work efforts there. Remember, Ranger Erik gave that very interesting presentation at the last TROT General Membership Meeting.

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, 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 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 12). Finally, everyone is encouraged to widely announce our TROT rides, but please include all the above requirements and do not announce any start time, so everyone coming must check with the ride leader.

In this newsletter, we are also announcing rides put on by a few sister organizations who have invited TROT members to join in their rides. [Apologies that some of these rides conflict with already scheduled TROT rides.]

October Rides

Sunday, October 1 – Riverbend Park, Great Falls, VA - Cecile Neuvens (<Cecile.neuvens@gmail.com>; 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 contributions for a potluck after the ride; Cecile is bringing sodas, water and chips. The number of trailers that the parking can accommodate is limited, so sign up early and trailer pool as much as possible.

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

Saturday, October 7 - Greenwell State Park, St. Mary's County, MD - Kathy Glockner (<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 its 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 a map at <http://dnr.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.]

Fri, Oct. 6 to Sun, Oct. 8, 2017- The League of Maryland Horsemen invites TROT members to their Open House Invitational weekend

Come join in a fun-filled weekend of camping, fellowship, and riding the beautiful trails in Patapsco State Park at the border of Baltimore, Carroll, and Howard counties, with camping at the League's property, at 8067 Henryton Road, Marriottsville, Maryland. The entire weekend is only \$30 for adults, \$15 for children 12 and under, and free for those under 6, which includes 6 meals (soup and sandwich on Fri., breakfasts on Sat. and Sun., lunch on the trail Sat., and lunch after the ride on Sun., plus the cost of camping. Camping sites are first come, first serve and payable on-site; \$12/night, or \$15 with electric - 70 spots with 30 Amp with sites large enough for live-in quarters. Saturday dinner will be potluck, with the League providing meat/protein and beverages. There will be three led rides each day -- gaited, medium, and scenic -- departing at 10:00 AM. The official deadline for reservations is October 1, as there are no refunds after this date. Reserve with Joyce Bell (410-820-6002) or on <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lomh-invitational-event-tickets-37430202744?ref=estw>. [continued on next page]

Sunday October 8 – TROT members are invited to a Hunter Pace at A Moment in Time farm in Leonardtown MD in St. Mary's County. Although titled a hunter pace, trail riders will enjoy the venue and can set their own pace. Check out their website for details. <http://www.amitfarm.net> [from Kathy Glockner, TROT's St. Mary's County Coordinator]

Saturday, October 14 - Little Bennett - Susan Ferrara (301-467-2812 or <sferrara3663@hotmail.com>)

Rain date Sunday, October 15. The ride, an hour to hour and half, will be walking and some trotting. There may be a place for a short canter if people want to. The trails wind around, up and down, and often have trees that make trotting in many places challenging! Front shoes or boots are recommended as it is quite rocky in many places, but you know your own horse best as to what he can tolerate. We will meet in the trailer parking area at the end of Prescott Road, which has been improved to become much more accommodating than before. For lunch back at the trailer parking area, bring your sandwich; Dave Lawrence and I will bring a sweet treat as well as drinks and water. But do bring water for your horses as it is not available there. (However we will be crossing some streams during the ride.) Hope to see you then!

Saturday, October 14 - Join EPIC for a Dry Seneca Trail Ride - Naomi Manders (<naomimanders0@gmail.com>)

Rain date Sunday, October 15. Join EPIC for a guided trail ride on the Dry Seneca Trail in Poolesville, Maryland. You'll spend about two hours riding this scenic trail's gently rolling terrain with a few stream crossings, in groups termed "Slow" (walk only) and "Moderate". At the conclusion of the ride, visit with your fellow riders while you enjoy a light lunch and refreshments. As with TROT rides, a current negative Coggins and ASTM/SEI-certified headgear are required. The event is free to attend; however, a tax-deductible donation of \$25 per person is suggested. RSVP by Thursday, October 12.

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

(410 908 5599 or <blackandwhitecookie@yahoo.com>) Rain date Saturday, October 28. 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 Event, 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.]

Sunday, October 22 - TROT members are invited to a Hunter Pace at Cremona farm in Hughesville, MD in St. Mary's County

This ride, put on by the De La Brooke Foxhounds Hunt Club, can be taken at your own pace. Check out its website at <www.delabrookefoxhounds.com>. Recently this hunt club held their annual trail ride at historic Mt. Victoria in Charles County and had an outstanding turnout. Visit (and bookmark) the hunt club's website to learn more about their trail rides held in the spring, summer and fall. [from Kathy Glockner, TROT's St. Mary's County Coordinator]

Wednesday, October 25 – Gunpowder Falls State Park, Bunker Hill Trail -- Priscilla Huffman (301-646-4422,

call or text, or <priscillahuffman@verizon.net>) 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 1.5-2 hrs. Bring lunch and a chair if you wish to stay to eat. [from Priscilla Huffman.]

Thursday, October 26 - 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 on the TROT and MarylandTrailRiders Yahoo list-serves.

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

<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>, 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 2-2 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>)

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

[continued on next page]

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. Note: Laury Lobel feels this is "TROT's coolest ride of the year."

PAST TRAIL RIDES SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

We had announced 14 trail rides since the last newsletter, but unfortunately Mother Nature's storms (wet ground or indirect effects) caused seven rides to be cancelled: Debbie Wagner's planned rides at Schooley Mill on Thursday, July 13 and at Annapolis Rock on Thursday, July 27; Jacquie Cowan's planned ride at Rockburn on Saturday, August 12; Dana Grabiner's planned ride at Potomac Riverside Stable on Sunday, September 10; Priscilla Huffman's planned ride at Gunpowder Falls State Park, Bunker Hill on Wednesday, September 13; Debbie Wagner's planned ride at Little Bennett on Thursday, September 14; and Johnna Wheeler's planned ride near Catoctin Park in Thurmont on Saturday, September 16. However, TROT members were able to enjoy seven rides:

Catoctin Mountain in Thurmont, MD

information from Johnna Wheeler, ride leader

On Saturday, July 15, Johnna and Flo Arnold enjoyed a very nice 2-hour, all-walk ride in the Twin Ponds and Sand Flats area of the Frederick County Watershed (Catoctin area). Happily, it is cooler up on the mountain during these hot days of summer. Flo said "the scenery is beautiful."

Morgan Run, in Carroll County, MD

from Leah Mack, ride leader

On Sunday, Aug 6, 13 people came to enjoy the amazingly cool weather at our Morgan Run ride. We had a walk group, kindly led by Jean Swartz, and a walk-trot group led by Leah Mack. Nobody got lost in that maze, and about half stayed for the potluck. This ride also got TROT three new memberships and two day-memberships.



photos from Leah Mack



.... and here is an unsolicited write-up of Leah's ride, kindly submitted by rider Stephanie Brennan: It was a pleasure being afforded the opportunity to ride with the TROT group yet again this past Sunday at Morgan Run. Leah did a wonderful job organizing the ride, and I thoroughly enjoyed getting to ride in the walk group. We rode for 5.1 miles, riding at an average speed of 2.9 mph, and for about 2 hours and 15 minutes. [And Stephanie kindly attached a jpg image of the walk ride and the GPS (kmz) data file that Susan Montgomery has put up on the trails section of TROT's website.]

Little Bennett, in Clarksburg, MD

from Debbie Wagner, ride leader

Thursday, August 10 was a perfect day for a ride, and what a beautiful venue! Five of us met at Little Bennett on the last nice day before humidity and rain moved in. Deneen Martin showed us a lovely loop with varied terrain, mostly in woods. Jacki Edens saved the day for me, with a trailer ride for Pretty Girl, when I couldn't use my own trailer. We followed Laury Lobel and Nancy Osgood most of the way to the park. Although Deneen left before lunch, we remaining four people enjoyed our picnic as our horses mowed the field -- their picnic!

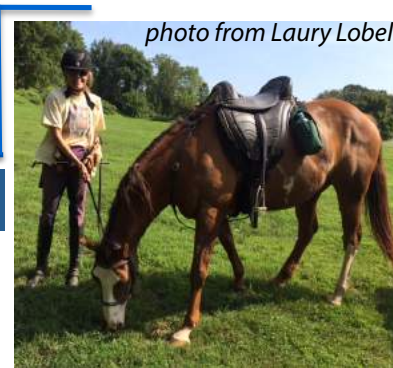


photo from Laury Lobel

Ag Farm Park, in Derwood, MD *from Laury Lobel, ride leader*

On Thursday, August 31, 2017, our newest member Monica Hoerner and her horse Shiloh (photo at right) joined Nancy Osgood and Laury Lobel for TROT's "Last Thursday of the Month" ride. We rode for two hours around Ag Farm's beautifully manicured and mowed trails. The weather was spectacular -- sunny, high 70's. No mishaps, no bees, and good company (my idea of a perfect ride) followed by lunch in the shade watching the horses graze.

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Continued from page 6 – PAST TRAIL RIDES SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

Mount Victoria in Charles County, MD from Kathy Glockner

On Sunday, Sept 10, Kathy Glockner, St. Mary's County TROT coordinator, participated in the ride that TROT had announced, at the beautiful Mount Victoria in Charles County (photo). This ride was sponsored by the De La Brooke Hunt Club, which is sponsoring another ride on October 22 (see page 5).

photo from Kathy Glockner



Fairland Park in Burtonsville, MD

from Barbara Sollner-Webb, ride co-leader

On Saturday, September 23, 16 TROT members (one was a one day member who will join next year) had a delightful ride at Fairland Park. Ride co-leaders Debby and Jenn Poole led an all-walk group and I directed (couldn't lead, as Thor does not lead) a faster group that Maria Yonkosh did a great job of leading. We rode for about two hours in spectacular weather. Many of the families who were also at Fairland enjoying the park were delighted to meet a horse up close and personal, something they had never done before. After the ride, a few riders had to leave but the rest enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch and socializing. The only downer was that the last two riders of the large walk group were attacked by bees, but fortunately did not experience an allergic reaction.

Riders (from left to right) are

Terry Ledley; Laury Lobel, Jean Swartz; Stephanie Brennan, Debbie Mullinix; Debby Poole, Nat Vandenberg, Jenn Poole; Flo Arnold, Maria Yonkosh, Maria Schwartz; Jeanie Kemp; Kathy Lipton; Monika Hoerner; and Denis Webb (not shown: Barbara Sollner-Webb)



Rachel Carson Park

On Thursday, September 28, just as this newsletter will hit your email's Inbox, Laury Lobel will be leading one of her great series of last Thursday of the month rides, at the lovely Rachel Carson Park. The weather promises to be perfect, so assuredly the ride will go on and be well attended. Like all of Laury's rides, it will officially be all-walk, but she always makes sure that there are plenty of opportunities where those who want to move out can do extra trotting/cantering loops and then rejoin the group -- what a swell solution! After the ride will be a very nice lunch together in the shade, with Laury kindly providing drinks and one of her delicious homemade desserts.

I AM SO TIRED OF CLEANING UP OTHERS' POOP!

from Jacquie Cowan, TROT's Anne Arundel Coordinator

There is little else more maddening to me than to pull into a public trailer parking area, open the truck door and step right out into horse poop – ugh! What has happened to one of the first trail etiquette rules -- to clean up after yourself and “leave no trace”? It seems equestrians are getting more and more lax at this, even when reasonable options are made available by the park.

At the McKeldin area of Patapsco, all you have to do is walk 25 feet to toss manure into the high grass behind your trailer. Schooley Mill has a manure pit in the corner of the hard top trailer parking lot, yet the lot is regularly littered with piles of poop left behind. Cedarville also has a manure pit that apparently is not used much by looks of all the piles strewn around the parking area. Various areas of Patuxent River parks from Annapolis Rock to Jug Bay have plenty of woods without trails through them around the parking areas where you can toss your poop way away from public view and stepping.

Common sense trail etiquette should tell us that if there is not an acceptable way to dispose of your manure, then you take it home in a bucket or bag or your trailer, rather than clean out your trailer and leave it right there. Piling it up under a nearby tree is not acceptable either since someone may want to take advantage of the shade for a picnic.

Trail riding in our county, state and federal parks is a privilege, not a right. So whatever you do, PLEASE don't leave your manure behind for others to deal with and jeopardize our continued access to the parks. If you are so kind, please also consider cleaning up the mess left behind by the limited number of thoughtless riders who give all riders a bad name.

THE WRONG FAN CAN INCREASE RISK OF BARN FIRE

from Kathy Lipton

A recent local barn fire was caused by one of the electric box fans that are in almost every barn. These fans are inexpensive (usually about \$20) but are not suitable for dusty environments because the motor housing is not sealed, allowing cobwebs and dust to enter, and that can cause fires

I recently replaced all the fans in my barn with industrial ones designed for workshops and barns. The motor housing is sealed, significantly reducing the risk of overheating. The fans are not inexpensive. I bought mine on Amazon for about \$70 each. RAMM makes similar fans but the cost is significantly higher. Replacing my box fans was costly and time consuming but well worth the peace of mind from lowering the risk of a barn fire.

WARNINGS FOR TRAIL RIDERS

valuable information provided by Debby Poole

Ground Bees

Already this year, several riders have had trouble with "ground bees" on the trails. [Actually, "ground bees" are not bees but yellow jackets that nest in the ground and are very aggressive when disturbed!] While walking yesterday, I discovered a ground bee nest at Belle Cote by a pile of dirt. I put a reflector pole close by to alert people to stay away from this site. One can additionally post a warning sign in the area.

If you are riding and get into bees/hornets, yell "BEES!" and immediately pick up a good trot, moving out of the area as soon as you can. Should your horse stop to stomp and refuse to move, I would advise dismounting and running ahead. Usually a horse will follow you or the other horses, but also if they explode from being stung, you will be out of harm's way.



Keeping Space -- Not Riding Too Close to the Horse in Front of You

I have heard from reliable sources about an incident at a nearby farm where people were out trail riding a few weeks ago and when coming up a steep bank, one person's horse got too close to the horse in front. The front horse kicked out and the approaching rider ended up getting kicked in the head so badly that she needed to be air-lifted out. Worse, the chopper couldn't land there, so they had to drop a rope. I believe she is successfully recovering now, but it is an important warning.

Hunting Season Is Fast Approaching

it is well worth finding out when the different seasons start in the venues you ride. WSSC's closings are in the mornings and they reopen the trails after 1 PM. But always during hunting season it is prudent to wear bright clothes and to be polite to hunters you might come across, trying to pass them without interfering.

Woodchuck/Ground Hog Holes

While riding and also while mowing, I have come across several ground hog holes, sometimes almost impossible to see. Try to watch and take note if you see a ground hog, to observe where he runs. If you notice a spot of dirt in the middle of a field or along the edge of the field, look closely to see if there is a hole. I recommend trying to fill the holes (there are always at least two) with sticks/dirt/rocks/whatever; but since your filling might not last but be dug out again soon, also put up an obvious warning marker (such as an electric fence post with a big bright flag).



Trail-Blazing and Exploring

Most trails in our area are on what used to be big farms that often used lots of barbed-wire fencing, and often there are still discarded sections of barbed wire fencing hiding in the grass as well as pieces of left over farm equipment. Be careful if you get off the trails, even a little bit, that you don't get into wire that is mashed down under the leaves and grass. Sometimes seeing a old fence post can alert you to downed barbed-wire.

Issues with Boggy Areas

When you get off the trails, especially around a creek or boggy area, you can get into some dangerous mud. It can pull off shoes, pull tendons or get you really stuck. Certain plants can alert you to dangerous wet area, such as these broad leaf plants (right) that are a dead giveaway of swamps and mud.



Fall Colic Warning

Keep an eye on your horses to make sure they don't have tummy ache – or worse. Eating fall leaves and eating grass after a cold night when the sugars are not metabolized but instead build up can cause trouble, even founder. If you notice your horse acting like his belly hurts, call your vet – and also consider icing his feet to avoid founder.

[Adapted from *Equitours.com* (blog April 11, 2013).]

Matching horse and rider

Properly matching horse and rider can be the most important factor for a safe trail ride. A spirited horse can scare a novice while a slug can bore someone experienced. Riders with insufficient skills can ruin the ride for other others, and a rider who overstates her skills can endanger herself when other riders want to go faster and she's not up to it.

Fast? Slow? Decide Before You Ride – this is why many TROT rides have different speed groups, to get what is right for you!

Horses have a strong herd instinct: think of what this means for a trail ride. Serious accidents can occur because one rider (or more) thinks the pace is too slow and holds her horse back so she can canter to join the others. The horse thinks, "My friends are leaving me!", gallops to the others faster than expected, possibly crashing into the others and getting them "hopped up."

Similarly, an inexperienced rider might lag behind a group because she doesn't want to or know how to make her horse keep up with the others. Even a lazy horse can suddenly decide to join the others at a faster clip than the rider expects. It's a recipe for getting dumped on the ground.

If you're with a group of horses going too fast, it can be dangerous to try to hold your horse back. Your horse can buck in frustration before careening off to join his/her herd. In that case, call to the ride leader: "Please slow down!!"

A good ride is a planned ride. When you ride with a group, identify a ride leader to make speed and route decisions, and only go the speed that the least experienced rider can handle. It may mean the group you want to ride with isn't the right one for you. Once (OK, twice) I rode a green horse with others who promised a walk-only trail; we weren't 10 minutes on the trail before they all said, "Oooh, let's trot!" I dismounted and led my horse home.

Mounting and dismounting

Mounting and dismounting are vulnerable moments. Happily, more riders than ever rely on a mounting block instead of hoisting themselves aboard with one leg stretched up to their clavicle and bent awkwardly into one stirrup. One startle and you're sunk ... or dumped. Even in the best circumstances, using a mounting block is much more comfortable for the horse's back and the saddle is less likely to shift or slide.

When you mount, get on with one fluid motion, lowering your "caboose" gently into the saddle; no horse likes 170 lbs. plopped onto his back like a laundry sack. Get your reins organized, your feet into the stirrups, and your weight balanced as quickly as you can. Don't move on until all riders are mounted, balanced, and in control. Same goes for on the trail when gates are opened and closed, streams are forded, and bridges are crossed. Horses tend to become anxious if they think they're being left behind. That's not a fun way to ride.

"Bailing out"

Even for experienced trail riders, it's possible your horse may lose its head at some point when the air is crisp, the herd is energized, and the straightaway beckons. Some people hate not having "brakes" and want to throw themselves off a runaway, only to regret it when they hit the ground. It may go against your instinct, but if you're on a runaway horse, forget your brakes; you probably don't have any. Grab mane, continue to breathe (!), and ride it out. Horses typically do all they can NOT to fall, and when they tire they slow down. Once I made the mistake of bailing out on a runaway and ended up falling on a pile of rocks. I had a long limp home and – great timing! – a lengthy plane ride the next day and was incredibly sore the whole way.

Running Home

It's a mistake to let horses go home fast. This starts a bad habit that's hard to break. Once a horse realizes it's headed home it can become more difficult to control. Long ago I rode a horse I didn't know with a group I didn't know; none of the other riders mentioned that they typically gallop the last hill like bats out of ... a hill. Worse still, they galloped abreast which really brings out the racehorse. Holes? Barbed wire? (Quicksand??) There better not be any.

Tired Horses and Riders

Horses and riders alike have endurance limitations. This is especially true for riders who have desk jobs (c'mon, raise your hands). As a rider tires, his/her muscles become less responsive, her posture and balance deteriorate, and her attention begins to wander. An unexpected spook or stumble is more likely to dump you than if you were fresh and alert. Avoid riding when you're tired and, on a long ride, always save some energy for the ride back.

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. Please, do not just tell your newsletter editor, because it is Jim who needs to update this information on TROT's membership spreadsheet.

COUNTY/AREA COORDINATOR REPORTS

Baltimore County

from Priscilla Huffman, Baltimore County Coordinator

Trail ride at Bunker Hill

Due to wet trail conditions in Gunpowder Falls State Park, we had to once again cancel our planned TROT ride at Bunker Hill on September 13th. Happily, this ride has been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 25th.

Trail Maintenance/Invasive Plant Removal Workshop – Saturday, September 30th

TROT has been invited to join the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy for a trail maintenance and invasive plant removal workshop on National Public Land Day, sponsored by REI. The workshop offers hands-on learning in techniques such as rock armoring or rolling grade dips to prevent sediment erosion and improve water quality. See flyer for more details:

<https://onedrive.live.com/view.aspx?resid=823470E10E8C8816!1895&ithint=file%2cdocx&app=Word&authkey=!AMJqHfXhT7G_pv4>.

Maryland State Fair - HorseLand

TROT members volunteered at the Maryland Jockey Club booth in the HorseLand tent at the annual state fair. A mock jockey exerciser horse had been loaned to the booth, and children of every age range had a chance to sit in a real jockey's saddle with goggles, crop and jockey's cap. HorseLand had its largest audience ever with 51,624 visitors passing through the tent. Over 300 volunteers from 56 equine organizations took part.

Anne Arundel County

from Jacquie Cowan, Anne Arundel County Coordinator

This summer, the County – and probably most everywhere – was full of horse-eating bugs, so not a lot was going on out on the trails. Of course the rain hadn't helped either – AA county has a low water table so many of our trails are very sensitive to wet riding. The hard-packed dirt roads of the Patuxent River Wildlife Preserve off Rt 198 between Laurel and Ft Meade are usually a great place to ride when other trails are too wet, but their summer mosquitoes were big enough to carry you away. I found the various areas of Patapsco Valley State Park to be much more pleasant with deep tree canopy shading the trails, plenty of water crossings, and fewer bugs. Please let me know if you have found other summer jewels to ride without being chased and eaten.

About the Bacon Ridge trails: I don't recommend TROT take any action as yet. I am representing TROT and Anne Arundel County equestrians at this point. They have not had many meetings in the last year and are beginning to reactivate the group and look at the next stages of development. At this point, I am trying to rebuild a favorable relationship --- there is significant opposition to horses and I don't want to tick them off and close the doors. There are also those who remember that equestrian trails were in the original plan and are still open to a controlled possibility. The terrain has been abused over the years and is very sensitive. I am familiar with this area as it contained the home trails for the Windy Knoll Horsemen that I helped maintain and led rides on for years. We lost access years ago due to home development and land sales. Some do appreciate the history. I can't tell you how disheartening it was to introduce myself at the first meeting I attended this year and find out no one from the horse community had been there in at least a couple years, so they thought we were no longer interested. After hearing all that the other interests had contributed in money, resources and volunteers, it was very embarrassing to say "we want horse trails."

Montgomery County

info from Pat Talbott

Pat kindly sent a notice that Montgomery Parks is authorizing a section of the Cabin John Trail from the Goya Road trailhead to the parking area on Seven Locks Road by the 495 overpass to be accessible to hikers/walkers and bikers. While the notice's text makes no mention of horses, it was accompanied by the park's usual *walkers-should-yield-to-bikers-who-should-yield-to-horses* sign, so that certainly seems to imply that it is open to horses too! Can someone please try it out and report back to TROT?

St. Mary's County

from Kathy Glockner, St. Mary's County Coordinator

If you're looking for a new place to ride, check out St. Mary's County in Southern Maryland. There are three state parks in the county that permit trail riding: Newtowne Neck, St. Mary's River Park, and Greenwell. Check the Department of Natural Resources website for details. <<http://dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>>. Please join my TROT ride at Greenwell State Park on Saturday, October, 7! And consider the rides announced for October 8 and 21 in this general area, too.

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

SUMMARIES OF TROT BOARD MEETINGS

from Jean McKay, TROT secretary

Summary of July 5, 2017 TROT Board meeting – held at the home of Gale Monahan.

Participants: Gale Monahan (President), Terry Ledley (BD), Laury Lobel (BD), Pat Oliva (BD), Barbara Sollner-Webb (BD – via teleconference), Priscilla Huffman (via teleconference), Susan Montgomery, Nancy Osgood, Debbie Wagner

- June Board meeting minutes were approved with edits.
- The new website is up and running – big thanks to Susan Montgomery. *[Editor's note: big thanks also to Jean McKay!]*
- Planning is underway for a non-judged trail obstacle training event at Schooley Mill Park on October 21; rain date October 28.
- 2018 annual meeting and dinner will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds; Jean Cooper has kindly agreed to act as chair; additional volunteers are needed.
- County Coordinator Reports – Please see County Reports section of the newsletter.

Summary of September 6, 2017 TROT Board meeting – held at the home of Susan Montgomery.

Participants: Gale Monahan (President), Deneen Martin (Vice President), Jean McKay (Secretary), Janet Whelan (Treasurer – via teleconference), Dana Grabiner (BD), Terry Ledley (BD), Laury Lobel (BD), Barbara Sollner-Webb (BD), Dick Huffman, Priscilla Huffman, Susan Montgomery, Debbie Wagner

- Treasurer's report was accepted; July Board meeting minutes approved as written.
- Susan Montgomery, the TROT webmaster, is collecting information about trails that TROT members ride, including everything from trailer parking to maps. This information will be used as a resource available on the TROT website. Please contact Susan Montgomery if you'd like to provide trail information.
- Volunteers are still needed for the October 21 non-judged trail obstacle training event. Please contact Deneen Martin.
- 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 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 or 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 or 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

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/newsletter>

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

from Becky Carter

Family name County/State

Anderson	Howard
Bevillard	Frederick
Crusan	WV
Dieudonne	Montgomery
Micek	Montgomery
Mullinex	Carroll
Wong	Howard

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

WHO'S WHO IN TROT

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
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 (temporary)	Laury Lobel	laurylobel@verizon.net	
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	patolivaticger@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 or (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	[volunteer wanted]		
Laurel/Burtonsville	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	(301) 604-5619
Montgomery	[volunteer wanted]		
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 those great articles and other information to the newsletter! Readers highly appreciate these contributions by TROT members! [So please keep them coming!]

And ENORMOUS appreciation for most helpfully proof-reading the draft text goes to Susan Gray, Priscilla Huffman, Judy Thacher, Terry Ledley, Dana Grabiner, and Denis Webb. Also thanks to Sim Shanks, Cécile Neuvens, Debby Poole, and Kathy Glockner for your edits. You guys are wonderful!

Also, sorry that your September newsletter is late this month, but the editor has been sick.

CLASSIFIED ADS

To Place An Ad

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

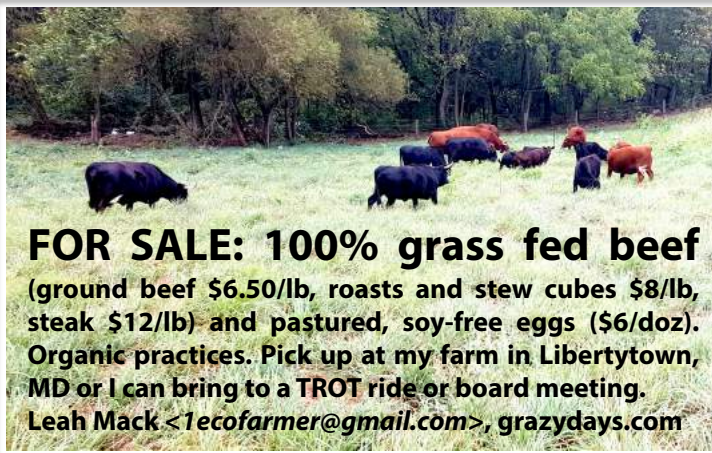
TROT Members can place one 100-word or business card-size ad in each issue of the newsletter **FOR FREE!** What a great deal! It will run in one issue unless you notify the editor by the 15th of the month before the next newsletter that you want it to run again. If TROT members want to run a larger ad,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

Easycare Easyboot New Trail Hoof Boots

from Kathy Lipton

These Size 6 boots are brand new. \$135 (price is firm). I ordered the boots and they don't fit my horse. The Easyboot Trail is easy to apply and remove. The attachment system assures booted success throughout the trim cycle. The boot opens up completely to easily slip on and off over most hoof shapes and sizes. The rear double Velcro® attachment protects the entire hoof wall and keeps the boot firmly in place. Contact Kathy Lipton at kathylipton1@gmail.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.

Impeccable Colonial on 2 acres in Mo Co!

from Maria Schwartz

Seclusion, privacy, and space are yours! No HOA; fenced pasture and stable for your four-legged friends. Easy access to Patuxent Watershed trails. Interior is updated and well maintained throughout. Updated windows, updated kitchen with corian counters and newer appliances, beautiful wood floors, finished basement with kitchenette, screened in porch. Short commute to beltway, 29, 95, and amenities! <http://www.2101sondra.com>. Contact Chris Kershnik, ReMax Town Center, 19861-B Century Blvd, Germantown, MD 20874; 240-426-9520 (cell).

Miscellaneous Tack for Sale

from Cecile Neuvens

- Brand new mohair English contoured dressage girth from www.Montanacincha.com - size 20. Still in its package with the tag on. Sells for \$99.5 new - Asking \$70 + shipping.
 - Brand new traditional Guardian mask (with 95% sunshades for eye conditions and flies), size large (fits most horses including Arabian heads). Still in package. Sells for \$109.95 new - Asking \$90 + shipping.
 - Almost new traditional Guardian mask, size large. Has been worn a few days, but cleaned and disinfected. Asking \$75 + shipping.
 - Stubben saddle all purpose Siegfried VSD ebony 18 inch seat, Medium Wide. Used but in excellent condition. Can be tried at Turner Farm in Great Falls on your horse. Asking \$900 OBO.
 - A pair Cavallo boots black Sport slim size 1, some wear but threads/sole in good condition. Sell for \$140 new. Asking \$70 for the pair + shipping.
- ** Contact Cecile Neuvens, at 703-622-3845 or cecile.neuvens@gmail.com for pictures. All sales by Paypal or cash. **

Saddle

from Gale Monahan

Wyoming Saddlery Endurance Saddle with Toklat pad. Almost new. Saddle has a 16" seat and a wide tree. Has extra rings behind the seat. Weighs about 18 lbs. Used less than a dozen times. Nice Saddle is priced below what it is worth. Contact Gale at 301-854-3852 (home) or 301-775-0079 (cell) or gale.email2@gmail.com. \$1000.



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.



TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY

TROT Membership

PO Box 506

Highland, MD 20777

Inside this issue:

- Upcoming Trail Obstacle Training Event
- President's Message
- TROT Volunteers Needed
- News Article About TROT
- Report on a Most Informative Clinic
- Trail Info Needed for TROT Website
- Sad News
- Trail Work
- Upcoming and Past TROT Trail Rides
- Importance of Picking Up Poop
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- Welcome, New Members
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- And More