

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!

November, 2017

Founded 1980

Number 224

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Gale Monahan

Our year is almost over and I wanted to be one of the first to wish everyone a healthy and happy 2018 with lots of trail riding.

We are looking for folks who are willing to give up a few hours a month for TROT. We welcome our new volunteers (see page 4) and are looking for a new Membership Chair, Prince George's and Frederick County Coordinators, and Logowear Guru (see page 2). We encourage folks to bring new ideas to further TROT's mission of preserving trails and educating riders while enjoying our horses and the trails. Come to any of our board meetings. The next one will be December 6th in Ashton. We always enjoy a pot luck at 6 PM before the meeting that starts at 7 PM. If unable to be there physically, you can always call in, as we have a conference call. Just let me know (<gale.email2@gmail.com> or 301-854-3852) to get directions and an agenda. Also, our meetings are listed on our website at <www.TROT-MD.org> under the calendar section.

The Horse World Expo is coming up on January 19-21, 2018, and we are looking for volunteers to man TROT's booth for a couple of hours. These volunteers will have their daily entry fee paid for by TROT. Please see the notice from Amy Kimble, on page 2.

Also coming up on February 24, 2018 is our annual dinner and meeting. I think you will not want to miss this one. Our guest speaker will be an equine ophthalmologist to discuss important issues concerning our horse's eyes. There will be a Q & A after. I am very excited about this. Hope you will be also. Bring a friend. [And bring a potluck dish and contributions for the silent auction.] See the notice from Jean Cooper on page 3.

I will end this president's message as I have many others: TROT is your organization. Let your voice, your thoughts, ideas and your concerns be heard. And I hope to see you on the trails.

TROT WELCOMES & GREATLY THANKS OUR NEW TREASURER – FRITZI GROW, MONTGOMERY COUNTY CO-COORDINATORS – RITA BECK & BRIE SCHWARTZ, AND CARROLL COUNTY COORDINATOR – STEPHANIE BRENNAN!

See page 4 for introductions to these wonderful volunteers.

TROT REALLY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, PG & FREDERICK COUNTY COORDINATORS, and LOGOWEAR GURU! PLEASE!

[See page 2]

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – HORSE WORLD EXPO (Timonium), JAN. 19-21

volunteer at the TROT booth for two hours and get a free one-day pass

[See page 2]

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – TROT ANNUAL DINNER (Ho. Co. Fairgrounds), FEB. 24

start getting together your unused horse "stuff" for the silent auction

[See page 3]

TROT MEMBERSHIP CHAIR IS NEEDED – PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

Due to unforeseen circumstances, our membership chair needed to step away, and so we are looking for a new person for this important position. If you are somewhat familiar with Excel and willing to consider becoming membership chair, please contact Gale Monahan at 301-854-3852 or <gale.email2@gmail.com>. Your will REALLY be helping TROT a lot!

TROT LOGOWEAR COORDINATOR NEEDED – PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

People enjoy TROT's logowear, but we need someone to take it over. The logowear is now well-organized and in good shape for a new volunteer. Please contact Barbara Sollner-Webb (<bsw@jhmi.edu> or 301-604-5619). [See page 16 for available items.]

TROT COUNTY COORDINATORS NEEDED FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S, FREDERICK, HARTFORD, and OTHER COUNTIES – PLEASE VOLUNTEER! *from Gale Monahan*

TROT's beginnings were in northeast Montgomery and southern Howard counties. But since TROT now spans MANY counties, indeed reaches into some states beyond Maryland, it is the county coordinators who know the local issues and engage with local riders and local government officials. It is their activism that make TROT's mission of enhancing sustainable trails and trail riding a priority in their area. Just look how active County Coordinators have spurred their local TROT membership and trail engagement (e.g., since Priscilla Huffman began as Baltimore County Coordinator a few years ago and initiated very active local trail projects, TROT membership in that county has doubled!). Thus TROT desperately needs energetic county coordinators for the counties with vacancies – especially Prince George's and Frederick but also Hartford and any other county not listed on page 14.

By way of background and as many of you know, TROT started in 1980 with 22 riders banding together to preserve Paint Branch Park (in Montgomery County) from development. TROT went on and helped preserve and develop more trail systems in the region, including extending and then retaining the WSSC watershed trails in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. TROT also was an essential part of developing not only the trails but also the rings and cross country jumps at Schooley Mill Park in Howard County. When trail systems have been in jeopardy, TROT frequently has been there -- and wants to continue being there.

How have we done this? Well, we have had volunteers who decide to be involved in their local county or riding area, keeping an eye on what is going on or being planned. These volunteers would then go to the county's parks and recreation departments and relevant planning and/or budget hearings and speak up, saying who they are, who they represent, and how TROT works with entities of county and state government to keep open space for users such as equestrians. By making these connections, then if a park or property near a park may be up for change or development, they will hopefully get a call or an email about this, and as a TROT coordinator they are able to engage others and work towards preserving the trail system.

As TROT expanded geographically, this effort has required local eyes and ears, and that is where the county coordinators come in – folks who get to know the horse people in their county, to find out what they want and organize to that end, also connect with local government officials, and possibly get a group together to assist in keeping the county horse friendly. But each county is different and what each county coordinator would decide to focus on will depend on the person's own interests, how their specific county functions, and what seems to them would best enhance its trails and trail riding camaraderie.

If you would like to help keep your county horse friendly or make it more horse friendly and you are from Prince George's, Frederick, or Harford Counties, or any county not listed on page 14, please volunteer to be a TROT county coordinator. You will not be out there alone. We on the board and other active county coordinators will be only too happy to help. I, myself, was Howard County coordinator for more than 10 years and would be happy to help in any way I can.

TROT is your organization, the county you live in is your county. Please get involved and help keep it horse friendly. My email: <gale.email2@gmail.com> and phone: 301-854-3852.

THE HORSE WORLD EXPO IS COMING SOON -- JAN. 19-21, IN TIMONIUM

volunteer at the TROT booth for two hours and get a free one-day pass from Amy Kimble

I am reaching out to TROT members to volunteer at the Horse World Expo, January 19-21, to help spread the word about TROT. Please send your availability – also who you would like to volunteer with, if anyone -- to Amy Kimble by email at <AmyHkimble@aol.com> or text or call 301-748-8310, by Dec. 2nd. Basically you meet and greet attendees, hand out horse treats and educate people on why we all belong to TROT. I will be happy to answer any questions with regards to what will be expected of you. I look forward to hearing from many of you. And TROT will pay your admission for the entire day you volunteer! What a great way to meet fellow trail riders and enjoy the seminars and demonstrations! There are still a few spots left!

Please note that this year TROT's booth is supposed to be at a MUCH MORE CENTRAL LOCATION. So your efforts should reach many more potential TROT members. Thank you for volunteering for YOUR riding organization!

TROT's ANNUAL DINNER & SILENT AUCTION (Ho. Co. Fairgrounds), FEB. 24

start getting together your unused horse "stuff" for the silent auction from Jean Cooper

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, February 24, 2018 is TROT's Annual Dinner and Silent Auction. It will be at the same general location as in 2017-- the Howard County Fairgrounds (2210 Fairground Road, West Friendship, Maryland 21794) -- but in a larger building -- the "Dining Hall" Building. In addition to our featured speaker (see President's Message), there will be our traditional and beloved silent auction. So as you are tidying up for, or after, the Holidays, start pulling together the tack and horse gear that you no longer use but someone else will enjoy, to donate. All donations of tack and horse-related services are welcome (the tack should be fairly clean and in at least fairly good condition). Proceeds raised from the silent auction go directly to support TROT's ongoing mission. Look for more details in the January TROT newsletter.

TROT's "COACHED OBSTACLE TRAINING RIDE"

from Deneen Martin

The Schooley Mill Coached Obstacle Training Ride was held on Saturday October 21, 2017, the week before Halloween, with perfect weather for riding their beautiful trails. There were several warm-up obstacles in the riding ring and 13 scary obstacles on the trail. The day seemed to be great fun for everyone, including our wonderful costumed volunteers at each site. Horse treats and Trick or Treat candy were provided for all our four legged and two legged participants! Lunches were graciously put together by Dana Grabiner and her family, plus eating it together afterward was a great way to relax and share the company of so many awesome volunteers.

MANY thanks to everyone for such a fantastic event: the 30 event participants, which included seven riders who became new TROT members in order to participate -- Cat Harasewych, Karen Parker, Jen Middleton, Bryan Parker, Shirley Burdette, Evelyn Coop, and Patty Mathes -- and especially all the great volunteers who made this event possible! Our volunteers are the backbone of TROT and we encourage all TROT members to get more involved and enjoy meeting more of our wonderful members.

AND UNSOLICITED PRAISE OF THE EVENT

from Susanne Donaldson

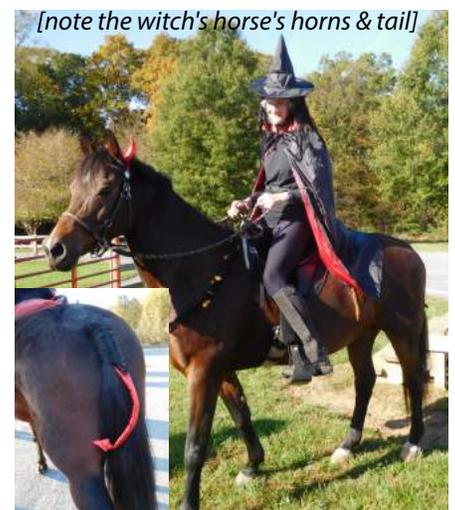
Great job done by Deneen Martin and all members at the TROT Halloween Obstacle Ride on Saturday. A huge THANK YOU to all the volunteers who gave up their day to provide a low key obstacle ride. It was a fantastic opportunity for me to introduce my mighty steed to these challenges in a non-competitive environment. Kudos to all! I especially loved the witch who rode the trails to make sure all went well! Very well done and pleasant people! I volunteered last year so I was thrilled to be able to ride it this year! Great job everyone!



[note Eyore!]



[note the hoops]



[note the witch's horse's horns & tail]

[back and side view]



[photos from Grace Richards, Jenn Poole, David Lawrence & BSW]



MEET TROT'S GREAT NEW VOLUNTEERS

MEET TROT'S NEW TREASURER, FRITZI GROW *from Fritzi*

Fritzi Grow (at right, with Poptart) is TROT's new Treasurer (<grow77@gmail.com>). She is from Bavaria, Germany and has been in Maryland for three years, now living with her husband and two ferrets in Westminster. She has been riding since she was 12 years old and just adopted her first horse, Poptart, from Days End Horse Rescue. Poptart lives with one of TROT's founding members, Pat Oliva, and her horses in Woodbine. Fritzi is an endurance rider and hopes to compete with Poptart in 2018.



WITH SO MANY GREAT MONTGOMERY RIDING VENUES, IT SEEMED WISE TO HAVE TWO COUNTY COORDINATORS, SO...

MEET TROT'S NEW MONTGOMERY COUNTY CO-COORDINATOR – BRIEANAH SCHWARTZ *from Brieanah*

Brieanah Schwartz (shown at right with Eire) is the new Montgomery County co-coordinator. She is from Sarasota, Florida and has been in Maryland for three years. She now lives in Montgomery Village with her two chihuahuas and a newly adopted kitten. She has been riding since she was seven years old. She started in the hunter/jumper discipline and now enjoys endurance with her 16 year old Irish Sport Horse, Eire. Eire is boarded in Brookeville and the two frequent the trails in Patuxent River State Park. Please contact her about county trails, at <bvs.sbc@gmail.com>.



and MEET OUR OTHER NEW MONTGOMERY COUNTY CO-COORDINATOR – RITA BECK *from Rita*

Thank you TROT for the opportunity to work with you as a Montgomery County Coordinator. I live, hike and trail ride in the Potomac area and try to do all I can to protect and keep safe the natural surface trail system in our community. I have been trail riding out of Callithea Farm in Potomac since 1987 and hope to see you on the trails soon. Quarter horses all the way! I also attend civic association meetings, Park and Planning meetings and County and State hearings to collect information relating to our beautiful trail system and am looking forward to sharing this information with you. Any questions or concerns on the trail system in Montgomery County, please feel free to contact me at <rita.beck@verizon> (photo at the right).



MEET TROT'S NEW CARROLL COUNTY COORDINATOR – STEPHANIE BRENNAN

from Stephanie

Stephanie Brennan and her two horses (at right) came to Maryland in October 2014. She began riding lessons at a very young age and started showing in English hunter jumper classes when her feet could barely touch the stirrups. Since that time, Stephanie has dabbled in barrel racing, mounted drill team, and many other equestrian events. Since her diagnosis and extensive surgeries in 2015 to combat a rare abdominal cancer, she enjoys the simple pleasures of being back in the saddle and on the trails. She loves new challenges and any excuse to spend more time with her mares, so she is excited to take on this new challenge as a Carroll County Coordinator for TROT. She lives right next to the Liberty Reservoir and welcomes anyone to come and join her for a trail ride. She looks forward to meeting and working with other Carroll County TROT members. Please feel free to contact her at 603-573-1123 (cell/text) or email at <dadsllcobra@yahoo.com>.



TRAIL WORK

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

To encourage riders on TROT's mission of maintaining sustainable trails, Amy Kimble, TROT's Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator, challenged each TROT member to do at least two hours of trail work this year. This really is not a lot, for your breaking branches and clipping vines while you ride counts as time doing trail work! And you still have a good number of weeks of riding in 2017 to get in your hours. Please report them **BY JAN 3, 2108** to Amy (text to 301-748-8310 or email 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.

Trail Work Hours Reported to Amy from June 30-Nov 5, 2107

from Amy Kimble

Terry Ledley	12 hrs.	Amy Kimble	6 hrs.	Janet MacNab	3 hrs.	Carrie Gittings	1.5 hrs.
plus her paid help	6 hrs.	Doris Rhinehart	3 hrs.	Priscilla Huffman	1.5 hrs.		
Mary Prowell	7 hrs.	Lucy Ertter	3 hrs.	Monika Munn	1.5 hrs.		
Barb Sollner-Webb	7 hrs.	[name unclear]	3 hrs.	Donna O'Brien	1.5 hrs.	Total:	43 hrs.

The previous Balance of 166 hours plus the new 43 hours makes 209 hours that have been reported so far in 2017. Thank you everyone who has contributed their valuable time to this most worthwhile effort.

Watershed Work by Debby Poole's Children's Camp

info from Debby Poole

Each summer, TROT member Debby Poole coordinates the Peach Orchard Camp for youths, and one of their projects is cleaning up a section of WSSC Patuxent watershed lands. This year, the approximately 30 campers spent about two hours working along the shore, trails and parking area at Scott's Cove (on the opposite side of the reservoir from the equestrian trail). They collected about 16 bags of all kinds of stuff, from broken bottles and fishing line to money.

[photos from Debby Poole]



TRAIL PLANNING – PAINT BRANCH

from Rita Beck, new Mo. Co. co-Coordinator

There was a M-NCPPC Open Meeting on 11/8/17 concerning their Upper Paint Branch Limited Area Trail Plan. This meeting was attended by TROT Members Pat Oliva, Barbara Sollner-Webb & Rita Beck, MORE member Austin Steo, and about 30 other citizens. It was led by M-NCPPC's Park and Trail Planning Coordinator, Chuck Kines and was the second meeting on this issue. Its purpose was to introduce the public to their proposed multi-use (equestrian, mountain bikers and hikers) natural surface trail plan that will be implemented in three phases. The trails in this plan are all north of Briggs Chaney Road, except for a connection down to Fairland Road (running north-south along the Paint Branch). The M-NCPPC plan is intended to replace the "people's choice trails" that currently exist in this park, many of which are south of Briggs Chaney Road – and include all the trails that equestrians used to ride in this park, prior to the ICC. M-NCPPC staff say that those prior trails are in the most environmentally sensitive land and therefore they will not maintain them (although it seems that users will not be barred from whatever still-passable sections there are of those people's choice trails). The emphasis of the current plan is stated to provide better connectivity for community access as well as regional access and to provide the user with loop experience where possible, while also keeping users out of what they deem the most environmentally sensitive areas. However, a safe way for their trails to traverse Briggs Chaney Road still remains to be worked out. The Park Staff will present their three phase plan to the Planning Board in the Fall/Winter of 2017.

TROT Member Pat Oliva noted that it was TROT's efforts many decades ago that saved much of this park from development (see President's Message). Pat also raised the issue of horse trailer parking, as most of the TROT membership would require parking facilities since residential development has over the years replaces the previous horse properties in this area. But because almost the entire park is within the Paint Branch Special Protection Area (SPA) and the Best Natural Areas (BNA), where impervious surface is to be very limited, park staff would not want new trailer parking lot(s) within that area, but they seemed open to the idea of accommodating horses and suggested that they could possibly work with MD DOT to try to find some trailer parking just north of Rt 198/Spencerville Road (although safely crossing this busy road could be challenging). Pat noted that after most of the farms that used to surround Paint Branch Park got converted to housing developments there has been little horse use in this beautiful park, but she hopes that with parking we will be able to enjoy its new trails.

TROT TRAIL RIDES

TROT's 2017 trail ride season is now completed, but do plan to come on TROT rides in 2018 and ideally to also lead a ride yourself. TROT rides are a very enjoyable 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.

Since the last newsletter, TROT had hoped to have 11 rides, but four had to be cancelled due to rain, predicted rain, recent rain (wet ground), or other reasons. These were the rides scheduled on Wednesday, October 25 at Gunpowder Falls State Park to be led by Priscilla Huffman; on Friday, October 27 at Rosaryville Park to be led by Laura Colicchio; on Thursday, November 9 at a location TBD to be led by Debbie Wagner; and on Saturday, November 18 at Anacostia Park to be led by John Angevine. Thank you all anyway, for offering to lead the rides. However, TROT did get in seven great rides:

Rachel Carson, Montgomery County

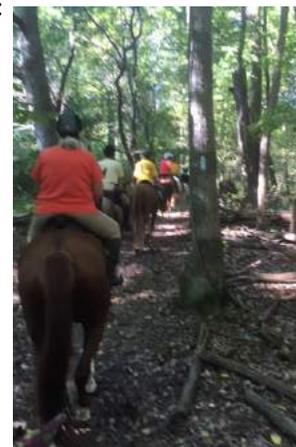
from Laury Lobel, ride leader

For the September "Last Thursday of the Month Ride" (September 28), nine riders enjoyed the beautiful trails of Rachel Carson Conservation Park in Sunshine, Md. It was a picture-perfect day without a cloud in the sky and a wonderful breeze. We rode several loops in the park for about an hour and 45 minutes (officially all-walk, but with opportunities for those who wanted to move out to do so) and then sat in the shade of the trees for our lunch and social hour. [Editor's note: As on all of Laury's rides, she kindly provided a DELICIOUS home-made dessert and cold drinks.]



[photos from Laury Lobel and Joan Basmans]

From left to right: Flo Arnold, Laury Lobel, Ellen Frank, new member Vicki Platz, Monica Hoerner, Nancy Osgood, Linda Gasch, Joan Bosmans, and newlywed Jocelyn Butrum now Jocelyn Winkert



Riverbend Park, Great Falls, VA

On Sunday, October 1, Cecile Neuvens led eight TROT members (two joined for just the day) on the lovely trails just south of the Potomac River, in Virginia. Stephanie Brennan gets an award for coming down all the way from Westminster, and she kindly GPS'ed the ride for the TROT website! We rode from Riverbend Park to and within Great Falls National Park, partly along the Potomac River and then through the woods, on the Heritage, Bootlegger and Carriage trails. [Note: for those who remember ages ago that the horse trail went the entire way to Great Falls along the water, much of this stretch is now closed to horses who instead now use woods trails in the abutting hills.] The ride was very pretty and afterward there was an enjoyable potluck lunch and social.



[sign at the park]



From left to right: Rebecca King, Pennie Brown, Willie Simth, Shawne Whittington, Stephanie Brennan, Ann Faulkner, Terry Ledley, Barbara Sollner-Webb and Cecile Neuvens.

Greenwell State Park, St. Mary's County

On Saturday, October 7, Kathy Glockner, TROT's St. Mary's County Coordinator, led a very scenic ride on the Patuxent waterfront trails at Greenwell State Park, a 596-acre state park managed in partnership with The Greenwell Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing outdoor accessible recreation, including for people with

[continued on next page]

continued from page 6 – Greenwell

disabilities, returning veterans, and children. We rode part of their ten miles of trails along agricultural fields and in the woods, an easy level ride, with few slopes or hills, excellent for barefoot horses. After the ride we enjoyed a get-together lunch. Unfortunately, several of the intended riders cancelled out so there were only three of us (Kathy Glockner, Denis Webb, and Barbara Sollner-Webb) to enjoy these pretty trails.



[photo from Cecile and BSW]

Little Bennett, , Montgomery County

On Saturday, October 14, Susan Ferrara led a spectacular ride at Little Bennett. The nine riders enjoyed it at a walk, but then some of us especially enjoyed a long canter around a lovely field. We passed multiple mountain bikers, including one carrying his dog in a basket (see photo). We met at the enormous trailer parking field (where there are also now horse camping facilities, as described in an earlier TROT newsletter) and returned there for a yummy lunch that Dave Lawrence had kindly set up while we rode. Susan had made an amazing cake and cookies, and they also brought chips, drinks, maps, and treats for the horses. And Stephanie brought TROT logo chicken salad sandwiches (see photo) – all real treats!



Barbara Sollner-Webb, Marie Wheeler, Susan Ferrara, Deneen Martin, Carolyn Rhodes, Stephanie Brennan, Debbie Mullinix (not shown: Paula Underwood)



biker with dog in basket!



Stephanie's TROT logo chicken salad sandwiches

McKeldin Park to Woodstock Inn, Carroll County

from Carolann Sharp, ride leader

A Thoroughbred, a Quarter horse, a Tennessee Walker and Norwegian Fjord went to a bar... sounds like the beginning of a good joke. But that was what happened on Sunday October 22 for the TROT ride to Woodstock Inn. Four riders (Carolann Sharpe, Lee Royer, Victoria Masters-Konopasek and Paula Underwood) met at McKeldin's horse trailer parking and enjoyed riding on a beautiful 70 degree fall day. The water crossings were low, with the water like a glass crystal showing small fish and stones below. Paula's horse Symbol lead the way, strutting his stuff and looking so noble. While Ares was technically the leader, he liked being behind the group making sure everyone was having a good time. Lee and Victoria hadn't gotten out on many TROT rides due to work and "real life," so they were ...



[Lee Royer, Paula Underwood, Carolann Sharpe, Victoria Masters-Konopasek; photos from Carolann Sharp]



[continued on next page]

continued from page 7 - McKeldin Park to Woodstock Inn

soaking in the relaxing breezes and noise of leaves floating down to the ground. The crunch of the dry autumn leaves that had already fallen on the path rang out under the horse's hooves. Once at Woodstock Inn, we walked across the road and to the back of the restaurant and tied up on the new hitching posts. There is a picnic table directly next to the posts that would later be very helpful for getting back on the taller horses after a delicious Sunday brunch. The waitress gave us some extra carrots for the horses and they were very grateful. On the return, Victoria's mare Josie showed her work horse stability and surefootedness descending down into the river under the overpass as the car and truck sounds boomed overhead. How do you prepare a horse to trail ride under a loud overpass? Just do it!! Somehow it seemed like such a short ride back, for the horses had a pick-up-and-go, knowing they were heading to the trailers. Plus, time flies when you are having fun and you're full from lunch. We encountered so many curious walkers and dog walkers, we were saying "Hello" and "What a beautiful day" the whole way. A lovely walker took our picture and then a family out for their hike asked if they could have their picture taken with Josie and Indy. All in all, it was a little under three hours in the saddle and we had a wonderful time sharing our horse stories and marveling at how lucky we are to live such a blessed and charmed life to spend a Sunday riding with our equine partner and new friends.

Ag Farm Park, Montgomery County

from Laury Lobel, ride leader

On a spectacular fall day, 14 riders gathered for 2017's last "Last Thursday of the Month Ride" (October 26) at the Ag Farm Park to enjoy the beautiful foliage of this amazing riding venue. We welcomed new TROT members Erin Allen and Roxy Baldwin and rode the manicured trails through the eastern part of the park, over many of the incredible bridges built by the Montgomery Parks Department. Not one horse had a problem with those crossings or with the one stream we crossed. It was a perfect ride and was followed by everyone enjoying their lunch together. [Editor's note: Laury brought a fantastic home-made lemon cake and other goodies!]

left to right: Janet Whelan, Erin Allen, Roxy Baldwin, Barbara Sollner-Webb, Terry Ledley, Nancy Osgood, Monica Hoerner, Laury Lobel, Linda Gasch, Margaret Purcell, Ann Faulkner, Deneen Martin, Joan Bosmans, Ray Bosmans



Rocky Gorge Trail, PG and Mo. Co.

from Barbara Sollner-Webb, ride co-leader

Finally on November 15th, Mother Nature let us have our ride on WSSC's beautiful Rocky Gorge Trail (rescheduled three times). Years ago, WSSC named this the "Terry Ledley Trail", and Terry was the co-leader. WSSC's watershed unit kindly offered the TROT riders complementary trail passes for this one day. The nine riders enjoyed the great (non-rocky, despite the name!) trails, magnificent views of the reservoir, and seeing two heron. After the ride, some of us convened at Barbara's house for a potluck lunch.

left to right: Marie Yonoskiki, Jeanie Kemp, Debby Poole, Monika Munn, Priscilla Huffman Barbara Sollner-Webb, Terry Ledley, Ray Bosman and Joan Bosmans

Marie at the Terry Ledley Trail sign



THE LEAGUE OF MARYLAND HORSEMEN INVITATIONAL YOU CAN JOIN THE LEAGUE AND ENJOY THEIR FACILITIES

from Carolann Sharp

The weekend of October 6-8, the League of Maryland Horsemen hosted their annual "Invitational." The club invites non-members to come and see what makes this club unique and rewarding. The club has a 67 year history of providing trail riding experiences for generations of riders. Located on the border of Carroll, Howard and Baltimore Counties, nestled in the middle of thousands of acres of Patapsco State Park, its nearly seven-acre property has electric campsites with horse tie lines and space to accommodate portable corrals, as well as a large outdoor arena and a clubhouse with full kitchen and bath facilities. With over 150 miles of trails accessible from the property, this hidden gem must be seen to be truly appreciated.

Forty-two people registered for the Invitational. Since the site comfortably accommodates over 200 campers, there was an abundance of space for the guests to set up their tents, campers, horse trailers and shelters. The meals were provided, starting with Friday evening dinner -- especially welcoming for those who came long distances. Saturday morning bell rang and breakfast was served, with everyone excited about the three rides that were scheduled: a gaited ride, a medium ride with some trotting and cantering, and a scenic walk ride. The weather was an amazing 80 degrees that day, so when the horses crossed the rivers it was actually refreshing if they kicked up their hooves and splashed. The view of fall colors and a falling walnut and acorn from time to time made the ride picturesque. All returned for lunch at 1:30 PM, and then it was time to relax. Some went in the arena and worked on skills and improving their bond with their equine partner. A hammock between two trees with a pair of boots dangling from it was seen. Dinner was served, with the happy campers ready for the hot meal of salads, meatballs, turkey, potatoes, gravy, and a dessert table full of goodies. A League member welcomed all the new visitors and shared her story of how the League changed her life and supported her equine life and knowledge. The evening proceeded with campfires dotting the campgrounds and the sounds of laughter and friends sharing stories floating on the night air. Although rain made Sunday a pack-up-and-go-home day, the club moved their afternoon dinner to noon, so everyone got a little nourishment before heading home.

A few people decided to join the League that weekend and they are now able to attend the League's many events throughout the year as well as have all-year access to the grounds for any day ride or overnight camping they wish to take. If TROT members wish to learn more about the League, their website is <www.Leagueofmarylandhorsemen.com>. [Editor's note: unlike the old days when there was a multi-year wait for an opening to join the League, folks can now join without a wait!]



photos of some of the League's facilities and a nearby trail, from Carolann Sharp



HORSES ON THE LOOSE – A TRUE STORY

from Laury Lobel

It must be my year for finding horses on the loose. First, this summer Nancy Osgood and I were coming home from riding, and when cresting a small knoll on New Hampshire Avenue we spotted two horses grazing within a few feet of this very busy road. I knew that just wasn't right, so U-turned and pulled over on the shoulder. We got out of the car and walked right up to the escapees, who luckily were wearing halters. We assumed they were from the adjacent farm, and fortunately within a few minutes two young ladies came looking for them. The second incident was a short while ago, when driving down Rt. 108 toward Olney. As I approached the school, in the distance I could see two horses alternately trotting down Rt. 108 and eating grass by the side of the road, having stopped traffic. I hurriedly pulled my car on the shoulder, left the engine running and my dog and purse in the car, and retrieved a dog leash from my trunk. The horses trotted off into an adjacent parking lot, and without thought for my car and dog, I followed and kept talking to them. They trotted in and out of the cars until one of them stopped long enough for me to walk up to him, and he allowed me to put the leash around his neck. I figured hopefully the other horse would follow, which he did. I got to Rt. 108 and just kept walking, holding out my hand for traffic to stop. I believed I knew where they belonged, since I drive that stretch of road several times a week. So I walked up the driveway and saw the gate to the paddock was open! I put them back in their paddock, latched the gate, and jogged back to my car -- luckily the car, dog and purse were all still where I left them. The best part was that when I returned to the farm to make sure the horses were ok, the owner had no idea they had even gotten out, but was very grateful when I told her what had transpired. I think I should start carrying a halter and rope in my trunk!

FOLLOWING UP ON JACQUE COWAN'S ARTICLE IN THE LAST ISSUE, "I AM SO TIRED OF CLEANING UP OTHERS' POOP!"

from Nancy Harmon

In reference to Jackie Cowan's comments about manure left in parking lots, I want to echo that it is a bad practice for us horse people to engage in. It also reflects very badly on our community to other people using the parks. But perhaps it happens because these people do not have an easy way to handle the manure. So I want to make a suggestion. I use a child's snow sled. It is lightweight, inexpensive and takes very little room to store.

[Editor's note: And if there is not a good place to throw the collected poop without fouling the park, it is easy to put in your trailer and take home for disposal.]



FIVE SIMPLE RULES FOR KEEPING PEACE ON THE TRAILS

from Judy Thacher

[Judy suggested TROT members could benefit from the info in this June, 2016 Equus article by Dee McVicker, an Arizona trail rider.]

With trails these days more crowded than ever with runners, bicyclists and more, try to make your encounters with other users as pleasant as possible. I still experience a bit of a rush when I see a sign on a multiuse trail instructing hikers, bicyclists and other recreational users to yield to horses. Having the right of way as an equestrian is one of the few privileges I have in life. Yet I almost never exercise it. Why? In the decade that I've been riding trails, I have come to accept one fundamental fact: Equestrians are outnumbered. Less than four million horse riders share U.S. trails with 97.7 million hikers, bicyclists and joggers each year, according to The Outdoor Foundation and the American Horse Council.

What's more, bicyclists are often the first to volunteer for trail maintenance duties at the parks I frequent. They're involved, strong in numbers and, if it came down to who stays or who goes, I'd be the first one out of the park. All of which means that it's in the best interest of all equestrians to maintain friendly and courteous relations with other recreational trail users. For the most part, accomplishing this goal isn't difficult. It just requires a combination of good horsemanship, courtesy and common sense. Here are five simple rules that will set you on the right path.

PREPARE YOUR HORSE FOR THE TRAIL Good trail etiquette is possible only if your horse is prepared for what you might encounter on the trail. If he is terrified of motorized vehicles, stick to trails that exclude them until you safely desensitize him to the sights and sounds of dirt bikes and the like. If he is OK with hikers in general but sees walking sticks, backpacks or children as menacing, he's not ready for public trails -- and you need to work out these issues at home beforehand.

Of course, you can't anticipate every challenge. Even my normally sensible horse can get spooked by rambunctious kids running on the trail or a bicyclist who suddenly appears on the horizon moving like a mountain lion. But as I'm taking up the reins and hunkering down in the saddle, I try to remember that kids have a right to run and cyclists have a right to go at reasonable speeds. I can't control what anyone else is doing on the trail, but I can control, to the extent that any equestrian can, my horse.

MAKE SAFETY YOUR PRIORITY Horses have the right of way on the public trails I ride. But I almost always yield to hikers, joggers and especially those poor bicyclists who are climbing up a steep hill. I am the one comfortably seated, after all. Unless my horse has one hoof on a ledge with no place else to go, I prefer to move to the side and let bicyclists pass. Most are appreciative. When encountering hikers or bicyclists, I usually slow from a trot to a walk and offer a "hello." Many respond in kind, reassuring my horse that they are human and not mountain lions after all. If I'm on a single-track trail, I'll typically move my horse off to the side and position him to face the oncoming pedestrians so he is not startled from behind. Sometimes, I'll ask the cyclist or jogger how many others are behind him to give me an idea of how and when to prepare my horse.

Motorists obviously can't hear me coming, so I am extra cautious when riding on trails for motorized vehicles. The good news is that I can hear them from a distance, which gives me plenty of time to move safely to the side as they approach. Most motorists I've run across slow down, and a few will even turn off their engines if they spot me -- but I don't count on it.

When riding out in open-use spaces, I am extra vigilant. Fishermen, four-wheelers and rock climbers are generally courteous, but I can't say the same for deer and cattle.

I look where I'm going and what might be coming up behind me. I try to stay in tune with my horse and take preemptive measures when necessary. No matter who else is on the trail with me -- hikers, bicyclists, dirt bikers or hunters -- I try to remember that having the right of way doesn't give me the right to needlessly impose on people.

KEEP YOUR CELL PHONE IN YOUR POCKET Cell phones and ear buds seem to be proliferating on the trail -- like everywhere else -- so good etiquette dictates that you try to be more aware of your horse and your surroundings because others might not be paying attention. One afternoon I was out riding on a well-used trail with a friend when we came across a bicyclist who had his head down, with ear buds in, and was traveling at top speed around a blind corner. He couldn't hear us or see us. Fortunately, our horses heard him first, and we were able to move out of the way before he whizzed by. I hate to ...

[continued on next page]

continued from page 10 -- SIMPLE RULES FOR KEEPING PEACE ON THE TRAILS

think what could have happened had we, too, been listening to headphones or talking on the phone and not paying attention to our horses.

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR FOR HORSES For everyone's sake, it's wise to make an effort to educate the uninitiated about sharing the trail with large, reactive herd animals who bolt first and ask questions later. I try to be friendly about it, but I do ask other recreational trail users to speak up when approaching a horse, especially when coming up on a blind curve. I let them know that stepping off the trail and going behind bushes or trees makes them appear to be a predator to my horse. Most of all, though, I thank them when they're being courteous, and I go out of my way to let them know that, like them, I am just interested in enjoying the trail.

If I run into a few hikers or bicyclists who to want to pet my horse, and my horse seems agreeable (which he's often not), I usually oblige. I find this to be very good public relations for both horse and pedestrian. One rider I know makes it a point to stop and talk with young children, many of whom have never seen a horse up close. She sees it as an opportunity to teach the next generation about horses -- and she's right!

TAKE THE HIGH ROAD Recently, I was on a trail ride with a group of friends when a young cyclist came up from behind us with his wheels turning so fast, I was reminded of those cartoons of the Road Runner being chased by Wile E. Coyote. Luckily, our horses were only startled for a moment, and the trail was wide enough for him to pass by without incident. But what happened next made me want to sink to the center of the earth. One of the riders in our group yelled at the cyclist in a fit of rage that was not helpful and was, frankly, embarrassing.

Yes, there are a few bad apples out there on bicycles --- and on horseback, for that matter. But this young cyclist was probably just unaware of the potential danger he posed and thought nothing of passing a few riders. He probably didn't realize that he needed to yield, and he obviously knew little or nothing about horses. I chalk it up to an education problem -- and, in fact, this incident happened at a park known for a deep-rooted misunderstanding between equestrians and bicyclists. A near-fatal equestrian accident involving a bicyclist had happened there just the summer before, and because of the fear of another accident, the community barred equestrians from a large section of the park. At the time, equestrians were on very unsure footing there. We knew that if push came to shove, we'd be out. Many of those issues have since been ironed out, primarily because a few smart horse people took the high road and gently educated the public about horse safety.

It's easy to get huffy about the careless actions of a few, but I try to keep in mind the fact that for every bicyclist who tries my patience on the trail, there are many, many more who appreciate horses. One bicyclist we met had added a bell to his handlebars so that he'd be able to alert our horses when he was coming up on us from behind. Soon, other bicyclists followed his example. For weeks, we listened to the tinkling of little bells as we rode, another reminder that people generally want to do the right thing. Often, all it takes is a little education.

My horse can be as unpredictable as the next. On the trails, just like any other place we ride, practically anything can happen. And even our best intentions and good preparation can't head off every conflict. But more often than not, I find that the best way to solve problems and preserve harmony is to simply resort to good old-fashioned manners.

HOW YOU CAN HELP KEEP HORSE TRAILS OPEN

info from Dana Grabiner

Dana provided a valuable link to a five minute YouTube video on how YOU can help keep horse trails open, to avoid seeing the sign at right. This video is called "A is for advocacy." Check it out at <www.trailmeister.com/a-is-for-advocacy/?cat=8>. It provides lots of good information and nicely complements the above article!



GO GREEN ON YOUR TROT NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

Are you a TROT member who receives the newsletter by U.S. mail, several days after those who get it by email, and has pictures only in black and white? Maybe you'd prefer to more promptly receive the e-mailed version that has full-color pictures and saves TROT printing and mailing costs. To switch to the emailed version, please contact TROT's membership chair at <trotmembership@yahoo.com>. [But please, do not just tell your newsletter editor, because the membership chair needs to update this information on TROT's membership spreadsheet.]

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

COUNTY/AREA COORDINATOR REPORTS

Baltimore County

from Priscilla Huffman, Baltimore County Coordinator

For the third time this year, our TROT ride on the Bunker Hill trail in Gunpowder Park had to be cancelled due to wet trail conditions. This is a beautiful ride, with views of the Gunpowder River, so we hope to schedule it again in the spring.

The local Volunteer Mounted Patrol will be scheduling a meeting in the next few months to review which areas of the park are being well covered by the patrol and where we need to add volunteers. Andrea Townsley-Sapp, the park ranger working with the VMP, has taken as active interest in promoting the VMP effort, scheduling ride-alongs for new volunteers, and making sure uniforms are delivered.

About 12 hours of time have been logged on the Gunpowder trails in the last few months by TROT members and non-members, as we work to ensure the trails stay horse-friendly and are cleared of invasive species.

Other riding venues in our area include the Sweet Air trails in Harford Co. (part of Gunpowder Park) and the Prettyboy reservoir trails in northern Baltimore County, and in PA -- Codorus State Park, Spring Valley and Lake Redmond. Contact Priscilla Huffman at 301-646-4422 or <priscillahuffman@verizon.net> if you have an interest in riding any of these trails.

[Editor's note: please appreciate that since Priscilla has been the energetic Baltimore County Coordinator, engaging the local riders in numerous trail-related efforts, the number of TROT members in this county increased from 15 to 30. Yay, Priscilla!]

Anne Arundel County

from Jacquie Cowan, Anne Arundel County Coordinator

IT'S HUNTING SEASON! So get out your bright orange and bells, and be sure to check the hunting regulations for the areas you ride in, both public and private, state and county. See <<http://www.eregulations.com/maryland/hunting/>> for Maryland's official Guide to Hunting and Trapping. Over the years, more Sundays have been added for hunting around the State. See <<http://www.eregulations.com/maryland/hunting/sunday-deer-hunting/>> for a calendar of Sundays open for hunting, by county and kind of hunting. However, some riding venues have their own dates, so do call where you ride.

Patuxent Wildlife Refuge/North Tract in western Anne Arundel County will be open to all public users throughout the deer bow season. But during Muzzle and Firearm deer season, which run off and on late November to early January, the Refuge will only be open on Sundays for all trail users. Do call the North Tract contact station, at 301-497-5770, before you plan to go, to not be surprised by a closure when you arrive.

[Although now passé, here is great Halloween clip-art that Jacquie had shared, at right.]



Montgomery County

from Rita Beck, Montgomery County co-Coordinator

[See Rita's article on the Paint Branch trail planning process, on page 5.]

More in Montgomery County

information from Pat Talbott

On Thursday, November 30, 2017, 9 AM, at the M-NCPPC Headquarters (8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring) there will be an open Planning Board meeting on the North Branch Trail project. This project is within Rock Creek Regional Park and includes relocating the parking lot from Muncaster Mill Rd to Meadows Ln. Is this a good time to request equestrian accommodations?

SUMMARIES OF TROT BOARD MEETINGS

from Jean McKay, TROT secretary

Summary of October 4, 2017 TROT Board meeting – held at the home of Gale Monahan.

Participants: Gale Monahan (President), Deneen Martin (Vice President), Jean McKay (Secretary), Dana Grabiner (BD), Terry Ledley (BD), Laury Lobel (BD), Leah Mack (BD), Pat Oliva (BD), Barbara Sollner-Webb (BD), Rita Beck, Jeff Dwyer, Fritzi Grow, Dick Huffman, Priscilla Huffman, Susan Montgomery (via teleconference), Nancy Osgood, Brieanah Schwartz

-- Treasurer's report was accepted; September Board minutes were approved as written.

-- Janet Whelan has stepped down as Treasurer and Fritzi Grow was named interim Treasurer. The Board thanks Janet for serving as Treasurer and welcomes Fritzi as interim Treasurer.

-- Jeff Dwyer gave a tutorial and demonstration about how to access and use the TROT Facebook page, including administration, policies, and procedures.

-- Volunteers are needed to help with the TROT booth at the Maryland Horse Expo, January 19-21, 2018. See page 2.

[continued on next page]

continued from page 12 - SUMMARIES OF TROT BOARD MEETINGS

- The 2018 annual meeting and dinner will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds; Jean Cooper has agreed to act as chair; volunteers are needed.
- TROT has submitted a grant proposal to the Maryland Horse Industry Board requesting funds to develop a virtual trail riding experience, as a component of an interactive, educational TROT exhibit.
- County Coordinator Reports – Please see County Reports section of the newsletter.

Summary of November 1, 2017 TROT Board meeting – held at the home of Pat Oliva

Participants: Gale Monahan (President), Deneen Martin (Vice President), Jean McKay (Secretary), Fritzi Grow (Treasurer), Dana Grabiner (BD), Terry Ledley (BD), Laury Lobel (BD), Pat Oliva (BD), Barbara Sollner-Webb (BD), Stephanie Brennan (via teleconference), Jean Cooper, Priscilla Huffman (via teleconference), Susan Montgomery (via teleconference), Nancy Osgood, Briannah Schwartz, Sim Shanks

- October Board meeting minutes approved as written.
- Jean Cooper, 2018 TROT Annual Meeting and Dinner coordinator, and Nancy Osgood reviewed the tasks for the annual meeting and identified coordinators for each task/task area. Volunteers are needed to help with the set-up/clean-up, registration desk, and silent auction. Please contact Jean Cooper at <jcsquirrel@comcast.net> or Gale Monahan at <gale.email2@gmail.com> or 301-854-3852 to volunteer or for more information. The Annual Meeting and Dinner will be held February 24 at the Howard County Fairgrounds.
- The group discussed the use of social media, such as Instagram and Twitter, as ways to facilitate and improve communication and outreach about TROT activities.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the TROT booth at the Maryland Horse Expo, January 19-21, 2018. See page 2.
- 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
- Cedarville Park** (Upper Marlboro, MD) Rebecca King: family1one@msn.com or 240-346-7942
- Codorus State Park** (PA) Priscilla Huffman: 301-646-4422 or <priscillahuffman@verizon.net>
- 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** (Baltimore County) Priscilla Huffman: 301-646-4422 or priscillahuffman@verizon.net
- Gunpowder Falls State Park** (Harford County MD) Joyce Browning: 410-557-6165 / 443-966-0249
- Liberty Reservoir** (Baltimore County, MD) Stephanie Brennan: dadslilcobra@yahoo.com or 603-573-1123
- Little Bennett** (Clarksburg, MD) Jim and Maureen Henry: 301-676-5298
- Morgan Run** (Carroll County, MD) Sue Donaldson: swdonaldson@comcast.net
- 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
- Patapsco State Park/McKeldin** (Carroll, Baltimore and Howard counties MD) Carolann Sharp: mathgoddess@verizon.net
- Prettyboy Reservoir** (Baltimore County) Priscilla Huffman: 301-646-4422 or priscillahuffman@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
- 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 & Jim Carter

Name	County/State
Erin Allen	Howard County
Roxann Baldwin	Carroll
Shirley Burdette	Frederick
Evelyn Coop	Montgomery
Frank and Karen Durilla	Carroll
Kat Friedman	DC
Cat Harasewych	Montgomery
Marlene Meehan	Howard
Jennifer Middleton	DC
Robin Mongold	Montgomery
Karen Parker	PG
Vicki Platz	Montgomery

*Welcome to TROT!
We hope you enjoy TROT
and help in TROT's mission
to preserve 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	Fritzi Grow	FGrow77@gmail.com		
Additional Board members	Laury Lobel	laurylobel@verizon.net		
	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	patotiqger@gmail.com	410-489-7380	
Membership Chair	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	301-604-5619	
	Becky & Jim Carter	trotmembership@yahoo.com		
	Newsletter	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
Webmaster; mapping	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
Carroll	Stephanie Brennan	dadslilcobra@yahoo.com	603-573-1123
Cecil	Jeanne Bond	halcyonfarm@gmail.com	
Frederick	Pat Merson	lilgreyhrs@aol.com	301-898-3251
Harford	[volunteer wanted]		
Howard	Pat Oliva	patolivatiqger@aol.com	410-489-7380
	Susan Montgomery	shadowsrider@yahoo.com	410-445-3138
Laurel/Burtonsville	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	301-604-5619
	Rita Beck	rita.beck@verizon	
Montgomery	Brieanah Schwartz	bvs.sbc@gmail.com	
	[volunteer wanted]		
Prince George's	[volunteer wanted]		
St. Mary's	Kathy Glockner	kglockner@md.metrocast.net	301-475-194
Talbot	Joyce Bell	wbell2@washcoll.edu	410-820-6002

Please, Prince George's County TROT members, consider volunteering as TROT's coordinator from your county or from some subset thereof that you would feel comfortable getting more involved with!

TROT Members will be receiving their year end Renewal Notices in the near future – please fill out and return!



New / Renewal TROT Membership Application

This form printed in the TROT Newsletter may only be completed manually. When downloaded from the TROT Website or received via email the form may be completed using most current PDF readers such as Adobe Reader. Open the form, enter your information, save the form noting the name and stored location. The completed form can then be attached to an email sent to TROTmembership@yahoo.com or printed and mailed to **TROT Membership, PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777.**

In the event that your PDF Reader does not allow you to complete the Application form, print the form and complete it by hand. Mail the completed form to **TROT Membership, PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777.**

Payment of dues and any contributions may be paid online using PayPal on <http://trot-md.org/join-now/> or by mail to **TROT Membership, PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777.**

Date: _____ **Membership Renewal** **New Membership**

PLEASE PRINT

**Required information*

Indicate the Information you ***DO NOT*** wish to be included in the TROT directory.

*First Name: _____ Do not list

*Last Name: _____ Do not list

Spouse/Sig Other: _____ Do not list

Other Family Members: _____ Do not list

*Address: _____ Do not list

*City: _____ State: _____ Do not list

*5 Digit Zip: _____ *County: _____ Do not list

*Phone: primary _____ secondary _____ Do not list pri sec

Email: primary _____ Do not list

Secondary _____ Do not list

(most but not all of our communication with members is preferred to be done via email.)

All membership information is for the private use of TROT members. Membership information is not released outside the organization.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER

Membership is for the calendar year. All individuals included in a Family TROT Membership must be members of the same family living at the same address.

Type of Membership: **Single** **Family** **Number of membership cards required:** _____

One year Membership **\$20.00 per year** **Contributing** **\$30.00** **Sustaining** **\$50.00**

I will pay by PayPal

Additional contributions are welcome and help to preserve the trails you ride on.

TROT is a tax exempt, nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible. **Additional contributions** _____

TROT RELIES ON VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL OF ITS ACTIVITIES – PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO MAKE TROT SUCCEED

Please check all areas where you would be willing to assist.

Ride Leader **Horse World Expo Booth** **Trail Clearing** **Annual Dinner**
 Silent Auction **Other activities (list)** _____

TROT NEWSLETTER

I prefer to receive the TROT Newsletter by:

email (full color edition) or **U.S. Mail (Black on Yellow)** or **Neither, I will view it on the TROT website**

TROT LOGOWEAR – what a great Christmas gift!!



cap

item	color	logo kind and placement	price	photo?
cap	black	TROT logo, centered	\$15	shown on left

tank top - black	- small TROT logo on front offset & large sunburst logo on back	\$15	shown on right
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tank top front back



long sleeve
T-shirt (LS-T)

T-shirt - black	- large sunburst logo on front	\$15	shown on right
T-shirt - black	- small TROT logo on front offset	\$15	not shown
T-shirt - yellow	- large sunburst logo on front	\$15	shown on right
T-shirt - yellow	- small TROT logo on front offset	\$15	not shown

polo - black	- small TROT logo on front offset	\$20	not shown
polo - yellow	- small TROT logo on front offset	\$20	not shown



T-shirts



long sleeve
T-shirt (LS-T)

sweat - black	- large sunburst logo on front	\$20	shown on left
sweat - black	- small TROT logo on front offset	\$20	not shown

hoodie- black	- small TROT logo on front offset & large sunburst logo on back	\$30	shown on right
hoodie- black	- small TROT logo on front offset & nothing on back [only few]	\$30	not shown



hooded sweatshirt (hoodie)

front back

nylon jacket - black	- small TROT logo on front & large sunburst logo on back	\$35	shown on right
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windshirt - black	- small TROT logo on front offset & large sunburst logo on back	\$35	shown on right
windshirt - black	- small TROT logo on front offset & nothing on back [only few]	\$35	not shown



nylon front-snap jacket

front back

**most items available in S, M, L, XL, (many also in XXL),
all unisex size**

**to check availability and order:
call 301-604-5619 or email <bsw@jhmi.edu>**

**orders placed by December 10 should arrive
well before Christmas**



"windshirt" (nylon pull-over)

front back

A TROT membership (page 15) is also a great Christmas gift!!

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).

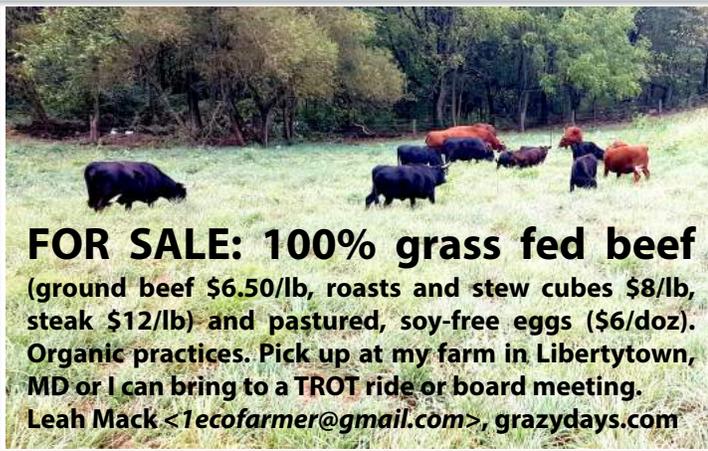
Ad rates for non-members and larger ads:

100 words	\$6 (each additional word - \$0.10)		
Business Card	\$6	1/4 page ad	\$25
1/2 page ad	\$40	Full page ad	\$75

Two Saddles for Sale from Jean Swartz

Christi Trooper Saddle 18" \$850
Big Horn black Codura and Leather Western Saddle 16" \$300
contact: Jean Swartz <jswartzldj@verizon.net>, 410-346-7060

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

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.

Icelandic Mare from Hope Millington

I am moving back to Iceland and need to sell my wonderful Icelandic mare, Kara. She is seven years old and fully trained in all the gaits (except pace) as well as in Natural Horsemanship and basic dressage. She is calm on trails, loads perfectly, stands for the farrier, is easy to get in the field, listens well and learns quickly, and has a great character. She would please any rider, as she is always ready to do more. Her her temperament level is 5 out of 10. She has won awards for her trot at the Montaire Schooling Show and is an all-around well behaved horse. Asking \$6,500. My primary concern is that she goes to someone kind, loving and a good rider. Contact Hope Millington <hopehillington1@gmail.com> if you or anyone you talk to would be interested.



Louvered Exhaust Fans for Barn Wall from Barbara Sollner-Webb

Following up on Kathy Lipton's article last issue urging the use of electrically safe barn fans to avoid fires, we would like to sell – cheaply – three of such safe Dayton "Shutter Mounted Exhaust Fans", from Granger. Two are 18" and one is 12", industrial grade (115 V, 6- Hz), and they are ready to mount in the upper outside wall of your barn. We initially planned to have five exhaust fans in our barn and bought all, but the two we installed first do the job just fine. So these other three fans were never installed and are still in their original boxes. They are looking for a good home – a barn that needs hot air pulled out in the summer.

fan size	current price at Granger	we are asking
18"	\$448	\$150
12"	\$188	\$65

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 Terry Ledley, Priscilla Huffman, Judy Thacher, and Denis Webb. Also thanks to Joan Bosmans, Fritzi Grow, Gale Monahan, Laury Lobel, and Hope Millington for your edits. You guys are wonderful!

Also, sorry that your November newsletter is late this month, but the editor is still not back to her usual healthy self.



TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY

TROT Membership

PO Box 506

Highland, MD 20777

Inside this issue:

- Upcoming Horse World Expo
- Upcoming TROT Annual Dinner and Silent Auction
- TROT's Recent "Coached Obstacle Training Ride"
- Meet TROT's Many New Volunteers
- But Volunteers Are Still Needed for Other TROT Positions
- Trail Work and Trail Planning
- Recent TROT Trail Rides
- The League of Maryland Horsemen
- Catching Loose Horses
- Trail Readiness and Trail Etiquette
- Welcome, New Members
- County Reports and Board Meeting Reports
- Contact Information for TROT and Trail Guides
- Useful Classified Ads
- And More