



# Trail Riders Of Today

Dedicated to maintaining and expanding sustainable trails for equestrian use.

[www.trot-md.org](http://www.trot-md.org)

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January, 2015

Founded 1980

Number 207

## SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday February 21, 2015, 6 PM

**TROT ANNUAL DINNER -- Mount Airy Fireman's Activity Hall**

See article below on the Annual Dinner and Silent Auction, including the food contributions and our special guest, Madison Iager, the first Maryland High School Rodeo Queen.

The TROT Potluck Dinner and Silent Auction is coming up in February and we need your donations to make it a successful event. Now is a great time for you to look through your tack trunk and closet, to find your extra tack or supplies in good condition that you might kindly donate, or to consider horse-related services or products you might be willing to offer. All proceeds raised from the silent auction go to TROT. Please consider making a donation! We will also have fixed price buckets for smaller items.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

January 16-18, 2015

**Maryland Horse World Expo**

See full-page notice below, on the 2015 Maryland Horse World Expo. This event is attended by thousands of equine enthusiasts. It's a great way to see old friends, learn new horse-related information, and get the word out about TROT's trail preservation mission. The 2015 Maryland Expo schedule is on-line at [www.horseworldexpo.com](http://www.horseworldexpo.com). Check which day has the events, seminars or shows you want to attend, bring a buddy, and come visit our booth!

## COMING SOON! Important hearings requesting permission to ride on Pepco right-of-way lands

**Tues, Jan. 13, 6 PM in Rockville; Wed., Jan. 14, 6 PM in Largo**

For many years, trail riders have yearned to ride on the various Pepco right-of-ways that are temptingly scattered across the area, but we knew we couldn't because it was contrary to Pepco's policies. However, with the potential merger of Pepco and the much larger Exelon, there is a possibility to intervene. See article below on this effort, and how TROT members can hopefully have a big effect, by attending the hearings. See more complete article below.

## Great holiday presents for equestrians

2014 has been a year of wonderful gifts for equestrians. These include great new riding and horse camping venues, with hopes for yet more new and improved riding and horse camping venues in 2015. See several articles below on these topics.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Maria Schwartz, TROT President

As we head into this holiday season, I am sitting here reflecting the accomplishments of TROT this past year (see list of highlights, below). 2014 saw us engaged in many equestrian activities as an organization dedicated to maintaining and creating sustainable trails. We started the calendar year off with a very well attended Annual Dinner and Silent Auction; we had a lot of interest, participation and help with TROT's new Adopt-A-Trail program; we had many good organized rides (in spite of the inclement weather); and we attended and testified at several County zoning board meetings.

Speaking of testifying at meetings, please look for an article in this issue of your newsletter about two Maryland Public Service Commission public hearings in January 2015 regarding the merger of PEPCO Holdings, Inc. and Exelon Corporation. These provide an opportunity for TROT members, partnering with many other citizens' organizations, to request public access for recreational uses -- including horse riding -- on the various Pepco right-of-ways. The upcoming hearings are going to be held in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, and TROT needs your testimony and support by attending these hearings. TROT works with other equestrian forums such as the Maryland Horse Council which keeps us informed about other equestrian challenges and successes.

This year we sponsored Miss Maryland Rodeo Queen, Madison Iager, in her bid for Miss USA Rodeo Queen. We also shifted our focus on our long established event, the Judged Pleasure Ride, as it did not have enough TROT volunteers to support it, and instead are in the planning stage for a "non-judged" obstacle clinic (for you and your equine buddy) to be held tentatively in late spring 2015. Look for more information about this in upcoming TROT newsletters and TROT Constant Contact mailings. We held several clinics and our Baltimore and Carroll County chapters of TROT have sprung to life, holding meetings and clinics for the trail riders in those counties. In January 2015, we will once again sponsor a booth at the Horse Expo to get out the word about all the activities that TROT supports and hopefully recruit new TROT members. Most recently, the TROT Board of Directors, recognizing that it is today's youth who will become the "Trail Riders of Tomorrow," voted to award two \$500 scholarships in 2015 to young equestrians to help our youth pursue their ongoing equestrian activities. Check our website for upcoming information.

I started my message this month referring to the 2014 Annual dinner. We are now planning our 2015 Annual dinner and need you to help us. It's so much fun to get together with friends at the Annual Dinner, but it takes work. While our guests are busy renewing friendships, planning their next trail rides, debriefing their friends about what they did this last year, the TROT Board and other TROT members are busy in the kitchen, at the Silent Auction table, and working the

registration desk, all trying to make sure your evening is fun and enjoyable. I am sure you can see yourself there as part of the working group that supports this one activity. We aren't asking for more funds or for all of your hard-earned spare time, but TROT would like you to consider donating a few hours here and there to keep activities like the dinner going. TROT holds monthly board meetings that you, our members, are welcome to attend, in person or via the phone. *We'd like to hear from you*, and taking it one step further, ***we'd like to work with you***. We need YOU in TROT. Please feel free to call me at 301-421-1928 or send an email to [mariaeschwartz@verizon.net](mailto:mariaeschwartz@verizon.net).

TROT wishes you and your family a Happy 2015! And as always, Happy Trails!

## SOME OF TROT's 2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Expanded TROT's "Adopt-A-Trail" program, ably coordinated by Amy Kimble.
  - Held numerous organized joint trail workdays, including ones scheduled at Patuxent River State Park, Catoctin Mountain, Monocacy DNR, Morgan Run, Union Mills, Gillis Falls, and Seneca Bluffs Trail in Seneca Creek State Park.
  - Completed great 2014 Trail Ride program, enthusiastically coordinated by Lisa Troutman, with rides scheduled at North Tract, Schooley Mill, Doncaster State Forest, Woodstock Park, Liberty, Rachel Carson, Ag Park, C & O Canal, New Market, Graham Equestrian Center, Fair Hill, Cedarville, Susquehanna State Park, Fairland Park, Rocky Gorge, and Anacostia.
  - Initiated successful one day \$5 TROT membership allowing new riders to explore TROT's camaraderie on rides.
  - Arranged with a new enthusiastic Trail Ride Coordinator for 2015, Diana Urick, upon Lisa's stepping down.
  - Worked to protect the zoning that allows small farms as we know them in Howard County (ongoing effort).
  - Involved with area residents in a major effort to preserve the Sugarloaf trail system as we know it.
  - Worked with DNR in an effort resulting in their opening Little Bennett State Park for equestrian camping.
  - Encouraged WSSC, who kindly opened parts of their Tridelphia Reservoir access road for equestrian use, year-round, and built a new parking lot for our use.
  - Involved in plans to reopen Newtowne Neck State Park, in St. Mary's County, for equestrian use.
  - Participated with MORE and DNR in planning sustainable trails in Patuxent River State Park (ongoing effort).
  - Participated as an appointed representative on an Ad Hoc committee working on getting permanent multi-use trails and better parking on Frederick's watershed (ongoing effort)
  - Partnered with multiple other groups, asking the Maryland Public Service Commission to allow recreational public
- [Continued on next page...]

access on Pepco's rights-of-way (ongoing effort).  
 Participated in the revival of the Gunpowder Volunteer Mounted Patrol unit.  
 Worked with the rangers of Gunpowder Falls State Park to get blocked trails re-opened.  
 Educated members about hunting dates and proposed hunting legislation.  
 Expanded TROT's regional meetings/activities, especially in the Baltimore area, but also in Carroll County, the Rocky Gorge region, etc.  
 Organized an appreciation luncheon for the WSSC staff who have cleared vast numbers of trees to maintain their Rocky Gorge equestrian trail.  
 Attended volunteer appreciation receptions for Howard County and Catoctin Mt. Park, to continue collaborative relationships on behalf of the equestrians.  
 Co-sponsored Madison Iager, this year's Maryland High School Rodeo winner, to compete in the 4H National High School Rodeo Finals, to encourage youth equestrian involvement.  
 Coordinated effort to award equestrian scholarships for budding youth equestrians in 2015, to further encourage youth equestrian involvement.  
 Exhibited at the Horse Expo, Timonium, MD, Jan. 2014.  
 Held Annual TROT Dinner, March, 2014.  
 Participated in the Maryland Horse Forum, PG Equestrian Center, August, 2014.

## RENEW YOUR TROT MEMBERSHIP FOR 2015

from Sim Shanks & Barbara Sollner-Webb

Renewal notices have been sent out via USPS or email (to those members for whom we have a valid email address), and the application is copied below in this newsletter. Many members have already responded using PayPal and the email form.

We encourage you to renew your TROT membership as soon as possible. Doing so allows the membership volunteers to process the applications in a timely manner and reduces the time assisting renewing members at the Annual Meeting, leaving more time for all to interact with fellow members.

Please also encourage your equestrian friends and barn colleagues to join TROT. This is important because when TROT lobbies for retaining trails and trail access or for the creation of new trails – as we have so successfully done in the last few years (see the 2014 accomplishments listed in this newsletter) – the number of our members is incredibly important in getting decision-makers to listen to our requests. The membership fee is rather minimal, and most folks get this and more back in discounts from local tack stores that the TROT membership offers. But most important, your membership adds your voice to help maintain and enhance the area trail system and encourage trail riding as a great sport.

Note that, as in 2014, TROT will very occasionally be

sending announcements, information, updates, etc. via email, to all who give their permission. This will be limited to such activities as Membership Meetings, TROT Rides, Judge Pleasure Ride, Trail Clearing, Annual Dinner, changes to events, and requests for volunteers. It will not take over your mailbox but it will provide you with the most current and timely information. The TROT Website, Newsletter, MarylandTrailRiders and TROTMembers Yahoo Groups, and TROT Trail Riders Of Today on Facebook are available as well.

## POSSIBILITY OF PUBLIC ACCESS ON PEPCO RIGHT-OF-WAYS FOR RECREATIONAL USE -- TROT, MORE, MHC and others join forces

from Judy Thacher

Twelve years ago, Trail Riders of Today (TROT) and Mid Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts, Inc. (MORE) participated in a lawsuit to uphold Maryland's "recreational immunity statute". This recreational use statute immunizes landowners from liability when they allow the public to enter their land for recreational activities without charge.

In September 2014, TROT, MORE, Potomac Bridle and Hiking Trail Association, Inc. (PBHTA), Equestrian Partners in Conservation, Inc. (EPIC), Montgomery County Road Runners Association (MCRRA), MD Horse Council (MHC), and others filed a "Petition to Intervene" in the merger of PEPCO Holdings, Inc. and Exelon Corporation (Case # 9361) currently before the Maryland Public Service Commission. The petition was approved on September 19th. The purpose of the intervention by these user groups is to seek to have Exelon, should the merger be approved, grant more public access to PEPCO's rights-of-way for recreational use.

Early in 2015, the Maryland Public Service Commission will hold hearings in PEPCO's service area to take testimony at the following times and locations:

- 6 pm, Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015 at the Montgomery County Council Office Building Auditorium, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
- 6 pm, Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2015 at the Prince George's County Community College, Room 227 -- Community Room B, 301 Largo Rd., Largo, MD 20774

Please mark you calendars and plan to attend one or both of these hearings. Your attendance and voice is important, in trying to gain permission for us to ride on Pepco right-of-ways.

It appears that the Montgomery County Executive and the Montgomery County Council are leaning toward supporting trails on power lines. It is important that the TROT membership, especially those TROT members who ride trails in Montgomery County, contact their elected officials in the County government as well as in Annapolis to request that they take a favorable position regarding trails on power lines in the Exelon/Pepco merger case (Case # 9361). Please, do this today!



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



# HORSE WORLD EXPO

**JANUARY**  
16-18, 2015  
MARYLAND STATE  
FAIRGROUNDS  
TIMONIUM, MD  
(19th Annual)

**2**  
Great  
Locations!

**MARCH**  
5-8, 2015  
PENNSYLVANIA  
FARM SHOW  
COMPLEX  
HARRISBURG, PA  
(13th Annual)

Friday: noon-8pm  
Saturday: 9am-7pm  
Sunday: 9am-5pm

Thursday: noon-8pm  
Friday: 10am-8pm  
Saturday: 9am-8pm  
Sunday: 9am-5pm

## Theatre Equus

*A Musical Equine Revue*

In conjunction with the Pennsylvania Horse World Expo  
NO PETS PERMITTED AT HORSE WORLD EXPO

### SEMINARS AND DEMONSTRATIONS BY



Stephen S. Bradley



Peggy Cummings



Julie Goodnight



Guy McLean



Pat Parelli



Jane Savoie



Tommy Turvey

### SPONSORED BY:

Parelli Natural Horsemanship • Quality Buildings  
Geneva Lakes Jewelry • Rosecroft Raceway  
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Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners' Assoc. • Farmers Cooperative Assoc.  
Friends of MD Standardbreds • Frey Agricultural Products  
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A LEARNING, SHOPPING & FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT EVENT  
March 6-8, 2015 [www.nationalpetexpo.com](http://www.nationalpetexpo.com)



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Hundreds of Vendors Selling  
a Variety of Horse  
Products/Services for All Ages  
and Every Discipline  
• Stallion Avenue  
• Mounted Demonstrations  
• Parade of Breeds  
• Educational Seminars

## TRAIL CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE

ALL ACTIVITIES  
ARE INDOORS  
AND HEATED

### CLINICIANS\* & SPECIAL DEMONSTRATIONS

Susan Berger	Novice Rider Programs	PA
Roxanne Bowman	Saddle Fitting	MD
Lorrie Bracaloni	Equine Therapies, Pain Release	MD/PA
Stephen S. Bradley	Eventing	MD
Dana Bright	Driving	MD
Anne Councill	Driving	MD/PA
Peggy Cummings	Connected Riding	MD
Julie Cyra	Saddle Fitting	PA
Jeff Dwyer	General Training	MD
Montie Eagle	Senior Riding	PA
The Equiery	Various Equine Business Topics	MD
Rachel Gagliardi	Helmet Safety	MD
Sonny Garguilo	Natural Horsemanship	MD
Janet Geyer	Equine Nutrition	MD/PA
Julie Goodnight	Horsemanship, Western Dressage	PA
DeEtte Gorrie	Equine Rescue	MD/PA
Elizabeth Graves	Gaited Horses	MD
Farrah Green	Parelli Natural Horsemanship	PA
Christine Hajek	Horse Adoption	MD/PA
Kenny Harlow	General Training, Problem Solving	MD/PA
Mike Jennings	Ranch Pleasure, Equine Marketing	MD
Tara Jones	General Training, Problem Solving	MD/PA
Nick Karazissis	Hunter/Jumper	PA
Patrick King	Western Dressage	MD
Shelly Liggett	Riding Aside	PA
Sandy Hart-Long	Arena Footing Solutions	MD
Patty Lynch	Balanced Hoof Care	MD
Tina Marie	General Training	MD/PA
Guy McLean	General Training	PA
MD Region USPC	Pony Club, Horse Care	MD
Evon Montgomery	Horsemanship	MD/PA
Susan Moody	Young Riders, Horse Care	MD
Most Wanted Thoroughbred	Competition	MD/PA
Wendy Murdock	Horsemanship	MD
Suzanne Myers	General Training, Problem Solving	PA
Pat Parelli	Natural Horsemanship	MD
Penn State Univ	Various Educational Topics	PA
Curtis Pierce	Driving	PA
Steuart Pittman	Retired Racehorse Training	MD/PA
Scott Purdum	General Training	MD/PA
Dr. Frank Reilly	Equine Insulin Resistance	PA
Jamie Clark-Samples	Business Marketing	MD
Jane Savoie	Dressage	MD
Diane Sept	Gaited Horses	PA
April Smith	Gaited Horses	PA
Matt Smith	Reining, General Training	PA
Nichole Smith	Reining, General Training	PA
Kathleen Tabor, Esq	Equine Law	MD
Angelo Telatin	Clicker Training, Jumpers	MD/PA
Tommie Turvey Jr.	Trick Horse Training	PA
Regina Welsh	Pony Racing	MD
Jeannie Whited	Riding Aside	MD
Bud and Gwen Wills	Horse Camping, Trail Riding	PA
Keith Wills	Farm Financing	MD
Brendan Wise	Dressage, Working Equitation	MD/PA

And many more....

Clinician list not complete at press time.  
\*Clinicians may not appear all days of the show.  
See our website for complete lists, exact dates and times.

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[www.horseworldexpo.com](http://www.horseworldexpo.com) • [info@horseworldexpo.com](mailto:info@horseworldexpo.com)

## TROT ANNUAL DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

from Priscilla Huffman

Saturday, February 21, 2015 – 6:00 PM

Mt. Airy Vol. Fire Dept. Activities Center (same as last year)  
1008 Twin Arch Road, Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771

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

A - L – Main dishes

M - Z – Side dishes and salads

Dessert will be provided by TROT; appetizers will be provided by the set-up volunteers. Please bring generous potluck portions. We want to be sure that all you outdoor horsemen are well fed! Our dinner attendance has been close to 100 for the past few years.

Our special guest for the Annual Dinner will be Madison Iager, the first Maryland High School Rodeo Queen. For more on Madison see past newsletters and <http://www.americanfarm.com/publications/the-delmarva-farmer/events/1651-iager-named-first-maryland-high-school-rodeo-queen>

Come and enjoy lots of time for networking and meeting with friends and shopping for some great bargains at our fabulous silent auction.

For more information or to help, contact Priscilla Huffman (301-646-442, [priscillahuffman@verizon.net](mailto:priscillahuffman@verizon.net)).

## SEEKING DONATIONS FOR SILENT AUCTION

from Christiane Ferland, Silent Auction Coordinator

As in past years, we are requesting you donate new and gently used tack, horse keeping articles and clothing (clean and in very good condition), to offer at the Silent Auction that is part of our Annual Dinner.

Although most donations are horse related, all types of goods and services are welcome. Again this year, in addition to the silent auction items, we will have \$1, \$5, and \$10 tables, whose items will be available for purchase prior to the end of the auction.

**Auction Item:** We would greatly appreciate if all items for the silent auction items could be with Chris Ferland by Wed., Jan 18, for logging in and pricing. Please email Chris at [lapado2000@gmail.com](mailto:lapado2000@gmail.com) or call at 240-393-1217 about your donation. However, if you are one of those last minute folks who can't get it together before, do bring your good silent auction donations along with you to the Annual Dinner, and our volunteers will scurry to still get them logged in, priced, and out for sale.

**Fixed Price Items:** Fixed priced items can be brought in on the dinner night. We will have tags for the items and tables designated for the different prices.

Thank you so much for your contributions to the silent auction; they are what makes this a great event!

## SWELL NEW YEAR-ROUND RIDING VENUE – WSSC's TRIDELPHIA RESERVOIR IN MO CO, MD

from Barbara Sollner-Webb

Super news! WSSC has kindly opened a whole new trail for horse riding! [It is also for hiking and bird-watching, but NOT for biking.] And it is for use year round -- winter, as well as spring, summer and fall -- but of course only when the ground is dry! This new riding trail is on the Montgomery County side of WSSC's Tridelphia Reservoir, on their Access Road (a.k.a. "Firebreak"/"perimeter road"), and extends from Tridelphia Lake Road (off Georgia Avenue/Rt. 97) to Greenbridge Road (near Brighton Dam Road). WSSC has even constructed a new parking lot for us on Triadelphia Lake Road (access from Georgia Avenue/Rt. 97, just north of NH Ave/Rt. 650), which is suitable for six to eight horse trailers. From there to the Greenbridge Road end of the trail and back makes about a very pretty nine mile trail ride. Once the reservoir reopens for public access on March 15, the upper parking lot at Greenbridge Road (access from NH Ave/Rt. 650, just west of Brighton Dam Road) will be open to horse trailers as well, providing access to the riding trail from both ends. Also, if all goes well with this pilot program, WSSC plans to also construct a horse trailer parking lot on Greenbridge Road.

For many years, TROT members and other equestrians have been asking WSSC to permit riding on their Tridelphia Reservoir lands, so this is a really big deal! But please note, this is a pilot program, which WSSC will reassess next fall. We therefore have to be especially careful to NOT abuse the riding privilege – especially to NOT ride there when the ground is wet (should not leave obvious hoof-prints in wet soil), to NOT bushwhack off the approved trail (including NOT riding WSSC's land to Georgia Avenue/Rt. 97, which could encourage bikers to enter from the Patuxent River State Park trails and would likely get the WSSC trail closed), and to remove any horse poop from the parking lot and paved entrance road (but it is fine to leave any poop on the Access Road/Firebreak). In fact, if you get to their parking lot and see that some inconsiderate or forgetful rider forgot to remove their horse poop before leaving, please take the time to remove it, so we do not all lose this great riding privilege.

Especially because many sections of this new trail are begging for you to move out, but leaving hoof-prints can get us riders banned from this trail. So please look back at your tracks and if your horse is making obvious hoof-prints in the ground, then change to walk rather than canter/gallop. If prints are left when walking, turn around and come back on a day when the ground is dry.

For riding on this new trail, WSSC will enforce its standard watershed use regulations, including:  
-- Everyone 16 years or older must possess a valid WSSC Watershed Use Permit (get seasonal and daily passes at [www.wsscwater.com](http://www.wsscwater.com), the WSSC building on Sweitzer Lane [Continued on next page...])



in Laurel, or the Brighton Dam Visitor's Cabin; they are free for those 65 and over, and 2014 permits are valid thru March 14, with 2015 season permits available February 1); those under 16 years must be accompanied by someone 18 years or older with a valid Use Permit;

- Remove animal waste from parking lots & paved roads;
- All horseback riders must wear a helmet;
- Trail closed sunset to sunrise and till 1 pm on days of managed hunts (now not until fall 2015).

For maps, see <http://www.wsscwater.com/home/jsp/content/prcreports.faces>.

Thank you, WSSC, for this new trail riding venue!



Also, WSSC now has a new watershed manager, Eddie Franceschi. He previously was the Equine Resource Conservationist for Montgomery County Soil Conservation District and is a USDA NRCS certified Conservation Planner and Maryland Department of Agriculture Certified Nutrient Management Consultant. We equestrians welcome Eddie Franceschi and thank Billy Dove for the great job he has done in that position for the last couple of years, while also doing his full time job in WSSC's water production. The other great WSSC folks who have been keeping up the trail (as well as their many other duties), including Jeff Bell, Jasper Sirk, Brent Thomas, Troy Sheckles and Mike Huff, will remain in the group.

Equestrians, when you enjoy this new Tridelphia trail, please send a note of appreciation to Eddie Franceschi ([Eddie.Franceschi@wsscwater.com](mailto:Eddie.Franceschi@wsscwater.com)), Billy Dove ([bdove@wsscwater.com](mailto:bdove@wsscwater.com)), and WSSC's General Manager, Mr. Jerry Johnson ([GMCEO@wsscwater.com](mailto:GMCEO@wsscwater.com)).

## HORSE CAMPING

If you have gone camping with your horse, you already know how much fun it is; if you have not yet tried camping with your horse, plan to make 2015 your first year for it. Many equestrians enjoy horse camping at the League of Maryland Horsemen's facility (off Marriottsville Road near the Patapsco River and McKelden Park in Howard County, MD) and at the magnificent 5000 acre Fair Hill State Natural

Resources Management Area (in Cecil County, MD, off I-95 near the PA line). And some of you may also know of and have enjoyed horse camping at Lum's Pond (in New Castle County, Delaware, a short distance from Fair Hill).

This newsletter issue highlights two other great horse camping venues you can take advantage of in 2015 – new horse camping now available at Little Bennett Regional Park in Upper Montgomery County, MD, and previously existing (but not very well-known) horse camping facilities at Cedarville State Park in Prince George's County, MD, the latter kindly written up and sent in by long-time TROT member Mary Prowell.

We encourage our TROT members to share your knowledge of and experiences with other horse camping venues. Just write up a short report and send that information to the newsletter editor ([bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu)), for inclusion in the next newsletter issue.

## New horse camping facilities at Little Bennett Regional Park

For years, many of us have enjoyed day rides at Little Bennett Regional Park in Upper Montgomery County, MD. Now, for the first time, overnight horse camping is permitted there too! This past spring, TROT members Ron MacNab, Denis Webb and Barbara Sollner-Webb met with the Park Manager at Little Bennett, Andy Simmons, to lay out three campsites, with ample space for each site's truck/trailer, tent and a (battery-run) electric horse corral that you can bring to contain your equine buddies overnight.

This fall (2014), Park Manager Andy Simmons, announced the opening of Little Bennett Regional Park's new "Horse Trailer Camping Area". It is located at the back of the normal daily horse trailer parking area at Little Bennett, on Prescott Rd behind the Little Bennett Golf Course. Each campsite is equipped with a picnic table and fire ring, and is stated to accommodate up to six people, their truck and horse trailer, a large tent, and a portable corral. [You must bring your own battery operated electric fencing to use this option.] Water and a port-a-pot are available near-by. Each campsite is anticipated to cost \$25 per night. Reservations can be made at 301-528-3430 or at the Little Bennett Campground contact station (23705 Frederick Rd., Clarksburg, MD 20871). The park is easily accessible from I-270 in Upper Montgomery County, MD. (<https://www.facebook.com/LittleBennettCampground>).



## Riding and horse camping at Cedarville State Forest

from Mary Prowell

Cedarville is a really nice riding destination within easy driving distance for most of our TROT membership. You can ride for the day (\$3/vehicle) or camp at the equestrian campground (\$23/night). Priscilla (Huffman) and I camped there Saturday, October 4th and rode Saturday and Sunday.

The campground consists of around 35 wooded sites with a bathhouse with showers in the middle of the circular camping lay out. There are hot showers and flush toilets although I believe the bathhouse is closed in the winter with only a porta-potty available. The campground is adjacent to the Orange Trail so access is easy. Water for your buckets or containers is not readily available so if you camp you need to be sure and ask that the laundry room also be unlocked so you can use the bigger sinks in there to fill things up.

The trail system is very well maintained with color-coded and well marked trail loops. The footing is good although a bit hard. The trail surface varies between some sand, harder more packed sand or gravel and old gravel roads. There are many long stretches where you can really go at the trot or canter or fast gait. This is a popular park and there are hikers and sometimes mountain bikes, so slowing down for turns or obstructed sight lines is important. Most of the stream crossings and low areas have bridges so horses must be comfortable with crossing them. Almost all the bridges have abrasive material strips nailed to them to improve footing for horses.

The Holly Trail (Orange) is the main trail around the camping areas and park. It is circular and 7 miles long. It is mostly wooded with good footing. The White (Bird Watching) Trail is accessed from the Orange Trail and is a 4 mile loop. This trail has some very good long stretches where you can move out. The Blue (Heritage) Trail is 3.5 miles long, a slower more twisty trail with some roots and is also accessed from the Orange trail. These three trails have sections where they join and go along together for awhile but the cross trails where they branch off again are well marked and easy to follow. Off the Blue Trail you can cross a bridge to the fishing pond and access the Plantation Trail (Brown, 2.5 miles) and the Swamp Trail (Green, 2 miles, also a more twisty, slower trail). There is plenty of riding here and you can vary things by adding loops or parts of loops and doing some criss-crossing or figure-eighting. Water access for the horses is scanty. Be careful if you try and get down to water -- southern Maryland streams are known for their deep mud even when they look OK. Try and stay with gravel access into any water you may try and reach.

Priscilla and I rode about 12 miles Saturday afternoon and 13.5 on Sunday. Even one night of camping is rewarding. This is a family friendly park with a playground for little kids, a fishing pond you can drive to, and good bike

riding. One biker we talked to was finishing a 14 mile ride. The staff is very friendly and seems happy to see the horses there. They cheerfully open the bathhouse and check to be sure everything is OK for even just our two horses. We talked to one park ranger and he said the horse camp was recently opened (3 years maybe) and had been one of the older campgrounds that had been closed. They know that it is not really ideal for horse camping and are planning improvements for that purpose. It is still great to have a place like this to horse camp and it is greatly appreciated as it is.

The address for the headquarters is 10201 Bee Oak Road, Brandywine, MD, 20613. For camping reservations you can call 301-888-1410. Camping season is April through October. If you make a camping reservation you may want to call the day before and be sure you are on the board so the park personal will already have the bathhouse open and the water heater on. Also ask that they open the laundry room so you can use that for horse water. There is more information about Cedarville State Forest at their web site: <http://dnr2.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/southern/cedarville.aspx>

You can buy a nice map at the headquarters for \$3 or use the smaller, less detailed map that you can also pick up for free in the general info hand out for the park. The day parking is in a field across from the playground that would easily accommodate 5-7 trailers. I believe there is no hunting on the land around the orange loop, but there is if you go out on the other loops during hunting season. There is no hunting on Sundays in the forest. I think riding there in hunting season would be similar to riding on many of our trails near home, meaning that some of us are comfortable doing so during bow or musket loaders but not gun hunting. One thing I would warn you about is traffic. I would not drive down during rush hour unless you were prepared for that kind of prolonged driving.

I highly recommend Cedarville for a fun camping and/or riding experience. We should be supporting any of these parks that are horse friendly and let them know we applaud them for including us in the park plan. Give Cedarville a try!

*Note: In the summer, there can be a lot of ticks here, so the horses and yourself should use a pyrethrum/pyrethrum bug spray, which is amazingly effective at deterring ticks!*

## GREAT NEWS – new PG TROT Coordinator

With delight, we welcome long-time TROT member Judie Artman who kindly stepped forward to become the Prince George's County Coordinator for TROT. Many of you already know Judie, including for the lovely TROT ride she leads each year at Cedarville Park and for her very helpful efforts in lobbying to retain the WSSC/Rocky Gorge trails a couple of years ago. Thank you, Judie for taking on this important position that had been vacant for too long.

## UPDATE ON THE PATUXENT NORTHERN TRAIL SYSTEM ASSESSMENT

from Judy Thacher

As you may remember, recent TROT newsletters reported on an assessment of the trails in the Patuxent River State Park. In late September, the TROT Board was notified by Tom Newton, Patuxent River State Park Liaison for MORE (Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts) that Applied Trails Research had completed the final Patuxent Northern Trail System Assessment and Redevelopment Recommendations report. Mr. Newton reported that Jeremy Wimpey, PhD and his colleague, Scott Linnenburger, both of whom had participated at the public meeting in June, had done an excellent job on the preparation of this document. Great feedback from all participating user groups had been incorporated in the report. Mr. Newton made available the final report, "Patuxent River State Park: Northern Trail System Assessment and Redevelopment Recommendations" (by Dr. Jeremy Wimpey of Applied Trails Research, at: [https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B1XVin4UbEMqOVQwdm9NYmd6TjA&usp=sharing\\_eil](https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B1XVin4UbEMqOVQwdm9NYmd6TjA&usp=sharing_eil)) As more information becomes available, it will be forwarded to the user groups and to TROT.

## TROT'S TRAIL RIDING PROGRAM -- Thank you, Lisa Troutman, and welcome, Diana Urick!

As you surely know, TROT has many great trail rides each year. Participating in them is swell way to get familiar with various trail riding venues and a fun time to socialize with other like-minded equestrians, while also communing with your personal equine buddy and often then enjoying a yummy pot-luck lunch afterwards.

Please consider leading a TROT trail ride this year at your favorite riding venue. Leading a ride is easy, enjoyable, and a great public service.

In 2014, kind TROT members led rides at North Tract, Schooley Mill, Woodstock Park, Rachel Carson, Liberty Reservoir, Montgomery County Ag Farm Park, C & O Canal, New Market, Graham Equestrian Center, Cedarville, Susquehanna State Park, Fairland Park, Rocky Gorge, and Anacostia. Rides were also planned at Doncaster State Forest and Fair Hill, which unfortunately were rained out.

TROT is extremely appreciative of Lisa Troutman, who last year and for several previous years excellently coordinated our TROT trail rides.

For the upcoming riding year(s), long-time TROT member Diana Urick has kindly offered to coordinate our TROT trail rides. Thank you so much, Diana! Please encourage Diana in her new important position by offering to lead a ride in 2015. Please let Diana know your ideas for a ride by contacting her at [dianadricksquire@verizon.net](mailto:dianadricksquire@verizon.net) or 410-412-6976.

## PAST TROT RIDES

Fairland Regional Park TROT Ride  
Saturday, October 4, 2014

from Jenn Poole

Many of us in the Burtonsville, Laurel, Silver Spring area never knew that the trails at Fairland Regional Park were open for Equestrian use. I just found this out a few months ago and was astounded at how beautiful the trails are. We sure are lucky to be able to ride here!!

If you have never been to Fairland Regional Park, it has many multi-use options, including hiking, biking, and HORSEBACK RIDING. It also has several nice tennis courts, basketball courts, a baseball diamond, soccer field, picnic areas, kids playgrounds, and more. What a treasure!

Our ride was scheduled for Sat., October 4, and up to the wire, ~~thought we would need to postpone due to the rain the night before.~~ Thankfully, even though farms only a few miles away had quite a bit of rain, the park and close-by areas had received very little rain, so the ride was on.

By the time we arrived, the sun was shining bright as could be, the ground had dried up, and the air was a perfect autumn crispness. The riders were John Angevine (whose wife, Mary, was TROT's Fairland coordinator for many years), Stephanie Cacopardo, Leah Mack, Virginia Henriksen (a new TROT rider), and ride co-leaders Barbara Sollner-Webb and me. We kept a calm, leisurely pace the entire ride, and had a wonderful time. It was perfect for training some of our newer trail horses and relaxing for those with experienced trail horses. Back at the picnic area after the ride, we were joined by Denis Webb. It was an extraordinary day with fun people, a nice blend of horses (and a pony), wonderful food, and amazing trails to ride on.

Many years ago, members of TROT and the mountain biking organization MORE had cooperated to reconstruct the trails at Fairland, and lots of work sessions made them beautiful. But in later years, they became virtually impassable due to downed trees. However, now they are wonderfully re-opened again, and swell for riding. Fairland Park is at the Montgomery/Prince George's County border just south of Rt. 198, with plenty of horse trailer parking off Greencastle Rd in Montgomery County and fine parking for a few trailers along the golf course entrance road off Old Gunpowder Road in Prince George's County.

If you haven't already, check out these trails. You won't be sorry you did!

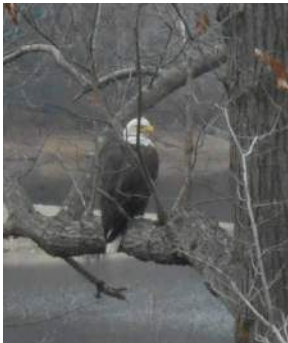




## Finally, a Rocky Gorge TROT ride that was not rained out!!

from Barbara Sollner-Webb

After having to postpone TROT's 2014 ride on WSSC's Rocky Gorge Trail in Laurel/Burtonsville four (yes, 4!!) times due to rain and/or too wet ground, both in the spring and fall, finally on our fifth attempt, Mother Nature gave us a fantastic day. Saturday, October 11 had dry ground, brilliant sun, crisp air, and beautiful fall colors to highlight the spectacularly pretty Rocky Gorge Reservoir. Fifteen horse/rider pairs -- half in an all-walk group, led by Terry Ledley (for whom WSSC had named this trail many years ago), and half in a group that moved out, led by me -- had a delightful 2 1/2 hour ride. Four were new TROT members who joined the day of the ride. And then all enjoyed a yummy and relaxing pot-luck feast at our house, where we stopped on the way back to the trailers. For many of the riders, this was their first time enjoying this great venue, while others were returning to an old favorite. And for folks who wanted to come but couldn't



make it that day, please do come out to ride WSSC's lovely reservoir trails some other time. [Although WSSC closes their Rocky Gorge Reservoir trail for the winter, they now have a new trail open at their Triadelphia Reservoir year round -- see article above.]

← an eagle, who recently greeted visitors on the Rocky Gorge

## TROT's final ride of the year, along the NorthEast Branch of the Anacostia River, Nov. 22, 2014

reported by John Angevine, the trail ride organizer

On a crisp and sunny day, riders were John Angevine, Jacki Edens, Jessica Contento, Priscilla Huffman, and Shari Walker. The ride started at the Skating Ring on Paint Branch Parkway in College Park and followed the NorthEast Branch Trail of Anacostia River down to the Bladensburg Waterfront Park. On this particular day, there were surprisingly large numbers of youths walking along the trail, and they were thrilled to see the horses, up close and personal. Everyone who attends this yearly TROT ride is always amazed with the spacious trails and beautiful scenes along the Anacostia River within the beltway so close to downtown DC.

## BIG CONGRATZ TO FOUNDING TROT MEMBER PAT OLIVA AND HER BELOVED HORSE, COLONEL PEPPER

Col. Pepper is finishing his 12th year of endurance rides, with over 4100 miles. Not many endurance horses compete for that long, and Pat is "bursting with pride". But given that Pat has been competing in endurance rides for who knows how much longer, imagine how many miles she has logged -- likely much more than to go completely around the world!

## TRAIL MAINTENANCE EFFORTS

Doing trail maintenance is crucial to being good equestrian stewards and to TROT's mission. We hope all TROT members regularly, on each trail ride, clip branches that are growing into the trail, dismount to move downed trees that block the trail, and report obstacles too big to manage oneself. However, there are also larger, multi-person projects that need doing, which Amy Kimble kindly helps organize, some of which are reported below.

## Important work to do in the Catoctin area in 2015

from Amy Kimble, TROT trail work coordinator

We will be developing a strategy to connect the trails in Frederick County - beginning with the Frederick Watershed and Catoctin Mountain Park. We need a working group of volunteers who really know the trails so that we can present a suggested route to the landowners by an agreed upon date. Those interested, please CONTACT Amy Kimble or Pat Merson as soon as possible so we can keep you informed on these critical efforts.

We also need as many volunteers as possible to help replace the roof of the barn at Greentop in Catoctin Mountain Park. This is to support horses at Catoctin: their therapeutic Riding program in the summer and to hopefully use the barn the remainder of the time for horse camping, clinics, etc. The facility has cabins and a kitchen and an activities building -- a great equestrian resource. I am working with Catoctin but cannot establish dates unless we will have enough volunteers to complete this project. Some folks will be taking the roof off, some transporting the trash to the dumpster, some offering snacks and water to the workers -- something for everyone to do. The new roof will be metal, which I think goes fast and is much easier than shingle, but we will need volunteers to hand up material; folks with drills and saws and a few who feel comfortable off the ground who must be over 18 years. I think it will be a lot of fun and very rewarding! Please contact Amy Kimble 301-748-8310 for any questions and/or to participate.



## Also, work on the WSSC/Rocky Gorge trail in 2015

from Barbara Sollner-Webb

While WSSC's Watershed Group, especially Jeff Bell, has kindly cleared the trees that blocked the Rocky Gorge trail, Jeff would like TROT to have some workdays in spring 2015, to clear smaller winter debris and assure there is adequate marking. We can be mounted and/or on foot. It is a fun time to commune with nature and enjoy this pretty venue. Please let me know if you are interested in participating ([bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu), or 301-604-5619) and we will set up days to accommodate all willing workers.

## RECENT TROT TRAIL WORK EFFORTS

### Reporting Trail Work Hours

from Amy Kimble – TROT's Adopt-a-Trail Coordinator

Please email Amy Kimble ([amyhkimble@aol.com](mailto:amyhkimble@aol.com)) with any hours you have worked in 2014 and with hours so far in 2015. Please include location, date, and time spent if possible. However, if you only report that you have worked 25 hours in Patuxent between Long Corner and Woodbine Road between April and August 2014, that is fine too.

I have been getting hours sent in by some of our members and am very grateful to all of them.

We can help care for our trails!

### Thanks for trail work in Gunpowder Falls State Park

from Priscilla Huffman

The Baltimore area group had a great turnout Sept. 6 on a hot and muggy Baltimore summer day. With a good variety of trail tools, we were able to clear much of the Mingo Forks and Mingo Ridge trails in the Hereford section. There was a Baltimore Road Runners race the day we were clearing, and several of the runners thanked us for our work as they passed. The Road Runners had done a lot of clearing prior to their race date, and we look forward to working with this active group of trail users in the future.

Thanks to Tom Milcarek, Brooke Trentler, Bruce Trentler, Tara Dorn, Monika Munn, Bruno Conticello, Betsy Hochstein (pictured L to R in the photo below) and Yancy Carey, Priscilla Huffman, Janet Leitzel, Mary Long, and Donna O'Brien (not in this photo). Included in our group was Brooke Trentler who at age 9 is getting some good instruction from her Dad Bruce on trail stewardship!

To get directly to these trails, park on Mt. Carmel Rd in Monkton, just west of the Park-and-Ride at I-83. There is ample trailer parking and turn-around space on a field just up the grass hill. The Bunker Hill trails can also be accessed from the large parking area at the end of Bunker Hill Rd off York Rd just north of Hereford High School.

Thanks again for your support in keeping our beautiful Gunpowder Falls State Park trails rideable.



Part of the workgroup at Gunpowder Falls

## Homewood Center and Patuxent -- a winning day for all who participated

from Amy Kimble

Homewood Center work day at Patuxent with Ranger Bryon was a great success and an excellent collaboration for our youths in Howard County. Teacher Suzy Young, who met Amy Kimble at a Catoctin Trail Work Day, asked if her class could participate in a similar work day. Amy was very excited to put this together, as Suzy's students are a group considered to have challenging behaviors. A few months later, we planned the work day, with Ranger Bryon of Patuxent State Park supplying tools, but 3" of rain forced postponement. The following week, everything worked out well, the day a huge success for the Park and students. All hope to repeat it again.

## Catoctin Mountain Park Volunteer Recognition Dinner, Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014

from Amy Kimble

This event at Greentop (Catoctin Mountain Park's facility with the barn, cabins, pool, hall and dining room, just outside of Thurmont, MD) was held to celebrate 900 plus volunteers of all ages who contributed an astounding 19,988 hours working at Catoctin: the Boy Scouts, Amish Anabaptist Service Program (Indiana), Success Program Collaboration, Harpers Ferry Job Corp, the Appalachian Trail Club, American Hiking Society and Catoctin Forest Alliance, to name a few.



Pat Merson and Pat Talbott accept TROT's volunteer Appreciation Certificate at the Recognition Dinner at Greentop.

Catoctin will offer a badge for volunteers who put in 10 hrs or more getting rid of Barberry, the "Barberry Brigade". Remember, *"The parks will survive without volunteers, but volunteers are ESSENTIAL to the parks THRIVING."*

## Checking out the horse trail at Catoctin

from Amy Kimble



Katie on Spotless Record

Amy and Katie Kline, a youth who with her family had worked with Amy on this trail several times, finally got to ride Catoctin, to see the fruits of their hard work. The trail was in great shape, although we did prune and clear a bit more, and the signage was enormously improved. The short loop (2 hours) was demanding and rocky, but a great time.

Howard county event – need Howard Co Coordinator  
from Amy Kimble

The Howard County Parks & Recreation Volunteer Appreciation event was held at Belmont Manor in ElkrIDGE. Pat Olivia, Amy Kimble and her husband Steve Kimble attended on behalf of TROT. We had seven (7!) amazing catering companies, a live band, and hayrides around the gorgeous grounds. All three of us had a fantastic time.

Please, someone, step up to be the Howard County coordinator for TROT. You could be attending this marvelous event next year!

We also visited the grave of Billy Barton (famous race horse and later timber horse & foxhunter); Google him -- amazing story that made the cover of Time magazine.



Re-routing sections of the Rocky Gorge trail, Oct 31  
from Barbara Sollner-Webb

Jeff Bell, head trail worker of WSSC Watershed Group, and I spent the day checking out WSSC's Rocky Gorge trail between Ednor Road and Brogden Road. We focused on sections that had seemed less than perfect, in several places re-routing the trail to be less steep -- making the riding easier and the trail less prone to erosion. The old paths were blocked off and their paint blazes were covered over, and the new routes were blazed. While out, we met two nice riders, who said they appreciated the re-routing and proudly showed Jeff their trail passes that they had just gotten for their ride this day. What a delight to be working WITH the WSSC staff, to keep up this magnificent trail -- that only a couple of years ago we were in grave danger of losing entirely. See the note above on planning further work on this great trail.

Work Day at Morgan Run, NEA, Sun., Nov. 16  
from Judy Thacher

Carolyn Garber, Carroll County Equestrian Council Secretary and TROT member, reported another successful trail workday at Morgan Run NEA with 10 volunteers. Volunteers had the option of working on foot or from horseback. TROT members Howard and Marty Lanham provided a hot dog lunch.

WELCOME. NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

from Sim Shanks

<u>new member</u>	<u>county</u>
Libby Groom-Ballenger	Carroll
Chen Bush	Frederick
Elisha Lager	Howard
Ashley Esun	Montgomery
Diana Patton	Montgomery
Sharon Campbell	Washington DC

Thanks for joining!

COUNTY & AREA REPORTS

from Baltimore area coordinator, Priscilla Huffman

**A potential new equestrian trail:**

Preliminary planning began for an equestrian trail at the Center for Maryland Agriculture and Farm Park in Baltimore County. This 149-acre property, on the corner of Shawan and Cuba Roads, consolidates many of the support services for the agricultural community, promotes future agricultural sustainability, serves as an educational resource center for school children and adults, and will provide open space benefits of walking and equestrian trail riding. The Center is designed to look and feel like a farm from the architectural design of the buildings to the presence of field and livestock operations. Baltimore County TROT members are volunteering on the trail planning committee. Learn more about the Ag Center program and activities at: <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/recreation/programdivision/naturearea/agcenter.html>

**Forming Gunpowder Volunteer Mounted Patrol:**

Maryland Park Service's Volunteer Mounted Patrol (VMP) units patrol the Susquehanna, Fair Hill and Gunpowder Falls Parks, and now also again the Patapsco Park. VMP rangers are horseback riders who regularly ride in the park and thus are knowledgeable about its conditions. VMP volunteers serve as protectors of the park's resources and as ambassadors of the various state parks where they patrol. These Maryland Parks VMPs are distinct from, but complementary to, VMPs that also are active in Montgomery County and Howard County, working in their county parks with the Montgomery County Park Police and the Howard County Police, respectively.

Jim McDonald and Graham Equestrian Center hosted a meeting September 19 for the Gunpowder Volunteer Mounted Patrol (VMP). This was our second meeting. Six Baltimore area attendees learned about the history of the VMP, which started at Graham 17 years ago. A draft of the Patapsco VMP guide was reviewed. Current guidelines include completion of:

-- Registration as a VMP volunteer on the DNR website

[Continued on next page...]



[https://ec.volunteernow.com/recruiter/index.php?class=Volunteer\\_Navigation&recruiterID=1289&act=CONTROL:LOGIN\\_LINK](https://ec.volunteernow.com/recruiter/index.php?class=Volunteer_Navigation&recruiterID=1289&act=CONTROL:LOGIN_LINK)

- 40 hrs volunteer work (includes meetings & training)
- 14 hrs orientation/training provided by DNR.
- CPR training – provided by DNR at no cost to you
- drive-along with a park ranger (approx. 4 hr)
- VMP ride-along with a current VMP member
- Horse assessment with obstacles. [Jim McDonald offered to have a few obstacle clinics prior to this.]

The group continued to work with DNR Ranger Dean Hughes, with a meeting in Oct. to confirm guidelines and training dates. Donna Seymour, DNR volunteer coordinator for Patapsco Park, has also been contacted. Patapsco is scheduling training and orientation dates for 2015, which the Gunpowder group can attend. Donna plans to attend the next Gunpowder VMP meeting.

Then, a follow-up meeting for the Gunpowder Volunteer Mounted Patrol was held in December; future meetings will be held in 2015 as this VMP progresses.

**Please note that the Maryland Park Service Volunteer Mounted Patrol will have a booth at the Horse World Expo at the Timonium Fair Grounds, Jan 16-18, 2015.** Do come to this booth to learn about the Maryland Park Service's VMP units, which patrol the Susquehanna, Fair Hill and Gunpowder Falls Parks, and now also the Patapsco Park, and learn how these volunteers provide an important resource supporting our state parks.

#### Frederick County report, from Pat Oliva:

##### **Save horse feed coupons for the benefit of Days End:**

Please save the proof of purchase coupon on the top right side of Southern States horse feed bags (Legend and Triple Crown feeds), as TROT collects them to donate to Days End, the wonderful horse rescue place, who in turn gets 25 cents per coupon to help them care for all their horses. If you have some of these coupons collected, please bring them along to the Annual Dinner, and I will take them to Days End.

##### **Improvements for trails in the Frederick Watershed:**

Frederick Mayor Randy McClement has assembled a committee of about 20 selected members of the community, based on their education, training and interest in "helping to achieve a viable shared-use/recreational plan with the ultimate goal of protecting the watershed", as stated by the Mayor. Members include representatives of the major mountain biker group, engineers, DNR personnel, local land owners, environmental scientists, a Sierra club member, and an equine representative for TROT – Pat Oliva who is a certified Trail Master.

Pat feels that it looks good for trails in the Frederick Watershed, meaning that there ultimately should be an improved quality of trails and their trailer parking in the Frederick Watershed. Pat reports that she has so far attended three Ad Hoc meeting of the entire committee

and three sub-committee meetings on the trails to be retained. They are still in the planning stages, so there are no conclusions yet, but Pat is encouraged that the effort ultimately will be successful and worthwhile, to yield improved trails and access for horse trailers.

**PLEASE NOTE: Pat needs to know what trails are important to the folks who ride the Frederick Watershed. Please do contact her with your comments, at [patolivatiqger@aol.com](mailto:patolivatiqger@aol.com) or 410 489-7380.**

#### Laurel/Burtonsville/Spencerville area

from area co-coordinator, Barbara Sollner-Webb

##### **An Appreciation Luncheon for WSSC trail workers**

On Monday, October 20, we held a very nice "Appreciation Luncheon" for the WSSC watershed staff, who have been so excellently maintaining their Rocky Gorge equestrian (and hiker) trail. Attending were WSSC Watershed Staff members Billy Dove (Acting Watershed Manager), Jeff Bell and Jasper Sirk (who cleared hundreds of fallen trees since WSSC re-opened the trail in 2013), Troy Sheckels (who is rebuilding washed out culverts) and George Prather (greeter at Brighton Dam cabin). Also attending were nine appreciative equestrians: Ron MacNab (past TROT president), Jane Seigler (MD Horse Council president), Terry Ledley (for whom WSSC named their horse trail many years ago), Debby Poole, Denis Webb and Barbara Sollner-Webb (who led the effort to re-open WSSC's Rocky Gorge trail a few years ago), Nancy Osgood (TROT secretary), Pat Oliva (founding TROT member) and Laury Lobel (TROT board member). We brought a yummy lunch, and everyone enjoyed talking with one another. A good and productive time was had by all.

from Burtonsville area resident, Maria Schwartz

##### **Turf Center Tack Sale and Swap Event**

On Saturday, November 1st, some brave souls shrugged off the blustery weather to check out the great buys at the Tack Sale and Swap event at the Turf Center in Silver Spring, Md. The Turf Center was kind enough to donate the proceeds they collected for renting table space to TROT. The items for sale (and there were a couple of swaps, too) ranged from bridles and saddles to riding apparel and barn supplies. Everything was in beautiful condition and very reasonably priced.

TROT truly appreciates this kind of community support. In addition to providing a forum in which we could tell equine enthusiasts about all the advantages of joining TROT, we added one new member and were the recipients of a \$27 donation from the table rental. For those who are unfamiliar with the Turf Center, it is on Rt. 198 and features Southern States products, offering a full line of horse, livestock and poultry feeds along with animal health, fencing and other supplies. Many thanks to Diana for arranging this event! We hope to do it again in the spring.

## YOUTH EQUESTRIAN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

from Judy Thacher

The Board of Directors of TROT is pleased to announce that TROT will be awarding two \$500 scholarships to young equestrians to help them pursue their ongoing equine activities. The Board has long recognized that it is today's youth who will become the "Trail Riders of Tomorrow" and it is they who will become the next generation of riders to protect and preserve our equestrian trails and our environment. The scholarship award also includes a complimentary family membership in TROT for one year.

The applicant must be a Maryland resident, a full time student, 12-18 years old, and a current member of 4-H, Pony Club, FFA, a licensed Maryland riding stable or another equine organization represented on the Maryland Horse Council. Each applicant must submit an application form and an essay of 300 words or less entitled: "*How horses have affected my life and how I plan to keep them in my future*". Application forms, eligibility requirements and additional information regarding the application process are available online at [www.TROT-MD.org](http://www.TROT-MD.org). The deadline for applications is April 15, 2015.

## TROT BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

from Priscilla Huffman and Nancy Osgood,  
summarizing minutes of Jean Cooper, acting sec.

In attendance at the meeting, at Br. Roger Nelson's house, were Judy Thacher (VP); Jean Cooper (acting secretary); Susan Railey (treasurer); Jeff Dwyer, Priscilla Huffman, Terry Ledley, Laury Lobel, Br. Roger Nelson, Jennifer Poole, Barbara Sollner-Webb, and Pat Talbott (board members), and Cathy Diamond, Susan Gray, Dick Huffman, Pat Merson, Gale Monahan, Jack Monahan, and Sim Shanks (TROT members).

There was a treasurer's report from Susan Railey and a membership report from Pat Talbot, reporting 401 total members to date including family members. The trail ride report, provided by Lisa Troutman, recounted that 18 rides have been planned for the year, but five had to be cancelled due to inclement weather, poor trail conditions or lameness of the leader's horse. We discussed that the Fairland Park trails (PG and Montgomery Counties) are in good shape; to encourage riders to use them, we will be holding a TROT ride there. In earlier years, TROT members and MORE put in a lot of time on those Fairland trails, so it is great that they are open again, after having been badly blocked by many fallen trees for a few years in the interim. Regarding the newsletter, Barbara Sollner-Webb will continue to work on content, with plans that Marcia Lyons will continue doing the formatting.

In **County/Area Coordinator reports**, Pat Merson reported for Frederick County that the developers of the proposed artillery range abutting the Sugarloaf withdrew their special exception application, closing the issue.

For Carroll County, Judy Thacher reported on a second "meet and greet" meeting, attended by TROT members and Madison Iager, Miss Maryland High School Rodeo Queen. The next meeting of the Carroll County members is planned for November 18 at Kyle Jossi's home in Sykesville.

For Baltimore County, Priscilla Huffman reported a trail clearing Sept. 6 at the Mingo Forks trail at Gunpowder Falls State Park, to start removing invasive wavy leaf basket grass, with another planned for Sept. 20, along with the Gunpowder Conservancy group. Sept. 19 will be the second meeting of the Gunpowder volunteer mounted patrol.

For Prince George's county, good news was reported, that Judie Artman has volunteered as TROT's County Coordinator.

For the Laurel/Burtonsville/Spencerville area, co-coordinators Jenn Poole and Barbara Sollner-Webb reported that they are planning a ride on Saturday October 4 at Fairland Park and another on Saturday October 11 at WSSC's Rocky Gorge ride. Barbara also reported that WSSC is considering opening trails along their Triadelphia reservoir for year-round riding, something that TROT has been begging for, over many years.

Under **New Business**, we discussed:

Equine scholarships for 4H and Pony Clubs: Jeff Dwyer and Judy Thacher suggested that TROT establish a scholarship for 4H, FFA or Pony Club members who wish to pursue equine interests, intended to encourage the next generation of trail riders.

Sponsoring a Porta Potty for Morgan Run: TROT is investigating supporting this much-appreciated Porta Potty.

Trail clearing support: A suggestion was made to consider giving the trail maintenance coordinator an allocation of funds for trail clearing.

PEPCO right-of-way: Attorney Susan Grey reported that TROT had been contacted regarding a legal motion to allow recreational users on the right-of-way for PEPCO, as part of a possible merger of PEPCO with Exelon. The TROT Board gave approval to endorse the effort and TROT will be included in the motion.

Under **Old Business**, we discussed:

4H and Pony club update: Madison Iager, Maryland Rodeo Queen, will be available to TROT for two events, including making a presentation at TROT's next annual dinner and another event to encourage youth equestrian participation.

(Non)Judged Pleasure Clinic: This intended obstacle training will be postponed to Spring, 2015, at Jeff Dwyer's farm.

Horse World expo: January 16 – 18, 2015; TROT will have a booth that Priscilla will coordinate and is seeking volunteers to help man.

TROT's annual dinner: Saturday, February 21, 2015 at the Mt. Airy Fire Hall; we need a coordinator.

Sim Shanks read a letter from Nancy Osgood thanking the TROT board for their support during her recovery.

Jeff Dwyer distributed hunting statistics to show the numbers of Maryland hunters and emphasized the importance of having solid factual data in discussions.

## TROT BOARD MEETING, NOVEMBER 1, 2014

from minutes taken by Nancy Osgood, TROT Secretary

In attendance at the meeting, at the home of Nancy Osgood and Sim Shanks, were Maria Schwartz (president); Judy Thacher (VP); Nancy Osgood (secretary); Susan Railey (treasurer); Laury Lobel, Jenn Poole, Barbara Sollner-Webb, Terry Ledley, Pat Talbott (board members), Lisa Troutman (trail ride coordinator); Susan Gray and Sim Shanks; and via telephone, Amy Kimble (trail maintenance coordinator), and Jeff Dwyer and Priscilla Huffman (board members).

The minutes from the September meeting were approved (there was no board meeting in October). There was a Treasurer's Report from Susan Railey and a Membership Report from Sim Shanks (including his streamlining of the membership process; information that we have 426 total members for 2014; and plans to get a post office box for TROT so that the official address will not change if the membership chair changes). There was a Trail Ride Report from Lisa Troutman of this year's 18 planned rides, with five cancelled due to weather, and one more ride scheduled at the end of November. At the end of this year, Lisa is stepping down as the Trail Ride Coordinator, but happily during Barbara's Rocky Gorge ride, Diana Urick agreed to take this position. Barbara Sollner-Webb and Jenn Poole noted general satisfaction with the \$5 one-day membership for trail rides, where many new folks start the rides paying \$5, but become full members by end of ride. A Trail Work Report from Amy Kimble noted the success of the Adopt-a-trail program but difficulty in getting volunteers to work on the Catoctin barn renovation. There was also a successful work group with Homewood school, where Brother Ranger Nelson went out with the kids. And Barb Sollner-Webb worked with WSSC's Jeff Bell to re-route a few steep sections of the Rocky Gorge trail. Along with a Newsletter update from Barb Sollner-Webb, there were suggestions that since Constant Contact is now used monthly to announce upcoming activities, the newsletter should be quarterly rather than every second month (so to delay the next newsletter to late December or early January). Additionally, Laury Lobel noted knowing someone who is considering become a Coordinator for Howard County, a position we greatly need to have filled.

In **County and Area Coordinator reports**, Judy Thacher reported from Carroll County that they had to cancel their planned member get-together. Jenn Poole and Barbara Sollner-Webb reported from the Laurel area on their TROT rides in Fairland Park and at WSSC's Rocky Gorge, and on an appreciation luncheon for the WSSC staff. Members were encouraged to attend WSSC's November 19 Commission meeting to ask for trail riding in the Tridelphia reservoir.

In **Old Business**, we discussed next year having a TROT representative at Graham Equestrian Center's open house, which draws about 750 people. There was also considerable discussion about TROT's possible Equine scholarships, intended to reach out to youths who are interested in horses, with a draft hand-out provided by Judy Thacher. It was

agreed to move forward, with applications due March 15, 2015, and flyers available at the Horse World Expo. Another important topic was the hope to secure trail access on power lines, for which folks need to testify as a statewide effort, not just for Montgomery and PG Counties and not just for Pepco. Also, TROT's booth at the Horse World Expo (January 16-18) will be organized by Priscilla Huffman. Jeff Dwyer is working to arrange a date for a 2015 TROT Non-Judged Pleasure clinic, in May or June.

In **New Business**, we discussed the 2015 Annual Dinner Plans and a 2014 holiday party.

## A HANDY TRAIL BREED – the Spotted Saddle Horse

from Elizabeth Farina *[TROT member who has a B.S. in Equine Agribusiness, is a USDF Silver Medalist, and has ridden internationally for many known trainers. She shows, drives, breeds, and teaches all levels and ages of rider; likes foxhunting and eventing; and says she thinks dressage is the proper start for every horse]*

The Spotted Saddle Horse was developed in middle Tennessee after the Revolutionary War by crossing Spanish Pinto ponies with established gaited breeds such as the Tennessee Walking Horse. Originally bred as an all-around saddle horse, the Spotted Saddle Horse was developed to be large enough for an adult and gaited, while still retaining the charm and color of the pinto ponies. This colorful and comfortable breed was further refined with the addition of Standardbred, Morgan, Mustang, and Paso Fino blood and became a popular gentleman's mount and plantation horse. The resulting horse was good for the whole family and easy to ride, mount and work with. Spotted Saddle Horses were also popular cavalry mounts during the Civil War, although due to their conspicuous coloring, casualties among horse and rider were high.

The modern Spotted Saddle Horse is very versatile and can be seen in the show ring, hunter ring, and is used for field work, as a trail horse, and even gaited dressage!

Spotted Saddle Horses must be naturally gaited and exhibit a 'coat of many colors'. The coat can be any color and the pattern can be Tobiano, Overo, or combination but must display white spots above the knee.

Spotted Saddle Horses range in height from 13.3 to 15.2 hands high, with contemporary standards preferring the larger horse size. The overall appearance of the Spotted Saddle Horse should be similar to that of a slightly stocky Tennessee Walking Horse. Ideal confirmation is a long sloping hip and shoulder, short strong coupling, and short back. The bottom line of the Spotted Saddle Horse should be longer than topline to allow for a long overstride in the horse's gaits. The Spotted Saddle Horse's easy temperament and gliding movement make them appropriate for riders from young to old.

The Spotted Saddle Horse gait is entirely natural and  
*[Continued on next page...]*



inherited. Each horse is inspected for gaits before being registered. All Spotted Saddle Horses have the three gaits of flat-footed walk, show pleasure, and canter and may also exhibit additional gaits such as the rack, fox-trot, stepping pace, or other variations. Spotted Saddle Horses may not trot – no bouncing or posting!

The flat-footed walk or show walk is a four-beat, regular gait traveling at about 4 to 8 mph, which is comparable to the average quarter horse jogging or trotting speed. The show pleasure is a four-beat, ambling gait traveling at 10 to 20 mph, equivalent to a quarter horse lope or canter. The show pleasure is extremely smooth, like riding a jet-powered lounge chair.

The Spotted Saddle Horse is represented by two breed organizations. The National Spotted Saddle Horse Association was founded in 1979 in Tennessee and is dedicated to establishing a uniform breed of saddle horse that is naturally gaited and performs without the use of punishing training aids or substances. The Spotted Saddle Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association was founded in 1985 to register and promote the breed. The SSHBEA registry requirements are stricter - only registering offspring with an already registered parent. Many Spotted Saddle Horses are also registered as Tennessee Walking Horses or other gaited breeds.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

To place an ad, email: [bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu)

**TROT Members:** One regular (100 word) ad FREE! All free ads will run for one issue, but can be run in subsequent issues **ONLY IF** the Editor is notified 15 days prior to the publish date.

### Non-member rates:

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

## Intern position

Ebb Tide Stables is actively seeking an intern for Spring 2015. The intern will learn about horse and stable management, training, instruction, breeding, foaling and mare care, as well as helping us with our winter and spring show and exhibition circuit. Trainers Jeff Dwyer and Elizabeth Farina will work alongside the intern in daily tasks, as well as providing opportunities to ride with other trainers. Room and board provided for intern; board for intern's horse may be provided. Work hard, ride hard. Contact us by email at [EbbTideStables@gmail.com](mailto:EbbTideStables@gmail.com). [Facebook.com/EbbTideStables](https://www.facebook.com/EbbTideStables) for more info.

## TROT license plates -- order yours today

from Susan Railey

Have you driven down the road and noticed TROT's beautiful license plate with a black horse and rider silhouetted against a yellow sun? Don't just admire everyone else's -- get your own.

It's very easy. E-mail [susanrailey@verizon.net](mailto:susanrailey@verizon.net) for an application, and I will send you the simple instructions including the MVA's application, which you complete and send back to me with a \$25 check. I confirm your membership, forward it to MVA, and your classy new plates arrive in a few short weeks. You do not need to wait for your current plates to be renewed. The new stickers are pro-rated so you do not lose any registration time for which you have already paid.



## TROT logo-wear

Show your support for your YOUR riding club by wearing TROT Logo Wear. And you can conveniently shop for your favorite TROT Logo Wear, as well as other desired items such as mugs, saddle pads, etc. that you would like to emblazon with our club's logo, even ordering in your pajamas!

Say It! Graphics, owned and operated by TROT member Chrissy Jongezoon, offers a wide range of high quality reasonably priced clothing and other accessories emblazoned with the TROT logo by screen printing and embroidery.

You can order 24/7 at [www.sayitgraphics.com](http://www.sayitgraphics.com), or e-mail Chrissy at [web@sayitgraphics.net](mailto:web@sayitgraphics.net), or call at 301-676-6725. As an additional incentive, without raising the price, Say It! Graphics donates 15% of the price to TROT!

## Horse at stud

(410) 320-1327 • [EbbTideStables@gmail.com](mailto:EbbTideStables@gmail.com)

Smoky black, homozygous Tobiano  
Striking blue eyes  
Silky, natural, 4-beat gaits  
Sound and barefoot  
Proven rail and trail  
Big and bold foals on the ground



**L&R Jazz Combo**

TWH • SSH • RH • Pinto

\$350 LFG

# 5+ Acre Horse Farm For Sale!


**11838 Ramsburg Road  
Marriottsville, Md. 21104**

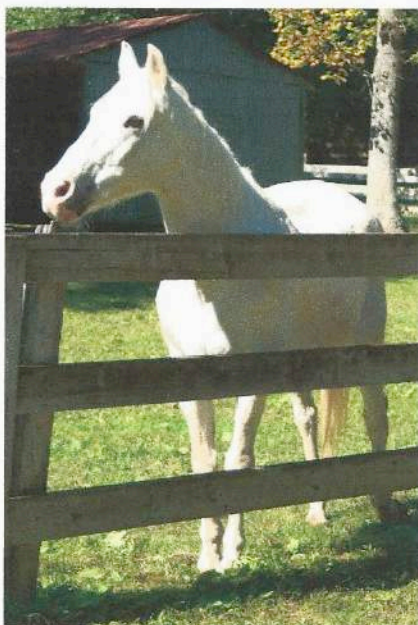
**Direct Access To Miles of Riding Trails!**



Scenic 5+ Acre Horse Farmette near Marriotts Ridge High School. This home features 5 bedrooms, hardwood floors, new kitchen and a main floor laundry room. Huge 4 car garage. Fenced pastures and an outdoor lighted riding arena. Three stall barn has water & electric, Tack area and plenty of hay storage. This home is priced at \$599,000.

Please visit: [www.MarylandHorseProperty.com](http://www.MarylandHorseProperty.com)

**You**  **Tube** or  
at 11838 Ramsburg Road



**Are you looking for a home  
for you and your horse?**

**Tim McCoy**

**443-812-9805**

e-mail: [timccoy@mrisc.com](mailto:timccoy@mrisc.com)

Visit my website at:  
[TimTheRealMcCoy.com](http://TimTheRealMcCoy.com)



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### Barn for Lease

Lovely Private Custom Barn on the Triadelphia Reservoir  
*Hawk's Flight Farm*  
500 Greenbridge Road  
Brookeville, MD 20833

Please call Bonnie at 301-570-4208

*Rent entire barn with:*

- Large, matted box stalls with hay racks
- 2 large rolling pastures, plentiful grass, large run-ins, automatic waterers, round pen & diamond-wire fencing
- Grooming area, wash rack, feed & heated tack rooms
- Huge loft
- Indoor riding perimeter
- Flat outdoor riding area
- Quiet, peaceful, beautiful surroundings
- Private road access; Owner on premises

*Self-care, responsible individual/s only*

4 horse maximum

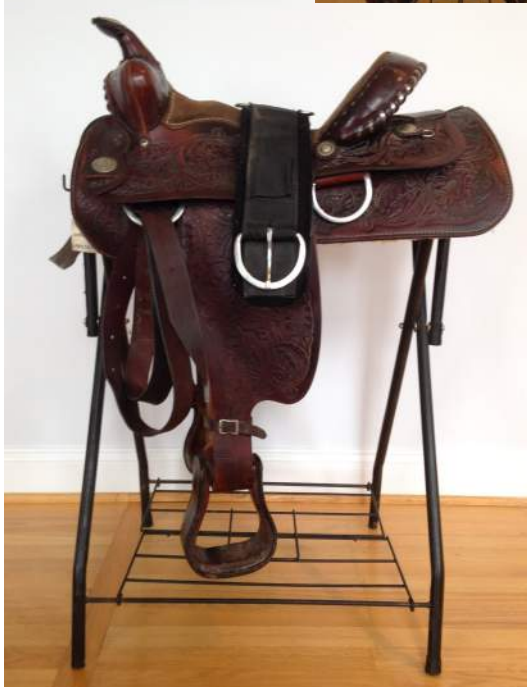
Available immediately

### Saddle for sale

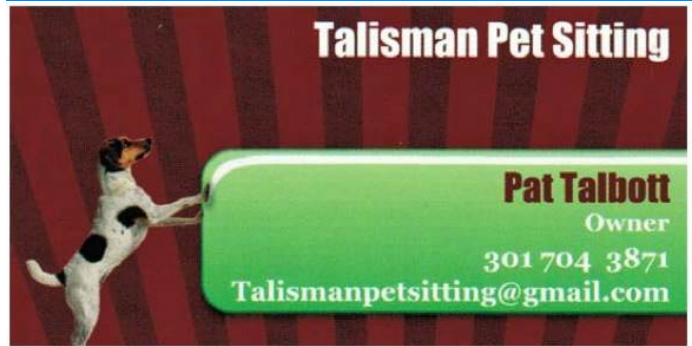
Circle A Western medium/wide saddle for sale, \$350. Excellent condition.

Like new cinch and large Western wool saddle pad included! Selling because not used anymore on the horses I have. Waiting for its new owner!

Call or text Elisa Harvey at 301-801-1855 or email [eharvey@cardiomedllc.com](mailto:eharvey@cardiomedllc.com).



### Pet sitting



### GET UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON TROT ACTIVITIES

#### TROT website:

[www.trot-md.org](http://www.trot-md.org)

Harold Goldstein, Webmaster

#### TROT Newsletter:

current and older issues:

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

Barbara Sollner-Webb, Newsletter Coordinator

[bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu), 301-604-5619

#### Maryland Trail Riders Yahoo group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MarylandTrailRiders/join>

#### Facebook page

TROT Trail Riders of Today

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/127953560568829/>

### REQUEST FOR NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

TROT wants to provide our members up-to-date information on trail riding and trail maintenance activities in MD and nearby PA, VA, WV, DC and DEL, but to do this, we need your help. When YOU hear of changes to riding venues, new riding or horse camping areas, relevant legislation, or other useful information, please inform Barbara Sollner-Webb at [bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu) or 301-604-5619 for inclusion in our newsletter. You don't need to write an article (although that would be nice) but we are counting on YOUR input. Please!



## WHO'S WHO IN TROT

<b>President</b>	Maria Schwartz	<a href="mailto:mariaeschwartz@verizon.net">mariaeschwartz@verizon.net</a>	(301) 906-6089
<b>Vice President</b>	Judy Thacher	<a href="mailto:jathacher@yahoo.com">jathacher@yahoo.com</a>	
<b>Secretary</b>	Nancy Osgood	<a href="mailto:nosgood@verizon.net">nosgood@verizon.net</a>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Susan Railey	<a href="mailto:susanrailey@verizon.net">susanrailey@verizon.net</a>	
<b>Board members</b>			
	Jeff Dwyer	<a href="mailto:ebbtdestables@gmail.com">ebbtdestables@gmail.com</a>	
	Priscilla Huffman	<a href="mailto:priscillahuffman@verizon.net">priscillahuffman@verizon.net</a>	(301) 520-3100
	Terry Ledley	<a href="mailto:terryledley@aol.com">terryledley@aol.com</a>	
	Laury Lobel	<a href="mailto:laurylobel@verizon.net">laurylobel@verizon.net</a>	(240) 372-9494
	Br. Roger Nelson	<a href="mailto:rogersds@comcast.net">rogersds@comcast.net</a>	
	Jennifer Poole	<a href="mailto:bcfarmgirl@hotmail.com">bcfarmgirl@hotmail.com</a>	(301) 604-5619
	Barbara Sollner-Webb	<a href="mailto:bsw@ihmi.edu">bsw@ihmi.edu</a>	
	Pat Talbott	<a href="mailto:pattaltbott70@gmail.com">pattaltbott70@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Membership Chair</b>	Pat Talbott	<a href="mailto:pattaltbott70@gmail.com">pattaltbott70@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Newsletter; mapping</b>	Barbara Sollner-Webb	<a href="mailto:bsw@ihmi.edu">bsw@ihmi.edu</a>	(301) 604-5619
<b>Trail Rides</b>	Diana Urick	<a href="mailto:dianaurickesquire@gmail.com">dianaurickesquire@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Adopt A Trail</b>	Amy Kimble	<a href="mailto:amvkhimble@aol.com">amvkhimble@aol.com</a>	(301) 748-8310
<b>Web Master</b>	Harold Goldstein	<a href="mailto:mdbiker@qoldray.com">mdbiker@qoldray.com</a>	
<b>COUNTY AND AREA COORDINATORS</b>			
<b>Anne Arundel</b>	Diane Ayers	<a href="mailto:dianeayers@verizon.net">dianeayers@verizon.net</a>	(410) 551-0832
<b>Baltimore</b>	Priscilla Huffman	<a href="mailto:priscillahuffman@verizon.net">priscillahuffman@verizon.net</a>	(301) 646-4422
<b>Broad Creek</b>	Dave Turner		(301) 292-6130
<b>Calvert</b>	[Looking for a volunteer]		
<b>Carroll</b>	Judy Thacher	<a href="mailto:jathacher@yahoo.com">jathacher@yahoo.com</a>	(410) 751-3775
<b>Cecil</b>	Jeanne Bond	<a href="mailto:halcyonfarm@gmail.com">halcyonfarm@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Charles</b>	Dr. Kathy Blanche	<a href="mailto:jbsevs@peoplepc.com">jbsevs@peoplepc.com</a>	(240) 320-4385
<b>Frederick</b>	Pat Merson	<a href="mailto:lilgreghrs@aol.com">lilgreghrs@aol.com</a>	(301) 898-3251
<b>Harford</b>	Dianna O'Neil	<a href="mailto:b.oneil1@verizon.net">b.oneil1@verizon.net</a>	(410) 215-0491
<b>Howard</b>	[Looking for a volunteer]		
<b>Laurel/Burtonsville</b>	Jenn Poole and Barbara Sollner-Webb	<a href="mailto:bcfarmgirl@hotmail.com">bcfarmgirl@hotmail.com</a>	(301) 604-5619
<b>Montgomery</b>	Ron MacNab	<a href="mailto:bsw@ihmi.edu">bsw@ihmi.edu</a>	(301) 622-4157
<b>Prince George's</b>	Judie Artman	<a href="mailto:rmacnab@comcast.net">rmacnab@comcast.net</a>	
<b>St. Mary's</b>	Kathy Glockner	<a href="mailto:artmanju@yahoo.com">artmanju@yahoo.com</a>	(301) 475-194
<b>Talbot</b>	Joyce Bell	<a href="mailto:kalockner@md.metrocast.net">kalockner@md.metrocast.net</a>	(410) 820-6002
<b>Washington</b>	Susan Rechen	<a href="mailto:wbell2@washcoll.edu">wbell2@washcoll.edu</a>	(301) 946-3593
<b>Wicomico County</b>	Shawn McEntee	<a href="mailto:rechens@si.edu">rechens@si.edu</a>	(410) 749-2665
		<a href="mailto:smc1159@verizon.net">smc1159@verizon.net</a>	

We also need Coordinators in VA, WVA, and DEL!

## 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.

If you would be willing to show other TROT members your favorite trail, please contact Barb Sollner-Webb at [bsw@ihmi.edu](mailto:bsw@ihmi.edu) 301-604-5619

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

**Blockhouse Point** (Farm Loop on the Canal at Violettes Lock, MD) Naomi Manders [naomimanders0@gmail.com](mailto:naomimanders0@gmail.com)

**Breezy Loop** (Boyd's, MD) an easy 75 minutes. Naomi Manders [naomimanders0@gmail.com](mailto:naomimanders0@gmail.com)

**Codorus Park** (Hanover, PA) Ivy Smink (410) 875-5691, [smink.ivy@gmail.com](mailto:smink.ivy@gmail.com)

**Croom, MD area** (South of PG Equestrian Center, MD) Ride from my farm to Jug Bay, the Wildlife Sanctuary and Spice Creek Park. I am the area trail historian and we can ride different trails for 6 hrs! Available Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon. Carol [CAAuletta@aol.com](mailto:CAAuletta@aol.com) or (301) 579-2342

**EPIC Trail At Dry Seneca Creek** (Poolesville, MD) 10 miles round trip, mostly private land with a sanctioned public route; exceptionally good footing, easy trail, good for winter exercising. THIS IS NOT THE Great Seneca Greenway Trail. Naomi Manders [naomimanders0@gmail.com](mailto:naomimanders0@gmail.com)

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

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

**Little Bennett** (Clarksburg, MD) Jim & Maureen Henry (301) 676- 5298

**Morgan Run Trails** (Carroll County, MD) Ivy Smink (410) 875-5691 or [smink.ivy@gmail.com](mailto:smink.ivy@gmail.com)

**North Tract of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge** (Laurel, MD) Barbara Sollner-Webb [bsw@ihmi.edu](mailto:bsw@ihmi.edu) or (301) 604-5619

**Patapsco State Park** (off Marriottsville Road, MD) I am available during the week and weekend and would love to show other TROT members the trails. Elizabeth Baran H: (410) 442-5006; C: (410) 245-8942

**Patuxent River State Park** (Montgomery County side, MD), **Rachel Carson Conservation Park** (Brookeville, MD), and **Rock Creek Park** (Montgomery County, MD and into DC) Laury Lobel (301) 774-9595 or [laurylobel@verizon.net](mailto:laurylobel@verizon.net)

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

**WSSC's Rocky Gorge and Tridelphia reservoir trails** (PG and Montgomery County) Barbara Sollner-Webb [bsw@ihmi.edu](mailto:bsw@ihmi.edu) or (301) 604-5619

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



# New / Renewal TROT Membership Application

To facilitate your renewal we currently offer two suggestions:

**PAY BY PAYPAL** (You do not need a PayPal account and **NO POSTAGE REQUIRED**):

Go to <http://www.trot-md.org/membership.php> and follow the directions.

Upon notification of your payment the Membership Registrar will send you an email with an email form to be completed and returned.

**COMPLETE APPLICATION FORM AND PAY BY CHECK:**

Complete the **Application form**

**Check** -- please make checks payable to **Trail Riders of Today**

and send it and your application to:

**TROT Membership, PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777**

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 20 \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ **Membership Renewal**

\_\_\_\_ **New Membership**

PLEASE PRINT

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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Do Not list

\*State: \_\_\_\_\_ \*5 Digit Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Do Not list

\*County: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Do Not list

\*Phone: primary \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ secondary \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Do Not list \_\_\_\_ primary \_\_\_\_ secondary

Email: primary \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Do Not list

secondary \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Do Not list

(Most, but not all, of our communication with members is preferred to be done by email.)

*\*Required information.*

*All membership information is for the private use of TROT members. We do not release any membership information outside this organization*

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2015

Complete **only** if you have **not** paid by PayPal

*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.***

One year membership \_\_\_\_ \$20.00 per year

Contributing member \_\_\_\_ \$30.00 per year

Sustaining member \_\_\_\_ \$50.00 per year

\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_ Family

Number of membership cards required \_\_\_\_

Additional contributions \$ \_\_\_\_ (tax deductible)

## VOLUNTEER --- WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please check any 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 addition) or \_\_\_\_ U.S. Mail (black on yellow) or \_\_\_\_ Neither, I will view it on the TROT website.

12 Dec 2014



**TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY**  
TROT Membership  
PO Box 506  
Highland, MD 20777

***Inside this issue:***

- Upcoming: TROT Annual Dinner and Silent Auction, with special guest Madison Iager, Saturday, February 21, 2015, 6 PM, Mount Airy Fireman's Activity Hall. Get your donations ready now.
- Upcoming: Maryland Horse World Expo, January 16- 18, 2015, Timonium Fairgrounds.
- Very soon: Important hearings to try to gain permission to ride on Pepco right-of-way lands, Tuesday, Jan. 13, 6 PM in Rockville; Wednesday, Jan. 14, 6 PM in Largo
- TROT's many accomplishments of 2014
- Great new year-round trail riding venue: WSSC's Tridelphia Reservoir in Montgomery County, MD
- New horse camping facilities at Little Bennett Regional Park
- Past and future TROT rides and trail maintenance efforts
- TROT's new Youth Equestrian Scholarship Award
- Member contribution: A handy trail breed – the Spotted Saddle Horse