



# Trail Riders Of Today

Dedicated to maintaining and expanding sustainable trails for equestrian use

[www.trot-md.org](http://www.trot-md.org) -- Join TROT today!

January, 2016

Founded 1980

Number 213

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## PLEASE HELP PLAN TROT's FUTURE DIRECTIONS --

### All TROT Members Are Invited to TROT's "Visioning Session", Saturday February 6

*from Dana Grabiner*



Got opinions? Ideas? We want your valuable input!

Help TROT build a vibrant future at a Visioning Session, 12 to 3 p.m. on Saturday February 6 at Schooley Mill Park (12975 Hall Shop Rd., Highland, MD).

**FUTURE**

TROT is ready for the next strategic step in its trails advocacy mission. At the Visioning Session, we will work to develop goals for the future and identify activities necessary to achieve them. Master Certified Coach Cynthia Way of *Way to Go!, Inc.* ([waytoagoconsulting.com](http://waytoagoconsulting.com)) will facilitate our discussion.

This is *not* a board-only session – far from it. We welcome any and all TROT members to help shape our best path forward. We need you! Please come and give your input!

Schooley Mill Park is located between Rtes. 108 and 216. Enter the park, go straight (not to the ring), and park at the multipurpose building on the left. The room is limited to 49, so sign up soon to attend. We'll have snacks!

To RSVP, for more information, or for help in finding the place, call or text Dana Grabiner at 202-412-7548. Also, if you can't come on February 6 but might be willing to share your thoughts on what you feel should be TROT's focus and future directions, please call or text Dana **BEFORE** February 6, to have your comments/suggestions raised at the Visioning Session.

**Hope to see you there!**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*from Gale Monahan, TROT President*

TROT is **YOUR ORGANIZATION**. So, the TROT Board has set up a session for you to attend on February 6, 2016 from noon to 3 p.m. TROT wants your input on what direction and what activities you would like to see TROT have in the future. Since February is not a very nice month to get out on the trails, I hope to see you there. Bring an idea to the session, possibly form a committee for a project you think would be worthwhile or fun for TROT that works towards our mission of trails and trail preservation. There is more information about this Visioning Session just above in this newsletter.

*[continued on next page]*

## COULD YOU BE TROT'S NEXT TREASURER?

*from Susan Railey, TROT Treasurer*

I have been TROT's treasurer since 2010 and, while I have

enjoyed serving in this position immensely, it is time for another to take my place. The position will need to be filled for 2016. TROT keeps its books on a cash basis, the same as an individual does. So if you write your own checks and record them in your checkbook, you can keep TROT's checkbook. You can do it in a spreadsheet on the computer like I do or you can write it in a check register. Everything else you need to do has been done before, so you just need to follow the same format and/or copy it. The board meets once a month and you can attend by conference call -- but then you will miss the great potluck dinners and camaraderie that make being a part of the TROT board so much fun. If this sounds like something that might interest you, please contact me (301-490-7172, [susanrailey@verizon.net](mailto:susanrailey@verizon.net)). I will be happy to tell you more about the position.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *(continued from page 1)*

*from Gale Monahan, TROT President*

I am hoping that more of our members will step up and become involved in TROT's activities. Our board meetings are NOT closed meetings. Rather, everyone is welcome! Come to a board meeting! Ask your questions; bring your thoughts. It is your club. If you can't come to a meeting, you can contact any one of us with input. My contact information and the rest of the Board's information is on the "Who's Who in TROT" page (p. 17 of this newsletter). Call me. I would love to hear from you!

## TROT'S 2016 YOUNG EQUESTRIAN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

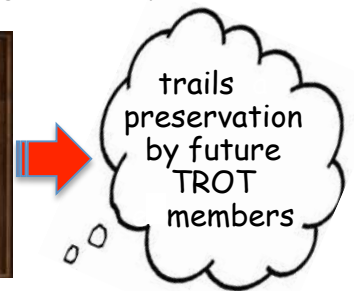
*information from TROT's  
Scholarship Committee*

TROT wants to help assure that there will be Trail Riders of Tomorrow – that is, the next generation of riders to protect and preserve our equestrian trails and our environment -- by encouraging young equestrians to get involved with trails and trail riding. Thus, TROT will again be offering \$500 scholarships to two young equestrians.

This year's scholarship has a trails focus. Applicants are to submit an essay (300 words maximum) entitled "How trail riding has affected my life, and/or how I plan to be involved in the future of preserving, maintaining, and expanding sustainable equestrian trails."

This scholarship is available to Maryland residents who are full-time students, 12-18 years old, and a current member or volunteer of 4-H, Pony Club, FFA, a licensed Maryland boarding/riding stable, or another equine organization represented on the Maryland Horse Council. The full information about this 2016 scholarship is on TROT's website ([www.TROT-MD.org](http://www.TROT-MD.org)) and will be distributed at the Horse Expo in Timonium, MD, January 22-24 (see below). The essay, the application form and a letter of recommendation are due by April 15, 2016. For more information about the scholarship, please contact [trotscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:trotscholarship@gmail.com).

TROT members, please help spread the word about TROT's 2016 Young Equestrian Scholarship Award!



## RESULTS OF TROT'S 2015 YOUNG EQUESTRIAN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

*from Judy Thacher, 2015 scholarship committee chair*

Sixteen year old Shelby Hurley, one of the 2105 TROT scholarship winners, and her horse Joker received a full scholarship to Wilson College (an equine college) in Chambersburg, PA as well as a Presidential Award -- in good part, she feels, thanks to TROT's scholarship award. Shelby used her story and activities as she wrote up for her TROT scholarship application in her admission paperwork for Wilson College. It awarded her a full scholarship due to her commitment to horses, their training, the clubs she is part of, and her outside equine activities. Shelby's mother, Debrah, called me immediately in November when Shelby received her acceptance letter from Wilson College. As might be expected, Shelby and her family are thrilled. What a wonderful outcome that TROT helped make happen.

Fifteen year old Abby Krohn, the other winner of last year's TROT scholarship program, has stayed in touch with me, and has had a lot of really positive things happen to her -- in significant part thanks to TROT's scholarship award money. Abby also mentioned that she has been out doing a lot of trail riding, which she finds is a good way to help de-spook her horses. She says her horse had been reacting to dumb things like snow sliding off the roof of the arena, despite him being 25 yrs. old; she thought he should know by now that snow sliding off the roof of the arena isn't going to hurt him. Abby sounded proud of her accomplishments and said that none of this would have been possible if it weren't for TROT and her scholarship.

TROT should be very proud of these young ladies and of what TROT helped them accomplish. I certainly am.

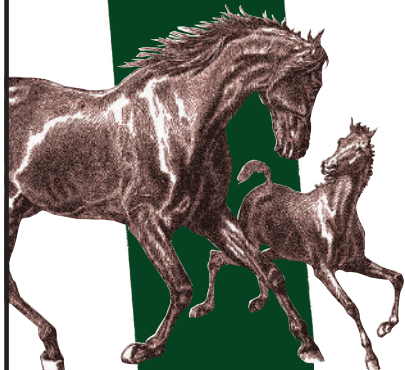


## MARYLAND HORSE WORLD EXPO -- JANUARY 22-24, 2016 -- Mark Your Calendars!

See the full-page notice (p. 3) on the 2016 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 2016 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 TROT's booth!

The Pennsylvania Horse World Expo will be at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, PA, March 3-6, 2016.





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



# HORSE WORLD EXPO

2  
Great  
Locations!



**JANUARY**  
**22-24, 2016**  
**MARYLAND STATE**  
**FAIRGROUNDS**  
**TIMONIUM, MD**  
**(20th Annual)**

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



**MARCH**  
**3-6, 2016**  
**PENNSYLVANIA**  
**FARM SHOW**  
**COMPLEX**  
**HARRISBURG, PA**  
**(14th Annual)**

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

## TRAIL CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE

ALL ACTIVITIES  
ARE INDOORS  
AND HEATED

### CLINICIANS\* & SPECIAL DEMONSTRATIONS

Joyce Belcher	Natural Healthcare, Lyme Disease	MD/PA
Susan Berger	Youth Riders	PA
Daniel Burke, Ph.D.	Equine Nutrition	PA
Dave Butts	Bits & Biting	MD
Craig Cameron	General Training, Cow Horse	MD/PA
Carriage Arena Racing	Exhibition, Competition	PA
Julie Cyra	Saddle Fitting	PA
Charles de Kunffy	Dressage	MD
Montie Eagle	Senior Riding	PA
The Equiery	Various Equine Business Topics	MD
Carolyn Fitzpatrick	Horsemanship, Gaited Dressage	PA
Shawn Gannon	Balanced Riding	MD
Sonny Garguilo	Natural Horsemanship	MD
Ross Geraghty	Steeplechasing	MD
Janet Geyer	Equine Nutrition	MD/PA
Christine Hajek	Horse Adoption	MD/PA
Kenny Harlow	General Training, Problem Solving	MD/PA
Sandy Hart-Long	Arena Footing Solutions	MD
Kaitlyn Heckner	General Training	MD
DeEtte Hillman	Rescue Retraining	MD/PA
Anita Howe	Gaited Horses	MD
Mike Jennings	Ranch Pleasure, Equine Marketing	MD
Tara Jones	General Training, Problem Solving	MD/PA
Patrick King	Western Dressage	PA
Tina Marie	General Training/TB Rehab	MD
Rob & Donna Martin	Trailer Safety	MD/PA
Jim McDonald	General Training	MD
Guy McLean	General Training	PA/MD
Region USPC	Pony Club, Horse Care	MD
Susan Moody	Young Riders, Horse Care	MD
Muddy Creek Vaulters	Vaulting Exhibitions	MD
Wendy Murdoch	Horsemanship, Jumping	MD
Suzanne Myers	General Training	PA
Dr. Catherine Nunnery	Equine Ophthalmology	MD/PA
Erin Ochoa	Equine Rescue	MD/PA
Pat Parelli	Natural Horsemanship	MD/PA
Penn State University	Various Educational Topics	PA
Stewart Pittman	Retired Racehorse Training	MD/PA
Scott Purdum	General Training	MD/PA
Aaron Ralston	Reining	PA
Larry Raskin	Living History, Search & Rescue	MD
Dr. Frank Reilly	Equine Insulin Resistance	PA
Retired Racehorse Project	Racehorse Retraining	MD/PA
Dave Rohrbach	Driving	PA
Diane Olds Rossi	Dressage	PA
Tom Seay	Horseback Adventures	MD
Matt & Nicole Smith	General Training	PA
Sara Strauss	Rescue Retraining	MD/PA
Kathleen Tabor, Esq.	Equine Law	MD
Bernie Traurig	Hunter/Jumper	PA
Nicky Wetzelberger	Rescue Retraining	MD/PA
Jeannie Whited	Riding Aside	MD
Bud and Gwen Wills	Horse Camping, Trail Riding	PA
Keith Wills	Farm Financing	MD
Brendan Wise	General Training	MD/PA
Jim Wofford	Eventing	MD
Paddy Young	Steeplechasing	MD

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.

### SEMINARS AND DEMONSTRATIONS BY



Craig Cameron



Charles de Kunffy



Guy McLean



Pat Parelli



Diane Olds Rossi



Aaron Ralston



Bernie Traurig



Jim Wofford

The PA Farm Show Complex charges \$10 daily for parking  
No Pets Please

### SPONSORED BY:

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www.horseworldexpo.com • info@horseworldexpo.com

## TROT ANNUAL DINNER & SILENT AUCTION – Sat. March 19, 2016, 6 PM

*from Priscilla Huffman*

### Join us for the Annual Dinner and Silent Auction

**Mount Airy Fireman's Activity Hall    1008 Twin Arch Rd    Mount Airy, MD 21771**

The TROT Potluck Dinner and Silent Auction is coming up on March 19, starting at 6 p.m., and we need your donations to make it a successful event. Do you have some extra tack or supplies in good condition? Do you offer horse-related services or products? 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, so contribute those too.

We are known for our outstanding potluck! Please bring a generous dish to share (don't want anyone leaving hungry!) according to the first letter of your last name:                    **A – L    Main Dishes**                    **M – Z    Side dishes or salads**

If you have auction donations or can help with set up on Saturday afternoon, contact our Annual Dinner coordinator, Susan Gray at <[susan@campususan.com](mailto:susan@campususan.com)>. Our annual dinner set up is always lots of fun and a great way to meet other TROT members.

Hope you see you at the dinner. Friends and family welcome!

## TROT 2016 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

*from Sim Shanks, acting membership chair*

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 near the end of this newsletter and is on the the TROT website at <http://trot-md.org/misc/membership-app.pdf>. Many members have already responded using PayPal and the email form.

Please encourage your equestrian friends and barn colleagues to join TROT. Joining 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 – the number of our members is incredibly important in getting decision-makers to listen. The membership fee is rather minimal, and most folks get this and more back in discounts from local tack stores that 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.

Please 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.

As in 2015, TROT will very occasionally send announcements, information, updates, etc. via email, to those who give their permission. These mailings will be limited to such activities as Membership Meetings, TROT Rides, the Trail Obstacle Clinic, Trail Clearing, the Annual Dinner, and changes to events. They will not take over your mailbox but will provide you with the most current and timely information. The TROT Website, the Newsletter, the Maryland Trail Riders and TROT Members Yahoo Groups, and TROT Trail Riders of Today on Facebook are available as well.

## TROT WINS MHIB GRANT FOR VIDEO PROJECT

*from Dana Grabiner, grants chair*

TROT has so many ideas taking flight we sometimes feel like the circus juggler who spins plates on poles – all while riding trails, of course. One idea is to (re)develop a video that tells TROT's story – TROT's past, its present significance to trails, and its vision for what's just around the bend. [See notice on p. 1 about our February 6 Visioning Session.] Our current video is a good one, but was produced so long ago that it's VHS and can't be converted to acceptable quality digital format.



Last October, TROT applied to the Maryland Horse Industry Board (MHIB) for a grant to support the video project. We felt our project fit in well with one of MHIB's goals: "to market, bring awareness to, and help grow the state's equine industry." And in December, MHIB announced its statewide grants and awarded our project \$1,000! We are delighted!

The grant will help us develop a new video that updates TROT's trails advocacy story. First, a video committee will be formed to plan the video message -- volunteers will be gratefully accepted! Once the new video is complete, we can digitally upload it to our website, Facebook, and a laptop so we can play it at various events. We also can use the new video to seek other grants and recruit new members and advocacy partners. [By the way, TROT has a booth at the Horse Expo in Timonium this month. Drop by and say hi and see the nice, old video.]

After our Visioning Session (February 6) and Annual Dinner (March 19), we hope to have an even better sense of the message we want the video to convey. We'll have no problem capturing beautiful horses and scenery and poignant interviews; the challenge will be to hold the show to under 10 minutes! We'll keep you posted on progress.





## TROT MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN AREA TRAIL WORK

Work on the New Trail at Black Hill Park—a call for help! *information from Amy Kimble*



*Volunteers at Black Hills*

MORE (Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts), the trail building gurus and TROT's natural partner in preserving and sustaining trails, is spearheading a large trail-building project at Black Hill Park in Montgomery County. It is a 5-6 mile new trail around the west side of Black Hills Lake, starting at the south end off Rt 121, that Austin Steo of Trails Conservancy helped lay out. Heading toward their goal of getting this trail open some time in 2016, on Sunday, December 13th, 33 volunteers worked on this trail, including TROT members Amy Kimble (TROT's trail work coordinator) and Dawn Anuszkiewicz (an amazing woman who came from Carroll County to work despite her Chemo treatments). The volunteers ranged in age from high school up through retirees, with five women participating. The retirees included two military gentlemen who did tread work, which is very physically demanding.

**The next Trail Work Day is Sunday, January 31; do come out for it! On this work day, we should complete the trail to Ten Mile Creek. To sign up and be emailed about future workdays, contact Rick Meyer, MORE's Black Hill co-liaison (301-335-7274, <[livedb@aol.com](mailto:livedb@aol.com)>). These work days will also be announced on MORE's website (<<http://www.more-mtb.org>>).**

MORE is also trying to buy up land to eventually connect Black Hill Park with Little Bennett! Wouldn't that be totally awesome!?! [These trail building efforts will be greatly aided by the two machines that Montgomery County Parks owns for bench-cutting the trails (to generate a flatter pathway in a hillside, so it is easier to walk and ride on this surface).]



*photos from Amy Kimble*



**Dawn Anuszkiewicz**

## Trail Clearing and Re-Blazing at WSSC's Rocky Gorge Reservoir

*from Barbara Sollner-Webb*

On Wednesday November 18th, WSSC's trail gurus Jeff Bell and Nicole Horvath hosted a work party on their Rocky Gorge trail in Montgomery County. The effort cleared branches and small trees that interfered with clear passage, re-blazed the main trail and cross-trails, and improved cross-trail numbering. It was a highly successful day, with five WSSC personnel (including Jeff Bell, Nicole Horvath and watershed manager Eddie Franceschi) and two outside volunteers (including TROT member Barbara Sollner-Webb, riding Mr. Ikey because my ankle was broken). The section of the trail

*[continued on next page]*

*part of the group*

*re-blazing the trees*

*adding new cross-trail numbers*



*photos from  
Barbara  
Sollner-Webb*





## Trail Clearing and Re-Blazing at WSSC's Rocky Gorge Reservoir *(continued from page 5)*

to beyond Batson Road (cross-trail #36) was made quite perfect (although it was swell for riding before, too). Subsequently WSSC continued the clearing/re-blazing/re-numbering on down to Kruhm Road (cross-trail #33). The good feelings between these wonderful WSSC folks and trail users are inspiring!

Then on November 27<sup>th</sup>, three days before WSSC closed their Rocky Gorge trails for the winter, TROT members Debby Poole, Jenn Poole, Ingrid Gentry, Denis Webb and Barbara Sollner-Webb rode to clear/re-blaze/re-number the entire section from Kruhm Road (cross-trail #33) to West Laurel (cross-trail #4, so crossing over into Prince George's County). We also picked up nasty barbed wire. This virtually completes the upkeep of the entire 18-mile gorgeous Rocky Gorge trail, which a few years ago TROT's efforts had been so instrumental in helping to retain.



*photos from Jenn Poole & Barbara Sollner-Webb*



*Debby picks up trash, during lunch, and Barbara re-numbers a cross-trail in the Nov. 27 work party*

## Progress on Trails in Patuxent River State Park *from Amy Kimble & Barbara Sollner-Webb*

Several articles in the TROT newsletter in 2015 described the effort, spearheaded by MORE (Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts), to upgrade the multi-use trails in Patuxent River State Park in Montgomery County, replacing the very badly eroded ones with sustainable trails that align to the contour of the land.

There is good news – that \$40,000 has been awarded to MORE to help defray the machine costs and bridge construction costs in Phase 1 of their Patuxent River State Park Trail Project that is currently underway. This was reported in the Equiry, and is part of \$14.9 million in grants for multi-use, bicycle, and pedestrian trails in Maryland that Governor Larry Hogan recently announced (funded by Maryland's Department of Transportation, MDOT). Unfortunately, since MORE's grant application, a new policy has been announced -- that the bridges need engineered plans. This will require an additional, still unfunded expense of about \$3,000 (at discount rate). Should TROT consider helping fund these needed plans? Once these plans are completed, work on the new trail in Patuxent River State Park can proceed.

**Note: the MDOT grants (announced in the Equiry) also include funds of nearly \$60,000 for Fair Hill Park trails, \$30,000 for Green Ridge Trail Maintenance and \$27,000 for Elk Neck State Forest Trail Maintenance, all of which offer trail riding.**

## REPORTING TRAIL WORK HOURS

*from Amy Kimble, Adopt-a-Trail Coordinator*

Please email Amy Kimble (<[amykimble@aol.com](mailto:amykimble@aol.com)>) with all hours you have worked in 2015 and with any hours so far in 2016. This is the last chance for you to report your 2015 volunteer hours to have them counted.

The hours that you record are hugely beneficial to the local parks in budget determinations for next year as well as grants and awards for future projects. I am very grateful for all your reports.

Please include location, date, and time spent if possible. However, if you only report that you worked 25 hours in Patuxent between Long Corner and Woodbine Road in 2015, that is OK too.



## WINTER TRAIL WORK

Winter is a great time to continue with upkeep, including clearing, of our local trails, whether doing the work mounted or on foot. Please get involved and report your trail work to the newsletter editor (<[bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu)>) for inclusion in the next issue of the newsletter. PLEASE!

## COOL REFLECTORS

Trail riders may find these stirrup pad reflectors useful in making themselves more easily seen — especially when riding near vehicle traffic. They are modeled here by Jenn Poole, who got them on eBay. Go online to find some for yourself!



## UPCOMING TROT TRAIL RIDES -- Calling All Ride Leaders and Future Ride Leaders!

*from Deneen Martin, TROT's trail ride coordinator*

Now is the time to contact me with a date for leading a ride for TROT in 2016. These rides have proved to be so much fun, and with a potluck or brown bag lunch often associated, they have become very popular! There are rides at many of the local parks and this year we hope members will lead them at new locations. **Please sign up to lead a TROT ride in 2016!**

This is a great time to also exchange information for new riding buddies and trails.

Please contact me (<[deneenmartin7@msn.com](mailto:deneenmartin7@msn.com)> or 301-467-5335), so a 2016 schedule can be made and start our year out right! Thank you very much! If you have any questions, let me know. Happy trails!

## PAST TRAIL RIDE – Friday Dec 11, Schooley Mill Park

*from Debby Poole, ride leader*

What an amazing day for a group of eight TROT riders at Schooley Mill Park (in Howard County). On December 11, the weather was incredible for December -- almost 70 degrees. One rider (BSW) even came in shorts! This was a walk-only ride, over the soft rolling hills and wooded trails for an excellent training ride. Two of the riders were on their first TROT ride. One rider joined TROT specifically to come on this ride. One rider was on her 3rd TROT ride and trailered in with her new trailer that she purchased three days earlier, still proudly wearing the temporary tags. Why did she get a trailer.... So she can start going on these TROT rides.

As a ride leader, I feel it is very important to offer an all-walk ride. When riders split into faster groups, sometimes the horse in the walking group gets upset and wants to take off. When all-walk trail rides are offered, all horses can be relaxed, knowing they won't be left behind. Once or twice on this ride everyone kindly stopped until one of the newer horses calmed down before escalating into bigger problems. All the riders on more experienced horses understood that we need to take the time to set a good example for less experienced horses and riders.

A lady from Sykesville had asked if I could help find a trailer ride for her horse to this ride. Thankfully one of the other riders went by and picked her up. This was a wonderful thing to do and worked out great. I was delighted that it was possible.

Back at the trailers, the ride ended with a snack time, letting the horses cool off and the riders visit a little longer.

This ride will be offered again as a late winter/early spring ride to get the horses ready for the other rides coming later in 2016.

*riders, shown below: Linda Gasch, Debby Poole, Maria Wisgerhof, Nancy Harmon, Jeanie Kemp, Jenny Dieudonne, Jeanne Pieper, Barbara Sollner-Webb (in a walking cast for a broken ankle)*



*photos from  
Barb Sollner-Webb*



*(practice bridge)*



*(the group, shot taken by a kind passer-by)*



*(Nancy's Santa-horse)*

## Important Note on Opening URLs in this Newsletter

from the newsletter editor  
If you click on a URL in this newsletter and it does not open, that may be because some computers change certain characters from how they appear in this PDF. They can then be manually corrected, to enable opening. Sorry for that! If anyone knows how to avert this glitch, please let me know.



## RIDING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HISTORY – at Woodlawn Manor (in Montgomery County)

*kindly contributed by Kathy Lipton*

I have a wish list of trail rides that includes the 4-mile roundtrip trail at Woodlawn Manor, an 18<sup>th</sup> century brick manor house surrounded by meadows, woodland trails, a pond and streams. Woodlawn's stone barn is thought to have been a stop on the Underground Railroad. The 2-mile trail commemorates the involvement of Montgomery County residents in the Underground Railroad and celebrates the Quaker heritage and traditions of Sandy Spring.

Last spring, a friend and I decided to trailer to Woodlawn to ride the Underground Railroad trail. As we started on the trail, we met a group of students on a simulated Underground Railroad experience hike. A volunteer "conductor" was teaching the students about the various techniques that Freedom Seekers used to elude trackers, find food, and navigate their way North to freedom.

I overheard the conductor tell the hikers to look for food, water and shelter. As we rode, I thought about the incredible courage of the slaves traveling through the woods at night trying to elude potential captors.

When we reached the hollow tree (see photo), I could imagine a young mother and her small child crouched in fear as they traveled North to avoid being sold and separated. We rode along a stream that undoubtedly was an important water source for weary travelers.

We rode the trail in early spring. It was wonderful to ride leisurely through the woods and see the buds beginning to appear on the trees and tiny wildflowers in bloom. Passing a pond, we heard the shrill call of the spring peepers.

The Underground Railroad trail is not lengthy but it provides a chance to ride in the footsteps of history.

*The hollow tree that provided shelter for weary travelers*



*photo from Kathy Lipton*

## BLACK HILL REGIONAL PARK TRAIL RENOVATION PROJECTS

*from Pat Talbott*

Maryland- National Capital Park Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Montgomery County Parks has begun work on improving trail ways and connectors in the Ten Mile Creek Trail System in Black Hill Regional Park. Trail work will intermittently close trail ways as work will continue over the next year. Trail users are encouraged to use caution around work areas.

Trail work will close the trails in the NW corner of Black Hill Regional Park (Ten Mile Creek Trail system, specifically the Osprey Heights Loop, Lake View Loop and Turkey Hill Loop). The closure will include the pedestrian bridge at the Ten Mile Creek tributary to Little Seneca Lake. While work areas will close access to the trail head at the end of Ten Mile Creek Road, the Cool Spring Trail will remain open during the construction. Work is scheduled to be completed by the Spring 2016.

A new shared-use six-mile natural surface trail along the western side of Little Seneca Lake in Black Hill Regional Park is under construction. Work is scheduled to begin this fall at the intersection of MD. Route 121 and the Hoyles Mill Trail. The project will add and improve connectors to the existing trail network to Black Hill Trail and Ten Mile Creek. Numerous construction phases will take place over the course of the next year until the trail is complete.

For additional information about the project, please visit [www.montgomeryparks.org](http://www.montgomeryparks.org) or call Montgomery Parks at 301-495-2595.

## WELCOME, NEW TROT MEMBERS

*from Sim Shanks, acting membership chair*

Welcome New Members:

Amy Beall	Carroll County, MD
Megan Gorczyca	Carroll County, MD
Tammie Nottestad	Charles County, MD
Elizabeth Wolf Davis	Frederick County, MD
Janet Buck	Montgomery County, MD
Jennifer Dieudonne	Montgomery County, MD

**We look forward to interacting with you in our mutual efforts to support trails!**

## 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 DE. 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! Also please submit any other articles/anecdotes/stories you feel will interest TROT members!



## TRAILERING EXPERIENCES TO LAUGH AT -- AND HOPEFULLY LEARN FROM:

A group of riders were sitting around talking and the conversation shifted to freaky incidents that had happened while trailering our horses -- ones that fortunately were all humorous (at least in retrospect) because there were no serious injuries. We thought that summarizing some of these incidents for the TROT newsletter might give the members a giggle, while also reminding folks to rigorously check their rig and hitch each time before trailering one's equine buddy. Also, while some disasters can't be avoided, one has to keep a clear head when they do occur. Thanks so much to these kind folks, for agreeing to share their experiences with the TROT membership!

**Please appreciate that these stories are not intended to scare off new riders from getting a rig and starting to trailer their horses. Rather, these are things that do not happen to folks new to traileing, but only occur one in a jillion times, generally to folks with experience who just got complacent. So this recounting is to urge everyone to be vigilant when trailering!**

### Trailer Trouble

*from long-time eventer and trail rider, Laury Lobel*

Back in the day when I was hitching up to go to Eventing venues at 5 and 6 a.m., I had one of those "haunting" experiences with my trailer. This Event venue was in Hunt Valley, and we were on the Baltimore Beltway at about 7:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning. Luckily, the traffic was light.

We were chatting away, when I noticed a horse trailer going by me on the right side of the car (which was the shoulder of the Beltway). It passed me, and in a flash I noticed that it was MY trailer passing me! Panic set in, but I attempted to get my car in front of the trailer. However, before I could maneuver in front of the trailer, it slowed and skidded along the guard rail on the right, and by some miracle came to a stop right at the end of the guard rail. Although the trailer had some body damage on its right side, the horse inside the trailer (on the left side) was calm and apparently had no idea he had been driving alone!

The best part of the story is that a trucker saw the whole thing, came to our aid, and we proceeded to re-hitch the trailer. We got to the event on time, and my horse Rocky won his first Blue Ribbon in Novice!

The only thing I can think of to have caused this is that I was so half-asleep I probably didn't put the pin into the hitch correctly and it finally came loose. We had already driven from Sunshine to the Baltimore Beltway like this, when the incident happened. What COULD have resulted still makes me shudder today.

You can bet that I have double and triple checked the hitch every time I trailer since that day, 25 years ago.

### Check That Hitch

*from trail rider extraordinaire, Priscilla Huffman*

Imagine driving along, horses in tow, and suddenly hearing noises from the trailer. Thinking your horses must be scrambling around, you stop to check -- and then discover that your trailer's hitch is not attached over the hitch ball! Instead, your trailer is only being held to your truck by two chains, even though everything else is correctly hooked up.

This happened to me recently. After much examination, including having my trailer repairman check it out, we decided the only way it could have happened was by not lifting up the wheel sufficiently to engage the hitch completely over the ball. Everything can appear correctly connected -- ball cover locked in place, with pin in -- but they are sitting OVER top of the ball, rather than secured to it. Luckily, when this happened, someone stopped to help who was familiar with this problem, and we got the hitch connected again, loaded the horses back on, and went on our way.

After this, I always get down on my hands and knees to look at the ball from underneath, and be sure the hitch is properly and securely mounted. So -- check that hitch!

### ISSUES

*from Endurance Champion and 2015 Touch-of-Class Winner, Pat Oliva*

I was driving down a four lane road at about 55 miles per hour in Wyoming when I heard a tearing sound and saw an axle flying across the highway with both wheels attached. It was my horse trailer's front axle! A motorcyclist had to swerve to avoid it. I had just stopped a few miles back at a repair shop because the trailer was pulling weirdly. I was told everything was okay and that it may have been the road. Boy, by the time I was towed back to the shop (only one in a 100 miles) I was a wee bit on the angry side. My Irish was at its peak!!! We all stayed at the shop -- horse, dog and myself -- for a few days while the repairman fixed the trailer at no cost. It is not funny. Someone could have been hurt. But things happen and you just face them and do your best.

*[reports continue on next page]*

## More Trailering Disasters

*from a very experienced trail rider, Cathy Diamond*

Just when you have a big outing planned and you think everything is going well and are hurrying to get there quickly, things can happen. Like one time when Board Member Brother Roger and I were hurrying to get to a ride: After we got the horses loaded and were finally taking off down our long driveway, it sounded like thunder behind us. Fortunately, at the end of the driveway we stopped to check and found that the "thunder" was the sound of the dragging tailgate, which we had forgotten to put up. We both thought that the other person had checked that the tailgate was put up, but obviously neither did. A very good lesson to check everything twice, before starting the truck and driving off with the horse trailer.

Another very well-known trail rider -- such a good friend of so many of us that she will be anonymous in this recounting -- had a related experience, but more so. After trailering her horse to an event quite far from home, her friends there greeted her happily when she arrived, but all were curious why her trailer's tailgate was down and if she really had tailored the entire way with her tailgate down and dragging on the road. The answer was yes; luckily it caused no serious damage.

Also, a different kind of trailering disaster can happen in the summer, when folks load their horses into the trailer without checking whether bees have moved in first. It can take until the truck and trailer have started moving, before the bees get shaken enough to leave their nest. Then the outcome can be not pretty for the poor horses who are trapped in the trailer. Definitely, better to check for bees BEFORE putting the horses in.

## Real Scary, on Closing Trailer Back Doors *info from super trail rider Sandy Lewis Boyd*

Sandy, who we all greatly admire for her trail riding adventures, related that very many years ago she was heading to a ride and loaded two horses on a step-up trailer, drove to the destination and went to unload -- but no horse! Only an open back door! Someone had obviously forgotten to attach the butt bars and close the door before pulling out. Sensibly, they drove back retracing their route, and on the side of the road were their two horses, standing quite happily, none the worse for wear. Amazing, the horses had gotten out of the trailer en route and without injury. This could have been a real disaster, but the gods were clearly looking out for Sandy and her horses that day! Certainly not an incident anyone wants to repeat, and yet another good lesson to check and re-check everything before driving off.

## Bisciotti to the Rescue

*from a very knowledgeable trail rider, Janet MacNab*

We went to Fair Hill for a fall ride with our two horses. After two days of riding, tiredly we headed home south on Route 95. The first hour was uneventful. But once we had driven through the Francis Scott Key tunnel, we were losing power. That was when we noticed a light on the dashboard. What did that mean? It was 7:45 p.m.

Since we were creeping along at 25 mph, we took the next exit toward Canton. Luckily there was a gas station and we drove into it and we parked. My husband Ron opened the hood. What were we looking to see? As Ron was looking, a man came over and asked if he could take a look. He gave his name as Earl Bisciotti. Almost immediately Earl said that he suspected that it was the alternator. He got on the phone and called his friend, Otto, to bring his tool box. Then Ron held a small flashlight so Earl could remove the alternator to determine what was needed, including the model and required belt.

Earl laid out a plan to Ron. Ron was to go with him to purchase a new alternator at Advanced Auto before 9 p.m. when it closed. His friend Otto would bring the necessary tools and wrenches that were needed to install the new alternator. I would remain in the truck and wait with the horses. Shortly after 9, Otto returned with a tool box. Later Ron and Earl returned. With a small flashlight, they installed the new alternator and belt. Then Ron turned on the truck. Cheers went up! It worked and had taken less than two hours. Neither Earl nor Otto would accept anything but our thanks. We were deeply grateful to both of them. We later found out that Earl Bisciotti is the cousin of Steve Bisciotti, the owner of the Baltimore Ravens football team! Since I was born and raised in Baltimore, I have been a Raven's fan. But this sealed my passion. When I later rescued a black lab, I named her Raven. It was just fitting to do so.

## Another on the Value of Checking the Trailer Door

*from your newsletter editor*

While trailering back home after a nearby trail ride about 10 years ago, I was taking a sharp right turn (slowing to almost a stop, to not jar the horses) and happened to glance in the right rear-view mirror. In horror, I saw the side door of the trailer swing open and the head, neck and one leg of my beloved horse extend out of the trailer. Mr. Icey (who rides in that section of the trailer at liberty) clearly intended to step out onto the ground but fortunately hesitated when he saw it was moving. In the time it took to jam on the breaks and run around the truck, Mr. Icey was casually stepping out of the now-stopped trailer, but luckily onto a safe roadside away from traffic. We re-loaded him and completed the trip uneventfully. But that frightening experience was certainly a good lesson to always double check that all doors are latched, before starting to trailer.



## FUTURE CLOSURES OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARKS FOR HUNTING

*from Ron MacNab*

January 15 – Black Hill Regional Park (10 Mile Creek Seg), Bucklodge Forest Conservation Park (Boyds) & Little Seneca Stream Valley Park (Boyds)  
January 16 – Hoyles Mill Conservation Park (Boyds)  
January 22 – Woodstock Equestrian Park (Beallsville)  
January 29 – Black Hill Regional Park (10 Mile Creek Seg), Bucklodge Forest Conservation Park (Boyds) & Little Seneca Stream Valley Park (Boyds)  
January 30 – Hoyles Mill Conservation Park (Boyds)

## COUNTY/AREA COORDINATOR REPORTS -- Baltimore County

*from Priscilla Huffman*

Some exciting news regarding the Gunpowder Volunteer Mounted Patrol: Park Ranger Andrea Townsley-Sapp has been appointed as the new liaison between the VMPs and the park. Andrea has already been active with the VMPs and has sent out a welcome e-mail and park staff contact list.

There will be a Gunpowder VMP meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup>, and Andrea will be introducing herself at this meeting. The training schedule for 2016 for new VMPs will be reviewed.

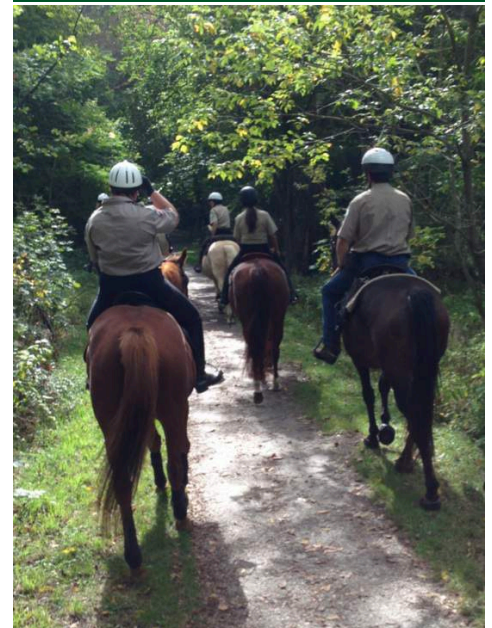
Bruno Conticello researched and created a group calendar on Convenient Calendar. With this calendar, VMPs will be able to input their patrol information and to view when and where others in the group plan to patrol. The calendar will also list meetings and other events.

Thanks to the efforts of VMP member Karen Ferris, Gunpowder now has it's own training manual, based on the one created for Patapsco State Park VMPs. Thanks, Karen, for all your hard work on that!

On November 21<sup>st</sup> several VMPs rode from Hawks Hollow Farm in Kingsville, MD, to the Gunpowder Lodge restaurant on Belair Rd. The group had lunch, an informal meeting, and rode back to Hawks Hollow. The restaurant has a hitching post in the back for horses. We are working with another local Baltimore County restaurant to install a hitching post – details to follow in another newsletter as this plan is finalized.

Several Baltimore County TROT members (as well as lots of other TROT members) will be staffing the TROT booth at Horse World Expo being held January 22–24, 2016 at the Maryland State Fair Grounds in Timonium. Come visit our booth!

*photo of the VMPs from  
Bruno Conticello*



## COUNTY/AREA COORDINATOR REPORTS -- Howard County

*from Pat Oliva*

Howard County Parks held a delightful party for its friends and volunteers on Sunday, Nov. 8th. Amy Kimble and I attended. It was good to be able to talk with the park personnel and renew old friendships.

A public meeting was held on the property that will become "Walkers Meadow," which is adjacent to the Patapsco Valley State Park. The nearby residents stressed the need for local public access to the park. Then on a rainy day, local rider Wendy drove me around the roads on the outskirts of the land to see the points of entry that are now being used and the right of way on nearby property. This is just the beginning, but there is a strong local support to include public easements in the development. Walkers Meadow needs trails for the new home owners to use, as well as their neighbors. Several other TROT members and I will be meeting with the parks director about trails here.

Remember, if you want something from the county, YOU need to work for it. I will help.

The Howard County Police are looking for mounted volunteers to join their service (see notice on next page). If you are interested, go to the web site, look under volunteers needed and print out an application. You have until January 31. There will be background checks, classes to attend and your horse will be required to pass through an obstacle course and drilling classes.

The Frederick Watershed Ad Hoc committee is extending the group for six months. I applied to stay on the committee and was selected. There will be multi-use trails in the watershed and parking areas at different locations. This is very promising!

## JOIN THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE VOLUNTEER MOUNTED PATROL

*notice kindly provided by  
Diana Delmar, Pat Oliva  
and Gale Monahan*

The Howard County Police Department is in search of experienced riders to join the Volunteer Mounted Patrol. Volunteers must be at least 21 years of age. Volunteers must have their own horse, tack, trailer, and tow vehicle. Volunteers will assist police officers with various non-confrontational patrol duties. Horses and riders must be comfortable and proficient in park settings, crowds, and areas with a high concentration of vehicular traffic. The horse and rider must complete a comprehensive selection process to determine suitability. If selected, the volunteer must attend all four days of the Volunteer Mounted Patrol Academy which will be held in Spring 2016 and must commit to volunteering a minimum number of hours each month.

Please contact Sgt. Marc LeRoux at <[mleroux@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:mleroux@howardcountymd.gov)> or 410-313-3738 with any questions.

To download an application, visit <[www.hcpd.org](http://www.hcpd.org)> and click on "Volunteering"; Applications must be received by January 31, 2016.

Diana Delmar offered that Linda Reed, a current volunteer, would be happy to chat about the program. Contact her at <[robertreed@verizon.net](mailto:robertreed@verizon.net)>.



## GARRETT TRAILS TO HOST "REGIONAL TRAILS CONNECTIVITY" ROUNDTABLE ON MARCH 8, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

*email from Garret Trails  
forwarded by  
Ron MacNab & Jane Seigler*

**From:** Garrett Trails Director [[ed@garretttrails.org](mailto:ed@garretttrails.org)]

**Subject:** SAVE the DATE! Garrett Trails to Host "Regional Trails Connectivity" Roundtable on March 8, 2016, 10 AM to 3 PM

Dear Trails Advocate and Trail Organization Stakeholders-

We want to hear from you and how trail connectivity, building, advocacy and progress are going in your area. You're receiving this special invitation to attend our March 8, 2016, Regional Trails Connectivity round-table because your trails and organization are integral to the region's trail system.

**Who:** Trail organizations and stakeholders who are interested in & impact trails in Garrett, Somerset, Allegany, Mineral, Grant, Preston, Fayette & Tucker Counties.

**What:** *Regional Trails Connectivity* round-table

**When:** March 8, 2016, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Where:** Garrett College GIEC at 685 Mosser Road, McHenry, MD 21541, Room 111

**Why:** We want to hear what's working for you! What are your trail priorities? Are there trail connectivity opportunities?

**How:** How can we work together better to bring prosperity to our region?

**Cost:** \$15 for lunch. Cash or check payable to Cornucopia Café. Please let us know by March 1 if you have any dietary request.

The day will provide for networking & opportunity to share your trail projects/dreams/goals. We're also thrilled to announce that Dr. Gregory Miller, President of American Hiking Society has offered to be our featured guest speaker on the topic of Regional Connectivity and Pathways to Prosperity. At American Hiking, Dr. Miller leads national programs to protect public lands and trails, promote hiking to strengthen the human-nature connection and inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. He is well versed in recreational planning, public-private fund raising and partnerships, non-profit management and capacity building at all levels. We hope you're able to join us in hearing from Dr. Miller and his organization's latest research on trails and prosperity.

We're also pleased to be able to present James Christie, American Society of Landscape Architects, Project Manager with the Larson Design Group and designer with the Professional Trail Builders of America on the subject of Wayfinding and Trail Branding.

Attached is a flier to share with others in your organization, communities and governments. We look forward to having you join us for this informative, interesting and inspiring round-table at Garrett College in McHenry, Maryland on March 8, 2016.

My best,

Theresa MacLennan, Executive Director, Garrett Trails, 301-387-3013 (office) or <[www.garretttrails.org](http://www.garretttrails.org)>.



## HELP A HORSE IN NEED AND GET A FREE HORSE

*info from Rich Moore, President, local Icelandic Horse Riding Club*

The Virginia Horse Network posted on Facebook, from the owner of [Zephyr Stables](#) in Cumberland, VA: *"I have many horses that need homes right now. I can't keep them through the winter and I can't feed them. I lost my job in May and have been unemployed all year. I need to place these horses in good homes while they are in good condition. Please contact me if you want to save a life! I have some older horses that are good with kids. Some younger horses that still need training. Please help these horses find good homes."*

This could be a great opportunity to get a swell horse for free! Google shows that Zephyr Stables and Rescue can be reached at 434-390-8052 or [<zephyr\\_stables@yahoo.com>](mailto:zephyr_stables@yahoo.com).

Saving just  
one horse will  
not change  
the world.....  
But surely it  
will change the  
world.....  
for that one horse.

*[from Zephyr Stables website]*

Horseshoe Nail Jewelry at facebook.com/twistedironjewelry

## SUMMARIES OF TROT BOARD MEETINGS

### Meeting of December 1, 2015

*[Summarized from notes taken by Barbara Sollner-Webb]*

**Participants:** Deneen Martin (Vice President), Susan Railey (Treasurer), Susan Gray (BD), Terry Ledley (BD), Laury Lobel (BD), Brother Roger (BD), Barbara Sollner-Webb (BD), Jeff Dwyer (BD; by phone), Dana Grabiner (BD; by phone), Priscilla Huffman, Pat Oliva, Ron MacNab, Cathy Diamond, Janet MacNab,, Dick Huffman. This meeting was also a lovely Holiday Party, at board member Brother Roger's house.

There was considerable discussion about initiatives toward which we felt TROT should best devote its future efforts. Five years ago all TROT members were surveyed to get input on this. It was decided that this coming January we will hold a "Visioning Session", inviting TROT members to get their input on what should be TROT's priorities. [See page 1.]

Susan Railey presented the Treasurer's report.

There was discussion about whether TROT should rent a storage unit to store all of TROT's paraphernalia. Currently, the TROT display board, pictures, etc. used at meetings, trail obstacle event and JPR obstacles, all the TROT logowear, many boxes with TROT's historical paper records, etc. are scattered at many different people's houses. Pat Oliva has checked with several places that rent storage units, and they were all very costly. Happily, Jeff Dwyer offered TROT lots of space to store all our stuff very inexpensively. Thanks, Jeff!

### Meeting of January 5, 2016

*[Summarized from notes taken by Barbara Sollner-Webb]*

**Participants:** Gale Monahan (President), Susan Railey (Treasurer), Terry Ledley (BD), Laury Lobel (BD), Jenn Poole (BD), Barbara Sollner-Webb (BD), Jeff Dwyer (BD; by phone), Dana Grabiner (BD; by phone), Susan Gray, Priscilla Huffman, Pat Oliva, Dick Huffman, Karen Ferris.

At this meeting at Priscilla and Dick Huffman's house, Susan Railey presented the Treasurer's report, Sim Shanks provided the membership report, and Pat Oliva gave a Howard County report and told about the Frederick Watershed Committee. Karen Ferris from Baltimore County talked about the Gunpowder VMP (of which she is a member and for which she created the manual – Thanks, Karen).

There was discussion about:

- how to increase TROT's membership number, as a high number is so important for TROT to have a major voice when dealing with government officials
- possible ways to encourage more county coordinators to become more active in TROT, and maybe to create area chapters of TROT
- possible ways to encourage more members to lead TROT trail rides and become more active in trail maintenance
- logistics for: TROT's booth at the upcoming Horse World Expo in January, the upcoming Annual Dinner, the upcoming Visioning Session on Feb. 6, TROT's Annual Dinner in March, and TROT's 2016 Young Equestrian Scholarship

## TURN YOUR EMPTY FEED BAGS INTO CASH FOR NON-PROFITS

*from Pat Oliva and  
Kathy Lipton*



Helping your favorite horse rescue or other horse association is easy with Southern States Special Horse Organization Winner's (SHOW) Program. Clip the proof of purchase seals from the back or side of Legends, Triple Crown or Southern States horse feed bags. A non-profit that is registered for the SHOW program earns 25 cents for each proof of purchase seal.

To support Days End Farm Horse Rescue, Pat Oliva is collecting these proof of purchase seals from TROT members (bring them to the Annual Dinner to give to Pat), or you can send them directly to DEFHR (P.O. Box 309, Lisbon, MD 21765). Or, if you have another preferred horse-related charity, contact them to see if they participate in the SHOW program.

## 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.

**Benson Branch Park** (between Folly Quarter Road & 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 [smink.ivy@gmail.com](mailto:smink.ivy@gmail.com) (410) 875-5691

**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 Falls 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) Sue Donaldson [swdonaldson@comcast.net](mailto:swdonaldson@comcast.net) or Ivy Smink (410) 875-5691, [smink.ivy@gmail.com](mailto:smink.ivy@gmail.com)

**North Tract of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge** (Laurel, MD) Barbara Sollner-Webb [bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.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) Laury Lobel (301) 774-9595 or [laurylobel@verizon.net](mailto:laurylobel@verizon.net)

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

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

**Rosaryville Park** (Upper Marlboro, PG County, MD) Laura Colicchio (301) 856-7540 or [lavenderlady@verizon.net](mailto:lavenderlady@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 & Tridelphia Reservoirs** (PG and Montgomery County) Barbara Sollner-Webb [bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu) or (301) 604-5619

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

**If your favorite trail is not listed and you would be willing to occasionally show it to other TROT members, please contact Barbara Sollner-Webb (<[bsw@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu)>, 301-604-5619) to join this list of generous volunteers.**

## 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 sun? Don't just admire everyone else's - get your own.

It's very easy. E-mail me at <[susanrailey@verizon.net](mailto:susanrailey@verizon.net)>, and I will send you the simple instructions along with 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.



## 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:

<[www.trot-md.org/newsletters.php](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 (and to join):

<[groups.yahoo.com/group/MarylandTrailRiders/join](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MarylandTrailRiders/join)>

### TROT Yahoo group (and to join):

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

### Facebook page

TROT Trail Riders of Today

<[www.facebook.com/groups/127953560568829/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/127953560568829/)>

[If you have trouble opening any of these links, see note on bottom of page 7, for how to manually correct what got copied.]





# 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 or return this completed form by email or USPS.

**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 <u>DO NOT</u> wish to be included in the TROT directory.
*First Name: _____	_____ Do Not list	<div>All membership information is for the private use of TROT members. We do not release any membership information outside this organization</div>
*Last Name: _____	_____ Do Not list	
Spouse/Sig 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		

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER	
<i>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.</i>	Complete <u>only</u> if you have <u>not</u> paid by PayPal
<i>TROT is a tax exempt, nonprofit organization and contributions are tax deductible.</i>	One year membership _____ \$20.00 per year
	Contributing member _____ \$30.00 per year
	Sustaining member _____ \$50.00 per year
Type of Membership: _____ Single _____ Family	
Number of membership cards required _____	Additional contributions \$ _____ (tax deductible)

TROT RELIES ON VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL OF ITS ACTIVITIES - PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO MAKE TROT SUCCEED			
Please check all areas where you would be willing to assist.			
____ Ride Leader	____ Horse World Expo Booth	____ Trail Clearing	____ Annual Dinner
____ Silent Auction	Other Activities (list) _____		

TROT NEWSLETTER	
I prefer to receive the TROT Newsletter by:	
____ email (full color addition)	or _____ U.S. Mail (black on yellow) or _____ Neither, I will view it on the TROT website.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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

**TROT Members:** One regular (100 word) ad FREE! All TROT members' ads will run for one issue. **They can be run again for free in subsequent issues, BUT ONLY IF YOU notify the Editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before the next newsletter is dated** (e.g., notify by April 15<sup>th</sup>, June 15<sup>th</sup>).

**Non-member rates:**

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

## Need mousers? -- Free barn cat(s)

Fully vetted barn cats in need of a new home. All shots, neutered or spayed and ready to go. No fee for adoption. These already are outdoor cats. Contact: Laurel Cats at 301-886-0161 or [<info@laurelcats.org>](mailto:info@laurelcats.org).

## Training with Jacquie Cowan

Find Your Pleasure Gait with Jacquie Cowan .. specializing with the softly gaited horses for trail and show .. also help building your confidence and trail skills .. 410-923-6157 or [<jacquiecowan@comcast.net>](mailto:jacquiecowan@comcast.net).

## Full Field Board

Lovely small 14 acre licensed farm near Lisbon  
Full service with individualized care  
Snug sheds facing away from the prevailing winds  
Great pastures; mesh/top board fences  
Heated automatic water  
Arena (with lights) and Roundpen  
Outdoor washstall  
Heated feed, tack and restroom  
Ride on 3 farms; formal trails nearby  
More info: [<thistlehillfarm.wordpress.com>](http://thistlehillfarm.wordpress.com), 410 489-4752



## 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*

## Boarding at Millhaven

Check out our beautiful, full-board farm in Derwood, near Olney. We back directly up to Ag History Farm Park trails. We have a lighted indoor ring with no-dust footing, a lighted outdoor, hot water wash stall, bathroom (heated in winter) and a friendly group of boarders. Our home is built over the barn, enabling us to provide superior care to horses. Please see our newly designed website for more information: [<www.millhavenhorsefarm.com>](http://www.millhavenhorsefarm.com) or contact Diana by email at [<info@millhavenhorsefarm.com>](mailto:info@millhavenhorsefarm.com) or at 301-963-0630.



## Tennessee Walker

**For Sale: \$800**

18 years, 14.2 hands



Cash is a super sweet gelding who has done it all - shows, lessons, trail rides. Cash is available to a loving approved home only. This guy is terrific! He is push button and good for beginners! Call Karen 410-917-7316

## GREAT MARYLAND HORSE TRAILS MAP

The Maryland Horse Industry Board in conjunction with TROT members (Ron MacNab, Priscilla Huffman and many others) have produced a WONDERFUL map of Maryland horse trails plus other useful horse information. Yet more TROT members helped by critiquing the draft at last year's Annual Dinner. And it is now available. This new map (a great update of their earlier version <[http://mda.maryland.gov/horseboard/pdf/mhib\\_guide\\_2012\\_optimized.pdf](http://mda.maryland.gov/horseboard/pdf/mhib_guide_2012_optimized.pdf)>) should be available at the 2016 Horse Expo and at TROT's Annual Dinner. Get copies to share with your riding buddies, and enjoy!

## WHO'S WHO IN TROT

POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE
<b>President</b>	Gale Monahan	<a href="mailto:gale.email2@gmail.com">gale.email2@gmail.com</a>	(301) 854-3852
<b>Vice President</b>	Deneen Martin	<a href="mailto:deneenmartin7@msn.com">deneenmartin7@msn.com</a>	(301) 467-5335
<b>Secretary</b>	Nancy Osgood	<a href="mailto:nlosgood@verizon.net">nlosgood@verizon.net</a>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Susan Railey	<a href="mailto:susanrailey@verizon.net">susanrailey@verizon.net</a>	
<b>Additional Board members</b>	Jeff Dwyer	<a href="mailto:ebbtidestables@gmail.com">ebbtidestables@gmail.com</a>	(410) 320-1327
	Dana Grabiner	<a href="mailto:grabiner1@aol.com">grabiner1@aol.com</a>	(202) 412-7548
	Terry Ledley	<a href="mailto:terryledley@aol.com">terryledley@aol.com</a>	(301) 520-3100
	Laury Lobel	<a href="mailto:laurylobel@verizon.net">laurylobel@verizon.net</a>	
	Brother Roger Nelson	<a href="mailto:rogersds@comcast.net">rogersds@comcast.net</a>	(240) 372-9494
	Barbara Sollner-Webb	<a href="mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu">bsw@jhmi.edu</a>	(301) 604-5619
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<b>Newsletter; mapping</b>	Barbara Sollner-Webb	<a href="mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu">bsw@jhmi.edu</a>	(301) 604-5619
<b>Trail Rides</b>	Deneen Martin	<a href="mailto:deneenmartin7@msn.com">deneenmartin7@msn.com</a>	(301) 467-5335
<b>Adopt A Trail</b>	Amy Kimble	<a href="mailto:amyhkimble@aol.com">amyhkimble@aol.com</a>	(301) 748-8310
<b>Web Master</b>	Harold Goldstein	<a href="mailto:mdbiker@goldray.com">mdbiker@goldray.com</a>	
<b>Annual Dinner</b>	Susan Gray	<a href="mailto:susan@campususan.com">susan@campususan.com</a>	(240) 426-1655
	& Priscilla Huffman	<a href="mailto:priscillahuffman@verizon.net">priscillahuffman@verizon.net</a>	(301) 646-4422
<b>COUNTY AND AREA COORDINATORS</b>			
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<b>Cecil</b>	Jeanne Bond	<a href="mailto:halcyonfarm@gmail.com">halcyonfarm@gmail.com</a>	
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	& Barbara Sollner-Webb	<a href="mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu">bsw@jhmi.edu</a>	(301) 604-5619
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<b>Prince George's</b>	Judie Artman	<a href="mailto:artmanju@yahoo.com">artmanju@yahoo.com</a>	
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<b>Talbot</b>	Joyce Bell	<a href="mailto:wbell2@washcoll.edu">wbell2@washcoll.edu</a>	(410) 820-6002
<b>Wicomico</b>	Shawn McEntee	<a href="mailto:smc1159@verizon.net">smc1159@verizon.net</a>	(410) 749-2665

[Please volunteer as coordinator from Carroll, Calvert and Washington counties in MD and from VA, WV & DE]

## SPECIAL THANKS!!!

*from Barbara Sollner-Webb, newsletter editor*

Great appreciation goes everyone who contributed articles or information for the newsletter! Also enormous thanks goes to Terry Ledley, Priscilla Huffman, Dana Grabiner, Susan Grey, Sim Shanks and Denis Webb, as well as to Laury Lobel, Pat Oliva and Gale Monahan, for their most helpfully proofreading all or parts of the draft text! THANKS SO MUCH!!



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

***Inside this issue:***

- Come to TROT's IMPORTANT "Visioning Session", February 6
- TROT's Upcoming 2016 Young Equestrian Scholarship Award
- Success from TROT's 2015 Young Equestrian Scholarship Program
- Come to the MD Horse World Expo at the Timonium Fairgrounds, January 22-24
- Plan for TROT's Annual Dinner and Silent Auction, March 19
- TROT Wins Grant to Redo TROT's Video
- Reports of Trail Work and Trail Rides
- Riding at Woodlawn Manor into the footsteps of history
- Scary Trailering Experiences To Learn From
- Days of Park Closures for Hunting
- Join TROT – our numbers of members really matter!
- And lots more