



Trail Riders Of Today

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

January 2009

Number 172

TROT ANNUAL MEETING, POT LUCK DINNER

AND

SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, February 28, 2009

6:00 PM

GREAT NEW LOCATION!

Mt. Airy Vol. Fire Dept. Activities Center on the Mt. Airy Fairgrounds

Directions on page 8

Please bring your favorite dish of food to share according to the first letter of your last name

A - K Main Dish

L - N Appetizers

O - R Desserts

S - Z Salads and Sides

Come and enjoy lots of time for networking and meeting with friends.

For more information contact Janet MacNab at janet_macnab@comcast.net or 301-622-4157

SILENT AUCTION see page 4

Please contact Kyle Jossi at bossyjossi@verizon.net if you have an auction item. Items can be brought to the dinner (plan to arrive early if you have an item so that we have time to place on the table) but please contact Kyle ahead of time with a description of your item so that she can have a sheet made up for it.

Inside This Issue:

President's Message	2	TROT Rides	6	Trail Guides	11
Nominations Wanted	2	Upper Patuxent River State Park	6	TROTware order form	12
TROT Membership Renewal	2	Camping weekend	6	Classified Ads	13,14
County Updates	3	Random Thoughts	7	Renual Stuffing Party	14
Howard County	3	Does Your Horse Need a Blanket?	7	Annual Membership Application	15
Montgomery County	3	Maryland Horse World Exp	8	The Back Page	16
Annual Dinner/Silent Auction Update	4	TROT Annual Meeting - directions	8		
Riders To The Rescue	4	Horse World Expo Show Ad	9		
Benson Branch Park	4	DONOR BEWARE	10		
Successful Trail Clearing Event	5	Need a ride/Share a ride!	10		
Upcoming Rides	5	Who's Who in TROT	11		

President's Message

When 30 TROT members attend a Howard County Recreation and Parks Advisory Board meeting at the request of county coordinator Pat Oliva, you know your organization is strong, viable and committed. That meeting (see article on page 3,4) was the culmination of an exciting and productive year for TROT.

From increased membership, thanks to the efforts of Jeanne Bond, to a mapping project spearheaded by Ron MacNab, to improved web site design provided by Harold Goldstein, TROT board members and volunteers have worked countless hours to fulfill our organization's mission and improve our services.

Pat Talbott organized our trail rides this year, which included a breakfast ride on Labor Day. Marilyn Miller and Deneen Martin (also our Treasurer) coordinated the Judged Pleasure Ride. The annual dinner, with the help of Janet MacNab for food, and Kyle Jossi for the silent auction, had a record turnout of 140 members.

Amy Kimble established a relationship with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources which enabled TROT members to sign up as park volunteers, and led two well-attended trail clearings at Patuxent River State Park. We added two new county coordinators to our ranks: Shawn McEntee in Wicomico County and LeRoy Mattingly in St. Mary's County.

TROT Search & Rescue, under the leadership of T'mi Finkle, was awarded non-profit status. Pat Merson, Sandy Boyd, Kathy Dobson, Susan Rechen and Anne Bennof have all been active in their respective counties or served on our board (see our listing on page 11) . Susan Gray has provided legal insight for many of our activities, and as the TROT secretary, contributes excellent minutes each month.

And very importantly, Nancy Osgood and Sim Shanks, as editor and graphics designer respectively, have continued to provide a professional, robust newsletter every two months.

We are so fortunate to have such a capable group working on behalf of trails for everyone to use. On behalf of all of the TROT membership, a heartfelt and sincere THANK YOU to these members and the many others who have helped support TROT this past year.

Priscilla Huffman
President

NOMINATIONS WANTED

Nancy Osgood

The officers and board of TROT are seeking nominations from all members for TROT president and board members. If you are considering becoming more active in TROT, becoming a board member is a great way to learn about the work that TROT does.

Sadly, Priscilla Huffman is stepping down as TROT president this year. TROT needs to continue such capable leadership in our next president.

Nominations are also being sought for special awards. These awards will be used to recognize TROT members who have donated time and talent to the trail-riding community and have by their individual efforts made a difference in our world. TROT board members are not eligible for special awards.

Please forward all nominations to: Kyle Jossi email: bossyjossi@verizon.net phone: (301) 570-3860.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR TROT MEMBERSHIP!

Nancy Osgood, editor

I think that everyone understands the importance of a robust and active membership in TROT. Numbers matter! Please be confident that you are important in our efforts to preserve bridle trails and equestrian easements. And, also please be confident that the TROT Board is vigilant in the way it spends its funds – which is why we have been able to maintain our low annual dues. A special thanks to our **Contributing Members** and **Sustaining Members**, and those who have made additional contributions. You have chosen to make a bigger financial commitment to TROT, and your extra contribution is greatly appreciated. If you have not yet renewed, you will have the opportunity at the Annual Meeting February 28.

County Updates

Currently there are no named contacts or coordinators for **Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford and Prince George's** Counties. If you have an interest to act in this capacity, please contact Priscilla Huffman, TROT President.

Howard County Update

Pat Oliva

Hey guys and gals - You were terrific. Thanks so much for your support at the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board meeting on public equestrian access for Benson Branch Park. It was a long wait for the presentation. I know some of you had to leave. I was so proud of you when I turned around and asked you to stand. There was a sea of people with TROT nametags. I could see the whole board was alert and impressed by your presence. It made my short display have so much more meaning. Your comments and questions were impressive, and they showed a high level of responsibility, caring for the land, and the need for trails. Thanks – You were first class!

Mr. Feaga has had apparently leased much of the land for many years and has used part of the park for farming. He was the only speaker against the parking area. He has also developed the trails and maintained them. He boards horses, and allows certain local riders to cross his land into the park. He has been a wonderful friend to these riders and a real benefactor to the park. I was surprised at his desire to limit the use of the park. I also take my hat off to him - for all the years he has worked on the trails in the this park. The riders who are using the park are showing respect for

the crops and staying on the trails. They have been a good example of responsible trail riders.

While talking with the board members, I feel we have a strong case and I will be meeting with them again. The area I chose is not wet-land, nor will it allow unlimited trailer parking. It will allow use of the park by those who live away from the farm and desire to access safely and ride on this public land.

NOTE THIS LATE UPDATE (submitted December 16): I just got home from a meeting with the Department of Recreation and Parks and Mr. Feaga regarding public access to Benson Branch. We have reached an agreement on a parking area off Rolling Road. Mr. Feaga will donate some of the field he is leasing to farm for a small parking area. There will be a gate with a lock and we will need permits and Coggins. The plan has not been approved but will be presented to the Board on December 17. Mr. Feaga was agreeable and very helpful. This plan will ease the fears he expressed at the hearing and will decrease the cost and the time involved. Let me say that never in the history of working with the Department have I seen them react so quickly. I want every one of you who took the time to come to the hearing on November 19 to give yourselves a pat on the back! People can make a difference and you all just proved it!

Montgomery County 2008 Highlights

Ron MacNab

Plans were approved and work began on a multi-year improvement to Little Bennett Park. A new trailer parking lot and five miles of multi-use unpaved trails will be added.

Upper Rock Creek Greenway is being extended in a multi-year project from Lake Needwood to Rachael Carson Park. This will double the length of the existing trails. Trails north of Lake Needwood will be natural surface. MORE (our mountain biking friends) is leading a group of volunteers and has begun work on the trail system near Derwood. An easement is still being sought linking Blue Mash to Rachael Carson Park.

Work continues on Muddy Branch Greenway that will provide a multi-use trail from the Potomac Horse Center to the Potomac River.

Seneca Greenway from Route 355 in Gaithersburg to Magruder Branch Park in Damascus is now open and horse friendly.

The trails leading from Hipsley Mill to Long Corner Road in both the Montgomery County and Howard County are now open and horse friendly.

Ben Sugar from MNCPPC is leading a group of volunteers to perform trail work throughout Montgomery County. Major improvements have been made on the Muddy Branch Trail, Rachael Carson Park trails, Rachael Carson Greenway and Seneca Creek Greenway.

Through the efforts of Amy Kimble, TROT received permission from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to perform routine maintenance to the trails in Patuxent River State Park. Amy organized and coordinated two well attended service days. Mary Prowell in the Long Corner Rd area; Deneen Martin in the Annapolis Rock area, and Bob Richards in the Howard Chapel Rd should also be recognized for the exceptional effort they put in to maintain these trails throughout the year.

Montgomery County Parks picked up another 44 acres of parkland from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Unfortunately it was acquired in trade for 8 acres out of the upper Paint Branch Park for the ICC.

Your involvement by joining us in working to protect and improve the trails in Montgomery County is paying off and is needed now more than ever. I look forward to working with you in 2009.

ANNUAL DINNER/SILENT AUCTION UPDATE

Kyle Jossi, Silent Auction Coordinator

This is a hectic time of year for all of us, but also a time when TROT very much needs your help with the upcoming Silent Auction and Annual Dinner. There are four ways you can help with this event:

1. Donations to the Silent Auction. New and gently used tack, horse keeping articles and clothing. *All items must be clean and in very good condition.* Although most donations are horse related, all types of goods and services are welcome. If you're unsure about a donation, call me and we can discuss it. Please let me know in advance what items you are planning to donate so that I can make bid cards up ahead of time. (bossyjossi@verizon.net or 301-570-3860.)
2. Solicit donations from tack shops, feed stores, and service providers you use frequently. We will be glad to publicize their business at the Silent Auction. We also acknowledge all business/service donors in the TROT

newsletter.

3. Volunteer to help with set up or clean up for the dinner and/or auction. Contact me (see numbers above) if you are willing to help out. If you are new to TROT, this is a great way to meet other members and get involved. And if you're a long time member, it's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends. Some of the best horse advice I've gotten has been from listening to other riders and owners talking as they set up.
4. Spend generously at the Silent Auction. I justify the large amount of the check I have to write at the end of the evening (always much more than I'd planned but there were so many things I couldn't live without!) by reminding myself that it's a donation to a very worthwhile organization. Remember, all the money raised at the Silent Auction goes directly to benefit the programs and mission of TROT.

Please be sure you note the new location for the Annual Meeting - at the Mt. Airy Vol. Fire Dept. Activities Center. See page 8.

Riders to the Rescue

T'mi Finkle, Team Commander

Four members of the TROTSAR Mounted Search and Rescue Team Inc. presented at the Montgomery County Preparedness Day Open House held at the MC Fire/Rescue Training Academy on Sunday October 5th. On Saturday November 1st five team members attended the Howard County Public Safety Expo at the HC Public Safety Training Center. The search team horses were exposed to all kinds of emergency vehicles; cars, trucks, ATV's, boats, motorcycles, a helicopter and large crowds of people. There was also a burning building, a car fire, K-9 Demonstrations and (very loud) Flash-Bang devices. The horse were even briefly exposed to Battery Man (who promoted the replacement of batteries in smoke detectors) and (the 6 foot tall) Sparky the FireDog. We had a display table and promoted the Hug-A-Tree program, Trail Safety, TROT information and handed out dozens of mounted team stickers. Team members Tomi' (Trot-2), Jacquie (Trot-13), Rick (Trot-17), Steve (Trot-22), Michele (Trot-23), Tim (Trot-30) and Linda Davis (Trot-102, our team photographer) repre-

sented the team at these events

On October 4th the Mounted Team hosted an "open to the public" Self-Defense for Trail Riders Clinic taught by Scot Hansen. A total of 12 riders attended this event on horseback and 13 people audited the clinic. The Mounted Team had originally planned to host four clinics over the weekend, but the applications from the public simply never came in. Five Mounted Team members participated as riders in the clinic. Our team photographer was on hand and took over 300 pictures of the attendees, unfortunately 3 days after the event Mr. Hansen demanded that the pictures not be shared or posted anywhere. Next year we will work with another equine practitioner to teach our yearly safety clinic.

On November 16th Katy Hart (Trot-29) completed 40 hours of basic training at the Virginia Department of Emergency Management Search and Rescue College and was promoted from trainee to Operational Status. Congratulations Katy for this achievement and for your dedication as volunteer mounted first responder resource. Donations to the TROTSAR Mounted Search and Rescue Team Inc. are tax deductible and are greatly appreciated.

This article was submitted to the Maryland Trailriders Yahoo Group by Ron MacNab

Benson Branch Park contains 333 acres, situated in the rolling hills, woods and fields of Howard County. Horseback riding is permitted within the park and numerous trails have been established. Unfortunately there is no parking area for visitors, therefore only adjoining residences have access to this public park. In addition, due to encroaching development, these public access points have been disappearing!

On November 19, thirty TROT members attended a meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board. Pat Oliva delivered a presentation on behalf of TROT requesting a

grass parking lot be built to accommodate up to four or five horse trailers. She was joined by TROT members Lee Moser and Susan Gray, also of Howard Co., who spoke of the increased horse population and the lack of available riding trails within the county. The Board agreed to have staff visit the site and investigate the feasibility of creating a parking lot. The staff's recommendation will be discussed at a future public meeting of the Board. We owe many thanks to Pat Oliva, as well as the thirty members who showed their support of this initiative. I am confident the Board was impressed by the numbers willing to make the extra effort of attending and actively supporting the parking lot request. TROT will keep you informed of future development. (Editor's note: See Pat's County Report for details and an exciting update)

SUCCESSFUL TRAIL CLEARING EVENT!

Amy Kimble- Trail Maintenance Coordinator,
AmyHKimble@aol.com

I was so pleased with our first unmounted Trail Clearing on November 2. I hope that everyone enjoyed the beautiful day and great food that was provided by the Maryland Competitive Trail Riders Association. Please feel free to offer suggestions for improvement. I feel we had a very productive day and I was proud to be a TROT member and offer back to the wonderful trails we enjoy so much. If people know of other areas that need trail maintenance please contact me so we can coordinate a clearing work day.



Getting ready

Thank you very much all of you who came and contributed: Ron and Janet MacNab, Steve Kimble, Pat Olivia, Priscilla Huffman, Brenda Sense-ney (and thank you for bringing the food contribution and contacting Maryland Competitive Trail Riders), Jean and Jason Cooper, Sharon Cappelutti, Nancy Osgood, Sim Shanks, Mary Prowell, Lisa Troutman, Kent Middlekauff, Christine Garner, Deneen Martin, Carol Rhodes, Val Gadiyah, and Ranger Chris. I am glad I had the opportunity to meet with such a wonderful group of vol-



Working hard

unteers! PLEASE let me know if I have overlooked anyone, and I do apologize. We had a very busy first 15 minutes before we split up and went to work!



Dispensing lunch

(Editor's Note: We received the following "feedback" after the trail clearing: "Hi! I was just introduced to the trails at Annapolis Rock, and they are lovely! A very large thanks to the folks who recently worked so hard at clearing them! You all did a wonderful job! Gosh, what a lot of thorny-vine that has been removed!" Also note that Amy will plan the next trail clearing event shortly after the holidays. She is considering a mounted project at the WSSC trails off B r o w n s

B r i d g e Road. This is a great way for all T R O T members to contribute to our mission! Many thanks to Amy for organizing!



End of the day with Ranger Chris

UPCOMING RIDES

Pat Talbott, Trail ride coordinator

Contact the ride leader to reserve a space on the ride and for information about start time and directions. All ride participants must be TROT members; membership forms will be available at the ride for non-members. Negative coggins must be provided for each horse. Participants are asked to bring their own plates, silverware and drinks

to potlucks unless otherwise indicated. Please check the web site for updates: www.trot-md.org/calendar.php. For any additional questions about TROT rides, please contact Pat Talbott @ (301) 628-4130 or Ptalbott@insuranceservices.com.

Most leaders volunteer year after year because they have so much fun! It's a great opportunity to meet other TROT members and maybe find a new trail buddy.

Stay tuned for 2009 Ride Schedule! Check the TROT website for updates: www.trot-md.org/calendar.php

TROT Rides

Upper Patauxent River State Park, near Damascus - Saturday, November 8th

Suzanne Anderson

November 8, 2008, dawned misty, in some areas a sprinkle of rain fell. But, I had declared this day a NO RAIN day so my ride could go forth, and the weather obliged. (phew). Seven horses and riders gathered at the "cow pasture" off Annapolis Rock Road for a 10:00 a.m. rtr (ready to ride): myself with Cuppa Joe, my co-ride leader Michelle McGuinness with Cavalier, Jacquie Cowan and Gatsby trailered in with Shelby Tipton and Casey, Debbie Spigler ventured forth for a solo trailer trip with Chase, and my host and hostess with the mostest Br. Roger Nelson on Kalua and Cathy Diamond riding Monty rounded out the group.

The key to a good group ride is to ride to the least experienced person (or horse's) level and to be flexible. Debbie's

Camping weekend, League of Maryland Horsemen - October 11th - 12th

Kyle Jossi

The League of Maryland Horsemen (LOMH) held its Invitational weekend camping trip on October 11th and 12th. It was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Trot members and meet riders from other clubs. Mike and I arrived Friday afternoon and staked out our campsite. Sandy and Bruce Boyd were already there with their new truck and camper. We tied Lady and Bug to their picket line while Mike chopped firewood into the toothpick sized pieces for which he is famous. At dinner we were joined by Susan Gray and Mike Caruso and Denis and Barb Solner-Webb. Although the day had been warm, it got chilly as the sun went down and we were thankful for Mike's blazing fire. Our peaceful sleep that night was interrupted by someone knocking on our trailer to return Mike's horse who had deftly untied himself from the picket line and gone exploring. Fortunately I had tied glow sticks to both horses' manes so he was easily spotted.

Saturday morning Mike prepared a delicious breakfast and everyone headed out to ride. In the evening all the groups gathered for an incredible pot luck dinner. The amount of

5-year-old Arabian gelding found the group dynamics *exciting*, so 20 minutes down the trail we readjusted those dynamics. Michelle lead the others in a great circle, abandoning our original trail route plan, and I rode with Debbie in a different circle to help Chase regain his balance. Gave me a good opportunity to push Joe to trade off leading! An hour later we regrouped and all 7 continued to yet another area of the park for another hour's riding. Chase still showed high spirits, but was far more manageable and enjoyable to ride.

On our return to the trailers, once our mounts had been seen to, Roger and Cathy pulled out the lace table cloth, 3 coolers of chilled drinks, 5 pounds of carrots, large container of honey roasted nuts and of pretzels, and the piece de resistance: spiced pumpkin bread with sugar glazed pecans, served with apple cider.

And you all thought it would rain that day! Ha!

food was incredible and the many deserts difficult to resist.

Sunday morning several Trot members got together for a ride. Priscilla Huffman had been asking to be shown the trail to Woodstock, and so the Woodstock Inn was our goal for the day. None of us was sure where we going, but there seemed to be more opinions than riders. We met up on the trail with Susan and Mike Caruso. Mike was sporting the 1st place medal he won earlier that morning at his first dressage show! Our ride to Woodstock was wonderful, we all enjoyed the beautiful trails and the company of our friends. When we got to Woodstock, we were sitting down at the picnic tables for lunch when we heard the far-off sound of a train whistle. Anyone who has been to Woodstock knows how close the train tracks are to the hitching posts. Surprisingly, the horses were very well behaved as the train whizzed by.

When we returned to the League, Mike and I agreed that it was too nice to leave and decided to stay another night. It was sad to say good bye to everyone, but we're all looking forward to our next camping trip together

Many thanks to Evelyn Burkhouse (a Trot member) who did a great job of organizing the League Invitational.



Left to Right: Dennis Webb, Evelyn Burkhouse, who sponsored this ride, Sandy Boyd, Barbara Webb, Joyce Bell, Salley Cookson, Kyle Jossi

Random Thoughts

Ron MacNab

Winter is a great time for trail trimming. Now that the foliage is gone, it is easy to see and get to the tree branches, briars and bushes that will close in on our trails come spring.

Winter is hunting season. Protect yourself by wearing bright orange or yellow when riding during the winter months. Reflective vests can be purchased for as low as \$4 from Amazon.com.

Does your horse need that blanket? The University of Maryland School of Equine Studies has researched that question and has written an excellent article providing good practical advice. The article follows below and can also be found at <http://www.equinestudies.umd.edu/extension/ESUnewsletter-Nov08.html#91f914170a5a5a8f00108c7de5576c4d>

Reprinted from ANGR News, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, U of Md., Nov 12, 2008

[Does Your Horse Need That Blanket?](#)

by Erin Pittman

The short answer may very well be "Yes," however many horses blanketed during cooler months provides more comfort to their caregivers rather than to the animals themselves. Horses have evolved to have an excellent built-in temperature control: a very thick winter haircoat. Horses require between 10 and 21 days to acclimatize to colder temperatures. For instance, on the first day of 35° F weather, the horse may feel cold, but over 10-21 days of similar cold weather, s/he will "get used to it" and be more comfortable. If temperatures drop and the horse is not used to the colder temperature, you will notice behavior changes including increased use of shelters if available, huddling together in groups with other horses, and lowering their heads and turning their hind-quarters into the prevailing wind. These are all activities that help conserve heat. The shivering response will also occur in very cold horses, which generates a pretty substantial amount of body heat, helping to warm their critical internal organs.

Studies in Canada found that for adult horses in cold climates, the lower critical temperature, or the lowest temperature they can tolerate prior to a drop in body temperature, is approximately 5° F, provided they are well-nourished. Given time, any horse, even in Maryland, can adapt to this low temperature. For temperatures lower than that, they will quickly lose body heat and need our help in order to deal with the cold. We can help either by providing shelter, extra forage, blankets or a combination of all of the above. Shelter alone can reduce heat loss by up to 20% through protection from wind and rain!

During cold weather, the horse's hair stands on end, which creates an airspace around the horse where it can trap heat, enabling it to stay warm. This insulation will break down when the weather takes a nasty turn such as rain or wind - the former causing the hair to lie flat and the latter blowing away the warm air trapped in the upstanding hair. This phenomenon can also happen when a horse is inappropriately

blanketed. In other words, when a blanket with inadequate insulation is put on a horse during milder weather, it forces the hairs to lie flat, taking away the horse's natural insulation. Here are some simple guidelines that you may find helpful in determining whether or not your horse needs the protection of a blanket in climates like Maryland's:

- Horses that are clipped or kept in barns under light to discourage winter coat production should be blanketed when temperatures drop below 60° F when it is windy or rainy but not until temperatures hit 40° F or below on days without precipitation or wind.
- Horses with a moderate haircoat can tolerate temperatures as low as 30° F and if they have a heavy coat, they can tolerate temperatures down to about 20° F when conditions are mild. Wet or windy conditions increase these temperature limits, so keep that in mind when blanketing! A good indication that your horse may need a blanket is if you see it shivering, but even this can be fixed with shelter or additional forage.
- A horse that has recently moved from a warmer climate may benefit from some external help. Once they've spent the 10-21 days being exposed to the colder weather, they will adapt and need less help, but you may find it beneficial to blanket them until the next winter.
- Older horses that move around less benefit from blanketing in colder weather. Moving generates body heat which is why we often see horses' levels of exuberance rise with cold weather!
- Remove the blanket on a regular basis - check to make sure your horse is not losing body condition, doesn't have blanket rubs or injuries, and is not developing a skin problem such as rain rot under the blanket. Be sure to keep the blanket clean, especially on the inside where it's in contact with your horse's skin.

When the weather is rainy, check to make sure the blanket is waterproof - you will be fighting a losing battle trying to keep a wet horse warm with a wet blanket! Place your hand under the blanket around the neck - your horse should feel nice and toasty warm and not sweaty under there!

Maryland Horse World Expo, January 15-18 2009

Sim Shanks

TROT has an Exhibitor booth at the Maryland show to let others know of the organization and encourage their participation. This year the coordinator is Janet MacNab, janet_macnab@comcast.net or 301-622-4157. The following is a list of volunteers and instructions provided pertaining to their participation.

“Thank you for volunteering to man the MD Horse Expo - TROT Booth. This year we have yellow TROT magnets to hand out along with some horse treats and some people treats. There are some TROT brochures which include the membership application. The TROT Booth will be located in the Four H Building @ MD State Fair Grounds, Timonium, MD. When you first arrive, go to the Dairy Barn and state that you are an exhibitor for TROT. They will give you your exhibitor's badge which will give you access to all the other buildings for that day. Thanks again for your time at the booth. Looking forward to seeing you there!”

Jan MacNab

Volunteering to assist in manning the booth not only gives you access to the Expo but also provides an opportunity to meet other equestrian enthusiasts and seek their participation in your organization.

If you attend the Horse World Expo please stop by the booth to chat and encourage the volunteers.

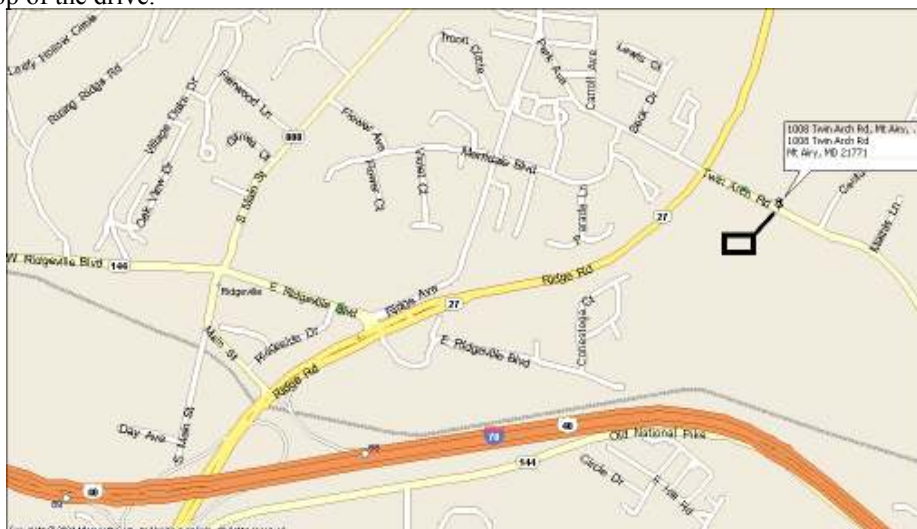
Thursday January 15	
Noon to 2	Marilynn Miller, Pat Merson, Kathy Dobson
2 to 4	Deborah Appel, Judy L. Brodbeck
4 to 6	Christine Valerino
6 to 8	Pat Oliva
Friday January 16	
10 to 12	Stephen Gunnulfson & Erin Reilly
12 to 2	Diane Ayers
2 to 4	Kathy Dobson
4 to 6	Elizabeth Baran
6 to 8	Nancy Osgood
Saturday January 17	
9 to 11	Amy Kimble
11 to 1	Lisa Wolford
1 to 3	Lawrence Dietrich
3 to 5:30	Kyle Jossi
5:30 to 8	Janet and Ron MacNab
Sunday January 18	
9 to 11	Priscilla Huffman, Jean & Larry Pieper
11 to 1	Deneen Martin
1 to 3:30	Angela Jones
3:30 to 6	Pat Merson and Pat Talbott

TROT ANNUAL MEETING, POT LUCK DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, February 28, 2009 at 6:00 PM

1008 Twin Arch Road, Mt. Airy, Maryland

Directions: Route 27 north from I-70. Turn right on Twin Arch Rd. (traffic light). (You will see the fairgrounds on the corner of Route 27 and Twin Arch.) Immediately turn right into the drive, which is lined with white fence posts. There is a brown sign on the left at the beginning of the drive “Welcome to the Mt. Airy Vol. Fire Co. Activities Grounds.” The building is at the top of the drive.



The **BIG EVENT** for Horse Enthusiasts!.....



HORSE WORLD EXPO



2
Great Locations!



Thursday: noon - 8pm
Friday: 10am - 8pm
Saturday: 9am - 8pm
Sunday: 9am - 6pm

Theatre Equus

A Musical Equine Revue

In conjunction with the Pennsylvania Expo only



Wind Rider Equestrian Challenge

Ride like the wind to ride with the stars!

Celebrity judges and prizes for top finishers.

Please visit our website for more information.

SEMINARS AND DEMONSTRATIONS BY*



Peggy Brown



Craig Cameron



Tommie Garland



Susan Harris



Jennie Jackson



Matt McLaughlin



Stuart Pittman



Richard Shrake



Tommie Turvey

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Peggy Brown Visible Rider MD
Craig Cameron General Training, Reining MD, PA
Tommy Garland	..... General Training, Reining	..... MD, PA
Julie Good	..... Miniature Horses	..... PA
Scot Hansen	..... Self Defense for the Rider	..... MD, PA
Kenny Harlow	..... General Training	..... MD, PA
Susan Harris	..... Visible Horse	..... MD
Kathy Howe	..... Horse Rescue	..... MD, PA
Jennie Jackson	..... Gaited Horses	..... MD, PA
Bob Jeffreys	..... Self-Help for Riders, Teaching Two as One	..... PA
Mike & Tim Jennings	..... Preparing Your Horse For Sale	..... MD
Danny Kroetch	..... Saddle Fitting	..... MD
KC La Pierre, BJT, MEd, PhD	..... Barefoot Trimming	..... MD, PA
Jim McDonald	..... General Training	..... MD
Kelly McGinn	..... Dressage	..... MD
Matt McLaughlin	..... Dressage	..... PA
Mid Atlantic Polo Clubs	..... Polo	..... PA
Courtney Molino	..... Equine Massage Therapy	..... MD
Dan Moore, DVM	..... Alternative Healthcare	..... PA
Pennsylvania Equine Council	..... Various Clinics	..... PA
Steuart Pittman	..... Eventing	..... MD, PA
Scott Purdum	..... General Training	..... MD
Caroline Rider	..... Natural Horsemanship	..... MD, PA
Danee Rudy	..... General Training	..... PA
Neva Kittrell Scheve	..... Trailer & Tow Vehicle Maintenance	..... MD
Suzanne Sheppard	..... Self-Help for Riders, Teaching Two as One	..... PA
Richard Shrake	..... English & Western Performance	..... MD
Jan Snodgrass	..... TTEAM, TTouch Method Training	..... PA
Evelyn and Mark Susol	..... Dressage	..... PA
Tommie Turvey Jr	..... Trick Horse Training	..... MD, PA
University of Maryland	..... Various Educational Topics	..... MD
Jeanne van der Veen	..... Equine Nutrition	..... MD, PA
Brooke Vraay	..... Disaster Preparedness	..... MD, PA
Jeannie C. Whited	..... Side Saddle Riding	..... MD
Emlyn Stancill Whitin	..... Footing and Arena Construction	..... PA
Bud and Gwen Wills	..... Horse Camping & Trail Riding	..... PA
Melyni Worth	..... Cushings & Insulin Resistance	..... MD, PA

And many more...

* Not all clinicians will appear all days of the show.
Clinician list has not been finalized.
See our website for exact dates and times.
www.horseworldexpo.com

EQUESTRIAN PROMOTIONS, INC. • P.O. BOX 924 • BEL AIR, MARYLAND 21014
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DONOR BEWARE

Angela Klinger

Times are tough and for one reason or another some of you may find it necessary to relocate your horse to a new home. This will be a very difficult decision to make and you will want to pick the best facility available.

Whether you decide to sell, lease or donate your horse be prepared to do the research necessary to ensure that your horse finds a good new home. Find out how the proposed new facility plans to use your horse. Ask for several references and check them out. Call the local "Animal Control", Humane Society", "Better Business Bureau", and in Maryland, the "Maryland Horse Industry Board" offices and inquire about any previous complaints. You could also talk to their boarders, the local riding clubs, tack shops, feed stores and even their neighbors. Ask for the names of the veterinarian and farrier that they use and call them too. Any bad reputations will soon be revealed.

When inspecting the new facility, give special attention to the conditions of their other horses. Do they all seem healthy and well cared for? Check out the conditions of their barns, run-in sheds, fencing and fields. Is there enough good pastureland to support the number of horses that they have? Is there an adequate amount of hay and feed in storage? Are the water troughs full, clean and heated in the winter? All of the paddock areas should provide good food and water. Are the stalls, run-in shed and corrals clean and free of excess manure? Is there enough shelter for the amount of horses? Ask to see written evidence of the worming, farrier, dental and vaccination schedules. In Maryland most stables will post the license issued from the MD. Horse Industry Board in plain view.

To be certain that your horse is never given away or sold without your knowledge, neglected, abused or even slaughtered, you need to have a good written contract signed by all parties.

Be sure to include at least the following stipulations:

1. The new owner must send you pictures every 6 months if you cannot make visits. (Front, left, right and hind views)
2. Once a year they must send you a written veterinarian's

report verifying up to date vaccines, hoof and dental maintenance and the horses' over-all condition.

3. You shall have the right to visit your horse at any reasonable time. If you find your horse in what you consider poor health or living in less than desirable conditions, you have the right to take the horse immediately.
4. They must offer to return the horse to you first, if conditions prevent them from keeping the horse.
5. If the horse should ever require it, due to extremely poor health conditions, both you and a veterinarian should be called immediately and the horse should be humanely euthanized as soon as possible. Your horse should never have to suffer a painful and lingering death.

Finally: Remember that even if a facility advertises itself as a "Horse Rescue", "Therapeutic Riding School" or any other similar "Non-Profit/501 c 3" organization, there is no guarantee that your horse would receive any better treatment. While most of these organizations do good work, unfortunately there are a few scams in operation. Before you "donate" your horse to such an organization, do the same research and require the same contract as with any other proposed new facility. Your horse will thank you and you may save yourself a lot of grief. A legitimate "Non-Profit/501 c 3" will have no problem showing you a copy of the "Letter of Determination" and the associated tax ID# given to them by the IRS. A legitimate "Non-Profit/501 c 3" should also give you a "tax deductible" receipt for any amount of money or goods that you donate to them. To verify a Non-Profit's legal status you can use the following web sites, where you can enter your inquiries in several ways. If your Non-Profit is not listed on any site, you may want to avoid them entirely. You can also use the government sites to start an investigation via a simple phone call or email. Let the government "sort it out"!

1. www.taxexemptworld.com (My favorite site)
2. www.guidestar.org
3. www.irs.gov (Charities and Non-Profit Division)
4. (In Maryland use:) www.md.gov (Charities and Non-Profit Division)

Good Luck and Happy Trails,

Need a ride/Share a ride!

Do you have a two or three horse trailer, but don't like traveling alone? Do you have a horse, but no trailer? TROT organizes some great trail rides throughout Maryland. It would be a shame to miss those fun times because you don't like to travel alone or because you don't have a trailer. We

want to provide a forum space for people looking for a traveling partner, so please write to the TROT Newsletter at

nlosgood@verizon.net. You just might find someone who lives around the corner from you who would love to share a ride (and with gas prices the way they are, someone who might be willing to share expenses)!

Who's Who in TROT

OFFICERS

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Susan Gray
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*Dave Turner
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Leroy.mattingly
@hotmail.com

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**Susan Rechen
(301) 946-3593

Wicomico County
**Shawn McEntee
(410) 749-2665

Trail Guides

The following volunteers are willing to show TROT members their favorite trails on an individual basis. Contact them to arrange a personal guided trail ride.

Blockhouse Point (Farm Loop on Canal at Violettes Lock)
Naomi Manders e-mail: NaomiManders0@gmail.com

Breezy Loop Boyds, MD an easy hour and 15 minutes.
Naomi Manders e-mail: NaomiManders0@gmail.com

Cactoctin Mountain Park and Little Bennett
Marilynn Miller 301-898-7274

EPIC Trail at Dry Seneca Creek, Poolesville
This is mostly private with a sanctioned public route - exceptionally good footing, easy trail, good for exercising in winter. THIS IS NOT THE Great Seneca Greeway Trail that goes to Patuxent! 10 miles round trip
Naomi Manders e-mail: NaomiManders0@gmail.com

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

Montgomery Agricultural Farm Park and Annapolis Rock Deneen Martin 301-253-2955

Patuxent River State Park, Rachel Carson and Rock Creek Park

Laury Lobel
laurylobel@verizon.net or 301-774-9595

Patapsco State Park off Marriotsville Road
Elizabeth Baran
She is available during the week and weekend and would love to show other TROT members the trails.
H: 410-442-5006 C: 410-245-8942

Sugarloaf Mt. Vicki Bazan 301-831-8715

Sugarloaf Mt. Janine Borofka 301-874-0770

Union Mills/Kowomu Trail
Also Liberty Reservoir trails [off Deer Park Road] and Morgan Run Trails.
Ivy Smink 410-875-5691 ivysmink@qis.net

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

If you would like to volunteer to show other TROT members your favorite trails contact:
Nancy Osgood at nlosgood@verizon.net

Order TROTware for you and your favorite rider!

- ◇ T-shirts and crew sweatshirts are available with either of two front designs: Small logo on left shoulder or large logo centered on sunburst design.
- ◇ Jackets, NEW WINDSHIRTS, and hooded sweatshirts are available with either the small logo on left shoulder only or with the logo on left front shoulder and the larger logo in sunburst on back.
- ◇ The NEW POLO SHIRTS are available with small logo on left shoulder only.
- ◇ Black logos on yellow garments; yellow logos on black garments. Not all designs are available in all sizes.
- ◇ Prices include postage and tax.

	Childs	S	M	L	XL	XXL
Yellow Short Sleeve T-Shirts \$15						
Logo (front shoulder)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sunburst (front center)		—	—	—	—	—
Black Short Sleeve T-Shirts \$15						
Logo (front shoulder)		—	—	—	—	—
Sunburst (front center)		—	—	—	—	—
Gold Polo Shirt (NEW ITEM) \$20						
Logo (front shoulder)		—	—	—	—	
Black Polo Shirt (NEW ITEM) \$20						
Logo (front shoulder)		—	—	—	—	
Black Long Sleeve T-Shirt \$15						
Logo (front shoulder)		—	—	—	—	
Sunburst (front center)		—	—	—	—	
Black Crew Neck Sweatshirt \$21						
Logo (front shoulder)		—	—	—	—	
Sunburst (front center)		—	—	—	—	—
Black Hooded Zipper Front Sweatshirt \$28						
Logo (front shoulder)		—	—	—	—	
Logo (front shoulder) & Sunburst (back)		—	—	—	—	—
Black Snap-Front Jackets \$35						
Logo (front shoulder)		—	—	—	—	—
Logo (front shoulder) & Sunburst (back)		—	—	—	—	—
Black Pull-Over Windshirt (NEW ITEM) \$35						
Logo (front shoulder)		—	—	—	—	
Logo (front shoulder) & Sunburst (back)		—	—	—	—	—

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send with check (payable to **TROT**) to:
 Anne Bennof
 2445 Gillis Falls Rd.
 Woodbine, MD 21797

Questions? 301 829 0949

CLASSIFIED ADS

To place an ad

email: nlogood@verizon.net

TROT Members: Regular (100 word) ad FREE!

Non-member rates:

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

WANTED: 15.2h+ gelding, under 13-years for a trail horse/fieldhunter over small fences. Ideal: Morgan/Arab type horse. MUST be sound/good feet. Green ok but under saddle to be ridden this spring/summer. Needs to be a seriously not expensive. Yes, I've looked at rescue. Or would like to lease a horse that is sound and about that size until I find what I want. I am at Paternal Gift, go to <http://www.acuityglobal.com/pgf/> to see it. The barn is barn #2 in the pictures. Joan 301-559-3345 leave message

SPECIAL: for TROT members. **Great gift idea!**
SAVE OVER \$10 on book purchases! Price include shipping!

PA HORSE TRAIL & HORSE CAMPING GUIDE BOOKS by Carolyn B. Cook

- Ride Pennsylvania Horse Trails-Part I, the Eastern Half of PA (central PA to eastern PA): \$15 per book
- Ride Pennsylvania Horse Trails-Part II, the Western Half of PA (central PA to western PA): \$15 per book

Specify Part I, or Part II, or set (\$30), and send check to: Hit The Trail Publications, LLC, P.O. Box 970, Cherryville, PA 18035.

FMI: see: www.patrail.com (Special not available via website.)

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

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

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



Potomac Riverside Stables

Poolesville, MD (www.potomacriversidestables.com)

(301) 972-8187

"Trail Riding Heaven" A top quality boarding & training facility also offering several well trained school horses for lease. Instruction and training for horses and riders, from beginner to advanced. Several instructors to choose from. Your instructor is also welcome. The stable is located on 400 beautiful acres adjoining the C&O Canal with 100s of miles of National Park trails. Personal quality individual care, large indoor arena, 3 outdoor arenas, large stalls, many other features for your horse's comfort: mats, fans, fly spray system, hot showers, unlimited free choice premium hay made on the farm. Your horse is given whatever he needs, *no limits*. We have several vacancies and very reasonable rates. **Full quality care and self care.**

Performance Tack LLC

Saddles and Tack for the Competitive Rider

Authorized Sommer Saddle Dealer



www.PerformanceTack.com

Quick link to Performance Tack, LLC

www.PerformanceTack.com

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

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

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

Belle Cote Farm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Renewal Stuffing Party!

Nancy Osgood

We had a grand time preparing all the TROT renewal mailings. Everything went like clockwork because of the hard work of Jeanne Bond and Ron MacNab in getting mailing labels and renewal materials ready. Also, a special thanks to the MacNabs for hosting this lively group in their home!

Pricilla Huffman, President, expressed the feeling that all who participated felt:

“What a hoot last night, plus we got a good job done in a short amount of time. I am continually impressed, touched and honored by the teamwork that we show and the support for our wonderful organization and it's mission.

We are so very fortunate to have each other, and to enjoy working and being (and riding!!) together.

Janet, your dinner was delicious, as always. Thanks to both you and Ron for hosting our "stuffing party." - And to Ron and Jeanne for getting the letters updated, copied, envelopes bought, etc.

What a team!”

Volunteer next year to join in this annual event.

DON'T FORGET - ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS!

The TROT board meets once a month, normally in the home of a TROT member. We welcome attendance by members - to see, first hand, how the board is working for the TROT mission, and to perhaps find an opportunity to contribute to that work. The time and location are kept up-to-date on the TROT website (<http://www.trot-md.org/>). We are always happy to see new faces, and would welcome participation in the many behind-the-scenes TROT activities - like our fun get-together preparing renewal materials for mailing.



Annual Membership Application

_____ New Membership _____ Membership Renewal for Year 2009

PLEASE PRINT

Name of Applicant _____

Spouse / Sig. Other _____ Other Family _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Ride In _____

Home Phone _____

Work / Alt Phone _____ E-mail _____

Annual membership rates for January 1 – December 31:

- One year single or family membership \$20.00 per year
- Contributing member \$30.00 per year
- Sustaining member \$50.00 per year
- Additional contributions \$ _____

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

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

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

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

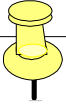
VOLUNTEER

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

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

DIRECTORY

The above contact information will be included in the next printed copy of the TROT membership directory. Please do not list information you do not want printed in the directory.



The Back Page

from the Newsletter Staff

BRRRRRRR! What cold weather we have been having! Just because we may not be riding as much, don't think that TROT has not been working for you! Read about the efforts by Pat Oliva to preserve public equestrian access to Benson Branch Park in Howard County. And read about the many activities of the TROT Search and Rescue – a really remarkable group of dedicated riders.

And winter also brings two of my favorite events:

JANUARY 15-18, 2009! The **Maryland Horse World Expo** is coming to the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium. TROT will be there – spreading the word about our work in preserving equestrian easements and bridle trails. Please stop by and visit with our great group of volunteers.

FEBRUARY 28, 2009! We hope to see everyone at the **TROT Annual Meeting** (Pot Luck and Silent Auction). Don't forget – we are in a new location – The **Mt. Airy Vol. Fire Dept. Activities Center** promises to be a great setting for this truly fun event! We think everyone will be very pleased with the new setting. The location and directions are provided inside. Don't forget to consider donating items to our silent auction. What a great way to support TROT! And to provide a fun activity – we all love to shop for horse stuff!



TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY

Jeanne Bond, TROT Membership Chair

494 Christopher Road, Warwick, MD 21912

Inside
This
Issue
page 1